

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF STATE HIGHWAY AND  
TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS



**Transportation Vanguard Award Nomination Form**

**2016**

**INFORMATION ON NOMINEE:**

<b>Last Name:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>		<b>Position Title:</b>	
<b>Department:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Street Address:</b>	<b>City:</b>	<b>State:</b>	<b>Zipcode:</b>
<b>AASHTO Committee Membership (optional)</b>			

**NOMINATOR INFORMATION:**

<b>Last Name:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>		<b>Position Title:</b>	
<b>Department:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Street Address:</b>	<b>City:</b>	<b>State:</b>	<b>Zipcode:</b>
<b>Endorsement of Member Department Secretary/Director:</b>			

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Using a maximum of 2 additional single-sided pages, please provide reasoning as to why this individual should be selected as the Transportation Vanguard Award recipient. Please include as much specific information about the candidate as possible, including special projects, personal attributes, dedication, etc.

Send nominations by **Monday, July 25, 2016**, via e-mail to [mvitale@aaashto.org](mailto:mvitale@aaashto.org). Nominations must be submitted as a single file in MS Word format using **TVA2016\_Nomination\_Nominee\_Name.doc** as the file name.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is pleased to nominate Peter Davich for the McMinimee Vanguard award. Peter is MnDOT's Design-Build Program Manager and exemplifies a commitment to promote and implement innovative ideas to deliver projects. Although his primary duties involve delivering design-build projects, he has advanced project delivery across traditional design-bid-build and Construction Manager / General Contractor (CMGC) methods.

Through Peter's efforts, alternative project delivery has transcended how MnDOT programs, procures, and administers projects. He implemented significant improvements that helped MnDOT capitalize on internal and external innovations, optimizing how funds are allocated, and revolutionized delivering smaller projects with alternative delivery.

Listed below are some of the many accomplishments that Peter has achieved. These include implementing new techniques to select an appropriate project delivery method, pioneering fixed price / variable scope through performance based contracting, introducing additive alternates, and fostering an environment for innovation.

1. Peter developed and implemented a Project Delivery Selection process. This innovative process brings stakeholders together early in project development to assess risk, prioritize goals, and choose the appropriate delivery method (design-build, design-bid-build, or CMGC). This process identifies opportunities for innovation early in the process and allows for the project teams to appropriately manage the project to capture these opportunities.

Prior to implementing this process, there were lost opportunities to fully capture innovation on projects. Jobs were often identified as design-build or CMGC candidates late in the development process. As a result of this new process, these projects are being identified earlier and the opportunities for innovation are being captured before commitments are made. This has resulted in higher quality and more cost effective projects.

2. Over the past three years, Peter has grown MnDOT's design-build program to incorporate new methods that foster innovation. Listed below are a few examples:

*Fixed Price – Variable Scope (in combination with performance specifications)*

In June 2012 flooding impacted TH 210 through Jay Cooke State Park. A fixed-priced / variable scope design-build project was programmed to stabilize dozens of slopes damaged during the storm. Due to the complex geotechnical challenges, several repair solutions with varying costs and benefits were available. Peter developed a unique Request for Proposals that optimized the designs to fit within the fixed budget of \$21.3M. The RFP allowed each design-build team to propose innovative ideas to address each slope, while also considering the context sensitive nature of their solutions within a state park. Through this process, MnDOT was able to choose the proposer with the best long-term solution within the fixed budget.

On Highway 2, MnDOT was seeking creative solutions to stabilize a slope with complex geotechnical challenges. Peter championed the effort to maximize innovation by using a performance specification and fixed price / variable scope. Through the innovations allowed during this procurement, this \$6.4 million project was successfully awarded and built by a contractor with the highest technical score and lowest price.

### Additive Alternates

Peter introduced the concept of additive alternates to our bidding processes. In 2016, a design-build project was identified to reconstruct up to 10 bridges on I-35 and State Highway 14. The goal was to reconstruct all of these bridges under a single contract due to the significant traffic impacts anticipated. When the Request for Proposal (RFP) was being drafted, only \$16 million in funding was available on this \$33 million project. Peter found a creative solution to bid the project with only \$16 million, but also allow MnDOT to add bridges if additional funding became available.

The creative RFP required each contractor to bid the maximum number of bridges that could be constructed within the original \$16 million budget. It also required contractors to submit costs for constructing the other bridges if and when funding became available. Due to this innovative approach, MnDOT was able to secure additional funding over time to build all ten bridges. This innovative approach allowed MnDOT to greatly vary the scope during bidding without delaying the bid opening date, did not delay construction, and eliminated the need to negotiate a complex change orders to add scope.

3. The use of Alternative Technical Concepts (ATCs) has resulted in many significant quality improvements and cost savings in design-build. Peter recently championed MnDOT's effort to use ATCs in design-bid-build contracting. This required extensive coordination with the contracting community, obtaining special federal approvals, and developing new procurement documents. MnDOT recently received federal approval to advance this concept forward and Peter is championing the implementation effort.

Peter has always fostered an environment for innovation. Through his leadership, he has found creative ways to make design-build more cost effective on both large and small projects. With every project, he fosters a culture of innovation both internally and with our external partners. He works closely with MnDOT staff to assess risk and challenge the status quo. He encourages contractors to submit creative ideas and proactively seeks their input when developing contracts. He engages regulatory agencies to consider new approaches to improve quality and reduce impacts through creative contracting. We are extremely proud of the work Peter has done and are pleased to submit Peter for this award.