

Metro Deputy CEO Stephanie Wiggins to become next CEO of Metrolink

BY [STEVE HYMON](#) , [DECEMBER 14, 2018](#)

The Metrolink Board of Directors this morning hired Metro Deputy CEO Stephanie Wiggins as Metrolink's next CEO. Metrolink runs regional commuter rail across five counties — Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura with service also to Oceanside in San Diego County.

Here is the statement on Stephanie's hiring from Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington:

Over the last decade, Stephanie Wiggins has distinguished herself



Stephanie Wiggins.

*as a talented,
resourceful and
hardworking leader
at Metro, most
recently in her role
as Deputy Chief
Executive Officer
since 2015. She has
been a tremendous
asset to Metro and
will be a fantastic
CEO. I often say
that I want Metro to
be the farm team
when it comes to
producing the next
generation of leaders
in the transportation
industry. On behalf
of the Metro family,
we wish Stephanie
the best of
everything going
forward and we look
forward to
continuing to work
with her and the
Metrolink team to
deliver great*

*mobility options for
our region.*

Here is the news release from Metrolink:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 14, 2018

Metrolink Board Names Stephanie Wiggins as Chief Executive Officer

LOS ANGELES – The Board of Directors of Metrolink today named Stephanie Wiggins Metrolink’s Chief Executive Officer. Wiggins is currently the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro).

“Stephanie has held high-level positions at three of the five member agencies that comprise Metrolink. She is well known as a leader who finds solutions from a regional perspective. Stephanie is the right person to lead Metrolink now and going forward,” said Metrolink Board Chair Andrew Kotyuk. “Stephanie’s extensive experience in transportation and infrastructure development will be essential as Metrolink brings its service to more people in the coming years.”

Wiggins was responsible for overseeing the Metro departments of Vendor/Contract Management, Congestion Reduction, Human Capital & Development, Management and Audit Services, and Systems Security & Law Enforcement.

“I am pleased to accept the unique challenge of leading Metrolink at this important time,” Wiggins said. “Metrolink is a nationally-recognized leader in safety with the installation of Positive Train Control and I will continue the commitment to safety. As a mobility provider that reduces congestion and air pollution in the Southern California region, I look forward to having a laser focus on enhancing the customer experience for current and future riders.”

wiggins will lead a 261 employee-strong regional commuter railroad that covers 2.8 million train miles per year and 400 million passenger miles per year.

The Agency is embarked on the Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) Program, a \$10 billion plan to improve rail safety and service in time for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Metrolink received a total of \$875 million in grants from the state and is moving to secure additional funding for this program.

As part of Wiggins' more than 24 years of experience, she oversaw Metro ExpressLanes, commuter rail, rideshare, rail capital programs, served as Regional Programs Director for the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), and was Administrative Analyst for the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA). Metro, RCTC and SBCTA are three of the five county transportation agencies that govern Metrolink.

Wiggins is a member of the Board of the American Public Transportation Association and is the founding president of the Inland Empire Chapter of WTS. She is the recipient of many awards including the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) 2018 Women Who Move the Nation Award.

Interim co-Chief Executive Officers Don Del Rio and Ronnie Campbell will remain as General Counsel and Chief Financial Officer respectively.

Wiggins replaces Art Leahy who announced his retirement on Oct. 12 after 48 years in transportation.

Wiggins earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Whittier College and a Master of Business Administration from USC.

For more information about Metrolink, please visit www.metrolinktrains.com.

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ABOUT METROLINK (www.metrolinktrains.com)
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MetroLink is Southern California's regional commuter rail service in its 26th year of operation. MetroLink is governed by The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), a joint powers authority made up of an 11-member board representing the transportation commissions of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties. MetroLink operates seven routes through a six-county, 538 route-mile network. MetroLink's passengers travel approximately 441 million miles each year, making MetroLink the second busiest public transportation provider in Southern California. MetroLink is the third largest commuter rail agency in the United States based on directional route miles and the eighth largest based on annual ridership.

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Metrolink is bad. Its on time performance stinks. No [Reply](#)
enough infrastructure to ride trains, and schedules are
engineered to restrict travel and transfers.

I had a Metrolink Monthly pass this summer, and that is
the ONLY way to truly get decent service from the system.
Only because thru LOSSAN you can ride the surfliner
(except N. thru ventura County on weekends).

Metrolink is a part of isolating people from Los Angeles
into the outter regions, San Berdoo and AV being
exceptions (surprise surprise). But meanwhile, commuters
spill into LA to work all of the time.

Its hard not to feel like the outter regions like L.A.s
economic activity, but not its citizens. Orange County is the
guiltiest.

What will change with a new CEO? Anything?

I agree!!!

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