



# IMLA 2025 Construction Law Program

Providence, Rhode Island

June 26, 2025

## Thursday – June 26, 2025

Time	Session	Speaker(s)
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Continental Breakfast	
8:50 AM – 9:00 AM	Opening Remarks	Amanda Karras & Jeff Dana
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Best Practices for Construction Projects: How to Protect Public Entities Throughout the Process</b> This presentation will provide practice pointers to help local governments navigate construction projects including best practices related to contract language to protect the owner of the property, bidding tips, and other pointers.	Steven “Tip” Torres & Jillian Jagling <b>Moderator:</b> Jeff Dana
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Coffee Break	
10:45 AM – 11:45 AM	Session TBD	
11:50 AM – 12:50 PM	Session TBD	
12:50 PM – 1:35 PM	Lunch	
1:35 PM – 2:35 PM	<b>Anatomy of the Life of a Typical Construction Dispute: Advice for Municipal Counsel to Navigate Each Step of the Process</b> In this seminar, experienced construction counsel and a construction claim expert will provide an overview of the typical life of a construction claim, with an eye towards helping municipal counsel navigate each step of the process. Presenters will provide practical advice enlivened punctuated by real-life examples. The seminar will address topics such as: 1) Ounce of Prevention: What counsel can do in advance to prevent or control construction disputes: Contract document preparation and careful documentation of issues which arise that may evolve into a dispute. The creator of the narrative often ends up as the victor. 2) What to do upon receipt of a claim, including assembly and review of documents, litigation hold notices, witness interviews, retention of experts. 3) early independent assessment of claims. 4) claim evaluation. 5) claim adjudication: litigation, arbitration, other. 6) dispute resolution tips	Christopher Petrini & Roy Cooper
2:40PM – 3:40 PM	<b>Land Use, Zoning, and Affordable Housing: Current Policy and Practice</b> The affordability, availability, and accessibility of housing remains a critical issue across the US. New England states have not been spared in this equation. Recent state legislative action indicates an appetite for change which could spur long-needed construction and development. In this session, leading experts will discuss: the successes and challenges of state-level zoning requirements, balancing local and state control and the impact of state control on home rule, and the potential for federal action. Other state-level efforts for the planning and financing needed to activate housing choice will also be discussed.	Katie Hodgon, Donna Brewer & Jennifer Raitt
3:40 PM – 3:55 PM	Coffee Break	

3:55 PM – 4:55 PM	Compliance with Federal Grants for Infrastructure	Honorable Gabe Amo, United States House of Representatives
5:30PM	Networking Reception	

Last Updated: 02/27/25. Please note the agenda is tentative and subject to change.