



David Dech

Executive Director
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority

David Dech serves as the Executive Director of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), overseeing the operations of the Tri-Rail commuter rail system and managing the South Florida Rail Corridor. With 29 years of distinguished experience in the rail industry, spanning both freight and commuter rail sectors, Dech brings extensive expertise in rail yard design, construction, and operations management.

David Dech began his railroad career as a switchman at CSX and has since ascended through various roles including conductor, engineer, and senior management positions. His career highlights include serving as Vice President of Rail Operations at Capital Metro in Austin, TX, where he successfully led the implementation of critical rail projects and achieved significant operational milestones ahead of schedule.

Under Dech's leadership at SFRTA since August 2022, he has spearheaded transformative initiatives, including the expansion of Tri-Rail service into downtown Miami and initiatives aimed at enhancing customer experience along the South Florida Rail Corridor. His proactive approach has led to substantial improvements such as grade crossing rehabilitation projects, right-of-way maintenance, and comprehensive upgrades to locomotive engines and passenger cars. In July 2024, Dech facilitated the introduction of Tri-Rail's first-ever express train service, with a one-seat ride in and out of downtown Miami.

David Dech's leadership philosophy centers on valuing and respecting every individual within the organization, a principle that has been integral to his success in driving operational excellence and fostering a collaborative work environment.

Outside of his professional endeavors, Dech has been happily married to his high school sweetheart for 28 years, and is a proud father of four young men, Dana, David, Rogan and Colin.