

Leanne Redden
Regional Transportation Authority
Executive Director

Leanne Redden is Executive Director of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). The RTA is the unit of local government charged with regional financial oversight, funding, and transit planning for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra and Pace Bus and ADA Paratransit. The agency manages an annual regional transit operating budget of nearly \$3 billion with assets of approximately \$160 billion and a more than \$4 billion five-year capital program.



Under Redden’s leadership, the RTA recently worked with regional stakeholders and transit agencies to produce the five-year regional transit strategic plan, “Invest in Transit.” Redden was a key player in the state’s 2008 Funding Reform Legislation and in her previous role as RTA Senior Deputy Executive Director of Planning oversaw the completion of the first Regional Market and Systems Analysis and Bus Rapid Transit work, including the region’s first bus-on-shoulder service. Further, during her tenure at the agency, the RTA secured \$40 million in federal funds to support the development of the region’s first Green Transit Plan and the regional Traffic Signal Priority Program.

Redden was named 2015 “Woman of the Year” by the Chicago chapter of Women in Transportation and is a Conference of Minority Transportation Officials 2016 “Woman Who Moves the Nation.” To learn about more about the RTA, follow the agency blog, Ride On, and Executive Director Redden on Twitter @LReddenRTA. Before joining the RTA, Redden was Chief of Planning for the Illinois Tollway and Director of Transportation for the Village of Schaumburg.