

Michael J. Shiffer

Vice President, Planning
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Michael Shiffer is Vice President for Planning at TransLink (the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority). There, he is responsible for planning activities that support the major roads, bridges, bikeways, freight and public transit networks in the Vancouver, BC region. Dr. Shiffer was formerly Vice President for Planning and Development at the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA). For over six years at the CTA, Shiffer led the strategic and operations planning efforts of the second largest public transit system in the U.S. He successfully managed several large-scale projects related to transit service development for increased ridership and led a team of over 70 professionals.

Shiffer has also served as an academic for nearly 20 years. He has held faculty posts at both MIT and the University of Illinois. His research has focused on how information technologies can better inform deliberation, decision-making and public debate with a focus on spatial information. Shiffer has also taught courses related to mass transit and urban planning methods. His former students have moved on to positions of leadership and responsibility in the public, private and academic sectors around the world.