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Nancy Smith, a partner with the law firm Nossaman LLP in Los Angeles, California, is nationally recognized as one of the leading attorneys in the field of innovative contracting and finance for infrastructure project development. She has helped pioneer the use of design-build, design-build-operate-maintain and public-private partnership methodologies on projects ranging from airports to joint highway and transit corridors, working on contracts for rail and transit projects in California, Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington. Her current projects include the California High-Speed Rail design-build program, the Maryland Transit Administration's public-private partnership program, Houston METRO's light rail transit program and the BART extension to San Jose being undertaken by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.

She is the chair of the Design-Build Institute of America's legislative committee and is active with the Transportation Research Board, serving on the Public Contract Law Committee and Committee on Project Delivery Methods. She holds a BA from the University of Florida and a JD from Yale Law School.