



U.S. Department of
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CHICAGO NATIVE NAMED TO HEAD COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE OF FEDERAL TRANSIT AGENCY

The deputy administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Grace Crunican, today announced that Peter Garvey Halpin has been appointed the agency's Director of Communications and External Affairs.

Halpin, a native of Chicago, will direct the outreach efforts of the agency, which provide technical and financial assistance to the nation's public transit operators.

"We're delighted that our intergovernmental and industry relations, and our communication efforts will be guided by someone with Peter's expertise and experience," Crunican said. "His background is one of unusual breadth and variety."

Prior to his appointment, Halpin was the president of Peter Halpin and Associates, a public policy consulting firm. His clients included McDonalds Corp., the Illinois Association of Tobacco and Candy Distributors, Stimson-Lane Wineries and the Cook County Board President.

In his new position, Halpin will handle the FTA's relations with transit-related interest groups, government officials at the state and local levels, and members of Congress.

In 1975, Halpin earned a master's degree in the science of industrial relations from Loyola University's Institute of Industrial Relations in Chicago. He also holds a bachelor of science degree in political science from Illinois Benedictine College (1971).

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After college, Halpin worked for five years as a transportation planner for the Chicago Department of Public Works. He later served as the political director of the Illinois Senate, moving from there to the management of numerous local and statewide political campaigns.

His public policy experience includes service as Illinois Political Director for President Clinton's primary and general election campaign, two years as the Executive Director of the Illinois Democratic Party, an appointment by the Oak Park Village Board to the Village's Commission on the Disabled, and membership on the Credentials and Platform Committees of the 1988 Democratic National Convention.

He is also business manager for Tulloch Farms, a 900-acre family farm in Victory, Wis., a member of the Illinois Commission for Handgun Control, and a member of the City Club of Chicago.

Halpin and his wife, the former Jennifer Kelley, have two children.

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**Urban Mass
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