

# Transportation Planning Acronyms

# GLOSSARY

Wichita Area  
Metropolitan  
Planning  
Organization

May, 2015

MPO FTA JARC  
STP LRTP  
FHWA  
TIP KDHE



455 N. Main, 10th Floor  
Wichita, KS 67202-1688  
T: 316.268.4315  
Website: [www.wampo.org](http://www.wampo.org)  
Email: [wampo@wichita.gov](mailto:wampo@wichita.gov)



## Table of Contents

General Transportation Planning Terms.....	1
Air Quality and Conformity Terms.....	12
Financial Terms.....	15
Legislation.....	18
Organizations.....	19
WAMPO/MPO and Staff Defined Terms.....	21

Note: All definitions are from FHWA Website (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/>) with the exception of WAMPO/MPO and Staff Defined Terms.

## General Transportation Planning Terms

**Air Carrier** The commercial system of air transportation comprising large certificated air carriers, small certificated air carriers, commuter air carriers, on-demand air taxis, supplemental air carriers, and air travel clubs. (Example – Airlines)

**Analysis of Alternatives** Understanding how the transportation system and its components work such as information on the costs, benefits and impacts of potential changes to the system.

**Arterial Street** A class of street serving major traffic movements (high-speed, high volume) for travel between major points.

**Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT)** The total volume of traffic on a highway segment for one year, divided by the number of days in the year.

**Average Annual Daily Truck Traffic (AADTT)** The total volume of truck traffic on a highway segment for one year, divided by the number of days in the year.

**Bikeway** 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.

**Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)** Is measured as a percentage by weight of alcohol in the blood (grams/deciliter). A positive BAC level (0.01 g/dl and higher) indicates that alcohol was consumed by the person tested. A BAC level of 0.08 g/dl or more indicates that the person was intoxicated in the state of Kansas.

**Bridge Management System (BMS)** A systematic process that provides, analyzes, and summarizes bridge information for use in selecting and implementing cost-effective bridge construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance programs

**Bus Lane** 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.

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

**Class 1 Road** Hard surface highways including Interstate and U.S. numbered highways (including alternates), primary State routes, and all controlled access highways.

**Class 2 Road** Hard surface highways including secondary State routes, primary county routes, and other highways that connect principal cities and towns, and link these places with the primary highway system.

**Class 3 Road** Hard surface roads not included in a higher class and improved, loose surface roads passable in all kinds of weather. These roads are adjuncts to the primary and secondary highway systems. Also included are important private roads such as main logging or industrial roads which serve as connecting links to the regular road network.

**Class 4 Road** Unimproved roads which are generally passable only in fair weather and used mostly for local traffic. Also included are driveways, regardless of construction.

**Class 5 Road** Unimproved roads passable only with 4 wheel drive vehicles.

**Class I Railroad** Railroad with an annual operating revenue of at least \$266.7 million. (BSNF and UP are the two Class I railroads in the WAMPO region)

**Collector (Highway)** In rural areas, routes that serve intra county rather than statewide travel. In urban areas, streets that provide direct access to neighborhoods and arterials.

**Commercial Service Airport** Airport receiving scheduled passenger service and having 2,500 or more enplaned passengers per year.

**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.

**Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)** A categorical Federal-aid funding program created with the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. Directs funding to projects that contribute to meeting national air quality standards. CMAQ funds generally may not be used for projects that result in the construction of new capacity available to SOVs (single-occupant vehicles). (Note: CMAQ requirements come into effect if a region is designated non-attainment with the CAAA)

**Containerized Cargo** Cargo that is transported in containers that can be transferred easily from one transportation mode to another

**Contract Authority (CA)** A form of Budget Authority that permits obligations to be made in advance of appropriations. Most of the programs under the Federal-Aid Highway Program operate under Contract Authority.

**Crash (Highway)** An event that produces injury and/or property damage, involves a motor vehicle in transport, and occurs on a traffic way or while the vehicle is still in motion after running off the traffic way.

**Emergency Preparedness Plan** A comprehensive plan which identifies potential emergencies and their impact on the community, and identifies operating procedures and actions to put in place during actual emergencies.

**Enhancement Activities** Refers to activities related to a particular transportation project that 'enhance' or contribute to the existing or proposed project. Examples of such activities include provision of facilities for pedestrians or cyclists, landscaping or other scenic beautification projects, historic preservation, control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, and mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** Report developed as part of the National Environmental Policy Act requirements, which details any adverse economic, social, and environmental effects of a proposed transportation project for which Federal funding is being sought. Adverse effects could include air, water, or noise pollution; destruction or disruption of natural resources; adverse employment effects; injurious displacement of people or businesses; or disruption of desirable community or regional growth.

**Environmental Restoration** Re-establishment (including all site preparation activities) of natural habitats or other environmental resources on a site where they formerly existed or currently exist in a substantially degraded state. This can include the restitution for the loss, damage, or destruction of natural resources arising out of the accidental discharge, dispersal, release or escape into or upon the land, atmosphere, watercourse, or body of water of any commodity transported by a motor carrier. This also may include the on-site or offsite replacement of wetlands and other natural habitats lost through development activities.

**Expressway** A controlled access, divided arterial highway for through traffic, the intersections of which are usually separated from other roadways by differing grades.

**Fatality** For purposes of statistical reporting on transportation safety, a fatality is considered a death due to injuries in a transportation crash, accident, or incident that occurs within 30 days of that occurrence.

**Federal-Aid Highways** Those highways eligible for assistance under Title 23 U.S.C. except those functionally classified as local or rural minor collectors.

**Fixed-Route** Term applied to transit service that is regularly scheduled and operates over a set route; usually refers to bus service.

**Formula Capital Grants** Federal transit funds for transit operators; allocation of funds overseen by FTA.

**Freeway** A divided arterial highway designed for the unimpeded flow of large traffic volumes. Access to a freeway is rigorously controlled and intersection grade separations are required.

**Future Needs** Represents the gap between the vision and the current or projected performance of the system

**Gasohol** A blend of finished motor gasoline (leaded or unleaded) and alcohol (generally ethanol but sometimes methanol) limited to 10 percent by volume of alcohol.

**General Aviation** All civil aviation activity except that of air carriers certificated in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulations, Parts 121, 123, 127, and 135. The types of aircraft used in general aviation range from corporate multiengine jet aircraft piloted by professional crews to amateur-built single-engine piston-driven acrobatic planes to balloons and dirigibles.

**Geographic Information System (GIS)** Computerized data management system designed to capture, store, retrieve, analyze, and display geographically referenced information.

**Goals** Generalized statements which broadly relate to the physical environment to values

**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.

**High Occupancy Vehicle Lane** Exclusive road or traffic lane limited to buses, vanpools, carpools, and emergency vehicles.

**Highway** Is 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.

**Highway-Rail Grade Crossing (Rail)** A location where one or more railroad tracks are crossed by a public highway, road, street, or a private roadway at grade, including sidewalks and pathways at or associated with the crossing.

**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.

**Infrastructure** 1) In transit systems, all the fixed components of the transit system, such as rights-of-way, tracks, signal equipment, stations, park-and-ride lots, but stops, maintenance facilities. 2) In transportation planning, all the relevant elements of the environment in which a transportation system operates.

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

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

**Interstate Commerce** Trade, traffic, or transportation in the United States which is between a place in a State and a place outside of such State (including a place outside of the

United States) or is between two places in a State through another State or a place outside of the United States.

**Interstate Highway (Freeway or Expressway)** A divided arterial highway for through traffic with full or partial control of access and grade separations at major intersections.

**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.

**Interstate Maintenance (IM)** The Interstate Maintenance (IM) program provides funding for resurfacing, restoring, rehabilitating and reconstructing (4R) most routes on the Interstate System. (Replaced in MAP-21 with NHPP)

**Level of Service (LOS)** This term refers to a standard measurement used by transportation officials which reflects the relative ease of traffic flow on a scale of A to F, with free-flow being rated LOS-A and congested conditions rated as LOS-F.

**Light Rail** A streetcar-type vehicle operated on city streets, semi-exclusive rights-of-way, or exclusive rights-of-way. Service may be provided by step-entry vehicles or by level boarding.

**Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)** 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 the next 20 years.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** A document providing a general description of the responsibilities that are to be assumed by two or more parties in their pursuit of some goal(s). More specific information may be provided in an associated scope of work.

**Metropolitan Planning Area** The geographic area in which the metropolitan transportation planning process required by 23 U.S.C. 134 and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1607) must be carried out. (WAMPO MPA includes all of Sedgwick Co, and parts of Butler and Sumner Counties.)

**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. 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.



**Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)** The official intermodal transportation plan that is developed and adopted through the metropolitan transportation planning process for the metropolitan planning area, in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134, 23 USC 135 and 49 U.S.C. 5303.

**Minor Arterials (Highway)** Roads linking cities and larger towns in rural areas. In urban areas, roads that link but do not penetrate neighborhoods within a community.

**Mobility** The ability to move or be moved from place to place.

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

**Motorized Vehicle** Includes all vehicles that are licensed for highway driving. Specifically excluded are snowmobiles and minibikes.

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

**Multimodal Transportation** Often used as a synonym for intermodalism. Congress and others frequently use the term intermodalism in its broadest interpretation as a synonym for multimodal transportation. Most precisely, multimodal transportation covers all modes without necessarily including a holistic or integrated approach.

**National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)** To provide support for the condition and performance of the National Highway System; to provide support for the construction of new facilities on the National Highway System; 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 an asset management plan of a State for the National Highway System.

**National Highway System (NHS)** This system of highways designated and approved in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 103b). (This includes the in the WAMPO region Interstates, freeways, and the connection of the Eisenhower airport with US-54)

**National ITS Architecture** A systems framework to guide the planning and deployment of ITS infrastructure. The national ITS architecture is a blueprint for the coordinated development of ITS technologies in the U.S. It is unlikely that any single metropolitan area or state would plan to implement the entire national ITS architecture.

**Noncompliance** Failure to comply with a standard or regulation issued under 46 U.S.C. Chapter 43, or with a section of the statutes.

**Objectives** Specific, measurable statements related to the attainment of goals.

**Other Freeways And Expressways (Highway)** All urban principal arterials with limited access but not part of the Interstate system.

**Other Principal Arterials (Highway)** Major streets or highways, many of multi-lane or freeway design, serving high-volume traffic corridor movements that connect major generators of travel.

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

**Parkway** A highway that has full or partial access control, is usually located within a park or a ribbon of park-like developments, and prohibits commercial vehicles. Buses are not considered commercial vehicles in this case.

**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 decision making process.

**Person Trip** A trip taken by an individual. For example, if three persons from the same household travel together, the trip is counted as one household trip and three person trips.

**Person-Miles** An estimate of the aggregate distances traveled by all persons on a given trip based on the estimated transportation-network-miles traveled on that trip.

**Petroleum (Oil)** A generic term applied to oil and oil products in all forms, such as crude oil, lease condensate, unfinished oils, petroleum products, natural gas plant liquids, and nonhydrocarbon compounds blended into finished petroleum products.

**Problem Identification** An element in the planning process which represents the gap between the desired vision, goals and objectives and the current or projected performance of the system

**Program Development** An element in the planning process in which improvements are formalized in the transportation improvement program and provides more detailed strategies.

**Programming** Prioritizing proposed projects and matching those projects with available funds to accomplish agreed upon, stated needs.

**Property Damage (Transit)** The dollar amount required to repair or replace transit property

**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 or with specific stops and is designed to move relatively large numbers of people at one time.

**Public Transit Agencies** A public entity responsible for administering and managing transit activities and services. Public transit agencies can directly operate transit service or contract out for all or part of the total transit service provided. (Wichita Transit serves as the Public Transit Agency in the WAMPO region.)

**Public Transit System** An organization that provides transportation services owned, operated, or subsidized by any municipality, county, regional authority, state, or other governmental agency, including those operated or managed by a private management firm under contract to the government agency owner.

**Public Transportation** Transportation by bus, rail, or other conveyance, either publicly or privately owned, which provides to the public general or special service on a regular and continuing basis. Also known as "mass transportation", "mass transit" and "transit."

**Public Road** Any road under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority (federal, state, county, town or township, local government, or instrumentality thereof) and open to public travel.

**Regional Railroad** Railroad defined as line haul railroad operating at least 350 miles of track and/or earns revenue between \$40 million and \$266.7 million. (None in WAMPO region)

**Regionally Significant Project** A project that is on a facility which serves regional transportation needs. (Note: MOVE2040 uses "means a transportation project (other than an exempt project) that is on a facility which serves regional transportation needs (such as access to and from the area outside of the region, major activity centers in the region, major planned developments such as new retail malls, sport complexes, etc., or transportation terminals as well as most terminals themselves) and would normally be included in the modeling of a metropolitan area's transportation network, including at a minimum all principal arterial highways and all fixed guide way transit facilities that offer an alternative to regional highway travel.")

**Reliability** Refers to the degree of certainty and predictability in travel times on the transportation system. Reliable transportation systems offer some assurance of attaining a given destination within a reasonable range of an expected time. An unreliable transportation system is subject to unexpected delays, increasing costs for system users

**Right of Way** The land (usually a strip) acquired for or devoted to highway transportation purposes.

**Rural Highway** any highway, road, or street that is not an urban highway. (Note: Urban as defined by the Urban Area Boundary (UAB))

**Rural Mileage (Highway)** Roads outside city, municipal district, or urban boundaries.

**Shortline Railroad** Freight railroads which are not Class I or Regional Railroads that operate less than 350 miles of track and earn less than \$40 million. (WATCO is the only shortline railroad that serves the WAMPO region.)

**Smart Growth** A set of policies and programs design to protect, preserve, and economically develop established communities and valuable natural and cultural resources.

**Sprawl** Urban form that connotatively depicts the movement of people from the central city to the suburbs. Concerns associated with sprawl include loss of farmland and open space due to low-density land development, increased public service costs, and environmental degradation as well as other concerns associated with transportation.

**Stakeholder** Person or group affected by a transportation plan, program or project. Person or group believing that are affected by a transportation plan, program or project. Residents of affected geographical areas.

**State** As defined in chapter 1 of Title 23 of the United States Code, any of the 50 States, comprising the United States, plus the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

**State Transportation Agency** The State highway department, transportation department, or other State transportation agency to which Federal-aid highway funds are apportioned. (In Kansas this is KDOT)

**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.

**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.

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

**Trafficway (Highway)** Any right-of-way open to the public as a matter of right or custom for moving persons or property from one place to another, including the entire width between property lines or other boundaries.

**Transit Vehicle** A vehicle used to provide transit services to a region. Includes light, heavy, and commuter rail; motorbus; trolley bus; van pools; automated guideway; and demand responsive vehicles.

**Transport** Movement of natural, synthetic, and/or supplemental gas between points beyond the immediate vicinity of the field or plant from which produced except 1) For movements through well or field lines to a central point for delivery to a pipeline or processing plant within the same state or 2) Movements from a citygate point of receipt to consumers through distribution mains.

**Transportation Administration and Support** All activities associated with transportation administration, revenue vehicle movement control and scheduling including supervision and clerical support.

**Transportation Enhancement Activities (TE)** Provides funds to the States for safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, scenic routes, beautification, restoring historic buildings, renovating streetscapes, or providing transportation museums and visitors centers.

**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** A document prepared by a metropolitan planning organization that lists projects to be funded with FHWA/FTA funds for the next one-to four-year period.

**Transportation Management Area (TMA)** An urbanized area with a population over 200,000 (as determined by the latest decennial census) or other area when TMA designation is requested by the Governor and the MPO (or affect local officials), and officially designated by the Administrators of the FHWA and the FTA. The TMA designation applies to the entire metropolitan planning area(s). (WAMPO is a TMA)

**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 Highway** Any road or street within the boundaries of an urban area. An urban area is an area including and adjacent to a municipality or urban place with a population of 5,000 or more. The boundaries of urban areas are fixed by state highway departments, subject to the approval of the Federal Highway Administration, for purposes of the Federal-Aid Highway Program.

**Vanpool (Transit)** Public-sponsored commuter service operating under prearranged schedules for previously formed groups of riders in 8- to 18-seat vehicles. Drivers are also commuters who receive little or no compensation besides the free ride.

**Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)** The number of miles traveled by vehicles for a period of 1 year. VMT is either calculated using 2 odometer readings or, for vehicles with less than 2 odometer readings, imputed using a regression estimate.

**Vehicle-Miles (Highway)** Miles of travel by all types of motor vehicles as determined by the states on the basis of actual traffic counts and established estimating procedures.

**Vehicle-Miles (Transit)** The total number of miles traveled by transit vehicles. Commuter rail, heavy rail, and light rail report individual car-miles, rather than train-miles for vehicle-miles.

**Visioning** A variety of techniques that can be used to identify goals.

**Zone** The smallest geographically designated area for analysis of transportation activity. A zone can be from one to ten square miles in area. Average zone size depends on the total size of study area.

## Air Quality and Conformity Terms

**Air Quality Conformity** The link between air quality planning and transportation planning

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Emissions Inventory** A complete list of sources and amounts of pollutant emissions within a specific area and time interval.

**Inspection and Maintenance (I/M)** An emissions testing and inspection program implemented by States in nonattainment areas to ensure that the catalytic or other emissions control devices on in-use vehicles are properly maintained.

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

**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) or volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), and small particulate matter (PM-10).

**Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSATS)** Identified by the EPA, MSATs are the 21 hazardous air pollutants generated in large part by transportation sources.

**Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget** The portion of the total allowable emissions defined in the submitted or approved control strategy implementation plan revision or maintenance plan for a certain date for the purpose of meeting reasonable further progress milestones or



demonstrating attainment or maintenance of the NAAQS, for any criteria pollutant or its precursors, allocated to highway and transit vehicle use and emissions.

**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 CAAA. 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.

**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.

**Ozone O<sub>3</sub>** 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<sub>x</sub> 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.

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>)** 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. Coarse airborne particles are produced during grinding operations, or from the physical disturbance of dust by natural air turbulence processes, such as wind. Fine particles can be a by-product of fossil fuel combustion, such as diesel and bus engines. Fine particles can easily reach remote lung areas, and their presence in the lungs is linked to serious respiratory ailments such as asthma, chronic bronchitis and aggravated coughing. Exposure to these particles may aggravate other medical conditions such as heart disease and emphysema and may cause premature death. In the environment, particulate matter contributes to diminished visibility and particle deposition (soiling).

**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.

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



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

**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. (Also referred to as Travel Demand Management.)

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)** VOCs come from vehicle exhaust, paint thinners, solvents, and other petroleum-based products. A number of exhaust VOCs are also toxic, with the potential to cause cancer.

## Financial Terms

**Apportionment** 1) A term that refers to a statutorily prescribed division or assignment of funds. An apportionment is based on prescribed formulas in the law and consists of dividing authorized obligation authority for a specific program among the States. 2) The distribution of funds as prescribed by a statutory formula.

**Appropriations Act** Action of a legislative body that makes funds available for expenditure with specific limitations as to amount, purpose, and duration. In most cases, it permits money previously authorized to be obligated and payments made, but for the highway program operating under contract authority, the appropriations act specifies amounts of funds that Congress will make available for the fiscal year to liquidate obligations.

**Authorization Act** Basic substantive legislation that establishes or continues Federal programs or agencies and establishes an upper limit on the amount of funds for the program(s). The current authorization act for surface transportation programs is the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

**Budget Authority** Empowerment by Congress that allows Federal agencies to incur obligations that will result in the outlay of funds. This empowerment is generally in the form of appropriations. However, for most of the highway programs, it is in the form of contract authority.

**Budget Resolution** A concurrent resolution passed by Congress presenting the Congressional Budget for each of the succeeding 5 years. A concurrent resolution does not require the signature of the President.

**Constant Dollars** Dollar value adjusted for changes in the average price level by dividing a current dollar amount by a price index.

**Dedicated Funds** Any funds raised specifically for transit purposes and which are dedicated at their source (e.g., sales taxes, gasoline taxes, and property taxes), rather than through an allocation from the pool of general funds.

**Financial analysis** Estimating costs, establishing a revenue baseline, comparing revenues with costs and evaluating new revenue sources.

**Financial Capacity** Refers to the ISTEA requirement that an adequate financial plan for funding and sustaining transportation improvements be in place prior to programming Federally-funded projects. Generally refers to the stability and reliability of revenue in meeting proposed costs.

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

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

**Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)** The yearly accounting period beginning October 1 and ending September 30 of the subsequent calendar year. Fiscal years are denoted by the calendar year in which they end (e.g. FY 1991 began October 1, 1990, and ended September 30, 1991).

**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.

**Highway-User Tax** A charge levied on persons or organizations based on their use of public roads. Funds collected are usually applied toward highway construction, reconstruction, and maintenance.

**Limitation on Obligations** Any action or inaction by an officer or employee of the United States that limits the amount of Federal assistance that may be obligated during a specified time period. A limitation on obligations does not affect the scheduled apportionment or allocation of funds, it just controls the rate at which these funds may be used.

**Obligation** The Federal government's legal commitment (promise) to pay or reimburse the States or other entities for the Federal share of a project's eligible costs.

**Obligation Limitation** A restriction, or "ceiling" on the amount of Federal assistance that may be promised (obligated) during a specified time period. This is a statutory budgetary control that does not affect the apportionment or allocation of funds. Rather, it controls the rate at which these funds may be used.

**Obligational Authority (OA)** The total amount of funds that may be obligated in a year. For the Federal-Aid Highway Program this is comprised of the obligation limitation amount plus amounts for programs exempt from the limitation.

**Outlays** Actual cash (or electronic transfer) payments made to the States or other entities. Outlays are provided as reimbursement for the Federal share for approved highway program activities.

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

**Revenue Aligned Budget Authority (RABA)** The adjustment in funding made annually to the highway program, beginning in FY 2000, as a result of the adjustment in the firewall level for highways. The firewall level is adjusted to reflect revised receipt estimates for the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund. Then, adjustments equal to the firewall adjustment-are made to Federal-Aid highway authorizations and obligation limitation for the fiscal year.

**State Infrastructure Bank (SIB)** A revolving fund mechanism for financing a wide variety of highway and transit projects through loans and credit enhancement. SIBs are designed to complement traditional Federal-aid highway and transit grants by providing States increased flexibility for financing infrastructure investments.

**Trust Fund** A fund credited with receipts that are held in trust by the government and earmarked by law for use in carrying out specific purposes and programs in accordance with an agreement or a statute.

**Trust Funds** Accounts that are designated by law to carry out specific purposes and programs. Trust Funds are usually financed with earmarked tax collections. (The Highway Trust Fund is an example of a trust fund)

## Legislation

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

**Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA)** 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 are the most far-reaching revisions of the 1970 law. The 1990 Clean Air Act is the most recent version of the 1970 version of the law. The 1990 amendments made major changes in the Clean Air Act.

**Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)** A compilation of the general and permanent rules of the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government as published in the Federal Register. The code is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation.

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR)** The regulations are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Chapter III, Subchapter B.

**Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA)** Legislative initiative by the U.S. Congress that restructured funding for transportation programs. ISTEA authorized increased levels of highway and transportation funding from FY92-97 and increased the role of regional planning commissions/MPOs in funding decisions. This was watershed legislation for transportation funding and planning. The Act also required comprehensive regional and Statewide long-term transportation plans and places an increased emphasis on public participation and transportation alternatives.

**National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)** 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.

**The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)** Is a funding and authorization bill to govern United States federal surface transportation spending. It was passed by Congress on June 29, 2012, and President Barack Obama signed it on July 6.

**United States Code** Contains a consolidation and codification of all general and permanent laws of the U.S.

## Organizations

**American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials (AASHTO)** A nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. It represents all five transportation modes: air, highways, public transportation, rail and water. Its primary goal is to foster the development, operation and maintenance of an integrated national transportation system.

**American Public Transportation Association (APTA)** Acting as a leading force in advancing public transportation, APTA serves and leads its diverse membership through advocacy, innovation, and information sharing to strengthen and expand public transportation.

**Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO)** AMPO is a nonprofit, membership organization established in 1994 to serve the needs and interests of "metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs)" nationwide. AMPO offers its member MPOs technical assistance and training, conferences and workshops, frequent print and electronic communications, research, a forum for transportation policy development and coalition building, and a variety of other services.

**Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** FAA provides a safe, secure, and efficient global aerospace system that contributes to national security and the promotion of US aerospace safety. As the leading authority in the international aerospace community, FAA is responsive to the dynamic nature of customer needs, economic conditions, and environmental concerns.

**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. The Federal agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation responsible for administering the Federal-Aid Highway Program. Became a component of the Department of Transportation in 1967 pursuant to the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1651 note). It administers the highway transportation programs of the Department of Transportation under pertinent legislation

**Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)** The purpose of the Federal Railroad Administration is to promulgate and enforce rail safety regulations, administer railroad financial assistance programs, conduct research and development in support of improved railroad safety and national rail transportation policy, provide for the rehabilitation of Northeast corridor rail passenger service, and consolidate government support of rail transportation activities. The FRA was created pursuant to section 3(e)(1) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 U.S.C. app. 1652).

**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. The Federal Transit Administration was established as a component of the Department of Transportation by section 3 of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968 (5 U.S.C. app.), effective July 1, 1968. The missions of the Administration are 1) to assist in the development of improved mass transportation facilities, equipment, techniques, and methods, with the cooperation of mass transportation companies both public and private. 2) to encourage the planning and establishment of area wide urban mass transportation systems needed for economical and desirable urban development, with the cooperation of mass transportation companies both public and private. and 3) to provide assistance to State and local governments and their instrumentalities in financing such systems, to be operated by public or private mass transportation companies as determined by local needs; and 4) to provide financial assistance to State and local governments to help implement national goals relating to mobility for elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged persons.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)** 1) 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. 2) Formed in cooperation with the state, develops transportation plans and programs for the metropolitan area. For each urbanized area, a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must be designated by agreement between the Governor and local units of government representing 75% of the affected population (in the metropolitan area), including the central cities or cities as defined by the Bureau of the Census, or in accordance with procedures established by applicable State or local law (23 U.S.C. 134(b)(1)/Federal Transit Act of 1991 Sec. 8(b)(1)). (WAMPO is a MPO)

**United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)** Establishes the nation's overall transportation policy. Under its umbrella there are ten administrations whose jurisdictions include highway planning, development and construction; urban mass transit; railroads; aviation; and the safety of waterways, ports, highways, and oil and gas pipelines. The Department of Transportation (DOT) was established by act of October 15, 1966, as amended (49 U.S.C. 102 and 102 note), "to assure the coordinated, effective administration of the transportation programs of the Federal Government" and to develop "national transportation policies and programs conducive to the provision of fast, safe, efficient, and convenient transportation at the lowest cost consistent therewith."

## WAMPO/MPO and Staff Defined Terms

- Annual List of Obligated Projects (ALOP)** List of all projects receiving federal funds in the proceeding FFY. Published annually.
- Air Quality (AQ)** The degree to which the ambient air is pollution-free, assessed by measuring a number of indicators of pollution.
- Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG)** the grant agreement between KDOT and WAMPO that provides the federal funding to WAMPO for its operations. It combines metropolitan transportation planning funds from the Federal Highway Administration through 23 U.S.C. 104(f) and 134 and the Federal Transit Administration through 49 U.S.C 5303.
- Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Plan (CPT-HSP)** a locally developed transportation plan that identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, elderly individuals, and individuals with low incomes, provides strategies for meeting those local needs, and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation.
- Environmental Justice (EJ)** The United States Department of Transportation defines three fundamental environmental justice principles for the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration as follows:
1. To avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations.
  2. To ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process.
  3. To prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority and low-income populations.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** The EPA is an agency of the United States federal government whose mission is to protect human and environmental health.
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)** The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) is a law that gives citizens the right to access information from the federal government. (The state of Kansas regulation is the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA))
- Kansas Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (KAMPO)** An association of all MPOs inside the state of Kansas. In Kansas the MPO's include: Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization (FHMPO), Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Office (LDCMPO), Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization, Mid-America Regional Council



(MARC), St. Joseph Area Transportation Study Organization, and Wichita Area MPO (WAMPO).

**Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)** State Transportation Agency for the state of Kansas.

**Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA)** Owner and operator of the Kansas Turnpike.

**Limited English Proficiency (LEP)** Limited English proficiency (LEP) is a term used in the United States that refers to a person who is not fluent in the English language, often because it is not their native language.

**Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary (MPAB)** The MPAB shall encompass the entire existing urbanized area (as defined by the Bureau of the Census) plus the contiguous area expected to become urbanized within a 20-year forecast period for the metropolitan transportation plan. The MPA boundaries may be further expanded to encompass the entire metropolitan statistical area or combined statistical area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

**Mid-America Regional Council (MARC)** the MPO for the Kansas City area (both Kansas and Missouri sides of the Kansas City metro region.)

**Public Participation Plan (PPP)** The plan that guides and defines how WAMPO will inform and interact with the public.

**Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)** Was a funding and authorization bill that governed United States federal surface transportation spending. It was signed into law by President George W. Bush on August 10, 2005, and expired on September 30, 2009. Succeeded by MAP-21.

**Title VI** Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs receiving federal financial assistance. In addition to this, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 expanded this requirement to include all programs and activities offered by any agency receiving federal funding.

**Transportation Alternatives (TA)** The TAP provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways.

**Urbanized Area (UZA)** Core census block groups or blocks that have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile (386 per square kilometer) and surrounding census

blocks that have an overall density of at least 500 people per square mile (193 per square kilometer)

**Wichita Transit (WT)**      A department of the City of Wichita that provides transit service for the Metro region.



# Transportation Planning Acronyms and Location in Glossary

AADT – 1	FTA –20	NHS – 6
AADTT – 1	GIS – 4	NHPP - 6
AASHTO –19	HOV – 4	OA –16
ADA –18	HTF –16	PL –16
ALOP – 21	ITS – 4	PM10 and PM2.5 – 13
AMPO –19	IHS – 5	PPP – 22
AQ – 21	IM – 5	RABA –16
APTA –19	I/M – 12	SAFETEA-LU – 22
BAC – 1	ISTEA – 18	SIB –17
BMS – 1	KAMPO – 21	SIP –13
CA – 2	KDOT – 22	STP - 9
CAAA –18	KTA – 22	STIP – 9
CFR –18	LEP – 22	TA – 22
CMS – 2	LOS – 5	TCM –14
CMAQ – 2	LRTP – 5	TDM –14
CPG -21	MAP-21 –18	TE – 10
CPT-HSP – 21	MARC -22	TIP – 10
EIS – 3	MOU – 5	TMA – 10
EJ – 21	MPO –20	UPWP – 10
EPA – 21	MPAB – 22	USDOT –20
FAA –19	MSA – 5	UZA – 22
FFY –16	MSATS – 12	VMT – 10
FHWA –19	MTP – 6	VOCs –14
FMCSR –18	NAA – 13	WT – 23
FOIA –21	NAAQS –13	
FRA –19	NEPA –18	