



METROPOLITAN PIER AND  
EXPOSITION AUTHORITY  
AT MCCORMICK SQUARE



**Larita Clark**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority**

Appointed in January 2020, Larita Clark is the Chief Executive Officer for the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) and is the first African American woman to hold that position. MPEA owns and operates McCormick Place, North America's largest convention center.

Before being appointed as CEO, Larita was MPEA's Chief Financial Officer and has been with the Authority since 1984. During her tenure with the Authority, she has held various financial positions, including Controller, Director of Finance and Administration of McCormick Place, and Assistant Controller.

Pre-COVID, McCormick Place welcomes nearly 3 million visitors every year and generates economic output of nearly \$1.8 billion each year. Larita is responsible for providing leadership and financial management to the McCormick Square campus, which is comprised of McCormick Place, two hotels (Marriott Marquis Chicago and Hyatt Regency at McCormick Place), the Wintrust Arena, and an energy center.

A native of Chicago, Larita graduated from Loyola University of Chicago and Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, she began her career as an auditor with Peat Marwick Mitchell (currently KPMG).