

DAY ONE – August 6, 2025, Wednesday 8 am to 4 pm
MORNING SESSIONS

8:00 am to 8:30 am ❖ Registration / (arrival & coffee bar or continental breakfast)

8:30 am to 8:55 am ❖ Greetings & TEA roll call | Mitch Ball, Ryan Sweeney



Mitch Ball, PE, LS, DBIA
Director Cost Estimating Office, VDOT
TEA: Chairman



Ryan Sweeney, PE
State Transportation Engineer – Estimating, TnDOT
TEA Secretary

9:00 A.M. to 9:25 A.M. ❖ Why Projects Go Over Budget – And What We Can Do About It



Marcus Coronado, PE
Senior Project Manager, LJA Program Management, LLC



Jerry Ramos, PE
President, LJA Program Management, LLC

9:30 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. ❖ Design Build Estimating and Related Topics



Kevin Sakai, Senior Construction Specialist
Ott-Sakai & Associates, LLC

10:15 AM to 10:45 AM Networking Break

10:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. ❖ AGC/ACEC Panel



Geoff Owen,
Kiewit



Richard Patterson, PE SE
AECOM



Steven Kats,
HDR



Benjamin Kamph, PE
Jacobs

11:45 AM to 12:45 PM Lunch on your own

**DAY ONE – August 6, 2025, Wednesday 8 am to 4 pm
 AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

12:45 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. ❖ BC Ministry of Transportation Policy & Process – Delivery Methods



virtual

British Columbia, Canada
 Ed Green, Charter Project Delivery Inc.

1:35 P.M. to 2:05 P.M. ❖ AASHTO Estimating Guide Update (NCHRP 10-122)



Jennifer Shane PhD,
 Professor, Iowa State University



Steven Ayer,
 Associate Professor, Colorado University

2:10 P.M. to 2:40 P.M. ❖ Utilizing AI in Construction



Joseph Shrestha, PhD
 Professor, East Tennessee State University

2:45 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. ❖ Vendor Presentations and Break



Chad Richards
 Infotech

BREAK

3:00 PM to 3:15 PM



David Thomas
 Oman Systems

3:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. ❖ Transforming DOT Culture and Closing



Mitch Ball, PE, LS, DBIA
 Director Cost Estimating Office, VDOT
 TEA: Chairman

Transforming a DOT Estimating
 Culture

closing

3:30 PM to 3:50 PM

3:50 PM to 4:00 PM

**DAY TWO – August 7, 2025, Thursday 8 am to NOON
MORNING SESSIONS**

7:30 am to 8:00 am ❖ Registration / (arrival & coffee bar or continental breakfast)

8:00 am to 8:50 am ❖ Inflation and how it is addressed by owner-agencies & industry



Macrina Wilkins, Senior Research Analyst
Associated General Contractors

9:00 A.M. to 9:50 A.M. ❖ Project Case Study on Value Engineering: I-5 over 26th Ave



Joe Wolf, ODOT
Senior Cost Estimator Project Manager 3

9:50 AM to 10:20 AM Networking Break

10:20 A.M. to 10:50 A.M. ❖ AASHTO Technical Committee on Cost Estimating (TCCE)



Daniel Pass
Georgia DOT, State Design Policy Engineer

10:15 AM to 10:45 AM Networking Break

11:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. ❖ Open Business Meeting – Nominate Officers & 2026 Conference



Mitch Ball, PE, LS, DBIA
Director Cost Estimating Office, VDOT
TEA: Chairman

You!

**11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
Closing Lunch**

1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. ❖ State DOTs & Owner-Agencies, closed executive session + TCCE

PRESENTER BIOS (in alphabetical order by last name)	
Steven Ayer	Dr. Steven Ayer leads the Emerging Technologies BIM Lab at the University of Colorado Boulder, exploring tools like AR, VR, and other tech to enhance building project delivery. His research centers on how technology can empower human users—improving design quality, construction communication, and facility management. His team’s work spans cyberlearning, performance-focused studies, and practical innovation, backed by diverse funding sources. Learn more at www.ETBIMLab.com .
Mitch Ball, PE, LS, DBIA	Mitch serves as Virginia DOT’s Cost Estimation Engineer. He has extensive leadership experience in transportation infrastructure—specializing in construction management, cost estimating, value engineering, scheduling, and claims resolution. He is a licensed Professional Engineer PE and Land Surveyor LS, he holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering Technology from West Virginia University Institute of Technology, and he is a DBIA-certified Design-Build Professional. Mitch enjoys helping people and organizations plan and deliver successful transportation infrastructure projects.
Marcus Coronado, PE	Marcus Coronado is a recognized expert in Cost and Schedule Risk Assessment (CSRA) with over 23 years of experience in transportation infrastructure. He has led dozens of CSRAs for high-profile projects, providing insights that enable risk-informed decision-making by executives and public agencies. During his tenure at TxDOT, Marcus managed over \$12 billion in design-build and P3 projects and played a key role in FHWA’s 2024 delegation of full Major Project authority to Texas. He specializes in risk modeling, cost estimating, and program oversight—helping agencies navigate the complexities of major project delivery.
Mark Gabel, PE, MSCE, CVS	Over 30 years in civil and transportation engineering, Mark specializes in planning, design, construction, and project management. A distinguished expert in project risk management and value methodology, he leads a premier statewide risk management program, shaping industry practices. Mark serves on the SAVE International Value Engineering Board and leads the National Community of Practice for Cost Risk Estimating Management. A sought-after speaker, he drives innovation in cost-risk methodologies, facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration, and empowers teams to make informed, confident decisions.
Ed Green	Ed is a Senior Project Manager with Charter Project Delivery in Vancouver. He has been working in the heavy civil construction environment since 1999; where he started in the field as a Site Engineer before progressing through the ranks to his current position. He has extensive experience in project management, cost estimating and control, problem solving, constructability analysis and schedule development and monitoring.
Ben Kamph, PE	Ben is Director of Estimating for the Americas at Jacobs Engineering. His 27 years of industry experience is split between the Heavy Civil Construction side with national firms and consulting estimating with Jacobs. Ben has spent the majority of his career in the Puget Sound Region, earning a national role based on his proven track record of developing reliable cost estimates, procurement strategies, and risk management plans for many of the country’s largest programs. He applies extensive knowledge in the construction industry to his estimating work, which is developing using HeavBid (HCSS). Ben has led proposals for design-bid-build, progressive design build, design-build, P3, and CM/GC, and GMP at all stages of design. Ben also serves as a SME for Risk, Procurement, and Value Engineering Workshops.

PRESENTER BIOS
(in alphabetical order by last name)

Steven Kats	Steven is a Vice President and Alternative Delivery Leader at HDR, widely recognized for his strategic leadership in delivering complex transportation infrastructure projects. His 20+ years of expertise lies in advising on innovative contracting methods across various transportation sectors, including transit—particularly light rail transit—highways, aviation, and maritime. With a deep knowledge of alternative delivery models, Steven has successfully guided major pursuits and project execution efforts nationwide.
Darren McDaniel	Darren McDaniel, P.E., PMP, is a Program Manager at the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), supporting Project Manager Development (PMD) Institute workshops statewide. With 30 years at TxDOT, he previously served as the Speed Zone Engineer and Highway Safety Engineer for the Traffic Safety Division. He is also an instructor at the University of Texas at Austin Extended Campus. McDaniel holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering and is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE), PMP, and TxDOT Certified Adjunct Instructor.
Geoff Owen	Over 30 years at Kiewit Construction, Geoff has excelled in operations and estimating across diverse project delivery models, including Design-Bid-Build, GC/CM, PPP, Progressive Design-Build, and Design-Build. As Project Director, he led major efforts like Sound Transit E360 and the Microsoft Pedestrian Bridge, contributing to over \$6 billion in infrastructure projects. Now, as Alternative Delivery Manager, he oversees structural work in the Pacific Northwest, marine projects on the West Coast, and technical bridge developments nationwide, driving innovation in transportation solutions.
Daniel Pass, PE	Daniel Pass, PE is the State Design Policy Engineer for the Georgia Department of Transportation. He is also a member of the AASHTO Committee on Design and the Chairman of the AASHTO Technical Committee on Cost Estimating. Before joining GDOT in 2006, Dan worked for 11 years as a design engineer with Geosyntec Consultants and as a project manager Parsons Corp. He has been involved in engineering research for most of his 30-year career.
Richard Patterson, PE, SE	Richard, AECOM's PNW Transportation Executive, has 40 years of engineering and project management experience in Washington State. He's worked on 32+ alternative delivery projects, including Design Build, Progressive Design Build, and GC/CM, for both contractors and owners. His expertise spans highway and transit heavy civil projects, with early design-build training in Singapore on subway stations and tunnels. Recently, he served as WSDOT's Design Manager for its first Progressive Design Build project, Coastal 29. He now leads AECOM's Portage Bay Bridge and Brickyard projects.
Jerry Ramos, PE	Jerry Ramos brings over 35 years of experience in managing complex infrastructure projects and is a leader in Cost and Schedule Risk Assessment (CSRA). Since 2019, he has coordinated and facilitated 31 CSRA workshops for major highway and alternative delivery projects across Texas. These efforts supported Initial Financial Plans for projects totaling over \$53.9 billion in construction value. As President of LJA Program Management, Jerry helps agencies improve risk management and cost forecasting, drawing on his successful delivery of more than \$5 billion in design-build and P3 procurements.
Chad Richards	Chad is a licensed professional engineer with an emphasis on cost estimating, risk management, and constructability. He specializes in advanced construction technologies related to 3D civil design, Automated Machine Guidance, and BIM workflows.

PRESENTER BIOS (in alphabetical order by last name)	
Kevin Sakai	Kevin Sakai is the registered agent and governor of Ott-Sakai & Associates, LLC, a professional services firm based in Mountlake Terrace, Washington. The company, established in 2003, operates within the scientific, technical, and professional services sector. Kevin and his team provide subject matter expertise in several engineering disciplines and cost risk estimating management.
Jennifer Shane, PHD	Jennifer Shane, PhD is a W.A. Klinger Teaching Professor and Associate Professor in the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at Iowa State University. She also serves as the Director of the Construction Management and Technology (CMAT) Program at the Institute for Transportation. Her research focuses on project management, construction engineering, and transportation infrastructure, collaborating with agencies like the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Iowa Department of Transportation.
Joseph Shrestha, PHD	Joseph Shrestha holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University, with prior degrees from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and Tribhuvan University. Passionate about lifelong learning, their research explores big data analytics, GIS applications, and advanced technologies in construction, with a focus on cost estimation, safety, and market trends. Recognized with multiple honors—including the CBAT Faculty Excellence Award and ASC Best Paper Award—they have contributed significantly to both academia and industry. Their scholarly work also ranks among the most read in data systems commons, reflecting a deep commitment to impactful, practical, and innovative research in construction engineering.
Ryan Sweeney	Ryan is the Statewide Transportation Engineer for TnDOT's estimating section, a role he accepted in 2024. With over 12 years at TnDOT, he previously served as Assistant Director of Construction, overseeing contract administration and project letting for region 2. Earlier, he worked as a design manager and began his career in site and roadway design for private and government clients. A past president of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (Nashville Chapter), he currently chairs its awards committee.
David Thomas	David Thomas is the Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Oman Systems. David brings over 20 years of sales and marketing experience to Oman Systems, with the majority of that time spent in the technology and I.T. services industries. He is a native of Franklin, TN and graduate of Western Kentucky University with a B.S. in Marketing. David is an avid golfer and sports fan and enjoys time with his family in the Nashville area and Florida, especially his nephews. David has spent over 8 years working in the infrastructure and transportation industry with Oman Systems in Nashville, TN.
Macrina Wilkins	Macrina Wilkins works as a senior research analyst for the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), the leading trade association for the construction industry. She serves as a speaker within the industry, sharing her knowledge on trends in the labor, spending and material markets. Her work has been published in trade magazines and industry reports focusing on topics related to economic trends impacting contractors. Ms. Wilkins graduated from Cornell University with a B.S. in Human Development and has done post-bac work in Economics at George Mason University. She is a member of the National Association of Business Economists and serves as Secretary of the National Economics Club of Washington DC.
Joe Wolf	Joe Wolf is the Senior Cost Estimator for ODOT and leads the DOT's Project Analysis Unit. Joe is also the Planning Chair for the City of Sublimity Planning Commission. Joe was previously founder of a heavy civil company, while also holding other roles as chief estimator, project manager, and project engineer for large heavy civil firms across the NW of Oregon. Joe graduated from Oregon State University with a BS in Business and Wood Science Engineering. Joe is a member of the TCCE.