

# Effective Big Room

Virtual Course

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# Lean Construction Institute Immersive Education Program

#### Poll

What would be valuable for you in today's session:

- 1\_ What is a Big Room?
- 2\_ I have experience and am looking for tips and tricks for a Big Room
- 3\_ How do we manage a Big Room Virtually?

#### Lean Construction Institute



**Provider Number H561** 

Mindset of an Effective Big Room LCIV.EBR

Tammy McConaughy 10/19/2020





2 LU Credit(s) earned on completion of this course will be reported to AIA CES for AIA members. Certificates of Completion for both AIA members and non-AIA members are available upon request.

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



## **Course Description**

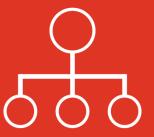
High-performing teams' function on collaborative brain power to rapidly advance work and add value by operating in a Big Room setting. Effective Big Rooms are only possible with the mindset and behaviors that break down the traditional silos to allow for cross-functional team collaboration and decision-making. Through the Effective Big Room course, you will gain a foundational understanding of the concept of a Big Room by learning the benefits, purpose, and implementation considerations. This course will lead you to understanding how to improve collaboration and drive transparency within your team to optimize project outcomes.

## Learning Objectives











01

Participants will define the meaning of a Big Room, and understand the purpose and benefits of implementing the approach to improving project outcomes. 02.

Participants will understand the characteristics and behaviors of a Big Room Team including aspects of effective facilitation.

03.

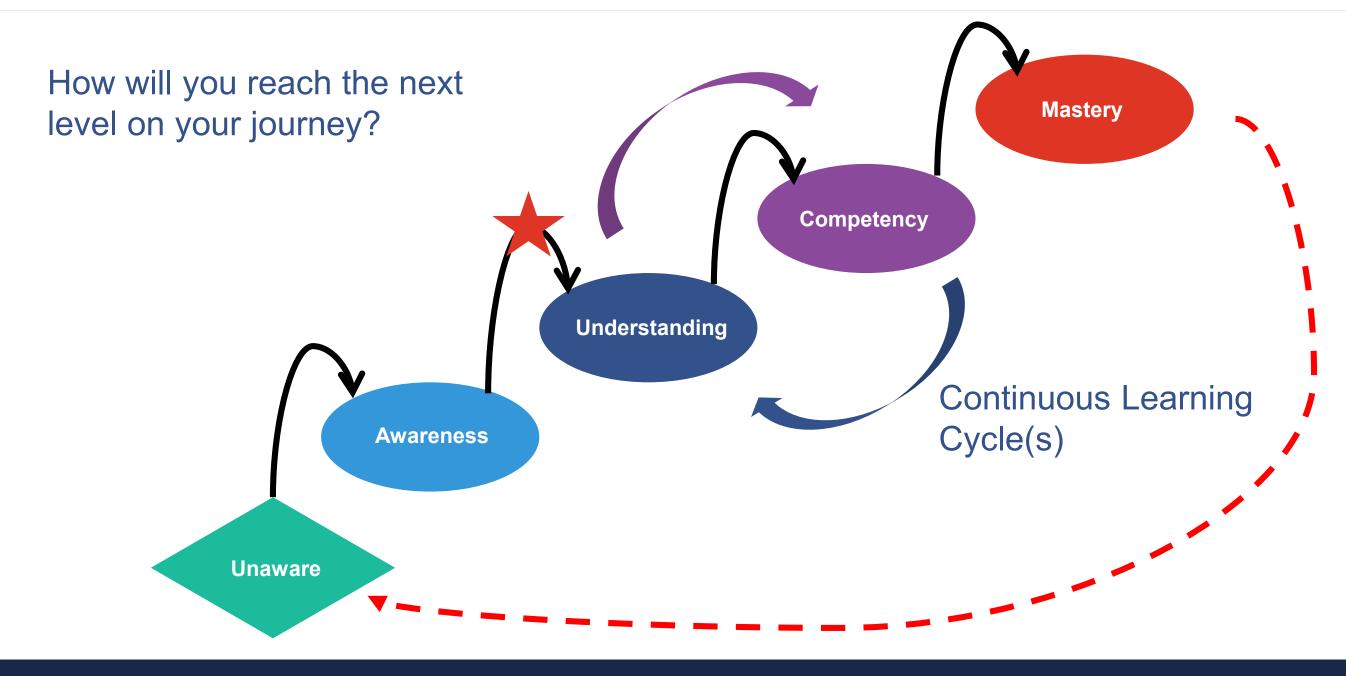
Participants will be able to identify venue types for hosting a Big Room, and discover the key elements for tailoring the space to support collaborative activities.

04.

Participants will gain insights into how the Big Room approach supports knowledge sharing and enhanced collaboration.

## Lean Journey to Mastery





## Today's Process



- We will facilitate discussions in small and large groups.
  - Small groups will report back to the large group.
- If you have Big Room experience, great! But prior experience is not necessary.
  - You will be able to think logically about the topics to be discussed.
- We will take "Live Notes" in the Chat Box.
- We will simulate a virtual Big Room while learning.

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## Rules of Engagement



This is a safe zone



Everyone has equal status



Speak up and share your ideas



Actively listen to others



One conversation at a time



Use E.L.M.O.



Silence phones



Be focused and engaged



Stay on time



Have fun!



## Get to know your group!

Name
Company
Role
Years Lean
A favorite non-work activity
A Breakout Team Name

Breakout Discussion (5 minutes)

#### Six Tenets of Lean



- 1 Respect for people
- 2 Optimize the Whole
- 3 Generate Value
- 4 Eliminate Waste
- Focus on Flow
- 6 Continuous Improvement



## Big Room - Definition



**Big Room** refers to a project approach of bringing key individuals together to speed communication and decision-making, and to reduce siloed thinking or approaches.

At its core, the Big Room is a scheduled and recurring event.

It brings key stakeholders together to collaborate, plan, update, solicit resources, invite feedback, demonstrate accountability, make decisions, schedule events and compare the project's current state to the published goals or Conditions of Satisfaction.



## Big Room - Definition



- A *mindset* of intense focus on advancing work
- Is instrumental in cross-functional team collaboration
- Refers to the collaborative behavior of a team and the work they are producing
- Visually displays all information needed to guide the team



## Co-located or Dispersed

Teams can either be *co-located* or *dispersed* in their set-up.

Co-located: Members of the team are located in the same physical location allowing for face-to-face continuous collaboration.

 Co-located teams schedule Big Room sessions to come together with a focused agenda.





Example of a co-located team.

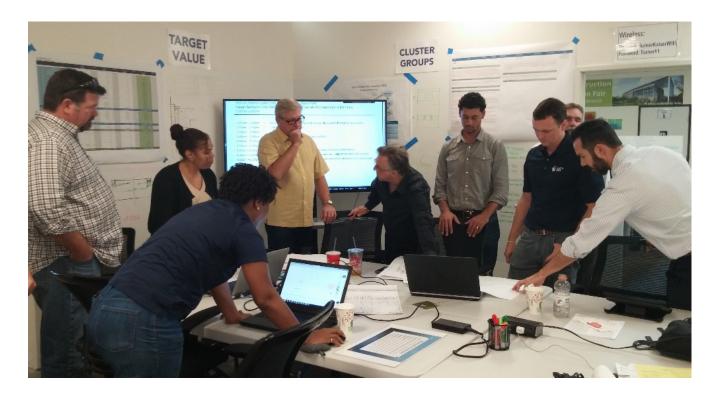
## Dispersed



Dispersed: Members of the team are located at their respective company site locations. Face-to-face collaboration may continuously happen within their organization but does not happen with the broader team.

Dispersed Teams can employ differing approaches to the Big Room Session:

- Recurring in-person sessions
   The Big Room team meets in person on a scheduled recurring basis.
- Hybrid sessions
   Combination of in-person and virtual sessions.



Example of dispersed team in a Big Room session.

## Big Room Implementation



#### When:

- As early in the project as possible.
- The frequency must support the work at hand.
- Teams must continuously evaluate the frequency and duration of sessions.

#### Who:

 Participants will change overtime as the project advances.



## Big Room Example





Visual Information

Multi-Discipline Team

Collaborative Seating Arrangement

Name Cards

Personality
Assessment Results

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## Big Room Example

Small Group Collaboration

Visual Information

Collaborative Seating Arrangement



Multi-Discipline Team

## Big Room Example





### 2. Discussion Question - Breakout Room



## How would a Big Room improve communication?

Breakout Discussion
(5 minutes)

Group 1-4 share a key takeaway
(1 min each)

## Purpose



#### The purpose of a Big Room is to:

- Support cross-functional high-performing teams in advancing work.
- Add value by driving down overall project costs.
- Facilitate rapid advancement of work in a short time frame.
- Enhance collaborative brain power of the team.

Big Room is a commitment to a project, the team, and to working together!



Example of a small project Big Room

#### Benefits



#### A Big Room benefits the project by:

- Improving collaboration through greater team interaction.
- Allowing team members to support each other and align themselves with the goals of the project.
- Breaking down the silo mentality within the project.
- Leading to improved project outcomes.



Example of a Big Room

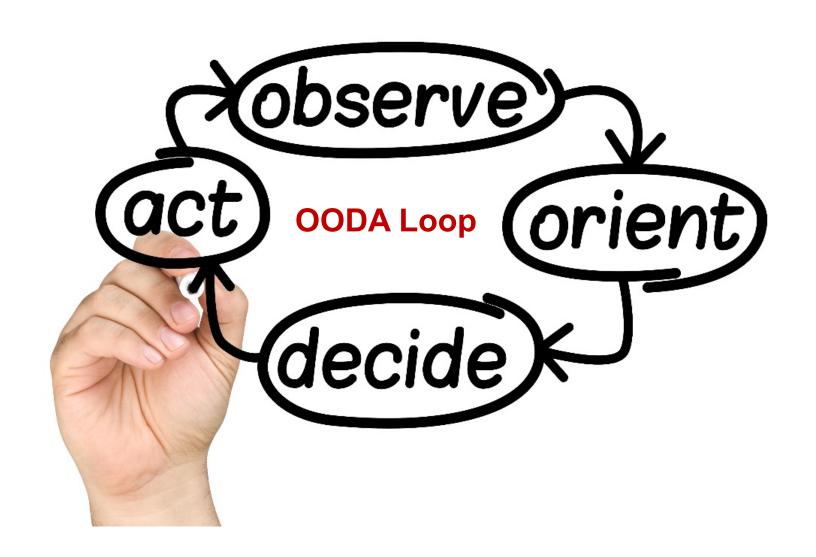
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#### At the Core:

The Big Room is a space for the team to gather that supports a team in:

- Seeing the situation (Observe).
- Grasping the situation (Orient).
- Making aligned decisions (Decide).
- Taking Action (Act).

The *OODA Loop* is the cycle of Observe-Orient-Decide-Act, developed by military strategist and US Air Force Colonel John Boyd. It is often applied to understanding commercial operation and learning processes.



### 3. Discussion Question - Breakout Room



## How does this differ from a typical meeting?

Breakout Discussion
(5 minutes)
Groups 5-9 share a key takeaway
(1 min each)

## Spatial Needs for Activities



- Planning
- Learning
- Team-building
- Collaborative problem solving
- Target cost conversations

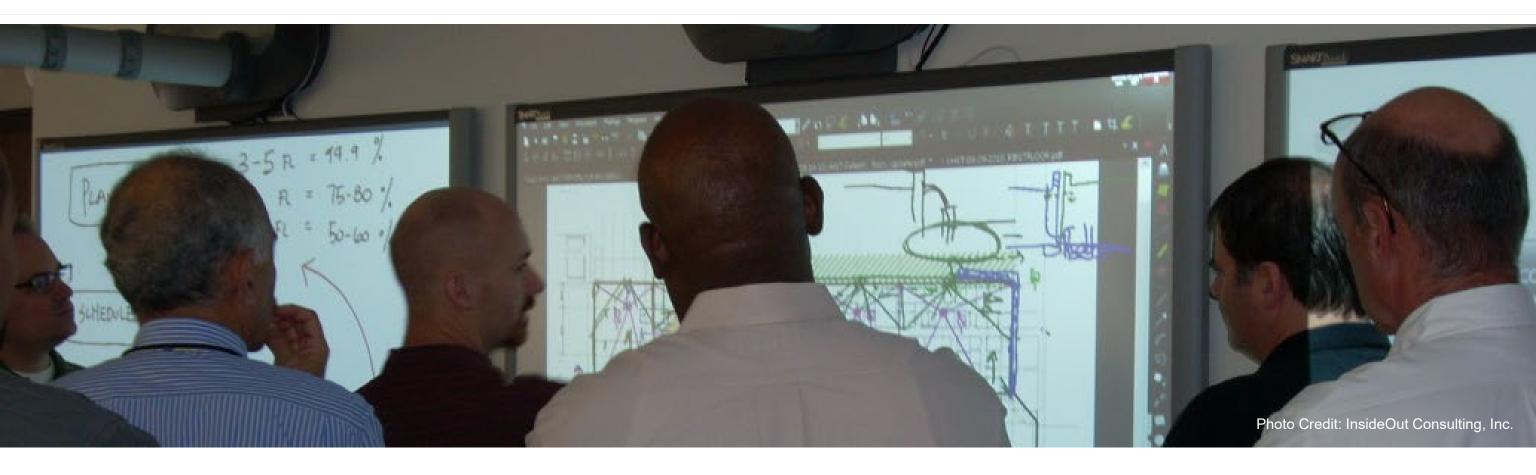
- Decision making
- Commitments
- Team health & assessments
- Ad hoc conversations
- Retrospectives
- What else?





## Collaborative Problem Solving





- Cross functional
- Visual manifestation

- All perspectives
- Explore options

Gain alignment

## Setting up a Big Room

- Very large configurable room
- Several smaller conference rooms
- Cluster group workspaces
- Planning space (Last Planner System® weekly boards and phase pulls)
- Small private breakout spaces
- Spaces to celebrate
- "Collision spaces" like Kitchen/break room
- Visual information
- Needs to be re-designable as the team evolves







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## Virtual Big Room Considerations

- Online platform for face to face meetings (Zoom, Teams, etc.)
- Everyone has their camera's on
- Shared file and collaboration spaces (SharePoint, Dropbox, Mural)
- Make it fun
- Give everyone a voice.
- No meeting times for heads down work
- Plan smaller chunks of work for virtual
- Plan for Virtual meeting fatigue



## 4. Breakout Focus Topics



## Each breakout group is given a topic to discuss:

- 1. Desirable Behaviors
- 2. Effective Facilitation
- 3. What Could Go Wrong
- 4. Importance of Learning
- 5. Onboarding New Team Members
- 6. Technology Needs
- 7. Meetings That Advance Work
- 8. Visual Management
- 9. Virtual Big Room

Breakout Discussion
(10 minutes)
9 groups share key takeaways

(2 min each for 20 total)

#### 4. Guidelines



## Discuss in your breakout group

- One person facilitate make sure everyone talks.
- One person be the note taker.
- One person take responsibility for leading the key takeaway report-out.
- Define the subject: what does it mean in the Big Room?
- Brainstorm topics and ideas.

# Breakout Discussion (10 minutes)



## 1. Desirable Behaviors

Group to share key takeaways (2 min each)

#### **Desirable Behaviors**



- Overcoming silos
- Leadership
- Conditions of Satisfaction (CoS)
- Respectful collaboration
- Maintaining enthusiasm
- Trust & respect
- Learning



Temecula Valley Hospital Big Room



## Develop team agreements for work habits

Similar to meeting rules, establish guidelines for how everyone can work together virtually.

#### Some ideas:

- Develop a group text to quickly relay information.
- Establish core working hours for the project team.
- Maintain regular meeting schedule
- Utilize virtual "breakout rooms" to take your teams into smaller groups.
- Document key issues / problems using A3s.

The A3 Report	
Background	Future State & Countermeasures
<ul><li>Why do we need to work on this?</li><li>Context</li><li>Importance</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Actions being taken to address the issue (what, who, when)</li> <li>Quick fixes (Containment actions)</li> <li>To Be process map</li> </ul>
Current State	Impact
<ul> <li>Problem statement/definition</li> <li>As Is process map</li> <li>Scale of the problem (data)</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Results achieved</li><li>Trend graph (before/after)</li></ul>
Objective	Follow-up
- Target level of performance - Desired outcome	<ul> <li>Actions still required (what, who, when)</li> <li>Learning points to share</li> </ul>
Root Cause Analysis	
<ul><li>Fishbone diagram</li><li>5 Whys</li><li>Data (Pareto, Scatter diagram)</li></ul>	



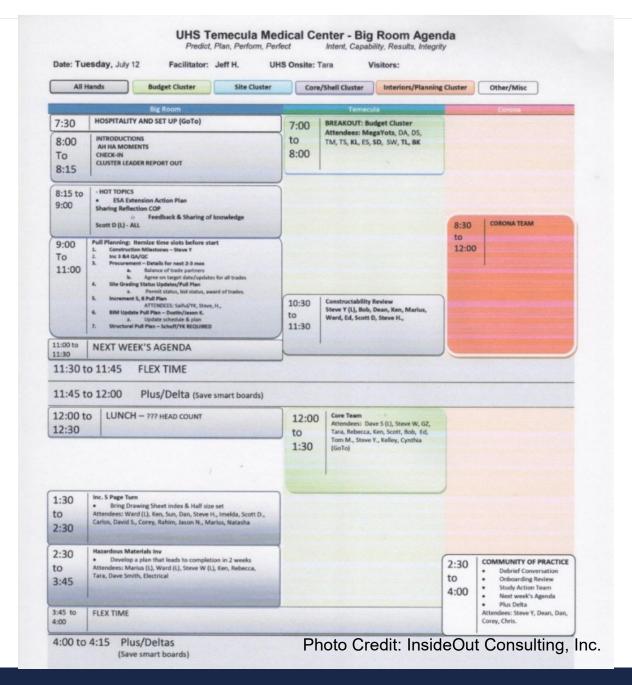
## 2. Effective Facilitation

Group to share key takeaways (2 min each)

#### Effective Facilitation Practices



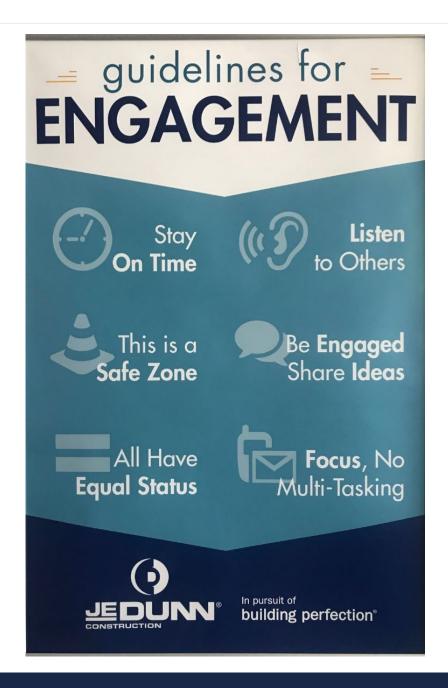
- Collaboratively developed
- Clear
- Standardize where possible
- Visual controls
- Key participants
- Expected Outcomes
- Time keeper
- Scribe for live notes



## Meeting Rules of Engagement



- Safe zone
- No stripes
- Speak up
- Listen to others
- No side-bar conversations
- No cell phone use
- No multi-tasking
- Stay on time



## Stay on Track





# ENOUGH LET'S MOVE ON



## 3. What could go wrong?

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### Commonly Occurring Risks

- The team spirit diminishes and people gravitate to their silos and "us-them" thinking.
- Death by meetings we don't have time to do our work because we're always in meetings.
- Enthusiasm wanes, this becomes just another day.
- Meetings start late because of late arrivals.
- Leadership quits listening and becomes directive.
- Planners don't follow the plan, go rogue.

### Drift to Traditional....









## 4. Importance of Learning



High-performing teams continuously learn together. This supports "Continuous Improvement" (Lean Tenet #6).

- Teams identify many ways to continue to learn including:
- Focused training sessions.
- Reading and discussing a book together.
- Viewing and discussing short videos together.
- Simulations that reveal an Ah Ha
   Moment of realization, inspiration,
   insight, recognition, or comprehension.



## Retrospectives/Continuous Improvement



- Quick retrospective conducted at the end of every meeting.
- Regular occurring retrospective conducted at the completion of work cycles.
- Event-based retrospective conducted at the completion of major milestones.
- Impromptu when a breakdown is declared or other reason arises.





## 5. Onboarding

## **Onboarding Considerations**



- Who
- When
- How can you get them "up to speed" on:
  - Project status and milestones
  - Team culture
  - Expected/desired behaviors
  - Safety
  - How we plan and execute
  - What we expect when problems occur

Onboarding is not a one-time event; it is a continuous process where concepts and culture are always reinforced.

## Onboarding







## 6. Technology

### What technology support is needed?



- SMART type boards
- Video conferencing
  - Large group
  - Individual with remote team members
- White boards
- Internet / companies' connectivity limitations
- PM/Documentation Software
- Shared files vs. separate networks
- Printing & Plotting
- Projection





## 7. Meetings That Matter

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## Planning

Planning has a Design Phase and a Construction Phase application

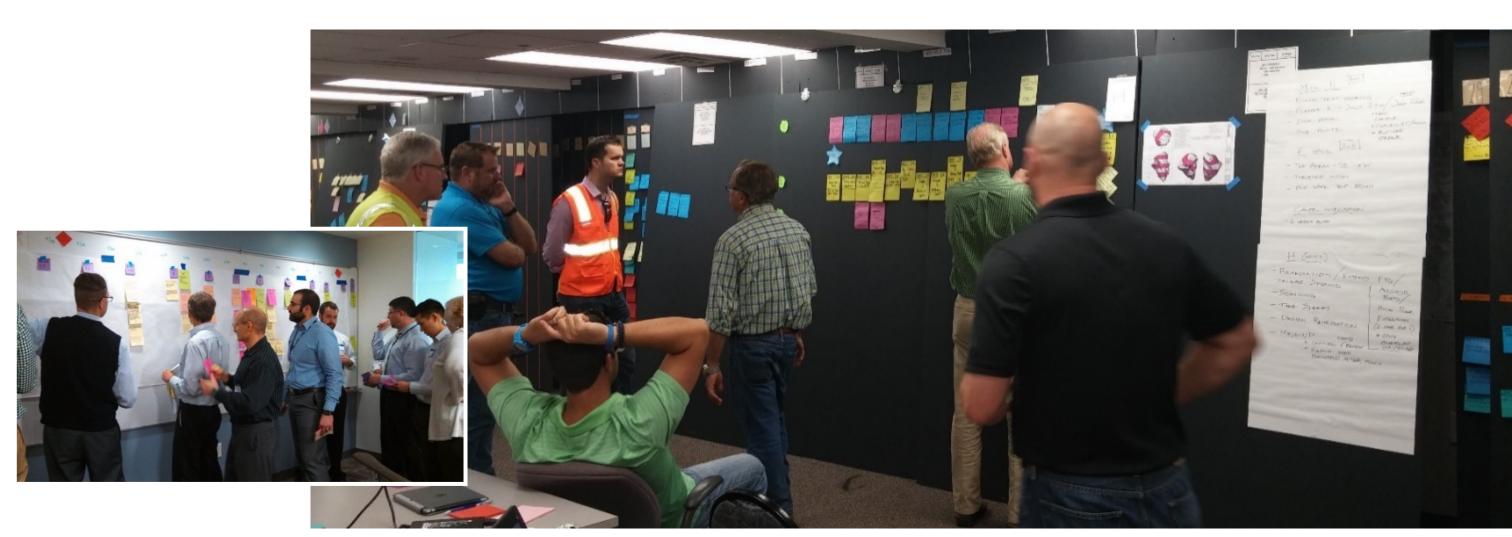


Photo Credits: InsideOut Consulting, Inc.

## Reporting



#### A3 DASHBOARD



#### **COMMITMENT LOG**

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ID	Group	Swimlane	Activity	Revision	Action item	Start	Due	Duration (Days)	By (Individual)	Constraint	Responsible Individual	Resolution Need Date	Complete?	Cause of Delay
AD-TC-013	AD	TC	13	2	Provide fountain basin layout	4/14/2014	4/29/2014	12	Greg M.					
AD-TC-033	AD	TC	33		Include foundations for lamp posts in the 60% set to VOA	4/22/2014	5/1/2014	8	Jaime					
AD-TC-033	AD	TC	38		Deliver Springs' deck for B13 to VOA in 60% set	4/28/2014	5/6/2014	7	Jaime					
AD-TC-047	AD	TC	47		Round 2 mockups- tile, veneer, specialty	4/28/2014		25	Brad M.					
AD-TC-073	AD	TC	73		Round 2 mockups- veneer, specialty	5/12/2014		15	Brad M.					
AD-TC-048	AD	TC	48		Deliver PDFs to VOA	5/19/2014		13	JT.					
AD-TC-049	AD	TC	49		Release Bluebeam set/drawings	4/10/2014		40	Alonso					
AD-TC-068	AD	TC	68		Updated digital directories scope/size	5/27/2014		- 1	Jaime					
AD-TC-078	AD	TC	78		Provide VOA with preferred pullbox locations	5/12/2014	6/9/2014	20	Dave L.					
AD-TC-086	AD	TC	86		Send Alonso ADE's drawing package POF		6/11/2014	22	JT.					
AD-TC-083	AD	TC	83		Give VOA electrical Show lighting & mechanical PDFs	5/12/2014	6/12/2014	23	Stu S.					
ND-TC-084	AD	TC	84		Give VOA reviewer distribution list	5/12/2014	6/12/2014	23	Stu S.					
AD-TC-076	AD	TC	76		Release Bluebeam set/drawings		6/13/2014	24	Alonso					
AD-TC-077	AD	TC	77		Provide PDFs for 90% AD set	5/12/2014	6/13/2014	24	Andrew					
AD-TC-080	AD	TC	80		Provide Civil 90% PDF to Alonso		6/13/2014	24	Mike C.					
AD-TC-081	AD	TC	81		Distribution memo for Bluebeam with focus review questions	6/4/2014	6/13/2014	8	Bat P.					
AD-TC-085	AD	TC	85		Expect Show lighting to CAD for Greg R.	5/12/2014	6/13/2014	24	Stu S.					
AD-TC-087	AD	тс	87		Provide drawings to VOA (Show audio, irrigation)	6/3/2014	6/13/2014	9	Brian B.					
AD-TC-088	AD	TC	88		Provide drawings to VOA (Wifi & digital directory locations)	6/3/2014	6/13/2014	9	Brian B.					
40-TC-089	AD	TC	89		Provide comm. pullbox locations to Atkins	6/3/2014	6/16/2014	10	Andrew					
AD-TC-090	AD	TC	90		Deliver CAD export of light post locations to Civil	5/12/2014	6/16/2014	25	Greg R.					
AD-TC-091	AD	TC	91		Provide corrdinates for pole mounted lights	5/12/2014	6/23/2014	30	Brian F.					
4D-TC-092	AD	TC	92		Provide coordinates/spot elevations for comm. pull boxes		6/23/2014	30	Brian F.					
AD-TC-093	AD	TC	93		Clash detection substantially complete	- TA-100 B-100 B-1	6/25/2014	32	Josh					
AD-TC-094	AD	TC	94		Release 100% TC AD drawings	5/12/2014	7/3/2014	38	Alonso					
AD-TC-042	AD	TC	42		Final Show input- Audio	4/10/2014		-29802	The state of the s					
AD-TC-043	AD	TC	43		Final Show input- Lighting	4/10/2014		-29802						
AD-TC-044	AD	TC	44		Final Show input- Graphics	4/10/2014		-29802						
AD-TC-045 AD-TC-050	AD	TC	45		Creative approval of landscape material Creative approval of hardscape material	4/10/2014		-29802 -29802		-				

Photo Credits: InsideOut Consulting, Inc.

### **Decision Making**

- A3 thinking
  - collaborative document managed by a single champion.
- Choosing by Advantages (CBA)
  - a collaborative decision making system to help simplify, clarify and unify the decision making process.



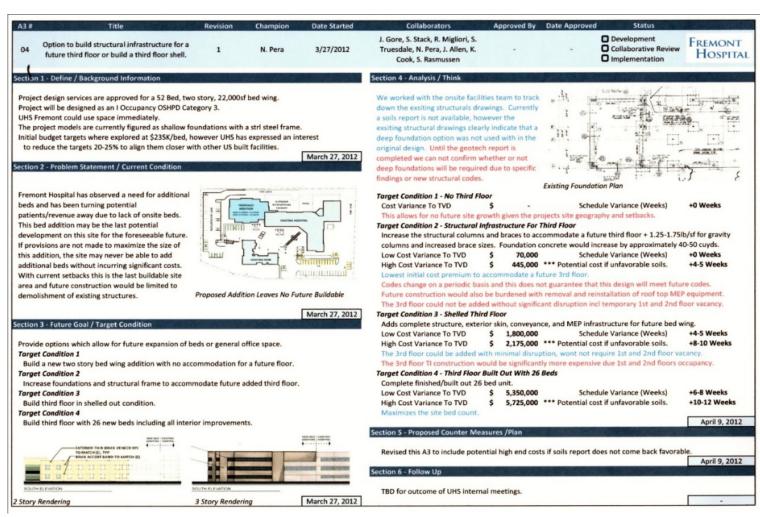


Photo Credit: InsideOut Consulting, Inc.

## Target Value Tracking Activities



- Target Cost Tracking Transparency
- Risk Identification
  - Mitigation strategy
  - Cost
  - Rank
- Path Back Identification



Photo Credit: InsideOut Consulting, Inc.



## 8. Visual Management

#### Visual Information Goals



- Goals of visual management include:
- Communicating information clearly with others.
- Communicating standards and alerting to deviations.
- Allowing immediate response to deviations or irregularities.
- Simplifying and highlighting information.
- Supporting a culture of clear and effective communication.
- Providing immediate access to the right information needed to perform the work.



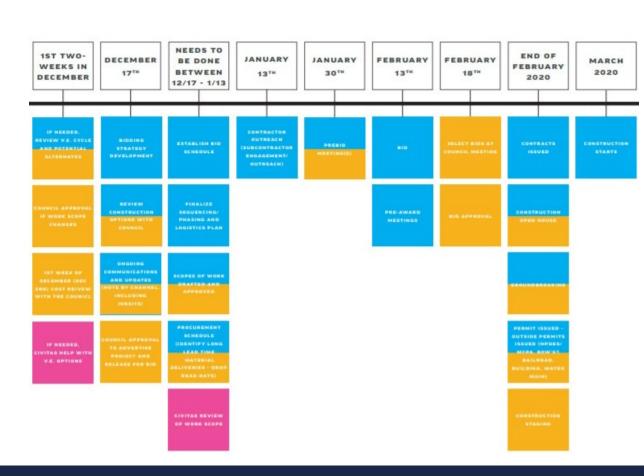
Courtesy of DPR Construction

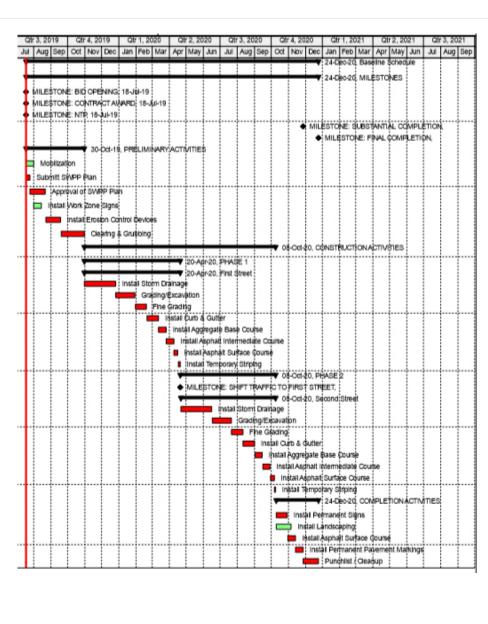
### Visual Information Guideline



If you go back to the way we used to do it, people will go back to the way they used to work.

- Make sure your visuals are
  - Interesting
  - Colorful
  - Simple
  - Informative
  - Non-judgmental







## 9. Virtual Big Room

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### Creating / Keeping the Team Camaraderie

Camaraderie: Mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together.

- Cameras on
- Virtual happy hour
- Virtual team lunch
- Celebrate micro-wins



Example of dispersed team in a zoom meeting..

### Group Discussion Question – Chat Box



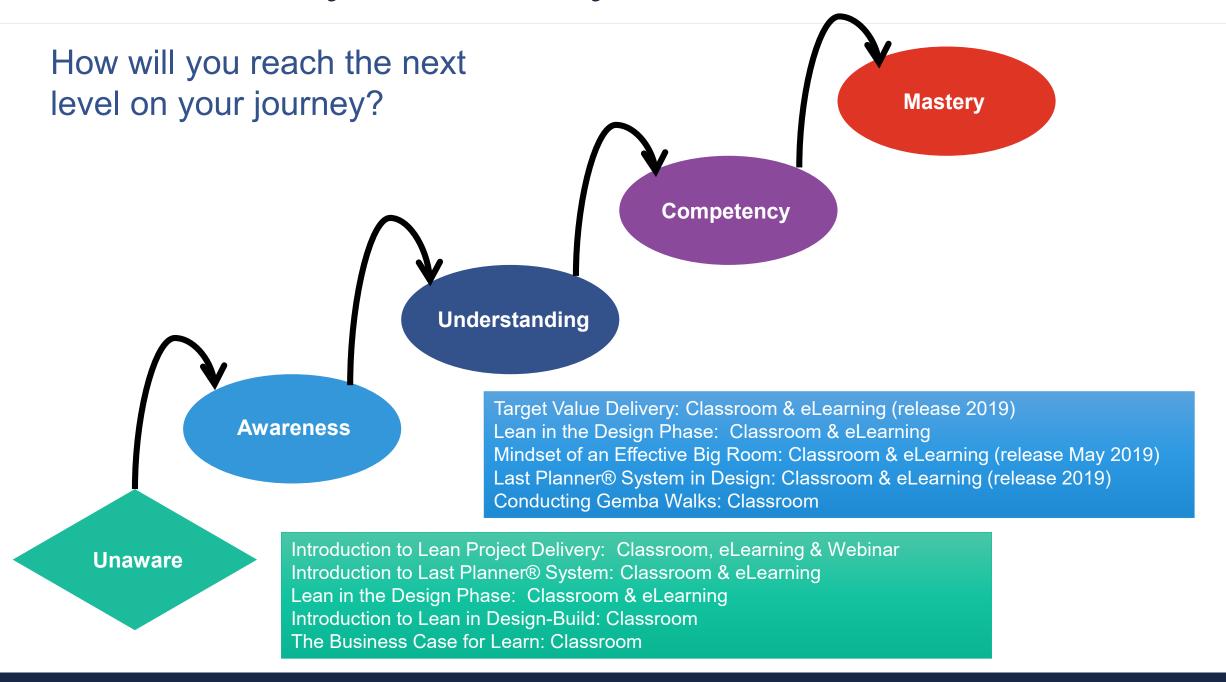
#### **New Actions?**

What new actions or ideas that you learned today can you take back to your project?

Chat Box 3 minutes

### Lean Journey to Mastery

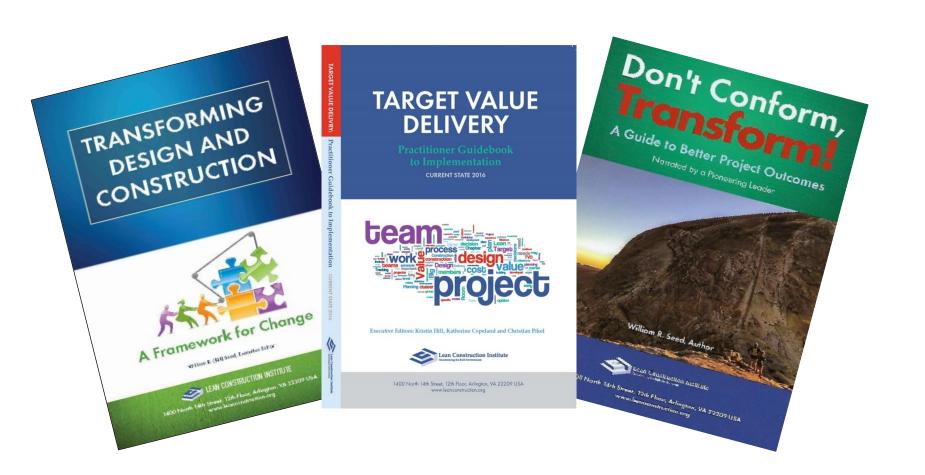




## More on Learning



#### **Books:**



#### **Events:**

- Local Community of Practice
- Congress (October)
- Design Forum (May)

#### eLearning:

Learn on your own time without taking time off project work.

#### **Start learning now:**

www.LeanConstruction.org

### eLearning Courses

Lean Construction Institute
Immersive Education Program

- Introduction to the Last Planner System®
- Introduction to Lean Project Delivery
- Lean in the Design Phase
- Effective Big Room
- Target Value Delivery
- Last Planner System® in Design



The key achievable goal of this course is to prepare and enable team members with a foundational understanding of Lean approaches for daily use within a project environment.

LPD
OVERVIEW

LESSON 1:
Foundations of LPD
LESSON 2:
Lean Project
Delivery System
LESSON 3:
Last Planner®
System
LESSON 3:
Target Value
Delivery

INTRODUCTION TO LEAN PROJECT DELIVERY



## Survey & Plus/Delta's



People

Conversations

Exhibitors Sponso

Schedule



Participate In A Group Video Meeting earn 3 points.



collaborative activities. Gain insights into how the Big Room approach supports knowledge sharing and enhanced collaboration. This course is registered with AIA CES



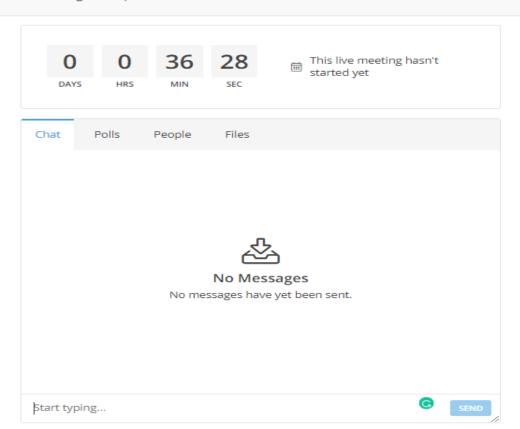
Session Code

for 2 LU credits.



Level

INTERMEDIATE



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# This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course



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