

Glossary

Definitions of terms used by the Metropolitan Council related to planning, land use, transportation, water resources and parks.

A

“A” Minor Arterials - Roadways within the metropolitan area that are more regionally significant than others. These roadways are classified into the following groups:

- **Relievers** – Minor arterials that provide direct relief for traffic on major metropolitan highways. These roads include the closest routes parallel to the principal arterials within the core, urban reserve and urban staging areas. These roadways are proposed to accommodate medium-length trips (less than eight miles) as well as providing relief to congested principal arterials. Approximately 400 miles of relievers have been identified. Improvements focus on providing additional capacity for through traffic.
- **Expanders** – Routes that provide a way to make connections between developing areas outside the interstate ring or beltway. These routes are located circumferentially beyond the area reasonably served by the beltway. These roadways are proposed to serve medium-to-long suburb-to-suburb trips. Approximately 650 miles of expanders have been identified. Improvements focus on preserving or obtaining right-of-way.
- **Connectors** – This category of “A” minor arterials are roads that would provide good, safe connections among town centers in the urban reserve, urban staging and rural areas within and near the seven counties. Approximately 680 miles of connectors have been identified. Improvements focus on safety and load-carrying capacity.
- **Augmenters** – The fourth group of “A” minor arterials are those roads that augment principal arterials within the interstate ring or beltway. The principal arterial network in this area is in place. However, the network of principal arterials serving the area is not in all cases sufficient relative to the density of development that the network serves. In these situations, these key minor arterials serve many long-range trips. Approximately 200 miles of augmenters have been identified. Improvements focus on providing additional capacity of through traffic.

Access Management - Control of movement onto highways. Strategies include restricting the intersections and interchanges of other streets and highways, restricting or limiting the number of driveways or controlling these entrance points in some manner, as with traffic signs or signals.

Access to Opportunities - Ease with which an area can be reached; the distance between origin and destination expressed in terms of time.

Adaptive Reuse - Rehabilitation or renovation of existing buildings or structures for uses other than the current ones.

Adjacent Counties - Counties bordering or lying near the seven-county metropolitan area - Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Wright, McLeod, Sibley, Le Sueur, Rice, Goodhue, Polk, St. Croix and Pierce.

Affordable Housing - Housing that a low- or moderate-income household can occupy without spending more than 30% of household income. Also incorporates the idea of quality (safe and decent dwelling), choice of location, and an adequate supply.

Aggregate - Hard inert materials (such as sand, gravel, or crushed rock) used for mixing with cement to form concrete.

Agricultural Area - Large contiguous land areas planned and zoned to maintain agriculture as the primary land use found mostly in Dakota, Scott and Carver Counties.

Agricultural Preservation Area - Large, contiguous land areas planned and zoned to maintain agriculture as the primary long-term land use. Communities containing large Permanent Agricultural Areas are located on the region's best soils. This soils resource supports agriculture as the most important element of the local economy, and a community's choice of this land-use designation signals its intent to ensure that the agricultural economy remains strong. To support these local aspirations, the Council forecasts nominal growth for this policy area, indicating the Council's expectation that no nonfarm-related housing development should occur in these areas.

Air Operation – Either an aircraft landing or take off movement.

Airspace – Space in the air above the surface of the earth, or a particular portion of such space, usually defined by the boundaries of an area on the surface, projected upward.

Airport Capacity – The number of aircraft movements that runways of an airport can process within a specified period of time with the average delay to aircraft kept to an acceptable limit.

Airport Environs – The land uses and people in the area around an airport that can be directly affected the operation of the airport.

Airport Influence Area – The general geographic area around an airport that encompasses the major arena of interaction between an airport and its surrounding land uses. The area is defined as a radius in statute miles from the airport reference point. Its size varies according to the role and function.

Airports System Plan – The plan, regional in scope, that identifies the functional roles of all existing and proposed aviation facilities through time. A system plan includes a policy package and generalized development program, Detailed development studies of individual system elements are defined as part of the airport Long Term Comprehensive Plan.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) – 1990 federal act provides a framework and approach for ending discrimination in employment and access to services against persons with disabilities. The goals of the ADA are to assure that persons with disabilities have equality of opportunity, a chance to fully participate in society, are able to live independently, and can be economically self-sufficient.

Aquifer - Saturated geologic formation that will yield a sufficient quantity of water to serve as a private or public water supply.

Assessment - An appraisal, judgement or evaluation based on information provided by inventories and informed by specified criteria.

Augmenters – The fourth group of “A” minor arterials are those roads that augment principal arterials within the interstate ring or beltway. The principal arterial network in this area is in place. However, the network of principal arterials serving the area is not in all cases sufficient relative to the density of development that the network serves. In these situations, these key minor arterials serve many long-range trips. Approximately 200 miles of augmenters have been identified. Improvements focus on providing additional capacity of through traffic.

Auto Occupancy – The number of persons per automobile, including the driver.

Automatic Vehicle Location – Technology that signals to a control center the location of particular vehicles.

B

Benchmark - Indicator that shows progress toward meeting Framework goals.

Best Management Practices - Recommendations regarding development and maintenance of varied land uses, aimed at limiting the effects of development, such as soil erosion and stormwater runoff, on the natural environment. See the Council's Urban Small Sites Best Management Practices Manual for specific examples of best management practices.

Board of Water and Soils Resources (BWSR) – 12-member board that coordinates the water and soil resources planning activities of counties, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, watershed management organizations through approval of local plans and administration of state grants

Brownfield - Industrial or commercial property that is abandoned or underused and environmentally contaminated, especially one considered as a potential site for redevelopment.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) – High frequency, high amenity transit service that is operated with buses rather than with light rail vehicles. Typically, BRT buses operate on roads and highways that are designed to give them a time advantage over cars traveling along the same route. This may be accomplished by operating in exclusive lanes or with signal preemption with a limited number of stops.

Busways – Two-lane facility, one lane per direction, on exclusive right-of-way dedicated for buses only. Grade separation at high volume cross streets and gate crossing arms at low volume crossings are assumed.

C

Carbon Monoxide Non-Attainment Area – The Twin Cities area is part of a nonattainment area for carbon monoxide emissions from transportation sources. The designation and area affected is based on national carbon monoxide standards. A portion of this area extends into eastern Wright County.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – An itemized program for a five year prospective period, and any amendments thereto, subject to at least biennial review, setting forth the schedule, timing, and details of specific contemplated capital improvements by year, together with their estimated cost, the need for each improvement, financial sources, and the financial impact that the improvements will have on the local governmental unit or school district. (M.S. 473.852, Subd. 4)

Carpool – Paratransit service by auto, on a scheduled or unscheduled basis, with at least two occupants.

Center - Place of sufficient scale, density and mix of uses, where there is convenient access to housing, jobs, daily services, shopping and recreation. (See transit-oriented development.)

Cesspool - Underground pit or seepage tank into which raw sewage is discharged and from which the liquid seeps into the surrounding soil, bedrock, or other soil materials.

Chapter (of Metropolitan Development Guide) - One of the four regional systems policy plans: transportation, water quality, recreation open space, and aviation, or the Regional Development Framework.

Circulator System – Means of movement provided within a major activity center (such as a regional business concentration or community) for going from place to place within the center; such a system may be entirely pedestrian or may use transit.

Clustering – Design technique to allow a reasonable amount of land development while conserving rural character, such as farmland, natural areas, and open views.

Collector Streets – Streets that connect neighborhoods and connect neighborhoods to regional business concentrations (see Appendix F for functional classification criteria and characteristics).

Community Drainfields - See on-site septic systems.

Community Facilities Plan - Compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, maps and action programs for guiding the future development of the public or semipublic facilities of the municipality such as recreational, educational and cultural facilities. (M.S. 462.352)

Commuter Rail - Public transportation mode using passenger trains operating on railroad right-of-way. Generally, commuter rail systems are integrated with other regional transit providers to permit transfers throughout the metropolitan region.

Compatibility - With the plans of other local jurisdictions, including school districts. The third of the three review criteria the Metropolitan Council uses to evaluate local comprehensive plans.

Comprehensive Plan - Plan for the development of an area, which recognizes the physical, economic, social, political, aesthetic, and related factors of the community involved. (Compare with local comprehensive plan.)

Conformance - With metropolitan system plans for transportation, water resources and parks. The first of three review criteria the Metropolitan Council uses to evaluate local comprehensive plans.

Conformity (transportation) – The agreement of transportation plans and programs with the assumptions and commitments designed to attain federal and state air quality standards. As it refers to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality, it means conformity to the plan's purpose of eliminating or reducing the severity and number of violations of the national ambient air quality and standards, in the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay in timely attainment of any standard or interim milestone. Further, transportation plans and programs can be found to conform only if (1) emissions resulting from such plans and programs are consistent with emissions projections and reductions assigned to those transportation plans and programs in the State Implementation Plan, and (2) the plans and programs provide for timely implementation of the State Implementation Plan's Transportation Control Measures.

Congestion – Overloading of roadway with vehicles (see Level of Service).

Congestion Management – Systematic process for evaluating and developing transportation strategies and plans for addressing existing and future traffic congestion.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) – Categorical funding program created under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. It directs funding to projects that contribute to meeting national air quality standards.

Congestion Pricing – Identifies user fees that are charged to manage traffic and avoid congestion, also called "value pricing."

Connectors – Category of "A" minor arterials are roads that would provide good, safe connections among town centers in the urban reserve, urban staging and rural areas within and near the seven counties. Approximately 680 miles of connectors have been identified. Improvements focus on safety and load-carrying capacity.

Conservation - Natural resources management to prevent waste, destruction or degradation.

Consistency - With requirements of the Metropolitan Land Planning Act and Council policies. The second of three review criteria the Metropolitan Council uses to evaluate local comprehensive plans.

Context Sensitive Design – Inclusive design approach that integrates and balances community, aesthetic, and environmental values with traditional transportation safety and performance goals. Includes roadway standards and development practices that are flexible and sensitive to community values, balancing economic, social, aesthetic and environmental objectives.

Contingency Measures – Amendment to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality containing contingency provisions deemed necessary by the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to ensure that adequate measures will be implemented to promptly correct any violation of the carbon monoxide standard that occurs after the December 31, 1995, attainment deadline.

Corporate aircraft – Aircraft used for the transportation of corporate executives and general corporate needs. Often related to turboprop aircraft and turbofan/jet aircraft.

Corridor Studies – Typically, highway corridor studies focus on a segment of a particular travel corridor or travel shed. Land use, access issues, capacity, level of service, geometrics and safety concerns are studied; alternatives analyzed and recommendations made. Corridor studies are usually prepared with the participation and cooperation of the affected communities and A-3 governmental agencies. Recommendations for improvements are often incorporated into the local comprehensive plans of the participating cities and continue to be used by implementing agencies as improvements in the corridor are made.

Cost-Sharing – Contractual arrangement whereby a local unit of government or other governmental body enters into an agreement to pay for part of a physical facility or a service; includes subscription transit service.

Critical Area – Areas of critical concern that possess important historic, cultural or aesthetic values, or natural systems which perform functions of greater than local significance. The Mississippi River critical area is a federally-designated area of critical concern.

Critical area plan – The plan and regulations establishing the wise use of critical areas.

D

Degradation – A decline to a lower condition, quality, or level.

Demand-Response – Any type of public transportation involving flexibly scheduled service that is deployed upon a person's request for a trip. There are three types of demand response:

- **Dial-a-ride** – The best known and most common type of paratransit, involving advance request pickup and drop-off at desired or designated destinations. Dial-a-ride may deploy vans, small buses or shared-ride taxis.
- **Cycled services** – A zonal demand-response service in which the vehicles are scheduled to arrive and leave a major activity center on a regular basis; and in between scheduled stops, passengers are picked up and dropped off at their doors.
- **Flexible fixed-route or deviation services** – Either point deviation or route deviation where vehicles stop at specific locations on a regular schedule but do not have to follow a set route between the stops. They can deviate from the route to pick up or drop off passengers upon request.

Density - Number of dwelling units per net residential acre of land.

Density range – Scale associated with residential land use and zoning designations that specifies the minimum and maximum number of dwelling units that may be built per acre of land.

Design Average Flow - Design average flow is calculated as the product of the long-term service area times 800 gallons per acre per day. This value represents an annual average flow from a service area for long-term development.

Design hour volume – Traffic volume used to determine the appropriate design features of a roadway.

Design Peak-Hour Flow - Calculated as the product of the design-average flow times the MCES specified peak-to-average ratio.

Design Peak-to-Average Flow - Ratio of the peak hour flow used for hydraulic design divided by the design-average flow.

Developable Land - Land that is suitable as a location for structures and that can be developed free of hazards to, and without disruption of, or significant impact on, natural resource areas including surface waters, wetlands, floodplains, parks, steep slopes.

Developed Communities – Centrally located portion of the region, including the central cities of Minneapolis, and St. Paul and adjacent suburbs. Communities generally 85 percent developed or more at the end of 2000, and contiguous to one another.

Developing Communities – Developing area is that portion of the region that is in the path of urban growth. It includes the communities beyond the fully developed area up to the metropolitan urban service area boundary, or contains areas designated urban reserve or diversified rural.

Dial-a-Ride – Demand-responsive service in which the vehicle is requested by telephone and vehicle routing is determined as requests are received. Origin-to-destination service with some intermediate stops is offered. Dial-a-ride is a version of the taxicab using larger vehicles for short-to-medium-distance trips in lower-density subregions.

Diversified Rural Area - Sparsely developed parts of the region outside of Rural Settlements, Rural Residential Areas and the Permanent Agriculture Area that contain the widest variety of farm and nonfarm land uses in patterns often referred to as “rural character.” These are the parts of the region designated as appropriate locations for a mix of large-lot residential and clustered housing with agriculture and other uses, including facilities and services of value to the metropolitan area but requiring a rural location (nurseries, campgrounds, etc.).

Drain tile - A component of a drainage system constructed to drain water from property.

Drain field - A soil treatment system where the final treatment and disposal of the septic tank effluent takes place. A properly designed and installed soil treatment system will destroy all disease-causing pathogens and filter out the fine solids contained in the septic tank effluent.

E

Environmental Justice – 1994 executive order requiring analysis of the effects of federally funded programs, plans and actions on racial minority populations and low-income populations.

Excessive Inflow/Infiltration - a) I/I that results in the communities wet-weather flows to be in violation of the Metropolitan Council's established I/I goals for the community. b) I/I that causes the peak hourly flow to exceed the value determined by multiplying the average flow by the value of the peak-to-average ratio used by MCES to design interceptors and pump stations.

Expanders – Routes that provide a way to make connections between developing areas outside the interstate ring or beltway. These routes are located beyond the area reasonably served by the beltway. These roadways are proposed to serve medium-to-long suburb-to-suburb trips. Approximately 650 miles of expanders have been identified. Improvements focus on preserving or obtaining right-of-way.

F

Failing System - System that discharges sewage to a seepage pit, cesspool, drywell, or leaching pit, and any system with less than three feet of soil or sand between the bottom of the distribution medium and the saturated soil level or bedrock. In addition, any system posing an imminent threat to public health or safety shall be considered failing.

FAST Lanes – FAST (Freeway Alternatives for Speedy Transportation) Lanes are new publicly owned lanes paid for by private entities. The construction cost is repaid by users of the lanes through tolls.

Federal Aviation Regulations - Issued by the Federal Aviation Administration in implementation of its regulatory functions, these regulations carry the force of law and binding on all aviation activities within FAA preview.

Federal Air Regulations Part 77 – Established criteria and defines “objects affecting navigable airspace, “ serving as a means to protect airport area airspace needed for safe flights.

Federal Air Regulations Part 150 Noise Control and Compatibility Planning for Airports – Aircraft noise control and land use compatibility planning conducted in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration Criteria.

Fen – A peat-accumulating wetland dominated by distinct groundwater having specific chemical characteristics that provides an environment for specific and often rare plants.

Fixed-Route Transit – Service that follows a specified route of travel with identified stops for passengers and an established schedule; regular-route transit.

Forecast - In the Framework, a calculation of growth in population, households and jobs based on data about current conditions (e.g., the 2000 Census) that is extrapolated into the future.

Framework - See Regional Development Framework.

Functional Classification – Classification of roadways according to their primary function— mobility for through trips or access to adjacent lands. A four-class system is used to designate roads (principal arterials, minor arterials, collectors and local streets) in the Twin Cities.

G

General Aviation – All aviation activity other than that of the scheduled air carriers and the military. General aviation includes single – and twin- engine aircraft with gross weights ranging from 2,000 to 60,000 pounds.

Grade Separation – Intersection of traffic by provision of crossing structures, underpasses or overpasses; interchanges.

Groundwater - Supply of freshwater in an aquifer.

Growth Management Strategy – Council’s selection of an urban growth and development pattern for the region and the measures to implement it.

H

Helicopter – A heavier than air rotorcraft that depends principally for its support in flight on the lift generated by one or more rotors.

Heliport – An identifiable area including facilities on land or on a structure used or intended for the exclusive use of helicopter landings or takeoffs. The facilities may be freestanding or located within an airport.

Helistop – An identifiable area used or intended for the landings or takeoffs of helicopters engaged only in dropping off or picking up passengers or cargo.

High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes – Combines HOV and pricing strategies by allowing single occupancy vehicles to gain access to HOV lanes by paying a toll.

High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes – Highway lanes reserved for vehicles carrying more than one person. The specific number of people in the vehicle or class of vehicles who can use this facility is established locally. These lanes are officially denoted with a diamond marking and are sometimes called “diamond lanes.”

Household - Group of all the people who occupy a housing unit.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) - Municipal department, agency, or authority which exercises the powers of a housing and redevelopment authority pursuant to M.S. 469.003.

Housing Stock – An inventory or description of a communities existing residences by age, condition, structure type, number of bedrooms, rental cost or value.

Intermediate Airport - An airport whose system role is to provide facilities and services primary to corporate business.

Intermediate heliport – A heliport equipped with such amenities as lighting and communications, limited navigational aids, fuel, maintenance and passenger related facilities. Some hangar or tiedown space is available. This type of heliport is intended for corporate or charter helicopter services.

I

Imminent Threat to Public Health or Safety - Potential to immediately and adversely impact or threaten public health and safety.

Impact Fees – Charges to individuals or groups intended to supplement existing funding and to account for the increased use of public facilities or services.

Individual On-Site Septic System - See on-site septic treatment systems.

Individual Sewage Treatment System (ISTS) - System for disposing and treating human and domestic waste, such as a septic tank and soil absorption system or other system allowed by the state and city. This includes community drainfields, where a common on-site system serves several properties.

Infill - Development or redevelopment of land that has been bypassed, remained vacant, and/or is underused.

Infiltration - Seepage of groundwater into sewer pipes through cracks or joints in the pipes.

Inflow - Flow from a single point into sewer pipes, such as discharges from sump pumps and foundation drains, or stormwater that enters openings in the sewer access covers.

Infrastructure - Fixed facilities, such as sewer lines and roadways, that serve existing and new development and redevelopment.

In-Service Hour – Time between a transit vehicle’s start and end locations, excluding recovery time and any double-back between trips.

Integrated Traffic Management System – Development and application of network-wide data collection and sharing of traffic information system. The system can integrate data and control systems from freeways, arterials and city streets to provide real-time proactive traffic information and control. Implementation of the system would facilitate congestion management over the entire network across multijurisdictional boundaries. The system could provide incident detection, transit and emergency vehicle priority, and advance traveler information.

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) – Development or application of technology (electronics, communications, or information processing) to improve the efficiency and safety of surface transportation systems. ITS is divided into five categories that reflect the major emphasis of application: Advanced Traffic Management Systems, Advance Traveler Information Systems, Advanced Public Transportation Systems, Automatic Vehicle Control Systems, and Commercial Vehicle Operations

Intensity of Development – Relative measure of development as defined by characteristics such as the number of dwelling units per acre, number of employees, amount of traffic generated, and amount of site covered.

Interceptor Service Area – The geographic area served by a particular sewer pipe.

Intermodal – Seamless delivery of freight by more than one mode from point of origin to point of destination. The delivery is accomplished under one bill of lading, but may include truck/rail/truck, truck/air/truck, or truck/rail/vessel.

Interregional Corridors (IRCs) – Road system designated by MnDOT that connects the most important regional centers in the state and adjacent states to each other and to the metropolitan area.

Investments, Regional Investments - Investments made by the Metropolitan Council into regional infrastructure.

J

Jitney – Auto, small van or bus operating along highly traveled thoroughfares without a fixed schedule of stops. Passengers hail the vehicle at any point along the route.

L

Land Planning Act, Metropolitan Land Planning Act - Minnesota Statutes directing the Council to adopt long-range, comprehensive policy plans for transportation, airports, wastewater services, and parks and open space. It authorizes the Council to review the comprehensive plans of local governments.

Land Supply - Available amount of developable land.

Land Use Plan - Compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, and maps, and action programs for guiding the future development of private and public property. The term includes a plan designating types of uses for the entire municipality as well as a specialized plan showing specific areas or specific types of land uses, such as residential, commercial, industrial, public or semipublic uses or any combination of such uses. A land use plan may also include the proposed densities for development. (M.S. 462.352, Subd. 6)

Land use categories – Standardized system for classifying and designating the appropriate use of properties.

Lane Capacity – The Regional travel demand model assumes the following lane capacities:

- Unmetered freeway = 1,750 vehicles per hour
- Metered freeway = 1,950 vehicles per hour
- Concurrent flow high-occupancy vehicle facility = 1,400 vehicles per hour
- Divided arterial = 700 to 1,000 vehicles per hour
- Undivided arterial = 600 to 900 vehicles per hour
- Collector = 400 to 600 vehicles per hour

Level of Service – As related to highways, the different operating conditions that occur on a lane or roadway when accommodating various traffic volumes. It is a qualitative measure of the effect of traffic flow factors, such as speed and travel time, interruption, freedom to maneuver, driver comfort and convenience, and indirectly, safety and operating costs. It is expressed as levels of service “A” through “F.” Level “A” is a condition of free traffic flow where there is little or no restriction in speed or maneuverability caused by presence of other vehicles. Level “F” is forced-flow operation at low speed with many stoppages, with the highway acting as a storage area.

Lifecycle Housing - Varied housing options that meet people’s preferences and circumstances at all of life’s stages, providing a balance of single-family homes, apartments, condominiums, townhomes, and senior housing for independent living or with a range of assisted-living services.

Life-Cycle Maintenance – Concept of keeping a facility useable at least through its design life by conducting scheduled maintenance.

Life-Cycle Maintenance Treatments – Roadway maintenance to ensure its use to the end of its full design life.

Light Rail Transit (LRT) – Electrically propelled vehicle operated singly or in trains on predominantly reserved, but not necessarily grade-separated, rights-of-way.

Linear Right-of-Way – Narrow, well-defined corridor of contiguous land dedicated to or preserved for transportation purposes.

Line-Haul – Regular-route transit operations (generally express) along a corridor or corridors.

Livable Communities grant program – Program administered by the Metropolitan Council that was created under the Metropolitan Livable Communities Act (Minn. Stat. 473.25). The Council makes grants or loans to metropolitan area communities to provide incentives for development that links affordable housing,

employment and transit; creates more mixed-use, compact development; and broadens the income mix of residents within areas.

Local Comprehensive Plan - Plans prepared by cities, townships and, in some cases, counties, for local land use and infrastructure.

Local Flight Operations – Refers to those activities by aircraft that:

- Operate in the local traffic pattern or within sight of the airport
- Execute simulated instrument approaches or low passes at the airport (i.e. touch and goes)
- Arrive from or depart to a local practice area located within a 20-mile radius of the airport.

Long Term Comprehensive Plan – Overall plan for an individual airport. It generates information pertinent to planning, developing and operating an airport. Aviation demands, facility requirements, and general recommendations for development over a 10-to 20-year period are included.

Local Government - Municipal units of government such as counties, cities and townships.

Local Streets – The streets that provide land access (see Appendix F for functional classification criteria and characteristics).

Low Impact Development (LID) – Simple management and preservation technique used to restore aquatic, terrestrial and biologic natural resources.

Low Income - Household income that is 50% or less (\$38,350 for 2003, adjusted for family size) of the area median income, as defined by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

M

Major Airport – An airport whose primary air service access area is international and national scope. Its role in the airport system is to provide facilities and services primary to air carrier and regional commuter users.

Major Construction – Roadway improvements that increase the operational characteristics of a highway facility, including decreasing congestion, increasing operating speed and reducing accidents.

Major Heliport – A full service heliport with complete facilities, including navigational aids, refueling capabilities and hangar, maintenance and passenger terminal facilities. This heliport is designed for all forms of heliport services.

Major Investment Study (MIS) – Highway or transit improvement study requiring a substantial capital investment that is expected to have a significant effect on capacity, traffic, level of service or mode share at the transportation corridor or subarea level.

Master Plan - According to Minn. Stat. 473.301, Subd. 3, is a plan describing the boundaries of specific parks or other regional recreation open space and the nature of their development and use.

MDS - Metropolitan Disposal System.

Measured Wet-Weather Peak-to-Average Ratio - Observed peak-hour flow during wet weather divided by the target annual flow.

Median Income - Income measure used by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development to define income categories; 2003 area median income for the Twin Cities metropolitan area is \$75,300.

Meters – Signals on freeway ramps that smooth traffic flow to increase road capacity. Many metered ramps have bypasses for buses and carpools.

Metro Centers – Major activity centers focused on the central business districts of Minneapolis and St. Paul, including adjacent residential, commercial and institutional developments.

Metro Commuter Services – Metropolitan Council service that provides and administers travel demand management services and programs such as carpool matching, a guaranteed ride home program, Metropass and TransitWorks! and Commuter Check.

Metro Mobility – Service of the Metropolitan Council that provides door-to-door transit service for people who cannot use the fixed route system.

Metro Transit – Public transit provider in the Twin Cities area. The Metropolitan Council operates Metro Transit.

Metropolitan Airport System – All the air transportation facilities (air carrier, general aviation and military) within the metropolitan area.

Metropolitan Area, Metro Area - See region.

Metropolitan Development Guide - Regional plans that include the Regional Development Framework and the system policy plans for the four regional systems: transportation, wastewater service, airports, and parks and open space.

Metropolitan Highway System – The system of highways identified in Figure 2-2 of the Transportation Policy Plan intended to serve the region. Only principal arterials, which include interstate freeways, are on the metropolitan highway system. In some places, the plan identifies the metropolitan highway system as the interstate freeways and other principal arterials.

Metropolitan Land Planning Act (MLPA) – The Metropolitan Land Planning Act requires communities to review and update their local comprehensive plans every 10 years. (Also see Land Planning Act, ...)

Metropolitan Transit System – All public and private transit services available to the general public.

Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA) – Part of the metropolitan area, as defined by the Regional Development Framework, where the Metropolitan Council will provide regional services and facilities.

Minor Airport – An airport whose system role is to provide facilities and services primarily to person, business and instruction users.

Minor Heliport – A small scale facility with minimal amenities that do not include refueling capabilities, navigational aids or tiedown spaces.

Mixed Use - Single building containing more than one type of land use or a single development of more than one building and use, where the different land uses are in close proximity, planned as a unified, complementary whole, and functionally integrated with transit, pedestrian access and parking areas.

Mobility – Person or persons' ability to travel from one place to another.

Moderate Income - Household income that is 80% (\$61,360 for 2003, adjusted for family size) of the area

Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (MVST) – MVST is the 6.5 percent sales tax applied to the sale of new and used motor vehicles.

Multifamily Housing - Residential structure with two or more separate dwelling units.

Multimodal Link – The connection between two or more passenger transportation methods (such as bicycle, walking, automobile and transit).

Multi-modal - Utilizing more than one means of transportation.

N

National Highway System (NHS) – Transportation system consisting of approximately 155,000 miles of highway in order to provide an interconnected system of principal arterial routes serving major population centers, major transportation facilities, major travel destinations, interstate and interregional travel and meeting national defense requirements.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) – Permits wastewater discharges to lakes, streams, wetlands and other surface waters. Together with the State Disposal System. NPDES permits establish limits and requirements to protect Minnesota's surface and ground water quality for a variety of uses, including drinking water, fishing and recreation.

Nationwide Urban Runoff Program (NURP) – From 1978 through 1983, the EPA conducted a comprehensive study of urban runoff called the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program (NURP). This study provided a better understanding of the nature of urban pollutants from various urban land uses. This study focused primarily on monitoring runoff from residential, commercial, and industrial land and clearly presents information on the magnitude and variety of pollutants encountered in the urban environment.

Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment, NRI/A - Database that catalogs natural resources of regional importance, such as major water bodies, habitat areas, regional parks and aquifers.

Natural Resources Of Regional Importance - Resources identified by the NRI/A that are particularly important in sustaining the region's ecology, providing area residents with nature-based experiences, or supplying essential materials such as aggregate and water.

Net Density - The result of dividing the number of total dwelling units existing on a site by the net acre in acres. Net density is expressed as dwelling units per net acre.

Net Residential Area – The total area of a site for residential development excluding arterial streets right of ways, wetlands and water features, and other publicly dedicated improvements such as parks. Net area is expressed in acres or square feet.

Net Residential Density – The number of dwelling units per acre of land when the average involved includes only the land devoted to residential uses and excludes such areas arterial streets right of ways, wetlands and water features, and other publicly dedicated improvements such as parks. Net density is expressed as dwelling units per net acre.

New or Restructured Transit Service – Significant change in service, including establishment of a new mass transportation service, addition of new route or routes to mass transportation system, a significant increase or decrease in service on or realignment of an existing route, or a change in the type or mode of service provided on specific, regularly scheduled route.

NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

Noise Abatement – The attempt to reduce the amount and level of noise on and around airports , especially during takeoffs and landings, partly through special operational restrictions and proper land use planning for areas affected by aircraft noise.

Noise Measurement Descriptors

- DBA – A dB is unit of sound measurement (decibel) measured on the “A” scale.
- L-10. Noise measurement used by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The L represents a noise level and the 10 represents 10 percent of the time. In Minnesota, the noise level cannot exceed 65 dBA more than 10 percent of the time during any one hour.
- Ldn. Level –Day – Night. Method of measuring and plotting the amount of noise in a community with a severe penalty for nighttime noise. The Ldn is normally average over a one-year period.
- LEQ. Equivalent sound level in the energy summation of the aggregate noise environment as measured in A-Weighted sound Level.

Nondegradation – Under MN Rules 7050.0180, "Nondegradation for Outstanding Resource Value Waters" the MPCA prohibits or stringently controls new or expanded discharges from all sources to outstanding resource value waters. The MPCA recognizes that maintaining the water quality of the State's outstanding resources is essential to their function as exceptional recreational, cultural, aesthetic or scientific resources.

Nonpoint Source Pollution – Sources of pollution that are less definable and usually cover broad areas of land such as agricultural land with fertilizers or automobile pollution that are carried away by runoff. Discharge of waste cannot be located to a specific source.

O

Observed Peak-Hour Flow - Highest flow rate over one hour duration during a 24-hour period that has been measured and reported.

Observed Peak-to-Average Ratio - Observed peak-hour flow divided by the annual average flow.

Official Controls - Ordinances and rules which control the physical development of a city, county or town or any part thereof or any detail thereof and implement the general objectives of the comprehensive plan. Official controls may include ordinances establishing zoning, subdivision controls, site plan regulations, sanitary codes, building codes and official maps. (M.S. 473.852, Subd. 9)

Off-Peak Period – Time of day outside the peak period (see peak period).

On-Site Septic System - See individual sewage treatment systems.

Open Space - as defined in the Metropolitan Council's *2030 Development Framework*, describes public and private land that is generally natural in character. It may support agricultural production, or provide outdoor recreational opportunities, or protect cultural and natural resources. It contains relatively few buildings or other human-made structures. Depending on the location and surrounding land use, open space can range in size from a small city plaza or neighborhood park of several hundred square feet, corridors linking neighborhoods of several acres to pasture, croplands or natural areas and parks covering thousands of acres.

Operational Improvement – Capital improvement consisting of installation of traffic surveillance and control equipment, computerized signal systems, motorist information systems, integrated traffic control systems,

incident management programs, and transportation demand and system management facilities, strategies and programs.

Opt-out System – Six transit systems that provide service to suburban residents in parts of the Metropolitan Transit Service Area.

Opt-out Transit Agency - A transit service provider created under a state law allowing suburban cities to establish their own transit programs.

Ordinance - Law or regulation set forth and adopted by a governmental authority, usually a city or county.

Oxygenated Fuels Program – Program mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Legislature to blend oxygenated gasoline to reduce automobile emissions.

P

Package Treatment Plant - Wastewater treatment systems that serve developments larger than individual homes, served by septic systems, and urban development served by municipal wastewater systems. They serve uses country clubs, resorts, rural townships or military institutions.

Paratransit Services – Transit service that provides generally more flexible and personalized service regular-route transit, using a variety of vehicles, such as large and small buses, vans, cars and taxis. Paratransit can serve a particular population, such as people with disabilities, or can be assigned to serve the general population. Paratransit is frequently provided in less densely populated areas, and used at times and in areas where trip demands are less concentrated, such as during weekends and evenings in urban settings. Paratransit services are of several types:

- **Ridesharing** – Car and van pooling intended primarily to serve the work trip.
- **Demand-Response** – This is any type of public transportation involving flexibly scheduled service that is deployed upon a person's request for a trip. There are three types of demand response:
 - **Dial-a-ride services** – The best known and most common type of paratransit, involving advance request pickup and drop-off at desired or designated destinations. Dial-a-ride may deploy vans, small buses or shared-ride taxis.
 - **Cycled services** – A zonal demand-response service in which the vehicles are scheduled to arrive and leave a major activity center on a regular basis; and in between scheduled stops, passengers are picked up and dropped off at their doors.
 - **Flexible fixed-route or deviation services** – Either point deviation or route deviation where vehicles stop at specific locations on a regular schedule but do not have to follow a set route between the stops. They can deviate from the route to pick up or drop off passengers upon request.

Park and Ride – Travel arrangement where people drive to a transit center, transfer station or terminal, park in the designated lot or ramp, and use a transit vehicle for their ultimate destinations.

Park Implementing Agency – According to Minn. Stat. 473.351, Subd. 1(a), are the counties of Anoka, Washington, Ramsey, Scott, Carver, Dakota, the city of St. Paul, the city of Bloomington, the Minneapolis park and recreation board, and the Hennepin county park reserve district—renamed to Three Rivers Park District.

Parking Surcharges – Fee over and above the cost of parking.

Peak Hour – Hour during the peak period when travel demand is highest. Generally, peak hours are found to be from 7 to 8 a.m. and from 4 - 30 to 5 - 30 p.m.

Peak Period – The time between 6 - 30 and 9 a.m. and between 3 and 6 p.m. on a weekday, when traffic is usually heavy.

Person Trip – One-way journey between two points by one person in a vehicle.

Planned Land Use – The long range plan for the desirable use of land in the city as officially adopted by the planning commission. The purpose of such plan includes to serve as a guide in the zoning to meet the changing needs of the community in the subdividing and development or redevelopment of land.

Planning Area – Designation assigned by the Council and illustrated on Regional Growth Strategy Map or Planning Area map. The planning area designation incorporates the current land use plans of the region's communities and identifies the specific policies a community must use in the 2008 comprehensive plan update process.

Platform Hour – The time from when the transit vehicle pulls out (leaves from the vehicle storage facility) to the time the transit vehicle pulls in (returns to the vehicle storage facility) (i.e., in-service plus recovery plus deadhead).

Point Source Pollution – A discrete source from which pollution is generated before it enters receiving waters, such as a sewer outfall, smokestack, or industrial waste pipe.

Policy - Specific statement of guiding actions that expresses the general direction that the Metropolitan Council intends to follow in order to meet its goals.

Policy Plan - *See system plans.*

Predevelopment Conditions - Runoff rates and volumes that are consistent with the rates and volumes of the property's current uses before the property is changed by development or redevelopment.

Preferential Access – Advantage offered to a group of users allowing rideshare vehicles and buses to access roadways faster than other vehicles by bypassing metered ramps.

Preservation – Preservation activities are directed toward the elimination of deficiencies and major cost replacement of existing facilities. Preservation is not meant to include work that will increase the level of service by the addition of traffic lanes.

Presettlement – A time period prior to European settlement where land cover was either entirely forested, or prairie. An assumption used to calculate stormwater runoff from new development and increased impervious surface.

Principal Arterials – High-capacity highways that make up the metropolitan highway system (see Appendix F for functional classification criteria and characteristics).

Principal Reviewer - Metropolitan Council staff person that responsible for coordinating the internal review process for comprehensive plan updates and amendments or environmental review documents and prepare the Council's response.

Private Heliport - A heliport facility for the exclusive use by the owner or other persons having prior authorization to use the facility.

Private Sewer Facility - A single lot, multiple lot or other sewage collection or treatment facility owned, constructed or operated by any person other than a local governmental unit or the council.

Project – Group of tasks or methods designed to accomplish a specific purpose.

Public Heliport – A heliport facility available for the takeoff or landing of helicopters with no prior authorization required to use the facility.

R

Ramp Metering – Electronically regulated flow of vehicles to increase capacity of through lanes and improve safety.

Redevelopment - Process by which an existing building, structure, or developed area is adaptively reused, rehabilitated, restored, renovated and/or expanded.

Region - Area pertaining to the Metropolitan Council's jurisdiction, including the seven counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington.

Regional Development Framework – The Metropolitan Council plan that sets a general direction for future development patterns in the metropolitan area and establishes guidelines for making decisions about major regional facilities that are needed to support the commercial, industrial and residential development of the area.

Regional Guaranteed Ride Home program – Program providing an “insurance policy” for those who commute by bus, pool, bike or walking by underwriting the cost of taxi rides homes in emergencies.

Regional Highway System – All highways serving the region.

Regional Infrastructure - Infrastructure pertaining to any of the Council's four systems - wastewater services, transportation, parks and open space, and airports. (*See also regional systems.*)

Regional Parks – Areas selected for regional parks contain a diversity of nature-based resources, either naturally occurring or human-built. Access to water bodies suitable for recreation – such as swimming, boating and fishing – is particularly important and most of the regional parks are focused on lakes, rivers or streams. A regional park should be large enough to accommodate a variety of activities, preserve a pleasant natural aspect, and buffer activity areas from each other and from surrounding areas. This is interpreted as 200 to 500 acres of land. Occasionally, because of the quality of the resource, an exception may be made and a regional park may be as small as 100 acres. Experience has shown this to be the minimum size acceptable for the range and type of activities expected to be accommodated.

Regional Park Reserves – Park reserves, like regional parks, are expected to provide for a diversity of outdoor recreational activities. The major feature that distinguishes the park reserve from a regional park is that the reserve is also intended to provide, protect and manage representative areas of the original major landscape types in the metropolitan area to permit appreciation and enjoyment of the natural resources that influenced the region's development.

The park reserves are substantially larger than the parks because they contain a diversity of natural resources with adequate space for their protection and management, and for the pursuit of compatible outdoor activities. Experience has shown that an optimum size exceeds 2,000 acres, while the minimum is about 1,000 acres. To establish and maintain an uncompromised sense of nature and protect high quality natural resources, at least 80 percent of each park reserve should be managed as wild lands that protect the ecological functions of the

native landscape. This would permit up to 20 percent of a park reserve to be developed for compatible recreational activities. The eight regional landscape types that have been used in selecting areas for park reserves are (1) sand plains, (2) St. Croix ground moraine, (3) Des Moines ground moraine, (4) terminal moraine, (5) lightly glaciated area, (6) Mississippi River Valley, (7) Minnesota River Valley and (8) St. Croix River Valley.

Regional Parks System - Includes 75 parks and park reserves, trails and special recreation areas. Parks are operated by 10 partnering agencies – cities and counties. The agencies work with the Metropolitan Council to acquire and develop parks and trails to protect natural resources and to provide outdoor recreation for public enjoyment.

Regional Recreation Open Space - According to Minn. Stat. 473.121, Subd. 14, land and water areas, or interests therein, and facilities determined by the Metropolitan Council to be of regional importance in providing for a balanced system of public outdoor recreation for the metropolitan area including, but not limited to, park reserves, major linear parks and trails, large recreation parks, and conservatories, zoos, and other special use facilities.

Regional Systems - Systems for which the Metropolitan Council is the responsible planning and/or operating authority. The systems consist of wastewater services, transportation, parks and open space, and airports.

Regional Trail – Trail corridors are intended to provide for recreational travel along linear pathways throughout the metropolitan area. They are selected to follow natural or linear features that traverse areas of scenic appeal and/or historical, architectural and developmental interest while assuring that the trail treadway will have no adverse effect on the natural resource base. The regional trails are selected to pass through, or provide access to, elements in the regional parks system. The parks and park reserves perform the important function of providing places for parking, comfort facilities, safe water supplies, etc. Trails also are selected for their ability to intersect with local trail networks, with the regional trails functioning much like regional highways that interconnect with more local arterials and collector streets. Experience has indicated that people tend to prefer trails that are relatively close to where they live. In the metropolitan area, a 1998-99 Council survey on users of regional trails found a strong local-use pattern. More than 75 percent of trail visitors surveyed lived within 3 miles of the trails they used. However, trail users are traveling from one city or county to another. It is this inter-jurisdictional trail length that makes these trails regionally significant.

Regular-Route Transit Service – Operates on a predetermined, fixed route and schedule. The types of vehicle used in regular-route service are generally large buses or small buses. Regular-route service is usually classified as four types:

- **Local service** – Buses make frequent pickups and drop-offs, stopping at almost every street corner.
- **Urban locals** – Buses operate primarily in central cities and first-ring suburbs and include regular-route radial service (routes start or end in one or both of the two major downtowns); crosstown service (usually providing connecting links between radial routes); and limited stop service (buses make limited stops as a supplement to local service along a route or “skip stops,” achieving faster service to selected destinations).
- **Suburban locals** – Buses operate in suburban environments, beyond first-ring suburbs, many times as suburban circulators, and regular-route suburb-to-suburb crosstowns (often as feeder routes to radial services) and in some cases may include specially designed paratransit services.
- **Express** – Buses operate nonstop on highways or dedicated transitways for at least four miles and include peak only and all-day express. Express routes provide travel times competitive with driving in an automobile. Most express routes operate longer distances (8-25 miles) and during peak times, and are destined to and from one of the two major downtowns.

Rehabilitation – Roadway improvements intended to correct conditions identified as deficient without major changes to the cross section. These projects should consist of removal and replacement of base and pavement, shouldering and widening and drainage correction as needed.

Reinvestment - Investment in redevelopment, infill or adaptive reuse.

Reliever Airport – An airport whose primary purpose is to serve general aviation and at the same time relieve congestion at a major airport having a high density of scheduled certificated airline traffic. It performs this function by attracting and diverting general aviation activity away from the major airport.

Relievers – Minor arterials that provide direct relief for traffic on major metropolitan highways. These roads include the closest routes parallel to the principal arterials within the core, urban reserve and urban staging areas. These roadways are proposed to accommodate medium-length trips (less than eight miles) as well as providing relief to congested principal arterials. Approximately 400 miles of relievers have been identified. Improvements focus on providing additional capacity for through traffic.

Residential Acre - An acre of residential land that includes local streets, alleys, parks and locally protected natural resources. Does not major transportation rights-of-way, major parks and open space, wetlands identified in the National Wetlands Inventory, and steep slopes steeper than an 18 percent grade.

Revenue Hour – The time from when the transit vehicle begins its route at the first time point to the time the transit vehicle completes its route at the last time point including the time the transit vehicle is in recovery (laying over).

Reverse-Commute Transit – Transit from residence to an employment location in a direction opposite to the heaviest flow of traffic. In this region, primarily from central city to a suburb.

Ridership – The total number of riders on a vehicle, trip, route or system over an identified period of time.

Ridesharing – A paratransit service with two or more persons in the vehicle consisting usually a prearranged car pool, van pool or subscription bus. Car and van pooling intended primarily to serve the work trip.

Right-of-Way Acquisition Loan Fund (RALF) – This program grants interest-free loans to communities within officially mapped highway corridors to purchase property threatened by development. The loan is repaid when the property is purchased by the highway construction authority. The Minnesota Legislature established the RALF program in 1982. It is funded by a property tax levied by the Metropolitan Council.

River Defense Network – The River Defense Network is a group of local, regional, state and federal agencies as well as other public and private organizations that worked together to purchase a series of spill response equipment along the Mississippi River upstream of the Minneapolis, St. Paul and St. Cloud municipal water intakes. The River Defense Network also conducted modeling to characterize the flow in the Mississippi River to use for predicting travel times of spills.

Roof Leader – A vertical pipe for carrying rainwater down from a roof gutter.

Route Deviation – A service operating on a fixed route from which vehicles may deviate to pick up or drop off passengers. Requests for route deviation may come by phone via radio contact with the driver or may be requested by a passenger upon boarding. Deviation from the route may include a premium charge for the extra service. Generally, this strategy utilizes a small vehicle.

Routine Maintenance – Roadway maintenance consisting of snow and ice control, mowing, sweeping, periodic applications of bituminous overlays, seal treatments, milling, crack routing and filling and base repair.

These treatments are intended to help ensure the roadway can be used to the end of its design life. These projects are ineligible for federal funding.

Runoff - Rainfall, snowmelt, or irrigation water flow that has not evaporated or infiltrated into the soil, but flows over the ground surface.

Runway – Any prepared landing and takeoff surface of an airport.

Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) Federally Defines “Clear Zone” - An areas beyond the end of a runway, under control of the airport owner, in which the presence of structures or other obstructions are controlled to permit a minimum angle of flight for takeoff and landing operations.

Rural Area – Part of the seven-county area lying outside the metropolitan urban service area limits.

Rural Centers - The small towns, like Belle Plaine and St. Francis, located throughout the rural area.

Rural Growth Center - Rural Centers that are interested in and show a potential for urban growth.

Rural Residential - The land area identified in 4 communities (Ham Lake, Andover, Inver Grove Heights and Credit River Township) that are currently developed at one unit per 2 to 2 ½ acres or less, with no plans to provide urban infrastructure such as centralized wastewater treatment.

S

Seamless – Transportation systems where one subsystem is indistinguishable from the beginning of another without any noticeable transition.

Search Area – The general location for siting a regional park, park reserve, trail or special recreation feature in the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan.

Sector Representative - Metropolitan Council staff liaisons to local governments that provide assistance in preparing plans, and help in resolving issues

Septage - Solids and liquids removed during periodic maintenance of an individual sewage treatment system, or solids and liquids which are removed from toilet waste treatment devices such as a holding tank.

Septic System – (See individual on-site septic treatment systems)– A sewage treatment system that includes a settling tank through which liquid sewage flows and in which solid sewage settles and is decomposed by bacteria. Septic systems are often used for individual home waste disposal where an urban sewer system is not available.

Seven-County Area - See region.

Sewer Flow – The total volume of organic waste and wastewater generated by residential, industrial, commercial, institutional or other establishments and carried off site by a sewer system. Sewer flow is expressed as gallons per day per day.

Sewered - Development served by a wastewater treatment facility owned, constructed or operated by a local governmental unit or the council.

Sewershed - Area tributary to the MCES interceptor system at a single point is a sewershed.

Signal Preemption – Technology that triggers the green go-ahead on meters or traffic lights to allow transit vehicles to more quickly move through freeway ramp entrances or intersections.

Smart Growth – Pro-growth approach to guiding development into more convenient patterns and into areas where infrastructure allows growth to be sustained over the long term. It envisions developments of complementary land uses, including affordable and lifecycle housing, retail and offices, on interconnected streets amenable to walking, bicycling or using transit or car to reach destinations.

Special Purpose Aviation Facility – A heliport, seaplane base or ultralight land area whose primary geographic and service focus is normally state and metropolitan in scope. Personal, business and military instruction uses are accommodated at these facilities. Gliders have been accommodated at private airports in the Metropolitan Area.

Special Recreation Features – The special recreation features, which are called for in Minn. Stat. 473.121, Subd. 14, are defined as regional parks system opportunities not generally found in the parks, the park reserves or the trail corridors. Special recreational features often require a unique managing or programming effort on the part of the regional park implementing agency. As of 2004, there were six special recreation features in the system: the Como Park Zoo and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory at Como Park, both managed as a part of Como Park; Square Lake in Washington County; the Noerenberg gardens on the northwest side of Lake Minnetonka; Gales Woods on the shore of Whaletail Lake in Minnetrista; and Silverwood, on the shore of Silver Lake in the City of St. Anthony. Before the Council designates a new special recreation feature, it is essential that a comprehensive feasibility study be performed, including an assessment of need, financing, resource suitability and management. This is to make sure any new, special recreation feature is complementary to the rest of the regional parks system and will not be a financial burden to the system.

Special Transportation Services – Transit services provided on a regular basis to elderly and disabled persons who are unable to use regular means of transportation. Rides are provided through a variety of public and private entities, including social services and transit agencies, using lift-equipped vans, taxis, buses and volunteer drivers.

Staging - A plan that documents the planned timing of development and growth in an area so that the development and growth are coordinated with needed public infrastructure in accordance with the adopted policies and plans.

State Disposal System – Regulates the construction and operation of wastewater disposal systems, including land treatment systems.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) – The SIP is a federally required planning document prepared and maintained by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. It identifies state actions and programs to implement designated responsibilities under the Clean Air Act.

Stormwater - Surplus surface water generated by rainfall and snowmelt that does not seep into the earth but flows overland to rivers, lakes or streams.

Subscription Service – Transit service operating on a daily basis, under contract, to serve a specific entity or a special need, such as work trips to an employment location. Such service may employ a van, fixed-route transit or school bus type of vehicle.

Sump Pump - An automatic submersible pump that removes water from wet foundations and basements.

Surcharging - To fill beyond the capacity of the pipe; overflow.

Surface Transportation Program (STP) – One of the five core federal highway funding programs. STP provides flexible funding that may be used by States and localities for projects on any Federal-aid highway, including the national highway system, bridge projects on any public road, transit capital projects, and intracity and intercity bus terminals and facilities.

Surface Water - Water on the earth's surface exposed to the atmosphere such as rivers, lakes and creeks.

Sustainable Development - Development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well-being while protecting and/or restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

System Plans - Long-range comprehensive policy plans for the regional systems: transportation, airports, wastewater services, and parks and open space.

System Statements – As defined in Minn. Stat. Sec. 473.855-856, statements the Council sends to local governments and school districts containing information and direction necessary for preparing comprehensive plan amendments.

T

Telecommuting – Eliminating or reducing commuter trips by routinely working part or full-time at home or at a satellite work station closer to home.

Throughput – Amount of vehicles per person that can pass a point on a roadway or pass through an intersection over a specified period of time. Can be equated to capacity if considering vehicles alone.

Tier I MNRRA Plan – Achieves the first level of MNRRA plan compliance. Under Tier 1, the Metropolitan Council and MN Department of Natural Resources will work with corridor communities to more effectively implement existing state and regional land use planning and management requirements.

Tier II MNRRA Plan - Achieves the second level of MNRRA plan compliance. Under Tier 2, corridor communities will adopt and implement the requirements that exceed existing state and regional land use management requirements, and substantially conform to the land use, resource protections, and open space concepts and policies in the MNRRA plan.

Timed-Transfer Station – Point where several transit lines converge in a synchronized manner, facilitating passenger transfers.

Tolls – Fee collected for the use of a road.

Traffic Analysis Zone – A defined geographic area that is used to analyze land use and traffic generation.

Traffic Calming – Techniques such as speed bumps, narrow lanes and traffic circles used to slow traffic in primarily residential neighborhoods.

Traffic Signal Control Systems – Degree of traffic management of an arterial is grouped and defined as follows:

- **Fixed time** – Traffic signals on an arterial are controlled locally through a time clock system. In general, the progression of a through band (the amount of green time available along an arterial at a given

speed) along the arterial in the peak direction is determined by past experience and is not a function of immediate traffic demand.

- **Semi-actuated** – Traffic signals along the arterial are designed to maximize the green time on the major route in the major direction. Timing and through band are based upon historical records. Use of green time on the minor leg depends on real-time demand and maximized based upon total intersection delay.
- **Interconnection** – A traffic signal system in which data collected at individual signals is shared with a central processor or controller. Adjustments in traffic signal control can be made based upon incoming data as opposed to historical data.
- **Optimization** – The process in which a traffic signal or system is modified to maximize the amount of vehicles passing through the intersection for all approaches or on the major road in the peak direction.
- **Real-time adaptive control** – An advanced traffic control system that incorporates current technologies in communications, data analysis, and traffic monitoring to provide real-time traffic control of arterials, corridors or roadway networks.

Transit Advantages – Facility improvements that offer travel-time benefits and connections to multi-occupant vehicle services such as bus lanes, ramp meter bypasses, HOV lanes, transit stations and major park-and-ride lots.

Transit Centers – Locations where timed-transfer connections between transit modes is facilitated. Transit centers are usually at shopping centers or other high-pedestrian locations.

Transit Dependence – Reliance on transit for travel needs because of age-related or economic limitations and/or physical or mental disability.

Transit Facility – The property, structures and other improvements used to provide mass transportation for passengers including park and ride stations, transfer stations, and parking lots.

Transit Market Area – The geographic area that draws riders of the transit system.

Transit Redesign – 1996 Metropolitan Council comprehensive review of the regional transit system and resulting action plan to build a stronger, more effective transit system. “Redesign” also may refer to restructuring of transit services in an effort to better meet local needs.

Transit Route – an existing or planned route for public transit service in the plan of the relevant transit service provider.

Transit Stations – Stops along rail lines and busways.

Transit Taxing District – Part of the Twin Cities metropolitan area where property is taxed to support transit services.

Transit Trip – Person trip as a passenger of a transit vehicle.

Transitways – Travel corridors dedicated exclusively to bus-only shoulders, high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, busways, LRT or commuter rail.

Transportation Advisory Board – Established in accordance with State Statutes, section 473.146, is part of the Metropolitan Council and is a forum for deliberation among state, regional and local officials and private citizens. The TAB advises the Council in preparing transportation plans and provides coordination and direction to the agencies responsible for implementing the plans.

Transportation Control Measure (TCM) – Any measure that is specifically identified and committed to in the applicable implementation plan that is either one of the types listed in Section 108 of the Clean Air Act Amendments, or any other measure for the purpose of reducing emissions or concentrations of air pollutants from transportation sources by reducing vehicle use or changing traffic flow or congestion conditions. Examples of TCM include programs for improved transit service, employer-based transportation management plans, trip-reduction ordinances, traffic flow improvement programs, programs and facilities for telecommuting, and other programs and ordinances to facilitate non-automobile travel, such as the use of bicycles.

Transportation Control Plan – The plan identifying the transportation strategies that will reduce carbon monoxide emissions in the most effective and efficient manner. Most of the transportation control measures indicated are implemented, and the remaining measures and related air quality control strategies require review for compliance with the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA). Scheduling of the revisions is dependent on the publication of the final CAAA conformity rules by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Transportation Corridor – A defined area through which people move from one major center to another or from a major center to a dispersal area. A transportation corridor may contain several transit routes and highways.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) – Programs and methods to reduce effective demand. In the broadest sense, any activity or facility that reduces vehicle trips would fall within this classification. The highest priority in the region is given to reducing single-occupant vehicle trips in the peak periods. Techniques that might be utilized are car pooling, van pooling, transit, alternative work hours, transportation management associations, and land development or ordinances that discourage vehicle trips and encourage walking, biking, ridesharing and transit trips.

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) – Enacted in 1998, TEA-21 authorizes the federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 6-year period 1998-2003. TEA-21 replaces the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. TEA 21 responds to the need to reduce project delays and increase the safety of the nation's surface transportation system and continues most provisions of ISTEA. TEA-21 has necessitated some changes to the Metropolitan Planning Organization requirements. Funding levels have been increased with a higher level of funds available to transit and to Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality programs. TEA-21 continues the flexibility of using Title I traditional highway funds for transit projects and Title III traditional transit funds for highways.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – A three-year multimodal program of highway, transit, biking, walking and transportation enhancement projects and programs proposed for federal funding in the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Transportation Management Organization (TMO) Or Association (TMA) – Nonprofit employer associations, sometimes involving public entities, usually formed in highly congested areas to deal with common transportation concerns, particularly alleviating congestion.

Transportation Plan - Compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, maps and action programs for guiding the future development of the various modes of transportation of the municipality and its environs, such as streets and highways, mass transit, railroads, air transportation, trucking and water transportation, and includes a major thoroughfare plan. (M.S. 462.352)

Transportation Policy Plan – This document, which is one chapter of the Metropolitan Council's Metropolitan Development Guide, as provided for in Minn. Stat. 473, Sec. 145 and 146. Section 145 states "The Metropolitan Council shall prepare and adopt...a comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area."

Transportation System Management Strategies (TSM) – Programs and methods to improve the efficiency and effective capacity of the transportation system. Techniques can include signalization, metering, HOV ramps and lanes, one-way streets and improvements to transit.

Transportation System Plan (TSP) – MnDOT's 20-year district plans which identify regional investment priority categories for the highway system (preservation, management, improvement, replacement and bottleneck removal, and expansion.)

Travel Behavior Inventory (TBI) – A set of surveys identifying travel patterns and characteristics of people and vehicles within the metropolitan area.

Travel-Demand Management (TDM) – Strategies to manage demand on roadways designed to redirect trips to higher-occupancy modes or away from peak-traffic periods so that the total number of vehicles trips are reduced. Can include both capital and service improvements to highways and transit, and may involve community action.

U

Unsewered - Development served by a private sewer facility.

Upper Mississippi River Source Water Protection Planning Group – The Upper Mississippi River Source Water Protection Planning Group is comprised of the cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis, and St. Cloud, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Rural Water, and other interested parties. The Group is working together to develop source water protection plans for the cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul and St. Cloud. The purpose of the plans is to protect the water quality of the surface water resources that supply municipal water to the three communities.

Urban Area – Consists of two Framework-defined planning areas — Developed Communities and Developing Communities — occupying about 50 percent of the region's land area. See also Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA).

Urban Reserve – Transition area beyond the current MUSA, identified in local comprehensive plans, held in a rural condition until it is included in the urban area.

Urban Small Sites – Development or redevelopment on a 5 acre or smaller parcel in an area served by public infrastructure and at urban density or intensity of land use.

User Cost – Total dollar cost of a trip to a user for a particular mode of transportation. Includes out-of-pocket costs such as transit fares, gas, oil, insurance, and parking for autos plus a valuation of implicit cost, such as waiting and travel times.

V

Vanpool – Paratransit service by van on a scheduled or unscheduled basis with at least five persons as occupants.

Vehicle Trip – One-way journey made by an auto, truck or bus to convey people or goods.

Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR) - A ground radio station that provides a pilot of a properly equipped aircraft with its location in reference to that station.

VOR Approach – A landing approach to a runway using the VOR as a reference point and directional guidance to the runway.

VMT – Vehicle miles traveled

W

Wastewater - Water carrying waste from homes and commercial and industrial facilities.

Wastewater Treatment Plant - Facility designed for the collection, removal, treatment, and disposal of wastewater generated within a given service area.

Watershed Management Organizations - Watershed management organizations and watershed districts are special purpose units of local government whose boundaries generally follow those of a natural watershed. Watershed districts are local units of government that work to solve and prevent water-related problems. The functions of a watershed district may include development and implementation of a watershed management plan, review and approval of local water management plans, regulation of the use and development of land, and construction, repair, improvement, and management of drainage systems.

Wet-Weather Peak Ratio - Average of three highest peak days divided by the average daily flow.

Z

Zoning - The classification of land by types of uses permitted and prohibited and by densities and intensities permitted and prohibited. Regulations govern lot size, building placement, and other development standards.