

Appendix N

Glossary

Access - The opportunity to reach a given point within a certain time frame, or without being impeded by physical, social or economic barriers. Enhancing mobility is one way of providing improved access.

Allocation - An administrative distribution of funds among States, done for funds that do not have statutory distribution formulas.

Alternative Fuels - Any motor fuel other than gasoline, especially; those that result in lower levels of air pollutants.

AASHTO - American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act; Federal law that requires public facilities including transportation services to be fully accessible for persons with disabilities. It also requires paratransit service in areas where fixed route transit service is operated

Apportionment - A division or assignment of funds based on prescribed formulas in the law and consisting of divided authorized obligation authority for a specific program among the States.

Arterial - A class of street serving major traffic movement that is not designated as a highway.

ADT - Average Daily Traffic; the number of vehicles passing a fixed point in a 24-hour time frame.

Base Year - The lead-off year of data used in a study.

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 modes.

Build/No-Build - Refers to a conformity requirement in which Metropolitan Planning Organizations must demonstrate the “building” or implementing a long range plan or Transportation Improvement Program will result in less emissions than “not building” or not implementing the TIP.

CO - Carbon Monoxide; A colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that impedes the oxygenation of blood. CO is formed in large part by incomplete combustion of fuel.

CAAA - Clean Air Act and Amendments

Clean Fuels - Fuels which generate fewer pollutants than gasoline (Compressed Natural Gas, methanol, ethanol, etc.)

Collector-Distributor Street - A road parallel to an expressway which collects and distributes traffic at access points involving through lanes.

Conformity - Assess the compliance of any transportation plan with air quality control plans.

CNG - Compressed Natural Gas

CMAQ - Congestion Management and Air Quality Improvement Program; Directs funding to projects that contribute to meeting national air quality standards.

CMS - Congestion Management System; One of six management systems required by ISTEA. Unless a part of a CMS, future highway projects that significantly increase capacity for single occupant vehicles (SOVs) may be ineligible for federal funding.

Contract Authority - Budget authority that permits obligations to be made in advance of appropriations.

Demand-Responsive - User can access transportation services that can be variable routed and timed to meet changing needs on an as-need basis.

DOT - U.S. Department of Transportation; The principal direct federal funding and regulating agency for the transportation facilities and programs.

Elderly and Handicapped (E & H) - Anachronistic designation for special transportation planning and services.

Emissions Budget - The part of the State Implementation Plan that identifies allowable emissions levels, mandated by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, for certain pollutants.

EIS - Environmental Impact Statement; Reports which details any adverse economic, social, and environmental effects of a proposed transportation project that the federal government funds.

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency; Federal source agency of air quality control regulations affecting transportation.

Expenditures - Disbursement of funds for repayment of obligations occurred.

Expressway - A controlled access, divided arterial highway for through traffic and intersections of which are usually separated.

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration

FTA - Federal Transit Administration

FY - Fiscal Year

GIS - Geographic Information System

GRETS - Grand Rapids and Environs Transportation Study

GVMC - Grand Valley Metropolitan Council

HPMS - Highway Performance Monitoring System

HRP - Highway and Research Planning Funds

IMAGIN - Improving Michigan's Access to Geographic Information Networks; A statewide geographic data sharing organization

ITE - Institute of Transportation Engineers

IVHS - Intelligent-Vehicle Highway System; Grouping of ITS technologies that focus on monitoring, guiding or operating motorized vehicles.

IAWG - Interagency Work Group

Intermodal - Refers to connections between modes.

ISTEA - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991; Legislative initiative by the U.S. Congress that reconstructed funding for the transportation programs.

Interstate System - The system of highways that connects the principal metropolitan areas, cities, and industrial centers of the U.S. The Interstate System also connects the U.S. to internationally significant routes in Mexico and Canada.

I/M - Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance

KCRC - Kent County Road Commission

LADCO - Lake Michigan Air Directors' Consortium

Local Street - A street intended solely for access to adjacent properties.

LRP - Long Range Plan

MACC - Macatawa Area Coordinating Council

MDEQ - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

MDNR - Michigan Department of Natural Resources

MDOT - Michigan Department of Transportation

MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization; has responsibility for developing transportation plans for urbanized areas of 50,000 or more.

MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area; Determined by U.S. Census standards

Mode - Form of transportation, such as automobile, transit, bicycle, and walking.

Model - A mathematical and geometric projection of activity and the interactions in the transportation system of an area.

Multimodal - Refers to the availability of transportation options within a system or corridor.

NAAQS - National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants.

NHS - National Highway System; A federal transportation program authorized by ISTEA that designates nationally significant Interstate Highways and roads for interstate travel, national defense, Intermodal connections, and international commerce.

Network - A graphic and/or mathematical representation of multimodal paths in a transportation system.

NoX - Oxides of Nitrogen

Obligations - Commitments made by Federal agencies to pay out money as distinct from the actual payments, which are "outlays". Generally obligations are incurred after the enactment of budget authority.

OCRC - Ottawa County Road Commission

Paratransit - Services which serve the special needs of persons that standard mass transit services would serve with difficulty, or not at all.

PM-10 - Particulate Matter less than or equal to 10 microns.

PPM - Parts per Million

PMS - Pavement Management System

Peak Hour - The 60-minute period in the a.m. or p.m. in which the largest volume of travel is experienced.

Penalty - An action that does not allow the State to use the full amount of its apportioned funds.

Person-Trip - A trip made by one person from one origin to one destination.

Privatization - The supply of traditionally government-supplied goods and services through for-profit businesses in order to enhance public cost efficiency.

Provider - An agency that causes clients to be transported, as opposed to an agency whose roll is limited to funding programs.

Public Road - Any road or street under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority and open to public traffic.

PTMS - Public Transportation Management System

RACT - Reasonable Available Control Technology

Rescission - Legislative action to cancel the obligation of unused budget authority previously provided by Congress before the time when the authority would have otherwise lapsed.

Region - An entire metropolitan area including designated urban and rural subregions.

Regionally Significant - A project that is on a facility which serves regional transportation needs and would normally be included in the modeling of metropolitan area's transportation network. Also offers an alternative to regional highway travel.

Reverse Commute - Commuting against the main directions of traffic. Often refers to the central city to suburb commute.

R-O-W - Right of Way; Priority paths for the construction and operation of highways, light and heavy rail, railroads, etc.

Shuttle - Usually a service provided with an up-to-20 passenger vehicle

connecting major trip destinations and origins on a fixed- or route-deviation basis.

SOVs - Single-Occupant Vehicles; The use of a vehicle to get just one person to a destination.

SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area; A Census Bureau delineation for major metro areas in the U.S.

SIP - State Implementation Plan; required documents prepared by states and submitted to EPA for approval. SIPs identify state actions and programs to implement designated responsibilities under the Clean Air Act.

SLARG - State and Local Agency Review Group

STIP - State Transportation Improvement Program

STPR - Surface Transportation Program for the rural area.

STPU - Surface Transportation Program for the urbanized area.

TAZ - Traffic Analysis Zone; the smallest geographically designated area for analysis of transportation activity.

Transit - Generally refers to passenger service provided to the general public along established routes with fixed or variable schedules at published fares.

Transit Dependent - Persons who must rely on public transit or paratransit for most of their transportation.

TCMS - Transportation Control Measures; Local actions to adjust traffic patterns or reduce vehicle use to reduce air pollution.

TDM - Transportation Demand Management

TEDF - Transportation Economic Development Funds (EDFA, EDFC., EDFD)

TIP - Transportation Improvement Program; A document prepared by states and MPO's citing projects to be funded under federal transportation programs for a full-year period.

TMA - Transportation Management Area; Within a TMA, all transportation plans must be based on a continuing and comprehensive planning process carried out by the Metropolitan planning Organization in cooperation with the states and transit operators.

TRANPLAN - Transportation Planning Package

TRB - Transportation Research Board

TSM - Transportation System Management; The element of a TIP that proposes non-capital-intensive steps toward the improvement of a transportation system.

Travel Time - Customarily calculated as the time it takes to travel from 'door-to-door.'

UWP - Unified Work Program

UAM - Urban Air shed Model

Urbanized Area - Area which contains a city of 50,000 or more population plus adjacent surrounding areas having a density of at least 1000 people per square mile as determined by the U.S. Census.

VMT - Vehicle Miles Traveled

VOC - Volatile Organic Compounds

WMCAC - West Michigan Clean Air Coalition

WMEAC - West Michigan Environmental Action Council.