

# Michael Farnham

## Senior Construction Cost Estimator

[michael\\_f@usa.net](mailto:michael_f@usa.net) • (571) 552-7653  
Washington DC 22153

Experienced Senior Construction Cost Manager with expertise in cost estimation, project management, and process improvement for high-value federal and international projects. Skilled in preparing Independent Government Cost Estimates (IGCEs), performing regression analyses, and developing detailed cost estimates. Proven ability to manage complex billion-dollar projects, including embassy construction, security infrastructure, and life science projects. Recognized for delivering actionable insights via constructability reviews, cost audits, and stakeholder briefings. Adept at leading cross-functional teams, ensuring compliance with federal standards, and collaborating with diverse stakeholders.

## Areas of Expertise

- ◆ Cost Estimating & Management
- ◆ Construction Cost Auditing
- ◆ Historical cost data collection
- ◆ Cost Containment Strategies
- ◆ Cost Estimating
- ◆ On screen take off Blue Beam
- ◆ REA Analysis
- ◆ Independent Government Cost Estimates
- ◆ Change order preparation and analysis.
- ◆ Production estimator
- ◆ Sage Means cost database

## Professional Experience

### Senior Cost Manager DoD, Defense Threat Reduction Agency 2022– Present

Lead construction cost estimator in charge of preparing cost estimates for life sciences facilities worldwide. The facilities are designed and built to allow studies on various classifications of infectious diseases. The classification for these lab spaces is from BSL 1-4 facilities. Travel to potential lab sites to perform a site survey that becomes part of the basis of design for the buildings. Prepare a full scope report of findings from the site and development cost estimates from rough order of magnitude through progressive design levels.

- Using a three-point sampling model, we developed a cost per square foot/ meter using averages of past projects' costs, then prepared a cost distribution of all the structure's cost components to build the spaces.
- Perform value analysis of the site development and make recommendations on design or engineering changes based on on-site studies and geotechnical reports.
- Review bid tabulations against the developed cost basis for the project.
- Assist the owner in reviewing costs for various design development cost recommendations.

### Senior Cost Manager, Department of State, Diplomatic Security and DOD Programs, Washington, DC, 2015 – 2022

Performed senior-level cost estimates for the Department of State (DOS), Overseas Buildings Operations, and DOD contractors. Prepared Independent Government Cost Estimates (IGCEs) by performing detailed take-offs and regression analyses to determine cost trends. Conducted constructability reviews to enhance cost control measures and briefed stakeholders on key findings using advanced data visualization. Ensured accurate cost assessments for projects ranging from \$20M to \$1.5B, aligning with government standards.

- Achieved the Department of State's Project Excellence Award for exceptional construction cost estimating services.
- Developed and refined construction cost estimates from a rough order of magnitude, through 95% design development cost estimates. Contributed to the success of a \$20M Marine housing improvement project by delivering precise estimates and constructability reviews.
- Developed engineering and construction process for remote Modular IT small data centers in remote locations lacking grid power.
- Facilitated improved project outcomes through detailed regression analysis, cost trend evaluations, and actionable recommendations.
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### **L 3 Communications (International Security Systems group), VA** **Project Lead**

**2010 – 2014**

Directed a maritime security system development project in Central Africa and managed \$15M in secured border infrastructure projects. Oversaw phased development plans, including telecommunication tower installations and security infrastructure enhancements. Conducted site visits, coordinated with stakeholders, and prepared documentation to meet project goals. Monitored project costs and schedules to ensure on-time and within-budget delivery.

- Led the successful implementation of a \$250M international security program, earning an Engineering Lead Award.
- Coordinated 60-site tower installations with comprehensive phased plans, achieving operational excellence.
- Enhanced project efficiency through meticulous cost and schedule management practices.
- Pre-construction manager for Border Patrol projects in Arizona and Texas. Developed an Integrated Master schedule for the roll-out of multi-phase design-build projects.
- Managed on-site project team, providing cost control, schedule management, and inspection services.

### **TRC Engineers, VA** **Operations Manager**

**2007 – 2010**

Managed the daily operations of a 20-person engineering consulting firm specializing in highway design, cost estimation, and infrastructure improvements. Directed design services for major roadway realignment and emergency repair projects across Northern Virginia. Delivered cost estimates for public and private projects, supporting infrastructure enhancements.

- Successfully managed a \$25M roadway realignment project, incorporating innovative design solutions.
- Spearheaded on-call design and cost-estimation services for time-sensitive emergency repair initiatives.
- Played a pivotal role in cost management for an \$800M multi-bridge and tolling facility improvement project.

## **Education**

### **Master of Science studies, University of Maryland, Geotechnical engineering** College Park, Maryland

Completed a Scholarly paper on investigative site selection criteria for site selection choices.

### **Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering** Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

## **Licenses & Certifications**

Construction Cost Control Professional, National Association of Construction Auditors, 2023 (P23003) Construction Cost Auditor, National Association of Construction Auditors (A23011)  
Construction Arbitrator, American Arbitration Association,  
Class A Licensed General Contractor (Inactive)  
Cleared Worker  
Veteran Protected Class service

