

Urgent and High Importance:

Hello TEA and TUG members,

As the Vice-Chair of the TEA, I am forwarding a request that has been made by the Capacity Building Workshops for Cost Estimation and Cost Management planning group, which, I am a part of, to seek out those states that are actively involved in Cost Estimating/Risk Based Estimating and Management. The main question is what innovative things have you all tried or are in the process of implementing related to cost estimating and risk based estimating/management. The workshop planning group is looking for a representative from a State DOT or Thruway Authority that would be willing to share their States experience with Cost Estimating/Risk Based Estimating and Management at this year's workshop which will be held August 11, 12 and 13th at the University of Minnesota.

The group agrees with Mike Ginnaty, of the MnDOT, in thinking how agencies communicate "basis of an estimate" numbers, could/will have an effect on the public trust and confidence along with how the agency will be measured to this number. So I would like to encourage the membership to step-up and add valuable input to this group, on behalf of the TEA and TUG. Also check out the Committee membership for additional contacts and information.

Background Follows: click this link and view the wealth of information - <http://www.cts.umn.edu/costestimationworkshops/>

Capacity Building Workshops for Cost Estimation and Cost Management

Cost estimation and cost management are fundamental challenges facing transportation agencies today, and many agencies are exploring how to achieve consistency and accuracy in project and program estimating. In response to this need, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sponsored two capacity-building workshops in cooperation with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT). The Center for Transportation Studies conducted the workshops on behalf of the sponsors.

The workshops utilized the results of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 8-49 Project: Procedures for Cost Estimation and Management for Highway Projects During Planning, Programming, and Preconstruction. The objective of this research was to develop a guidebook that provides strategies, methods, and tools to help agencies develop, track, and document cost estimating during each phase of transportation projects.

The objectives of the workshops were:

- To build expertise and capacity for planning and engineering professionals to implement the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 574 guidebook on cost estimating and cost management

- To learn how states are moving forward with the implementation of the guidebook or other initiatives related to cost estimating and cost management
- To share advances and lessons learned from other states' initiatives on cost estimating

Capacity Building Workshop Planning Committee Membership:

- Terry Berends, Washington DOT
- Greg Davis, Florida DOT
- Mike Jenkins, Indiana DOT
- Norrie Calvert, Maryland SHA
- Lesly Tribelhorn, Montana DOT
- Craig Actis, FHWA, Resource Center, Colorado
- Missy Cassidy, AASHTO
- Janet Oakley, AASHTO
- Jillian Barber, AASHTO
- Harlan Miller, FHWA, Office of Planning
- James Cheatham, FHWA
- Laurie McGinnis, Center for Transportation, University of Minnesota,
- Gina Baas, Center for Transportation, University of Minnesota
- Stephanie Malinoff, University of Minnesota
- Keith Molenaar, University of Colorado
- Stu Anderson, Texas A&M University
- Tim Henkel, Mn/DOT
- Mike Ginnaty, Mn/DOT
- Linda Moline, Mn/DOT