



WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Executive Vice President & Chief Safety Officer

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (“WMATA”) was formed in 1967 to develop, finance and operate public transportation in the Washington metropolitan area. WMATA’s service area extends throughout a 1,500 square mile area in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Today, WMATA operates Metrorail, Metrobus and MetroAccess paratransit services for a total population of four million and is consistently ranked among the top transit agencies by ridership. In 2016, commuters, visitors and other community members made over 179.5 million trips on MetroRail and over 123.5 million trips on MetroBus. More than one-third of the federal government’s workforce chooses WMATA for transportation.

WMATA is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors with eight voting members and eight alternate directors. Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia and the federal government each appoint two voting members and two alternates.

WMATA is seeking an Executive Vice President & Chief Safety Officer (“EVP/CSO”). The EVP/CSO reports to the General Manager/CEO and is responsible for establishing and maintaining a safe environment for all employees and customers through the direction, oversight, development and implementation of a system safety program. The EVP/CSO drives safety culture change, develops safety, occupational health and environmental policy, as well as provides safety oversight of agency accident investigations, risk and hazard assessment, implementation of Safety Management System (SMS) approach to managing safety, oversees safety certification of major project and Fire/Life/Safety activities, conducts data/trend analysis and field inspections to ensure compliance with policies, federal, state and local laws and regulations. The EVP/CSO must possess in-depth technical knowledge of operational functions to include inspection, testing and maintenance practices of key areas. The EVP/CSO has the primary responsibility and authority to suspend unsafe operations to protect employees and the public.

The EVP/CSO is responsible for developing and maintaining a System Safety Program Plan (SSPP) and managing the transition from a SSPP to the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) mandated Agency Safety Plan (ASP). S/he works with all departments to evaluate the effectiveness of management in implementing and adhering to safety policies and procedures and ensures that all safety and environmental activities are conducted in accordance with the SSPP/ASP and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

The EVP/CSO oversees regular and unannounced inspections of maintenance and operations functions and provides recommendations to the GM/CEO, Board of Directors and other senior management. S/he also participates in key safety-related committees and maintains communications with federal, state, and local government agencies, labor unions and safety committees of external organizations and associations. S/he directs and oversees hazard assessments, safety and environmental policy development, comprehensive accident investigations (including emergency response on a 24 hour/7 day a week basis), oversees compliance safety audits, safety certification, industrial hygiene studies and comprehensive occupational safety and environmental management programs. The EVP/CSO is the principal contact with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), FTA and the Tri-State Oversight Committee (TOC) and future Washington Metro-Rail Safety Commission (WMSC) on accident investigations controlled by the respective agencies. S/he uses systems and data-driven analysis to develop goals and procedures to reduce employee and customer safety injuries and risks.

The EVP/CSO provides direction for the management of budget preparation and administration, personnel matters, labor relations, and directs the development of effective safety and environmental training and education programs within the Authority for employees, and as required, for the public and contractors.

The ideal candidate for EVP/CSO will have the following skillset:

SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Demonstrated knowledge of Operational Safety and System Safety Engineering, as well as risk assessment and hazard management and the application in a transportation environment.
- Demonstrated knowledge of rapid rail and bus operations, vehicles, facilities, power and signal control systems, track and infrastructure, technical standards, work environments and practices and related principles of transportation and procedures.
- Excellent written and verbal communication and strategic management skills.
- Excellent analytical, problem identification and resolution skills, including in high pressure situations.
- Strong ability to effectively coach, develop and motivate a high-performing team and resolve issues with employees and their respective labor unions at all levels of an organization.
- Strong ability to work effectively with senior managers of external agencies.
- Experience with and understanding of the following tools: computer/laptop, Microsoft Office, smart phone, photocopiers and desktop printers.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Safety, Transportation or the Physical Sciences. In lieu of a Bachelor's degree, a High School Diploma or a General Equivalent Diploma (GED) and four (4) years of experience in management, administration, planning and oversight of system safety and environmental management activities within a major diversified transportation program. Minimum of fifteen (15) years of experience in management, administration, planning and oversight of system safety and environmental management activities within a major diversified transportation program. Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by jurisdiction of residence and Roadway Worker Protection Level II (to be obtained within 30 days).

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Master's degree in Engineering, Safety, Transportation or the Physical Sciences, transit experience in rail operations, executive level leadership experience, and/or certification as a safety professional. Transit Safety and Security Program (TSSP) designation from the U.S. Department of Transportation, World Safety Organization Certified Safety Specialist and/or Certified Safety and Security Director designation.

For additional information or to submit a resume, please contact Gregg A. Moser at gmoser@kapartners.com.

WMATA is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, physical or mental disability, or status as a protected veteran, or any other status protected by applicable federal law, except where a bona fide occupational qualification exists. Our hiring process is designed to be accessible and free from discrimination.