

DAVID T. BRAUN

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Executive Level Transit Operations and Strategic Planning Manager

Professional fixed route and demand response transit manager with a demonstrated record of success in leading teams, managing finances, analyzing needs, directing strategic planning and motivating staff, all with the goal of providing first-rate customer service. Process oriented approach focused on optimization, strategic alignment, process implementation and initiating policies and procedures that improve productivity and service. Adept at working with and making presentations to internal and external stakeholders in one-on-one and group environments to improve outcomes and meet community expectations.

Career Highlights

- Interpreted complex or poorly defined public transportation opportunities and developed competitive operating solutions for fixed route, paratransit, microtransit, rail, emerging mobility modal solutions, and taxis.
 - Provided detailed and efficient communication to provide the level of information needed for knowledge, understanding and decision-making pertaining to projects.
 - Collaborated with Boards, Directors of Operations, Maintenance, Human Resources, Safety and Information Technology and their teams to develop strategies to operate, maintain and manage transit services in a responsible and cost-effective manner.
 - Conducted formal and informal meetings to gather ideas, address concerns, communicate my vision and approach to success and reaching consensus on final approach.
 - Developed presentations of ideas to current and prospective decision makers.
- Collaborated with elected officials, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), State DOTs, public utilities and non-profits to plan, fund and build several multifunctional transit hubs. These efforts included speaking to community stakeholders, advocacy groups for people with disabilities, philanthropic organizations, and state and local decision makers to demonstrate the importance of transit to the community for access to employment, educational opportunities, shopping and medical needs. Facilitated internal and external strategic planning process, encouraging creativity, inclusiveness, and focusing on customer needs.

Professional History

Bloomington-Normal Public Transit System (Connect Transit), Normal, IL **2021 – present**

- Managing Director – Manage the activities of seven department heads operating 80 vehicles with 165 employees and a \$21.5 million budget. Led the development of new services, including on-demand microtransit services, demand responsive rural transit services, employer shuttles, and realignment of routes for better efficiency. Directed the development of solar power initiative, new training and storage facility, and downtown transit center. Worked with local ATU representatives to negotiate labor agreements and develop quality of life initiatives for bus operators and maintenance employees.

Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority

2020 - 2021

- Director of Transit Operations – Manage fixed route transit operation of 500 represented bus operators. Responsible for two operating divisions and managing and developing eight Division Managers, nine Dispatchers and twenty Street Supervisors.

Transdev Services, Inc., Lombard, IL

2013 - 2020

- Vice President of Business Development - Developed creative solutions, operating plans and budgets in response to Requests for Proposals for conventional transit and paratransit services as well as streetcar, call center brokerage and new mobility services from public authorities. Successfully awarded over \$100 million annually in new revenue and maintained over \$100 million in renewed businesses in a competitive procurement process.

American Logistics Company, LLC, Santa Ana, CA

2010 - 2013

- Vice President of Paratransit Services – Led a team of two Business Development Managers, managing their client interactions, presentations, competitive proposals, pricing and operational

strategies. Focused on compliance with Federal regulations and meeting Client requirements using non-traditional passenger transportation resources in a service brokerage operating model.

First Transit, Inc., Cincinnati, OH

1988 – 2010

- **Director of Business Development** - Cincinnati, OH (2005-2010) – Develop strategies, staffing and operating plans, technical proposals and competitive pricing in response to requests for proposals issued by transit agencies. Created standardized pricing process and developed pro forma P&L statements, operational budgets and capital plans and budgets for over 50 business units with values ranging from \$100,000 to \$52 million as part of competitive bidding process.
- **General Manager** – Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky, KY (2002-2005) – Responsible for all safety, public engagement efforts, federal grant application and government relations while managing over 240 represented employees and six Director level direct reports operating 130 revenue vehicles over a 3-county area with a budget of over \$16 million. Reported directly to seven-member Board of Directors appointed by three counties served by the system.
- **General Manager** – Greater Peoria Mass Transit District, IL (1999-2002) – Responsible for guiding the resurgence of public transit through public awareness, government relations and re-branding effort, leading a team of seven Director level staff and 180 represented employees operating and maintaining 90 vehicles with a total budget of \$14 million. Efforts increased ridership over 20% in 2-years while increasing public support of transit investments. Reported directly to four-member Board of Trustees.
- **Assistant General Manager** – Greater Peoria Mass Transit District, IL (1996 -1999) – Responsible for improving safety and operations efficiency through employee scheduling, fiscal responsibility and performance analysis. Led team of nine Supervisor level employees, 160 represented employees operating 90 vehicles with an operations budget of \$8 million.
- **General Manager** – Sioux Falls Transit, SD (1993 -1996) – Directed the operation of the transit services including 60 vehicles and 100 employees. Led team of four Director Level employees with a budget of \$2.7 million. Directly reported to the City's Commissioner over Transit and City Commission.
- **Operations and Planning Consultant** - Cincinnati, OH (1991-1992) – Led and authored planning studies and recommended service modifications for transit agencies to meet their expansion or retraction goals weighing the needs of constituents with the needs of the agency. Reviewed internal business units, suggesting greater efficiency, service effectiveness, safety and security improvements
- **General Manager** – The Bus Company, Hamilton, OH (1989-1991) – Managed the operation and maintenance of fifteen vehicles, provided by 25 employees with an annual budget of \$600,000. Reported to the City's Director of Public Works and City Council.
- **Management Associate** – Cincinnati, OH (1988-1989) – Assisted in developing service planning studies as well as internal operations, maintenance, cash handling, labor, and marketing reviews.

Education

- **Master of Business Administration**; Bradley University, Peoria, IL - 2001
- **Bachelor of Science in Public and Environmental Affairs**; Indiana University, Bloomington, IN; Concentration: Public Transportation - 1988
- **Certifications**: Passenger Service and Safety (PASS) Trainer Program; TSI Paratransit Operator Train the Trainer; TSI Accident Investigation Training.

Professional Affiliations and Awards

- Selected by the Transportation Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) to study European transportation trends and their potential applications to the U.S. - Results published in 2003.
- Active participant in numerous American Public Transit Association (APTA) Committees, State Transit Associations, and Community Transit-related Coalitions.
- Attended and actively participated in Transdev's Business Inspiration and Growth (B.I.G.) strategic business development meetings in London, New Orleans and Munich as well as Transportation on Demand service strategy development sessions in Paris.