



# GLOSSARY

**AB 2766:** Local Air District grant program to reduce emissions from mobile sources funded through legislative action authorizing a Department of Motor Vehicles vehicle registration fee of up to \$4, per vehicle per year.

**Accessible:** A transportation vehicle or program is accessible if it can be used by persons with disabilities through the provision of ramps, lifts, and other special equipment or planning.

**Action Plan for Specialized Transportation (SRTP):** Document required by the state and prepared by the SCCRTC to evaluate the existing specialized transportation system and to recommend future improvements.

**ADA:** see Americans with Disabilities Act

**ADT:** see Average Daily Traffic

**Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP):** Prepared by the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District (MBUAPCD), our regional AQMP addresses attainment of federal and state air quality standards within Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey counties.

**Air Resources Board (ARB):** State agency which oversees air quality regulations and creates guidelines for compliance with the California Clean Air Act.

**AMBAG:** see Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

**(ADA):** A federal Act that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. With certain statutory exceptions, public and private entities providing fixed-route or demand-responsive transportation services must acquire accessible vehicles or provide equivalent service to individuals with disabilities. In addition, public entities must provide complementary paratransit service for individuals who cannot use fixed-route service.

**AQMP:** see Air Quality Management Plan

**ARB:** see Air Resources Board

**Arterial Road System:** Roads which provide corridors for through traffic movement, many of which feed into the highway network. Most are served by bus transit and have marked bicycle lanes.

**Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG):** A voluntary association of Santa Cruz, San Benito and Monterey counties and the cities in the three counties. Formed by a joint powers agreement to serve as the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to develop the Metropolitan Transportation Plan which includes the region's transportation plans and ascertains air quality impacts of the projects cumulatively incorporated within those plans and programs.

**Average Daily Traffic (ADT):** An estimate of the 24-hour volume of traffic that passes a point on an "average" day. Depending on the



location, ADT can be assumed to be a two-way volume. Annual ADT volumes or AADT can theoretically be calculated using the average daily traffic and factoring in week-day and seasonal characteristics.

**Average Vehicle Ridership (AVR):** The average number of people per motorized vehicle. Also called Average Vehicle Occupancy (AVO).

**AVR:** see Average Vehicle Ridership

**Bikeway:** There are three types of bicycle facilities.

1. Bike Path or Bike Trail (Class I Bikeway)—Provides a completely separated right-of-way designated for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with cross-flows by motorists minimized. Paths may be shared with pedestrians.
2. Bike Lane (Class II Bikeway)—Provides a designated right-of-way for use by bicycles, but with vehicle parking and cross-flows by pedestrians and motorists permitted. Normally, Bike Lanes are striped on roadways.
3. Bike Route (Class III Bikeway)—Highlights direct or scenic routes for bicyclists using signs or permanent markings. Routes may be shared with pedestrians or motorists.

**California Department of**

**Transportation (Caltrans):** State agency which builds and maintains state highways and administers transportation programs within the state.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** Legislation which requires private entities, state and local agencies to disclose, consider and mitigate the environmental impacts of their actions.

**California Highway Patrol (CHP):**

State agency which is responsible for management and regulation of traffic to achieve safe, lawful and efficient use of the highway transportation system.

**California Transportation Commission**

**(CTC):** A nine-member board appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature that reviews Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs) and Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (RTIPs) and forwards some transportation projects from these programs into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This qualifies the projects for state funding.

**Call Box System:** A network of roadside solar-powered phones which link motorists directly with California Highway Patrol dispatchers to request assistance or emergency services.

**Caltrans:** see California Department of Transportation

**Capital Improvements:** Physical infrastructure improvements such as pavement, sidewalks, bridges, signals; also one-time purchases of equipment, vehicles and real estate.

**Capital Improvement Program (CIP):**

A schedule which sets forth the cost, funding and year of construction for major capital improvement projects over a specified number of years (typically five to seven years).

**Car Intensive Development:** Single use development which, by nature of its isolation from other land uses, makes it difficult to use forms of transportation other than the automobile.

**CEQA:** see California Environmental Quality Act



- CHP:** see California Highway Patrol
- CIP:** see Capital Improvement Program
- CMA:** see Congestion Management Agency
- CMAQ:** see Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program
- CMP:** see Congestion Management Program
- CMS:** see Changeable Message Signs
- Collector Streets:** Streets that collect traffic from local streets, channeling it to arterials, freeways, or local destinations such as schools or shops.
- Commute Solutions:** The rideshare program which provides information about transportation alternatives to the single occupant vehicle and carpool match lists.
- Commute:** The trip to/from a regular location, usually work or school.
- Community Traffic Safety Coalition:** A coalition of agencies and individuals that promotes bicycle and pedestrian safety, particularly for school children. Operated by the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency.
- Congestion Management Agency (CMA):** Policy body responsible for monitoring and managing congestion as measured by levels of service on highways, roadways and intersections.
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ):** A federal funding program established specifically for projects and programs that will contribute to the attainment of a national ambient air quality standard.
- Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA):** Agency responsible for coordinating specialized transportation services. In Santa Cruz County, the CTSA is Lift Line, a division of Food and Nutrition Services, Inc.
- Constrained:** Denotes a funding scenario based on projections of current funding assumptions. This document defines constrained funding projects as “*Within Projected Funds.*”
- Corridor:** A major transportation route which can consist of one or more highways, arterial streets, transit lines, rail lines and/or bikeways.
- CTC:** see California Transportation Commission
- CTSA:** see Consolidated Transportation Services Agency
- Dedicated Funds:** Federal, state or local funds which can be used only for specific purposes or by specific agencies.
- Demand Responsive:** Refers to transportation services in which passengers call to request individualized service, and/or where routes are developed around a group of requests, which may change on a daily basis. Currently taxis provide this service or it is available to people unable to use fixed-route buses.
- Discretionary Funds:** Federal, state and local funds which can be used for a variety of purposes as determined by local needs and priorities.
- EIR:** see Environmental Impact Report
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR):** An assessment of the environmental effects and mitigations for a proposal or decision which, under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has been determined may significantly impact the environment.
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA):** The federal agency responsible for the approval of transportation projects that affect the federal highway system. Administratively, FHWA is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA):**

The federal department of public transportation (formerly Urban Mass Transit Administration), also part of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

**Federal Transportation Improvement**

**Program (FTIP):** Federally required capital improvement program for projects using federal funding. AMBAG prepares the FTIP in the Monterey Bay area and the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) based on the Regional Transportation Improvement Plans (RTIP) from Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties.

**FHWA:** see Federal Highway Administration

**Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year for state and local governments in California begins July 1 and ends June 30.

**Fixed Guideway:** A term for transportation modes that feature guidance along a fixed structure, such as a track, a concrete channel, or a cable. Examples include diesel powered railroad trains, electrified light rail trolleys, monorails, funiculars, gondolas, and people movers.

**Fixed Route:** A fixed route is a bus transit route in which a vehicle operates on a regular schedule to the same locations at scheduled times regardless of individual requests for service. SCMTD operates fixed route bus service.

**Flex Hours:** Work hours which allow an employee to work a non-standard work schedule and thereby commute during non-peak hours. Common examples include the 4/10 where an individual works four 10-hour days per week or the 9/80 where an individual works longer hours each day with one day off every other week.

**Freeway Service Patrol (FSP):** Roving tow truck service to help clear incidents on state highways during peak commute periods.

**FSP:** see Freeway Service Patrol

**FTA:** see Federal Transit Administration

**FTIP:** see Federal Transportation Improvement Program

**Hazard Elimination and Safety**

**Program (HES):** Federal funding program administered by Caltrans for addressing specific safety problems.

**HBRR:** see Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program

**HCM:** see Highway Capacity Manual

**Headways:** Time interval between transit vehicles traveling the same direction on the same route; i.e., 15-minute or 2-hour headways indicates service every 15 minutes or every 2 hours.

**HES:** see Hazard Elimination and Safety Program

**High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes:** A lane on a multi-lane highway designated for use, primarily in the peak periods, free of charge by vehicles with two or more occupants or for single-occupant vehicles paying a toll.

**High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)**

**Lanes:** A lane on a multi-lane highway designated for use, primarily in the peak periods, only by vehicles with more than one (or sometimes two) occupants. Sometimes called diamond lanes.

**Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRR):** Federal funding program administered by Caltrans for bridge replacement or rehabilitation on public roads.



**Highway Capacity Manual (HCM):**

Provides information for engineers and transportation planners for estimating highway capacities, design characteristics and Level of Service (LOS).

**HOT:** see High Occupancy Toll Lanes

**HOV:** see High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes

**Infill Development:** Development of land within an established urbanized area.

**Intelligent Transportation System**

**(ITS):** Applications of information technology to enhance transportation system management, e.g., real-time information about traffic incidents, routing alternatives and/or the guidance of vehicles through remotely controlled equipment.

**Interagency Technical Advisory**

**Committee:** A Regional Transportation Commission committee consisting of planning and public works staff from local jurisdictions, employer, education and related agency representatives who review and make recommendations about projects and funding.

**Intermodal:** Using or addressing interconnections between various transportation modes.

**Intermodal Surface Transportation**

**Efficiency Act:** Federal legislation which provided for major restructuring of the federal funding program. Reauthorized as the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21).

**Interregional Transportation**

**Improvement Program:** A state funding program emphasizing major state highway and passenger rail routes which link regions. Projects are proposed by Caltrans.

**ISTEA:** see Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

**ITAC:** see Interagency Technical Advisory Committee

**ITIP:** see Interregional Transportation Improvement Program

**ITS:** see Intelligent Transportation Systems

**Jobs/Housing Balance:** The interrelationship between the location and type of housing versus the location and type of jobs in a region. This interrelationship has implications for transportation demand.

**Level of Service (LOS):** A measure of congestion on streets or highways; LOS ranges from A (uncongested) to F (very congested).

**Level of Service (LOS) Standard:** In Santa Cruz County, the LOS standard for each CMP intersection or freeway segment is LOS D or the current level of service, whichever is worse.

**Local Jurisdictions:** The four cities (Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley and Watsonville) and the County of Santa Cruz, each of which has its own elected decision-makers, planning and public works departments, and control over land-use decisions within its boundaries.

**Local Streets:** Streets that provide direct access to adjacent residential areas, on which through traffic is generally discouraged.

**Local Transportation Commission**

**(LTC):** Established under SB 325 to allocate Transportation Development Act (TDA) revenues and designated under AB 69 as the regional transportation planning agency (RTPA). The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission is the LTC for Santa Cruz County.



**LOS:** see Level of Service/Level of Service Standard

**Low Emission Vehicles:** Vehicles using alternative fuel sources which emit little or no tailpipe exhaust, e.g., electric, hybrid electric, and fuel cell.

**LTC:** see Local Transportation Commission

**Maintenance:** On-going activities needed to maintain the safety or integrity of a facility.

**Maintenance Area:** An area which, at one time did not, but now does meet existing state or federal air quality standards. Currently the North Coast Central Air Basin — including Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey Counties — is a maintenance area.

**Major Transportation Investment Study (MTIS):** An analysis of project alternatives formerly required to receive federal and state funds. An MTIS was completed in 1999 for the Watsonville-Santa Cruz-UCSC corridor, the main travel corridor in Santa Cruz County.

**Mass Transit:** A common carrier service provided for transporting passengers on established routes and fixed schedules at published rates of fares and available to the general public.

**MBUAPCD:** see Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District

**Metro:** see Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):** An agency responsible for overseeing regional employment, residential and transportation issues. AMBAG is the MPO for Santa Cruz County.

**Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):** A summary federal transportation plan composed of transportation projects from the transportation plans from Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties prepared by AMBAG.

**Modal Split:** The proportion of total travel in each transportation mode.

**Mode:** Method of travel, e.g., private automobile, bicycle, transit, airplane, etc.

**Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District (MBUAPCD):** Regional agency responsible for implementing and enforcing state and federal air quality regulation in Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties.

**MTIS:** see Major Transportation Investment Study

**MPO:** see Metropolitan Planning Organization

**Multimodal:** Using or addressing more than one transportation mode.

**National Environmental Policy Act:** Federal environmental disclosure requirements. In many cases, state statutes (CEQA) are used since they are more stringent.

**National Highway System (NHS):** A federally established national road system. In Santa Cruz County, the NHS includes Highway 1 between Highway 17 and the Monterey County line.

**NEPA:** see National Environmental Policy Act

**NHS:** see National Highway System

**Non-Attainment Area:** An air basin which does not meet existing state or federal air quality standards.

**Operations:** On-going activities necessary to manage, perform services for a system, such as labor costs.



**Paratransit:** Term used to describe transit systems which operate on flexible routes and/or provide demand-responsive service. Generally vans, small buses, or taxis are used to provide this service, which is most frequently provided for elderly and disabled passengers unable to use fixed route transit.

**Parking Management:** Strategies which use parking supply or pricing as an incentive or disincentive to affect the demand for parking. Preferred parking for carpools is an example of a parking management incentive, and charging parking fees is an example of a disincentive.

**Passenger Trip:** A one-way trip by one person from origin to destination.

**Peak Periods:** The hours during which the greatest traffic volumes occur.

**“Planned” Projects:** New high-priority projects on the *Within Projected Funds* list for which funding will need to be secured as federal, state and local dollars become available over the 2001-2025 time frame.

**Primary Transportation Network:** Includes the state highways, principal arterials and rail line in Santa Cruz County.

**“Programmed” Projects:** Projects on the *Within Projected Funds* list for which funding has already been secured. These projects are expected to be complete by 2010.

**Proposition 116:** Bond measure passed by voters in June 1990 providing \$1.9 billion in rail funds in addition to funding for paratransit vehicles, bicycle facilities, and ferries. A total of \$11 million is earmarked for Santa Cruz County.

**Rail Transit:** Public transportation services provided on a fixed rail line, e.g., light rail.

**RDA:** see Redevelopment Agency

**Redevelopment Agency (RDA):**

Established by local ordinance to assist a specifically designated area with capital improvement projects intended to revitalize the area.

**Regional Surface Transportation**

**Program (STP):** A federal funding program established by ISTEA to fund mass transit, highway, and local streets and roads projects.

**Regional Transportation Improvement**

**Program (RTIP):** The state required seven-year capital improvement program for transportation projects using state or federal funds. Required to be adopted prior to December 1 of odd numbered years. The RTIP for Santa Cruz County is adopted by the SCCRTC. The RTIP is submitted to the California Transportation Commission for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

**Regional Transportation Plan (RTP):**

The state-mandated long-range plan to be developed by the regional transportation planning agencies every few years. The SCCRTC prepares and adopts the RTP for Santa Cruz County. The RTP must be consistent with local general plans and vice versa.

**Regional Transportation Planning**

**Agency (RTPA):** RTPAs are designated by the State of California to provide regional transportation planning and make funding decisions, including preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Transportation Improvement Program. The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission is the designated RTPA for Santa Cruz County.



**Rideshare:** Alternatives to driving alone including carpooling, van-pooling, taking the bus, bicycling, walking and telecommuting.

**Right-of-Way:** The area of property owned by a public or private entity used for transportation purposes.

**ROW:** see Right-of-Way

**RSTP:** see Regional Surface Transportation Program

**RTIP:** see Regional Transportation Improvement Program

**RTP:** see Regional Transportation Plan

**RTPA:** see Regional Transportation Planning Agency

**SAFE:** see Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies

**Santa Cruz Metro:** see Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

**Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (SCMTD):** The public transit operator for Santa Cruz County. Also known as Santa Cruz Metro.

**Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC):** Transportation policy, planning and funding body designated as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), Local Transportation Commission (LTC), Rail/Trail Authority and Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) for Santa Cruz County.

**SB 45:** State Bill 45 (Chapter 622, Statutes of 1997, Kopp), mandated major transportation reform legislation impacting many areas of transportation planning, funding and development.

**SCCRTC:** see Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

**SCMTD:** see Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

**Semi-fixed Routes:** A semi-fixed route is one in which service is pre-arranged for the passengers, picking them up at the same place and time regularly, although changes can be made when passengers or destinations change. The senior meal site program, Skills Center and the Stroke Center operate semi-fixed route service.

**Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE):** As the designated SAFE for Santa Cruz County, the SCCRTC owns and manages the call box system on local state highways and other motorist aid programs.

**SHOPP:** see State Highway Operations and Protection Program

**Signal Preemption:** A system used for emergency and public transit vehicles to change signal phasing from red to green allowing for more rapid crosstown access.

**Specialized Transportation:** Often used synonymously with "paratransit," refers to vehicle and programs operated primarily for the elderly and persons living with disabilities. Service is generally provided door-to-door in vans or automobiles on a semi-fixed route or demand-responsive basis.

**SRTP:** see Short Range Transit Plan

**State Highway Operation and Protection Plan (SHOPP):** State plan to maintain the operational integrity and safety of the state highway system. It includes primarily rehabilitation, safety, and operational improvement projects.



**State Transportation Improvement**

**Program (STIP):** The statewide Capital Improvement Program adopted biennially by the California Transportation Commission, which includes all major transportation projects funded by state or federal funds.

**STIP:** see State Transportation Improvement Program

**STP:** see Regional Surface Transportation Program

**TCI:** see Transit Capital Improvement Program

**TCM:** see Transportation Control Measure

**TDA:** see Transportation Development Act

**TDM:** see Transportation Demand Management

**TEA:** see Transportation Enhancement Activities

**TEA-21:** see Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century

**Telecommute:** Working from a location other than the normal worksite, usually from home, and often with the assistance of telecommunications equipment.

**TIA:** see Transportation Improvement Area

**TMA:** see Transportation Management Association

**TOS:** see Traffic Operations System

**TP&D:** see Transportation Planning and Development Account

**Traffic Operations System:** A system of highway communications equipment to monitor traffic conditions and relay traveler information in real time.

**Transit Dependent:** An individual who because of age, income, physical/mental condition, geographic location, or personal choice, does not have a private vehicle available and must rely on transit for his/her transportation needs.

**Transportation Control Measure (TCM):** A project or program intended to reduce air pollution generated by automobiles.

**Transportation Demand Management (TDM):** Strategies concerned with altering or reducing demand for transportation facilities and services.

**Transportation Development Act (TDA):** State law enacted in 1971. Local TDA funds are generated from a state tax of one-quarter of one percent on all retail sales in the county. Revenues are allocated annually by the SCCRTC to support transportation planning and administration, transit, transportation for the elderly/disabled, bikeway and pedestrian projects.

**Transportation Disabled:** People who cannot use public transportation easily or at all because of physical, emotional, or mental limitations. This group includes many senior citizens.

**Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21):** Also known as “federal reauthorization,” legislation passed by Congress that provides funding for the federal transportation program directly to regional agencies to be allocated according to local priorities.

**Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA):** Federal TEA-21 funding program for the provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, scenic beautification, historic preservation, preservation of abandoned railway corridors,



archaeological planning and research, and mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff.

**Transportation Improvement Area (TIA):** Area designated by the County of Santa Cruz where new development is required to pay fees based on the amount of traffic it is expected to generate.

**Transportation Management Association (TMA):** A proactive voluntary association of employers, developers, building owners, local government representatives, and others who work together to effect policies and establish programs and services to address local transportation problems.

**Transportation Model:** A computer software program using demographic data to estimate the transportation impacts of population growth and land use decisions on the transportation system, and to assess the utility of alternative transportation improvements.

**Transportation System Management (TSM):** A transportation planning approach encompassing a variety of primarily low cost methods to improve the efficiency of the existing transportation network either from the supply side (improving system operation) or the demand side (altering demand for transportation facilities and services).

**Trip:** A one-way journey that proceeds from an origin to a destination by a single type of vehicular transportation.

**TSM:** see Transportation System Management

**UCSC:** see University of California, Santa Cruz

**Unconstrained:** Denotes a funding scenario not constrained by existing funding assumptions. This document uses the terms “Needs New Funds” for unconstrained projects.

**University of California, Santa Cruz:** One of the nine University of California campuses, located in the City of Santa Cruz.

**Urbanized Area:** An area with a population of 50,000 or more as designated by the U.S. Census.

**Vanpool:** A group of seven to fifteen people traveling together to work or school in a van at set times. Many vans are leased from companies which include insurance, emergency services and maintenance in the monthly rental fees.

**Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT):** The term used for the total number of miles traveled by all motor vehicles within a specified region during a particular time period, normally a typical day.

**Vehicle Occupancy Rate:** Also known as Average Vehicle Occupancy or Ridership; the number of persons per vehicle on a given road at a given time without distinguishing trip purpose.

**VMT:** see Vehicle Miles Traveled

**Welfare to Work:** Welfare reform aimed to assist individuals off state assistance and into the workforce. Transportation and childcare are integral to the efforts.