



EMILY FAN MICHAELSON

Associate Principal

Emily is a seasoned public participation practitioner and project director with more than 14 years of experience in designing and implementing effective outreach and engagement programs. She combines thoughtful strategy and innovation to create public participation processes that are inclusive and accessible, and allow for the public to contribute meaningful input to the decisions that stand to impact them.

Her approach to public involvement strategy development is founded in the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) framework. For this reason, Emily emphasizes a robust assessment process at the beginning of a project to ensure that the most suitable tools and techniques will be used. The choices she makes are based on analysis of the issues at stake, the responsibilities and constraints of the decision-maker, the type of feedback that is required, and a clear delineation of how much and what type of influence stakeholders are intended to have on the outcomes.

Emily leads PlaceWorks' outreach and engagement efforts throughout the state and supports staff across the organization in their engagement processes, offering training and strategic guidance.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EXPERIENCE

- Marina del Rey for All Community Plan, LA County Recreation & Parks | Marina del Rey CA
- Downtown Shoreline Visioning and Specific Plan Update | Long Beach CA

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

While employed at Katz & Associates as Director of Public Participation and Environmental Planning, Emily led public involvement and stakeholder engagement programs for complex projects involving water and energy resource management, land use, infrastructure, transportation, and environmental justice.

- De Anza Revitalization Plan | San Diego CA
- Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Update | San Diego CA
- Upper San Luis Rey Groundwater Sustainability Plan | Pauma Valley CA
- 5255 Mt. Etna Drive Affordable Housing Development | San Diego CA
- San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Plan | San Diego CA
- State Route 94 Express Lanes EIR/EIS, Caltrans/SANDAG | San Diego CA
- Oakland International Airport Terminal Modernization and Development Project EIR/EIS | Oakland CA
- Metropolitan Airpark Project EA | San Diego CA
- Sites Reservoir Project EIR/EIS | Maxwell CA

EDUCATION

- BA, Sociology, Education & Applied Psychology Minor, summa cum laude, University of California, Santa Barbara

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certificates from the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2):
 - » Planning for Effective Public Participation
 - » Social Media and Online Public Participation
 - » Designing Effective Hybrid Engagement Events

AFFILIATIONS

- International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)
- Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP)
- Association of Women in Water, Energy, and Environment

Team member since 2024





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- La Jolla View Reservoir EIR | San Diego CA
- Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park Project, LA County Public Works | Sun Valley CA
- LAX Cargo Modernization Project EIR/EIS | Los Angeles CA
- Los Angeles Port Master Plan Update EIR | Los Angeles CA
- Pure Water San Diego Program | San Diego CA
- Stormwater Quality Master Plan | Culver City CA
- Long Beach Port Master Plan Update and EIR | Long Beach CA
- Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo EIR | Statewide CA
- Strategic Plan for the Future of Integrated Regional Water Management | Statewide CA
- Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update | San Diego CA
- Stormwater Capture and Use Feasibility Study | San Diego County CA
- Sterling Natural Resources Center EIR | San Bernardino County CA
- US Navy Old Town Campus Revitalization Project | San Diego CA
- US Navy Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing EIS/OEIS | Hawaii and Southern California
- US Navy Defense Fuel Support Point San Pedro EA | San Pedro CA
- Pipeline Safety and Reliability Project EIR, California Public Utilities Commission | San Diego County CA
- Utility-Scale Energy Battery Storage Projects for Arevon and Tenaska | Statewide CA
- Navajo Generating Station-Kayenta Mine Complex Project EIS, Bureau of Reclamation | Page and Kayenta AZ
- Four Corners Power Plant and Navajo Mine Energy Project EIS, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement | San Juan County NM
- Santa Susana Field Laboratory EIR, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) | Ventura County CA
- Topock Compressor Station Environmental Review (multiple EIRs under DTSC contract) | Needles CA

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Environmental Assessment Practices Course Guest Speaker on CEQA Public Involvement | 2023 and 2019, University of San Diego
- “The Power of Community,” keynote speech | 2022 AEP San Diego Chapter Awards & Scholarship Banquet
- “EIS Public Engagement” | 2018 Navy Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps Training
- “Are We to Blame? Analyzing Criticisms of Our Outreach Process” | 2018 IAP2 North American Conference, Victoria, BC

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- One of only 20 National ambassadors, International Association for Public Participation (IAP2 USA)
- Committee member, Association of Women in Water, Energy, and Environment