

RTA Executive Staff

Stephen E. Schlickman

Executive Director
Regional Transportation Authority



Stephen E. Schlickman became the Executive Director of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) of Northeastern Illinois on October 1, 2005, charged with oversight, financial assistance and planning coordination for the region's transit operating agencies: the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra and Pace.

Mr. Schlickman has more than 28 years of transportation experience and has been involved in every federal and Illinois highway and transit program reauthorization since 1982. Prior to being named RTA Executive Director, Mr. Schlickman operated his own consulting practice providing financial, project policy, and legislative advice to clients involved in all modes of surface transportation, as well as for water and urban park infrastructure activities.

In 2005, Mr. Schlickman advised Macquarie Bank in their successful \$1.8 billion bid with Cintra for the concession for Chicago Skyway bridge toll facility. In 1998 and 1999, he led the Chicago area's Business Leaders for Transportation coalition in their support for the Illinois FIRST legislation, which provided \$5.7 billion in new funding for Illinois highway and transit infrastructure needs.

In the 1980s, Mr. Schlickman worked in various positions for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) including government relations manager and administrator of a CTA oversight commission during the 1982 and 1983 financial crisis. He also worked for the RTA in the late 1980s. From 1989 to 1991, he directed the City of Chicago's Washington Office. From 1992 to 1995, Mr. Schlickman managed a 165 person project team to design a new transit system for downtown Chicago. His first transportation job was as a bus driver for Georgetown University's transit system in 1975.

Mr. Schlickman has been a member of the Illinois Public Transportation Association (IPTA), serving as its president in 1989. He has also been active with the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), serving on its legislative committee for many years. In addition, he was founding chairman of the New Starts Working Group, a national coalition of major transit expansion projects. Mr. Schlickman serves on the board for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) representing the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) Policy Committee, of which he is also a member.

Mr. Schlickman is an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Illinois Chicago's Urban Transportation Center teaching a course in transportation project funding and finance. Mr. Schlickman has a law degree from DePaul University and an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University. In 1992, he was named to the prestigious "40 Under 40" list by Crain's Chicago Business. He lives with his wife, Alison, in Wilmette, Illinois, and has two grown children.

The RTA is a regional bipartisan government agency, charged with financial and planning oversight of the Chicago region's three transit operating agencies. It has a 13-member Board of Directors appointed from the City of Chicago and the six counties of northeastern Illinois.



**Regional
Transportation
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