DJ Mitchell
Assistant Vice President, Passenger Operations

DJ Mitchell assumed his current position as Assistant Vice President-Passenger Operations upon the completion of the merger between Burlington Northern Railroad (BN) and the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway in 1996.

He began his railroad career in 1981 when he joined BN as Director-Suburban Services, in Chicago, Illinois. Prior to that, DJ held various positions in the United States Department of Transportation’s Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), administering at the height of his time at UMTA an annual capital improvement grant and operating assistance program of over $650 million. As Director-Suburban Services, he led the service and capital investment planning, as well as the management of community relations necessary to support the operations of BN’s commuter service operating between Chicago and Aurora, Illinois. Between 1986 and 1988, he served as BN’s Chicago Region Senior Director-Planning and Administration, with region-wide budget, service design and operations analysis responsibilities, and then returned to BN’s Chicago commuter service in 1988 as operating Superintendent.

From 1991 to 1996, DJ was the Assistant to the Chairman of BN, moving to Fort Worth and working on various planning and corporate reorganization assignments that led to the construction of the Network Operations Center in North Fort Worth, the pursuit of positive train control, and the strategy for how BN could grow through the last decade of the 20th Century.

Today, DJ oversees the operating and capital investment planning, the contract administration and safety management of all commuter rail service operating on BNSF, including the services in Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles and Minneapolis. He administers the BNSF/Amtrak operating agreement, works with various states in support of their intercity passenger rail planning and investment programs and participates with others in planning and negotiations related to new-start passenger service on BNSF. He also manages the corporate business car operations.

Education
Masters of Science, Diplomacy, Georgetown University
Transportation Planning and Management Program, The Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University

Personal
DJ and his family reside in Hurst, Texas.

BNSF

BNSF Railway is one of North America’s leading freight transportation companies operating on 32,000 route miles of track in 28 states and two Canadian provinces. BNSF is one of the top transporters of consumer goods, grain, industrial goods and low-sulfur coal that help feed, clothe, supply, and power American homes and businesses every day. BNSF and its employees have developed one of the most technologically advanced, and efficient railroads in the industry. And we are working continuously to improve the value of the safety, service, energy, and environmental benefits we provide to our customers and the communities we serve. You can learn more about BNSF at www.BNSF.com.