

## Dr. Rebecca J. Gutowsky

Since February 2002, I have been the Transit Division Manager of Cobb Community Transit. Cobb Community Transit is the county's municipal bus system that provides both fixed route and complementary paratransit service. Complementary paratransit service is provided to disabled individuals, who, due to the nature of their disability cannot access the fixed route system.

Prior to relocating to Cobb County, I spent 11 years as the Executive Director of the Hammond Transit System in Hammond, Indiana. Hammond, Indiana is located in northwest Indiana, is positioned on the shores of Lake Michigan, and is approximately 20 miles from downtown Chicago. The service provided by the Hammond Transit System is very similar to the service provided by CCT.

I began my career in transportation as a Transportation Planner for the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. NIRPC is the local Metropolitan Planning Organization for three northwest Indiana counties, Lake, Porter and LaPorte. NIRPC functions much the same as the Atlanta Regional Commission.

My educational background includes a Master of Public Affairs from Indiana University, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Public Management, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public and Policy Administration.

I am a member of the Phi-Alfa Alpha Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration, and was the Vice President of the Board of Directors of Leadership Northwest Indiana, a program very similar to Leadership Cobb. I am also currently in the County's 2004 EXCEL Management Program. EXCEL, which stands for EXecutive, Competence, Excellence and Leadership, is a Management Development Program conducted by the University of Georgia.

My husband and I reside in Acworth, and spend our leisure time playing golf and fishing. I am extremely pleased to be with you today, and thank you very much for inviting me.