



Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness

Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction

Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

CEO/CFO | Civil Engineer | 35+ Years Experience

Rates available upon request

Email: jasonbennecke@gmail.com

909-556-8852 Cherry Valley, CA (available statewide)

Professional Summary

Licensed Professional Engineer with 35+ years of experience in civil engineering, transportation design, construction management, and infrastructure planning. Expertise includes roadway design, traffic safety, drainage and hydrology, grading and earthwork, pavement systems, utility design, land development, bridge and structural concrete design, and Caltrans standards, manuals, and procedures. Served in executive leadership roles for a 40-person engineering firm (Executive VP/Board Member 2008–2023; CEO/CFO 2024–2026). Additional background includes leadership of multiple companies, real estate development, residential construction, and financial oversight of multimillion-dollar capital programs, combining engineering judgment, financial analysis, and public-agency requirements. Transitioning to full-time expert witness consulting in 2026.

Public Works Experience

Extensive experience working with CALTRANS, FHWA, SBCTA, RCTC, Riverside County Transportation Department, San Bernardino County Flood Control and Public Works, and numerous local cities and agencies throughout Southern California. Responsibilities have included PS&E development, environmental compliance, project delivery, construction oversight, cooperative agreements, funding management, constructability review, project controls, and comprehensive public-agency coordination.

Licenses, Certifications, Credentials

- California Civil PE #58808
 - MBA, Corporate Management, CSUSB
 - BS Civil Engineering, Cal-Poly Pomona
 - PMP #1443915
 - CA General Building Contractor #921267
 - CA Real Estate Broker #01332170
-

Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness – Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction
Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

Core Areas of Expertise

- Transportation engineering & roadway design
- Caltrans standards, encroachment permits, Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) preparation, including the Highway Design Manual (HDM), Traffic Manual, and Project Development Procedures Manual (PDPM)
- Traffic safety, visibility, sight distance, Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) compliance
- Pavement failures, resurfacing disputes, and QA/QC issues
- Drainage, hydrology, flooding, stormwater design
- Grading, earthwork, compaction, and slope stability
- Reinforced concrete and steel structures
- Bridge design and construction oversight
- Land development, utilities, surveying, deeds, and easements
- Construction defects (residential, commercial, public works)
- Trip-and-fall incidents in sidewalks, lots, and walkways
- Contractor/agency disputes
- Accident analysis involving roadway engineering factors
- Engineering standard of care – design, construction, and public works delivery

Areas of Testimony Include:

- Transportation engineering
 - Roadway design and safety
 - Construction defects
 - Drainage and hydrology
 - Land development
 - Grading, earthwork, slope stability
 - ADA and pedestrian facilities
 - Public-agency standard of care
 - Residential construction practices
 - Real estate development engineering
-

Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness – Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction
Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

Expert Witness Scope

- Roadway geometry, striping, visibility, and traffic control deficiencies
 - Intersection design, signals, and traffic control devices
 - Pavement failure, resurfacing conflicts, and negligence claims
 - Drainage failures, flooding disputes, and stormwater system evaluations
 - Trip-and-fall cases in pedestrian areas, walkways, and parking facilities
 - Construction defect litigation involving site civil and structural issues
 - Grading, compaction, and slope stability failures
 - Utility conflict analysis and contractor claims
 - Bridge construction and design disputes
 - Engineering standard of care evaluations for public works design & construction
-

Communication & Testimony Strengths

- Amazon #1 Bestselling Author – expert storyteller able to translate complex engineering concepts for juries.
 - Groundlings improv training – strong verbal adaptability and communication under pressure.
 - Delivered 200+ public presentations and competitive interview panels over 18 years, helping secure over \$100M in contracts on over \$1B in project value.
 - Highly articulate, confident communicator with exceptional presence during depositions and testimony.
-

Professional Experience

CEO & CFO – Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc. (2024–2026)

Executive Vice President & Board Member – Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc. (2008–2024)

Led multimillion-dollar design and construction programs including roadway widening, pavement rehab, interchange improvements, bridge retrofits, drainage design, and utility relocation. Extensive experience with Caltrans coordination, encroachment permitting, PS&E preparation, and CM/inspection oversight.

Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness – Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction
Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

Caltrans District 8 – Senior Project Manager (Consultant, 2008-2014)

Delivered more than 15 major transportation improvement projects totaling over \$500 million, consistently completed on time and within budget. Oversaw PS&E development, environmental coordination, and public-agency approvals. Coordinated with Caltrans, state agencies, cities and counties, utility companies, consultants, and contractors. Managed scope, schedule, and budget for multiple federally funded projects.

Caltrans District 8 – Transportation Engineer (1992-1995, 1998-2003)

Designed roadway and bridge improvements under Caltrans standards. Experience included horizontal/vertical geometry, structural design support, traffic control, and construction field reviews.

San Bernardino County Transportation Department – Associate Engineer (Full time 1996-1998, Part time 1998-2010)

Prepared roadway and drainage reports/designs, reviewed plans/specifications, and conducted engineering analyses for public infrastructure.

Representative Projects

National Trails Highway – 10-Bridge Replacement Program (Amboy, CA)

Principal Engineer / Project Manager for structural and roadway improvements across ten aging desert highway bridges. Responsibilities included oversight of structural evaluation, load-path assessment, concrete repair design, drainage mitigation, and construction phasing coordination with San Bernardino County.

SR-60 / Archibald Avenue Interchange – Ontario/Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Project Manager for interchange upgrades involving new ramps, geometrics, retaining

Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness – Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction
Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

structures, and traffic control staging. Work included PS&E review, utility coordination, and utilization of Caltrans District 8 design/construction procedures.

Glen Helen Parkway Bridge – Devore, CA

Structural and roadway project/construction management support for new 710 ft long bridge over Cajon Wash. Tasks included oversight of hydrology review, drainage improvements, traffic handling, and structures construction.

I-210 / Ayala Drive Interchange – Rialto/Fontana, CA

Caltrans Project Engineer responsible for interchange geometry, ramp design, traffic signal modifications, flood control channel (20' x 12', 6k cfs), sound walls, and local street realignments. Included coordination with Caltrans, local agencies, and utility companies.

SR-60 / Valley View Avenue Overcrossing – Moreno Valley, CA

Caltrans Project Manager overseeing interchange upgrades to ramp alignments and ADA-compliant pedestrian improvements. Ensured proper funding, scope/cost/schedule management and conformance with Caltrans design standards.

Iowa Avenue Interchange – Riverside, CA

QA/QC for construction management team responsible for roadway and bridge construction of new grade separation, utility coordination, drainage improvements, and construction staging.

Columbia Avenue / I-215 Interchange – Riverside, CA

QA/QC for construction management team responsible for roadway and bridge construction of new grade separation, reviewed traffic handling plans, drainage improvements, and construction staging.

Magnolia Avenue Grade Separation – Riverside, CA

QA/QC for construction management team responsible for roadway and bridge construction of new grade separation, including structural review, drainage improvements, and construction staging.

Streeter Avenue Overcrossing – Riverside, CA

QA/QC for construction management team responsible for roadway and bridge construction of new grade separation, coordinated with City staff, drainage improvements, and construction staging.

SR-60 / Nason Street Interchange – Moreno Valley, CA

Caltrans project manager responsible for overseeing PA/ED, PS&E and construction of upgraded interchange in the City of Moreno Valley. Included ramp geometry, pavement widening, and traffic handling plans.

I-215 / Holland Road Overcrossing – Menifee, CA

Project Director for City of Menifee leading the Construction Management team

Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness – Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction
Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

responsible for building a new overcrossing over I-215. Work included bridge approach design, traffic control, drainage analysis, and utility conflict identification.

I-215 / Los Alamos Road Interchange – Murrieta, CA

Provided project management for demolition of existing structure and construction of new overcrossing and roadway widening.

I-15 / Clinton Keith Road Interchange – Murrieta, CA

Caltrans project manager responsible for overall scope/cost/schedule and construction management over the City of Murrieta. Project upgraded ramp modifications, bridge widening and arterial improvements. Included traffic forecasting coordination and Caltrans documentation.

I-10 / Jackson Street Interchange – Indio, CA

Project manager for Riverside County Transportation Department overseeing scope/cost/schedule during PA/ED phase for the interchange reconstruction project. Project included engineered roadway improvements, ramp realignments, and traffic staging for a high-volume desert interchange.

I-10 / Jefferson Street Interchange – Indio, CA

QA/QC for interchange modernization, including bridge widening, ramp realignments, drainage improvements, and ADA ramp design.

US-101 / LOVR Interchange Reconstruction – San Luis Obispo, CA

Project Manager for major interchange reconstruction including bridge replacement/widening, utility relocations, ramp realignments/widening, drainage improvements, and construction staging adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas.

A comprehensive portfolio with project map available upon request.

Leadership, Business & Real Estate Experience

Additional background includes leadership of multiple companies, real estate development, residential construction, and financial management of multimillion-dollar organizations.

President & CEO – Gold Key Real Estate, Inc. (2002–2006)

Led a real estate brokerage and residential lending firm with up to 55 agents and loan officers in Highland, CA. Responsible for corporate management, regulatory compliance, financial oversight, risk management, and operational leadership. Successfully completed a stock sale of the company in December 2006.

Founder & CEO – Red Apple Reading, Inc. (2011–Present)

Founded and grew an educational technology company providing a catalog of over 1,000 literacy-focused educational games and instructional videos for early learners. The

Jason Bennecke, PE, MBA, PMP

Civil Engineering Expert Witness – Transportation, Infrastructure & Construction
Licensed Professional Engineer (CA) #58808

platform has served more than 70,000 children across all 50 states and 40+ countries. Responsible for corporate strategy, financial management, software product development, budgeting, KPI tracking, and long-term capital growth (current valuation approximately \$4M).

Real Estate Development & Investment Experience (2007–Present)

Own and manage a portfolio of ten residential rental properties located in California and multiple out-of-state markets. Responsible for all acquisition due diligence, including financial analysis, property inspections, valuation, and risk assessment. Experienced in residential design, construction, and project financing.

Partner & Project Developer – Cherry Ridge Estates, LLC (2007–2010)

Co-developed a 139-acre land project in Cherry Valley, CA including grading plans, drainage studies, CEQA clearance, and entitlements for four parcels. Coordinated engineering design, surveying, and regulatory approvals with local agencies.

Residential Construction & Design (2006–2024)

Designed, financed, and managed construction of four custom residences (two in Cherry Valley, one in Big Bear, and one in Santa Paula, CA). Performed site analysis, surveying, structural design, architectural layout, and served as General Contractor. Stamped structural plans for all four residences and managed all construction activities, inspections, and budget controls.

Executive Financial Management (2008–Present)

As Executive VP, CEO, and CFO of Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc. (now DCCM), responsible for corporate financial operations including annual budgeting, forecasting, pro-forma modeling, KPI development and tracking, EBITDA evaluation, payroll oversight, contract negotiation, risk management, and long-term capital planning. Experience includes financial leadership for a 40+ person engineering and construction management firm delivering multimillion-dollar public works projects.

Additional projects and detailed portfolio available upon request.

Education

MBA, Corporate Management | *CSU San Bernardino*

B.S., Civil Engineering | *Cal Poly Pomona*
