

# Memorandum

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**To:** All Employees

**From:** Debra A. Johnson, General Manager and CEO

**Date:** February 24, 2025

**Re:** **Deputy Chief Executive Officer Announcement**

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Angel Peña as the agency's inaugural Deputy Chief Executive Officer. Angel was selected following a national executive search and brings nearly 25 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. His extensive background in transforming transit infrastructure, enhancing operational performance, and rebuilding public trust has prepared him well for this pivotal leadership role at RTD. I am confident that his talents, expertise, and professional background will ensure RTD can address current challenges and prepare for the future.



As RTD's inaugural Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Angel will be tasked with advancing the agency's vision for an operationally safe, reliable, and customer-focused transit system. He will lead multiple RTD departments and divisions, including Capital Programs, Safety and Environmental Compliance, Civil Rights, Contracting and Procurement, and Planning. Angel will start in the role of Deputy Chief Executive Officer on Monday, March 17.

Angel, a bilingual customer experience and results-driven transit executive, has made significant contributions in both the public and private sectors. His leadership has been instrumental in managing teams and infrastructure projects at some of the nation's

largest transit systems. Angel has held senior leadership roles at the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) in greater Boston, MA, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) in Washington, D.C. He also brings private-sector leadership experience, having served as Vice President, Rail and Transit Leader for the Texas/Mountain Region at STV, Inc. In his role at STV, Inc., he collaborated with transit agencies across the region, leveraging his public sector insights to help improve service delivery, project execution, and long-term infrastructure planning.

Angel holds a Master of Science in Engineering Management from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Universidad Yacambú in Venezuela. He is a graduate of the prestigious Leadership American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Class of 2017 and was recognized in Mass Transit Magazine's "Top 40 Under 40" for his contributions to the industry.

I am excited for Angel to join RTD during a time when the agency is doubling down on its efforts to get back to basics and prioritize maintaining assets in a state of good repair. His decades of leadership and commitment to equity, safety, and service reliability will ensure the agency can enhance its operations. Angel's expertise in large-scale capital infrastructure renewal, operational oversight, and stakeholder engagement has positioned him to be a forward-thinking leader capable of addressing some of RTD's most pressing challenges. Please join me in congratulating Angel and welcoming him into this new role at RTD.