



Eco-Rapid Transit, formerly known as the Orangeline Development Authority, is a joint powers authority (JPA) created to pursue development of a transit system that moves as rapidly as possible, uses grade separation as appropriate, and is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. The system is designed to enhance and increase transportation options for riders of this region utilizing safe, advanced transit technology to expand economic growth that maximizes ridership in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

- City of Artesia
- City of Bell
- City of Bell Gardens
- City of Cerritos
- City of Cudahy
- City of Downey
- City of Glendale
- City of Huntington Park
- City of Maywood
- City of Paramount
- City of South Gate
- Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority

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Council Member  
City of Artesia

Vice-Chair

Jose R. Gonzalez  
Vice Mayor  
City of Cudahy

Secretary

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Councilmember  
City of Bell Gardens

Treasurer

Isabel Aguayo  
Vice Mayor  
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Internal Auditor

Vacant

Executive Director

Eric C. Shen

General Counsel

Matthew T. Summers

Ex-Officio

Ricardo Reyes  
City Manager Representative

\*\*\*\*\* NEWS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

October 13, 2022

**Eco-Rapid Transit Executive Director**

**Paramount, California** – On October 12, 2022, the Eco-Rapid Transit Board of Directors unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Eric C. Shen as the new Executive Director, effective on October 13, 2022. Mr. Shen will succeed Mr. Michael Kodama who recently retired after leading the organization since 2009.

“We are very pleased to appoint Mr. Shen, an accomplished and respected transportation professional, as the new Executive Director and lead the development of a transformative transit corridor for our member cities,” said Board Chair and Artesia City Councilmember Ali Taj, “the Board also expresses its gratitude for Mr. Kodama’s incredible contribution during his tenure.”

With nearly three decades of distinguished achievements, Mr. Shen most recently served as Chief Engineer/Director of Capital Projects for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and oversaw nearly \$1 billion of infrastructure project delivery throughout the subregion. Mr. Shen’s professional tenure also includes the Mid-Pacific Gateway Director in Maritime Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Transportation Planning Director of the Port of Long Beach, and the Transportation Planning & Development Manager of the City of Pasadena. Appointed to Adjunct Associate Professor, Mr. Shen regularly lectures in the Viterbi School of Engineering and the Sol Price School of Public Policy of the University of Southern California (USC). Mr. Shen is a registered Professional Engineer in Alabama and California (Civil), and a certified Transportation Professional Planner (PTP) by the Transportation Professional Certification Board of Washington DC.

Mr. Shen envisions collaborating closely with partnering agencies, including the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Metro, and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments to advance the West Santa Ana Branch (WSAB) Transit Corridor. “Communities in the southeast region of Los Angeles County deserve to have convenient public transit to access better opportunities,” Mr. Shen said, “With the recently enacted federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation’s infrastructure, the entire region must work closely to pursue additional federal and state funding to complete this project timely.” Equally important, Mr. Shen plans engaging actively with Metrolink, the California High Speed Railroad Authority, and local jurisdictions to advance the planning of the Eco-Rapid Transit North alignment from Union Station to Burbank Airport.

“The Selection Committee is extremely impressed by Mr. Shen’s track record and demonstrated leadership,” said Frank Quintero, Chair of the Selection Committee, “we look forward to working with him and taking Eco-Rapid Transit to the next level.”



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