



MINNESOTA
SPORTS FACILITIES
AUTHORITY



Photo: Tiffany Daniels/Mortenson Construction, Courtesy of SMG & U.S. Bank Stadium.

Executive Director

COMPENSATION

Salary Range: \$200,000 - \$230,000

Applications will be accepted until August 7, 2026.
All applicants must [apply online here](#).

PRESENTED BY

ballinger | leafblad

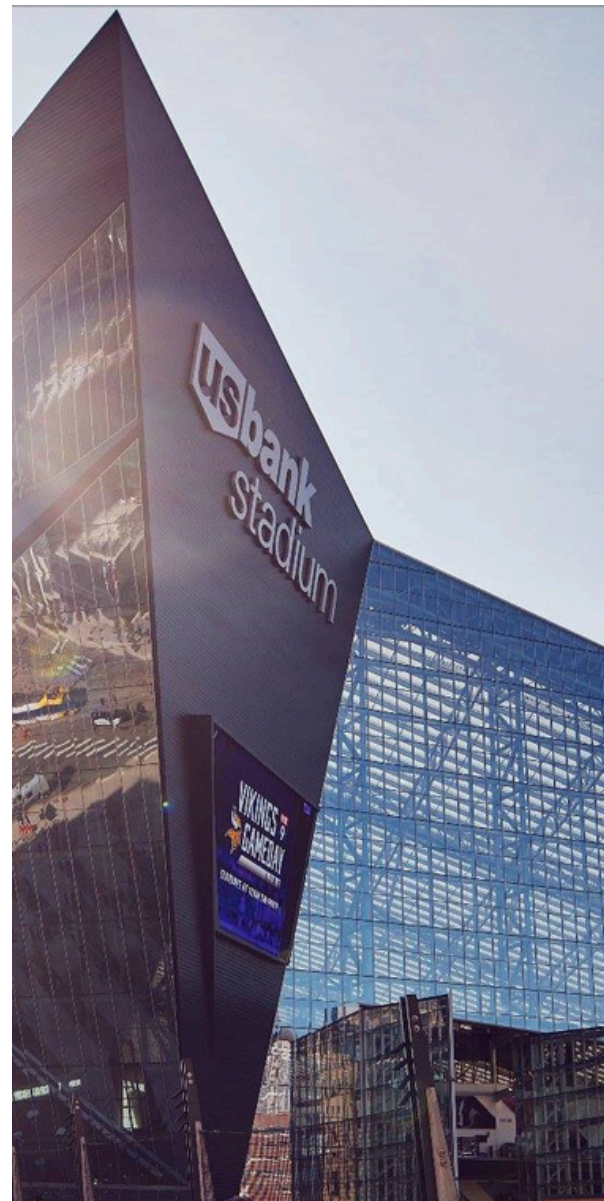
Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority

Executive Director

Ballinger | Leafblad is honored to partner with the [Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority \(MSFA\)](#) on the search for their next Executive Director to provide strategic leadership, oversight, and project management of U.S. Bank Stadium, one of Minnesota’s most significant assets.

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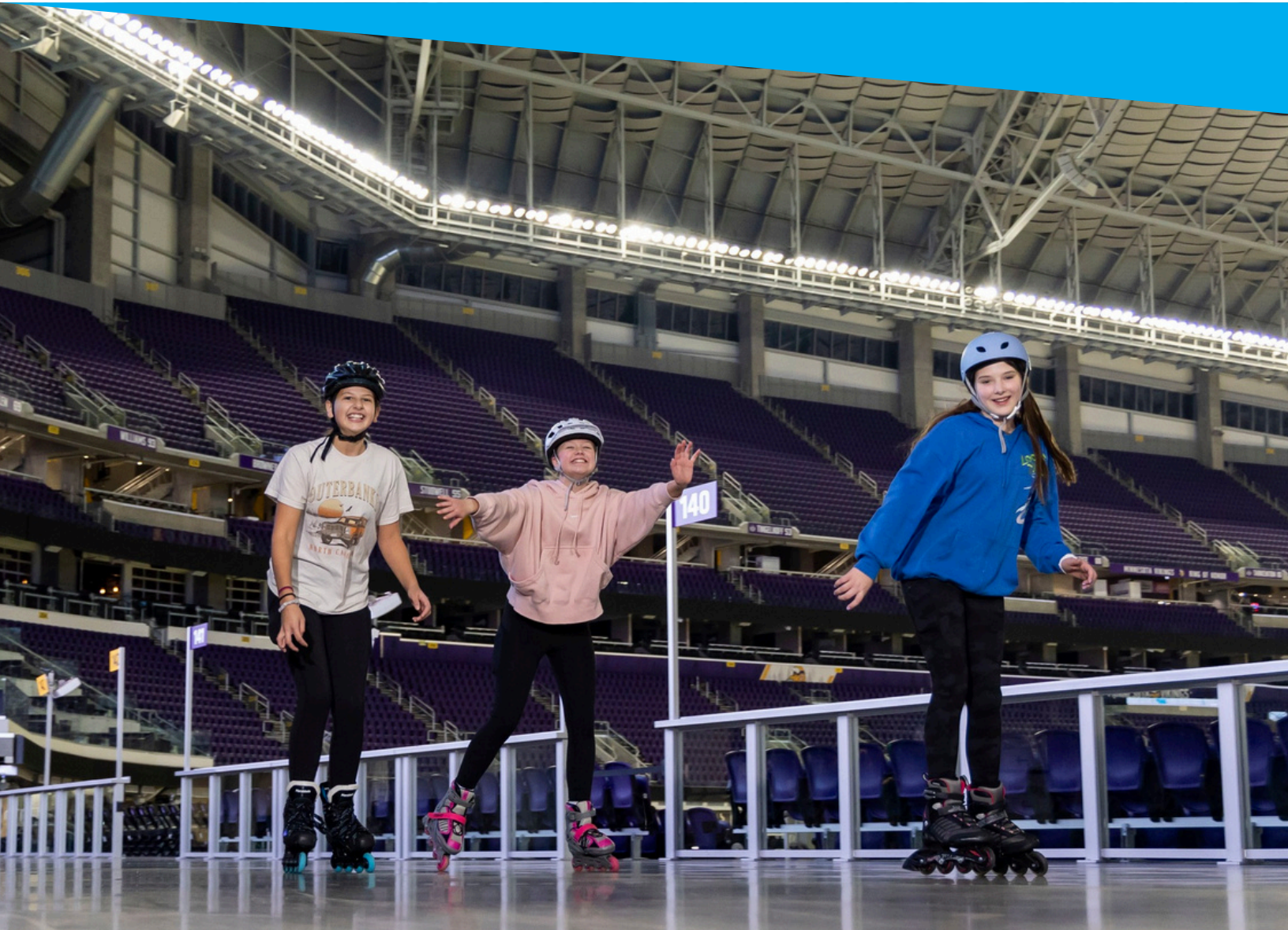
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OVERVIEW

Established by the Minnesota Legislature, the MSFA serves as the public owner of U.S. Bank Stadium and is responsible for safeguarding the stadium's long-term success as a premier destination for sports, entertainment, civic events, and community engagement on behalf of the people of Minnesota.

Supporting that mission, MSFA oversees major public-private agreements, capital reinvestment planning, and financial functions.



AT-A-GLANCE

Mission

We commit to creating memorable experiences through service excellence while providing a safe, world-class sports and entertainment environment for all.

Core Values

- Integrity • Stewardship
- Equity and Community Focus
- Accountability
- Innovation and Responsiveness

2016

Year stadium opened

2,000+

Events since opening

70 days

of community programming per year

10.6 million+

Visitors since opening

\$2.77 billion

Economic impact since opening



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



SUMMARY

The Executive Director reports to the MSFA Chair and serves as the organization's principal administrator. This leader manages a small but highly impactful team, and in conjunction with the Chair oversees complex relationships with key partners including the Minnesota Vikings, stadium operator, government entities, consultants, and contractors. The MSFA does not operate or market the stadium. The MSFA provides oversight, accountability, and strategic leadership to ensure that contractual obligations are fulfilled, public interests are protected, and the stadium remains a world-class facility for decades to come.

This is an exceptional opportunity for a collaborative and highly credible leader who enjoys managing complexity, building trusted relationships, and advancing large-scale projects. The ideal candidate brings proven strong project management experience and judgment, political awareness, financial acumen, and a commitment to public service.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

This position reports to the **Chair of the MSFA board, Michael Vekich**. Direct reports include the **Director of Finance and Accountant**.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

- Serve as the principal administrator for the MSFA, implementing board priorities and ensuring effective execution of organizational goals and initiatives.
- In consultation with the Chair, provide strategic counsel, policy guidance, and operational insight.
- Ensure MSFA is accountable to the public and adheres to state statutes and other regulations.
- Prepare and present reports, recommendations, analyses, and updates to the board regarding organizational performance, capital investments, contracts, and strategic priorities.
- Maintain strong working relationships with state, county, and municipal staff members whose partnership is critical to the stadium's success.
- As directed by the Chair, represent the Authority in meetings, presentations, and discussions related to its mission, responsibilities, and strategic priorities.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- Lead current and long-range capital planning efforts to preserve and enhance U.S. Bank Stadium as a premier public venue and economic asset.
- Develop capital budgets and manage a complex portfolio of capital improvement projects, facility reinvestment initiatives, infrastructure upgrades, and long-term maintenance planning.
- Monitor all stadium projects, whether performed by MSFA or the Stadium Operator, to ensure they are delivered effectively, responsibly, and in alignment with contracted budget and schedule.
- Evaluate emerging opportunities, technologies, and operational innovations that support the stadium's long-term sustainability and performance.
- Oversee contractual performance of the stadium operator and the food and beverage provider.
- Lead contract negotiations, amendments, procurements, and consultant engagements as appropriate.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP & RISK MANAGEMENT

- Oversee the financial management of the MSFA, including budgeting, forecasting, reserve planning, reporting, and fiscal controls.
- Monitor capital budgets, project expenditures, operating agreements, and long-term financial obligations.
- Ensure compliance with applicable state statutes, bylaws, policies, and procedures.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

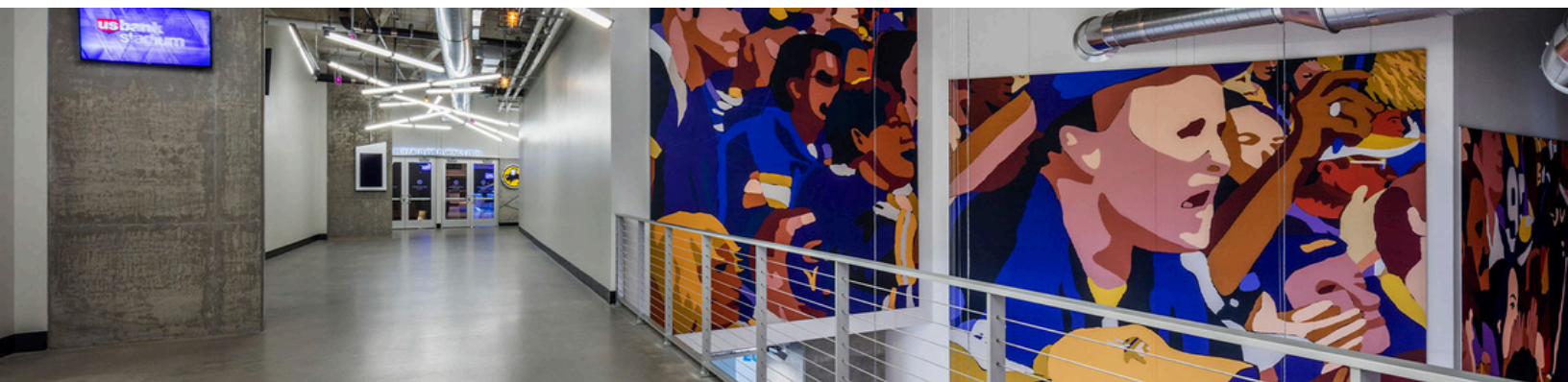
- Lead, coach, and support a small, high-performing staff.
- Foster a culture grounded in integrity, accountability, collaboration, transparency, and service.
- Create clear expectations, encourage open communication, and ensure organizational priorities are executed effectively.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- 7+ years of progressively responsible leadership in public administration, facilities management, capital project management, infrastructure, or similarly complex environments.
- Proven success leading large-scale, multi-stakeholder projects with significant budgets and long timelines.
- Experience overseeing contracts, procurement, or public-private partnerships.
- Strong financial acumen, including budgeting, forecasting, financial reporting, and organizational risk management.
- Expertise with governmental processes, public-sector governance, and regulatory compliance.
- Experience presenting to and working with governing boards, commissions, and local units of government.
- Exceptional written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Ability to build trust, navigate conflicts constructively, and maintain productive relationships across diverse stakeholder groups.
- Demonstrated sound judgment, integrity, and commitment to ethical leadership.
- Ability to balance strategic thinking with strong execution and attention to detail.
- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree preferred.

PREFERRED EXPERIENCE

- Project management or facilities-related leadership experience.
- Experience with state, county, city, and other public-sector organizations.
- Familiarity with public finance, governmental accounting, and complex contracts.
- Experience managing high-profile public assets, venues, and infrastructure.



COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

COMPENSATION

The salary range for this position is \$200,000 - \$230,000.

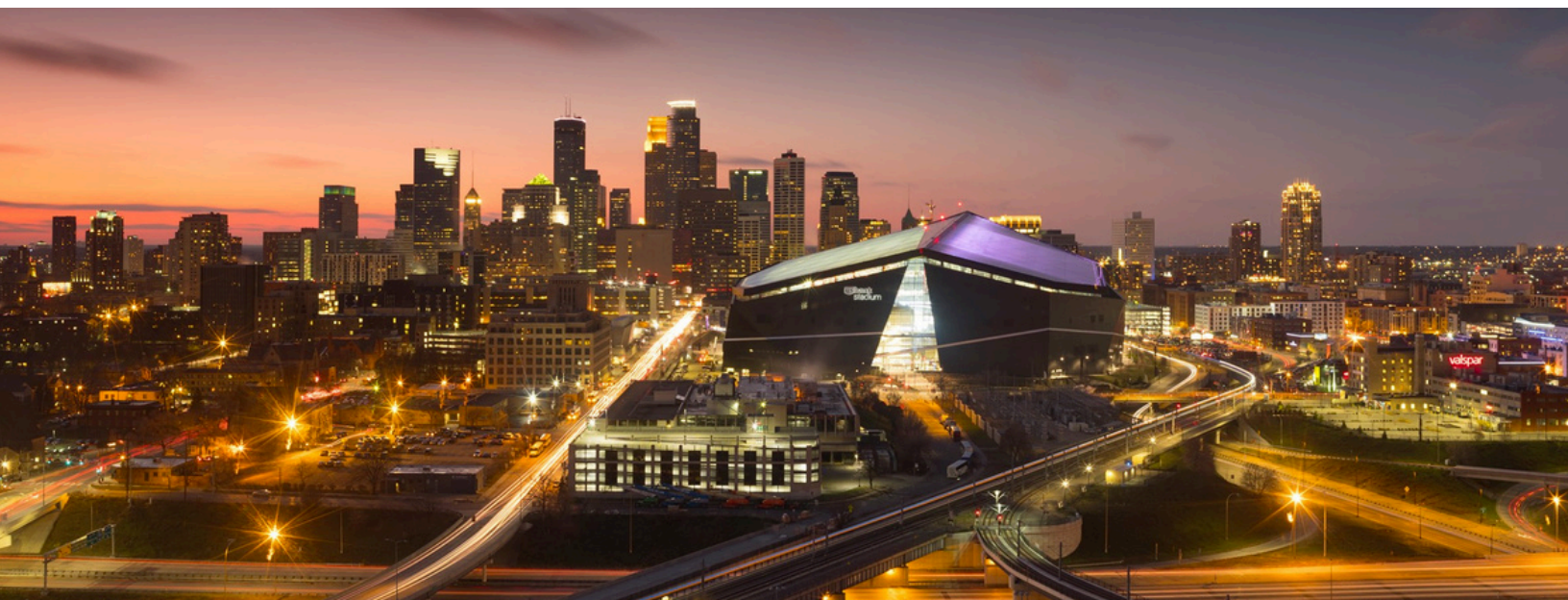
BENEFITS

In addition to a direct salary, full-time employees receive compensation through participation in the MSFA's benefit program immediately upon employment. The MSFA benefit program includes:

- Health care
- Dental care
- Life insurance
- Paid time off
- Paid holidays
- Long-term disability insurance
- Pension plan

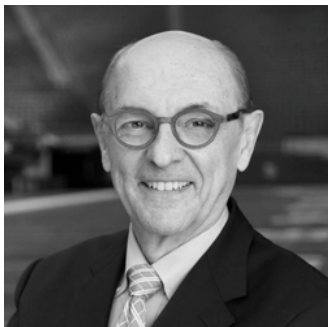
LOCATION

The position is based at U.S. Bank Stadium in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is not a remote or hybrid position.



MEET THE BOARD

The five commissioners of the MSFA board make policies for the administration of the MSFA and appoint an Executive Director to act as the administrative head of the MSFA. The Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the board, carries out the policies established by the board, and directs business and administrative procedures.



Michael Vekich, Chair



Bill McCarthy



Sharon Sayles Belton



Tony Sertich



Laura Bishop

All applicants must [apply online here](#).

Applications will be accepted through **August 7, 2026**.
To apply, a resume and cover letter are required for consideration.

We strive for a transparent and supportive process, starting with an initial review of applications, followed by exploratory conversations with qualified candidates, in-depth interviews, and open communication throughout. **There will be an immediate and ongoing review of candidates, so we encourage and appreciate early applications.**

All inquiries will be handled with strict confidentiality, subject to standard recruiting practices and any applicable legal disclosure obligations. For more details or questions, inquiries may also be directed to Lars Leafblad, lars@ballingerleafblad.com.

Ballinger | Leafblad Search Team

Our collaborative search model is led by partners who bring deep expertise in executive recruitment, stakeholder engagement, strategic communications, and search execution. With a disciplined, relationship-centered approach and strong operational rigor, we ensure a seamless process and a successful outcome for every search.



Lars Leafblad
Co-Founder & Partner



Jamie Millard
Co-Owner & Managing Partner



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leafblad

ABOUT BALLINGER | LEAFBLAD

Founded in 2014, Ballinger | Leafblad is a civic-focused executive search firm driven by a passion for strengthening leadership in mission-driven organizations. Rooted in partnership and a deep connection to the communities we serve, we specialize in matching organizations with exceptional leaders who align with their values and vision. Our approach is relationship-centered and designed to foster meaningful, long-term impact.