



David S. Gehrig

Partner

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Firm Leadership

Infrastructure Practice Co-Leader

Areas of Focus

- Construction
- Government
- Municipal and Public Agency
- Green Building
- Infrastructure
- Public Transit and Transportation
- Water Law
- Cannabis Law



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David assists public agency clients with legal issues related to public works construction projects. His clients include water districts, wastewater agencies, community college districts, health care districts, cities, counties, and transit agencies. He has worked on numerous large-scale infrastructure projects, from the drafting of the contract specifications, through the bid process, to contract completion and claims resolution. He has considerable experience with contract award disputes, subcontractor substitution issues, bidder pre-qualification, and has successfully resolved several stop payment notice lawsuits for public agency clients.

Design-build and Alternative Project Delivery Methods

Design-build contracting is increasingly being recognized as a more effective project delivery method for public agencies. David has written papers and presented at conferences on this topic for a number of years, and has considerable recent experience on a number of large infrastructure projects. David is also familiar with the wider range of alternative project delivery methods, and has assisted clients with CM at Risk contracts, lease-leaseback contracts, and public-private partnership arrangements. He works closely with clients to identify which available project delivery methods are best suited for a particular project.

Prevailing Wage and Labor Code Compliance

David has considerable extensive experience with prevailing wage and Labor Code compliance issues. David has also has guided public agencies through SB 854 requirements, and serves as legal counsel to an in-

house Labor Compliance Program for a large transit district. For private clients, he has advised on prevailing wage compliance strategies and obtained several favorable prevailing wage coverage determinations from the DIR.

Publications

“A Summary of Progressive Design-Build Authority Under Public Contract Code sections 22185-22185.11 (SB 706),” co-author, Memo (February 2025)

“California Expands Progressive Design-Build Authority to Most Public Agencies,” co-author, Government Insights & Analysis (May 2024)

“2024 New Laws Series, Part 3: Infrastructure Package Expands Progressive Design-Build and Design-Build, Streamlines CEQA for Select Projects,” co-author, California Special Districts Association (November 2023)

“California Issues New COVID-19 Employer Playbook for a Safe Reopening,” co-author, Labor and Employment Legal Alert (July 2020)

“New Orders from 6 Bay Area Counties Require Face Coverings to be Worn During Work in Most Circumstances,” co-author, *Government + Construction Law Alert* (April 2020)

“Public Works Projects in the Bay Area May Proceed Under COVID-19 Orders,” *Government Law Alert* (April 2020)

“FPPC Extends Deadline for Form 700 Filings to June 1, 2020,” *Government Law Alert* (March 2020)

“Newsom’s Executive Order on COVID-19 Loosens Teleconference Rules for Public Meetings under the Brown Act and Bagley-Keene Act,” *Government Law Alert* (March 2020)

“The Benefits of Design-Build,” *In the Loop with the Hanson Bridgett Government Group* Video Alert (September 2017)

“AB 626 Creates New Procedural Requirements for Public Works Claims,” co-author, *Government Law Alert* (December 2016)

“Chapter 7: Public Contracting,” reviewer, *Municipal Law Handbook* (2016)

“A Step Forward for Public Works Contracting – Design-Build in the Public Sector After the Adoption of SB 785,” *Hanson Bridgett White Paper* (May 2015)

“New Public Works Requirements for Contractors and Public Agencies Pursuant to SB 854,” co-author, *Public Agency Law Alert* (December 2014)

“New Case Confirms Competitive Bidding Exception for Lease-Leaseback Projects Award By School Districts,” co-author, *Construction Law Alert* (September 2014)

“Bracing for Construction Claims: Seven Things You’ll Wish You Had Done When the Claims Come,” *Construction Law Alert* (May 2013)

“Design-Build is Gaining Traction in the Public Sector,” co-author, *Construction Law Alert* (March 2011)

Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) Video Series (July 2010)

“Alternative Project Delivery Methods for Public Works Projects in California,” *Construction Law Alert* (March 2009)

“Public Contract Disclosures,” *San Francisco Daily Journal* (December 2006)

“Changes to Prevailing Wage Laws Expose Public Agencies to Potential Liability,” *Public Agency Advisory* (February 2004)

Presentations

“Key Elements of Alternative Delivery Contracts: Lessons Learned,” panelist, 2026 American Society of Civil Engineers Workshop on Reducing Claims on Alternative Delivery Projects (May 2026)

“Progressive Design-Build & Design-Build on Public Infrastructure Projects: New Legislation & Attorney Perspective,” presenter, 2025 WaterReuse California Annual Conference (September 2025)

“Buy America Compliance – the new Construction Materials Rules and Other Buy America Issues Impacting Agency Projects,” panelist, APTA’s Legal Affairs Seminar (March 2025)

“Progressive Design-Build and Design-Build on Public Infrastructure Projects: New Legislation and Case Studies,” co-presenter, CASA 2024 Annual Conference (July 2024)

“ABCs of Alternative Delivery Models for Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs),” co-speaker, CSDA Annual Conference (August 2023)

“Can We? Should We? What to Know About Design-Build, Progressive Design-Build, and Public-Private Partnership for Water Infrastructure,” co-speaker, ACWA Spring Conference and Expo

(May 2023)

“The COVID-19 Construction and Design Roundtable,” co-speaker, Construction Law Subsection of the Real Property Section of the LA County Bar Association Webinar (April 2020)

“Progressive Design-Build Contracting”, Community College Facilities Coalition Annual Conference (September 2018)

“Design-Build for Public Works Projects,” County Counsels’ Association of California Public Works and Contracts Spring 2015 Study Section Conference (May 2015)

“Design-Build for Public Works Projects,” City Attorneys’ Spring Conference (May 2015)

“Bracing for Construction Claims: Seven Things You’ll Wish You Had Done When the Claims Come,” co-speaker, American Public Works Association, Northern California Chapter (November 2014)

“Design-Build for Public Works Projects,” 45th CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase (October 2014)

“Design-Build for Public Works Projects,” 17th Annual APWA NorCal Public Works Conference (November 2013)

“Bracing for Construction Claims: Seven Things You’ll Wish You Had Done When the Claims Come,” League of California Cities 2013 City Attorney Spring Conference (May 2013)

“Overview of California Stop Payment Notice Laws,” Telfer Oil Annual Meeting on Public Works Construction Issues (March 2013)

“Design-Build/Public Private Partnerships,” co-presenter, County Counsels’ Association of California Fall 2011 Public Works & HazMat Study Section (October 2011)

“Creative Options for Delivering Public Works Projects: Design-Build and Public-Private Partnerships,” co-presenter, CSDA Annual Conference (October 2011)

“Eight Things You’ll Wish You Had Done When the Construction Claims Come,” American Public Works Association (March 2011)

“Bracing for Construction Claims During a Slow Economic Recovery,” Public Agency Construction Seminar (September, October 2010)

“Alternative Project Delivery Methods for Public Works Projects,” League of California Cities (September 2009)

Press

“More Attorneys Are Jockeying for Public Projects,” *Daily Journal* (June 2009)

Professional Affiliations

California Special Districts Association, Public Contracting Expert Feedback Team

Design-Build Institute of America

Bar Association of San Francisco

Education

J.D., UC Law San Francisco (Formerly UC Hastings) (1995)

B.A., with distinction University of Washington (1991)

Admissions and Courts

California

Washington

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California