

Linda Watson, CEO, Capital Metro

Linda S. Watson is the president/chief executive officer of the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority in Austin. She has more than 25 years of transportation related experience in Orlando, Corpus Christi and Fort Worth.

When Watson arrived at Capital Metro in August 2010, she set a high bar for service, oversight and accountability. With new leadership, a new vision and a new direction, Capital Metro has transformed into a more transparent, accountable and financially sustainable organization that is trusted and valued by the community.

Capital Metro was the first transit system in Texas to earn the state comptroller's highest level recognition for online financial transparency. As Watson likes to say, "You can see every dollar we spend online."

Austin area commuters have embraced the MetroRail commuter line with ridership that has more than quadrupled. Capital Metro continues leading the way with new transportation solutions, like MetroRapid, launched in 2014 with plans to expand in the coming years. Other new options include system-wide real-time arrival information and the expansion of a High-Frequency Routes network in high-use corridors.

Before coming to Capital Metro, Watson was the chief executive officer of LYNX, the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority in Orlando. She also previously served as the general manager of the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority and was the assistant general manager of the Fort Worth Transportation Authority.