

## Shannon Valentine

### Biography



Shannon Valentine was appointed Secretary of Transportation by Governor Ralph Northam in January 2018, and oversees a \$6 billion multimodal transportation system crossing seven agencies with more than 10,000 employees.

As Secretary, she also serves as Chair of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB).

Valentine is a former Member of the Virginia House of Delegates, serving on the House Transportation and Courts of Justice Committees. Her legislative priorities focused on transportation, economic development, education, and ethics. She led bipartisan efforts to create transparent government, expand clean energy production, and invest in intercity passenger rail service for the first time in Virginia's history.

Following an assignment as a Director of the Transportation Policy Council in 2013 for then Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe's transition team, Valentine was appointed as the Lynchburg District representative to the CTB in May 2014. During this time, she created the first Regional Connectivity Study in Virginia that correlated transportation decisions with workforce, business expansion and recruitment, and investment, covering eight modes of transportation.

For more than 25 years, she worked to create economic opportunity through housing, education, and transportation. Valentine was named Transportation Woman of the Year by WTS Central Virginia Chapter in both 2020 and 2017. In 2020, she was honored with the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance Legislative Leadership Award, Virginians for High-Speed Rail's Legislative Achievement Award, and Virginia Transit Association's Distinguished Public Official Leadership Award. Valentine previously has been honored with the Humanitarian Award by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, Democracy in Action Award by the League of Women Voters, Freedom Fighter Award by the NAACP, Woman of the Year in Government by the YWCA, and the Commonwealth Autism Services Award.

She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Virginia in economics. She graduated from the Sorensen Institute at UVA, and completed Education for Ministry, a four-year theology course through Sewanee University's School of Theology.

Secretary Valentine is married to Dr. Mike Valentine and has three children, Catherine, Jack, and Brooke.