

7 Next Steps



Based on the investment strategy outlined in Chapter 4, the RTC is in the process of implementing the strategy based on financial commitments. Meanwhile, the RTC will continue to study new transportation planning tools that can help alleviate existing and future transportation issues. But most importantly, the question of whether the RTC can sustain the transportation system in Southern Nevada given the physical growth, economic constraints, and limited funding sources.

Besides supporting the roadway network, the RTC will continue to invest in transit, biking, walking, and transportation demand management initiatives.



It will be more difficult to project current funding revenues for transportation. The challenge is to look for new ways of increasing and diversifying transportation revenues.

The RTC is interested in using our investments wisely. That is why current and future transportation studies will focus on strategies that link transportation modes together. The result can lead to small improvements and initiatives that improve Southern Nevada's transportation system.

The biggest challenge above the others discussed in this document is putting the strategies together for one common purpose: providing a transportation system that sustains the lives of Southern Nevada residents. This is a priority for the RTC now and into the future.



GLOSSARY

5307 (Section 5307) — Federal transit funds for urban transit agencies used for capital investment in buses, new equipment, maintenance and passenger facilities, fixed-guideway systems, and preventive maintenance.

5309 (Section 5309) — Federal transit funds for buses for fleet expansion or replacement, ancillary equipment, and bus facilities.

5310 (Section 5310) — Federal transit funds to meet the transportation needs of the elderly or persons with disabilities where traditional service is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meet those needs.

A

AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) — An interest group based in Washington, D.C. involved in transportation research, advocacy and technical assistance.

Access/Egress - The ability to enter a site from a roadway and exit a site onto a roadway by motorized vehicle.

Access management — A strategy used to control the spacing, location, and design of driveways, median openings, intersections, traffic signals, and freeway interchanges. The major benefit of access management is a reduction in crashes and congestion.

Accessibility — The extent to which facilities, including transit vehicles, are barrier-free and can be used by people who have disabilities, including wheelchair users.

Accessible Vehicle — An accessible vehicle is designed to accommodate people who have difficulty climbing steps, including those using wheelchairs. Access may be provided by a lift or a ramp (usually combined with “kneeling” feature). It may have additional accommodations, such as a microphone system to announce stops.

Acre - 43,560 square feet. There are 620 acres to a square mile (section) and thirty-six square miles in a township.

Active fleet — Transit passenger vehicles maintained for regular use, excluding vehicles leased to other operators, vehicles permanently unsuitable for transit service, new vehicles not yet outfitted for active service, and vehicles in “dead” storage.

Activity Center — A major concentration of employment and commercial activity that may be found in suburban areas as well as in downtown areas.

Actuated Signal — A traffic signal equipped to detect a vehicle as it passes and to communicate information about traffic flow to a master traffic signal controller.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) — The federal act designed to remove barriers to employment, school, housing, health care, transportation, and other services for persons with disabilities.

Administrative Modification — A minor revision to a long-range statewide transportation or metropolitan transportation plan, TIP, or STIP that includes minor changes to project/project phase costs, minor changes to funding sources of previously included projects, and minor changes to project/project phase initiation dates. An administrative modification is a revision that does not require public review and comment, redemonstration of fiscal constraint, or a conformity determination (in nonattainment and maintenance areas).

Adverse Impact - A negative consequence from an action or project on the physical, social or economic environment.

Air Cargo — Revenue producing items in domestic or international commerce, composed of freight, express and mail, and excluding passenger baggage.

Alternate Work Schedule — A program that eliminates employee work trips or shifts them to off peak periods. Such schedules include the so-called “4-40”, working four 10-hour days each week, and “9-40”, working eight 9-hour and one 8-hour day every two weeks.

Alternative Fuels — Low-polluting fuels that are used to propel a vehicle instead of high-sulfur diesel or gasoline. Examples include methanol, ethanol, propane, compressed natural gas, liquid natural gas, low-sulfur or “clean” diesel, and electricity.

Ambient Air — The outside air we breath at ground level.

Amendment — A revision to a long-range statewide or metropolitan transportation plan, TIP, or STIP, that involves major change to the to a project included in a MTP, TIP, or STIP, including the addition or deletion of a project or a major change in project cost, project/project phase initiation dates, or a major change in design concept or design scope (e.g. changing project termini or the number of through traffic lanes). Changes to projects that are included only for illustrative purposes do not require an amendment. An amendment is a revision that requires public review and comment, redemonstration of fiscal constraint, or a conformity determination (for MTPs and TIPs involving “non-exempt” projects in nonattainment and maintenance areas). In the context of a long-range statewide transportation plan, an amendment is a revision approved by the State in accordance with its public involvement process.

Amtrak — A federal governmental agency that provides intercity railroad passenger service.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) - Areas within the public lands where special management attention is required to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

Arterial, Major - Medium-speed (30-45 mph), medium-capacity (10,000 to 35,000 average daily trips) roadway that provides intra-community travel and access to the area-wide freeway system. Access to major arterials should be provided at minor arterials, collector roads and local streets, because direct access from abutting properties can reduce the number of vehicles the roadway can accommodate.

Arterial, Minor - Roadways for which mobility and access to abutting land uses are important functions. Minor arterials are connected to major arterials to provide a free flow for trips of moderate lengths within relatively small geographical areas.

Arterial, Principal - Interstate System - Serves major traffic movements within urbanized areas, connecting central business districts, outlying residential area, major intercity communities, and major suburban centers. Optimally the system carries the major portion of trips entering and leaving the urban area, as well as the majority of through movements preferring to bypass the central city.

Arterial, Super - Also called "junior expressway", is characterized by speed limits up to 55 miles per hour, no traffic signals, a concrete median barrier between opposing traffic and pedestrian areas, grade separations major street crossings, and no curb cuts or driveways to adjacent property.

Asset management - An ongoing process of maintaining, upgrading, and operating physical assets of the transportation infrastructure cost-effectively, based on a continuous physical inventory and condition assessment.

Attainment area - An area with air quality meeting or exceeding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health standards specified in the Clean Air Act (CAA). An area may be an attainment area for one pollutant and a nonattainment area for others.

Auxiliary Lane - An additional freeway lane between adjacent interchanges that improves the weaving conflicts between exiting and entering vehicles. The lane begins where an on-ramp enters the freeway and ends at the next off-ramp.

Average (Annual) Daily Traffic -- The number of vehicles using a facility on an average day. It is calculated by dividing the total yearly volume vehicles by 365.

B

Baseline - The existing number of travel lanes in the roadway system that is used in air quality analysis.

Beltway - A beltway is a freeway that encircles all or part of a metropolitan area.

Benefit-Cost Ratio - Measure of economic efficiency, computed by dividing total benefits by total costs.

Bicycle Route (Bike Route) - A shared roadway which has been designated by signing as a preferred route for bicycle use.

Bicycle Lane (Bike Lane) - A portion of a roadway that has been designated by striping, signing and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicycles.

Bicycle Path (Bike Path) - A bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way. Pedestrian, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers and other non-motorized users may also use shared use paths.

Bikeway - Any road, street, path, or right-of-way that is specifically designed for bicycle travel including those shared with other vehicles or pedestrians.

Boardings - Number of people getting on a vehicle. Also referred to as "passenger trips." A boarding for transit is usually "unlinked", meaning if you use two buses to get to your destination, it counts as two trips.

Branch Line - A secondary line of a railway, typically stub-ended.

Brokerage - A method of providing transportation where riders are matched with appropriate transportation providers through a central trip-request and administrative facility. The transportation broker may centralize vehicle dispatch, record keeping, vehicle maintenance and other functions under contractual arrangements with agencies, municipalities and other organizations. Actual trips are provided by a number of different agencies and vendors.

Bulk Transfer - The transfer of bulk products, such as plastic pellets or liquid sweeteners, from one mode of transportation to another. Bulk transfer permits shippers and receivers without direct rail access to combine rail's long-haul efficiencies with truck's convenient door-to-door delivery.

Bus rapid transit (BRT) - A rubber-tire form of rapid transit offering many of the same features of light rail, including the use of dedicated lanes, traffic signal prioritization, advance fare payment, quick passenger loading, and fast and frequent service.

Busway - A special roadway designed for exclusive use by buses. A busway may be located in a separate right-of-way or as a separate lane within a highway or roadway right-of-way.

C

Changeable Message Sign - An ATIS device that attempts to provide drivers with real-time information concerning driving condition. These signs can advise motorists of congestion, road or ramp closures, accidents or alternate routes.

Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) - Federal legislation passed in 1990 that amended the 1970 Clean Air Act (CAA) and resulted in major changes further limiting the generation of air pollution in the U.S.

Capacity - The number of vehicles a roadway can carry.

Capital costs - Non-recurring or infrequently recurring costs of long-term assets, such as land, stations, or buildings. These costs often include related expenses.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) - Air pollutant that is a highly toxic, odorless, colorless gas. Automobile emissions are the primary source of CO.

Carload - Shipment of freight required to fill a rail car.

Carpool - An arrangement among two or more people to share use and/or costs of traveling in privately owned automobiles between fixed points on a regular basis.

Categorical Exclusion - An action that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant environmental effect, as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and is classified as excluded from requirements to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Centroid – The center of a traffic analysis zone. It is a hypothetical place where trips begin or end and, typically, has characteristics such as dwelling units and employment assigned to it.

Centroid Connector – A hypothetical route connecting the center of a traffic analysis zone and the street network.

Changeable Message Sign - A message board device that provides drivers with real-time information concerning driving conditions. These signs can advise motorists of congestion, road or ramp closures, accidents or alternate routes. They are also used for “Amber Alerts.” Also referred to as a variable message sign.

Class I Bike Path – A travelway completely separate from the roadway and shoulder that is designated for cycling by means of signs and sometimes striping and other identifying markings. The travelway may be within or outside of the highway right-of-way.

Class II Bike Lane – A restricted travelway or shoulder, designated for cycling along a specific section of the roadway or shoulder by means of signs and sometimes striping and other identifying markings. A physical barrier may or may not be employed to separate cycling from motorized traffic.

Class III Shared Roadway – A travelway, part of a roadway, which is designated for cycling by means of signs and sometimes striping and other identifying markings without a physical separation of cycling from motorized traffic.

Cold start - The starting of an engine that is significantly below normal operating temperature. Cold starts are important in understanding vehicle emissions, because the rate and composition of emissions vary with engine temperature. Cold start mode, the period of operation to which cold start emissions rates apply, is defined by EPA for catalyst-equipped vehicles as the first 505 seconds after start of an engine which has been has been turned off for one hour or more (four hours for non-catalyst-equipped vehicles). (Source: TMIPClearinghouseManual of Regional Transportation Modeling Practice for Air Quality Analysis USDOT)

Collector - Relatively low-speed (25-30 mph), relatively low-volume (5,000-20,000 average daily trips) street that provides circulation within and between neighborhoods. Collectors usually serve short trips and are intended for collecting trips from local streets and distributing them to the arterial network.

Community Impact Assessment (CIA) – A process to evaluate the effects of a transportation action on a community and its quality of life. The assessment process normally includes all items of importance to people, such as mobility, safety, employment effects, relocation, isolation and other community issues.

Conformity - In general, the agreement of transportation plans and programs with assumptions and commitments designed to attain federal and state air quality standards. Specifically, conformity to a SIP means conformity to the plan’s purpose of eliminating or reducing the severity and number of violations of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS), and the avoidance of activities that might cause or contribute to a new violation of any standard, increase the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay timely attainment of any standard or interim milestone. In addition, transportation plans and programs can be found to conform only if: (1) emissions from such plans and programs are consistent with emissions projections and reductions assigned to those transportation plans and programs in the SIP, i.e., are consistent with the emissions budgets or targets; and (2) the plans and programs provide for timely implementation of SIP TCMs consistent with SIP schedules. (Source: TMIPClearinghouseManual of Regional Transportation Modeling Practice for Air Quality Analysis, USDOT)

Congestion – Interference of vehicles with one another as they travel, reducing speed and increasing travel time. This can rise to a level at which transportation system performance is no longer acceptable to the traveling public. The level of acceptable system performance may vary by type of transportation facility, geographic location, public tolerance, and/or time of day.

Congestion Management Program (CMP) – Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requires development of a CMP as part of the transportation planning process in all urbanized areas. The objective of a CMP is to: identify locations of existing and future congestion, specify strategies to minimize or eliminate congestion, evaluate effectiveness of implemented strategies, and provide input to the long range transportation plan. Previously referred to as a congestion management system (CMS) in the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century, commonly referred to as TEA-21.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) – A categorical funding program created as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of the 21st Century (ISTEA), it directs funding to projects that contribute to meeting national air quality standards in non attainment areas. Examples include traffic signal and intersection improvements, park and ride lots and facilities, diesel retrofits, travel demand management programs that improve traffic flow, and transit and nonmotorized projects that provide alternatives to automobile traffic. CMAQ funds generally may not be used for projects that result in the construction of new capacity available to single occupancy vehicles.

Congestion Pricing – A policy that attempts to reduce congestion by applying a price to the use of a roadway during peak travel periods. Such policies may include parking surcharges and automated tolling.

Context sensitive solutions — An approach to planning and implementing transportation projects that is sensitive to community aesthetic, social economic and environmental values, needs, constraints and opportunities.

Corridor – In planning, a broad geographical band that encompasses all travel modes connecting one location with another.

Criteria pollutants — A group of six very common pollutants regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Clean Air Act (CAA) on the basis of information on health and/or environmental affects of pollution. The six pollutants are lead, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter.

Cumulative Impact/Effect – Impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

D

Dedication - The process of an owner or developer of private land turning that land over for public use, and the acceptance of land for such use by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over the public function for which it will be used. Often dedications for roads, parks, school sites, or other public uses often are made into conditions for approval of a development by a village, city, or county.

Demand-Responsive Service – Transit service that is provided in response to a pre-ordered or telephone reservation.

Disability – In the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the term disability is defined to include any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity, a record of such impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. Persons with cognitive disabilities and those with contagious or noncontagious disease (including tuberculosis and HIV disease) are specifically included in this definition.

Discretionary Funds – Funds whose distribution is not automatic and not by formula but dependent on the decision of some agency or party.

Disproportionately High and Adverse Impact – The adverse impact is disproportionately high if it is predominately borne by a minority and/or low-income population, or if the adverse impact that could be suffered by the minority or low-income community is more severe or greater in magnitude than the adverse impact that could be suffered by the non-minority or non-low-income community. Cultural differences must be factored into this analysis.

Door-to-Door Service – A form of paratransit service, which includes passenger assistance between the vehicle and the door of his or her home or destination. A higher level of service than curb-to-curb, by which the driver provides assistance from and to the sidewalk or driveway, yet not as specialized as "door-through-door" service, by which the driver provides assistance within the origin or destination.

E

Easement - Usually the right to use property owned by another for specific purposes or to gain access to another property. For example, utility companies often have easements on the private property of individuals to be able to install and maintain utility facilities. Usually buildings cannot be placed within an easement, but the land covered by them can be used to calculate land available for development.

Emergency Ride Home (ERH) – Refers to a program that encourages employees to carpool, use transit, bike or walk to work by guaranteeing them a ride home in the event that they cannot take the same mode home, e.g., if they need to work late or if a family member becomes ill.

Eminent Domain - The right of a public entity to acquire private property for public use by condemnation, and the payment of just compensation. In Nevada, a governmental entity can exercise the right of eminent domain over land owned by another governmental entity, if the need of the condemning agency for use of the land is more immediate than that of the agency responsible for the land.

Emissions — A release of pollutants into the air from a source, generally grouped into three categories.

Point sources — Specific points of origin where pollutants are emitted into the atmosphere, such as factory smokestacks.

Area sources — Stationary sources of pollution, generally smaller than point sources, where the emissions are spread over a wide area. Examples include gas stations, dry cleaners, fireplaces, and farming operations.

Mobile sources — Moving sources that release pollution. There are two categories of mobile sources: on-road sources include cars, trucks, and buses; non-road sources include trains, planes, and boats.

Emissions Budget – The part of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) that identifies the allowable emissions levels, mandated by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), for certain pollutants emitted from mobile, stationary, and area sources. The emissions levels are used for meeting emission reduction milestones, attainment, or maintenance demonstrations.

Encroachment – The use of one property by another. Municipal government issues an encroachment permit that allows other entities to place facilities within the dedicated right-of-way. The permit does not confer the same rights to control the use of surrounding areas as does the easement. Those rights remain with the entity issuing the permit.

Endangered Species – Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Enhanced Bus Service – Includes a range of improved services including express bus service, shorter headways, or exclusive operating corridor. Conventional bus vehicles are used.

Enhancement Activities – Refers to activities related to a particular transportation project that “enhances” or contributes to the existing or proposed project. Examples include facilities for pedestrians or cyclists, landscaping or other scenic beautification projects, history preservation, control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, and mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff.

Environmental Justice (EJ) — A federal directive requiring all federal programs to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health, economic or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. Populations considered to be EJ populations include African-American, Asian-American, Native American, or Hispanic persons, and low-income persons.

Environmental Mitigation Activities – Strategies, policies, programs, actions, and activities that, over time, will serve to avoid, minimize, or compensate for (by replacing or providing substitute resources) the impacts of/to or disruption of elements of the human and natural environment associated with the implementation of a long-range statewide transportation plan or RTP. The human and natural environment includes, for example, neighborhoods and communities, homes and businesses, cultural resources, parks and recreation areas, wetlands and water sources, forested and other natural areas, agricultural areas, endangered and threatened species, and the ambient air. The environmental mitigation strategies and activities are intended to be regional in scope, and may not necessarily address potential project-level impacts.

Exclusive Right-of-Way – Lanes reserved at all times for transit use and other high occupancy vehicles (HOVs).

Express Bus Service – A bus route with a limited number of stops. Stops may include intersections with other transit routes and major employment or shopping centers.

F

Fare Box Recovery Ratio – Measure of the proportion of operating expenses covered by passenger fares. The ratio divides the fare box revenue by the total operating expenses.

Fare Box Revenue – A public transportation term for the monies or tickets collected as payments for rides. Revenue can be in cash, tickets, or passes.

Fee Simple – The ownership of all the available rights associated with a given parcel of land. Fee simple absolute includes all rights: surface, subsurface, and air rights to use and resources. In practice such ownership no longer exists. Fee simple is normally conveyed by a deed transferring title from one owner to another.

Financially constrained — The total cost of planned transportation projects cannot exceed the funding that can reasonably be expected.

Financial Plan – The documentation required to be included with a RTP and TIP that demonstrates the consistency between reasonably available and projected sources of Federal, State, local, and private revenues and the costs of implementing the proposed transportation system improvements.

Fiscal Year – The 12-month period established for budgeting purposes. In Nevada, the commonly accepted fiscal year for governmental purposes starts July 1 and continues to the following June 30. The federal fiscal year starts October 1 and continues to the following September 30.

Fixed Cost – A service cost that remains relative constant regardless of how many people use the service, e.g., the cost of buying, operating, and maintaining the bus.

Fixed Guideway Transit – Transit service provided with its own operating corridor, not usually shared with other types of transportation. In urban areas, transit using a paved surface may share the corridor with bicycles. Rail corridors may be shared with freight service. Transit vehicle types can include all types of passenger rail, bus, and bus rapid transit.

Fixed Route Service – Service provided on a repetitive, fixed schedule basis along a specific route with vehicles stopping to pick up and deliver passengers to specific locations; each fixed route trip serves the same origins and destinations, unlike demand responsive and taxicab service.

Fleet — The number and type of passenger vehicles that an agency operates.

Flexible Funds – Federal transportation funding that may be used for highway and/or transit.

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Track Classes – The FRA limits operating speeds on track based on physical condition. The classes which have been established and maximum speeds are:

Class	Max. Freight Train Speed
1	10 MPH
2	25 MPH
3	40 MPH
4	60 MPH
5	80 MPH
6	110 MPH

Formula Grants – Funds distributed according to some legislated or regulated scheme.

Freeway – A divided multi-lane roadway for through traffic with control of access and with grade separations at major intersections. Also called an expressway.

Freeway Service Patrol – Customized patrol vans that drive a continuous loop along their specified routes to provide cost-free assistance to motorists for a wide variety of roadway incidents, including but not limited to: disabled vehicles, accident scenes, lost motorists, sick or injured motorists, pedestrians on the roadway, animals on the roadway, travel lane or shoulder debris, vehicle fires, fuel leaks, and other incidents that can be mitigated by FSP personnel (NDOT website, April 2005).

Frontage Road – A public street or auxiliary road to and normally adjacent to a freeway or expressway for purposes of maintaining local road continuity and for control of access. A frontage road is connected to public roads or streets at one or both ends.

Functional Classification – The classification of urban roadways by function or purpose. Roadways at the top of the hierarchy serve intercity and other long-distance movement of traffic; roadways at the bottom provide access to individual parcels of land or buildings.

Fugitive Dust – Particulate matter that is suspended in the air by wind or human activities and does not come out of an exhaust stack.

G

General Aviation – Civil aviation activity except that of air carriers operated in accordance with applicable Federal Aviation Regulation. The types of aircraft used in general aviation range from corporate multi-engine jet aircraft piloted by professional crews to amateur-built single engine piston acrobatic planes, balloons, and dirigibles.

General Improvement District – A public entity created under the provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes and authorized by the County Commission to provide specific services to a limited geographical area. A GID may be formed to provide one or a combination of services, including road maintenance, parks and recreation activities, water and sanitary sewer service.

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) - Using satellites and advanced communications technology to accurately locate oneself on the globe. Can be used by drivers, transit operators, and trucking companies to locate vehicles and provide alternative routes.

Goal – A broad statement of a desired planning result that contributes to the Vision.

Grade Separation – A vertical separation between intersecting roads and/or railway tracks. Typically, one facility travels over or under the other via an overpass, tunnel, or other structure.

Guaranteed Ride Home – Program that encourages employees to carpool, use transit, bike or walk to work by guaranteeing them a ride home if, in case of emergency, they cannot take the same mode home.

H

Headway - The time interval between consecutive vehicles passing a given point. Generally used to define transit service. Used in the following context: "Peak period transit buses generally run on fifteen-minute headways or less."

Heavy rail – An electric railway with the capacity to transport a heavy volume of passenger traffic and characterized by exclusive rights-of-way, multicar trains, high speed, rapid acceleration, sophisticated signaling, and high-platform loading. Also known as "subway," "elevated (railway)," or "metropolitan railway (metro)."

Health Impact Assessment – The estimation of the effects of a specified action on the health of a defined population.

Horizon Year – The years identified as those used for air quality modeling and project funding. The years must begin "no more than 10 years from the base year used to validate the transportation demand planning model," be no more than 10 years apart and end no later than the plan. (40CFR93.106)

Hot-Spot Analysis – An estimate of likely future localized CO and PM10 pollutant concentrations and a comparison of those concentrations to the national Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Hot-spot analysis assesses impacts on a scale smaller than the entire non-attainment or maintenance area, such as congested roadway intersections and highways or transit terminals, and uses an air quality dispersion model to determine the effects of emissions on air quality (40 CFR 93.101). See 40 CFR 93.116 for analysis procedure.

HOT Lane – High Occupancy Toll Lane: HOT lanes are limited access lanes in which carpools, vanpools, and buses travel for free, while other vehicles gain access by paying a fee.

HOV Facility – A lane(s) or roadway dedicated to the exclusive use of specific high-occupancy vehicles for at least a portion of the day. HOVs are vehicles carrying two or more people, including buses, carpools, vanpools or a combination thereof. The number of passengers that constitutes an HOV for the purposes of HOV highway lanes may be designated differently by different transportation agencies. Motorcycles may also be allowed to use the HOV facility by some agencies.

I

Implementation - Actions, procedures, programs, or techniques that carry out policies.

Incident – An incident may be a traffic collision, stalled vehicle, load spillage, or other event that affects one or more lanes of traffic.

Infrastructure - Public services and facilities, such as sewage disposal systems, water supply systems, other utility systems, and roads.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) – Strategies that reduce congestion by addressing with the operation of existing highways, transit systems, and freight services. Such strategies may include incident detection, signal coordination, real time roadway operating information, and freeway message boards.

Intermodal — Planning and infrastructure focusing on connectivity among modes as a means of facilitating linked trip making for people and freight. Modes include travel and freight movement by trucks, trains, boats, cars, bicycles, buses, and airplanes.

Intermodal Facility – A facility designed to connect different modes of transportation.

Interstate Highway System (IHS) – The specially-designated system of highways, begun in 1956, which connects the principal metropolitan areas, cities, and industrial centers of the United States. Also connects the U.S. to internationally significant routes in Canada and Mexico.

Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) - Former transportation regulating authority, eliminated by the ICC Termination Act of 1995. Replaced by the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

Inverse Condemnation - The effective taking, or substantial reduction in value, of property as a result of governmental action, in contrast with a direct taking through eminent domain. Owners of property impacted by inverse condemnation may recover the property value lost through legal action.

Inversion – A layer of the atmosphere through which the temperature increases with altitude. An inversion may be found at ground level or aloft.

J

Joint Development – Government entity participating jointly with a private party in an element of the project. Also called public/private partnership.

K

Kiss and Ride – A pull off area within a transit station or park and ride/pool facility that allows passengers to be dropped off and drivers to conveniently reenter the roadway.

L

Level of Service (LOS) - Roadway level of service is a means of describing the level of roadway congestion. There are separate descriptions for freeways and signalized intersections. LOS is represented by the letters "A" through "F", with "A" generally representing free flowing traffic movements and "F" bumper-to-bumper traffic. The measure can be the relationship between roadway capacity and the volume of traffic it carries. Signalized intersections are evaluated on the basis of how long vehicles must wait.

Light Rail – Normally defined as an electric railway with a light volume traffic capacity compared to heavy rail. Other propulsion technologies include cable, diesel and hybrid diesel/electric. Light rail may use shared or exclusive rights of way, high or low platform loading and multi car trains or single cars. Also known as LRT, streetcar, trolley car and tramway.

Low-Income – A person whose median household income is at or below the Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines for that size of household.

M

Main Line – Two definitions apply. First is a designation made by each railroad of its own track, generally signifying a line over which through trains pass with relatively high frequency. A main line generally has heavier weight rail, more sophisticated signaling systems and better maintenance than branch lines. Second is a designation of the through track between any two points, even on a branch line, as distinguished from side tracks, pass tracks or spurs.

Maintenance Area — Any geographic region of the U.S. that the EPA previously designated non-attainment pursuant to the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) and subsequently has achieved compliance with the NAAQS and has been redesignated as in attainment.

Managed Lane – Highway facilities or designated lanes

in which operational strategies are implemented and managed in real time in response to changing conditions. These include limited access lanes and so-called HOT lanes. HOT lanes require the payment of tolls that vary with the level of congestion on the remainder of the roadway.

Master Plan of Streets and Highways – A map of all the streets in the Roadway Functional Classification for the area, as well as many other existing and planned local roads.

Match – State or local funds required by various federal or state programs to complement funds for a project. A match may also be required by states in funding projects, which are joint state/local efforts. Some funding sources allow services, such as the work of volunteers, to be counted as an in-kind funding match. Federal programs normally require that match funds come from other than federal sources.

Measure of Effectiveness – A quantifiable event or series of events resulting from Plan implementation.

Median Control – The use of a raised median curb to direct left turning movements to desired locations and to reduce conflicts between oncoming vehicles.

Median Strip - The dividing area, either paved or landscaped, between opposing lanes of traffic on a roadway.

Metropolitan Planning Organization – The forum for cooperative transportation decision making for a metropolitan planning area. (23CFR500.103) The MPO must be in place in every urbanized area with a population greater than 50,000 as defined by the Census Bureau. The MPO's responsibilities include the 20-year long range plan and the transportation improvement program. RTC is the MPO for Southern Nevada.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act/No Child Left Behind – Passed in 2001, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires states to ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free public education, including a public preschool education, as is provided to other children and youth. States must eliminate enrollment barriers faced by homeless children and youth, including transportation. This means providing or arranging for the transportation of homeless children and youth to and from the homeless child's or youth's school of origin. At the end of 2006, at least 2,000 CCSD students had been identified as homeless.

Metropolitan Planning Area – The geographic area determined by agreement between the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the area and the Governor, in which the metropolitan transportation planning process is carried out.

Minority – A person who is (a) Black (a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa); (b) Hispanic (a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or the Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race); (c) Asian (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands [including Hawaii]); or (d) American Indian or Alaskan Native (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition).

Mixed-use - Properties on which various uses, such as office, commercial, institutional, and residential, are combined in a single building or on a single site in an integrated development project with significant functional interrelationships and a coherent physical design. A "single site" may include contiguous properties.

Mobile Source – A source of pollutants from a self propelled transportation vehicle, such as motor vehicle, boat, ship, locomotive, aircraft, or off road motor vehicle.

Mobility – The door-to-door experience of traveling or shipping goods throughout our communities and across the region, measured in terms of travel time, comfort, convenience, safety, and cost.

Mode – A particular means of transportation, such as rail, bus, auto, bike, and foot.

Mode choice — A step in the travel demand forecasting modeling process that simulates both transit service and individual travel characteristics. Decisions about riding in a car or bus, driving alone, or sharing a ride are all represented in the framework of the mode choice model.

Mode Split – The percentage, or share, of trips captured by the various transportation modes.

Mode Shift – The change in mode by an individual. A person may shift modes when the relative cost in terms of time, money, and convenience between modes changes. For example, if people who once drove alone to work decide to take the bus instead, these individuals shift from the automobile mode to the bus mode.

Motorbus – A rubber-tired, self-propelled, manually steered bus with a fuel supply onboard the vehicle. Motorbus types include intercity, school, and transit.

Multimodal – Planning that reflects consideration of more than one mode to serve transportation needs in a given area.

N

National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) – Federal air quality standards established pursuant to §109 of the Clean Air Act that apply to outside air everywhere and are set to protect public health. Included are standards for carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O3) and particulate matter (PM10).

National Conservation Area (NCA) – NCAs are designated by Congress to conserve, protect, enhance, and manage public land areas for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. They feature exceptional natural, recreational, cultural, wildlife, aquatic, archeological, paleontological, historical, educational or scientific resources.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) — Federal legislation requiring federal agencies to integrate environmental values into decision-making processes by considering the environmental impacts of proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

National Highway System (NHS) — A network of the most important highways in the United States, including the entire Interstate system, a large percentage of principal arterials, the defense strategic highway network, and strategic highway connectors.

Nitrous Oxides (NOx) — A criteria pollutant and precursor to ozone. Sources include emissions from cars, trucks, power plants, and other major industrial sources.

Non-Attainment Area - An area that does not achieve one or more federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

O

Ozone (O3) — A pollutant associated with smog or haze conditions. Ozone is not directly emitted; it is a secondary pollutant formed when hydrocarbons (HC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) combine in the presence of heat and sunlight.

Official Map - A map of legally established public streets, waterways, and public areas. All features and boundaries shown on an official map should be fixed or determined by a physical or aerial photographic survey.

Objective – A measurable step toward achieving a goal. Each Goal is supported by one or more decision-oriented Objectives.

Operational Improvement.— A capital improvement for installation of traffic surveillance and control equipment, computerized signal systems, motorist information systems, integrated traffic control systems, incident management programs, and transportation demand management facilities, strategies, and programs, and NOT resurfacing, restoring, or rehabilitating improvements, construction of additional lanes, interchanges, and grade separations, and construction of a new facility on a new location. (23 U.S.C. 101(a)) [emphasis added]

Operational and Management Strategies – Actions and strategies aimed at improving the performance of existing and planned transportation facilities to relieve congestion and maximize the safety and mobility of people and goods.

Ordinance - A legislative enactment of a county or city. It is a governmental statute or regulation and its adoption requires a public hearing and publication of the text in a local newspaper.

Ozone (O3) – An air pollutant that is a toxic, colorless gas which is the product of the reaction of hydrocarbons (HC) and oxides of nitrogen (NOX) in the presence of sunlight. Automobile emissions are the primary source of HC and NOX.

P

- Paratransit** - Transportation service required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 for individuals with disabilities who are unable to use fixed route transportation systems. A demand responsive system that applies to a variety of smaller, flexibly scheduled and routed transportation services using low-capacity vehicles.
- Park and Ride/Pool Lot** – A designated parking area where individual drivers can park and board transit vehicles or meet carpools and vanpools.
- Parking Cash-Out Program** – An employer-funded program, which provides a cash allowance to employees who do not drive alone that is equivalent to the parking costs that the employer would otherwise pay to provide a parking space for the employee.
- Parkway** – A term applied to freeways that are heavily landscaped or restrict the maximum weight of vehicles allowed to use it. The term is also applied to a landscaping strip between the sidewalk and the roadway.
- Parking Ratio** – the number of parking spaces provided per square foot of floor area in non-residential areas, or dwelling unit or bedroom in residential areas.
- Particulate matter (PM_x)** — A criteria pollutant consisting of fine liquid or solid particles, such as dust, smoke, mist, fumes, or smog, found in air or emissions. The subscript number indicates the largest diameter of the particle, e.g., PM₁₀ is particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter. Particles of this size are small enough to be drawn deep into the respiratory system where they can contribute to infection and reduced resistance to disease.
- PM_{2.5}** — Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter. PM_{2.5} is formed by chemical reactions in the atmosphere and by fuel combustion, e.g., motor vehicles, power generation and wood stoves.
- PM₁₀** — Particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter. Sources of PM₁₀ include fugitive dust, soot and fog.
- Passenger Miles** – The cumulative sum of the distance ridden by all passengers, e.g. ten passengers riding in a vehicle for two miles equals 20 passenger miles.
- Peak Period** – Whether categorized by purpose or by geographic area, trips occur at different rates at different times of the day. A graph of trips by time of day typically reveals one or more peaks. These peaks play a key role in conventional travel demand analysis, which focuses on maximum infrastructure need in each corridor. The dominant weekday peaks are in the morning (“AM Peak”) and the late afternoon (“PM Peak”), related to the timing of work trips. A peak can be characterized by its maximum trip rate (in trips per unit time) or by a duration over which some threshold trip rate is maintained. The portions of the peak before and after the peak hour are called the “shoulders of the peak”. (Source: TMIP Clearinghouse Manual of Regional Transportation Modeling Practice for Air Quality Analysis USDOT)
- Pedestrian Shed** - An area defined by the average distance that may be traversed at an easy walking pace from its edge to its center. This distance is applied to determine the size of a Neighborhood or extent of a Community. A

standard Pedestrian Shed is one quarter of a mile radius or 1,320 feet. With transit available or proposed, a Long Pedestrian Shed has an average walking distance of a half-mile or 2,640 feet. Pedestrian Sheds are oriented toward a central destination containing one or more important intersections, meeting places, civic spaces, civic buildings and the capacity to accommodate other facilities in the future. Sometimes called a walkshed or walkable catchment.

- Person Trip** – The movement of a person from an origin to a destination. A carpool carrying three people from origin to destination make one vehicle trip, its occupants together have made three person trips.
- Planning Funds (PL)** – Primary source of funding for metropolitan planning administered by the FHWA.
- Pollutant, Air** — Unwanted chemicals or other materials found in the air that can harm health, the environment, and property.
- Preferential Parking** – Designating the most desirable parking spaces, such as those closest to building entrances, for the exclusive use of carpools and vanpools.
- Priority, Bus and Emergency Vehicle** – An electronic signal system that changes the traffic signal to green as buses and emergency vehicles approach the intersection. The system is designed to reduce times these vehicles wait at intersections.
- Public Participation/Public Involvement** – The active and meaningful involvement of the public in the development of transportation plans and programs.
- Public Land Survey System** – The Public Land Survey System (PLSS) is a method used in the United States to survey and identify land parcels. Its basic units of area are the Section, defined as a square mile, and Township which is six miles square. It is also sometimes called the cadastral survey.

R

- Rail Yard** – A system of tracks within limits provided for switching cars, making up trains, storing cars, and other purposes.
- Ramp Metering** – A traffic signal located on an entry ramp to a freeway. The purpose is to regulate the number of vehicles that can enter the freeway.
- Regionally Significant Project** – A transportation project on a facility that meets regional transportation needs, including all principal arterials, freeways, most transportation terminals, and all fixed guideway transit projects that offer an alternative to regional highway travel. Also includes major activity centers and major planned developments such as new retail malls and sports complexes.
- Regional transportation plan (RTP)** — The long-range, multi-modal plan documenting policies, initiatives, and projects designed to meet the surface transportation

needs of the region over a minimum 20-year planning horizon.

Reversionary Interest – A condition accompanying the conveyance of land for a specific use that returns the property to its prior owner if the use specified in the conveyance document is discontinued.

Ridesharing - Providing multiple person trips per vehicle trip. Ridesharing modes include carpools, vanpools, taxis (sometimes), shuttles, jitneys, dial-a-ride, etc. Bus and rail transit, are technically forms of ridesharing although they are generally treated as a separate mode.

Right-of-Way – The equivalent of an easement, it is usually used in reference to a corridor or alignment for a road or utility line. When used in reference to a public roadway, the right-of-way is normally a fee interest in the land that is transferred by the abutting property owner to the government entity or other agency responsible for the roadway. Highways on federal lands are located in easements granted by the federal government.

Rural Areas— All areas of Nevada not included in urban areas.

S

Scoping — The process by which a project's parameters are determined, including the type and size of a project needed to address an identified transportation system need.

Semi-Actuated Traffic Signal – A traffic signal with detection equipment operating on less than all roadways coming into the intersection or equipment that operates less than 24 hours a day.

Senior Citizen – “Senior” is defined by many variables and can range from age 50 up to 70, depending on the purposes for which it is being used. A person, aged 60 or older, is considered a “senior citizen” for eligibility for programs and services funded under the Older Americans Act. Medicare eligibility begins the month one turns age 65. Social Security eligibility is now being determined by a formula based upon the year one was born and begins after age 65.

Service Animal – A service animal is a dog guide, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with disabilities. Service animals are able to travel with this individual on vehicles.

Setback - The horizontal distance between the property line and any structure.

Signal Network (System) – A group of traffic signals along an arterial roadway or in a grid pattern which are able to communicate to a master traffic controller and operate in coordination.

Signalization – The process of converting a group of traffic signals into a signal network.

Single point urban interchange — A relatively new type of freeway interchange consisting of a compact layout requiring less right-of-way (ROW) acquisition and allowing concurrent left turns for greater capacity.

Slope - Land gradient ratio calculated by dividing the vertical rise by the horizontal run, and expressed in percent.

Stakeholders – Individuals and organizations involved in or affected by the transportation planning process. Include federal/state/local officials, MPOs, transit operators, freight companies, shippers, users of the transportation infrastructure, and the general public.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) — Required air quality planning document prepared by states and submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for approval. SIPs identify actions and programs to be implemented in non-attainment and maintenance areas to attain and/or maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) – Document produced in cooperation with federal and regional agencies, local governments, and the planning boards, so that money can be allocated for transportation improvements statewide.

Street Furniture - Those fixtures associated with a street that are intended to enhance the street's physical character and use by pedestrians, such as benches, trash receptacles, kiosks, lights, and newspaper racks.

Streetscape - The urban element that establishes the major part of the public realm. The streetscape is composed of thoroughfares, including travel lanes for vehicles and bicycles, parking lanes for cars, and sidewalks or paths for pedestrians, as well as the visible private frontages and the amenities of public frontages such as street trees and plantings, benches, streetlights, and street furniture.

Subscription ride – A ride schedule, arranged in advance, in which a person is given a ride to and from the same places, at the same time, on a regular, on-going basis.

T

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act — Part of the Civil Rights Act that assures no person, irrespective of race, color, or national origin, will be denied the benefits of, or participation in, any program receiving federal funds. Supplemented in 1994 by Executive Order 129898 which includes low income persons as protected under Title VI.

“Topo” - Topography or configuration of the surface of the ground.

Trackage Rights – The authority of one railroad to use the tracks of another railroad for a fee.

Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) — A special geographic area delineated by state and or local transportation agencies for tabulating traffic-related data, especially trips to work and place of work statistics. A TAZ usually consists of one or more Census blocks, block groups, or tracts.

Traffic Calming - Street design techniques to reduce the negative effects of vehicles and to improve conditions for walking or bicycling.

- Traffic Control Device** – A sign, signal, marking or other device placed on or adjacent to a street or highway by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction to regulate, warn or guide traffic. The investigation of the need for a traffic control signal shall include an analysis of the applicable factors contained in the following traffic signal warrants and other factors related to existing operation and safety of the study location. The warrants include the eight-hour vehicular volume, the four-hour vehicular volume, peak hour counts, pedestrian volume, school crossing, coordinated signal system, crash experience and roadway network.
- Traffic Signal Synchronization** – A process used to create an efficient flow of traffic through signalized intersections by ensuring as many as possible are green when the traffic flowing through them arrives.
- Transit Dependent** – People dependent on public transit for meeting their transportation needs. Such people include those who are unable to drive, do not own a car, not licensed to drive.
- Transit Oriented Development** – Transit Oriented Development (TOD) is moderate to higher density development, located within an easy walk of a major transit stop, generally with a mix of residential, employment and shopping opportunities designed for pedestrians without excluding the auto. TOD can be new construction or redevelopment of one or more buildings whose design and orientation facilitate transit use.
- Transit Skimming** – Modeling term used to refer to the results of a process to find the zone-to-zone travel times for a given network.
- Transportation Conformity** — A process ensuring that federal funding and approval go to those transportation activities that are consistent with air quality goals. Conformity applies to transportation plans, transportation improvement programs, and projects funded or approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in areas that do not meet, or previously have not met, air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, or nitrogen dioxide.
- Transportation Control Measure (TCM)** – Measures that include reducing driving through increased cost in time or money, transit improvements, land use changes and employer efforts and emissions reductions through lowered emissions or improved traffic flow.
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM)** – Programs intended to reduce the number of trips rather than to increase the capacity of transportation facilities. Programs include transit, car and van pooling, flexible work schedules and staggered work shifts.
- Transportation Enhancement Activities** – Any of the following activities if such activity relates to surface transportation: provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists, acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities), landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation, rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals), preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails), control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity, and establishment of transportation museums. (23 U.S.C. 101(a))
- Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)** — The federal law authorizing federal-aid highway and transit programs as approved on June 9, 1998. Preceded by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991; supplanted by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) of 2005.
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** — A staged, multi-year intermodal program of transportation-related projects which is consistent with the state and metropolitan transportation plans and is developed pursuant to 23 CFR Part 450. The TIP manages transportation programming by establishing a prioritized list of transportation projects over time. The entire program must conform to the NAAQS to quality for any federal funding for individual projects, except for exempt projects.
- Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 1998 (TIFIA)** – A federal credit program under which the DOT may provide three forms of credit assistance - secured (direct) loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit - for surface transportation projects of national or regional significance. The fundamental goal is to leverage federal funds by attracting substantial private and non-federal co-investment in critical improvements to the nation's surface transportation system.
- Transportation Management Area (TMA)** – 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 affected 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). (23CFR500.103)
- Transportation System Management** – Increasing the flow of traffic through minor modifications to the existing roadway system. Projects might include removal of parking, freeway ramp metering, freeway incident management and signal synchronization.
- Transportation Terminals** – Major ports, airports, intermodal freight facilities, and transit terminals.

Travel demand forecasting model — A computerized travel-simulation model that helps transportation planners forecast future demand on the region's roadway and transit systems and to identify the locations of future traffic congestion.

Travel Time Index – The ratio of travel time in the peak period to the travel time the rest of the day. For example, a value of 1.35 indicates a 20-minute trip will take 27 minutes at peak periods. (Texas Transportation Institute)

U

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – A statement of work identifying the planning priorities and activities to be carried out within a metropolitan planning area. At a minimum, a UPWP includes a description of the planning work and resulting products, who will perform the work, time frames for completing the work, the cost of the work, and the source(s) of funds.

Urbanized Area – “An urbanized area is a statistical geographic area defined by the Census Bureau, consisting of a central place(s) and adjacent densely settled territory that together contain at least 50,000 people, generally with an overall population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile.” (41CFR102-83.60) An area with a population of 50,000 or more designated by the Bureau of the Census, within boundaries to be fixed by responsible State and local officials in cooperation with each other, subject to approval by the Secretary. Such boundaries shall encompass, at a minimum, the entire urbanized area within a State as designated by the Bureau of the Census. (23 U.S.C. 101(a))

V

Vanpool – A prearranged ridesharing service in which a number of people travel together on a regular basis. Vanpools may be publicly operated, employer operated, individually owned or leased.

Vehicle Miles Traveled (Highway) – Miles of travel by all types of motor vehicles as determined by the states on the basis of actual traffic counts and established estimating procedures. Miles are calculated as average Sunday through Saturday vehicle movement on a specific road segment multiplied by the length of the road segment.

Vehicle Trip – An origin-to-destination journey by a single vehicle. A bus carrying 40 people from origin to destination makes one vehicle trip, while its occupants make a total of 40 person trips.

Vision – A brief description of the end state brought about through the Plan.

Visualization Techniques – Methods used by States and MPOs in the development of transportation plans and programs with the public, elected and appointed officials, and other stakeholders in a clear and easily accessible format such as maps, pictures, and/or other displays to promote improved understanding of existing or proposed transportation plans and programs.

Volume-to-Capacity Ratio (V/C Ratio) – A measure of Roadway capacity. The ratio of the existing number of vehicles using a roadway to the capacity of the roadway.

W

Warrant – Describes threshold conditions for evaluating the potential safety and operational benefits of traffic control devices and is based upon average or normal conditions. The fact that a warrant for a particular traffic control device is met is not conclusive justification for the installation of the device.

Wheelchair – Wheelchair means a mobility aid belonging to any class of three or four-wheeled devices, designed for and used by individuals who experience mobility impairments, whether operated manually or powered. Under the ADA a “common wheelchair” does not exceed 30 inches in width and 48 inches in length measured two inches above the ground, and does not weigh more than 600 pounds when occupied. If a mobility device exceeds any of the above defined measurements or parameters when occupied, every attempt will be made to accommodate the device within the design parameters of the RTC's public transportation vehicles, to include CAT ADA Paratransit Services vehicles, but there may be instances when the RTC will not be able to accommodate a customer's transportation needs if a mobility device exceeds the regulatory standards.

Sources: Puget Sound Regional Council, Destination 2030, May 24, 2001 and Regional Coordinated Human Service and Public Transit Transportation Plan, October 16, 2006 Version; TMIPClearinghouseManual of Regional Transportation Modeling Practice for Air Quality Analysis USDOT; American Planning Association, Nevada Chapter, “Planning Commissioners Reader”; Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior website, <http://www.blm.gov/nlcs/conservation/index.html>, March, 2008; Chittenden County [Vermont] Metropolitan Planning Organization, Guide to Transportation Planning in Chittenden County, April 2003; Illinois Department of Transportation, Strategic Regional Arterial Design Concept Report, 1991; US EPA and US DOT, “Best Working Places for Commuters,” web page, March 2005, Florida Department of Transportation, 2004 Freight Rail Component of the Florida Rail Plan, June 2005; Terry Parker and GB Arrington, Statewide Transit-Oriented Development Study: Factors for Success in California, for California Department of Transportation, Final Report, September 2002; Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments website, December 2006; U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, State Transportation Statistics, 2005; Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Environmental Procedures Manual, March 2006; Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Rail System Plan, 2004; San Diego Association of Governments, 2030 Regional Transportation Plan, 2003; Transportation Planning Capacity Building Program, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, The Transportation Planning Process: Key Issues A Briefing Book for Transportation Decisionmakers, Officials, and Staff, Updated September 2007, Publication Number: FHWA-HEP-07-039; Nevada Department of Transportation, Transportation System Projects Definitions and Acronyms, April 2004; Ruth Barnes and Alex Scott-Samuel, Health Impact Assessment: A Ten Minute Guide;

