

Megan A. Jennings

Partner

San Francisco

Details

[T 415.772.5763](tel:415.772.5763)

[F 415.989.1663](tel:415.989.1663)

mjennings@coblentzlaw.com



Megan Jennings advises clients on a broad range of land use entitlement, transactional, and environmental compliance matters. She represents developers and property owners through all stages of the complex California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review and land use permitting process, providing strategic counsel that emphasizes practical, legally sound solutions. Megan brings deep experience to projects ranging from infill multi-family and mixed-use developments to modern industrial facilities, renewable energy installations, and life sciences and medical campuses.

With a particular focus on California's evolving housing legislation, Megan helps clients achieve success through legal frameworks such as the Density Bonus Law, the Housing Accountability Act, and CEQA streamlining provisions. In addition to her entitlements practice, Megan advises on compliance with state and federal natural resource laws, including the California and federal Endangered Species Acts, and negotiates environmental and land use aspects of real estate transactions.

Megan contributes regularly to the firm's [Unfamiliar Terrain](#) blog, which explores the complexities of land use in the Bay Area. She previously served on the Advisory Board for the Center for Law, Energy and the Environment at Berkeley Law and the City of Albany's Planning and Zoning Commission. She is a member of several professional organizations, including SPUR (San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association), the California Lawyers Association's Environmental and Real Property Law Sections, and the Bar Association of San Francisco.

Megan earned her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, where she was Managing Editor of Ecology Law Quarterly and received a Certificate in Environmental Law. She received her B.A. with highest honors from the University of Montana.

Notable Representations

Google

Serving as CEQA counsel in Google's efforts to redevelop an underutilized 81-acre area surrounding San Jose's Diridon Station into a new mixed-use extension of the downtown area. At full buildout, the Downtown West project will include 7.3 million square feet of office, 5,900 residential units, and 500,000 square feet of retail and other uses. The team of Coblenz attorneys advised on preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and negotiation of a Development Agreement, among other aspects of the project, and continues to advise on project implementation.

Southline Specific Plan

Counsel on all aspects of land use and environmental review for a 2.8 million square foot transit-oriented office/life science project in South San Francisco, including development of a Specific Plan and zoning regulations, preparation of an Environmental Impact Report, and negotiation of a Development Agreement. The project, located adjacent to the San Bruno BART station, will provide extensive pedestrian and bicycle improvements to leverage its proximity to transit, and will significantly improve vehicular connections between Downtown South San Francisco and the Lindenville neighborhood through the construction of a major new east-west roadway and reconfiguration of surrounding intersections in both South San Francisco and San Bruno.

Oyster Point Redevelopment Project

Advised on land use entitlements for the redevelopment of approximately 80 waterfront acres in South San Francisco, through a complex public-private partnership with the City of South San Francisco. After obtaining major land use entitlements for a 2.25 million square-foot life science campus, Megan assisted with completion of a land swap with the City, public and private financing, infrastructure development, approval from the Bay Conservation and Development Commission for extensive public improvements at the shoreline, and the sale of the entire privately-owned portion of the project.

John Muir Health Development Projects

Serve as John Muir Health's land use, natural resources, and real estate counsel on all aspects of its capital program, including the entitlement and development of its major medical centers in Walnut Creek and Concord, and recent acquisitions in San Ramon, California.

UDR, Inc.

Advise a leading developer and owner of luxury apartment communities on multiple Bay Area residential acquisitions and development projects, including entitlements for a 220-unit transit-oriented multifamily project in a politically challenging local climate, involving the settlement of litigation that raised novel claims under the state's Housing Accountability Act, and acquisition and development matters for Alameda Point Block 11.

Utility-Scale Solar Projects

Represented several major developers of utility-scale photovoltaic solar facilities on environmental, land use, natural resource, and real estate aspects of complex solar permitting, transmission, and facility development in Fresno, Kern, Kings, and San Benito Counties, including compliance with NEPA and the CEQA, the federal and California Endangered Species Acts, the Williamson Act, and local zoning and related laws and regulations.

Honors & Awards

Megan is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the Land Use and Zoning Law category. She is also recognized as a leading lawyer for Land Use/Zoning by Super Lawyers.

Professional Activities

Publications & Speaking Engagements

- [“HCD’s New Housing Law Fact Sheets: Guidance for Getting Projects Approved”](#) (May 5, 2026)
- [“Coming to a Major Transit Stop Near You: Upzoning Under SB 79”](#) (October 1, 2025)
- [“2025 CEQA Reforms: What Developers Need to Know”](#) (July 24, 2025)
- [“CEQA Transportation Mitigation Fees and Other Key Reforms in AB 130 and SB 131”](#) (July 21, 2025)
- [“‘Near-Miss’ CEQA Streamlining: New Option to Reduce Scope of Review for Housing Development Projects”](#) (July 10, 2025)
- [“New CEQA Exemption for Housing Development Projects: What it Means for Developers”](#) (July 2, 2025)
- [“There’s Always This Year? 2025 Legislature Considers CEQA Reforms to Spur Housing”](#) (May 19, 2025)
- “Project Descriptions and Alternatives: Best Practices and Tips,” 2024 CEQA Conference, CLE International, San Francisco, CA (December 10, 2024)
- [“2024 Housing Legislation Overview: Major Pending Bills on the Governor’s Desk”](#) (September 16, 2024)
- [“San Francisco Adopts New Land Use Controls for Fleet Charging and Parcel Delivery Service Uses”](#) (May 14, 2024)
- [“March 2024 Election: San Francisco Measures and a State Proposition to Watch”](#) (February 28, 2024)
- [“Senator Wiener Proposes Targeted CEQA Exemption for Downtown S.F. Projects”](#) (February 26, 2024)
- [“2023 Housing Legislation Overview – Major Signed and Pending Bills”](#) (September 28, 2023)

- [“Legislation to Incentivize Commercial to Residential Adaptive Reuse Projects Moves Forward”](#) (June 15, 2023)
- “Water Supply Planning and Impact Evaluation: Dry Year Edition,” 2023 Association of Environmental Professionals Conference (April 24, 2023)
- [“Mayor Breed Issues Executive Directive to Address City’s Housing Crisis”](#) (February 21, 2023)
- [“Bay Area Quality Management District Updates CEQA Thresholds for Greenhouse Gas Impacts”](#) (April 26, 2022)
- [“SB 7 Breathes New Life into CEQA Streamlining Process”](#) (May 26, 2021)
- [“AB 1561 Extends Housing Entitlements by 18 Months”](#) (March 25, 2021)
- [“Another Daunting San Francisco Ballot”](#) (October 13, 2020)
- [“Sellers Beware? San Francisco Adopts Community Opportunity to Purchase Act for Multifamily Properties”](#) (May 8, 2019)

Education

- J.D., University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (2007)
- B.A., University of Montana (2001)