



Conference Committee

Committee Purpose: To provide a meaningful and affordable annual professional development opportunity for individuals involved in downtown revitalization. Two sub-committees focus on key aspects – President’s Awards and Program. The President’s Awards, presented at the conference gala, showcase the best in programs, projects and people in Texas downtowns.

2026 Co-Chairs: Tammie Virden, Texas Forts Trail Region, Abilene & Alex Philips, City of Burleson

Committee Member Responsibilities:

- Attend monthly meetings to share ideas and plan annual conference.
- Identify volunteers for programming subcommittee.
- Review previous year conference budget and registration fees.
- Review exhibitor and sponsor pricing and benefits.
- Review Engagement Committee recommendations for conference planning.
- Assist with securing speakers for annual conference.
- Assist host city with planning of kick-off celebration events.
- Participate in post event discussion with committee and review post conference survey.
- Provide resources for the TXDT Resource Library.

Program Sub-Committee Priorities:

- Coordinate Save the Date mailing.
- Develop and assist with sponsorship levels and exhibitor selection.
- Assist with speaker solicitation and keynote speaker.
- Oversee the conference budget limitations.
- Work with members of the Engagement Committee on conference sessions to ensure the program is high quality and responds to the needs and interests of members.
- Create the annual conference schedule and gala program.
- Plan new member welcome reception.
- Ensure ample networking opportunities for attendees.
- Assist with logistics and set-up.

President’s Awards Sub-Committee Priorities:

- Communicate to members regarding Awards timeline.
- Recruit judges panels.
- Promote the program and work to exceed the previous year’s submittals.

Staff Responsibilities:

- Coordinate logistics for annual conference.
- Assist with identifying programs and contacting speakers for conference.
- Manage registration, marketing and promotions of annual conference.