

### **Definitions**

*AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic):* The average traffic volume on a given facility over a 24-hour period, adjusted for seasonal variation.

*Access Management:* Road design concepts that organize access to properties, while simultaneously preserving the flow of traffic on the surrounding road system and improving safety. Examples include shared driveways, shared parking, connections between properties, and center medians with left turn pockets.

*Accessibility:* A measure of the ability or ease of all people to travel between various origins and destinations.

*ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act):* 1990 federal law that governs the provision of services and facilities necessary to accommodate people with disabilities. The law includes specific requirements regarding access to transportation services and facilities.

*Administrative Modification:* A minor revision to a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), or Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) that includes minor changes to project/project phase costs, funding sources for previously-approved projects, and phase initiation dates. An administrative modification does not require public review and comment or re-demonstration of fiscal constraint.

*ACS (American Community Survey):* An annual survey of a subset of the population by the U.S. Census Bureau. Population, social, housing and economic data is collected. One-, three- and five-year estimates are generated from the data.

*ALIS (Accident Location Information System):* An electronic database of vehicle crashes created by NYSDOT and the State's Office of Cyber Security & Critical Infrastructure Coordination (CSCIC). The data in ALIS comes from crash reports from police agencies and the State's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

*Amendment:* A revision to a MTP, TIP, or STIP that involves a major change to a project including the addition or deletion of a project or a major change in project cost, project/project phase initiation dates, design concept, or scope. An amendment is a revision that requires public review and comment, re-demonstration of fiscal constraint, and a 15-day public comment period.

*Available Funds:* Funds derived from an existing source dedicated to or historically used for transportation purposes. Authorized and/or appropriated funds and the extrapolation of formula and discretionary funds at historic rates of increase are considered available.

*Bicycle Boulevard:* A bicycle-priority street, shared with low speed, local traffic. Identified by signs and pavement markings, and often includes traffic calming treatments. Typically, part of a network of bicycle boulevards designed to connect people to destinations while avoiding traffic on major streets.

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*Bicycle Lane (Bike Lane):* A portion of roadway that has been designated by striping, signing and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law).

*Bicycle Route (Bike Route):* A system of bikeways designated with directional and informational signs, with or without a specific bicycle route number. This includes both facilities for the exclusive use of bicycles and shared use with motor vehicles.

*Bicycle-Sensitive Traffic Signals:* Traffic detector loops that are designed to detect a bicycle and trigger a change in the signal.

*Bikeway:* Any road, path, or signed route that is designated for bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes.

*BRT (Bus Rapid Transit):* A form of bus transit that typically includes a separated bus lane, fewer stops, signal priority, and off-board payment, resulting in faster travel speeds.

*CAAA (Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990):* Federal law that stresses the relationship between transportation and air quality and the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

*Capacity:* The maximum volume of traffic that a particular segment of roadway or intersection is able to accommodate in a given time period.

*Capital Costs:* Non-recurring or infrequently recurring costs of long-term assets, such as land, bus/train stations, buildings, and vehicles.

*Carpool/Rideshare:* An arrangement in which two or more people share the driving, use and/or cost of traveling in privately owned automobiles between fixed points, often on a regular basis.

*Committed Funds:* Funds dedicated or obligated for transportation purposes.

*Conformity (Transportation Conformity):* A method to ensure that federal funding is applied to those transportation activities that are consistent with air quality goals. Conformity applies to transportation plans (such as the DCTC's Metropolitan Transportation Plan), TIPs, and projects funded or approved by the Federal Highway Administration or the Federal Transit Administration in areas that do not meet or previously have not met air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, or nitrogen dioxide. These areas are known as "non-attainment areas" or "maintenance areas," respectively. Transportation projects must demonstrate conformity in order to be funded.

*CMP (Congestion Management Process):* A required planning process for a TMA to measure and manage the performance of a transportation system. The process must describe methods to collect and analyze transportation network data, with the intent of developing effective strategies to mitigate identified congestion.

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*Congestion*: The state of a roadway that occurs as use approaches or exceeds the capacity of the road. Characterized by slower speeds, longer trip times, and increased queuing.

*Crosswalk (marked)*: Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law).

*Crosswalk (unmarked)*: That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway between the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, between the edges of the traversable roadway (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law).

*Curb Extension*: An extension of a curb intended to narrow the travel lane and thereby reduce the speed of vehicles. Used at intersections to increase the visibility of pedestrians and shorten crossing distance.

*Curb Ramp*: Area at which a street curb has been cut and sloped so the sidewalk leads smoothly to the street. Curb ramps are required at crosswalks by ADA.

*CHIPS (Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program)*: State funding program that provides counties and municipalities with funds for operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating local highways and bridges. Typically used for projects on non Federal-Aid eligible roadways.

*DCDPW (Dutchess County Department of Public Works)*: Dutchess County department charged with responsibility for County highway, bridge, and building facilities and the Dutchess County Public Transit bus system.

*DCTC/Transportation Council (Dutchess County Transportation Council)*: MPO for the Dutchess County portion of the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Urbanized Area. Established in 1982, the DCTC is responsible for adopting a Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and Unified Planning Work Program.

*Demand-Responsive Transit*: Transit service in which passengers request door-to-door or point-to-point service at a specific time; a common example is Dial-A-Ride.

*EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)*: Federal agency responsible for implementing the Clean Air Act, as well as other environmental laws that protect natural resources.

*Farebox*: Machine that accepts tokens, bills, coins or tickets from passengers for rides on transit vehicles.

*Federal-Aid System*: The system of roads eligible for federal highway funding. Includes all roads not functionally classified as Local or Rural Minor Collector.

*FFY*: Federal Fiscal Year (Starts October 1; ends September 30).

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*FHWA (Federal Highway Administration):* USDOT agency responsible for approval of transportation projects that affect the federal-aid highway system. FHWA is a non-voting member of the DCTC.

*FRA (Federal Railroad Administration):* USDOT agency responsible for the administering of federal programs concerning rail transportation.

*FTA (Federal Transit Administration):* USDOT agency responsible for approval of mass transit projects that receive federal funding. FTA is a non-voting member of the DCTC.

*Financial Plan:* Documentation required in a MTP and TIP to demonstrate the consistency between reasonably available and projected federal, state, local, and private funding and the cost of proposed transportation improvements.

*Financial/Fiscal Constraint:* The requirement that the MTP, TIP, and STIP include sufficient financial information to demonstrate that projects can be implemented using committed, available, or reasonably available revenue sources, with reasonable assurance that the federally supported transportation system is being adequately operated and maintained. For the TIP and the STIP, financial constraint applies to each program year.

*Fixed Route Service:* Transit service that runs on regular, scheduled routes, usually with printed/posted bus schedules and designated stops.

*Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act:* Federal multi-modal transportation law, enacted in 2015, which

provides funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation totaling \$305 billion from FFY 2016 to FFY 2020.

*Functional Classification:* The process by which highways are grouped into classes according to the character of service they are intended to provide. Classes include Interstate, Principal and Minor Arterial, Major and Minor Collector, and Local. Urban and rural highways are classified separately.

*Highway:* A general term denoting a public roadway that includes the entire area within the right-of-way.

*Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP):* MAP-21 program focused on achieving a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on 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.

*Highway Trust Fund:* Transportation fund administered by FHWA. Most funds for highway improvement are apportioned to states using a formula based on population, area and mileage.

*HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle):* A vehicle carrying two or more passengers, including carpools, vanpools, and buses.

*HOV Lane:* Vehicle travel lane designated for use by HOVs.

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*ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems):* Projects and programs that use communications technology to provide information to travelers about road and transit conditions and help monitor, guide, and control the operation of vehicles. The application of ITS technologies offers improved safety, more efficient use of infrastructure, and enhanced user choices.

*Intermodal/Multimodal:* A transportation system connecting or including different types of transportation (e.g. bus service connecting to a train station).

*Local Authorities:* Any county, municipal or other local board, body or officer, county park commissioner, parkway authority, bridge authority, bridge and tunnel authority, the office of parks and recreation, the New York State Thruway authority or similar body or person having authority to enact laws or regulations relating to traffic under the constitution and laws of this state (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law).

*LOS (Level of Service):* A measure of congestion relating actual or forecasted traffic volume to the capacity of a roadway. LOS 'A' indicates free flow traffic; LOS 'F' denotes a very congested roadway in which traffic flow exceeds the capacity of the roadway.

*Match:* State or local funds required by federal funding programs to complement federal money for a project.

*Median:* The portion of a divided highway separating one direction of traffic from traffic traveling in the opposite direction.

*Metropolitan Planning Area:* The region in which an MPO

carries out its transportation planning responsibilities. The area is designated by the MPO and the Governor in accordance with federal regulations. The DCTC's metropolitan planning area includes the entirety of Dutchess County.

*MNR (Metro-North Railroad):* An operating affiliate of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) that provides rail service to Dutchess County and other areas in the New York metropolitan area. MTA is a voting member of the DCTC.

*MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan):* An official multimodal transportation plan addressing no less than a 20-year planning horizon. The MTP is developed, adopted, and updated by an MPO through the metropolitan transportation planning process.

*Mode:* A specific form of travel, for example, walking, or traveling by automobile, bus, bicycle, or train.

*MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization):* Federally mandated organization for coordinating transportation planning in a Census-designated metropolitan area. All urbanized areas over 50,000 in population are required to have an MPO. The MPO is responsible for developing the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and Unified Planning Work Program.

*NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards):* Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various air pollutants.

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*NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act of 1969)*: Federal law that establishes a national policy for the environment, requiring that federal agencies integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

*NHS (National Highway System)*: A nation-wide system of highways and roads designated by the US Congress to link the states, major urban areas, and other important destinations.

*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. NHPP projects must be on an eligible facility and support progress toward achievement of national performance goals for improving infrastructure condition, safety, mobility, or freight movement on the NHS, and be consistent with Metropolitan and Statewide planning requirements and plans, such as *Moving Dutchess 2*. Major eligible activities include the reconstruction and rehabilitation of NHS road segments and NHS bridges and tunnels, and highway safety improvements on the NHS. Bridge resurfacing, preservation, and reconstruction on non-NHS Federal-aid highways are eligible for NHPP funding under the FAST Act.

*NYSBA (New York State Bridge Authority)*: An authority created by New York State to maintain and operate bridges across the Hudson River. The NYSBA is a non-voting member of the DCTC.

*OCTC (Orange County Transportation Council)*: The MPO for the Newburgh and Middletown metropolitan areas, which covers Orange County.

*Nonattainment Area*: Geographic area designated by the EPA where NAAQS have been exceeded. Prior to 2012, Dutchess County was part of the Poughkeepsie Ozone Nonattainment Area with Putnam and Orange counties.

*Non-Exempt*: For air quality analysis, a highway or road project that changes capacity by at least one travel lane or a transit project that changes capacity on a fixed route system. A non-exempt determination is made if the project type is not found on the list of exempt projects in Table 2 (Exempt Projects) in 40 CFR Parts 93.126 and 127 and NYCRR Part 240.27.

*NOx (Nitrogen Oxide)*: A chief component of air pollution, caused by the burning of fossil fuel.

*NHTS (National Household Travel Survey)*: Periodic survey of travel behavior of a sample of people in the United States.

*NYMTC (New York Metropolitan Transportation Council)*: MPO for the New York metropolitan area that includes New York City, Long Island, and the Hudson Valley counties of Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester.

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*NYSDEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation)*: The State agency with primary responsibility for developing and amending the New York State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Air Quality.

*NYS DOT (New York State Department of Transportation)*: The State agency with primary responsibility for State transportation facilities and programs. NYS DOT is a voting member and Secretary of the DCTC.

*Park-and-Ride Lot*: Parking area where passengers leave their vehicles for the day and take public transit or carpools/vanpools to their destination (typically related to journey-to-work trips).

*Planning Committee*: The non-voting body of the Transportation Council responsible for identifying specific transportation planning issues for inclusion in the MTP, TIP, and UPWP, and identifying and undertaking special studies as requested by DCTC members.

*Regionally Significant Project*: A transportation project that is on a facility that serves regional transportation needs, such as access to and from the area outside the region; major activity centers in the region; major planned developments such as new retail malls, sports complexes, or employment centers; or transportation terminals, and would normally be modeled in the metropolitan area's transportation network. This includes all projects on principal arterial highways and all fixed guideway transit facilities that offer a significant alternative to

regional highway travel. Typically used for air quality conformity.

*Right-of-Way (ROW)*: Land, property or interest therein, acquired for or devoted to a highway, transit, railroad, or other transportation project.

*Roadway*: The portion of the highway, including shoulders, for vehicular use.

*SAFETEA-LU (Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act- A Legacy for Users)*: Federal multi-modal transportation law, enacted in 2005, that guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation totaling \$244 billion (FFY 2005-2009).

*SDF (State Dedicated Fund)*: Funds collected and allocated by New York State to fund highway and transit improvements.

*Section 5303 (Metropolitan & Statewide Planning)*: FTA program that funds transit planning and research.

*Section 5307 (Urbanized Area Formula Funding program)*: FTA program that authorizes grants to urban areas under a legislated formula. The program provides funding to urbanized areas for transit capital and operating assistance, preventive maintenance, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit services. Funds can also support pedestrian and bicycle access to transit.

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*Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program):* FTA program that authorizes transportation capital and operating grants for transit service for the elderly and handicapped. The program provides formula funding to states to assist private nonprofit groups with meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities. Funds are apportioned based on each state's share of population for these population groups. Per MAP-21, funding can only be awarded if the project stems from a locally developed Coordinated Public Transportation–Human Service Transportation Plan.

*Section 5337 (State of Good Repair Grants):* FTA program that provides capital assistance for maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation projects of high-intensity fixed guideway (e.g. commuter rail).

*Section 5339 (Buses and Bus Facilities program):* FTA program that supports the replacement, rehabilitation, and purchase of buses and related equipment, and construction of bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities. Funding is provided through formula allocations and competitive grants.

*SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act):* A New York State law that introduces a process to incorporate the consideration of environmental factors into the early planning stages of actions to avoid adverse impacts on the environment.

*Shared Lanes:* Shared motor vehicle/bicycle use of a travel lane. Narrow shared lanes may be supplemented with shared lane use markings (sharrows).

*Shared-Use Path:* A path completely separated from vehicular traffic and within an independent right of way or the right of way of another facility, which is shared by bicycles, pedestrians, and other non-motorized users.

*SFY:* State Fiscal Year (Starts April 1 and ends March 31).

*SIP (State Implementation Plan):* A plan mandated by the Clean Air Act that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the NAAQS.

*STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program):* A statewide compilation of MPO and rural area TIPs that is submitted by NYSDOT to FHWA and FTA for approval. The STIP serves as the basis for the obligation of federal transportation funds to the State.

*STBG (Surface Transportation Block Grant) Program:* Provides flexible funding that may be used by States and localities for projects to preserve and improve the conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals. Fifty percent of a State's STP apportionment is to be obligated to areas in proportion to their relative share of the State's population. Major eligible activities include the construction and rehabilitation of federal-aid eligible highways and bridges on any public road.



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*Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)*: Originally a MAP-21 program that provided for a variety of alternative transportation projects that were previously eligible under separately funded programs, such as the Transportation Enhancement Program, Recreational Trails Program, and the Safe Route to Schools Program. Under the FAST Act, the TAP program was eliminated as a standalone program and made a set-aside under the STBG Program.

*TDM (Transportation Demand Management)*: Activities and programs designed to reduce congestion by reducing the number of single occupant vehicles. Examples include programs to promote ridesharing, transit use, bicycling, and telecommuting.

*TIP (Transportation Improvement Program)*: A five-year program of highway, transit, and other transportation capital projects developed by an MPO. All federally funded projects must appear on an approved TIP to be implemented.

*TMA (Transportation Management Area)*: A USDOT designation for Urbanized Areas with populations of 200,000 or more. The TMA designation carries additional responsibilities for an MPO. These include a system to disburse Section 5307 funds and a formal federal certification review every four years. The DCTC is part of the Mid-Hudson Valley TMA.

*Transportation Performance Management*: a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve national performance goals.

*UCTC (Ulster County Transportation Council)*: The MPO for the Kingston metropolitan area, which covers Ulster County.

*UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program)*: The statement of work identifying the planning priorities and activities to be carried out within a metropolitan planning area over a period of no more than two years. The UPWP includes a description of the planning work and resulting products and identifies which organization will perform the work, the time-periods for completing the work, the cost of the work, and the sources of funds.

*USDOT (United States Department of Transportation)*: The federal cabinet department that includes the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

*Urbanized Area*: An incorporated place and adjacent densely populated area with a combined minimum population of 50,000, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

*VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled)*: Measure of vehicle travel. The sum of miles driven by all vehicles in a given area, over a specific time-period.

*YOE (Year of Expenditure)*: Dollars that are adjusted for inflation, based on the year they will be used.