



Port of Greater Cincinnati  
Development Authority

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## **PORT OF GREATER CINCINNATI APPOINTS LAURA N. BRUNNER PRESIDENT**

**Cincinnati, Ohio** – The Board of Directors of the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority is pleased to announce today the appointment of Ms. Laura N. Brunner as President. Ms. Brunner will be the chief executive officer of the Port Authority and will have responsibility for leading the agency as it expands beyond its traditional roles in public finance and brownfields redevelopment to becoming one of the economic development leaders in the region.

“The Board of the Port Authority conducted an extensive national search for a new president,” said Lynn Marmer, Vice Chair of the Port Authority. “We had 75 candidates from more than 14 states interested in the position. After an extensive selection process, the Board unanimously concluded that Laura was clearly the very best choice.”

“Laura is a seasoned professional who has accomplished innovative and transformational projects in our community through her results-oriented and inclusive style,” continued Ms. Marmer. “She has demonstrated a deep commitment to economic inclusion in innovative ways – earning her recognition in 2011 by the local NAACP chapter with the President's Award and the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission with the Merlin Pope Diversity Award. She is well regarded in both the civic and business community. Her entrepreneurship, extensive knowledge of the community, tenure in real estate development and finance, and demonstrated experience of working successfully with private and public leaders, including those in Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati, impressed the Port Board members. She is an extremely skilled and inspiring leader who will allow the Port Authority and the region to begin to truly capture the wonderful opportunities we have for economic growth.”

Ms. Brunner, 52, began her career as a CPA with several local firms, culminating in partnership at Barnes, Dennig and Co. She headed her own business consultancy in early 2001 and then became the Managing Principal of the large and very active Cincinnati and Dayton offices of the real estate brokerage firm of Cassidy Turley, formerly Colliers Turley Martin Tucker. Most recently, Ms. Brunner was the Executive VP of New Business Development for Al. Neyer, LLC in Cincinnati.

“I am excited, honored and energized to be selected to be the President of the Port Authority. We have a clear mandate from policy makers at the City of Cincinnati and the County to use the funds they have generously allocated and unique tools and opportunities available to the Port Authority to produce growth and economic development in both Cincinnati and Hamilton County. I look forward to joining

with all the stakeholders in our region – elected officials, City and County managers, the business, academic and service communities, and civic and neighborhood leaders – to capture the great opportunities we have in our City and County for growth, inclusion and prosperity.”

Ms. Brunner has an extensive history of community involvement including serving as a commissioner of the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, and on the boards of Downtown Cincinnati, Inc., University of Cincinnati Real Estate Board, Mercantile Library, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Christ College School of Nursing, Beech Acres Foundation, and the Alumni Board of Leadership Cincinnati. She is past President of the boards of Dan Beard Council-Boy Scouts of America and the Cincinnati Ballet.

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***About the Port Authority:***

The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority was formed in 2000 to stimulate growth of the regional economy as an economic development organization for Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati. The Port Authority enters into public-private partnerships to provide infrastructure financing for development projects and to redevelop brownfields. For additional information, please visit <http://www.cincinnatiport.org/>.