



## **Paula C. Pienton, S.E., P.E.**

Paula serves as T.Y. Lin International's National Director of Passenger Rail in the Transit line of business. This is a dual role with Central Region Director of Transit and Rail. Following her passion, Paula can work with transit teams around the country (and globe) in defining the concern and identifying the resources to find solutions. Paula's technical expertise includes rail and transit engineering and planning projects, capital planning and programming efforts, EIS and construction management efforts. Her career was initiated as a highway bridge engineer, transitioning to freight rail design and evolving to passenger rail services.

Prior to joining TYLI, Paula served as Central Region Transit Lead for AECOM, covering a 13-state area, where she was responsible for establishing the direction, marketing, and business development for transit and freight rail clients in North America. Prior to AECOM, Paula was a Vice President with HDR, serving as Transportation Business Group manager for the Chicago area. In this role Paula managed operations of staff engaged in all modes of transportation, engaged in client management, supported business development efforts and managed projects for Freight and DOT clients.

Projects Paula has been involved with over her career include design for the O'Hare Curbfront Expansion, Bridge Design of 2 Mississippi River crossings, she has led multi-discipline teams in delivering Preliminary Engineering for the Chicago Transit Authority's Red Purple Modernization Project and a segment of California High Speed Rail, Metra's Asset Management Initiative and Norfolk Southern's Coosa River Bridge Replacement. Environmental clearance projects include several projects with CREATE, a freight rail initiative in the Chicago region and I-70 in Southern Illinois.

Paula has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana and studied for her Masters of Business Management at Loyola University. Paula has a history of volunteering and supporting community and professional efforts. . A member of American Society of Civil Engineers since 1983, Paula has served as the Illinois Section Newsletter editor, chaired the Structural Group and was a Director of the Section. Personally, Paula was elected to the Local School Council for Bell Elementary in Chicago, for 4-2 year terms, serving as Chair for 2 of those terms. She also service on the Board of Directors for Friends of Bell School, a not for profit association that established funding for school programs through grants and fund raising initiatives. Currently Paula serves as the Secretary/Second Vice President for the Civil and Environmental Engineering Alumni Association of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Paula is also serving on the Technical Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Commission of Chicago and as Committee Chair of the Public Transit Committee Illinois ACEC. She has been actively engaged with WTS, serving on the Scholarship Evaluation Committee of the Greater Chicago Chapter for 10 years, participating in the Maps and Legends mentoring program and recently volunteering with the Transportation You collaboration with Illinois DOT and Chicago Public Schools. Paula is a graduate of the Eno Transit Executive Seminar. Her hobbies include enjoying all genres of music, gardening and entertaining friends. Paula is a resident of Chicago, Illinois, living with her husband Chris, and a recent addition, Payton, her Goldendoodle puppy. Paula has 2 daughters, Audrey and Hayley, blazing their own professional trails in business consulting and public policy.

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