

March 15- Technology

Getting Energized for Automated Vehicles

SPEAKERS:

Gregory Rodriguez takes a hands-on approach to ensure a successful project delivery for his clients. Having previously served as in-house counsel for the San Diego Association of Governments and as an attorney with a firm that focuses on representing educational institutions and related agencies, Gregory is now of counsel in Best Best & Krieger LLP's Municipal Law practice group.

Gregory's experience includes complex procurement, construction and property acquisition issues for public projects, as well as providing legal guidance on governance issues, such as open meetings laws, public records requests and the California Voting Rights Act. Gregory has extensive public contracting experience and has assisted public agency clients, including school districts, community college districts and regional planning agencies, in the procurement of design professionals, construction managers and contractors for the completion of public works projects involving local, state and federal money.

Gregory is well versed on the various contracting options available to clients, including use of alternative project delivery methods, such as design-build or use of a construction manager/general contractor. At SANDAG, Gregory assisted in the procurement of a contractor using the CM/GC project delivery method for a light rail extension project under the Federal Transit Administration's discretionary New Starts Program. Additionally, Gregory has assisted clients with the acquisition of property for construction projects and provides legal guidance for projects from property acquisition through close-out. This includes any necessary environmental approvals and resolving claims that may arise during the course of construction.

Steven DeBaun solves legal issues related to transportation, infrastructure, regional impact fee programs, land use and planning, municipal, environmental and special district law. In 2014, he was named one of the Daily Journal's Top 50 Development Attorneys for his work on the Route 91 Capital Improvement Project toll road extension and the Perris Valley Line Commuter Rail Extension Project. In addition, Steve was on the team that received a 2014 Top Verdict recognition by the Daily Journal for Western Riverside Council of Governments v. City of Beaumont. In that case, the court ordered Beaumont to pay \$43 million in withheld transportation impact fees, plus \$14 million in prejudgment interest.

Steve assists a variety of the firm's public agency clients. He is general counsel to Riverside County Transportation Commission, Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency, Western Riverside Council of Governments, Gold Coast Transit District, Big Bear Community Services District and Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority. He has also acted as special counsel on transportation matters to the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, the San Bernardino Associated Governments and the City of Los Angeles, among others.

Ryan Baron is of counsel in Best Best & Krieger LLP's Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group. He offers strategic counsel on all aspects of utility and environmental regulation and complex infrastructure and development. He has extensive experience in public utility regulation and energy and water development projects, and environmental matters involving water and air quality, climate change and solid waste. Ryan's practice focuses on administrative agency regulation of business and governmental planning efforts and the deployment of critical infrastructure and new technologies. As a former senior in-house counsel, Ryan understands the need to navigate clients through complex matters with revenue-focused and creative approaches.

Regulatory Affairs

Ryan represents clients on regulatory matters before a number of federal and state agencies. He advises on National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, total maximum daily loads, alternative compliance planning, air permits and variances, governmental enforcement, trading and offset programs, landfill compliance, alternative energy and gas regulation, cap and trade and federal and state grant programs. He also advises on agency rules and tariffs that apply to regulated utilities. Ryan is experienced in administrative law procedures involving agency rulemakings, permit and licensing proceedings and enforcement actions.

Project Development

Ryan counsels clients on the development of utility and large-scale infrastructure projects with significant experience in contracts and negotiation. He advises on issues involving land use and entitlements, federal and state permitting and licensing, project funding and finance, public-private partnerships and other agreements. Ryan's project and planning advice includes the development of alternative energy, such as combined heat and power, waste to energy, solar, natural gas, biomass and battery storage. He also has experience with the regional development of facilities and projects involving flood control, water treatment, water storage and reuse, transportation, freeway improvements and master planned communities.

Teaching

Ryan is an adjunct professor at Whittier Law School, where he has taught Administrative Law and Energy Law. He has guest lectured at the Chapman University School of Law and in the Advanced Power and Energy Program at the University of California, Irvine.

Government Service

Ryan is a former senior deputy county counsel to the County of Orange, one of the largest counties in the U.S. He oversaw the office's public works and regulatory group and was a lead counsel to the Public Works, Planning, and Waste and Recycling departments. In his 12 years of government service, Ryan directly advised on billions of dollars in projects and development, and led significant energy and water legal efforts.

Prior to his in-house experience, Ryan practiced with a Washington, D.C. law firm working on behalf of Fortune 100 companies in regulatory litigation and federal enforcement actions. During law school, Ryan was a law clerk and junior lobbyist for the global government relations office of

an international telecommunications company, and was a legal intern for an FCC commissioner and in the FCC's International Bureau. Ryan was the editor-in-chief of Catholic University's communications law journal and a graduate of the school's Institute for Communications Law Studies (now the Institute of Law & Technology).