

Open Mic on Mobility: Zoomers and Millennials
Thursday, September 17, 2020 (9:30 AM to 10:30 AM)

MODERATOR



Stephanie N. Wiggins
CEO, Metrolink and Board Member, Mobility 21

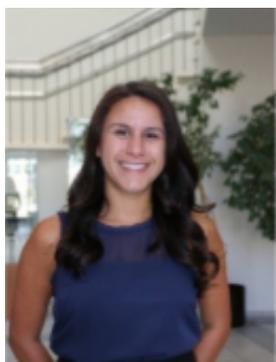
Stephanie Wiggins was named chief executive officer of Metrolink by a unanimous vote of the board of directors in December 2018. Stephanie assumed leadership in January 2019 and leads the 258-employee strong commuter railroad with a budget of \$793 million.

As CEO, Stephanie directs an agency that operates a commuter rail network on seven routes across a six-county, 538 route-mile system. Stephanie has held high-level positions at three of the five-member agencies that comprise Metrolink and is well-known as a customer-focused leader who finds solutions from a regional perspective.

Stephanie earned a Master of Business Administration from the USC Marshall School of Business in 2007. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration from Whittier College in 1992.

Stephanie is the founding president of the Inland Empire Chapter of Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS). She is the recipient of many awards including the WTS Orange County Chapter's 2019 Woman of the Year Award and the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials 2018 Women Who Move the Nation Award. She is a Board Member of the Los Angeles Chapter of Friends of the Children, the LA Division of the American Heart Association, the Greater Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the American Public Transportation Foundation, the Los Angeles Speech & Language Therapy Center, and an Advisory Board Member for the UCLA Lewis Center.

PANELISTS



Kendal Asuncion
Manager, Public Policy, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Kendal Asuncion is an experienced public policy professional and advocate focused on transportation and sustainability in its many forms. She takes pride in balancing the businesses and sustainability perspectives on policies that drive the city of Los Angeles and California as a whole forward. As Public Policy Manager at the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, her goals include enhancing the quality of life in the region by increasing mobility, access to jobs, and building on the region's vibrant and diverse assets. In addition to overseeing the

Chamber's policy portfolios on transportation, energy, water and environmental sustainability, she has been recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineer's Metropolitan Los Angeles Branch as a leading infrastructure advocate for the region. She holds a Master of Science in community and regional planning from The University of Texas at Austin's School of Architecture. In her spare time, Kendal enjoys adventures with her dog Salmon.

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Caitlin Brooks

*Program Manager Transportation Planning, Ventura County
Transportation Authority*

Caitlin Brooks is the Program Manager of Transportation Planning for the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC). In this capacity, she oversees several long-range transportation planning studies that will inform future transportation investments in Ventura County for years to come. Prior to joining VCTC, she gained knowledge and expertise working as a Planner for an environmental consulting firm in Ventura, California. Caitlin received her bachelor's degree in environmental

studies from University of California, Santa Barbara.



Aaron Hake

External Affairs Director, Riverside County Transportation Commission

Aaron Hake is External Affairs Director for the Riverside County Transportation Commission, a public agency he has served since 2006. Aaron leads RCTC's public policy and communications work on regional, statewide, and national levels. He also leads the agency's commuter and motorist assistance programs which improve traffic flow and safety on Riverside County's highways.

Most recently Aaron led RCTC's ballot measure development and education program, known as the Traffic Relief Plan. He has helped craft state and federal legislation pertaining to tolling, design-build, ethics, zero emission vehicles, and goods movement.

Aaron is a former City Treasurer, City and County Planning Commissioner, and past Chairman of the Board for the United Way of the Inland Valleys.

He started his career in Washington, D.C. as an undergrad at American University. While in D.C. he interned for Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the National Association of Counties (NAC), and the California Governor's office. He also worked in the nonprofit sector aiding low-income, homeless, and under-served residents of southeast D.C. find employment, housing, and transit. Aaron also holds a master's degree in public administration from University of Southern California and attended the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

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Kylie Hale

Traffic Safety Specialist, Automobile Club of Southern California

As a Traffic Safety Specialist, Kylie Hale administers the Auto Club of Southern California's traffic safety education and outreach programs. Since joining the Auto Club in 2017, Kylie has facilitated traffic safety programs that reach wide demographic groups, ranging from pre-teens earning their keys to seniors facing the loss of them. She has also rolled out key initiatives that address distracted driving, school site safety and drug impaired driving. Her current focus involves migrating the Auto Club's most valuable community programs from physical to virtual classrooms, so existing community education priorities can continue through the pandemic. Kylie is a graduate of California State University at Fullerton and started her career in the health sector as the wellness education sector. She lives in Huntington Beach with her English bulldog and enjoys spending time reading books about holistic wellness.



Marisa Laderach

Associate Regional Planner, Southern California Association of Governments

Marisa Laderach is an Associate Regional Planner in the Mobility Planning and Management Department at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). She manages the Future Communities Pilot Program (FCPP), a new program within SCAG's Future Communities Initiative, which partners with municipalities to incorporate emerging, innovative technologies with enhanced data analytics, ultimately to reduce vehicle miles travelled (VMT) and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) within the region. Prior to SCAG, Marisa worked as a consultant specializing in environmental planning and geographic information systems. She is a Certified Planner (AICP), a Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP), and holds a master's degree in urban and regional planning.



Connor Medina

Government Affairs Manager, Orange County Business Council

Connor has been with OCBC since April 2018, supporting each of OCBC's core initiatives and serving as a key asset for government relations activity. Connor collaborates with leaders in the private and public sector to advocate for Orange County's economic prosperity. Connor also monitors legislation and policies at the federal, state and local levels and works with elected officials and staff to ensure that the needs of Orange County's businesses and community are met. Connor manages OCBC's Turning Red Tape Into Red Carpet Awards, a showcase of excellent projects and programs from Orange County local governments.

Before joining OCBC, Connor served as an intern for Congressman Lou Correa. Connor graduated Cum Laude from California State University, Fullerton in 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. Connor was born and raised in Fresno, CA. He loves traveling, writing, and all things politics.

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Alice Oh
Senior Accountant, Metrolink

Alice Oh is an accomplished finance professional with a knack for optimizing policies and procedures that streamline business objectives and increase compliance. She finds ways to enhance customer experience, while simultaneously balancing the needs of the agency.

As a Senior Accountant in Grants Administration and Fiscal Management at Metrolink, she leads a team focused on Federal compliance and external audits, the \$10 billion Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) Program, and special projects that strengthen the agency's operational excellence.

Previously the Audit and Cash Management Lead at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), she earned the nickname Alice "error-tracking" Oh for her innate ability to pinpoint discrepancies and assign corrective actions.

Alice's penchant for polished and succinct prose comes from the English Language and Literature degree she earned at the University of Michigan. She also studied Business Administration at Wayne State University and Professional Accounting at Santa Monica College.

As a California Tax Education Council (CTEC) Registered Tax Preparer, Alice can be found preparing tax returns while eating French fries and listening to "Jock Jams" and country music.



Dustin Sifford
Senior Government Relations Representative, Orange County Transportation Authority

Dustin has been with OCTA for over three years. Prior to joining the transportation industry, Dustin worked as a legislative aide for then-Representative Xavier Becerra. In his time on Capitol Hill, Dustin was fortunate enough to work closely with leadership and committee staff, providing him with a thorough policy background that he brings to his advocacy in the interest of improving mobility in Orange County.

Dustin's most indelible mark among transportation leaders in the region may be his distinctive millennial haircut. He is passionate about espresso, dessert, and Orange County's incredible beaches. He is also an avid sports fan, most notably supporting the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Bears. Dustin was born and raised in Mt. Zion, Illinois. He graduated from Maryville University in St. Louis before receiving his J.D. from George Mason University in Virginia.

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Rebekah Soto

Management Analyst III, San Bernardino County Transportation Authority

Rebekah Soto originally graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management with a career in Human Resources in mind. After working closely with urban planners at a consulting firm, she developed a passion for transportation and the important role of multi-modal networks and the provision of choice to constituents. This prompted her to pursue a Master of Arts in urban and regional planning with an emphasis in transportation policy from the University of Florida in May 2019. She began her professional career working as a consultant in Transportation Demand Management, focusing on working with employers in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties to create and sustain rideshare programs. She currently works as an analyst for the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority Transit and Rail Programs.



Kimberly Wilson

Senior Director, Construction Management for the Purple Line Section 2, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Kimberly Wilson currently serves as the Senior Director, Construction Management for Section 2 of the Purple Line Extension. She was born in Northern California and raised in New York City where she spent the majority of her adult life. In 2014, Kimberly moved to California to work on the Regional Connector for LACMTA. Her education background includes a bachelor's degree in engineering and a master's degree in construction management. Kimberly is currently pursuing a master's degree in transportation management. She has worked in construction for the majority of her career with the last 11 years focused on construction management on rail transit projects for public agencies on both the East and West Coasts. Kimberly has served as both a consultant and most recently, a direct hire of a public agency- more specifically the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Although Kimberly started working in construction right after college, she never thought she would get into heavy civil construction, let alone the transportation aspect of construction. Kimberly's experiences on projects at various jobs have allowed her to learn more about the construction aspect of rail industry. Additionally, being on these jobs has allowed her to learn about other non-physical construction aspects, one example being the importance of construction relations as well as environmental compliances that must be met for a project to go through. Kimberly has served in different positions including Contract Administrator, Senior Project Engineer, Project Manager, Assistant Resident Engineer and currently Senior Director of Construction.

Ultimately, Kimberly plans on serving as CEO of a transit agency and quite possibly the secretary of transportation for California and then the United States. If that doesn't work, she plans on teaching Construction Management and Project Management upon retirement from heavy civil construction.