



## **WSIB Names New Chief Investment Officer**

### **Head of Risk Management and Asset Allocation named to top investment post; Longtime CIO Gary Bruebaker retiring after 19 years at the agency, 42 years in the industry**

(November 21, 2019)

**Olympia** – The Washington State Investment Board (WSIB) today announced its investment team will start 2020 with a newly named Chief Investment Officer (CIO). Allyson Tucker, who currently heads the agency’s Risk Management and Asset Allocation team, will become the WSIB’s next CIO, effective January 1, according to Executive Director Theresa Whitmarsh.

Tucker, with a 20-year career in the investment management business, has worked at the WSIB since 2009. She reports to longtime CIO Gary Bruebaker, who announced last April his plans to retire in December 2019. He has served as the WSIB’s CIO since 2001. The WSIB oversees a \$140 billion investment program serving state retirement plans and other public trust accounts in Washington state.

Whitmarsh announced the CIO decision at the WSIB’s November 21 public meeting. She said the CIO succession decision comes after nearly a year-long nationwide recruiting effort, including extensive research and interviews involving several external finalist candidates.

“We looked carefully at well-qualified and compelling people for this job, and I’m thrilled that Allyson emerged as our top choice amid a very competitive field,” said Whitmarsh. “She has the vision, energy, experience and intelligence to fill some big shoes being left by Gary Bruebaker, and we are doubly fortunate that she is a familiar and respected professional with our Board members, staff and industry peers.”

“I am happy and gratified to see Allyson earn this opportunity,” said Bruebaker. “I have been privileged to work in public investments for 42 years, and directly with Allyson for the past decade. It will be a real joy to shift into my retirement years with this added degree of pride and confidence.”

Tucker joined the WSIB 10 years ago as an Assistant Senior Investment Officer focused on public equity investments. In mid-2012 she was named to head the agency’s Risk Management and Asset Allocation program. Prior to her work at the WSIB, she was an Investment Specialist for BMGI, the investment management group serving the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Gates family’s private wealth management office. During 1998-2003, she was a research analyst for Ragen MacKenzie, a full-service brokerage firm in the Pacific Northwest.

She is a graduate of the University of Washington where she earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration. She is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholder, a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA), and currently serves on the Board and investment committee for The Seattle Foundation as well as the Board of Pacific Pension & Investment Institute (PPI).

“I am humbled and excited by the trust and opportunity being extended to me with this leadership role,” said Tucker. “The responsibilities that come with public asset management are enormous and evolving. My first priorities will be to listen to my colleagues so that collectively we continue to uphold our promise to make every decision based on generating value for the WSIB’s beneficiaries.”

#### **About the WSIB**

The Washington State Investment Board manages investment assets for 17 retirement plans benefiting public employees, teachers, law enforcement officers, firefighters and judges. The organization also manages investments for other public trust funds that support Labor & Industries benefit insurance programs and other state educational and disabilities beneficiary programs. The WSIB employs a staff of 105 people and was created by state legislative policy in 1981.