

B-16/01  
June 11, 2001

**2001 FTA REVENUE ESTIMATING AND TAX RESEARCH CONFERENCE  
September 23–26, 2001 — Minneapolis, Minnesota**

*Preliminary Announcement*

**To State Tax Administrators:**

**SUMMARY**

The 2001 FTA Revenue Estimating Conference will be held at the Minneapolis Airport Marriott, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 23–26, 2001. This announcement contains registration materials as well as hotel information. A preliminary program will be distributed by mid-July.

**Hotel reservations must be made before September 3, 2001, to receive the \$95 conference rate. The conference registration deadline is September 10, 2001.**

The FTA Research Section Chair, Tom Potiowsky, of the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, joins with Conference Host, Matthew Smith, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Revenue, in extending a cordial invitation to attend the 56th Annual FTA Revenue Estimating and Tax Research Conference. The conference will be held at the Minneapolis Airport Marriott, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 23–26, 2001. The conference will open Sunday, September 23, with registration and a reception and conclude Wednesday, September 26, at 12:00 Noon.

Other meetings include the Research Roundtable, scheduled for Saturday at 1:00 p.m. and continuing on Sunday morning. The senior delegates are scheduled to hold a luncheon meeting just after the close of the conference.

**Conference Schedule**

The conference agenda will be a mix of general and concurrent breakout sessions with topics of interest to revenue estimators and state tax policy analysts. Monday morning will begin with the usual economic outlook by the major forecasting firms and selected policy topics of interest to everyone. In the afternoon, conference attendees will have a choice of two sessions: one will feature detailed forecasts for specific sectors of the economy, while the other will have presentations on issues states face dealing with tax reform.

The entire day Tuesday will be dedicated to concurrent breakout sessions with a wide variety of specific topics, including income tax and other forecasting issues, database techniques, estate tax forecasting issues, taxation of deregulated industries, corporate tax issues, and the revenue/economic impact of the Streamlined Sales Tax Project.

Also on Tuesday, time will be allocated for a series of **Working Sessions**. These working sessions are intended to provide a forum for state economists working on a particular topic to

openly discuss problems/issues they have encountered with economists in other states. Please indicate on the reverse side of the registration form your first and second choices from the list of working sessions shown below and on the back of the form. Any session without a sufficient number of participants will not be held. However, we can forward your name to others who indicate an interest in the same topic.

### **Working Sessions**

- Dynamic Revenue Estimating Models
- Database Techniques: merging/matching different databases, blurring techniques, etc.
- Tax Expenditure Reporting/Estimation Techniques
- Revenue Forecasting: a forum to discuss issues developing annual/biannual budget forecasts.
- Legislative Issues: a forum to discuss issues analyzing general legislative proposals.
- Utility Deregulation Issues
- Issues in Local Taxation
- Issues in Property Taxation
- Other (please specify)

On Wednesday morning, conference participants will hear a variety of presentations of general interest to state economists and policy analysts. A preliminary program will be distributed by mid-July.

### **Local Arrangements**

The social program, arranged by the Minnesota Department of Revenue, will include an opening reception on Sunday evening, lunch on Monday and an evening cruise and banquet on Tuesday.

Guest registration fees cover Sunday's reception and Tuesday's banquet. There will be no separate guest program this year. Host state staff will provide a list of local sites and help arrange transportation of groups or individuals to various sites.

### **Hotel Reservations**

The conference will be held at the Minneapolis Airport Marriott, which is convenient to the Mall of America and other attractions. The conference rate is \$95 (single/double occupancy). Please make your reservations directly with the hotel by calling (800) 228-9290. Notify the reservations clerk that you will be attending the Federation of Tax Administrators Revenue Estimating Conference to receive the special rate. ***Please note that the cutoff date for hotel reservations is September 3 2001.*** After this date, reservations will be based on availability only.

### **Conference Registration**

The advance conference registration form is enclosed. This should be mailed with your check, made payable to ***Tax Research Section/FTA***, to:

Tax Research—FTA Conference  
Minnesota Department of Revenue  
600 North Robert St.  
Mail Station 2230  
St. Paul, MN 55146  
FAX (651) 297-2850

#### **Registration fees are:**

Government Representative:	\$265
Industry Representative:	\$300
Guest:	\$85

***The deadline for conference registration is September 10, 2001. A \$40 late charge will be assessed for on-site registration.***

If you have any questions concerning registration, please contact the Minnesota Department of Revenue staff at (651) 296-3425.

**Ground Transportation**

The hotel provides free shuttle service from the airport (every 30 minutes).

The FTA Research Section looks forward to your participation in the 2001 Revenue Estimating and Tax Research Conference in Minneapolis. Please contact Ron Alt of FTA at (202) 624-8445 email <ron.alt@taxadmin.org>; or Section Chair Tom Potiowsky at (503) 378-3452 email <tom.p.potiowsky@state.or.us> if you have any questions or suggestions for the program.

Sincerely,

Harley T. Duncan  
Executive Director

Attachments: as stated

**2001 FTA REVENUE ESTIMATING & TAX RESEARCH CONFERENCE  
Minneapolis Airport Marriott -- Minneapolis, Minnesota  
September 23-26, 2001**

**Registration Form**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees:**

- \_\_\_ Government Representative - \$265
- \_\_\_ Industry Representative - \$300
- \_\_\_ Guest Fee - \$85 (Includes Sunday Reception and Tuesday Banquet)

Note: **Registration deadline is September 10, 2001.** An additional \$40 late fee is assessed for all on-site registrants who have not previously notified the Minnesota Department of Revenue of their intent to attend.

**Social Program:**

**IMPORTANT: In order for us to plan accurately, please let us know which of the following you plan to attend:**

- \_\_\_ Sunday Reception
- \_\_\_ Tuesday Evening Banquet and Cruise

<u>Make checks payable to:</u>	<b>Tax Research Section/FTA</b>
<u>Send checks and forms to:</u>	Tax Research--FTA Conference Minnesota Department of Revenue 600 North Robert St. Mail Station 2230 St. Paul, MN 55146
	FAX: (651) 297-2850 FEIN # 31-1241234

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**2001 FTA REVENUE ESTIMATING & TAX RESEARCH CONFERENCE**  
**Minneapolis Airport Marriott -- Minneapolis, Minnesota**  
**September 23-26, 2001**

**Please sign-up for the Working Sessions most appropriate to your work.**

Participant name: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your 1st and 2nd choices below.

- Dynamic Revenue Estimating Models
- Database Techniques: merging/matching different databases, blurring techniques, etc.
- Tax Expenditure Reporting/Estimating Techniques
- Revenue Forecasting: a forum to discuss issues developing annual/biannual budget forecasts
- Legislative Issues: a forum to discuss issues analyzing general legislative proposals.
- Utility Deregulation Issues
- Issues in Local Taxation
- Issues in Property Taxation
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: The working sessions are intended to provide a forum for participants to get to know their colleagues in other states working on similar issues and to discuss their experiences. It is not an educational workshop and there are no leaders for the groups.

**Please return this sign-up sheet with your registration form.**