

## ***David Dech***



David Dech is the executive director of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, effective August 15, 2022. An executive with 27 years of experience in the rail industry in both freight and commuter rail service, Dech has been chosen to oversee the SFRTA at a pivotal time, as it prepares to expand Tri-Rail service into Downtown Miami. He brings experience in designing, constructing and opening rail yards.

Dech began his railroad career as a switchman for CSX, and is a fourth-generation railroader. His career progressed through the ranks of Conductor and Engineer, to several senior management positions, ultimately landing him at Vice President of Rail Operations for Capital Metro in March 2018.

As Vice President of Rail Operations, Dech helped open a new downtown station and complete the construction of five passing rail sidings. When he took on this role, Capital Metro's PTC system was still in the design phase, and his team successfully completed the installation of the EATC/PTC system four months ahead of the federal deadline, all the while maintaining over 96% on-time performance for the commuter service.

Accomplishments in his career include receiving the CSX Service Pinnacle Award for two consecutive years at his division and achieving the Gold Status for CSX Terminal Certification. Dech brings management experience in commuter rail operations, field operations, system and division level leadership, negotiating and managing contracts with host and tenant railroads, and leading public-private partnerships.

Dech discovered throughout his railroading tenure that he is a self-motivated, self-starter with a willingness to listen to the people who perform the work as the key to the success of any project. He operates with the guiding principle that all people in an organization are entitled to be treated with dignity and respect, which has allowed him to enjoy great success in his leadership experience.

David Dech has been married for 26 years to his high school sweetheart. They have four boys, Dana 24, David 22, Rogan 19 and Colin 17.