

Exponent®
Engineering & Scientific Consulting

Sebastian Hernandez, M.S.

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Professional Profile

Mr. Hernandez has experience supporting electric transmission and distribution programs as a project manager, program coordinator, and data analyst. His project and program management work spans the full project lifecycle, from early planning, project authorization, through scoping, material procurement, and permitting, to construction execution, and closeout. He plans, manages, and monitors project costs and schedules rigorously and resolves risks and issues in coordination with project stakeholders. His data analysis experience is focused on implementing data analysis tools on utilities and commercial construction projects. His work improves climate resiliency and enhances lean construction and documentation practices for electric utilities.

Mr. Hernandez has expertise in project scheduling, cost forecasting and controls, risk identification and mitigation, and performance monitoring and reporting. He develops and manages integrated, resource-loaded schedules and prepares detailed cost estimates and project charters to support funding approvals. He produces well-supported qualitative and quantitative reporting to assist senior leaders in decision-making and project status communications with cross-functional team partners.

Mr. Hernandez supports complex electric infrastructure replacement projects, including transmission tower replacements in environmentally sensitive areas and large-scale electric distribution undergrounding programs. He collaborates closely with engineers, contractors, environmental and land planners, and utility stakeholders to coordinate work sequencing, mitigate risks, and improve execution readiness.

In addition to project delivery roles, Mr. Hernandez has led process improvement initiatives aimed at increasing efficiency and reducing cycle times. He played a key role in a large-scale order-closure effort to close construction jobs in preparation for an enterprise SAP transition. This work included documenting end-to-end workflows, developing job aids, and reducing fragmentation across previously siloed processes. He also improves program-level transparency by developing standardized reporting and process tracking mechanisms that provide visibility for leadership and key stakeholders.

Prior to joining Exponent Mr. Hernandez worked at a general contractor. He earned an M.S. in Engineering and Project Management from University of California at Berkeley. During his time there, he completed projects involving lean construction methods, development of scheduling tools, environmental life cycle assessments, and construction law. He earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Cornell University where he focused on structural and computational engineering.

Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

M.S., Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, 2023

B.S., Civil Engineering, Cornell University, 2022

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Prior Experience

Project Management Intern; John Moriarty & Associates, LLC; Miami, FL

Professional Affiliations

Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering – AACE (Member – San Francisco Section)

Project Management College of Scheduling – PMCOS (Member)

Project Experience

Utility

Electric Transmission Capital Projects – Supported the planning, development, and delivery of $180M+ in electric transmission capital projects, including multi-year tower replacement programs in environmentally sensitive areas. Performed program management and project controls responsibilities spanning cost estimating, financial tracking in SAP, forecasting, performance reporting, and developed and maintained integrated, resource-loaded schedules in Primavera P6. Supported governance approvals and formal project authorizations through preparation of job cost estimates and project charter documentation, and improved schedule accuracy and execution readiness by identifying previously unaccounted-for constraints, risks, and interdependencies to enable informed decision-making and on-time delivery.

Electric Distribution Operations – Supported the oversight and controls of an $800M+ distribution undergrounding program by coordinating with internal and external stakeholders to proactively resolve action items and issues, improving dependency visibility and ensuring projects are ready for on-schedule mobilization. Developed and delivered recurring weekly program reports that improve transparency, consistency, and performance visibility across the undergrounding portfolio for key stakeholders and multiple levels of leadership.

Undergrounding Program Process Improvement – Led a standardized order closure initiative for a major utility in preparation of an enterprise SAP transition, successfully closing 1,000+ construction jobs to mitigate data duplications and support system readiness. Documented the end-to-end order closure process and developed clear, standardized job aids to replace previous workflows, improving consistency and reducing post-construction cycle times.

Mixed-use Multifamily Development

Project Data Implementation - Supported operational analytics for appliance delivery programs and punch-list process by enabling data analysis across delivery performance and scope tracking activities. Developed structured tracking and reporting to improve visibility into work completion, identify variances, and support data-driven decision-making for project and operations leadership.