

# DBE CONNECTION

MID-COAST CORRIDOR TRANSIT PROJECT



## MCTC



Mid-Coast Transit Constructors  
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UCSD Viaduct falsework installation near Campus Point

**DBE & SB STATS**  
(through August 2017)

51 DBE firms contracted with MCTC

**\$42.8 million** committed to DBE firms

56 SB firms contracted with MCTC

**\$31.5 million** committed to SB firms

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MCTC representatives will be attending the following event, we hope to see you there!

(Click through the link to register)

- October 25th: [Caltrans District 11: 13th Annual Procurement and Resource Fair](#)

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Mid-Coast Transit Constructors (MCTC) Team is actively working on several elements of the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project, which was recently corroborated by one MCTC team member stating that the Project is "crazy busy!" The project area near the University of California at San Diego (UCSD) is one prime example. MCTC is currently building falsework, which is an elevated platform that supports construction work being performed above ground, for the construction of the UCSD Viaduct. A viaduct, by the way, is a long bridge that spans multiple streets and/or other features. The UCSD Viaduct will be over a mile in length (~6,200ft), and varies in height from 30-70ft along its course. From the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital it travels north on the west side of Interstate 5, crosses Gilman Drive (twice), follows Voigt Drive east over Interstate 5, crosses a UCSD parking lot and Campus Point Drive, and continues all the way to Genesee Avenue. Thirty-six (36) of the forty-two (42) columns that will support the viaduct have been built, with the remaining six (6) set to be poured by this November.

As part of the UCSD Viaduct falsework construction, MCTC had a road closure scheduled from Friday, September 22 through Sunday, September 24. During the road closure window, the viaduct falsework was connected across Campus Point between two columns on either side of the street. It was all hands-on-deck to ensure minimal impact to the community, and the team did an amazing job completing the work on schedule. As of now, the UCSD Viaduct has an anticipated completion date of early 2019.



Falsework installation at Campus Point Drive



Frame 15 falsework over Campus Point Drive

MCTC has continued to receive significant support from our subcontractors, one of which is So Cal Tree Care, which we are Spotighting in this month's newsletter. So Cal Tree Care, a DBE, is responsible for the clearing and grubbing along the UCSD Viaduct route in preparation for the false

work installation.

If you are in the UCSD area be sure to keep an eye out for the construction work on the UCSD Viaduct superstructure, and while you are at it, make note of the completely cleared and grubbed work area thanks to So Cal Tree Care!

## DBE SPOTLIGHT

This month MCTC casts our spotlight on So Cal Tree Care, a construction firm with a very important role on the project - to clear the path along the Mid-Coast Transit Corridor project alignment so that other construction firms can follow. We mean that literally. Before grading operations to build the base course for the railway can begin, vegetative obstacles such as brush, trees and roots need to be removed. This work, known as clearing (removing above ground vegetation) and grubbing (removing below ground vegetation), just happens to be one of the specialty scopes of work performed by So Cal Tree Care.

So Cal Tree Care got its start when owner Vincent Cortez, who had previously worked for his father's landscaping business, decided to start his own landscaping outfit. While his father focused on private jobs, Vincent thought that there was an opportunity to support public works projects such as the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project. In 2005 and with 6 employees, Vincent opened So Cal Tree Care. Starting out with mainly private jobs, Vincent eventually found his way onto public works projects and over the next 12 years, was able to steadily grow his business. He received his DBE certification along the way, which has helped him find work in the public works arena, and Vincent's company has now 25 employees that support a number of projects in the greater San Diego area.

Mr. Cortez stated that being a DBE firm has certainly helped him grow his business to what it is now, and suggests that "all small contractors trying to grow their business, should become certified small or disadvantaged businesses." In fact, MCTC found So Cal Tree Care in the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP) DBE database back in 2015 while researching firms that provide this service. MCTC added So Cal Tree Care to the bidders list for this work and the rest as they say is history. So Cal Tree Care was awarded a contract by MCTC in July of 2015.

Like many small businesses working on a project the size of the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project, So Cal Tree Care had to face several challenges in addition to the clearing and grubbing work when starting out, such as implementing a comprehensive safety program, a detailed work plan and other required programs/plans. While small businesses generally possess such programs/plans as a result of working on prior projects, the extensive requirements placed on contractors who work on the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project often require an overhaul of these programs/plans to be compliant. Over time, and with the assistance/encouragement of the MCTC team, So Cal Tree Care steadily developed and put in place a full complement of plans/programs that have enabled it to meet Mid-Coast Transit Project requirements. So Cal Tree Care has been a great example of how MCTC partners with DBEs to help them grow.

Now that So Cal Tree Care has cleared the path of paperwork required on the project, it can now focus its attention back on the clearing and grubbing work out in the field.

## DBE FUN FACT

There are only 6 firms in the state of California that are DBE certified to perform clearing and grubbing work, and that have the word "Tree" in their name. Only one of these firms is located in the greater San Diego area... So Cal Tree Care!

## PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- RFP #139: MCCTP - Precast Concrete Paving
- RFP #140: SDRBDT - Sump Pump and Control Center



## CONSTRUCTION BENCH OPPORTUNITIES

- No opportunities available at this time

For additional information about the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project,  
please visit [www.mctcjr.com](http://www.mctcjr.com).