

Appendix IX: Glossary, Acronyms, and Planning References

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Glossary of Terms

Air Quality Conformity Determination - A process in which transportation plans and programs are reviewed to ensure that they are consistent with federal clean air requirements. Changes to the transportation system collectively must not worsen air quality; in areas where air quality does not meet federal standards, transportation plans and programs are expected to improve the air quality.

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

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) - A federal-state partnership charged with assisting economic development and improving communities in America's Appalachia region. SPC is the designated agency through which federal ARC funds are invested in nine counties of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

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.

Bikeway - 1) Any road, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated as being open to bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes. (23CFR217) 2) A facility designed to accommodate bicycle travel for recreational or commuting purposes. Bikeways are not necessarily separated facilities; they may be designed and operated to be shared with other travel modes.

Bridge - A raised structure built to carry vehicles or pedestrians over an obstacle.

Bridge Deck - The top surface of a bridge which carries the traffic.

Brownfield - Abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contaminations; a tract of land that has been developed for industrial purposes, polluted, and then abandoned.

Bus - Large motor vehicle used to carry more than 10 passengers, including school buses, intercity buses, and transit buses.

Bus Lane - 1) A street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or during specified periods, but sometimes also used by carpools meeting requirements set out in traffic laws. (APTA1) 2) A lane reserved for bus use only. Sometimes also known as a "diamond lane."

Capacity - A transportation facility's ability to accommodate a moving stream of people or vehicles in a given time period.

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.

Carpool - An arrangement where two or more people share the use and cost of privately owned automobiles in traveling to and from pre-arranged destinations together.

CEDS – see Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Census Block - The smallest geographic unit used by the United States Census Bureau for tabulation of 100-percent data.

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

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) - Official planning document of regional strategy recognized by the EDA. A CEDS is a plan that emerges from a broad-based continuous planning process addressing the economic opportunities and constraints of a region. The guidelines for developing a CEDS include effective general planning practices that can be used by any community to design and implement a plan to guide its economic growth. A CEDS should promote economic development and opportunity, foster effective transportation access, enhance and protect the environment, and balance resources through sound management of development.

Congestion Management Process (CMP) - A method for studying congestion, identifying techniques for managing it, and measuring the effectiveness of implemented strategies. Under federal requirements, SPC maintains a CMP for the region. This program identifies corridors for congestion monitoring and evaluates and advances strategies for managing congestion. Project sponsors also work with SPC to review congestion management alternatives for corridors where additional single-occupancy vehicle capacity is proposed.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) - A category in federal transportation legislation under which funds are available for projects that would reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Corridor Development - Development that takes place along a linear transportation infrastructure or asset, be it highway, rail, transit, and/or waterway, most often at major hubs and/or intersections.

COVID-19 Pandemic – Also commonly known as the coronavirus pandemic, it was massive global health crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (a respiratory illness). The virus was first detected in late 2019 and rapidly spread around the world. By March 2020, it was detected within many states across the U.S. Public health warnings were issued, and certain types of facilities and organizations shuttered, limiting contact among their people—all in an effort to stop the spread of the virus. From schools, governments, and private businesses, every industry and sector were dramatically and forever impacted by the pandemic. The way in which we work, attend shop, engage in entertainment, and access information has changed. Throughout the two-plus years of the pandemic, there were various waves of the virus/virus strains being spread. The study, creation, and production of vaccines were fast-tracked in 2020, and widespread vaccine deployment occurred in 2021 and 2022. [According to the Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), as of May 2023, in the U.S. there have been 1.13 million deaths as a result of the coronavirus, and 104,618,931 million reported cases. Throughout the world, there have been over 6 million deaths, making this pandemic one of the deadliest.

DCED - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; agency of state government whose goal is to foster opportunities for businesses and communities to succeed and thrive in a global economy.

EDA - Economic Development Administration; EDA was created by Congress pursuant to the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide financial assistance to both rural and urban distressed communities.

Economic Development District (EDD) - A federally designated region for purposes of investment of federal funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (part of the U.S. Department of Commerce). SPC is the EDD for its nine-county region.

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.

Facilities - As used in transportation, "facilities" means all the fixed physical assets of a transportation system, such as roads, bus terminals, bridges, bike paths, and train stations.

FAST Act - The FAST Act authorized \$305 billion over fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs. The FAST Act maintains our focus on safety, keeps intact the established structure of the various

highway-related programs we manage, continues efforts to streamline project delivery and, for the first time, provides a dedicated source of federal dollars for freight projects.

FHWA-Federal Highway Administration - 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.

FTA - Federal Transit Administration- 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 mass transportation systems.

Financial Planning - The process of defining and evaluating funding sources, sharing the information, and deciding how to allocate the funds.

Fine Particulates - Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size (PM-2.5). A micron is one millionth of a meter. See "Particulate Matter."

Fiscal Constraint - Making sure that a given program or project can reasonably expect to receive funding within the time allotted for its implementation. **Fixed Guideways** - Transportation pathways reserved for transit vehicles. These may include rail lines, inclines, busways, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, and reserved bus lanes on roads.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) - A computerized system designed to capture, update, analyze, and display all forms of geographically referenced information. GIS permits the user to view map layers on a computer screen while also accessing databases related to the map features. GIS has extensive uses in the analysis of demographic, transportation, and environmental data.

Greenfield - Term used to describe a piece of undeveloped land, either currently used for agriculture or just left to nature; land (as a potential industrial site) not previously developed or polluted.

Greyfield - Real estate or land which has been previously developed and used.

High Density – Referring to a development density and type most commonly associated with urban, vertical development with zero to limited structural separation and little open space.

High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) - Vehicles carrying two or more people. The number that constitutes an HOV for the purposes of HOV highway lanes may be designated differently by different transportation agencies.

Highway - Any road, street, parkway, or freeway/expressway that includes rights-of-way, bridges, railroad-highway crossings, tunnels, drainage structures, signs, guardrail, and protective structures in connection with highways. The highway further includes that portion of any interstate or international bridge or tunnel and the approaches thereto (23 U.S.C. 101a).

Historic Preservation - Protection and treatment of the nation's significant historic buildings, landmarks, landscapes, battlefields, tribal communities, and archeological sites; prominent federally-owned buildings; and state and privately-owned properties.

High Occupancy Toll (HOT) - HOT is a type of traffic lane or roadway that is available to high-occupancy vehicles and other exempt vehicles such as buses or vanpools without charge; single occupancy vehicles are required to pay a fee that is adjusted in response to travel demand.

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) – The purpose of the HSIP program is to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads, including non-State-owned public roads and roads on tribal lands. The HSIP requires a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety on all public roads that focuses on performance.

Human Services Transportation (HST) - Pre-arranged transportation services or programs for older individuals, persons with disabilities and low income persons.

Highway Trust Fund (HTF) - An account established by law to hold federal highway user taxes that are dedicated for highway and transit related purposes. The HTF has two accounts: the Highway Account and the Mass Transit Account.

Hydrogen Hub – Hydrogen hubs will create networks of hydrogen producers, consumers, and local connective infrastructure to accelerate the use of hydrogen as a clean energy carrier that can deliver or store tremendous amounts of energy, [according](#) to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) - Institutional collaboration and aggressive, proactive integration of existing infrastructure along major corridors. Through an ICM approach, transportation professionals manage the corridor as a multimodal system and make operational decisions for the benefit of the corridor as a whole.

Infrastructure - A term connoting the physical underpinnings of society at large, including, but not limited to, roads, bridges, transit, waste systems, public housing, sidewalks, utility installations, parks, public buildings, and communications networks.

ITS Architecture - Defines an Architecture of interrelated systems that work together to deliver transportation Services. An ITS Architecture defines how systems functionally operate and the interconnection of information exchanges that must take place between these systems to accomplish transportation Services.

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

Intermodal - A term used to refer to transportation systems that involve more than one mode of travel (e.g., highway, water, rail, air, bicycling, walking).

Interstate - Limited access divided facility of at least four lanes designated by the Federal Highway Administration as part of the Interstate System.

Interstate Highway System - The system of highways that 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.

Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) - A collection of identified sites where, under state legislation, businesses may obtain abatement of state and local taxes through the year 2010. The state legislation is designed to offer powerful incentives for economic development in these locations. SPC is coordinator of the KOZ program for Southwestern Pennsylvania.

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

Local Development District (LDD) - A federal designation given to agencies that are responsible for handling Appalachian Regional Commission funds for their region. SPC is the LDD for Southwestern Pennsylvania.

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

Long range transportation plan (LRTP) - A long range (20+ years) strategy and capital improvement program developed to guide the effective investment of public funds in multi-modal transportation facilities in the context of the regional vision. The regional plan provides the context from which the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a short-range capital improvement program for implementing transportation projects, is drawn. The regional plan is updated every four years in consultation with interested parties.

Low Density - Referring to a development density and type most commonly associated with rural, horizontal development with wide structural separation and abundant open space.

Maintenance Area - A 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.

Medium Density - Referring to a development density and type most commonly associated with suburban, horizontal development with limited structural separation and some open space.

MAP-21 – The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act - Signed into law in 2012, it transformed the policy and programmatic framework for investments to guide the system's growth and development, MAP-21 creates a streamlined and performance-based surface transportation program and builds on many of the highway, transit, bike, and pedestrian programs and policies established in 1991.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) – A 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. SPC is the designated MPO for Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) - Areas defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is 1) A county or a group of contiguous counties that contain at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or 2) An urbanized area of at least 50,000 inhabitants and a total MSA population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). The contiguous counties are included in an MSA if, according to certain criteria, they are essentially metropolitan in character and are socially and economically integrated with the central city. In New England, MSAs consist of towns and cities rather than counties.

Mixed-use development - Refers to the practice of allowing more than one type of use in a building or set of buildings. In planning zone terms, this can mean some combination of residential, commercial, industrial, office, institutional, or other land uses.

Mobile Source - Mobile sources include motor vehicles, aircraft, seagoing vessels, and other transportation modes. The mobile source-related pollutants are carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and particulate matter (PM-10 and PM 2.5).

Mobility as a Service (Maas) - Describes mobility solutions that are consumed as a service. This is enabled by combining transportation services from public and private transportation providers through a unified gateway that creates and manages the trip, which users can pay for with a single account. Users can pay per trip or a monthly fee for a limited distance.

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

Multimodal - The availability of transportation options using different modes within a system or corridor.

Nonattainment Area (NAA) -Any geographic area that has not met the requirements for clean air as set out in the Clean Air Act of 1990.

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 Clean Air Act (1963). Standards have been established for the following pollutants: ozone, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, lead and sulfur dioxide.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - Enacted in 1969, it established a national environmental policy 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.

National highway Performance Program (NHPP) - Provides support for the condition and performance of the National Highway System (NHS), for the construction of new facilities on the NHS, and to ensure that investments of federal-aid funds in highway construction are

directed to support progress toward the achievement of performance targets established in a state's asset management plan for the NHS.

National Highway System (NHS) - This system of highways designated and approved in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 103b). (23CFR500). Typically the Interstate and Arterial roadway systems.

Off-System Bridge - this federal program required states to expend "not less than 15% of the amount apportioned in the Highway Bridge Program (HBP) for projects on bridges located off of the Federal-aid highway system.

Ozone (O₃) - Ozone is a colorless gas with a sweet odor. Ozone is not a direct emission from transportation sources. It is a secondary pollutant formed when VOCs and NO_x combine in the presence of sunlight. Ozone is associated with smog or haze conditions. Although the ozone in the upper atmosphere protects us from harmful ultraviolet rays, ground-level ozone produces an unhealthy environment in which to live. Ozone is created by human and natural sources.

Paratransit - A variety of smaller, often flexibly scheduled and routed transportation services using low-capacity vehicles, such as vans, which operate within normal urban transit corridors or rural areas. These services usually serve the needs of people that standard mass transit services would serve with difficulty, or not at all. Often, the patrons include the elderly and people with disabilities.

Particulate Matter (PM-10 and PM 2.5) - Particulate matter consists of airborne solid particles and liquid droplets. Particulate matter may be in the form of fly ash, soot, dust, fog, fumes, etc. These particles are classified as "coarse" if they are smaller than 10 microns, or "fine" if they are smaller than 2.5 microns.

Parts Per Million (PPM) - A measure of air pollutant concentrations.

Passenger Mile - One passenger transported one mile.

Passenger Service - Both intercity rail passenger service and commuter rail passenger service.

Pedestrian - Any person not in or on a motor vehicle or other vehicle. Excludes people in buildings or sitting at a sidewalk cafe. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration also uses another pedestrian category to refer to pedestrians using conveyances and people in buildings. Examples of pedestrian conveyances include skateboards, nonmotorized wheelchairs, rollerskates, sleds, and transport devices used as equipment.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) - oversees transportation issues in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and supports over 40,500 miles (65,200 km) of state roads and highways, about 25,000 bridges, as well as new roadway construction, the exception being the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) - Created in 1937 to construct, finance, operate, and maintain the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The Commission consists of five members. Four members are appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania. The fifth member is the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation. In addition to the Pennsylvania Turnpike, the commission also operates the James E. Ross Highway, Amos K. Hutchinson Bypass, Mon/Fayette Expressway and Pittsburgh's Southern Beltway, the latter two of which are currently under construction.

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

Public Participation Panel (Panel) - A citizen panel (there is one in each county of SPC's transportation region) whose members are appointed for two-year terms by the county commissioners (in Allegheny County, by the County Executive and the Mayor of Pittsburgh) to represent the diverse population and transportation concerns of their county. The PPP's role is to review and provide comment on major SPC transportation decisions, such as Long Range Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs. Panels meet on an as-needed basis. They may host public meetings to solicit broader input from the general population.

Public Participation Plan - A framework that identifies strategies and tools to ensure that SPC's transportation planning processes include a proactive participation process and comply with federal participation plan requirements.

Public/Private Partnership (P3) – A system in which a government service or private business venture is funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector companies.

Public Transit - Passenger transportation services, usually local in scope, that is available to any person who pays a prescribed fare. It operates on established schedules along designated routes or lines with specific stops and is designed to move relatively large numbers of people at one time.

Public Transportation – See “Public Transit.”

ROP - Regional Operations Plan – A regional plan intended to identify, define, and prioritize operationally focused projects and strategies for the region.

Rural - Sparsely settled places away from the influence of large cities; of or relating to the country, country people or life, or agriculture.

Rural Planning Organization (RPO) - Although not required by federal law, RPOs serve a similar function as MPOs for rural areas of the Commonwealth. They develop long-range plans and a TIP and are supported by state and federal funds.

Road Safety Audit (RSA) - A formal safety performance examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an independent, multidisciplinary team. It qualitatively estimates and reports on potential road safety issues and identifies opportunities for improvements in safety for all road users.

Sources - Refers to the origin of air contaminants. Can be point (coming from a defined site) or non-point (coming from many diffuse sources). Stationary sources include relatively large, fixed facilities such as power plants, chemical process industries, and petroleum refineries. Area sources are small, stationary, non-transportation sources that collectively contribute to air pollution, and include such sources as dry cleaners and bakeries, surface coating operations, home furnaces, and crop burning. Mobile sources include on-road vehicles such as cars, trucks, and buses; and off-road sources such as trains, ships, airplanes, boats, lawnmowers, and construction equipment.

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) – SPC is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Local Development District (LDD), and Economic Development District (EDD) for Southwestern Pennsylvania. In these roles, SPC is the leader in regional planning for Southwestern Pennsylvania and is charged with developing both the regional long range transportation plan and the comprehensive economic development strategy.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) - Produced by the state environmental agency, not the MPO. A plan mandated by the CAA that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the NAAQS. Must be taken into account in the transportation planning process.

State Transportation Commission (STC) - The committee responsible under state law for adopting the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

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

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

Stationary Source - Relatively large, fixed sources of emissions (i.e., power plants, chemical process industries, petroleum refining and petrochemical operations, or wood processing).

Structurally Deficient Bridge – A bridge with deteriorated condition and reduced load-carrying capacity.

Suburban – Commonly defined as residential areas on the outskirts of a city or large town; an outlying part of a city or town; a smaller community adjacent to or within commuting distance of a city.

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. STPU, or STP Urban is STP funding for dedicated use in Urbanized Areas with populations over 200,000.

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program– Established under MAP-21 establishes a new program to provide for a variety of alternative transportation projects, including many that were previously eligible activities under separately funded programs. The TAP replaces the

funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancements, Recreational Trails, and Safe Routes to School, wrapping them into a single funding source.

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

Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) - Unit of geography most commonly used in conventional transportation planning models.

Telecommuting - Communicating electronically (by telephone, computer, fax, etc.) with an office, either from home or from another site, instead of traveling to it physically.

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) - TIM consists of a planned and coordinated multi-disciplinary process to detect, respond to, and clear traffic incidents so that traffic flow may be restored as safely and quickly as possible. Effective TIM reduces the duration and impacts of traffic incidents and improves the safety of motorists, crash victims and emergency responders.

Title VI - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Prohibits discrimination in any program receiving federal assistance.

Toll Facility – A road, bridge or tunnel for which travelers pay a specified toll for a particular class of vehicle to travel on, over, or through, respectively, the transportation facility.

Town Center - Traditionally associated with shopping or retail the town center is the center of communications with major public transport hubs and often includes public buildings including town halls, museums and libraries.

Transit Operators Committee (TOC) - The SPC standing committee, comprised primarily of the region's transit operators that is responsible for developing the region's transit plan and the transit component of the Transportation Improvement Program.

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) - A term used to describe land-use approaches (primarily compact, mixed-use communities) that help to enhance transit usage in those centers.

Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) - TRID is a program authorized by state legislation to promote Transit Oriented Development (TOD). A TRID is an area (1/8 mile to 1/2 mile) around a major transit facility (formalized through a memorandum of understanding) in which the real estate tax increment from new development occurring within the TRID is shared among partners – typically the municipality, transit agency, school district and county – to make public improvements within the TRID. Public funding for a TRID is utilized for community infrastructure improvements including transit facilities, roadways, sidewalks, water, sewage, etc. The development within the district is transit oriented in nature—mixed use, walkable or bikeable to take advantage of the transit assets—and based on plans formed during a market/development study, which is the required first step to forming a TRID. Some people refer to TRID as a “TIF for transit.”

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) - Programs designed to reduce demand for transportation through various means, such as the use of transit and of alternative work hours.

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 over 200,000 in population (as determined by the latest decennial census) or other area when TMA designation is requested by the Governor and the MPO, and officially designated by the administrators of the FHWA and the FTA.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - A short range program that identifies the region's highest priority transportation projects, develops a multi-year program of implementation, and identifies available federal and non-federal funding for the identified projects. The TIP covers a four-year period of investment and is updated every two years through a cooperative effort of local, state and federal agencies, including participation by the general public and consultation with interested parties. Transportation projects included on the TIP are to be consistent with the regional plan.

Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) - The SPC standing committee involved with making recommendations for SPC's transportation plans and with implementing projects included in those plans.

United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) - The principal direct Federal funding agency for transportation facilities and programs. Includes the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and others.

Urban - An area with an increased density of human-created structures in comparison to the areas surrounding it; of, relating to, characteristic of, or constituting a city.

Urbanized Area - For Census 2000, an urbanized area consists of contiguous, densely settled census block groups (BGs) and census blocks that meet minimum population density

requirements, along with adjacent densely settled census blocks that together encompass a population of at least 50,000 people.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – The annual or biannual management plan for the MPO. Its purpose is to coordinate the planning activities of all participants in the planning process.

Vanpool - A transit mode comprised of vans, small buses and other vehicles with a minimum seating capacity of seven persons including the driver, operating as a ride sharing arrangement, providing transportation to a group of individuals traveling directly between their homes and a regular destination within the same geographical area.

Acronyms

AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ARC	Appalachian Regional Commission
ACTA	Airport Corridor Transportation Association
ATWIC	Accessible Transportation and Workforce Interagency Cooperative
BCTA	Beaver County Transit Authority
BPT	Bureau of Public Transportation, Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
BTA	Butler Transit Authority
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments
CAV	Connected and Autonomous Vehicle
CEDS	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality
CMP	Congestion Management Process
DEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
EDA	U.S. Economic Development Administration
EDD	Economic Development District
EJ	Environmental Justice
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FACT	Fayette Area Coordinated Transit
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
HSIP	Highway Safety Improvement Program

ICM	Integrated Corridor Management
ICTA	Indiana County Transit Authority
ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems
KIZ	Keystone Innovation Zone
KOZ	Keystone Opportunity Zone
LDD	Local Development District
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
LPN	Linking Planning and NEPA
LRT	Light Rail Transit
LTRP	Long Range Transportation Plan
MERLAM	Mature Economic Region Land Allocation Model
MMVTA	Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority
MPC	Municipalities Planning Code
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MUTCD	Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NCATA	New Castle Area Transit Authority
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Act
NHS	National Highway System
NOX	Nitrous Oxides
OTMA	Oakland Transportation Management Association
PAAC	Port Authority of Allegheny County
PADEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
PDP	Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership
PEL	Planning and Environmental Linkages
PENNDOT	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
PENNVEST	Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
PPM	Parts Per Million
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PTAC	Pennsylvania Transportation Advisory Committee
PTTF	Public Transportation Trust Fund
PTC	Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
RACP	Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program
REMI	Regional Economic Models, Inc.
ROP	Regional Operations Plan
ROW	Right of Way
RRX	Railroad Crossing Program
RSA	Roadway Safety Audit
RTD	Regional Transportation Districts
SBDC	Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers

SD	Structurally Deficient
SHSP	PennDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan
SOV	Single Occupancy Vehicle
SOVCAP	Single Occupancy Vehicle Capacity Adding Project
S.R.	State Route
STC	State Transportation Commission
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
STP	Surface Transportation Program funds
STP–Urban	Surface Transportation Program funds – (urban areas)
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone
TAC	Transportation Advisory Committee
TACT	Town and Country Transit
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMA	Transportation Management Area
TMA's	Transportation Management Associations
TOC	Transit Operators Committee
TOD	Transit-Oriented Development
TRID	Transit Revitalization Investment District
TTC	Transportation Technical Committee
UPWP	Unified Planning Work Program
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
UZA	Urbanized Zone
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
WASH	Washington City Transit
WCTA	Westmoreland County Transit Authority
YOE	Year of Expenditure

Planning References

Federal References

[Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended \(Title VI\)](#)

[Clean Air Act of 1990, as amended](#)

[Fixing America's Surface Transportation \(FAST\) Act](#)

Federal Highway Programs (TIP Formula Funds):

[National Highway Performance Program \(NHPP\)](#)

[Surface Transportation Program \(STP\)](#)

[Highway Safety Improvement Program \(HSIP\)](#)

[Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality \(CMAQ\)](#)

[Transportation Alternatives Program \(TAP\)](#)

Federal Discretionary Programs:

[BUILD Discretionary Grants](#)

[FASTLANE Program](#)

[Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment](#)

State Managed Programs (Federal Transit):

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State References

[State Transportation Commission](#)

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