

PANELISTS

Roger Millar has served as Secretary of Transportation since August 2016. He is a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and a Fellow of American Institute of Certified Planners. Millar serves on the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Board of Directors (2022-2023 President), the Surface Transportation Board's Passenger Rail Advisory Committee, the USDOT Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity, the National Infrastructure Advisory Council Subcommittee on Expanding the Workforce, the National Operations Center of Excellence Strategic Advisory Council, and the National Complete Streets Coalition Steering Committee. He previously served on the Board of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (2021-2022 Chair), the ASCE Board of Direction, and the ASCE Transportation and Development Institute Board of Governors (2022-2023 President).

Andrew Fiske has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 18 years and currently serves as the State Geotechnical Engineer. Andrew's experience spans coast-to-coast, and includes civil design, construction oversight and geotechnical engineering in both the public and private sectors. Andrew has a Bachelor's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Maine, and nearly completed a Master's degree in Geotechnical Engineering from the same University, but his ambition took him in another direction.

Brenden Clarke has worked for Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for over 25 years and currently serves as the Assistant Regional Construction Engineer for Olympic Region. Brenden worked in the Region Traffic Office for a number of years and then served as Project Engineer in the Port Orchard, Fife and Lacey Project Offices. He has administered Bid-Build contracts ranging from the Bremerton Ferry Terminal Tunnel, SR 16 / Burley Olalla Interchange, and I-5 HOV / M Street to Pacific. He began working on Design-Build projects by supporting the SR 520 program as a design oversight engineer for the casting basin for the floating bridge pontoons. Brenden was involved in the development of RFP documents, procurement and delivery of Olympic Region's first traditional DB project, the SR 167 Puyallup River Bridge Replacement. He has also been involved with procurement and delivery of many OR DB projects including I-5 / SR 16 HOV Connectors, I-5 Southbound HOV, Gateway 167 and many fish passage projects. He worked with the WSDOT D-B Workgroup and ACEC / AGC Design-Build Committee to develop the first RFP Template documents. Brenden earned his Bachelor's degree in Engineering/Physics from Pacific Lutheran University and is a Licensed Professional Engineer.

Chris Christopher has been with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 32 years and currently serves at the State Construction Engineer. Chris is a licensed PE and holds a Bachelor's of Science in Civil Engineering from Saint Martin's College in Lacey, WA. Over his 32-year tenure, he has had the opportunity to work in a wide variety of offices and roles, including 12 years as the Director of Maintenance and almost 10 years in his current role as the Construction Division Director.

Derek Case has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 34 years and currently serves as an Assistant State Construction Engineer, assigned to several mega projects on the Interstate 405 Corridor in the Seattle Area. Derek provides oversight and support to multiple large DB contracts from initial project development, through procurement and construction. Derek is a Licensed Civil Engineer in the State of Washington, holding both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington as well as a DBIA Professional certification.

Jim Cuthbertson has been with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 33 years and has served as an Assistant State Construction Engineer for 6 years. As an Assistant State Construction Engineer Jim administers contracts for both Design-Build and design bid build projects involving transportation improvements, preservation, safety, and fish passages. Jim is active in WSDOT's Design-Build Work Group, the WSDOT/ACEC/AGC Design-Build Committee, AGC Structures team, and ADSC Drilled Shaft Team. Prior to his time as an ASCE, Jim served as Chief Foundations Engineer in the WSDOT Geotechnical office for 19 years. He was involved in the first WSDOT Design-Build project in 2001 and the authoring and reviewing of Geotechnical Baseline Reports (GBRs) and Geotechnical Data Reports (GDRs) for 45 WSDOT Design Build projects. Jim holds a Bachelor's of Science in Geological Engineering from the University of Idaho, and he a Master's degree in Geological Engineering. Jim is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) in Civil Engineering and a licensed Engineering Geologist (LEG), both in WA.

Joanna Lowery has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 24 years and currently serves as the Assistant State Design Engineer (ASDE) supporting Olympic Region, the Gateway Program, and serves as the Design-Build Subject Matter Expert for roadway design and design documentation. Joanna earned a Master's degree in Geotechnical Engineering from New Mexico State University. In her career with WSDOT, she spent 18 years in Design/Construction project offices, and 3 years as the Region Materials Engineer before starting her current role as an ASDE.



Kim Rydholm, P.E., WSDOT Fish Passage Delivery Manager has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 28-years and, is currently leading the delivery of the agency's multi-billion-dollar Fish Passage Program. Kim has spent the majority of her career focused on delivering WSDOT projects in both the design and construction phases. She has held positions and developed expertise in numerous disciplines in the transportation industry, including environmental permitting and documentation, highway and bridge construction, transportation project design, and project management. Kim has a Bachelor's degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

Kyle Goldsmith has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 7 years and currently serves as the NWR Design-Build Procurement Engineer. In his time with WSDOT, his work has spanned major construction initiatives, including the SR 99 Bored Tunnel Design-Build Project, SR 99/Demolition, Decommissioning, and Surface Streets Project, and SR 509 New Expressway Project. His experience in the private sector includes six years specializing in civil design, design/construction surveying, and control system. Kyle is a licensed PE and holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Mark Gabel has over 30 years of experience in engineering, planning, design, project management, and construction. He leads WSDOT's Engineering Analysis Office, overseeing an integrated value engineering and cost risk estimating management program. Mark also chairs an international community of practice for Cost Risk Estimating Management. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington.

Mark Gaines has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 25 years and currently serves as the State Design Engineer. Mark earned a Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington.

Megan Mosebar has been with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 9 years and currently serves as the Project Engineer of Mount Baker PEO in Northwest Region. She has administered dozens of Bid-Build contracts as well as Design-Build, small works, and emergency contracts. Prior to her time with WSDOT, she worked as a consultant on a variety of projects. Megan holds a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Washington State University.

Melissa Ambler, PE, PMP has been with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 6 years and currently serves as the Engineering Manager for SnoKing Design. Melissa graduated from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and has worked in Illinois, Texas, and Hawaii on all types of projects including subdivision design, military base planning, road reconstruction projects, and fish passage design.

Michael Rosa P.E., S.E. has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 24 years and currently serves as the Bridge Projects Unit Manager. For the last 18 years, he has worked in the Bridge and Structures Office designing multiple bridges and structures across the State of Washington. He is also active in industry groups including ACEC, AGC, and ADSC. Michael graduated from Montana State University with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and received a Master of Science in Civil Engineering at the University of Washington.

Nina Jones is currently working as the Assistant Director of Business Diversity and Inclusion for the Washington State Department of Transportation. In her role she oversees the DBE and MWSVBE programs for the entire states federally and locally funded projects which includes local agencies and ferries. She has over a decade of experience in managing locally and federally funded compliance programs for FHWA, FTA and FAA. Nina currently serves as the 1st Vice-President for the American Contract Compliance Association's National Board of Directors and gives back locally by serving on the Board of Business Diversity Institute, Inc. Nina is passionate about growing businesses and people.

Rafael Reyes has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 27 years and is currently an Assistant State Design Engineer providing design support to the Mt. Baker Area of NW Region, Eastern Region, Tolling Office, and the Urban Mobility and Access Office for Sound Transit. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering Technology from the Oregon Institute of Technology.

Ricky Bhalla has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for over 25 years and currently is the Assistant Region Construction Engineer in WSDOT's Olympic Region. Throughout his distinguished career at WSDOT, Ricky has held numerous leadership positions, including Assistant State Design Engineer. For the past five years, he has been at the forefront of WSDOT's first Progressive Design-Build project, an innovative delivery approach that earned him the prestigious Governor's Leadership Award. Ricky's dedication to public service is evident in his consistent commitment to innovation, strategic leadership, and collaborative approach. He brings a partnering attitude and has been an integral part of various WSDOT/industry teams and represented WSDOT on NCHRP's panel on negotiated contracting. He is a proud graduate of Washington State University, where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1998 and has since exemplified the qualities of a consistent leader in his field.



Steve Fuchs (Fox) has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 33 years and has spent most of his career in design and construction of highway improvement projects as well as projects all over the Olympic Region from Sequim to Ashford. He has been the Project Manager on three Design-Build projects and one Progressive Design-Build project over the last 7 years. He and holds a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Saint Martin's University.

Tom Slimak is a Licensed Civil Engineer in the state of Washington with a BSCE (2007) from the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Tom is currently the Olympic Region Fife PEO Project Engineer and has been with WSDOT for 17 years working in both design and construction. Over the last 5 years, Tom has been administering alternative delivery method construction projects in Olympic Region ranging from \$40M to \$400M, including the Tacoma/Pierce County HOV Program SB HOV Project, Puget Sound Gateway Program SR 167 Stage 1a, Stage 1b, and Stage 2a Projects.

Troy Watts has worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 33 years, and currently serves as the Region Constructability and Contract Administration Engineer. Troy supports Olympic Region project offices by providing contract administration and dispute resolution guidance, providing staff mentoring and technical support, providing constructability input to Olympic Region design teams and represents Olympic Region on several WSDOT/AGC teams. Troy has 32 years' experience in the Construction program as a Technician, Project Inspector, Field Engineer or Design-Build Site manager in NW and Olympic Regions.