



Event Information

Event Title: Session 1 – Controlling Project Delivery: Overview of Forecasting and Performance Office

Date of Event: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

Growing expectations are making project delivery more challenging than ever. How is FDOT responding? Join us for an overview of FDOT's Office of Forecasting and Performance and its role in strengthening project delivery across the state. Through updated policies, enhanced cost systems, and market analysis, the Forecasting and Performance Office is improving how projects are planned, estimated, and managed. Learn how the Forecasting and Project Cost Section supports better decision-making through tools like LRE/DQE, Independent Project Cost (IPC) reviews, and trend monitoring such as the Bid Price Search Tool. Hear how the Project Management Section is establishing new practices to provide tools to help deliver projects on schedule, within budget, and set performance measures for accountability. The session will also highlight the Local Program Section and FDOT's role in overseeing federally funded projects delivered by local agencies. This session will provide attendees with practical insight into how FDOT is working to improve cost control, consistency, and overall project outcomes statewide with the new DRIVE Initiative and individual program structures such as DRIVE-D/C.

Moderators:

Sandra Bucklew, P.E. | HNTB

Presenters:

Chris Lewis, P.E. | FDOT CO

Ashley Anderson, P.E. | FDOT CO

Ryan Asmus, P.E. | FDOT CO

Samantha Samford | FDOT CO



Event Information

Event Title: Session 2A (Pre-Construction) – Projects AND People: What Does it Mean to be a Project Manager?

Date of Event: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

Project management in transportation is far from one size fits all. Roles, responsibilities, and approaches vary widely depending on who the project manager represents, the contract type, and the phase of project development. This panel brings together FDOT PMs, consultant PMs, and General Engineering Consultant (GEC) PMs to share perspectives on how project management is applied across design, PD&E, and continuing services contracts. Panelists will discuss differences in authority, accountability, communication, and management styles, as well as the skills and experience needed to be successful in each role. Through practical examples and lessons learned, the session will highlight best practices for success in each role. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of the diverse project manager roles within transportation programs and actionable insights they can apply to their projects and professional growth.

Moderators:

Ryan Asmus, P.E. | FDOT CO

Nick Benedico, P.E. | Lochner

Panelists:

Blaire Scheller, P.E. | FDOT D5

April Williams, P.E. | FDOT D3

Pete Mattson | McKim & Creed

Anil Sharma, P.E. | Anthem Consulting



Event Information

Event Title: Session 2B (Construction) – Put the E Back in CEI: How Can Both Sides Help to Elevate?

Date of Event: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

Put the E Back in CEI: How Can Both Sides Help to Elevate? is an interactive panel discussion focused on the role of engineering judgment, facilitation, and solution oriented decision making in Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI). As delivery models evolve and expectations increase, this session will explore how CEI professionals can proactively support project delivery by identifying issues early, facilitating timely resolutions, and making decisions at the project level in the best interest of the project.

Featuring both FDOT and ACEC panelists, the discussion will provide real world examples from both perspectives on what it means to truly “put the E back in CEI.” Through open dialogue panelists will examine how collaboration, communication, and trust across roles elevate CEI from oversight to active project facilitation—ultimately improving outcomes for the Department, contractors, and the public. After this session, the audience should gain the confidence to navigate these decisions, realizing that active involvement at their level is what truly helps resolve issues timely.

Moderators:

Chris Lewis, P.E. | FDOT CO
Sandra Bucklew, P.E. | HNTB

Panelists:

Joaquin Olivella, P.E. | FDOT D2
David Schweiger, P.E. | FTE
Manny Espinal, P.E. | FDOT D6
Tom Woods, P.E. | HNTB
Virgil Rook, P.E. | Civil/Site Engineering



Event Information

Event Title: Session 3A (Pre-Construction) - Step-Up with Young Professionals: Succession Planning and Opportunities for the Next Generation

Date of Event: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

Step-Up with Young Professionals: Succession Planning and Opportunities for the Next Generation highlights FDOT's and FDOT's Consultant partners forward-looking approach to developing emerging leaders and strengthening its long-term workforce pipeline. This session explores how mentorship, structured development pathways, and proactive knowledge transfer efforts support organizational continuity and prepare early career professionals for future leadership roles. Attendees will leave the session with a better understanding of the importance of early, intentional succession planning, learn strategies for retaining institutional knowledge during a period of increased workforce retirements, and explore development opportunities that empower young professionals to advance within FDOT and their consultant partners.

Moderators:

Ryan Asmus, P.E. | FDOT CO

Gregory Stevens, P.E. | Colliers Eng.

Panelists:

Ryan Buck, P.E. | FDOT CO

Victor Marrero, P.E. | FDOT D2

Thomas Anzelone, P.E. | RS&H

Alexandria Stanley, P.E. | Bayer United



Event Information

Event Title: Session 3B (Construction) – Beyond Experience: What Are the Differences Between a Project Manager and a Project Administrator?

Date of Event: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

This session will explore the distinct—but complementary—roles of an FDOT Project Manager (PM) and a Project Administrator (PA) in delivering transportation projects. The discussion will emphasize the core responsibilities of each role and how they work together to support successful project delivery. The PM is typically accountable for overall project outcomes, decision-making, and coordination across technical disciplines and stakeholders, while the PA focuses on project coordination, documentation, and process controls that help keep the project organized, compliant, and moving forward.

- Primary focus: PM leads scope, schedule, budget, quality, and risk at the project level; PA supports the project team through administrative coordination and controls.
- Accountability: PM is accountable for delivery and key decisions; PA is accountable for maintaining accurate records, routing items on time, and supporting required processes.
- Stakeholder coordination: PM manages communications with FDOT leadership, consultants, local agencies, and the public as needed; PA coordinates internal workflows, tracking, and distribution of project information.
- Contract and compliance support: PM oversees performance, change management, and issue resolution; PA helps ensure documentation, reporting, and submittals align with FDOT procedures and timelines.

Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of where decision-making authority typically sits, what administrative processes and deliverables are commonly supported by the PA, and how defining these responsibilities up front can improve communication, accountability, and overall project performance.

Moderators:

Chris Lewis, P.E. | FDOT CO

Brent Wilkins, P.E. | RS&H

Panelists:

Tyler Furrey, P.E. | FDOT D4

K.C. Jose Kandarappallil, P.E. | FDOT D4

Hugues Charles | FTE

Vincent Locigno, P.E. | CMA

GG Gonzalez, P.E. | RK&K



2026 PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

ACEC FLORIDA | FDOT

MAY 7-8, 2026 | RENAISSANCE ORLANDO SEAWORLD



Event Information

Event Title: Session 4A (Pre-Construction) – Cultivating our Workforce: Skills for Project Management Success

Date of Event: Friday, May 8, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

As transportation programs grow in complexity and scale, the success of our projects increasingly depends on how effectively we develop and support our people. Cultivating the next generation of engineers, project managers, and technical leaders is essential to sustaining the industry and delivering critical infrastructure. This panel will explore practical approaches to workforce development within the engineering and transportation sectors. Panelists will discuss strategies for mentoring young professionals, building strong project teams, transferring institutional knowledge, and creating pathways for emerging leaders to grow into project management roles. Attendees will gain insight into how organizations are addressing workforce challenges while fostering a culture of collaboration, accountability, and long-term professional growth.

Moderators:

Ryan Asmus, P.E. | FDOT CO

Joe Lauk, P.E. | PGA

Panelists:

Judy Solaun-Gonzalez, P.E. | FDOT D6

Anson Sonnett, P.E. | FDOT D4

Odelkys Cobb, P.E. | RK&K

Enit Medina, P.E. | EMEC



Event Information

Event Title: Session 4B (Construction) Partnering for Progress: Department, Contractor, and CEI Uniting for Project Success

Date of Event: Friday, May 8, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.0 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

This session explores how digital delivery tools and workflows are transforming the design-build project delivery process. Discover how integrating 3D modeling, automated design processes, and collaborative digital platforms drives innovation, improves team coordination, and enhances project efficiency from design through construction. Using two major design-build projects along SR 35 (US 98) located in both FDOT District One (Polk County) and FDOT District Seven (Pasco County) as case studies, this session highlights best practices and lessons learned from successfully applying digital delivery to complex transportation projects. Attendees will gain practical knowledge from real world projects on best practices for FDOT, Contractor, and CEI partnering for successful project delivery.

Project Presentation:

John Kilgore, P.E. | Burgess & Niple
Steve Bronzell, P.E. | Burgess & Niple
Felipe Jaramillo, P.E. | Ajax Paving

Moderators:

Chris Lewis, P.E. | FDOT CO
Angelo Belluccia, P.E. | Burgess & Niple

Panelists:

Cleo Babb | FDOT D7
Andrea Travani, P.E. | Prince Contracting
Josh Carter, P.E. | RK&K
Olivia Eastman, P.E. | Burgess & Niple



Event Information

Event Title: Session 5 - Workforce Development: Building Florida's Transportation Future Together

Date of Event: Friday, May 8, 2026

Location: Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld® | Orlando, FL

Number of PDHs Applied For: 1.5 PDH (1 PDH = 50 minutes in the classroom)

Session Description:

Florida's transportation industry is expanding at record pace, and building a strong and sustainable workforce is critical to meeting the needs of our growing state. In this joint session, FDOT and ACEC members will share how statewide efforts are strengthening the transportation talent pipeline through targeted recruitment, innovative training models, and strategic partnerships. Attendees will learn how FDOT is collaborating with other state agencies, colleges and universities, and industry partners to create pathways that support education, skill-building, and long-term career growth. This breakout session will also showcase the innovative strategies powering the Moving I-4 Forward initiative, which is producing job-ready workers for high-demand roles in transportation construction.

A facilitated panel discussion of FDOT and ACEC will follow the presentation to explore the power of collaboration in workforce development. Panelists will discuss initiatives such as mobile training units, STEM outreach tools, and other efforts that yield meaningful, measurable results. The conversation will reinforce that when we work together, we truly drive progress and connect people by creating opportunities that lift our entire industry.

Presentation (30 minutes):

Angela Kay | FDOT CO

Justin Cole, P.E. | RS&H

Mandy Handley | AtkinsRéalis

Susanne Walker | AtkinsRéalis

Panel (45 min, 15 min Q&A):

Moderators:

Wendy Parrish | FDOT CO

David Furry, P.E. | RS&H

Panelists:

Angela Kay | FDOT CO

Bridget Blansit | RS&H

Caitlin Breland, P.E. | Prime AE

Mandy Handley | AtkinsRéalis