

Letter of Justification  
to attend the  
Transportation Estimators Association (TEA)  
Annual Meeting

The Transportation Estimators Association or TEA is an organization of State Departments of Transportation Estimators from across the US and Canada. We all come to the TEA with the goal of pursuing innovation in our field. The Transportation Estimators' Association was founded in 1998 to support and inform estimation professionals throughout the country. Since that time, there has been a much greater emphasis on quality early cost estimates and risk and lifecycle cost analysis in many States.

While each state will only have one vote on issues brought before the TEA at the Annual Meeting, they are strongly encouraged to bring as many estimators as they want. The governing body of the TEA consists of the Past Chair, Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and two Board Members. You may volunteer or be nominated to serve on the Board at the Annual Meeting.

The objectives of the TEA are to:

Facilitate communication between State DOT's, Consultants, and Contractors related to project cost estimating on transportation infrastructure projects.

Improve cost estimating techniques and publish recommendations used by transportation estimators (cost-based, historical-based, and parametric).

Research, develop and refine new and existing cost estimating techniques, tools and resources.

Disseminate experiences and facilitate productive dialog in project cost estimating and practices via quarterly TEA Time (virtual) meetings, TEA's Annual Conference (in-person) and our website <https://www.transportationestimators.org/>.

Develop new cost estimating techniques.

The TEA hosts an annual in-person Annual Meeting for estimators to attend and learn about the newest technologies and methodologies in our industry. The TEA Annual Meeting provides a forum to exchange ideas and strategies. By attending the TEA, you will be able to talk to many people from other states that use a variety of estimating techniques such as History Based, Cost Based Estimating and Cost Indexes. These states may have a dedicated Estimating Section or may have their designers develop the Estimates as they develop the project. They may use sophisticated software or just spreadsheets that get updated every year. The TEA provides a forum to exchange ideas and strategies on how to develop Estimates and Estimating strategies in difficult cost climates.

The TEA Annual Meeting has covered these topics in the past: Presentations on Planning your Estimates; Buy America; Economists from states and National Organizations such as AGC; Probabilistic Risk based Estimating; Presentations by FHWA experts; Build America/Buy America; Contractor Panel discussions; Host State highlighted projects; Best Practices from other States; Consultant interaction; User presentations; Technical sessions; Vendor demonstrations, Task Force reports such as the Technical Committee on Cost Estimating (TCCE). Check out the latest agenda of relevant subjects for the upcoming meeting on the TEA website <https://www.transportationestimators.org/>

Other sources of information available to Estimators through the TEA:

TEA Time!

Transportation Estimator's Association (TEA) Time is an open platform for DOT estimators to collaborate with each other. These virtual meetings are held quarterly and will start with a short presentation before opening it up to the group for discussion. This is open to all DOT estimators. Simply email [teaboard@aaastowareproject.org](mailto:teaboard@aaastowareproject.org) for your meeting invitation. Stop by and see what's brewing!

The TEA website is another source of information and links to related webpages such as other Estimating Associations and is located at <https://www.transportationestimators.org/> .

The Transportation Estimators' Association is an organization of State Departments' estimation professionals, JUST LIKE YOU, with the goal of pursuing innovation and excellence in our field.

Come join us at the TEA Annual Meeting and help all of us learn more !!