

**Ninth Annual Conference**  
**February 15, 2024**



Publications and MCLE Conference Programs  
for the California Bar since 1989

**Live Online**

# California Land Use Law & Policy

## **“California Land Use Law, Policy, and Planning 2024: Housing, CEQA, and Other Critical Land Use Issues”**

Dear Land Use Practitioner,

California land use law, policy, and planning continue to evolve at an amazing pace. As we move into 2024, California’s housing issues have been made more challenging with interest rates remaining high. Housing—and all the challenges that come with it—is the key focus of this year’s conference. This year we are pleased to have a Keynote Presentation from David Zisser, head of the Housing Policy Development Division of the State Department of Housing & Community Development, who will address efforts by California to improve the state’s housing shortage and related issue of housing affordability. In addition, Housing Elements, Regional Housing Needs Allocation, Density Bonus Law, and the Housing Accountability Act all take center stage at this year’s important conference.

We also recognize that your practice will necessarily involve other important and cross-over areas of law, so we also provide updates in the areas of Endangered Species Act Law, “Waters of the United States” and, perhaps the overriding issue of them all, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

We have assembled a stellar faculty of experts in their fields whose daily practices are directly related to their speaking topics. They will present on these critical and evolving topics and give you access to their thoughts on where the issues have come from, where they are headed, and how they are being, or will be, implemented.

Where is land use law and policy heading and what do you need to stay current on to be ready in your practice? You’ll find out in one intense day of presentations at Argent Communications Group’s California Land Use Law, Policy, and Planning Conference 2024. This is a must-attend conference for any land use law or planning practitioner wanting to better understand these recent changes.

We invite you to join us and interact live with the faculty through question and answer sessions after each panel presentation. Be ready, be prepared, be successful in your practice. If you attend only one California MCLE- or APA-AICP accredited land use conference this year, make it this one!

Sincerely,



**Scott Birkey, Esq.**  
Cox, Castle & Nicholson  
San Francisco



**Lauren Langer, Esq.**  
Best, Best & Krieger  
Los Angeles

The only California Land Use Law & Policy conference produced by the California-based Publishers of the *California Land Use Law & Policy Reporter* and co-sponsored by many of the state’s top law firms.



### **Conference Co-Sponsors:**



**REGISTER TODAY!**

**800-419-2741**

**<register@argentco.com>**

**Thursday, February 15**

**8:15 ZOOM LOG-IN**

**8:30 Welcome Remarks with Critical Detail**  
Lauren Langer, Esq., Best Best & Krieger, Los Angeles

**8:45 What's New? 2023 Housing Law Updates**

- **What's the Latest from Sacramento and Beyond?**

Matt Cody, Esq., Best, Best & Krieger, Sacramento

- **The Surplus Land Act Amendments: An Overview of SB 747 and AB 480**

Robbie Hull, Esq., Cox Castle & Nicholson, San Francisco

- **CEQA and the Housing Crisis: How Recent Legislation Addresses Housing Supply Issues**

Daniel R. Golub, Esq., Holland & Knight, San Francisco

**10:15 BREAK**

**10:30 "The Builder's Remedy": Is This Thing for Real?**

- **The Builder's Perspective: Risks and Rewards Associated with Using the Builder's Remedy**

Dave Rand, Esq., Rand, Paster, Nelson, Los Angeles

- **The Municipal Perspective: Whether and How to Process a Builder's Remedy Application**

Susan Cola, Assistant City Attorney, City of Santa Monica

**11:45 LUNCH BREAK**

**12:45 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: The California Department of Housing and Community Development's Role in Helping to Address the State's Housing Supply Crisis**

David Zisser, Assistant Deputy Director, Local Government Relations & Accountability, Housing Policy Development Division, California Department of Housing and Community Development, Sacramento

**1:30 The Future of "Waters of the United States"—Next Steps after *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency***

- **Real-World Application of the *Sackett* Decision**

Cameron Johnson, M.S., Principal, Integral Consulting, San Francisco

- **Section 404 Compliance Strategies Post-*Sackett***

Anthony Francois, Esq., Briscoe Ivester & Bazel, San Francisco

**2:30 Changes to the Fully Protected Species Statutes and How or Whether Those Changes Are Relevant to Your Project**

Rachel Jones, Esq., Cox Castle & Nicholson, San Francisco

**3:00 BREAK**

**3:15 CEQA 2024 Update—A Deeper Dive**

- **Distinguishing Statutory and Categorical Exemptions**

Amy Higuera, Esq., Downey Brand, San Francisco

- **CEQA Case Law and Legislation Update**

Travis Brooks, Esq., Miller Starr Regalia, Walnut Creek

- **CEQA and Hazard Mitigation: Wildfire Risks Become Paramount to Approval of Development**

Tina Wallis, Esq., Wallace Law, Santa Rosa

**4:45 Putting it All Together: Concluding Remarks**

Scott Birkey, Esq., Cox Castle and Nicholson, San Francisco

**5:00 CONFERENCE ADJOURNMENT**

**Program Co-Chairs:**

**Scott Birkey** is a land use and natural resources lawyer who handles entitlement, compliance, and litigation matters for residential and commercial developers, educational and health-care institutions, and public agencies throughout California.

**Lauren Langer** serves as city attorney and as land use counsel for several cities. Her practice focuses on all aspects of the land use entitlement process and on zoning, state housing laws, and the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Program Faculty:**

**Travis Brooks** represents private and public entity clients in a wide range of land use and environmental matters and on issues related to school site development, construction law, and public bidding and contracting.

**Matt Cody** is a member of his firm's municipal law and real estate group where he represents clients in real estate litigation, including commercial and residential landlord-tenant disputes, breach of contract claims, title disputes, and tort and premises liability cases.

**Susan Cola** has over 25 years of municipal law experience, specializing in land use, public finance, real estate, public works contracting, economic development, and affordable housing.

**Tony Francois** represents developers, homeowners, farmers, and water districts in water and real property law, land use and zoning, environmental regulation, natural resources development, agricultural law, and constitutional law.

**Daniel Golub** brings nearly a decade of policy, planning and political organizing experience to his practice, as well as litigation experience in the areas of land use law permitting and the entitlement process.

**Amy Higuera** represents clients in litigation involving CEQA, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, the Subdivision Map Act, the federal and state Endangered Species Acts, the NEPA, and the federal Clean Water Act provisions associated with wetlands permitting.

**Robbie Hull** counsels clients through the land use entitlement process in the areas of CEQA, State planning and zoning law, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and other state and federal laws related to land use and resource issues in California.

**Cameron Johnson** is a wildlife biologist and permitting specialist representing clients on the permitting of large- and small-scale utility and development projects for both private and public applicants.

**Rachel Jones** focuses on land use development and renewable energy projects and on all stages of project development on public and private land and under CEQA, NEPA and planning and zoning law.

**David Rand** specializes in land use law and governmental regulatory matters including various aspects of the planning and entitlement process including land use approval and the CEQA compliance process.

**Tina Wallis** is Principal at her law firm where she is a land use law attorney who represents developers, private land owners and public sector clients throughout all aspects of the land use entitlement process, in CEQA compliance and in related litigation.

**David Zisser** manages the Housing Accountability Unit of the California Department of Housing and Community Development where he provides technical assistance to local agencies to help them comply with SB 330, SB 35, ADU laws, the Surplus Land Act, Density Bonus Law, and the No Net Loss Bonus Law.

**Tuition:**

Conference tuition for live participation or self-study is \$695. A discount of \$50 is available for individuals from government agencies, public interest groups, or academia; for current subscribers to the *California Land Use Law & Policy Reporter*; or for each attendee when two or more people from one firm or organization register together.

Tuition includes attendance, program materials, and a three-month electronic subscription to the *California Land Use Law & Policy Reporter* (a \$240 value).

**MCLE and AICP Credit:**

MCLE accreditation has been requested by the State Bar of California for 7 hours, and for APA-AICP CM credits of 7 hours, which includes up to 4 hours law CM credits TBD.



**Four Ways to Register:**

- Early registration is encouraged. To register:
- (1) [Go to the online registration registration form](#);
  - (2) Mail the completed registration form on the reverse to: Argent Communications Group, PO Box 1135, Batavia, IL 60510-1135;
  - (3) Complete the registration form and email to [register@argentco.com](mailto:register@argentco.com); or
  - (4) Call 800-419-2741. Full payment or purchase order is due with registration.

**Cancellation Policy:**

Full refunds (less a \$75 processing fee) will be made only if notice is received by February 8, 2024. Substitutions are encouraged. Argent Communications Group reserves the right to cancel any program and assumes no responsibility for personal loss.

**Ninth Annual Conference**

**Live Online**

# California Land Use Law & Policy

**February 15, 2024**

## REGISTRATION FORM

**Yes!** Please register the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**TUITION:**

- \$695 per person, or
  - \$645 each for two or more from the same firm, or
  - \$645 government and nonprofit employees, or
  - \$595 each for two or more government and nonprofit employees
- Promo code: \_\_\_\_\_

**SELF STUDY VIDEO RECORDING:**

- \$695 per person, or
  - \$645 each for two or more from the same firm, or
  - \$645 government and nonprofit employees, or
  - \$595 each for two or more government and nonprofit employees
- Promo code: \_\_\_\_\_

**MATERIALS ONLY:**

- \$175 each

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

- Check enclosed. Payable to Argent Communications Group
- P.O. attached. OR
- Charge my:  Visa  MasterCard      Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_



**Ninth Annual Conference**

**Live Online**

# California Land Use Law & Policy

## “California Land Use Law, Policy, and Planning 2024: Housing, CEQA, and Other Critical Land Use Issues”



**Keynote Presentation by David Zisser**, Assistant Deputy Director, Local Government Relations & Accountability, Housing Policy Development Division, California Department of Housing and Community Development.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:**

- Land Use, Environmental and Municipal Attorneys
  - Municipal and Private Land Use Planners
  - Landowners and Developers
- Land Use and Environmental Consultants
- City Council and County Board of Supervisors Members and Staff
- State and Local Agency Representatives
- Public Interest Group and Advocacy Personnel

**REGISTER TODAY!**  
 800-419-2741  
[<register@argentco.com>](mailto:register@argentco.com)