



NCSITE Mentoring Program

Mentor Resume:

Jennifer Portanova, PE, CPM

NC Department of Transportation

Raleigh, NC

- Contact Information:** jportanova@ncdot.gov
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- Educational Background:**
- BS in Civil Engineering (NC State University)
- Work Background:**
- 29 years of experience in transportation, specializing in freeway and arterial networks, incident response, ITS, and signal systems
 - 23 years with NCDOT in Mobility and Safety Division
 - 7 years in the private sector before joining NCDOT
 - Recognized national leader in TSMO, including development of the first Transportation Operations Manual (TOM)
- Career Volunteer Background:**
- President, ITS Carolinas
 - Co-Chair, AASHTO CTSO TOM Technical Committee
 - Member, TRB ACF13 Limited Access Roadway Operations
 - Various research projects and advisory boards
- What's different about me:**
- First woman to serve as State Traffic Engineer in NC
 - Top 5 Clifton Strengths: Command, Competition, Arranger, Significance, and Achiever
 - Experience in private and public sectors
 - Enjoys collaborative problem-solving exercises
 - Known for connecting the dots and translating across disciplines to bring the right people together
 - Played piccolo in the NCSU Marching Band
- What I can offer to a Protégé:**
- Firsthand experience balancing career and family as a working mom
 - Skilled at helping mentees build confidence, create opportunities, and successfully navigate complex organizational structures
- I attribute my success to the following:**
- Guidance from great women throughout my career
 - Tenacity and genuineness
 - Commitment to growth through years of self-reflection and professional development
- Other Passions/Hobbies/Interests:**
- Art journaling and creative wellness
 - Personal development reading
 - Family time and walking dogs