
Hiroshi Sugiura

Mr. Hiroshi Sugiura is the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Intercity Railway Company (MIR), the operator of Tsukuba Express, a railway connecting 35 miles between Tokyo city center and Tsukuba Academic City.

Since joining MIR in 2009, he became the Vice-President of the Railway Business Headquarters and is in charge of future development plans for railway business and safety operations of railway service.

Before joining MIR, he had a long career serving the Tokyo Metropolitan Government for more than 35 years, where he served as the Director-General of the Urban Development Bureau in 2004. He lead many urban design projects including the redevelopment of harbor areas and transportation facility developments such as a beltway around the capital and expansion of Haneda Airport.

In the field of urban railway network development, he worked for several elevated rail truck projects in Tokyo such as JRChuo-Line, Odakyu-Line, and Seibu-Line. He was also part of the introduction of new lines such as Tama-Monorail and a new transit system known as Yurikamome-Line.

Mr. Sugiura also spent five years as a faculty member of Waseda University from 2004. He now serves as a member of the Urban Planning Council of Tokyo Metropolitan Government and a board member of the City Planning Association of Japan.