There are many challenges and complexities to funding stormwater programs. Municipalities throughout California face limitations in creating dedicated funding streams to manage the regulatory framework for stormwater management, including the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit and the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) programs.

There are a variety of legislative efforts, legal cases, and ballot measures that have formed the foundation of these financial constraints. This seminar will explore some of the legal cases and ongoing efforts to address the municipal finance of stormwater projects.

SPEAKER: Michael G. Colantuono

Michael G. Colantuono is perhaps California’s leading expert on the law of local government revenues and has appeared in all six Courts of Appeal in California. In addition, he has argued five public finance cases in the California Supreme Court since 2004 and helped brief two others. He will argue three more in the coming year.

As perhaps the foremost expert on Proposition 218, Michael assisted the Legislative Analyst’s Office in the impartial analysis of the measure and co-chaired the committee which drafted what became the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act of 1997. He chaired the committee which drafted the League of California Cities’ Prop. 218 Implementation Guide. He also chaired the League Committee that drafted the Proposition 26 Implementation Guide. He is now handling some of the first appeals under that measure. He serves as special counsel to counties, cities and special districts around California.

Michael is a shareholder in Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, a municipal law firm with offices in Los Angeles and Grass Valley. Michael graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University with a degree in government and received his law degree from the University of California, Boalt Hall School of Law at Berkeley.

He frequently posts comments on local government and municipal finance topics to Twitter: @MColantuono and LinkedIn: Michael Colantuono.

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