



**Regional Freight Leadership Task Force  
Biographical Sketches**

**Michael Gorman, *Chair***, Regional Freight Leadership Task Force

Michael Gorman is the former President of Riverside, Illinois, serving in that capacity between 2009 and 2013, and a former member of the CMAP Board representing west Cook County, serving between 2011 and 2013.

Mr. Gorman is an attorney and certified public accountant. He began his career as a financial auditor with one of the preeminent certified public accounting firms, Peat Marwick Mitchell, later known as KPMG. His work as a CPA was concentrated in the insurance, manufacturing, and media industries.

Upon graduating from law school, he worked as an associate attorney with a business law firm in Chicago before beginning an 18-year career as a Corporate Counsel with Leo Burnett Company, Chicago's largest multi-national advertising agency. Mr. Gorman was responsible for all legal issues concerning domestic and international business operations, including all merger and acquisition activity on a world-wide basis. He served Leo Burnett as Senior Vice President, Assistant General Counsel, and Assistant Corporate Secretary.

Mr. Gorman also served as Director-Portfolio Management for Bank One with responsibility for the analysis of the risk profile of the bank's investments. Before turning his energies to public service, Mr. Gorman engaged in the private practice of law, advising individuals and business clients.

Mr. Gorman holds a JD from Northwestern University School of Law (1979) and a bachelor's degree in business from Western Illinois University (1973).

**Chris Berry, PhD., *Associate Professor***, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

Christopher R. Berry is an associate professor in the Harris School. His research interests are in the political economy of American local government and the politics of federal spending. He is currently engaged in two major lines of research. The first explores how the institutional design of local government influences political accountability and public policy. The second is an analysis of the ways in which executive and legislative politics influence the geographic distribution of federal outlays. Professor Berry is the author of *Imperfect Union: Representation and Taxation in Multilevel Governments*, published by Cambridge University Press, as well as many other scholarly publications.

Prior to joining Chicago Harris, Berry was a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard University in the Department of Government's Program on Education Policy and Governance. He received his BA from Vassar College, Master of Regional Planning (MRP) from Cornell University, and PhD. from the Department of Political Science at the University of Chicago. Professor Berry is also active in community development and was formerly a director in the MetroEdge division of ShoreBank, America's oldest and largest community development financial institution.

**David Brady**, *President*, Village of Bedford Park

David Brady has served Village President of Bedford Park for the past 8 years, and was reelected for a third term in 2013. He served on the Bedford Park Village Board for 12 years prior to that as a trustee. President Brady has worked on numerous freight-related issues with the railroad and trucking companies in Bedford Park. He is also a member of the CMAP Transportation Board and the Executive Board of the Southwest Council of Mayors.

President Brady holds a B.A. and M.A. from Valparaiso University and a C.A.S. from Concordia University. He served as a teacher, coach, and administrator for 33 years at Argo Community High School.

**Mike Burton**, *President*, C&K Trucking

Michael Burton has been CEO of the holding company and President of C&K Trucking for the last 10 years. A significant part of his time has focused on defining and executing the strategic direction for the drayage and logistics company, strengthening key customer relationships, identifying supply chain solutions for customers, and the strengthening the management team.

Mr. Burton has been President and CEO of C&K Holdings Acquisition L.L.C. since 2003, when he led the leveraged buyout of C&K Holdings. Since completing the buyout, the company has completed four acquisitions and one joint venture. Revenues have increased from \$25 million to over \$100 million.

Prior to his career at C&K, Mr. Burton was Senior Vice President and Division Head of Commercial Lending at LaSalle Bank N.A. In this position, he provided financial and capital structure solutions to middle market companies.

Mr. Burton is an active member in multiple industry associations including the Illinois Trucking Association (Board member), the Intermodal Association of Chicago, the Traffic Club of Chicago, and the Northwestern Transportation Center's Advisory Board.

Mr. Burton holds an MBA from Northwestern University (2000) and a business degree from the University of Illinois (1987). Outside activities include: Advisory Board member and fundraiser for Misericordia, a not-for-profit organization focus on physically and mentally challenged children and adults; former Chairman and Board member of the Starkey

Hearing Foundation, a not-for-profit charity that provides hearing aids to children/adults worldwide who cannot afford the cost; and Planning Commissioner for the Village of Glenview, IL.

Mr. Burton is 48 years old, married with four kids, and lives in Glenview, IL.

**Rick Dickens**, *Vice President, Cannon Ball Express Line*

Rick Dickens is currently Vice-President and co-owner of Cannon Ball Express Line Inc., Cannon Ball is a family business hauling bulk cement and concrete products in Illinois and bordering states. Cannon Ball hauls bulk cement to many state and local road projects for various contractors. Rick has been with the business since 1979, starting as a driver and mechanic. He moved into management in mid-year 1979 upon the death of his mother-in-law which resulted in his father in-law backing out of the day to day operations. Currently, Rick handles or is involved in all aspects of the business, which he now owns with his two brothers in-law. He is currently Chairman of the Chicago Advisory Board for Mid-West Truckers Association and a member of their Northern Advisory Board. He is also an active business member of the Illinois Truck Enforcement Association.

**Bill Driegert**, *Chief Innovation Officer, Coyote Logistics*

Bill Driegert is the Chief Innovation Officer and founding team member of Coyote Logistics, one of the fastest growing logistics companies in North America. He has the freedom to continually improve and re-imagine Coyote's products and technology platform and set his team of researchers and developers loose on challenging problems. Driegert has a bachelor's degree in Business from SMU, a Masters of Engineering in Logistics from MIT, and an MBA from the Chicago Booth School of Business.

**Peter Fahrenwald**, *Manager- Regional & Corridor Planning, Regional Transportation Authority*

Peter Fahrenwald is the Acting Division Manager, Strategic Planning and Policy, for the Regional Transportation Authority, and directs transit and multi-modal research and studies and assessments of transit market opportunities. Prior to his current position with the RTA, Mr. Fahrenwald worked in operations, capital and strategic planning positions with the Chicago Transit Authority. He has a M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois – Urbana and is active with the Transportation Research Board.

**Paul Fisher**, *President and CEO, CenterPoint Properties Trust*

Mr. Paul Fisher is the President and Chief Executive Officer, as well as founding member, of CenterPoint Properties Trust. CenterPoint is a Chicago-based company focused on investment in industrial property and related rail, road, and port infrastructure. CenterPoint, initially publicly traded in 1993 (NYSE: CNT), was privatized in 2006 by CalEast Global Logistics, LLC, a joint venture between the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and GI Partners.

Prior to establishing the Company in 1991, Mr. Fisher held executive positions with real estate firms and investment banks in Chicago and New York. Mr. Fisher began his career practicing law after earning his Doctor of Law degree in 1980 from The University of Chicago Law School. He graduated in 1977 from The University of Notre Dame with highest honors, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics, and was elected to the honors society of Phi Beta Kappa.

Mr. Fisher is a current member of the World Business Chicago Strategy Team for Transportation and Logistics and has notably held roles as a member of the Regional Tax Policy Task Force advising Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and served on the advisory boards of the Guthrie Center for Real Estate Research at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management and the DePaul University Real Estate Center. Additionally, he was a director of Eagle Hospital Trust, Inc. (NYSE: EHP) between 2004 and the company's sale in 2007.

Previous to his current role as President and CEO at CenterPoint, Mr. Fisher served as Chief Financial Officer, receiving honors by Institutional Investor in 2005 as one of "America's Best CFO's". Most recently, Midwest Real Estate News named Mr. Fisher to its Hall of Fame in 2011.

**Alicia Hanlon**, *Senior Transportation Planner, Will County*

Alicia Hanlon has been Senior Transportation Planner for Will County since July 2012. In this position, she provides policy, legislative, and technical assistance to the County Executive and County Board on a range of local, state, regional and federal transportation projects and planning initiatives. Alicia is the lead contact for Will County on the Illiana Expressway and South Suburban Airport projects. She also facilitates coordination and communication between county departments and acts as liaison to outside transportation agencies including IDOT, RTA, Metra, Pace, the Illinois Tollway, and CMAP.

Prior to joining Will County, Alicia was sub-consultant to CDM Smith on the Will County Inland Port Infrastructure Analysis. She directed stakeholder outreach for this project which included scheduling and conducting over 20 interviews with public and private stakeholders in Will County's Inland Port to identify roadway improvement needs and assess support for alternative revenue options to fund new infrastructure investment.

From 2009 to 2011, Alicia was Transportation Coordinator for the Will County Center for Economic Development (CED) where she worked with the business community and government partners to promote transportation and logistics sector development in Will County and the Chicago region through various projects including the Inland Port Impact Study, JADA's TMA Feasibility Study, the annual Global Logistics Summit and CED's Global Transportation Industry Council.

Hanlon has a Master's Degree in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati and BA from Miami University.

She also serves on the Village of Frankfort's Plan Commission.

**Jim LaBelle**, *Vice President*, Metropolis Strategies

Jim LaBelle is Vice President of Metropolis Strategies, formerly Chicago Metropolis 2020, a regional business-based civic organization with an agenda focused on justice, economic growth, transportation, and sustainable development. Founded in 1999 by the Commercial Club of Chicago, Metropolis Strategies became a supporting organization of the Chicago Community Trust in 2011. Jim provides leadership on regional development and transportation planning, funding and governance issues.

Jim helped draft and negotiate passage of legislation creating the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, and legislation to reform and fund the Regional Transportation Authority. Jim co-authored *The Metropolis Plan: Choices for the Chicago Region* in 2002 and was the principal author of *The Metropolis Freight Plan: Delivering the Goods* in 2004. He helped write and produce *Building Our Economy: Transportation for a New Illinois* in 2010.

Jim was an elected Lake County Board member for 20 years, including three terms as County Board Chairman and one term as President of the Forest Preserve District. He led in crafting the Illinois Stormwater Management Act and Local Solid Waste Management Act, and in creating new county capital improvement, affordable housing, and brownfield redevelopment programs.

In the late 1980's Jim was Assistant to Illinois Governor James Thompson for local government, transportation, and economic development. From 2008 through April of 2013, Jim served on the Board of Directors of Metra, the commuter rail agency for northeast Illinois.

He previously served as Executive Director of Business Leaders for Transportation, Executive Director of the DuPage Mayors & Managers Conference, General Manager of North Point Marina, Director of Project Development for Skipper Marine Development, Administrative Assistant for the Village of Carol Stream, and president of a real estate and consulting business.

Jim holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Northern Illinois University, and a B.A., magna cum laude, from NIU in political science and business administration.

Jim and his wife Jan live in Zion, Illinois and have five sons.

**Paul Nowicki**, *Assistant Vice President Government and Public Affairs*, BNSF Railway

Paul started his career with Santa Fe Railway as a market research analyst in 1979. Since then he has held positions in marketing, strategic planning, business development, logistics, and government affairs. He is currently AVP-Government & Public Policy, responsible for BNSF's government affairs activities in the Midwest.

Paul began working in the public policy area in 1994 when he served as staff director for the National Commission on Intermodal Transportation.

He recently served as chair of the Western Governors' Association Task Force on Rail Efficiency and Community Livability, and currently co-chairs the Chicago Metropolitan Planning Council's Transportation Committee. Paul also serves on the Business Advisory Council of the Transportation Center at Northwestern University and is active with the Transportation Research Board.

He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an MBA from Northwestern University; he lives in Wilmette, Illinois.

**Phil Resendiz**, *Regional Operations Manager, FedEx*

Phil Resendiz began his transportation career in the U.S. Army in a cargo aviation unit where he served as an Aviation Operations Specialist. Following that service, Phil transitioned into the less-than-truckload (LTL) trucking industry where he started at the ground level as a dockman, operating a forklift unloading and loading general freight commodities.

For the past 13 years Phil has been a part of the FedEx Freight team, serving in a variety of operations leadership positions with increasing levels of responsibility. He has held the positions of Operations Supervisor, Operations Manager, Service Center Manager, and finally Managing Director District Operations. In these roles, Phil has been responsible for Dock, City, and Line Haul operations. He has also been responsible for Sales, Human Resources, Safety, and Fleet Maintenance. He has operated in numerous rural and metro markets including Chicagoland and New York City/northern New Jersey.

In his current position, Phil is responsible for the day-to-day operations in 12 facilities in northern Illinois, Indiana, and southwest Michigan, leading a team of 1,400 employees.

**Herbert Smith**, *Manager-Community Affairs, Norfolk Southern*

Herbert Smith is currently responsible for managing government affairs for Norfolk Southern Corporation in Illinois and Michigan. In this capacity, one of his primary responsibilities is to collaborate closely with other railroads, transportation agencies, and elected officials seeking additional public funding to complete a series of 70 critical rail projects that comprise the \$3.8 billion Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program - the nation's largest of its kind public-private partnership designed to unclog the rail industry's biggest bottleneck. He also manages the largest urban

intermodal facility expansion project in the nation now underway on Chicago's south side. Prior to his arrival in Chicago, Herbert worked out of Norfolk Southern's federal government relations office in Washington, DC. While in DC, he worked closely on another first of its kind public-private partnership referred to as the Crescent Corridor Intermodal Freight Program, which received the largest TIGER grant ever awarded in 2010. Herbert is a 2007 graduate of Georgetown University with a BA in Government.

**John Yonan**, *Superintendent*, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highway

John Yonan was appointed by President Preckwinkle to be the Superintendent of Highways and now the Department of Transportation and Highways in December of 2011 after 19 years at the Chicago Department of Transportation where he was the Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer.

As Superintendent of the Highway Department, John is responsible for all of the County's professional engineering functions. This includes the programming, design, and construction of the County's infrastructure assets which include over 135 bridges, 360 traffic signals, over 565 miles of roadways, and five maintenance facilities that are responsible for snow removal operations and asset preservation.

John earned his Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering from Southern Illinois University and is a Licensed Professional in the State of Illinois.