



William E. Harrell

President and CEO

Hampton Roads Transit

William E. Harrell has led Hampton Roads Transit since 2012. Harrell came to HRT from the City of Chesapeake, where he was city manager. With over 35 years in public service, he has served in various leadership roles including chief administrative officer in Richmond, Virginia, and assistant city manager in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Suffolk, Virginia. He is the Treasurer of the Virginia Transit Association, an active member of the American Public Transportation Association, and a regional board member of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce.



Maria Ptakowski

Transit Manager

City of Suffolk

Maria Ptakowski has a Bachelor of Social Work from James Madison University; she has worked with Suffolk Transit for over 12 years. Suffolk Transit began in January 2012 with Maria as the Transit Manager for the transit contractor Virginia Regional Transit. She was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the system and helped to grow Suffolk Transit into the service it provides today. In December of 2017, Maria became the Transit Manager for the City of Suffolk; in this role, she oversees the transit contractor and handles all things transit related for the City. She has helped Suffolk Transit grow from the two weekday routes it operated in 2012 to the six weekday routes it

operates today and the five routes it operates on Saturday and the system will continue to grow in the coming years.



Matthew Scalia

Executive Director

Williamsburg Area Transit Authority

Matthew Scalia serves as the Executive Director of the Williamsburg Area Transit Authority. WATA provides fixed route and paratransit services to a population of over 72,000 residents in an area covering approximately 75 square miles.

Mr. Scalia retired from the U.S. Army as a Colonel in March 2023 following a 27-year career as an Infantry Officer. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Military Academy, West Point, NY, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA. In his military career, he served as the garrison commander (city manager) of Fort Moore, GA, (formerly Fort Benning), and culminated his military career as the Deputy Director of the U.S. Army Installation Command – Training, Fort Eustis, VA.

Mr. Scalia lives with his wife and four children in James City County.