



Tamieka Thibodeaux
GLT Sr. Director

“ I couldn’t have imagined where it all would lead when I started out as a Streetcar Motorperson. ”

In Her Own Words

As a little girl growing up in Allston, I rode the Green Line a lot, to and from school and activities, and eventually to work and college. The operators were always so nice to me and were part of my community. After college, I went to apply for an office job at the T and was informed that I had to be placed on a list. This was back in 1996, before job applications were all online. The next step was I had to take a test, which I did—not realizing that it would put me on the list for operator job openings. When human resources called back, they offered me a job as a Streetcar Motorperson, and it was kind of like destiny, because it was something I was always interested in doing. I seized the opportunity and started my career at the T just a few days later. In a way, it was a dream realized. But, what I didn’t realize at the time was that I was starting on a path that led to me dreaming of more possibilities, achieving new goals, and finding opportunities to inspire others to follow their paths.

Once I started at the T, I was fortunate to have great instructors and mentors. After being promoted to Inspector, ***I decided that what I really wanted to do was teach other Light Rail employees and so I became an Instructor in 2006.*** I stayed in this role for 5 years and was grateful for the opportunity to pass on everything I had learned and, at the same time, serve as a mentor for other employees.

The next step in my journey at the T was into a management role as the Superintendent of Light Rail Operations. This role was challenging and gave me new perspective into managing budgets, manpower and resource planning, and the administrative parts of operating the system. As a Streetcar Motorperson and Instructor, I knew the rules and day-to-day operational requirements. As Superintendent, I gained firsthand experience in managing budgets, manpower and resource planning, and helped implement administrative policies. Ultimately,

the experience I gained positioned me well to advance a year later into the role of Deputy Director of the Operations Control Center (OCC) and Training for Bus and Subway. In that role, I was overseeing more than just the Green Line and gained more transportation industry expertise managing work across the Red, Orange, and Blue Lines as well as Bus Operations. ***In 2016, I was promoted to Division Chief of Light Rail Operations and had direct oversight all Green Line transportation.*** When the Green Line Transformation program was established in 2018, I knew it was something I wanted to be a part of. In my lifetime, I’ve gone from a little girl riding the Green Line to school to being part of the executive team that will shape the future of the Green Line for generations to come. ***I couldn’t have imagined where it all would lead when I started out as a Streetcar Motorperson, and my journey at the T has taken me far beyond what I dreamt of back then.*** Today, I am committed to improving the Green Line for all riders and I know firsthand just how transformational it can all be.



Tamieka as Instructor with Light Rail and Heavy Rail Training Department

Tamiaka Thibodeaux

GLT Senior Director

Prior to joining GLT in 2019, Tamiaka Thibodeaux served as the Division Chief of Light Rail Operations for three years, managing a team of ten and overseeing all aspects of Light Rail Operations including budgeting, vehicle count, projects, procurements, maintenance and repairs and safety of employees and customers. She has a demonstrated history of advancing transportation excellence at the MBTA. In 2017, she received the National William A. Mitchell ENO Award and she has served on several committees and task forces, including the Right of Way Committee, Safety Rules and Compliance Program, Derailment Committee, and the APTA Committee for International Rail Rodeo. Tamiaka earned her Master's Degree in Business Administration from University of Phoenix.

Tamiaka's GLT portfolio includes oversight of operations; signals and communications; and quality of service and service delivery. She oversees the Lechmere Viaduct Rehabilitation project, a critical infrastructure project to restore and strengthen the historic arched structure spanning the Charles River before the Green Line Extension is completed. Tamiaka will also be overseeing the Symphony Station project which is in design and expected to begin construction in the fall of 2021.

Leveraging her extensive background and knowledge of MBTA operations, Tamiaka leads the project teams to deliver immediate benefits to Green Line riders who rely on the T, just like she has throughout her life.

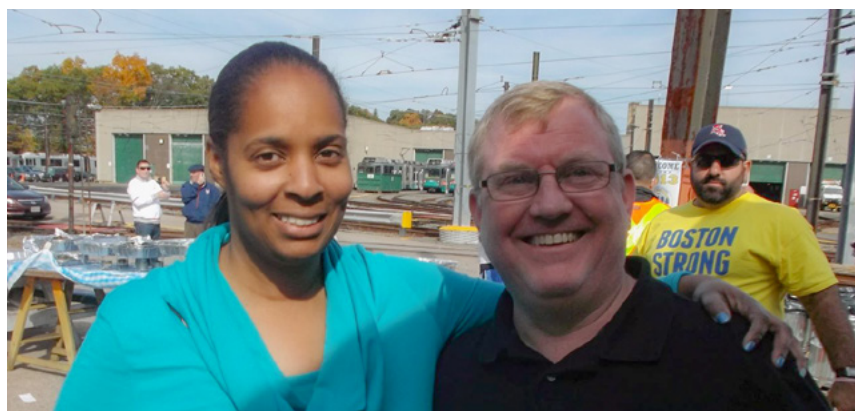
Dream.



Tamiaka and her mentor, former Deputy COO Dion Stubbs, who continues to mentor her in his retirement



Tamiaka and Bessie Harris, an instructor and role model throughout Tamiaka's career at the T



Tamiaka and her former supervisor, Billy McClellan, at the local Subway Rodeo held at Riverside yard