

Session A Title: Charting a Better Course: Navigating the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA)

Time: 2:45 – 3:30 pm

Location: San Carlos 2

Presenters: Rachel Mason, Chief Executive Officer, Fallbrook Regional Health District & Aleks Giragosian, Shareholder, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC

Session Description: Ready to stop navigating public works projects in rough seas? Learn how California's Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) can help healthcare districts streamline public works projects while staying on course with state law.

Join an experienced public agency attorney and a healthcare district CEO who has successfully navigated multiple public works projects under CUPCCAA as they chart a practical course through the law. Together, they'll demystify the adoption and implementation process, explain bidding thresholds and procurement options, and share real-world lessons about what worked—and the common compliance pitfalls that can delay projects or increase costs.

Whether your district is just testing the waters or already operating under CUPCCAA, attendees will leave with actionable tools, proven strategies and a practical roadmap for navigating future public works projects with confidence. Participants will also receive a CUPCCAA decision tree and FAQs to take back to their districts.



Rachel Mason, M.S., M.A. has served as Chief Executive Officer of Fallbrook Regional Health District since 2019. Her career spans the healthcare and nonprofit sectors, including hospice, grant writing, nonprofit consulting, executive leadership, business and fund development, and board governance. Rachel is an active community leader and currently serves on the San Diego LAFCO Special District Advisory Committee and as Secretary of the ACHD Board of Directors. She is also a longtime Rotarian and Past President of the Legacy Endowment Community Foundation.



Aleks Giragosian is a shareholder with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC and a member of the firm's municipal practice group. He serves as City Attorney to the City of Sierra Madre and General Counsel to several special districts, including Fallbrook Regional Health District and Grossmont Healthcare District. His public agency practice includes the Brown Act, Public Records Act, conflict of interest laws, land use, election law and local hospital district law. Aleks earned his J.D. and Master of Public Policy from UCLA and was recognized by the Armenian Bar Association as one of its "20 Under 40 Rising Stars" in 2022.