

# Ashley S. Walker

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Ashley Walker is a Senior Policy Advisor providing federal and state legislative solutions and grant funding advocacy for a variety of clients with interests in sustainable communities, housing, water, and education issues. She is an expert on education policy issues and is based in the Firm's Sacramento office.

Ashley has many years of experience effectively representing client interests before the Federal government, and California Legislature, and has in-depth knowledge of the state and federal budget processes. Ashley excels at building strategic coalitions and leverages her deep rooted relationships in Sacramento to assist clients in forming meaningful collaborations.

Ashley excels at grant writing and advocacy, and has secured millions of federal and state dollars in public funding honing her creative writing skills, for a wide range of community projects across the State, including parks and trails, cultural and recreational facilities, sustainable communities strategy planning, environmental enhancements, and vital public safety equipment.

## EXPERIENCE

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**North Orange County Community College District.** Serves as the advocate for the District at the federal and state levels of government and provides support for the District's public policy priorities and grant needs. Maintains relationships on behalf of the District with the all relevant federal and state agencies, departments, and regulatory bodies, including the Governor's office, Legislature, legislative committees, and the California Community College Chancellor's Office. Provides services such as monitoring of legislation, regulations, and grant programs in a proactive manner.

**Mt. San Antonio College.** Serves as the advocate for the District at the federal and state levels of government and provides support for the District's public policy priorities and grant needs. Maintains relationships on behalf of the District with the all relevant federal and state agencies, departments, and regulatory bodies, including the Governor's office, Legislature, legislative committees, and the California Community College Chancellor's Office. Provides services such as monitoring of legislation, regulations, and grant programs in a proactive manner

**County of Monterey.** Serves as the State advocate for the County on all issues of priority related to the State budget, housing, water, social services, public safety, and natural resources. Has passed multiple state sponsored bills on behalf of the County, and secured \$27 million in state budget funding for County specific projects. Provides local, state, and federal grant consulting services, including researching grant programs, assisting in the development of competitive applications and narrative, developing relationships with key decision makers and securing community and political support for projects.

**City of West Sacramento.** In 2015, worked with the City of West Sacramento to secure a \$6.7 million grant through the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities grant program administered by the Strategic Growth Council and the Department of Housing and Community Development. The funding allowed the City to make necessary transportation infrastructure-related updates to support a new mixed use affordable housing project and a street car line servicing multiple cities in the region.

**City of Alameda.** In 2015, worked with the City of Alameda to secure a \$2 million grant through the Land and Water Conservation Fund program administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The funding allowed the City to complete Jean Sweeney Park which will be the first open space style park in the City. The park will serve the low-income housing developments nearby, and will connect to a larger project called the Cross Alameda Trail that will allow users to cross the entire city by foot or bike.

**Community College Noncredit Coalition Building.** Built a coalition of community college and adult education stakeholders across the State to take positions on issues pertaining to adult education funding and proposed policies. Through coordination of this coalition, successfully advocated for a change to the Governor's initial 2013-14 State budget proposal that addressed adult education in a way that was harmful to the funding for noncredit programs in community colleges. The change resulted in a final enacted budget that presented a favorable system for adult education and noncredit delivery that community colleges could fully support.

## INSIGHTS

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### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Moderator, "Turning the Tide on Cybersecurity for the Water Sector," Nossaman's 2021 Water Webinar Series, 11.16.2021

Speaker, "Flood or Drought? A Discussion of the Election's Potential Legislative Impacts on the Water Sector," Nossaman's 2020 Water Webinar Series, 12.03.2020

Speaker, "Community Services Programs," Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) 2020 Annual Statewide Conference, Sacramento, CA, 2020

Speaker, "Legislative Update," Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) 2019 Annual Statewide Conference, San Diego, CA, 02.2019

Speaker, "Telling Our Story: Helping Policymakers Understand Community Services," Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) 2019 Annual Statewide Conference, San Diego, CA, 02.2019

Speaker, "ACCE Legislative Platform Review," Fall 2018 Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) Northern & Southern Drive-In Workshops, CA, 10.19.2018, 11.08.2018

Speaker, "Legislative Guidance & Advocacy," Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) 2018 Statewide Conference, Oakland, CA, 02.08.2018

Speaker, "Legislative Update," Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) 2017 Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, 02.02.2017

Speaker, "STRONG 2016: Developing Hornets' Hearts & Minds," Sacramento, CA, 04.29.2016

Speaker, "State Legislative Update," Association of Community and Continuing Education (ACCE) 2016 Statewide Conference, Monterey, CA, 02.26.2016

### PUBLICATIONS

Co-Author, "Pork-Lite, The New Way to Earmark," *Nossaman eAlert*, 03.18.2021

Co-Author, "Planning for Regional Variations to California's Stay-At-Home Orders," *Nossaman eAlert*, 05.06.2020

Co-Auhtor, "CA Governor Newsom's COVID-19 Transition Plan: 'New Normal' To Be Determined by Your Local Government," *Nossaman eAlert*, 04.16.2020

## **COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL**

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Member, Capitol Network

Member, Institute of Governmental Advocates

## **PRACTICES**

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Government Relations & Regulation

California Advocacy

Federal Advocacy

## **INDUSTRIES**

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Government & Public Sector

## **EDUCATION**

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California State University, Sacramento, B.A., 2009