



GREGORY A. O'DELL
President and Chief Executive Officer
Events DC

Gregory A. O'Dell serves as the president and chief executive officer of Events DC, the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia. Events DC owns and operates the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Entertainment & Sports Arena, the historic Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium and the surrounding Festival Grounds, the Fields at RFK Campus, and the non-military functions of the DC Armory. The organization also built and serves as landlord for Nationals Park, the first LEED-certified major professional sports stadium in the United States, and administers the historic Carnegie Library at Mt. Vernon Square.

The Government of the District of Columbia created the quasi-public Events DC in October 2009 through the merger of the Washington Convention Center Authority and the D.C. Sports and Entertainment Commission. Mr. O'Dell has the unique experience of leading both organizations as part of his public service in the District of Columbia.

As president and CEO, Mr. O'Dell oversees Events DC's three lines of business: Conventions and Meetings, Sports and Entertainment and Creative Services. His primary responsibilities include oversight of the development and promotion of hospitality, athletic, entertainment and cultural activities that generate economic and community benefits for the residents and businesses of District of Columbia.

Prior to the merger, Mr. O'Dell served as chief executive officer and general manager of the Washington Convention Center Authority, where he was responsible for the operations of the 2.3-million-square-foot Convention Center, an award-winning facility that sees approximately one million visitors each year and has generated nearly \$6 billion in direct delegate spending since opening in 2003. Mr. O'Dell was also responsible for the Authority's development efforts, having led negotiations with the selected private developer in the \$520 million public-private partnership for the 1,175-room, 46-suite Washington Marriott Marquis Convention Center hotel, which opened in May 2014.

Before joining the Washington Convention Center Authority, Mr. O'Dell was the president and chief executive officer of the D.C. Sports and Entertainment Commission, where he led the team that completed – in record time and within the legislatively mandated cost cap – the 41,546-seat Nationals Park. Before heading up the Commission, he was the chief development officer for the Government of the District of Columbia, where he was responsible for stimulating and promoting economic development within the District.



Preceding his move to District government, Mr. O’Dell worked for the former management and IT consulting firm BearingPoint. While there, Mr. O’Dell advanced to senior manager and practice lead for Construction Advisory Services, responsible for construction and development services to both public and private clients. After leaving BearingPoint, he served as a principal and owner of the Clemens Consulting Group, where he continued to provide consulting services to clients throughout the lifecycle of their development projects.

A resident of Ward 6, Mr. O’Dell is the board chairman of the DowntownDC BID and the president of AIPC (International Association of Convention Centers). He also serves on the boards of the Professional Convention Management Association; the Washington, DC Economic Partnership; DC Surface Transit, Inc.; Destination DC; Wofford College; DC Jazz Festival; National Foundation for Affordable Housing Solutions; and Children’s Hospital (Washington, DC). He received a bachelor’s degree in finance and government from Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.