

Central Lane MPO

Glossary and Acronyms List

Alternative Modes of Transportation - Forms of transportation that provide transportation alternatives to the use of single-occupant automobiles. Examples include: rail, transit, carpools, bicycles and walking.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - Federal civil rights legislation for persons with disabilities, signed into law in 1990, that prohibits discrimination specifically in the areas of employment, public accommodation, public services, telecommunications and transportation. Transportation requirements include the provision of "comparable paratransit service" that is equivalent to general public fixed-route service for persons who are unable to use regular bus service due to a disability.

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

Attainment Plan - A program of air pollution emission control measures associated with state and federal requirements which are designed to ensure that an area achieves attainment with an ambient air standard.

Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Five elected officials who are the Lane County decisionmakers.

Capacity - A transportation facility's ability to accommodate a moving stream of people or vehicles in a given time period. The maximum rate of flow at which persons or vehicles can be reasonably expected to traverse a point or uniform segment of a lane or roadway during a specified time period under prevailing roadway, traffic, and control conditions; usually expressed as vehicles per hour or persons per hour.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) - A plan for future capital infrastructure and program expenditures which identifies each capital project, its anticipated start and completion, and allocates existing funds and known revenue sources for a given period of time. Each local government has a CIP.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) - A colorless, odorless, tasteless gas formed in large part by incomplete combustion of fuel. Human activities (i.e., transportation or industrial processes) are largely the source for CO contamination. Local sources of carbon monoxide include automobiles, wood stoves, and industrial processes.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) - Representative stakeholders that meet regularly to discuss issues of common concern, such as transportation, and to advise sponsoring agency officials. These groups effectively interact between citizens and their government

Comprehensive Plan - An official document adopted by a local government that describes the general, long-range policies on how the community's future development should occur. A local comprehensive plan must be in compliance with Oregon state land use planning goals.

Congestion - A condition under which the number of vehicles using a facility is great enough to cause reduced speeds and increased travel times.

Congestion Management System (CMS) - Systematic process for managing congestion. Provides information on transportation system performance and finds alternative ways to alleviate congestion and enhance the mobility of people and goods, to levels that meet state and local needs.

Criteria Pollutants - Air pollutants for which there are National Ambient Air Quality Standards that have been established by the Environmental Protection Agency to protect the public health and welfare from their known adverse effects. There are additional standards set by the State of Oregon. Communities are required to test the air continually for those criteria pollutants which appear to merit testing, based on historical data and trends, and population. In the Eugene-Springfield area, the Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority is responsible for monitoring these air pollutants.

Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) - The state department that administers Oregon's state-wide land use program. Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) is the appointed policy board that guides DLCD.

Department of Transportation (DOT) - When used alone, indicates U.S. Department of Transportation. In conjunction with a place name, indicates state, city, or county transportation agency (e.g., Oregon Department of Transportation is ODOT).

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.

Environmental Assessments (EA) - Prepared for federal actions under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) where it is not clearly known how significant the environmental impact might be. If, after preparing an Environmental Assessment, it is determined that the project's impact is

significant, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is then prepared. If not, a finding of "no significant impact" (FONSI) is documented.

Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) - Prepared for federal actions that have a significant effect on the human and natural environment. These are disclosure documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act/NEPA that provide a full description of the proposed project, the existing environment, and analysis of the anticipated beneficial and adverse environmental effects of all reasonable alternatives.. There are various stages – Draft EIS and Final EIS.

Environmental Justice (EJ) - Environmental justice assures that services and benefits allow for meaningful participation and are fairly distributed to avoid discrimination.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - The federal regulatory agency responsible for administering and enforcing federal environmental laws, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and others. EPA is the source agency of air quality control regulations affecting transportation.

Eugene/Springfield Metro Area General Plan (Metro Plan) - The comprehensive land use planning document for the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area. This document outlines broad goals, objectives and policies for long-range planning inside the urban growth boundary of Eugene and Springfield (UGB). The Metro Plan is in compliance with state land use planning goals.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) - A branch of the US Department of Transportation that administers the federal-aid Highway Program, providing financial assistance to states to construct and improve highways, urban and rural roads, and bridges. The FHWA also administers the Federal Lands Highway Program, including survey, design, and construction of forest highway system roads, parkways and park roads, Indian reservation roads, defense access roads, and other Federal lands roads.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - A branch of the US Department of Transportation that is the principal source of federal financial assistance to America's communities for planning, development, and improvement of public or mass transportation systems. FTA provides leadership, technical assistance, and financial resources for safe, technologically advanced public transportation to enhance mobility and accessibility, to improve the Nation's communities and natural environment, and to strengthen the national economy.

Financial Programming - A short-term commitment of funds to specific projects identified in the regional Transportation Improvement Program (see TIP).

Fiscal or Financial Constraint - Making sure that a given program or project can reasonably expect to receive funding within the time allotted for its implementation.

Goal 12 - One of 19 statewide planning standards of Oregon that make up the state land use planning program. Goal 12 relates to transportation and reads: "To provide and encourage a safe, convenient and economic transportation system." See Transportation Planning Rule.

Goals - A desired result or purpose. In planning, a goal is a broad statement of philosophy that describes the hopes of the people of the community for the future of the community. A goal may never be completely attainable, but it is used as a point toward which the community may strive.

Interim Benchmarks - Transportation System Plans (TSP) required by the Transportation Planning Rule must include interim benchmarks for use in evaluating progress at 5-year intervals. Where interim benchmarks are not met, the TSP must be amended to include new or additional efforts.

Intermodal -The ability to connect, and the connections between, modes of transportation.

Interstate Highway System (IHS) - The system of highways that connects the principal metropolitan areas, cities, and industrial centers of the United States. Also connects the US to internationally significant routes in Canada and Mexico.

Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) - A seven-member commission of volunteer citizens established by Senate Bill 100 in 1973 to develop and administer Oregon's statewide planning goals. The commission sets and guides policy for the administrative department, DLCD.

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

Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) - A board established by the state legislature in 1979 to hear and decide on contested land-use cases

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) - LCOG is a voluntary association of local governments in Lane County, Oregon. Dedicated to solving area-wide problems, LCOG helps area cities, Lane County, educational districts, and special-purpose districts reach their common goals. LCOG serves as the MPO for Central Lane County as designated by the Governor in 1974.

Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) - The local agency formed through an intergovernmental agreement between Lane County and the cities of Eugene, Springfield, Cottage Grove, and Oakridge. LRAPA is responsible for restoring and maintaining the ambient air quality of Lane County. DEQ cedes air pollution regulation to LRAPA in this area.

Lane Transit District (LTD) - The transit agency serving the Central Lane Transportation Management Area.

Level of Service (LOS) - A qualitative rating of how well a unit of transportation supply (e.g. street, intersection, bikeway, etc) serves its current or projected demand. LOS A = free flow condition (32% of capacity); B= reasonably free flow conditions (51%); C=operation stable but becoming more critical (75%); D=lower speed range of stable flow (92%); E=unstable flow (100%); F=forced flow; >100% of capacity, stop and go operation.

Maintenance Area - Maintenance area is any geographic region of the United States previously designated nonattainment pursuant to the CAA Amendments of 1990 and subsequently redesignated to attainment subject to the requirement to develop a maintenance plan under section 175A of the CAA, as amended.

Maintenance Plan - A program of air pollution emission control measures associated with state and federal requirements which are designed to ensure that an area remains in attainment with an ambient air standard.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) - An intergovernmental policy group that comprises representatives from Eugene, Coburg and Springfield Councils, Lane County Board of Commissioners, Lane Transit District Board of Directors, and ODOT. MPC has been delegated MPO responsibilities by the Lane Council of Governments Board of Directors to provide policy guidance on the transportation planning process in the Metro area.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Regional policy body, required in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000, and designated by local officials and the governor of the state. Responsible in cooperation with the state and other transportation providers for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning requirements of federal highway and transit legislation. Lane Council of Governments serves as the MPO in the Central Lane area as designated by the Governor in 1974.

Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) - See Transportation Improvement Program

Mitigation - means to avoid, minimize, rectify, or reduce an impact, and in some cases, to compensate for an impact.

Mode - A specific form of transportation, such as automobile, subway, bus, rail, or air.

Multimodal - A trip involving several types of transportation, such as both rail and bus.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) - Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants. The EPA developed the standards in response to a requirement of the CAA. Air quality standards have been established for the following six criteria pollutants: ozone (or smog), carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, lead, and sulfur dioxide.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) - An established national environmental policy (1969) requiring that any project using federal funding or requiring federal approval, including transportation projects, examine the effects of proposed and alternative choices on the environment before a federal decision is made.

Non-attainment - Any geographic area that has not met the requirements for clean air as set out in the Clean Air Act of 1990. An area can at the same time be classified as in attainment for one or more air pollutants and as a non-attainment area for another air pollutant.

Objective - An attainable target that the community attempts to reach during the process of striving to meet a goal. An objective may also be considered as an intermediate point that will help fulfill the overall goal

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) - The State agency that manages the highway system within Oregon. ODOT's mission is to provide a safe, efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and livable communities for Oregonians. ODOT is the administrative agency that responds to policy set by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC).

Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) - Establishes state transportation policy and guides the planning, development and management of a statewide integrated transportation network. The governor appoints five commissioners, ensuring that different geographic regions of the state are represented. One member must live east of the Cascade Range; no more than three can belong to one political party.

Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP) - The comprehensive, long-range plan for a multimodal transportation system for the *state* which encompasses economic efficiency, orderly economic development, safety and environmental quality.

Paratransit - Alternative known as "special or specialized" transportation which often includes flexibly scheduled and routed transportation services. These services use low capacity vehicles such as vans to operate within normal urban transit corridors or rural areas. Services usually cater to the needs of persons whom standard mass transit services would serve with difficulty, or not at all. Common patrons are the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Performance Measures - Indicators of how well the transportation system is performing with regard to such things as average speed, reliability of travel, and accident rates. Used as feedback in the decisionmaking process.

Planning Funds (PL) - Primary source of funding for metropolitan planning designated by the FHWA.

Policy - A statement adopted as part of a plan to provide a specific course of action moving the community towards attainment of its goals. Due to budget constraints and other activities, all policies cannot be implemented at the same time. Generally, those with metropolitan-wide implications should receive priority consideration.

Project Development - The phase a proposed project undergoes once it has been through the planning process. The project development phase is a more detailed analysis of a proposed project's social, economic, and environmental impacts and various project alternatives. What comes from the project development phase is a decision reached through negotiation among all affected parties, including the public. After a proposal has successfully passed the project development phase, it may move to preliminary engineering, design, and construction.

Public Facility Plan - A plan required by state law for any city with an urban growth boundary encompassing a population greater than 2,500. A plan outlining the sewer, water and transportation facilities needed to serve such an urbanized area.

Public Hearing - A formal event held prior to a decision that gathers community comments and positions from all interested parties for public record and input into decisions.

Public Involvement Plan (PIP) - A plan that describes the public involvement goals and objectives, and methods of involving the public in transportation decisions.

Public Meeting - A formal or informal event designed for a specific issue or community group where information is presented and input from community residents is received

Public Participation - The active and meaningful involvement of the public in the development of transportation plans and programs.

Record of Decision (ROD) - A concise decision document for an environmental impact statement, prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that states the decision (selected alternative or choice), other alternatives considered, and mitigation adopted for the selected alternative or choice.

Refinement Plan - Refinement plans are a detailed examination of the service needs and land use issues relevant to a particular area. Refinements to the Metropolitan Area General Plan include specific neighborhood plans, community plans, or special purpose plans (such as water, sewer, or transportation plans).

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) - A document resulting from regional or statewide collaboration and consensus on a region or state's transportation system, and serving as the defining vision for the region's or state's transportation systems and services. In metropolitan areas, the plan indicates all of the transportation improvements scheduled for funding over a minimum of the next 20 years.

State Department of Transportation (State DOT) - A statewide agency that is responsible for conducting transportation planning activities in non-metropolitan areas of the state, and assisting MPOs in transportation planning for the metropolitan areas. State DOTs are also responsible for developing, designing, and constructing most of the projects on major highways in most states.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) - A plan mandated by the CAA that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the NAAQS. In Central Lane TMA, the MPO is responsible for producing the Central Lane SIP for Carbon Monoxide; LRAPA produces the Lane County SIP for PM10. The State (Environmental Quality Commission) is responsible for incorporating each plan into the overall State Implementation Plan.

Statewide Transportation Plan - The official statewide intermodal transportation plan that is developed through the statewide transportation planning process.

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) - Prepared by the State DOTs, the STIP is a staged, multiyear listing of projects proposed for federal, state, and local funding encompassing the entire state. It is a compilation of the MTIPs prepared for the metropolitan areas, as well as project information for the non-metropolitan areas of the state and for transportation between cities. An MTIP must be incorporated into the STIP before MTIP projects can be funded by the State or the Federal Government.

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

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

Transportation Control Measures (TCM) - Transportation strategies that affect traffic patterns or reduce vehicle use to reduce air pollutant emissions. These

may include HOV lanes, provision of bicycle facilities, ridesharing, telecommuting, etc. Such actions may be included in a SIP if needed to demonstrate attainment of the NAAQS.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) - "Demand-based" techniques which are designed to change travel behavior in order to improve the performance of transportation facilities and to reduce the need for additional road capacity. Methods include the use of alternative modes, ride-sharing and vanpool programs and trip-reduction programs and/or ordinances.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - A staged, multiyear (typically three to five years) listing of surface transportation projects proposed for federal, state, and local funding within a metropolitan area. MPOs are required to prepare a TIP as a short-range programming document to complement its long-range transportation plan. TIPs contain projects with committed funds over a multiyear period (one to three years). Also known as a Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) in MPO areas.

Transportation Management Area (TMA) - All urbanized areas over 200,000 in population, and any other area that requests such designation. The MPO is responsible for transportation planning with a TMA.

Transportation Needs - These are estimates of the movement of people and goods that are consistent with an acknowledged comprehensive plan and the requirements of the Transportation Planning Rule. Needs are typically based on projections of future travel demands resulting from a continuation of current trends as modified by policy objectives, including those expressed in Statewide Planning Goal 12 and the Transportation Rule, especially those for avoiding principal reliance on any one mode of transportation.

TransPlan - The Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area's long-range transportation plan.

Transportation Planning - A collaborative process of examining demographic characteristics and travel patterns for a given area. This process shows how these characteristics will change over a given period of time, and evaluates alternatives for the transportation system of the area and the most expeditious use of local, state, and federal transportation funding. Long-range planning is typically done over a period of twenty years; short-range programming of specific projects usually covers a period of three to five years.

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) - A Central Lane MPO committee of technical staff from the public works and planning departments of Eugene, Springfield, Coburg, Lane County, LTD, LCOG and ODOT. Provides technical expertise and recommendations to the policy board, MPC.

Transportation Planning Rule (TPR) -- A state planning administrative rule, adopted by the Land Conservation and Development Commission in 1991 to

implement state land use planning Goal 12, Transportation. The TPR requires metropolitan areas to show measurable progress towards reducing dependence on automobiles.

Transportation Systems Plan (TSP)- A plan for one or more transportation facilities that are planned, developed, operated and maintained in a coordinated manner to supply continuity of movement between modes, and within and between geographic and jurisdictional areas. Usually, a plan produced by a local government, e.g. City of Coburg, Lane County, etc.

Travel Mode - The means of transportation used, such as automobile, bus, bicycle, or by foot.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - The management plan for the (metropolitan) planning program. Its purpose is to coordinate the planning activities of all participants in the planning process.

Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) - A site-specific line in the Metropolitan Plan that separates existing and future urban development from rural lands. Urban levels and densities of development, complete with urban levels of services, are planned within the UGB. A requirement of the state land use planning program.

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

Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) - The sum of distances traveled by all motor vehicles in a specified region. A requirement of the state Transportation Planning Rule is reducing vehicle miles traveled per capita.

TRANSPORTATION ACRONYMS

3-C Continuing, Comprehensive and Cooperative Planning Process

3R Resurfacing, restoring, and rehabilitating

AAA American Automobile Association

AASHO American Association of State Highway Officials

AASHTO American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

ADT Average Daily Traffic (or Average Daily trips)

AMPO Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

APA American Planning Association

APTA American Public Transportation Association

ARBA American Road Builders' Association

ARMA American Road Makers' Association

ARTBA American Road and Transportation Builders' Association

BMCS Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety

BMP Best Management Practice

BMS Bridge Management System

BTS Bureau of Transportation Statistics

CAA Clean Air Act

CAAA Clean Air Act Amendments

CAC Citizen Advisory Committee

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CIP Capital Improvement Program

CMAQ Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program

CMS Congestion Management System

COG Council of Governments

DEIS Draft Environment Impact Statement

DOT Department of Transportation

EEO Equal Employment Opportunity

EIS Environmental Impact Statement

EJ Environmental Justice

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

FAA Federal Aviation Administration

FAP Federal-aid primary

FAS Federal-aid secondary

FAU Federal-aid urban

FEIS Final Environmental Impact Statement

FHWA Federal Highway Administration

FRA Federal Railroad Administration

FTA Federal Transit Administration

FY Fiscal Year

GIS Geographic Information Systems
GPS Global Positioning Systems

HOV High Occupancy Vehicle
HRB Highway Research Board
HSR High Speed Rail

I/M Inspection and Maintenance
ICC Interstate Commerce Commission
IHS Interstate Highway System
IM Interstate Maintenance
IRF International Road Federation
ISTEA Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991
ITS Intelligent Transportation Systems
IVHS Intelligent Vehicle Highway Systems

LOS Level of Service (Traffic flow rating)
LRT Light Rail Transit
LRTP Long Range Transportation Plan

M&O Major and Operations
MIS Major Investment Study
MOA Memorandum of Agreement
MOU Memorandum of Understanding
MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization
MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area
MTP Metropolitan Transportation Plan
MUTCD Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

NAA Non-attainment Area
NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
NHS National Highway System
NHTSA National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

PE Preliminary Engineering
PIARC Permanent International Association of Road Congresses
PL Planning Funds
PPM Policy and Procedure Memorandum
PS&E Plans, Specifications, and Estimates

RFP Request for Proposal
ROW Right of Way
RR Railroad

SIB State Infrastructure Bank
SIP State Implementation Plan
SOV Single Occupancy Vehicle

SPR State Planning and Research funds
STIP State Transportation Improvement Program
STP Surface Transportation Program
STPP Surface Transportation Policy Project

TAC Technical Advisory Committee
TAZ Traffic Analysis Zone
TCM Transportation Control Measure
TDM Transportation Demand Measure
TDP Transit Development Program
TEA-21 Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century
TIFIA Transportation Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act of 1998
TIP Transportation Improvement Program, either MTIP or STIP
TMA Transportation Management Area
TOD Transit Oriented Development
TRB Transportation Research Board
TSM Transportation System Management

UGB Urban Growth Boundary
UMTA Urban Mass Transportation Administration
UPWP Unified Planning Work Program
VMT Vehicle Miles Traveled
VPD Vehicles Per Day