

Municipalities

Overview

Bond's municipal law practice group is dedicated to serving public sector clients including municipalities, development agencies, public authorities, special improvement districts (e.g. fire, EMS, water, sewer, etc.) and other public entities. We understand the unique responsibilities and regulatory environment of local government, and we deliver cost-effective, practical legal solutions tailored to the challenges of the public sector.

Why Bond Attorneys Stand Out

- **Experience:** With decades of experience representing villages, towns, cities and counties, we provide institutional knowledge, proven strategies and trusted counsel.
- **Broad interdisciplinary capability:** Our expertise includes areas such as public finance, land-use and zoning, environmental permitting and compliance, labor and employment, freedom of information law, real property tax, eminent domain, code enforcement, regulatory hearings and litigation.
- **Responsive and service oriented:** We approach each client relationship with the recognition that your municipality has limited resources and high public accountability. We aim to be strategic advisors, not just attorneys.

Our Scope

We provide comprehensive counsel on virtually the full spectrum of municipal legal matters, including but not limited to:

- **Governance and regulatory compliance:** Drafting local laws, ordinances and resolutions; advising boards; commissions and elected officials; open meeting law; FOIL/record retention; procurement/bidding and ethics issues.
- **Land use, zoning and planning:** Advising on comprehensive plans, planned development districts, special use permits, variances, zoning amendments, subdivision and site-plan approvals and representing municipal boards in administrative hearings and litigation.
- **Public works and infrastructure:** Supporting municipalities in design, procurement, financing and construction of roads, water/wastewater facilities, parks, building projects, infrastructure and advising on bidding statutes and contract disputes.
- **Public finance and bond/lease transactions:** Acting as bond counsel, issuer counsel or financing counsel on tax-exempt and taxable transactions, special assessment districts, PILOTs, municipal leases and municipal restructuring.
- **Environmental and energy matters:** Assisting municipalities to secure permits, address environmental compliance, redevelop Brownfield sites, assess energy performance contracts, SEQRA, utilities, renewable energy and navigate state and federal regulatory frameworks.
- **Labor and employment law:** Representing municipalities in collective bargaining, union negotiations, labor disputes, employment policies, handbooks and employment litigation.

Primary Office Contacts

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- Litigation and administrative proceedings: Defending or prosecuting matters such as Article 78 proceedings, zoning and land-use appeals, eminent domain/condemnation, inter-municipal disputes and other municipal disputes.
- Inter-municipal agreements, consolidation/dissolution and shared services. Advising on joint service models, annexation and inter-governmental cooperation to leverage efficiencies and reduce costs.
- Internal investigations: Conduct internal investigations into concerns involving workplace discrimination, harassment or ethical violations.

Our Approach

We start by familiarizing ourselves with your municipality's structure, strategic goals and budget constraints. We provide clear, actionable advice, whether that means helping refine a local law, structuring financing, defending a land-use challenge or aligning your internal policies with state law. We emphasize collaboration, ensuring our municipal clients have access to a team with complimentary practice-area expertise. Our proactive approach means we monitor evolving state and federal developments, alert you to emerging risks or opportunities and position you for success.

Why You Should Work With Bond

- We have a dedicated practice whose principal focus is municipal law - so we appreciate public-sector time frames, reporting obligations and resource limitations.
- Bond possesses a track record of serving multiple municipalities across varying sizes and regions, giving us depth of experience.
- We partner with you, not just to solve today's issues, but to anticipate tomorrow's.
- Bond combines large-firm breadth with expert knowledge. You'll deal directly with experienced attorneys who understand your needs and priorities.