

CHARLES ROBERT GARDNER, JR.

PRESIDENT AND CEO



Mr. Gardner has over 30 years of experience in program management, organizational leadership, and strategic planning.

Since 1998, he has worked with public and private entities on innovative, large-scale projects significant to the state of California. Mr. Gardner applies his background in economics, construction, and program management to complex, politically sensitive initiatives. A project-turnaround specialist, Mr. Gardner is often called upon to direct capital projects struggling with funding, scheduling, or leadership.

Mr. Gardner's most recent project is the California WaterFix (formerly the Bay Delta Conservation Plan), a \$14.9B program to provide a more reliable water supply to over 25 million California residents.

In 2002, Mr. Gardner recovered the halted program for development of the University of California campus in Merced, California. Mr. Gardner established and implemented a successful strategy that mitigated environmental permitting, design, and construction delays; his efforts led to a successful campus opening in 2005.

In 2004, Mr. Gardner presented to the State of California's Little Hoover Commission a plan to solve a statewide housing crisis among individuals with developmental disabilities. He assembled a large, diverse team of California Regional Centers, state agencies, thought leaders, lenders, non-profit organizations, and community stakeholders to create a plan to reinvent state housing services. The successful implementation of this groundbreaking project in 2008 led to approval of a senate bill to adopt the model statewide.

His projects also include leading an international group of top scientists in developing a program to prevent and cure autism while concurrently passing legislation providing for a research facility to be constructed in California. The entire project including concept, financing, enabling legislation and construction was completed in three years. Comparable programs typically require eighteen years to complete. This successful collaboration resulted in the creation of the MIND Institute on the University of California at Davis Medical Center campus.

EDUCATION

- Harvard Business School, Behavioral Economics
- Harvard Business School, Leading Professional Service Firms
- Bachelor of Science, Economics, North Carolina State University
- Strategic Leadership and Management, Certificate of Completion
- Construction and Design Build in California, Certificate of Completion
- Construction Manager at Risk Contracting Strategies, Certificate of Completion

ASSOCIATIONS

- Member Construction Management Association of America
- Member of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration