



Adam U. Lindgren
Principal

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Practice Groups

Municipal and Special District Law

Environmental Law

Climate Change and Green Initiatives

Land Use

California Bar Number

177476

Education

Georgetown University Law Center, JD,
Public Interest Law Scholar, 1993

Columbia University, BA, cum laude, 1990

Practicing Since: 1995

Adam Lindgren is the Principal in Charge of Meyers Nave's Sacramento office. He serves as the City Attorney for the cities of Modesto and Rancho Cordova. He also serves as Special Counsel to the cities of Sacramento, Livingston, Monterey, and other districts and agencies such as the San Bernardino Associated Governments and geologic hazard abatement districts (GHADs) for Fallon Village and Schafer Ranch. Adam also represents private parties on complex land use matters. Adam has extensive experience in all aspects of municipal law, with particular qualifications in complex land use and development projects.

His recent projects include advising on complex utility rate issues for the City of Modesto, advising the City of Monterey on subdivision and vested rights issues for a major Cannery Row development, preparing a development impact fee for the City of Ventura, processing thousands of acres of land use approvals for subdivisions for the City of Rancho Cordova, and preparing CEQA documents for the San Bernardino County Regional Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan. Adam is experienced in processing comprehensive general plan updates and annexations, preparing CEQA documents for mixed-use developments and complex subdivision map approvals, negotiating development agreements for large-scale planned unit projects, and advising on development impact fees.

Adam's expertise in public agency law is recognized by *The Best Lawyers In America*®, which selected Adam to its Municipal Law category, and the International Municipal Lawyers Association, which invited Adam to participate in the IMLA Top 100 small group meetings of the City Attorneys of the largest U.S. cities. Adam also is the co-author and co-managing editor of a leading comprehensive publication on land use law, *California Land Use Practice*, published and updated annually since 2006 by Continuing Education of the Bar.

He has written and lectured extensively on a wide array of land use and municipal law topics, including the Subdivision

Map Act, development agreements, the Brown Act, conflicts of interest, due process, Proposition 218, takings and exactions, zoning, district formation, the Coastal Act, geologic hazard abatement districts, and ethics. He speaks frequently statewide for groups including the League of California Cities, State Bar of California, American Bar Association, California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions, California Special Districts Association and Lorman Education Services, among others.

Adam began his legal career in Washington, D.C. as a legislative assistant to a member of the United States House of Representatives. On Capitol Hill, Adam focused on land use, environmental and local government issues.

Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Municipal Law (2016-2020)
- “Top Lawyers,” State, Local & Municipal Law, *Sacramento Magazine* (2017 – 2018)
- *Proclamation* honoring expertise and service, City of Rancho Cordova, 2015
- *Resolution* honoring expertise and service, 8th District Assemblyman Ken Cooley, 2015
- “Northern California Super Lawyer,” *Super Lawyers Magazine*, State, Local & Municipal Law, 2005

Professional Affiliations

- Member, The State Bar of California
- Member, Sacramento County Bar Association
- Member, State and Local Government Section, American Bar Association
- Member, Central Valley City Attorneys' Association
- Member, Legal Advocacy Committee, City Attorneys' Department, League of California Cities
- Past Chair and Editorial Board Member, Municipal Law Handbook Committee, League of California Cities' City Attorneys Department
- Past Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Practice Management and Ethical Standards, League of California Cities' City Attorneys Department
- Former Co-Chair, American Bar Association Section on State and Local Government, Subcommittee on Vested Rights
- Member, Toast Masters International
- Prior Member, Rotary International

Publications and Presentations

- Presenter, “California Land Use and Zoning: Overview and Recent Developments,” Lorman Education Services, 2016
- Presenter, “Subdivision Map Act 101: Recent Case Law and Current Topics Impacting Development,” San Diego County Bar Association, 2015
- Author and editor, *California Land Use Practice*, 2006 and updated annually
- Presenter, “Administrative Hearing Procedures and Practice,” Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB), 2014
- Presenter, “Overview of Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development Law in California,” 2014
- Presenter, “Proposition 218,” Northern California City Clerks Association, 2014
- Presenter, “Common Issues for Quasi-Judicial Hearings,” LOCC Annual Conference, 2013
- Presenter, “Mastering the Map Act,” CEB, 2013
- Presenter, “Untangling the Web of Fair Political Practices (FPPC) Regulations,” Northern California City Clerks Association (NCCCA), 2012
- Presenter, “Rezoning and Refinancing: Municipal Opportunities for Non-residential Development,” Sacramento County Bar Association – Real Estate Section, 2010
- Presenter, “All You Ever Wanted to Know About Land Use Planning ... But Were Afraid To Ask,” Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC), 2009
- Presenter, “Rising to the ‘Promise’ of Transit Oriented Development,” World Jurist Association (WJA), Kiev, Ukraine, 2009
- Presenter, “Development Approval Process,” Lorman Education Services, 2007 and 2008
- Presenter, “Nuts and Bolts of the Entitlement Process,” State Bar Annual Meeting, 2008
- Presenter, “Land Use: Major and Minor Subdivisions; Rules & Laws,” Sonoma County Bar Association Real Property Practice Series, 2008
- Presenter, “Show Me the Water! How the Regulatory Drought and California’s Water & Planning Laws Demand New Partnerships among Landowners/Property Developers, Water Agencies and Land-Use Agencies ... A City Attorney’s Perspective,” State Bar – Real Property Retreat, 2008
- “Presenter, Zoning, Subdivision & Land Use Law,” Lorman Education Services, 2007 and 2008
- Presenter, “Advanced Zoning & Land Use,” Lorman Education Services, 2007
- Presenter, “Hidden Land Use Fees,” The State Bar of California Annual Meeting, 2007
- Presenter, “CEQA,” CALAFCO Annual Seminar, 2007

- Presenter, “Subdivision Map Act,” CEB, 2007
- Author, “Land Use Update,” League of California Cities Annual Conference, City Attorneys’ Department, September 2006
- Presenter, “Land Use Entitlement Process in a Nutshell,” The State Bar of California Annual Meeting – Real Property Law Section, 2006
- Author, “California Zoning Practice,” CEB Update, 2002, 2003 and 2004
- Author, “Practicing Ethics: A Handbook for Municipal Lawyers,” League of California Cities, 2004
- Author, “‘What Do You Mean I Can’t Build?’ A Comparative Analysis of When Property Rights Vest,” Recent Developments in Land Use, Planning and Zoning Law, American Bar Association, *Urban Lawyer*, Vol. 31, No. 4, Fall 1999