



# DESIGN-BUILD FOR TRANSPORTATION/AVIATION CONFERENCE

March 17-19, 2025  
National Harbor, MD



## Call for Presentations Guidelines

**Submission Deadline: Oct. 10, 2024**

Design-build represents 42% of construction spending, with projections nearing half by 2026. This growth stems from its cost and schedule benefits and flexible procurement approaches, such as Best-Value and Progressive Design-Build. Understanding best practices, challenges and opportunities is vital and sharing practical techniques and success factors is key.

Each year, over a thousand AEC professionals in the transportation/aviation sector, including public and private Owners, attend the Design-Build for Transportation/Aviation Conference. As the use of design-build continues to grow in the transportation/aviation sectors, we seek cutting-edge topics from experts for our 2025 event. If you have insights on optimizing Design-Build Done Right® for triple bottom line success or valuable lessons learned, please submit a session proposal.

We invite Owners, practitioners and industry leaders to contribute their expertise. Join over 1,000 peers at the Design-Build for Transportation/Aviation Conference, March 17-19, 2025, in National Harbor, MD. Share how design-build can address market challenges and thrive in uncertain times.

## What We're Looking For: At a Glance

### **Priority consideration will be given to submissions adhering to these guidelines.**

Quality submissions that address and/or align with the below:

- The right presenters are as important as the right topic:
    - One or more presenters holds a DBIA credential.
    - One or more presenters holds a DBIA membership.
    - Owner's involvement in the presentation.
    - Panels that include multiple project team members (ex., design-builder, designer, Owner or Owner Advisor, trade partners).
    - Presentations and panels/speakers that represent a diversity of voices and perspectives (e.g., gender, race, age, disability, market sector, underutilized businesses, geography, etc.) and exemplify the impact of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) on project outcomes.
  - Presentations that are educational with crisp instruction and clear takeaways on the "how to" of Design-Build Done Right®
  - Presentations that highlight challenges, with an emphasis on "lessons learned" and tools and resources others can apply to avoid similar difficulties in their practice.
  - Presentations that speak to one or more of the following:
    - Best practices with a focus on practical application of key practices, and lessons learned to guide future success.
    - Managing risk and expectation
    - Collaboration/teaming successes
    - Application of Virtual Design and Construction (VDC)
    - Making the essential mental shift for success and the all-important facets of developing a successful acquisition strategy
- Content that will not be considered:**
- Self-congratulatory presentations on a project.
  - Presentations that provide a sense of commercial/brand promotion. Please note presentations that serve to promote a specific product or service will not be accepted.
  - Anything that does not precisely relate to the Design-Build delivery method.

## Topics of Interest for 2025

### How the Industry Is Evolving

- Ever-Changing Collaboration and Co-Location
- Ever-Changing Engineering
- Ever-Changing Contracting
- Ever-Changing Pricing and Supply Chain Management

### Potential Tools/Future of Design-Build

- Progressive Design-Build: What Have We Learned So Far? What Is Working and Why and What Can We Improve Upon?
- Virtual Design and Construction (VDC) BIM
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Design-Build Innovative Financing Solutions
- Design-Build to Achieve Sustainability and Resiliency Goals (i.e., EVs, Charging Stations)
- Design-Build in Times of Crisis/Disaster

### Procurement and Contracting Best Practices

- What New Lessons Have We Learned?
- Small Project Successes
- Risk Management Techniques, Identifying, Monitoring and Balancing Risk in Design-Build
- From the Design-Build Team Perspective
- From the Owner's Perspective

### Owners and Design-Build

- Positioning Your Agency to Be an Owner of Choice
- Owner Considerations in Choosing a Collaborative Delivery Model
- Evaluating Procurement Methodologies
- Balancing the Role of the Owner's Advisor; Considerations for Aviation Owners
- What Methods Are Owner's Using to Evaluate Design-Build

### Highly Effective Design-Build Teams

- Structuring a Dynamic and Resilient Design-Build Team
- The How/Why of Early Engagement of the Team (Designer, Specialty Trades, Owner, etc.)
- Integration Tools and Techniques
- Thoughtful DBE/SBE/WBE Engagement and Utilization
- Workforce Development: How Can the Industry Attract, Induct and Retain the Most Qualified Talent?
- Innovative Mentorship and Internship Practices

### Infrastructure Investment and Design-Build

- Can Design-Build Assume a Leadership Role in Rebuilding Our Infrastructure?
- Challenges Facing Our Public Agencies and Their Design-Build Programs

# DESIGN-BUILD FOR TRANSPORTATION/AVIATION CONFERENCE

March 17-19, 2025 | National Harbor, MD

---

## Submitting Your Presentation Idea

All submissions must be completed **online**. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. You must answer “yes” to the following questions to be considered. If selected, I/we:

1. Agree to have our draft presentation submitted to DBIA no later than **Feb. 14, 2025**.
2. Agree to collaborate with the Transportation and Aviation Conference Planning Committee to refine and finalize our presentation, having our final presentation submitted to DBIA no later than **Mar. 7, 2025**. DBIA will withdraw session presenters from the program if we do not receive final presentations by the **Mar. 7** deadline.
3. Should circumstances dictate the need to transition to a virtual event, agree to pre-record your session approximately two weeks prior to the event for use during the conference.
4. Commit to be available **IN PERSON** in National Harbor at a time slot determined by DBIA between **Mar. 17–19, 2025**.
5. Any plans for polling or other special requests are subject to approval by DBIA.

## Presentation Overview

1. **Presentation Title** – Title should capture the essence of the topic to be discussed and should not exceed 10-12 words.
2. **Presentation Summary** – Please provide an overview of the session intent and why the topic is relevant to successful integrated delivery. The summary statement should not exceed 200 words and may be used for marketing purposes should your presentation be selected.
3. **Four Major Presentation Points** – A learning objective is an explicit statement that clearly expresses what the attendee will be able to do after taking a course. Learning objectives should be concise and open to limited interpretation. An example of a learning statement is as follows: Define best practices for effective collaboration using technology. Suggested behavioral verbs to use when writing learning objectives include the following: acquire, analyze, apply, assess, build, clarify, compare, define, demonstrate, describe, determine, differentiate, discover, etc.
4. **Presentation Level** – Based on your judgment what is your content level? Beginner, Intermediate or Advanced?
5. **Panel Representation** – DBIA believes a diversity of voices and perspectives (e.g., gender, race, age, disability, market sector, underutilized businesses, geography, etc.) is a core component of high-quality programming. Please provide a brief description (no more than 300 words) of how your panel represents a diversity of voices and perspectives, and how diversity and/or inclusion on your team impacted project outcomes.
6. **Differentiation Strategies** – Based on the presentation level you indicated in #4, how do you plan to differentiate your presentation content to address the diverse learning needs of your audience to ensure all learners leave with meaningful takeaways?
7. **Intended Audience** – What is the intended primary audience for this presentation? (check all that apply)
  - Owners (Procurement/Pre-Award Professional)
  - General Contractors
  - Owner Advisor
  - Specialty/Subcontractors
  - Design Professionals
  - Other (please specify)

# DESIGN-BUILD FOR TRANSPORTATION/AVIATION CONFERENCE

March 17-19, 2025 | National Harbor, MD

---

## Speaker Overview

1. **Logistical Contact** – This person must be prepared to serve as DBIA’s main point of contact if selected, including coordination with co-presenters, where applicable. If the logistical contact is also a presenter, please include their information below.
  - a. Name
  - b. Title
  - c. Email
  - d. Phone
  
2. **Panels are limited to four (4) presenters.** The following information will be used in conjunction with the description above to determine the relevance and balance of your session proposal. This information is critical to the committee review process. Later in this process you will be asked to provide full contact information. For review purposes, however, only the following information will be requested.
  - a. Presenter Name
  - b. Presenter Licenses/Credentials (DBIA, Assoc. DBIA, P.E., AIA, etc.)
  - c. Presenter Company
  - d. Experience Presenting the Topic – Has the presenter conducted a similar topic at a DBIA or any other industry event? If so, please indicate when and where.

A committee of design-build industry experts will review and make decisions on submissions. You will be notified of the decision **no later than Nov. 1, 2024.**

All selected presenters will receive a discounted registration to the full Spring conference. Submit your proposal **online** by **Oct. 10, 2024.**

**Questions regarding the submission process should be directed to:**

Emily Eagon, Director of Special Projects  
Voice: (202) 454-7514  
E-mail: [EEagon@dbia.org](mailto:EEagon@dbia.org)