



## **DAVID L. HOWARD**

**Founder & Senior Principal, DL Howard Consulting Group ([linkedin.com/in/davidhowardclt/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/davidhowardclt/))**

David L. Howard is a visionary senior executive with over 30 years of transformative leadership across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. His extensive experience spans transportation, technology innovation, equity, community economic development, and public policy strategy. With a proven ability to navigate complex organizations and drive impactful outcomes, David leverages his strategic mindset and robust network at local, state, and national levels to deliver innovative solutions to operational and policy challenges.

As Principal of DL Howard Consulting Group, LLC, David leads a consulting firm specializing in smart cities, transportation equity, innovation, and public policy. His work empowers clients to address 21st-century challenges through forward-thinking solutions and strategies that promote inclusivity and sustainability.

Previously, David served as Chief Deputy Secretary for the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), overseeing a \$1 billion annual budget and managing over 3,000 employees across key divisions, including aviation, rail, transit, ferries, motor vehicles, and multimodal transportation. During his tenure, he supported efforts to position North Carolina for over \$1 billion in federal transportation investments, funding transformative projects like rail infrastructure modernization and multimodal systems. David also spearheaded initiatives to enhance minority business participation, increasing utilization rates from 9% to 19% over four years.

David's leadership extended to securing \$225 million in federal grants for rail infrastructure through the NC Rail Division, advancing key projects to improve connectivity and economic growth. He also implemented a pioneering accountability dashboard for the Division of Motor Vehicles, significantly improving operational efficiency and reducing customer wait times.

As Associate Administrator for Policy and Government Affairs at the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), David oversaw a \$19.3 million budget and provided strategic direction for national transportation policies, including implementing the \$305 billion FAST Act. He led the Ladders of Opportunity Initiative, prioritizing equitable access to economic opportunities through transportation infrastructure investments.

David's commitment to community redevelopment is exemplified by his tenure at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership (CMHP), where he served as Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives. He played a critical role in the \$40 million Brightwalk at Historic Double Oaks redevelopment project, creating a vibrant, mixed-income community. Under his leadership, over 1,400 affordable housing units were developed, leveraging tools like federal tax credits and bond programs to address housing needs in underserved areas.

As an elected At-Large Member of the Charlotte City Council, David championed transformative initiatives, including expanding the light rail system, extending the Charlotte Douglas International Airport, and completing the I-485 outer loop. He also chaired the Transportation and Planning Committee, advancing strategic urban development and infrastructure planning.

David's global engagement includes participating in the German Marshall Fund's Transatlantic Fellowship Program, the BMW Foundation Responsible Leaders Network, and representing North Carolina on a peer-to-peer delegation to Botswana, Africa. These experiences underscore his commitment to fostering international collaboration and promoting sustainable development.

**VISIONARY LEADER IN PUBLIC POLICY, TRANSPORTATION, OPERATIONS AND INNOVATION**