



AGC of Texas

Highway, Heavy, Utilities & Industrial Branch

E-BULLETIN

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[May 2010 CD Request Form](#)

April 9, 2010

Texas Disaster Recovery Program Releases Project List

[Construction Activity Report](#)

[Disaster Recovery Program Overview](#)

In response to the damage caused by Hurricanes Ike and Dolly, Governor Perry named the Office of Rural Community Affairs to administer the Supplemental Community Development Block Grant. This program includes \$1.5 billion of infrastructure projects. Work for these federally funded projects includes such things as utilities, generators, roadway reconstruction.

Attached is the project listing that provides a description of the project and a point of contact for proposal and letting information. Please note that for projects shown as "Final," letting may occur within 30 days. So touch base with the points of contact soon for contract award opportunities.

For more information, contact Thomas Bohuslav at tbohuslav1@gmail.com.

Seeking Bidders for City of Austin Water Treatment Plant #4

MWH Constructors is the Construction Manager at Risk for the City of Austin Water Treatment Plant #4. In order to access bidding information, companies must access I Square Foot for information. If you are interested in bidding this project, please contact Lino Rivera at 512/343-8700. MWH will need your company name, an individual contact name, telephone number, and email address.

Governor Appoints Three to One-Call Board; Reappoints Bernal

Gov. Rick Perry has appointed three new members and reappointed Dean Bernal of Austin to the One-Call Board for terms to expire Aug. 31, 2012. The board has authority over "Call Before You Dig" systems that notify underground facility operators of excavation plans, so pipelines and utility lines can be marked to prevent accidents.

Bernal is vice president of safety and risk management for J.D. Abrams, L.P. He is a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers and the Associated General Contractors of America Safety Committee. He is past chairman of the safety committee for the Associated General Contractors of Texas and past president of the Central Texas Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers. Bernal received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University.

Julio Cerda of Mission is a registered professional engineer and city manager of Mission. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the International City Management Association, American Public Works Association, the National Association of Latino Elected Officials, a board member of the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Mission Economic Development Authority. He is also a past board member of the Boys and Girls Club of Mission and a volunteer for Casa Amparo Orphanage in Mexico. Cerda received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University at Kingsville.

Jason Hartgraves of Frisco is a captain of the Dallas County Sheriff's Department. He is a past member of the Dallas Crime Commission, the Dallas County Sheriffs Association, the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors, the Texas Municipal Police Association, and the Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority. Hartgraves received a bachelor's degree from Dallas Baptist University, a master's degree in Management from Texas A&M University at Commerce, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, 231st Session.

Janie Walenta of Quitman is a retired telecommunications manager. She is a volunteer of the Quitman Public Library. She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Dallas

New Information regarding HIRE ACT

[HIRE Act Incentives](#)

As you know, the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act, enacted March 18, 2010, includes several important provisions relating to federal transportation investment. However, among the measure's non-transportation provisions are new tax benefits for employers who hire or retain workers.

This Wednesday, April 7, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) posted new information, questions and answers, and forms about those provisions on its website. These should be helpful to transportation construction industry employers who are considering taking advantage of these provisions.

The link to the relevant IRS web page is as follows: <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=220745,00.html>

Additionally, AGC of America released the linked "HIRE Act Incentives" for your use, as well.

April Designated Safe Digging Month

Throughout the course of the month, you will likely see various Common Ground Alliance (CGA) participants such as utilities, one call centers, state utility and damage prevention authorities delivering the message of safe digging to protect underground utilities issuing press releases, sponsoring events etc.

AGC of America will feature a series of articles this month on damage prevention in various AGC publications including updates on CGA activities and issues related to federal enforcement that are currently being contemplated by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

As a sponsor of the CGA and its mantra of "shared responsibility" you're encouraged to show your support for Safe Digging Month and carry the AGC message of safe digging with emphasis on "shared responsibility." For more information and to download the "Safe Digging Month" button and other 811 Campaign materials, visit:

<http://www.call811.com/campaign-materials/safe-digging-month.aspx>

<http://www.call811.com/campaign-materials/default.aspx>

Deadlines Extended Under Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Grant Program

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) continues to offer grant funding through the Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Grant Program and has extended both application and implementation deadlines. Grant applications will continue to be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis with applications reviewed in one-week intervals through June 25, 2010, or until all funds are exhausted. All projects approved for funding after February 26, 2010, will have an extended implementation deadline of December 31, 2010.

As a reminder, applications are being accepted to provide grant funding for projects under three emphasis areas:

- Construction Equipment Projects (replacement, repower, and retrofit)
- Idle Reduction Projects (on-board and on-site idle reduction)
- Local Government Projects (may include projects that fall into the other categories as well as on-road and stationary activities)

Approximately \$2 million is still available for award. Additional information is available online at www.nctcog.org/aqfunding. Grant program materials have been updated to reflect the new deadlines and are posted on the Web page for each emphasis area. Please contact Lori Clark at LClark@nctcog.org for more information.

Partnering, Hot Mix, DBE Seminars scheduled throughout mid-May

If you have not signed up for any of these conferences being held throughout the state, please check the AGC website for upcoming dates in your area. You may find information about all three by scrolling down to the bottom of the AGC website under "Events Corner."

April Letting Results

April 6&7, 2010	Highway Jobs	Maintenance Jobs
Total Low Bids	\$ 268,068,891.89	\$ 23,937,243.63
Total Second Low Bids	\$ 282,595,978.39	\$ 26,400,750.09
Amount Left on the Table	\$ 14,527,086.50	\$ 2,463,506.46

% of Low Bids Left on the Table	5.42	10.29
Average Number of Bidders per Job	5.36	3.94
Total of the Engineer's Estimate	\$ 320,817,326.58	\$ 27,002,295.56
Difference between Estimate & Low	\$ -52,748,434.69	\$ -3,065,051.93
% Below Engineer's Estimate	-16.44	-11.35
Total Number of Projects	61	31

May Local and Statewide Letting Estimates

The May letting is scheduled for May 11 and 12 and is estimated at \$195.98 million for 62 projects statewide and \$7.77 million for 4 projects locally let. The monthly luncheon will be held May 11 at the Four Seasons Hotel, in conjunction with the membership awards.

To view May's approved schedule, go to <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/schedule.htm>. To view more information regarding the locally let projects, click on the appropriate month at the bottom of the page.

In Memoriam

Mr. John Roland Hall, a long time San Antonio resident and utility contractor, passed away on April 5, 2010, in San Antonio, Texas, at the age of 85. Mr. Hall was born December 28, 1924, in Piedras Negras, Mexico, and moved to Texas as a young boy, first to Eagle Pass and then to San Antonio. He attended what is now Fox Tech High School. He served in the Navy as an airplane mechanic during WWII and was stationed at Naval Air Stations in Kingsville, TX and Corpus Christi, TX. His occupations included wrecker driver, Kelly Field worker, gas plant worker, and Volunteer Fireman and Public Works Director for the City of Portland, Texas.

During the fifties, as foreman and superintendent for San Antonio based J.C. Trueheart Construction Company, he installed water systems in small towns all over South Texas. In the early 60's, Hall and partners formed their own companies, SACC, INC. and San Antonio Road Boring, where he remained until his retirement in 2003.

Mr. Hall was Past Master of Community Lodge #1201, AF & AM in San Antonio and a member of both the Scottish Rite and Alzafar Shrine Temple. He was a member of Associated General Contractors of America and Past National President of the National Utility Contractors Association. He was an assistant Boy Scout leader and was inducted into the Order of Arrow. Mr. Hall enjoyed being with people and touched many lives. Humor and laughter were his gifts and his Stetson hat was his trademark. He was preceded in death by his mother, father, two brothers and two sisters. Mr. Hall is survived by his wife of 62 years, Julia Evelyn McCollum Hall; his daughter and son-in-law, Patsy and Jimmy McClelland of San Antonio; a grandson, Kyle McClelland of San Antonio; and a granddaughter, Jessica and her husband Cody Dotson of Weatherford, TX. He also leaves a sister, Virginia Hall Ames of San Antonio; and a brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Patsy Miller Hall of Azle, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

If you prefer to make a charitable donation in lieu of flowers, the family would be pleased if you would make contributions to the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Dallas or the Shrine Children's Hospital in either Houston or Galveston. You are invited to sign the Guestbook at www.porterloring.com.

Deepest sympathy and sincere regret are extended to the families on behalf of the entire membership.

If you are an AGC of Texas member not currently receiving bulletins and want to join our mailing list [CLICK HERE](#)