

2023 Federal Design-Build Symposium



Registration Brochure

Aug. 22–23, 2023

Crystal Gateway Marriott | Arlington, VA

[Register Here](#)

**FEDERAL
DESIGN-BUILD
SYMPOSIUM**



Welcome to the 2023 Federal Design-Build Symposium

As use of design-build continues to grow, with market analysis projecting design-build to approach nearly 50% of construction spending by 2026, so does our Federal Design-Build Symposium. Further, with the passage of the historic infrastructure funding legislation and continued post-pandemic recovery efforts, bringing together key players from federal agencies and the design and construction industry with the mutual goal of optimizing federal project outcomes is more important than ever.

DBIA's symposium offers federal teams the innovative tools, design-build best practices, and federal policy insights needed to build high-performance teams delivering better projects — on-time and on-budget. Designed to help federal design-build teams deliver on the promise of economic progress and recovery, symposium sessions over the two days will be split into two tracks:

Track 1: The Right Tools and Techniques for Success

Track 2: Design-Build Done Right® in Action

Don't miss this opportunity for targeted design-build education, candid conversations and meaningful networking for Owners and design-build teams in the federal marketplace.

2023 Federal Design-Build Symposium Planning Committee

Chair

Laura Stagner, FAIA, PMP, DBIA
U.S. General Services Administration (Retired)

Vice-Chair

Bob Rizzieri, MS, PE, PMP, CCM, F-ASCE, DBIA
Rizzieri Consulting

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Michael Billing, DBIA
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Michael Blount, PE, LEED AP BD+C, Assoc. DBIA
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U.S. General Services Administration – PBS, Design and Construction, PDD

Craig Unger, FDBIA
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Joseph Opyd, DBIA
G.E. Johnson Construction Company

Jim Whitaker, NCARB, FAIA, FDBIA
HKS

Ross Davidson, DBIA
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Office of Construction and Facilities Management

Ural Yal
Flatiron Construction

Registration Rates

Registration Type		Fees
Academia	Member	\$350
	Non-Member	\$450
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member	\$350
	Non-Member	\$450
Practitioner	Member	\$575
	Non-Member	\$675
MWDBE	Member	25% discount
	Non-Member	25% discount
Student	Member	Contact DBIA for special pricing

[Register online](#) or download the registration form and email to conference@dbia.org.

Federal Owner Scholarships

Design-build is only as successful as the Owners who implement it. That's why DBIA is committed to bringing Design-Build Done Right® education to federal Owners hoping to harness the value of design-build. Owners can also qualify for DBIA scholarships to defray their costs. Learn more about [DBIA Owners Scholarships](#).

Be a Sponsor

Sponsors of the 2023 Federal Design-Build Symposium are uniquely positioned as design-build leaders at this important event. See details on our [sponsorship packages](#) and then contact Patrick Wilson at pwilson@dbia.org to learn more about joining this select group of sponsors.

Questions about the 2023 Federal Design-Build Symposium? Visit our website or email us at conferences@dbia.org.

Hotel Information

The 2023 Federal Design-Build Symposium will be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott, 1700 Richmond Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202. DBIA has reserved a block of rooms for our attendees at the discounted rate of \$169/night.

Reserve your room by Monday, July 31, online [here](#) or call 1-800-393-3680 and refer to group code **DESIGN BUILD INST.**

The hotel offers shuttle service every 30 minutes from Ronald Reagan National Airport from 5:00AM to midnight (last trip departing from the hotel is at 11:30PM).



Schedule at a Glance

(View our [online program](#) for regular updates)

Tuesday, August 22

12:30–1:45PM (1.25 CEHs)	Opening Keynote: Hot Button Issues That Derail a Project (Where Do We Go Wrong?) Design-build team members must be willing to exercise mindfulness and have difficult conversations to reveal vulnerabilities to foster healthy, strong team relationships. This lively, interactive “marriage counseling” session will deep dive into challenging topics that, if left unaddressed, can adversely impact team performance, synergy and outcomes. The most successful design-build teams understand that design-build is more than a single point of responsibility contract, but also a mental shift that requires building strong relationships based on trust, open and honest communication, and comprehensive collaboration from stakeholders to fabricators. Relationships can be hard, and design-build relationships are no exception! Topics to be addressed include appropriate risk allocation, limitation of liability, stipends, contingency, design intent and more. Moderator: Jim Whitaker , FAIA, NCARB, FDBIA — HKS, Inc. Presenters: Jennifer Macks , PE, LEED AP, DBIA — Gilbane Virginia A. McAllister , RA, LEED AP, NCIDQ, DBIA — Iron Horse Architects, Inc. Angela Miklich , LEED AP BD+C — General Services Administration Laura Wake-Ramos , AIA NCARB, EDAC, DBIA — Mortenson	
1:45–2:00PM	Break	
2:00–3:00PM (1.0 CEH)	Owners’ Forum The Owners’ Only Forum allows open, honest discussion and provides Owners the opportunity to share views, answer questions and find solutions to project delivery challenges. <i>Industry professionals, including consultants, are not permitted in this session.</i> Moderator: Laura Stagner , FAIA, PMP, DBIA — General Services Administration (Retired)	
2:00–3:00PM (1.0 CEH)	Practitioners’ Forum This Practitioners’ Only Forum provides an opportunity for design-build practitioners to have candid conversations about the business aspects of design-build, discuss key industry trends and issues, and provide input to help DBIA lead the way to solve some of the most prevalent challenges in today’s market.	
3:00–3:15PM	Break	
3:15–4:15PM (1.0 CEH)	Track 1 – The Right Tools and Techniques for Success The Owner’s Role in Design-Build Done Right® As design-build approaches nearly half of all construction spending, the best design-build teams are as selective in choosing the Owners they work with as Owners are in selecting their design-builder. So, what makes for an Owner of choice? This session will dive into the key characteristics of Owners who position themselves to reap the full benefits of Design-Build Done Right® through a comprehensive understanding of their role in both project and team success. Presenters: James Ropelewski , JD, DBIA — Design-Build Institute of America Craig H. Unger , FDBIA — Unger Security Solutions LLC	Track 2 – Design-Build Done Right® in Action VA Major Construction Program Design-Build Planning, Acquisition and Execution Strategy Implementation This session will discuss the planning, acquisition and execution functions in the implementation of design-build strategy for VA projects; provide an update on the VA’s progress of acquisition strategy for its upcoming multiple award contract vehicle and approximate schedule for solicitation and award; overview the VA’s investment in Design-Build Done Right® training; and discuss how the VA is leveraging design-build across the VA enterprise and with non-departmental federal entity partners. Presenters: Ross A. Davidson , Assoc. AIA, FHFI, DBIA — Dept. of Veterans Affairs Zeb Fox , CDBA, FAC-C III — Dept. of Veterans Affairs Chris Castle , DDes — Dept. of Veterans Affairs

Tuesday, August 22 Continued

4:15–4:30PM **Break**

4:30–5:30PM
(1.0 CEH)

General Session: Using Data to Tell the Story: A Look at How Current Data Informs the Path Ahead

Research. Studies. Trends. From statistics and focus groups to case studies and polls and more, the world has an insatiable appetite for data. But what does it all mean? And how do we leverage it all to tell the story? In this session, we'll weave together key industry data from two recent studies: FMI's Market Trends Mid-Cycle Update Study and the ACEC Research Institute's Design-Build Study — the first study to focus exclusively on the engineer's perspective of design-build — to inform us of trends, challenges and opportunities in our industry. With design-build on track to comprise 47% of construction spending by 2026, the importance of leveraging current data to inform the course ahead cannot be overstated. Join us as industry experts present key highlights from both studies, helping us connect the dots and leaving attendees informed and prepared for the future of design-build.

Moderator: **Kevin J. McMahon** — ACEC Research Institute

Presenters:

Emily Beardall — FMI Corporation

Keith R. Molenaar, Ph.D., FDBIA — University of Colorado at Boulder

5:30–6:30PM **Networking Reception**

Wednesday, August 23

7:30–8:00AM

Continental Breakfast

8:00–9:15AM
(1.25 CEHs)

General Session: Federal Design-Build Best Practices — Status and Highlights

As new ideas and methods are embraced, regulations change and technology advances, design-build evolves. Therefore, Design-Build Best Practices evolve, too. This session will examine the status and highlights of the updated Federal Design-Build Best Practices. This project was led by a team of design-build experts informed by their years of federal design-build experience with input from a wide range of stakeholders. While these Best Practices are based on the updated Universal Best Practices released earlier this year, they are focused on the federal market and the inherent particularities and requirements.

Moderator: **Robert "Skip" Vaughn**, SES — National Institute of Standards & Technology

Presenters:

James Ropelewski, JD, DBIA — Design-Build Institute of America

Laura Stagner, FAIA, PMP, DBIA — U.S. General Services Administration (Retired)

David Triplett — FBI

Thank You to Our Sponsors:

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Wednesday, August 23 Continued

9:30–10:30AM
(1.0 CEH)

Track 1 – The Right Tools and Techniques for Success

Selecting and Using an Owner Advisor in Design-Build

Why should a federal agency use an Owner Advisor for design-build projects? What role do they play and why does it matter to you? This session will explore the critical role an Owner Advisor plays on design-build projects. We'll explore what an Owner Advisor is, the value they bring to design-build projects and how an Owner Advisor interacts with the design-build team. If you are working on Design-Build projects, this session is for you.

Presenters:

Baabak Ashuri, Ph.D., DBIA — Georgia Institute of Technology
Joseph M. Butler, PE, MBA — ButlerMatrix, LLC
Molly A. Jones, LEED AP, AIA, GGP, DBIA — Jones Design Studio, PLLC
Praful Kulkarni, AIA, DBIA — CannonDesign

Track 2 – Design-Build Done Right® in Action

Managing Risk and Innovation on a Federal Design-Build Historic Renovation

Navigating a federal design-build historic renovation requires an effective strategy to manage the intrinsic challenges, ranging from the reliability of as-builts, quality design documents and uncovering unforeseen conditions. Key considerations for a project of this complexity include comprehensive discovery during the design phase, proactive design and contractor leadership in the design approval process, and a solutions-oriented approach by all stakeholders encouraged through a design-build culture.

Presenters:

Jah-Ras Hodge, RA — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Gayle Kirchmar, AIA, LEED AP — KCCT
Josh Taylor, LEED AP — Director of Integrated Construction, Federal Contracting
Laura Wake-Ramos, AIA, NCARB, EDAC, DBIA — Mortenson

10:30–10:45AM **Break**

10:45AM–
12:00PM
(1.25 CEHs)

Track 1 – The Right Tools and Techniques for Success

High Altitude Research Lab — Design Build Excellence at 14,115 Feet!

Following partnering and Design-Build Done Right® best practices as a roadmap for success turned out to be an essential piece to success for an amazing team while working on an extremely challenging federal Corps of Engineers Design-Build project at 14,115 feet. The quickly changing climate, severe logistical challenges and numerous stakeholders involved made the day-to-day challenges seem like facing a mountain, while working on one! Following through with partnering consistently throughout the project made the Design-Build Done Right® best practices easy to implement and use as a guide for success to the completion and turn over the contract.

Presenters:

John Bristow — Defense Health Agency
Douglas Foster, PE — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
Joseph Opyd, CCM, DBIA — G.E. Johnson Construction Company

Track 2 – Design-Build Done Right® in Action

FBI's Success in Design-Build Done Right®

The FBI is designing and building its new campus, HQ2 at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, to provide additional FBI mission capability, attract and retain talent, and provide state-of-the art training. Over the next 10 years, the FBI will create 5,000+ jobs in Huntsville, providing an appealing campus on a secure location, expanding the FBI's missions already at the Arsenal. To meet its ambitious goals in completing the campus, the FBI chose design-build project delivery. The FBI followed DBIA's Design-Build Done Right® for federal projects and retained an external expert to educate its key leadership, procurement and project delivery teammates. Hear about how to successfully deploy design-build project delivery for an extensive, federally-funded building campaign and individual projects.

Presenters:

David Triplett, FBI
Barbara Wagner, LEED AP, DBIA — Clark Construction Group, LLC
Jim Whitaker, FAIA, FDBIA — HKS, Inc.

12:00–1:00PM **Networking Lunch**

Wednesday, August 23 Continued

1:00–2:15PM
(1.25 CEHs)

General Session: No One Is to Blame: Successful Collaboration in an Uncertain Market

With soaring construction costs and unreliable supply chain challenges, what are the methods for design-build teams to collaborate and succeed? There is little consistency across the federal agencies regarding the tools at hand for these problems, including Economic Price Adjustments. Looking at the issues with a wide lens, this session will delve into what tools agencies do have, how they can be used, and how and where risks are best placed. Further, learn how agencies can turn these challenges into wins and demonstrate that they are the agencies which design-build teams want to work with going forward.

Moderator: **Ross A. Davidson**, Assoc. AIA, FHFI, DBIA — Department of Veterans Affairs

Presenters:

Reggie Jones, DBIA — Fox Rothschild LLP

Tracy Marciniowski — General Services Administration

Stacy Percoski — The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company

2:15–2:30PM

Break

2:30–3:30PM
(1.0 CEH)

Track 1 – The Right Tools and Techniques for Success

Developing Design-Builders: Supporting Small and Disadvantaged Businesses

Design-build brings an array of advantages for the federal government that demand increased utilization. But fulfilling socio-economic contracting mandates within the design-build methodology can be challenging. Emergent businesses may not have developed the skillsets required for successful design-build execution. A panel of experts will discuss how the right training and IDIQ contract vehicles can nurture design-build capabilities within these businesses, help achieve DEI goals within the federal design-build community, and ensure the successful development of the design-build supplier base across a spectrum of execution needs.

Presenters:

Cory Anderson — General Services Administration

Rich Benton, PE, F-ASCE, FDBIA — SR Benton & Associates

Lisa Cooley, LEED AP — Gordian

Kelvin King — Osprey Management

3:30–3:45PM

Break

3:45–5:00PM
(1.25 CEHs)

General Session: Design-Build Done Right® in Action — An Award-Winning Project/Team

The Ireland Army Health Clinic and the team behind it represent design-build at its best. This session will explore what went into this award-winning project, how the team met and exceeded their goals, what challenges they encountered, and how adhering to design-build best practices paved the way to success. Attendees will also learn what particularly impressed the awards jury about the project.

Moderator: **Stella S. Fiotes**, AIA, DBIA — U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (Retired)

Presenters:

Nicholas J. Bibelhauser III, PE — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Darl Flake — Mortenson

Dave Peterson, DBIA — Mortenson

Amy Schaap, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, FHFI, DBIA — Arcadis

Track 2 – Design-Build Done Right® in Action

Build Beautifully: How Design-Build Can Create a More Sustainable Future

As the world continues to struggle with the increasing challenges of climate change, it has become clear that we need to take a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach to mitigate climate change impacts. As Owners, Owner-Advisors, design-builders, architects and trade partners, we are uniquely positioned to elevate this conversation. This session will explore the intersection of project delivery methods and sustainable outcomes. Specifically, how design-build can support sustainability and energy efficiency through innovation and creativity; and challenge all of us to Build Beautifully.

Presenter:

Molly A. Jones, LEED AP, AIA, GGP, DBIA — Jones Design Studio, PLLC