

Appendix D - Acronyms and Terms Used in this Document

This appendix includes many of the acronyms that are related to transportation planning. An attempt has been made to spell out all acronyms as they are used in the document. In addition, for many of the terms used, additional detail is provided.

Transportation Planning Acronyms & Terms

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act. The legislation defining the responsibilities of and requirements for transportation providers to make transportation accessible to individuals with disabilities.

ADT: Average Daily Traffic.

AQCD: Air Quality Conformity Determination. The process to assess the compliance of any transportation plan, program, or project with air quality implementation plans. The conformity process is defined by the Clean Air Act.

Attainment Area: An area considered to have air quality that meets or exceeds the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health standards used in the Clean Air Act. Nonattainment areas are areas considered not to have met these standards for designated pollutants. An area may be an attainment area for one pollutant and a nonattainment area for others.

AVL: Automatic Vehicle Location. Typically used in transit buses, provides a mechanism to determine the location of each equipped bus. This information can be used to implement real-time transit arrival information at stations and on the web.

Bikeway: A facility designed to accommodate bicycle travel for recreational or commuting purposes. Bikeways are not necessarily separated facilities; they may be designed and operated to be shared with other travel modes.

CAAA: Clean Air Act Amendments. The original Clean Air Act was passed in 1963, but the national air pollution control program is actually based on the 1970 version of the law. The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments are the most far-reaching revisions of the 1970 law. The 1990 Clean Air Act is the most recent version of the 1970 version of the law. The 1990 amendments made major changes in the Clean Air Act.

CAC: Citizen's Advisory Committee.

CBD: Central Business District.

CMAQ: Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program.

CMP: Congestion Management Program. Systematic process for managing congestion. Provides information on transportation system performance and finds alternative ways to alleviate congestion and enhance the mobility of people and goods, to levels that meet state and local needs. Formally known as the Congestion Management System, the term was changed in the SAFETEA-LU legislation.

CNG: Compressed Natural Gas.

CO: Carbon Monoxide.

CTPP: Census Transportation Planning Package.

DEQ: Department of Environmental Quality.

DLCD: Department of Land Conservation & Development (State of Oregon).

EIS: Environmental Impact Statement. Report developed as part of the National Environmental Policy Act requirements, which details any adverse economic, social, and environmental effects of a proposed transportation project for which federal funding is being sought. Adverse effects could include air, water, or noise pollution; destruction or disruption of natural resources; adverse employment effects; injurious displacement of people or businesses; or disruption of desirable community or regional growth.

EMME/2: Software that is used for planning the urban and regional transportation of people through transportation demand modeling and network analysis and evaluation.

EMP: Expressway Management Plan.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency.

EPRS: Enhanced Passenger Rail Service.

FHWA: Federal Highway Administration.

FRA: Federal Railroad Administration.

FTA: Federal Transit Administration.

GIS: Geographic Information System.

HOV: High-Occupancy Vehicle (carpool, train, bus, etc.).

IGA: Intergovernmental Agreement.

ISTEA: Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. Signed into law in 1991, valid 1991 to 1997. Federal legislation that provides funding and regulations for transportation planning using federal funds in metropolitan areas. Legislative initiative by the U.S. Congress that restructured funding for transportation programs. ISTEA authorized increased levels of highway and transportation funding from FY 92-97 and increased the role of regional planning commissions/MPOs in funding decisions. The Act also required comprehensive regional and

statewide long-term transportation plans and places an increased emphasis on public participation and transportation alternatives.

ITS: Intelligent Transportation System. The application of advanced technologies to improve the efficiency and safety of transportation systems.

Land Use: Refers to the manner in which portions of land or the structures on them are used, i.e., commercial, residential, retail, industrial, etc.

Land Use Plan: A plan that establishes strategies for the use of land to meet identified community needs.

LOAC: Local Officials Advisory Committee.

LOS: Level of Service. A qualitative assessment of a road's operating conditions used by transportation officials which reflects the relative ease of traffic flow on a scale of A to F, with free-flow being rated LOS-A and congested conditions rated as LOS-F.

Metropolitan Planning Area: The geographic area in which the metropolitan transportation planning process required by 23 U.S.C. 134 and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1607) must be carried out.

MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization (such as SKATS). 1) Regional policy body, required in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000, and designated by local officials and the governor of the state. Responsible in cooperation with the state and other transportation providers for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning requirements of federal highway and transit legislation. 2) Formed in cooperation with the state, develops transportation plans and programs for the metropolitan area. For each urbanized area, a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must be designated by agreement between the Governor and local units of government representing 75% of the affected population (in the metropolitan area), including the central cities or cities as defined by the Bureau of the Census, or in accordance with procedures established by applicable State or local law (23 U.S.C. 134(b)(1)/Federal Transit Act of 1991 Sec. 8(b)(1)). (FHWA2).

MWACT: Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation.

MWVCOG: Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments.

NAAQS: National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

NHS: National Highway System.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide.

O & D: Origin and Destination.

ODOT: Oregon Department of Transportation.

OMAP: Oregon Medical Assistance Program.

OTP: Oregon Transportation Plan. Long-range transportation plan produced by ODOT.

Paratransit: Comparable transportation service required by the American Disabilities Act for individuals with disabilities who are unable to use fixed route transportation systems.

PC: Policy Committee. Committee that represents the legal embodiment of the SKATS MPO. Determines policy direction and allocation of federal funds received by the MPO. Comprised of representatives from the local jurisdictions and organizations.

P & E: Population and Employment.

PIP: Public Involvement Plan. Superseded by the Public Participation Plan (PPP).

PL: Metropolitan Planning Funds (federal money provided to the MPO). Primary source of funding for metropolitan planning designated by the FHWA.

PEA: Planning Emphasis Area.

PM-10: Particulate Matter (less than 10 micrometers).

PPP: Public Participation Plan. Document that details the public involvement process in regards to the plans developed by SKATS. Replaces the PIP and is required by federal legislation, SAFETEA-LU.

RBS: Regional Bicycle System. One component of the regional transportation network.

RTSP: Regional Transportation Systems Plan. Long-range (20+ year) plan identifying all transportation modes in an urban area. Required by federal transportation legislation.

SAFETEA-LU: Safe Accountable Fair Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy Act for Users. Signed into law in August 2005, valid 2005 to 2009. Federal legislation that provides funding and regulations for transportation planning using federal funds in metropolitan areas.

SIP: State Implementation Plan for Air Quality.

SKATS: Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study. The metropolitan planning organization for the Salem-Keizer-Turner urban area.

SKTD: Salem Keizer Transit District. Also uses the acronym SKT. Provides public transportation services in the Salem-Keizer urban area.

SOV: Single-Occupant Vehicle.

SPR: State Planning & Research.

STIP: State Transportation Improvement Program. A staged, multi-year, statewide, intermodal program of transportation projects, consistent with the statewide transportation plan and planning processes as well as metropolitan plans, **TIPs**, and processes.

STP: Surface Transportation Program. Federal-aid highway funding program that funds a broad range of surface transportation capital needs, including many roads, transit, sea and airport access, vanpool, bike, and pedestrian facilities.

STP-U: Surface Transportation Program – Urban. Federal funding program. See **STP**.

TAC: Technical Advisory Committee. Committee composed of staff members from the member jurisdictions and agencies of SKATS. Provides oversight on technical matters to SKATS staff.

TAZ: Transportation Analysis Zone. Used to partition an area into smaller, more manageable geographic areas to facilitate determining the traffic demand when modeling.

TCM: Transportation Control Measure.

TDM: Transportation Demand Management. Programs designed to reduce demand for transportation through various means, such as the use of transit and of alternative work hours.

TDP: Transit Development Program.

TEA-21: Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. Signed into law in June 1998, valid 1998 to 2003. Authorized in 1998, TEA-21 authorized federal funding for transportation investment for fiscal years 1998-2003. Approximately \$217 billion in funding was authorized, which was used for highway, transit, and other surface transportation programs.

TGM: Transportation & Growth Management (joint ODOT/DLCD grant program).

TIP: Transportation Improvement Program. A document prepared by a metropolitan planning organization that lists projects to be funded with FHWA/FTA funds for the next one- to three-year period.

TMA: Transportation Management Area. 1) All urbanized areas over 200,000 in population, and any other area that requests such designation. 2) An urbanized area with a population over 200,000 (as determined by the latest decennial census) or other area when TMA designation is requested by the Governor and the MPO (or affect local officials), and officially designated by the Administrators of the FHWA and the FTA. The TMA designation applies to the entire metropolitan planning area(s). (23 CFR 500)

TMA: Transportation Management Association.

TOD: Transit Oriented Development.

TPR: Transportation Planning Rule (implementing State Land Use Goal 12).

TSM: Transportation Systems Management. Programs to optimize the use of the existing transportation infrastructure.

TSP: Transportation Systems Plan. Long-range transportation plan identifying and guiding transportation projects in an area. Each city, county, and MPO produces a TSP. Update frequencies depend on the individual jurisdiction or organization.

UGB: Urban Growth Boundary. A UGB is a legal boundary that separates rural areas from urban areas. UGBs are designed to encourage development in existing urban areas and preservation of land outside the boundary. Each city or metropolitan area in Oregon has an UGB defined.

UPWP: Unified Planning Work Program.

Urbanized Area: Area that contains a city of 50,000 or more population plus incorporated surrounding areas meeting size or density criteria as defined by the U.S. Census.

USDOT: United States Department of Transportation.

V/C: Volume/Capacity Ratio. Common output from travel demand modeling software, this provides the ratio of the demand, or volume, on a roadway segment to the defined carrying capacity of that segment. This ratio provides another means of determining how the regional road network is operating. Ratios above 1.0 are considered to represent gridlock.

VISUM: Computerized Transportation Modeling Software.

VMT: Vehicle Miles of Travel.

WTW: Welfare to Work.