

For Liz Cousins, Best Practices Make Perfect: Advancing Transportation by Design-Build



Liz Cousins (Nossaman LLP partner and WTS-LA Legislative chair), Photo © John Livzey, 2016

It is an honor to be nominated. But Nossaman LLP partner and WTS-LA Legislative chair Elizabeth “Liz” Cousins won. The Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) chose Cousins as a recipient of its 2016 Design-Build in Transportation Leadership Award in the Young Professional category, along with Nossaman partner Evan Caplicki (in the Industry Professional category). The award honors “the agencies and individuals from across the country that have made critical strides to advance and expand design-build project delivery through Design-Build Done Right™ within the transportation sector, resulting in enhanced project delivery ranging from faster completion to higher-quality projects.” And that is exactly what Cousins does for Nossaman clients every day.

Overseeing the development of detailed procurement plans for her clients, Cousins consistently employs DBIA Best Practices while utilizing her broad experience in design-build and public-private partnerships (P3s) internationally and within the U.S. Her practice focuses on advising government clients on the full range of design-build and alternative delivery options. In addition to her significant roles with Nossaman and WTS-LA, she was also recently appointed to the DBIA Water/Wastewater Committee. True to form, Cousins credits DBIA for its industry guidance and advancement of design-build principles.

“I am honored to be recognized by DBIA, having recently moved from Australia to the U.S. to work in alternative project delivery. I rely on DBIA Best Practices when counseling government and private sector clients as to the best method of delivery for their projects. I look forward to continuing to be involved with DBIA over the course of my career.”

Established in 1993, the DBIA is “the only organization that defines, teaches and promotes best practices in design-build project delivery. Design-build is an integrated approach that delivers design and construction services under one contract with a single point of responsibility. Owners select design-build using best value while meeting schedule, cost and quality goals.”

Nossaman, as many of you know, is a national law firm with 160 professionals across the United States with offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, Sacramento, Seattle, Washington, D.C., and Austin, Texas. The firm specializes in several areas including the financing and development of public infrastructure, providing healthcare services, and litigating complex matters such as land use and environmental, financial services, employment, and eminent domain. They have also been a strong supporter of WTS-LA and its mission to advance women in transportation.

Congratulations to Liz and Nossaman.

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