



From Authorization to Implementation

FEDERAL

DESIGN-BUILD

SYMPOSIUM

Registration Brochure

August 11–12, 2026 | Hyatt Regency Reston | Reston, VA

[Register Here](#)





A partnership between DBIA
and Barbara Jackson, LLC



INSPIRING LEADERS.
ELEVATING TEAMS.
TRANSFORMING THE INDUSTRY.

PRECONFERENCE EVENT MONDAY, AUGUST 10

DBIA's Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy, in partnership with Barbara Jackson, LLC, is designed to equip AEC professionals with the leadership skills and mindset needed to successfully make the mental shift from a segregated services approach to an integrated one. It's designed exclusively for the realities of collaborative project delivery, equipping every team member — regardless of title, discipline or experience level — with the mindset and skills to lead with impact. Projections show that nearly half of all construction spending will be design-build by 2028, so building a strong foundation of leadership is vital to keeping up with that trend. Are you ready to elevate your leadership?

Learn more about all the courses in the Academy and see the full [2026 schedule and flyer](#).

LEADERSHIP: BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

(Pre-requisite course in the Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy)

Leadership matters. Distinguishing different ways to lead is at the crux of Design-Build Done Right®. This course will introduce the distinctions of Design-Build Leadership Done Right, summarize what the Academy is about and why the five follow-on modules (Communication, Trust, Mindset, Teaming, Culture) are vital to Design-Build Leadership Done Right. Explore the crucial competencies for effective leadership in Design-Build. The course emphasizes shifting from default tendencies to higher leadership levels, addresses the challenge of leadership and learning stagnation, and highlights the correlation between leadership effectiveness and business performance. Participants will discuss how to create a strategic leadership plan for their organizations.

Monday, Aug. 10, 8:00AM-5:00PM		
Prior to Federal Design-Build Symposium:	Member	\$595
	Non-Member	\$695

[Register online](#) (separate registration fee, limited seating available. *Registration for the event does not include access to conference sessions, keynotes or networking lunch.*)

Registration Rates

REGISTRATION TYPE		Early-Bird Rate <i>(until Jun. 30, 2026)</i>	Advance Rate <i>(Jul. 1 - Aug. 6, 2026)</i>	Onsite Rate <i>(Aug. 7 - Aug. 12, 2026)</i>
Academia	Member		FREE	
	Non-Member		FREE	
Government Agency/ Private Owner	Member		FREE	
	Non-Member		FREE	
Practitioner	Member	\$495	\$595	\$670
	Non-Member	\$595	\$695	\$770
UBE	Member		\$149	
	Non-Member		\$199	
Student	Member		\$50	
	Non-Member		\$75	

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

Be a Sponsor

Sponsors of the 2026 Federal Design-Build Symposium are uniquely positioned as design-build leaders at this important event. See details on our [sponsorship packages](#) and then contact Dave Weidner at dave@paisales.com to learn more about joining this select group of sponsors.

Questions? Visit [our website](#) or email us at conferences@dbia.org.

Hotel Information

The 2026 Federal Design-Build Symposium will be held at the Hyatt Regency Reston, 1800 Presidents Street, Reston, VA 20190. DBIA has reserved a block of rooms for our attendees at the discounted rate of \$199/night for single/double (group code G-DB2A) or \$183/night for government per diem rate (group code G-DBG2). The room block is available Sunday, August 9 through Thursday, August 13.

Reserve your room by **Friday, July 24**, [online](#) or call 1-703-709-1234 and refer to group codes above. After the deadline, rooms may be booked directly through the hotel at their standard rates.

Airport/Transportation Options:

Closet Airport: Dulles International Airport (IAD): **6.59 miles**
Taxi: **\$21-\$26**

Other Airports:

Ronald Reagan Washington National (DCA): **22 miles**
Baltimore/Washington (BWI): **52.5 miles**

Other Transportation:

Metro: Silver Line/Reston Town Center stop: **0.2 Miles** from hotel
Amtrak: located **20 miles** from Hyatt Regency Reston
The Link Reston Town Center Shuttle: [Hyatt Regency Reston stop](#)



Schedule at a Glance

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

Monday, August 10

8:00AM–5:00PM **Pre-Conference Event — Leadership: Building a Strong Foundation**

Pre-requisite course in the [Collaborative Delivery Leadership Academy](#)

See page 3 for full course description and registration rates.

Registration for the pre-conference event does not include access to conference sessions, keynotes or networking lunch. Limited seating available.

Tuesday, August 11

10:00AM–6:00PM **Registration Desk Open**

12:30–1:45PM **General Session — The Federal Imperative for Design-Build: Are We Ready?**

Design-build has become the dominant project delivery method across the industry, but the federal sector is still catching up. Rising demands, constrained resources and increasing complexity are forcing a shift in how federal projects get delivered. Senior executives from the largest federal Owners of design and construction services will share how their agencies are responding — using design-build to accelerate delivery, manage risk and improve outcomes. Hear what's working, what isn't and what must change for the federal sector to keep pace. Learn how DBIA is supporting agencies in this transition and what it will take, across the industry, to truly be ready.

1:45–2:00PM **Networking/Coffee Break**

2:00–3:00PM **General Session — Kim Becking, Change and Resilience Expert**

Kim Becking is an internationally recognized keynote speaker, New York Times bestselling author and founder of the Unstoppable Momentum™ Movement. Known for her engaging and high-energy presentations, she helps leaders and organizations navigate change, build resilience and thrive in challenging environments.

3:00–3:15PM **Networking Break**

3:15–4:15PM **Industry Day Agency Session**

Hear from federal agencies as they outline upcoming capital project portfolios and design-build opportunities, including scope, procurement requirements and timelines. This session offers an opportunity for open dialogue between agencies and industry focused on performance expectations, potential challenges and strategies for successful delivery. Gain the insights you need to align with agency goals, build stronger partnerships and position your team for success on future federal projects.

4:15–6:00PM **Networking Reception with Sponsors**



Wednesday, August 12

7:00AM–6:00PM **Registration Desk Open**

7:15–8:00AM **Continental Breakfast**

8:00–9:00AM **General Session — Design-Build: The Next Frontier**

Design-build is expanding across federal agencies, but the path forward isn't uniform. While the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) provides authority for Progressive Design-Build (PDB) in military projects, many civilian agencies must operate within different constraints. This session will focus on how to move forward regardless of those limitations. Explore how PDB is being implemented where authorized and how agencies without that authority can optimize Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) within the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to achieve similar outcomes. From early collaboration to transparent cost development and disciplined decision-making, explore the best practices that drive better outcomes, no matter the framework.

9:00–9:15AM **Networking Break**

9:15–10:15AM **Track 1 — Progressive Design-Build**

Owner Readiness for Federal PDB: From Policy to Practice

The NDAA has authorized PDB for federal projects, but authorization does not equal readiness. Without intentional preparation, gaps can lead to misaligned teams, procurement inefficiencies and diminished outcomes. This session introduces a practical Owner Readiness framework that moves agencies from policy to execution. The panel will highlight leadership behaviors, governance structures and acquisition strategies required for success. The discussion will integrate key federal considerations such as Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS), phased funding constraints, early budget transparency, the PDB off-ramp and more.

Track 2 — Design-Build Done Right®

Rapid Delivery for a National Cattle Crisis

Learn how Design-Build Done Right® enabled an innovative Design-Build to Budget delivery method to meet an urgent national biosecurity crisis: the looming threat of New World Screwworm (NWS). With NWS already detected in Central America and Mexico and a likely U.S. breach in 2026, the risk to cattle ranchers is immediate and potentially catastrophic. The topic is highly relevant to successful integrated delivery, demonstrating how trust, early collaboration and industry expertise can accelerate outcomes under crisis conditions. This session highlights how the government placed trust in Mortenson's expertise and DBIA's Design-Build Done Right® framework to extract maximum value, deliver speed and meet a mission-critical need.

10:15–10:30AM **Networking Break**

10:30–11:30AM **Track 1 — Progressive Design-Build**
Surviving Validation — The Difference Between DB and PDB

In traditional design-build, projects typically enter procurement with scope, budget and schedule already defined. PDB brings the team on earlier, requiring Owners and teams to work collaboratively through Validation to shape the project before programming begins. This session explores how Validation differs in DB and PDB, particularly for federal and MILCON projects pursuing early team engagement. Learn how teams can navigate the compressed, nonlinear nature of Validation through trust, communication, decision-making and strong team alignment.

Track 2 — Design-Build Done Right®

Veterans, Done Right, Through Design-Build Done Right®

Design-Build Done Right® on display to benefit a national treasure, the U.S. veteran. Early delivery, below budget, raving fans, excellent performance ratings. ~500,000-SF, ~\$600M, 48-months design and construction. The panel will discuss how they helped VA and USACE be successful despite the challenges of the past. How? High-performance teams transcending the mundane of design and construction to perform as one synchronous element. Easy? Absolutely not. Performance excellence? Mandatory. Come hear the good news.

Wednesday, August 12 Continued

11:30AM–1:00PM **Networking Lunch**

1:00–2:00PM

**Track 1 — Progressive Design-Build
Progressive Design-Build Off-Ramps,
Strategies for Proper Execution and How
to Keep from Using One**

PDB and adherence to DBIA Best Practices are processes for delivering projects on time, under budget and with all stakeholders satisfied. What can go wrong? Deviating from Best Practices can lead to project failure and potentially costly litigation. One PDB strategy is the use of an “Off Ramp” to dissolve the team. These are some of the lessons learned in the real-life execution of projects that have exercised the “Off Ramp.” Explore strategies that will assist Owners and their advisors in crafting “Off Ramp” systems and plans that will either make the “Off Ramp” less likely to happen or less painful.

**Track 2 — Design-Build Done Right®
Delivering Results in High-Performance
Design-Build**

The FBI set a goal to design and build a new training center to elevate every aspect of its commitment to high-performance training for agents and staff. The FBI’s 40,000 sq. ft. High-Performance Training Center in Quantico, VA, is a next-gen facility focused on advanced, specialized training for agents. The FBI, BL Harbert Intl and STOA/GMC/Legacy Collaborative managed numerous challenges while maintaining the vision for this landmark project. This panel led discussion will provide an inside look at how the project originated, how design goals and budget constraints were balanced, and the tools the team used daily to deliver this transformational facility.

2:00–2:15PM

Networking Break

2:15–3:15PM

Industry Day Agency Session

Hear from federal agencies as they outline upcoming capital project portfolios and design-build opportunities, including scope, procurement requirements and timelines. This session offers an opportunity for open dialogue between agencies and industry focused on performance expectations, potential challenges and strategies for successful delivery. Gain the insights you need to align with agency goals, build stronger partnerships and position your team for success on future federal projects.

3:15–3:30PM

Networking Break

3:30–4:30PM

General Session — The Time is Now: Answers, Results, Tools

This capstone interactive session brings together the insights, opportunities and challenges explored throughout the Symposium — creating space for candid discussions with federal design-build leaders. Ask tough questions, test assumptions and gain clarity on issues shaping federal project delivery. Leave with practical tools, sharper direction and a path forward to apply what you’ve learned to drive real change within your organization.

4:30–6:00PM

Networking Reception with Sponsors

