

Definitions, Abbreviations, and Acronyms



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9.1

DEFINITIONS



above grade— The location of a structure or transit guideway above the surface of the ground (also known as elevated or aerial).

acre— A unit of measurement of area equivalent to 43,560 square feet.

aerial guideway— Generally a longer bridge structure that is located above existing grade to cross over a wide road or multiple railroad.

alight— To get down, as from a vehicle; dismount.

alignment— The horizontal and vertical ground plan of a roadway, railroad, transit route, or other facility.

alluvium— Deposits resulting from the operations of water including floodplains, lakes, rivers, and fans at the foot of mountain slopes.

AM Peak— The morning commute period, about two hours, in which the greatest movement of passengers occurs, generally from home to work; the portion of the morning service period where the greatest level of ridership is experienced and service provided.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)— The law passed by Congress in 1990, which makes it illegal to discriminate against people with disabilities in employment, services provided by state and local governments, public and private transportation, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

AMTRAK (National Passenger Corporation)— A quasi-public corporation created by the federal Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970 to improve and develop intercity passenger rail service throughout the United States.

aquifer— A permeable region of rock or soil through which groundwater can move.

aquitar— A material of low permeability that greatly slows the movement of groundwater.

at grade— The location of a structure or transit guideway at the same level as the ground surface.

ballast— Coarse gravel or crushed rock laid to form a bed for roads or railroads.

ballasted track— A track in which the rails are fastened to wood, concrete, or steel cross ties that are embedded in ballast.

bridge— A structure between abutments that spans a physical obstacle such as a road, river, or railroad tracks.

British thermal unit (BTU)— A unit of heat energy defined as the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit. One Btu equals approximately 778.169 foot-pounds, 1.055 056 kilojoules or 0.293 071 watt hour.

bus shelter— A structure constructed near a bus stop to provide seating and protection from the weather for the convenience of waiting passengers.

bus stop— A curbside place where passengers board or alight transit.

bus turnout— Cutout in the roadside to permit a transit vehicle to dwell at a curb.

busway— A roadway reserved for buses only. It may be a grade separated or controlled access roadway. Also known as "Bus Lane."

CAL3QHC— Microcomputer based model used to predict CO concentrations from motor vehicles at roadway intersections

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)— Modeled after the National Environmental Policy Act, this California state law encourages the protection of the environment through policies and procedural requirements.

candidate species– Any species of fish, wildlife, or plant that has been determined to be a candidate for listing under Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (amended).

capital– Long-term assets, such as property, buildings, roads, rail lines, and vehicles.

capital costs– Costs of long-term assets of a public transit system such as property, buildings, vehicles, etc.

Capital Improvement Program(CIP)– The list of capital projects for a five to seven year programming period.

Capital Project– Construction and/or procurement of district assets, such as transit centers, transit vehicles, and track.

Central Business District (CBD)– An area of a city that contains the greatest concentration of commercial activity, the “downtown.” The traditional downtown retail, trade, and commercial area of a city or an area of very high land evaluation, traffic flow, and concentration of retail business offices, theaters, hotels, and services.

commuter rail– Long-haul rail passenger service operating between metropolitan and suburban areas, whether within or across the geographical boundaries of a state, usually characterized by reduced fares for multiple rides, and commutation tickets for regular, recurring riders. Also known as “regional rail” or “suburban rail.”

conceptual engineering–A conceptual design of a project, including any alternatives or design options, at a feasibility level of engineering.

consist– The cars of a train.

corridor– A broad geographical band that follows a general directional flow or connects major sources of trips. It may contain a number of streets and highways and many transit lines and routes.

crossover– A pair of switches that connects two parallel rail tracks, allowing a train on one track to cross over to the other. When two crossovers are present in opposite directions, in the shape of an “X,” the four-switch configuration is called a double crossover.

cultural resources– Archaeological and historic resources that could be affected by a given project. Cultural resources include buildings, sites, districts, structures, or objects having historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific importance.

cumulative impact– The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

dB– Decibel. Logarithmic scale measuring the intensity of sound (the sound pressure level).

dba– Unit of sound level adjusted by frequency weightings to correspond to human hearing response. Referred to as “A-weighted” decibel.

disabled– With respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life

activities of such an individual; a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment.

discretionary– Subject to the discretion of legislators or an administrator. The federal Section 5309 New Starts Program is an example of a discretionary program.

electromagnetic field (EMF)– electromagnetic fields associated with electromagnetic radiation.

electromagnetic interference (EMI)– Electromagnetic interference may include the interruption, obstruction, or other degradation in the effective performance of electronic systems or equipment.

EMFAC2002– USEPA approved emissions model to be used in California.

express service– Express service is deployed in one of two general configurations: 1) A service generally connecting residential areas and activity centers via a high speed, non-stop connection, e.g., a freeway, or exclusive right-of-way such as a dedicated busway with limited stops at each end for collection and distribution. Residential collection can be exclusively or partially undertaken using park-and-ride facilities. 2) Service operated non-stop over a portion of an arterial in conjunction with other local services. The need for such service arises where passenger demand between points on a corridor is high enough to separate demand and support dedicated express trips.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)– A part of the United States Department of Transportation that administers the federal program of financial assistance to public transit.

fill– Earth used to create embankments or to raise low-lying areas in order to bring them to grade.

final engineering– The detailed design and production of plans and specifications for project construction.

Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR)– A report that responds to comments received on the Draft EIR, identifies and analyzes environmental effects of a preferred project alternative in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act.

fixed guideway– Any public transportation facility utilizing and occupying a separate right-of-way or rails for the exclusive use of public transportation service, including, but not limited to, fixed rail, automated guideway transit, and exclusive facilities for buses and other high-occupancy vehicles; and also means a public transportation facility using a fixed catenary system and right-of-way useable by other forms of transportation.

floodplain– The part of the ground surface inundated with water on a recurring basis, usually associated with the 1 percent recurrence interval (100-year) flow.

frequency– The amount of time scheduled between consecutive buses or trains on a given route segment; in other words, how often the bus or train comes (also known as Headway).

g– horizontal ground acceleration.

grade separated– A crossing of two forms of transportation paths (e.g., light rail tracks and a highway) at different levels to permit unconstrained operation.

gram– Unit of measurement of mass (metric system).

headway– The scheduled time interval between any two revenue vehicles operating in the same direction on a route. Headways may be “load” driven, that is, developed on the basis of demand and loading standards or, “policy” based, i.e., dictated by policy decisions such as service every 30 minutes during the peak periods and every 60 minutes during the base period.

hectare (ha)– A measure of area that equals 2.47 acres or 10,000 square meters.

high occupancy vehicle (HOV)– A “carpool,” or vehicle occupied by two or more persons.

high occupancy vehicle lane (HOV lane)– A system of exclusive lanes signed and striped for use by vehicles with multiple occupants (two or more persons). HOV lanes are designed on roadways to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety, reduce fuel consumption, and improve air quality.

high rail vehicle– A road vehicle that has been adapted to be able to run on both rails and roads.

intermodal– Those issues or activities that involve or affect one mode of transportation, including transportation connections, choices, cooperation, and coordination of various modes. Also known as “multimodal.”

intermodal facility– A building or site specifically designed to accommodate the meeting of two or more transit modes of travel.

Joint Powers Authority– A group of representatives from several entities that have agreed to undertake a joint operation venture. In the Santa Clara region, the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority administers the Capitol Corridor Intercity Rail service between Sacramento and San Jose.

kilo– Prefix used in metric measurement, 1000.

kilojoule (kJ)– A common metric unit of work or energy, comparable to the British thermal unit (Btu). One kilojoule equals $9.47817120313 \times 10^{-4}$ BTU, 2.7778×10^{-4} watt hour, or 0.737562149277 foot-pound force.

kiss-and-ride facility– A part of a park and ride facility where commuters who are passengers in non-transit vehicles are dropped off to board a public transportation vehicle.

Ldn– Day-Night Equivalent Sound Level. The A-weighted Leq for a 24-hour period with a 10 dB penalty imposed on noise that occurs during nighttime hours.

lead track– A track that branches off from a mainline track for access to a car storage yard or maintenance facility.

Leq– Equivalent Sound Level. The steady sound level that represents the same sound energy as varying sound levels over a specific time period (typically 1 hour or 24 hours).

Lmax– The maximum level during a single noise event.

L_n– The sound level exceeded “n” percent of the time.

level of service (LOS)– The operating level of an intersection or roadway segment can be described using the term Level of Service. Level of Service is a qualitative description of operation based on delay and maneuverability. It can range from “A,” representing free flow conditions, to “F,” representing gridlock.

light rail transit (LRT)– Lightweight passenger rail cars operating singly (or in short, usually two-car trains) of fixed rails in right-of-way that is not separated from other traffic for much of the way. Light rail vehicles are driven electrically with power being drawn from an overhead electric line via a trolley or a pantograph. Also known as “streetcar,” “tramway,” or “trolley car.”

liter– Unit of measurement of volume (metric system).

local service– A type of operation that involves frequent stops and consequent low speeds, the purpose of which is to deliver and pick up transit passengers as close to their destinations or origins as possible.

locomotive wye– An arrangement of tracks in a triangular shape normally located at the end of a mainline track or railroad yard. Using switches, a wye enables trains to turn around.

m– Meter.

mainline track– The main track on a railroad, often large railroads have several mainlines.

maintenance-of-way track– A siding track used expressly for storage of track maintenance equipment or materials.

mass transit– Another name for “Mass Transportation” or “Public Transportation.”

mass transportation– Transportation by bus, or rail, or other conveyance, either publicly or privately owned, providing to the public general or special service (but not including school buses or charter or sightseeing service) on a regular and continuing basis. Also known as “mass transit,” “public transportation,” and “transit.”

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)– The regional transportation planning agency covering the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. MTC is responsible for reviewing applications and distributing federal and state transportation grants and allocation of certain transportation monies.

milliGauss (Mg)– A unit of magnetic flux density equal to 0.001 Gauss or 0.1 microTesla. The magnetic fields generated by power lines and electronic equipment are often measured in milliGauss.

mitigation– Measures taken to minimize adverse environmental impacts. Mitigation could reduce the magnitude and extent of an impact from a level of significance to a level of insignificance.

mph– miles per hour.

mT– microTesla - A common unit of magnetic field intensity equal to 10^{-6} Tesla. The unit is widely used to measure the

strength of electromagnetic fields generated by power lines or electronic equipment. By comparison, the strength of the Earth's own magnetic field at the surface is about 50 microTeslas. One microTesla equals 0.01 Gauss.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)– The United States' basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy and sets goals and provides means for carrying out the policy.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966– The primary federal law pertaining to protection of cultural resources.

National Register of Historic Places– A federal listing of historic resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

New Starts– Federal funding granted under Section 5309 (B) of the United States Code. These discretionary funds are made available for the construction of new fixed guideway systems or extensions of existing fixed guideway systems.

nonpoint source– Pertains to the discharge of pollutants into waters or air where the pollutant sources come from an area rather than a single source that can be pinpointed.

off-peak– Non-rush periods of the day when travel activity is generally lower and less transit service is scheduled.

operating cost– The total costs to operate and maintain a transit system including labor, fuel, maintenance, wages and salaries, employee benefits, taxes, etc.

operating expense– Monies paid in salaries and wages, settlement of claims, maintenance of equipment and buildings, and rentals of equipment and facilities.

ozone– A major component of photochemical smog, which is formed in the atmosphere by the chemical reaction between nitrogen dioxide and organic gases in the presence of sunlight. Excessive levels of ozone can cause eye irritation, reduced visibility, vegetation damage, and aggravation of respiratory conditions. The biggest source of these gases is the automobile.

park-and-ride– A parking area intended for transit riders who arrive at transit stations by car.

park-and-ride facility– A parking garage and/or pavement used for parking passengers' automobiles, either free or for a fee, while they use transit agency facilities. Park-and-ride facilities are generally established as collector sites for rail or bus service. Park-and-ride facilities may also serve as collector sites for vanpools and carpools and as transit centers.

passenger miles– A measure of service utilization that represents the cumulative sum of the distances ridden by each passenger. It is normally calculated by summing the passenger load multiplied by the distance between individual bus stops. For example, ten passengers riding in a transit vehicle for 2 miles equals 20 passenger miles.

peak hour/peak period– The period with the highest ridership during the entire service day, generally referring to either the peak hour or peak several hours (peak period).

pocket track– A third track located between two mainline

tracks and connected at both ends to both tracks with cross-overs, used for temporary storage of trains.

PM₁₀– Particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter. (One micron is equal to one-millionth of a meter.)

PM_{2.5}– Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter; considered to be fine particulate matter. (One micron is equal to one-millionth of a meter.)

PPV– Peak particle velocity. The maximum instantaneous peak in the velocity of an object's vibratory motion. The PPV is used to define thresholds of potential building damage from vibration.

preliminary engineering– Refinements to design developed during conceptual engineering. Includes preliminary technical studies to determine all relevant aspects of project location, any feasible alternatives or design options, and various costs and benefits before advancing the project into the detailed final design phase.

program– (1) verb, to assign funds to a project; (2) assign funds to a project; (3) implementing transportation projects or policies.

Retained Cut– The construction of earth-retaining structures to support excavations where tracks are located below existing grade.

Retained Fill– The construction of retaining walls to support fill where tracks are raised above existing grade.

revenue– Receipts derived from or for the operation of transit service including farebox revenue, revenue from other commercial sources, and operating assistance from governments. Farebox revenue includes all fare, transfer charges, and zone charges paid by transit passengers.

revenue service– When a revenue vehicle is in operation over a route and is available to the public for transport.

right-of-way (ROW)– The land over which a public road or rail line is built. An exclusive right-of-way is a road, lane, or other right-of-way designated exclusively for a specific purpose or for a particular group of users, such as light rail vehicles or buses or transportation facilities.

root-mean-square amplitude (RMS)– The average energy of vibration measured over a short time interval, usually one second. RMS vibration velocity is considered the best available measure of potential human annoyance from ground-borne vibration.

route– A specified path taken by a transit vehicle usually designated by a number or a name, along which passengers are picked up or discharged.

SCREEN3– Gaussian plume model used to provide maximum ground-level pollution concentrations for point, area, flare, and volume sources.

Section 106– Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

shoo-fly– A temporary track that is constructed to allow trains to continue to operate through a construction zone.

siding track— A track adjacent to a mainline track used for various purposes such as the storage of trains.

spur track— A short, dead-ended track that diverges off a mainline track and ends at (serves) a business.

State Implementation Plan (SIP)— A plan for attaining national ambient air quality standards required by the Clean Air Act.

STA— Station or stationing. A precise point from which measurements in surveying are made.

station— A public transportation passenger facility.

subballast— A finer grained granular material that provides additional support under the ballast.

tail track— A track that extends beyond the end of a terminal station or storage yard (located at the end of a mainline), used for storing cars or switching trains between tracks for a return trip.

transfer— The change from one transit vehicle to another.

transit center— A fixed location where passengers transfer from one route or vehicle to another that has significant infrastructure, such as a waiting room, benches, restrooms, sales outlet, ticket or pass vending machines, and/or other services.

transit corridor— A broad geographic band that follows a general route alignment such as a roadway or rail right-of-way and includes a service area within that band that would be accessible to the transit system.

trip— The one-way operation of a revenue vehicle between two terminal points on a route. Trips generally noted as inbound, outbound, eastbound, westbound, etc. to identify directionality when being discussed or printed.

turnout— A split in the track used to switch a train between two different tracks.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)— The federal agency that administers the federal Endangered Species Act and is involved in protection of fish and wildlife habitat including wetland areas.

vehicle hours— The hours a vehicle travels while in revenue service (vehicle revenue hours) plus deadhead hours. For rail vehicles, vehicle hours refer to passenger car hours. Vehicle hours exclude hours for charter services, school bus service, operating training, and maintenance testing.

vehicle miles— The miles a vehicle travels while in revenue service (vehicle revenue miles) plus deadhead miles. For rail vehicles, vehicle miles refer to passenger car miles. Vehicle miles exclude miles for charter services, school bus service, operator training, and maintenance testing.

watershed— That part of the earth's surface from which storm water runoff flows to a single point.

wetlands— According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, wetlands are areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, under normal conditions, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, and similar areas and are subject to protection under Executive Order 11990 and Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act.

wye— Three tracks forming a triangle used to turn trains around.

yard— An area in a system used for maintenance, storing, or holding trains.



9.2

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

µg/L

micrograms per liter

µg/m³

micrograms per cubic meter

µin

micro-inch

µT

microTesla

a.m.

ante meridiem (before noon)

AATC

Advanced Automatic Train Control

AB1X

California Assembly Bill 1X

ABAG

Association of Bay Area Governments

AC

alternating current

AC Transit

Alameda - Contra Costa Transit District

ACCMA

Alameda County Congestion Management Agency

ACCWP

Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program

ACE

Altamont Commuter Express

ACFCWCD

Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

ACGIH

American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists

ACHP

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

ACOE

Army Corps of Engineers

ACPWA

Alameda County Public Works Agency

ACSD

Alameda County Sewer District

ACTA

Alameda County Transit Authority

ACTIA

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Agency

ACWD

Alameda County Water District

ADA

Americans with Disabilities Act

ANSI

American National Standards Institute

APE

Area of Potential Effect

APM

Automated People Mover

APN

Assessor's Parcel Number

APTA

American Public Transportation Association

ASSR

Archaeological Survey and Sensitivity Report

AST

aboveground storage tank

ATSDR

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

BA

Biological Assessment

BAAQMD

Bay Area Air Quality Management District

BART

San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit

BEIs

biological exposure indices

BMP

Best Management Practices

BO

Biological Opinion

BPA Bonneville Power Administration	CEC California Energy Commission	CONSENT Superfund Consent Decrees List
BRT bus rapid transit	CEMOF Caltrain Equipment Maintenance and Operations Facility	CORRACTS Corrective Action Sites
BTEX benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes	CEQ Federal Council on Environmental Quality	CPUC California Public Utilities Commission
BTU British Thermal Unit	CEQA California Environmental Quality Act	CRHR California Register of Historic Places
BWRTR Biological and Wetland Resources Technical Report	CERCLIS Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Information	CRSB Coast Range-Sierran Block
CA SLIC Spills, Leaks, Investigation and Cleanup Cost Recovery List	CERCLIS-NFRAP CERCLIS - No Further Remedial Action Planned	CRTP Cultural Resources Treatment Plan
CAA Federal Clean Air Act	CESA California Endangered Species Act	CUBC California Uniform Building Code
CAAQS California Ambient Air Quality Standards	CFR Code of Federal Regulations	CWA Federal Clean Water Act
CAFE Corporate Average Fuel Economy	cfs cubic feet per second	CWG Community Working Group
Cal EPA California Environmental Protection Agency	CGP Construction General Permit	CY cubic yards
Cal-ISO California Independent System Operator	CHMIRS California Hazardous Material Incident Reporting System	DC direct current
CALTRANS California Department of Transportation	CHP California Highway Patrol	dba a weighted sound level
CAP Bay Area Clean Air Plan	CHRIS California Historic Resources Information System	DHS Department of Health and Services
Capitols Capitol Corridor Intercity Rail Service	CIDH Cast In Drilled Hole	DMM deep mixing method
CARB California Air Resources Board	CMGP City of Milpitas General Plan	DPR Department of Parks and Recreation
CBC California Building Code	CMP Congestion Management Program	DTSC Department of Toxic Substances Control
CBD Central Business District	CNDDDB California Natural Diversity Database	EDR Environmental Data Resources
CCAA California Clean Air Act	CNG compresses natural gas	EIR Environmental Impact Report
CCR California Code of Regulations	CNPPA California Native Plant Protection Act	EIS Environmental Impact Statement
CCTV closed-circuit television	CNPS California Native Plant Society	EMF electromagnetic field
CDFG California Department of Fish and Game	CO carbon monoxide	EMI electromagnetic interference
	CO₂ carbon dioxide	EO Federal Executive Order
		EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
		EPB earth pressure balance

EPCRA Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act	HAZNET Hazardous Waste Information System	ISTEA Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
ERNS Emergency Response Notification System	HAZWOPER Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response	ITS Intelligent Transportation System
ESA Environmentally Sensitive Area	HCM 1994 Highway Capacity Manual	JPB Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
ESU Evolutionary Significant Units	HCP Habitat Conservation Plan	km kilometer
FARES First American Real Estate Solutions	Hg mercury	KNR kiss-and-ride
FEIR Final Environmental Impact Report	HIP Housing Implementation Program	kph kilometers per hour
FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency	HMIRS Hazardous Materials Spill Incidents	kV kilovolt
FGP Fremont General Plan	HOV high occupancy vehicle	kW kilowatt
FHWA Federal Highway Administration	HP Pavilion Hewlett Packard Pavilion of San Jose	kWh kilowatt hours
FINDS Facility Index System	HPSR Historic Property Survey Report	L₃ Level 3 Communications, Inc.
FIRM Flood Insurance Rate Map	HRER Historic Resource Evaluation Report	LAVTA Livermore - Amador Valley Transit Authority
FMC Food Machinery Corporation	HUD U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	Lbs/in pounds per inch
FRR farebox recovery ratio	HVAC heating, ventilation, and air conditioning	Ldn day-night equivalent sound level
ft feet	Hz hertz	LOC Letter of Concurrence
FTA Federal Transit Administration	I-205 Interstate 205	LOS Level of Service
FY fiscal year	I-280 Interstate 280	LPA Locally Preferred Alternative
GHz gigahertz	I-5 Interstate 5	LQG large quantity generator
GBN ground bourne noise	I-580 Interstate 580	LRT light tail transit
GIS Geographic Information System	I-680 Interstate 680	LUST leaking underground storage tank
GW gigawatt	I-680 WS Busway connector from I-680 to Warm Springs (Baseline Alternative)	MAX Modesto Area Express
GWh gigawatt-hours	I-880 Interstate 880	MBTA Migratory Bird Treaty Act
HABS Historic American Buildings Survey	ICG ICG Communications, Inc.	MCE maximum credible earthquake
HAER Historic American Engineering Record	ICNIRP International Commission on Non- Ionizing Radiation Protection	MDPW Milpitas Department of Public Works
		MFS MFS Worldcom

mG milliGauss	NFPA National Fire Protection Association	PAH polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
mG/kg milliGauss per kilogram	NHPA National Historic Preservation Act	PBT persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic compounds
MIS/AA Major Investment Study/Alternatives Analysis	NO₂ nitrogen dioxide	PCB polychlorinated-biphenyls
M_L local magnitude	NOAA Fisheries National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service	PCJPB Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
MLTS Materials Licensing Tracking System	NOI Notice of Intent	PDT Project Development Team
MMSP Milpitas Midtown Specific Plan	NOP Notice of Preparation	PG&E Pacific Gas & Electric
MOA Memorandum of Agreement	NO_x nitrogen oxides	PM₁₀ particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter
MOS Minimum Operating Segment	NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	PM_{2.5} particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (fine particulate matter)
MOU Memorandum of Understanding	NPL National Priority List	PNR park-and-ride
mpg miles per gallon	NPS National Parks Service	POST Peace Officer Standards and Training
mph miles per hour	NRCS Natural Resource Conservation Service	ppd pounds per day
MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization	NRHP National Register of Historic Properties	ppm parts per million
MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging	NUMMI New United Motors Manufacturing Incorporated	PRC Public Resources Code
MSE mechanically stabilized earth	NWI National Wetland Inventory Maps	PSR Project Study Report
MTBE methyl tertiary-butyl ether	NWIC-CHRIS Northwest Information Center of the California Historic Resources Information System	RAATS RCRA Administrative Action Tracking System
MTC Metropolitan Transportation Commission	NWP Nationwide Permit	RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
M_w moment magnitude	O&M operation and maintenance	RIP Regional Improvement Program
MW megawatt	OHP Office of Historical Preservation	ROD Record of Decision
MWh megawatt-hour	OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration	ROG reactive organic gases
NA not applicable	p.m. post meridiem (after noon)	ROW right-of-way
NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards	PAB Policy Advisory Board	RSPA Research and Special Programs Administration
NAVD North Atlantic Vertical Datum	PADS Polychlorinated Biphenyls Activity Database System	RTIP Regional Transportation Improvement Program
NEPA National Environmental Policy Act		

RTP San Francisco Bay Area Regional Transportation Plan	SNI Strong Neighborhood Initiative	TAC Technical Advisory Committee
RWQCB Regional Water Quality Control Board	SO₂ sulfur dioxide	TAC Toxic Air Contaminant
SAA Streambed Alteration Agreement	South Bay South San Francisco Bay Area	TACP Santa Clara Transit Area Concept Plan
SARA Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act	SO_x sulfur oxides	TBM tunnel boring machine
SBC SBC Communications, Inc.	SPRR Southern Pacific Railroad	TCM Transportation Control Measure
SCADA Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System	SQG small quantity generator	TCRP Transportation Congestion Relief Program
SCCGP Santa Clara County General Plan	SR 132 State Route 132	TDA State Transportation Development Act
SCDPW Santa Clara Department of Public Works	SR 152 State Route 152	TIA Transportation Impact Analysis
SCGP Santa Clara City General Plan	SR 156 State Route 156	TIP Transportation Improvement Program
SCSD Santa Clara Sewer District	SR 17 State Route 17	TLC Transportation for Livable Communities
SCVURPPP Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program	SR 237 State Route 237	TLV threshold limit value
SCVWD Santa Clara Valley Water District	SR 25 State Route 25	TMDL total maximum daily load
SFO San Francisco International Airport	SR 84 State Route 84	TOC total organic compound
SFWD San Francisco Water Department	SR 85 State Route 85	TOD transit-oriented development
SHPO State Historic Preservation Office or Officer	SR 87 State Route 87	TPH total petroleum hydrocarbons
SIP State Implementation Plan	STAP State Transit Assistance Program	TPSS traction power substation
SJDPW San Jose Department of Public Works	STIP State Transportation Improvement Program	TRIS Toxic Chemical Release Inventory System
SJGP San Jose General Plan	STP State Transportation Program	TSCA Toxic Substances Control Act
SJIA Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport	SVP Silicon Valley Power	TSD treatment, storage, and disposal
SJSU San Jose State University	SVRTC Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor	US United States
SMART Stockton Metropolitan Area Rapid Transit	SWLF solid waste landfills or transfer stations	UPRR Union Pacific Railroad
	SWPPP Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan	US 101 United States Highway 101
	SWQCB State Water Quality Control Board	USD Union Sanitary District
	SWRCB State Water Resources Control Board	

USDOE
United States Department of Energy

USDOT
United States Department of
Transportation

USEPA
United States Environmental Protection
Agency

USFWS
United States Fish and Wildlife Service

USGS
United States Geological Survey

UST
underground storage tank

v
volt

V/C
volume-to-capacity

v/m
volts per meter

VdB
Vibration velocity in terms of decibels

VdB, $\mu\text{in}/\text{sec}$
VdB relative to one micro-inch per
second

VHT
vehicle hours of travel

VMT
vehicle miles traveled

VOC
volatile organic compound

vph
vehicles per hour

vphpl
vehicles per hour per lane

VTA
Santa Clara Valley Transportation
Authority

VTP 2020
Valley Transportation Plan 2020

W
watts

WAPA
Western Area Power Administration

WDRs
Waste Discharge Requirements

WGCEP
Working Group on California
Earthquake Probabilities

WGNCEP
Working Group on Northern California
Earthquake Potential

WRCB
State Water Resources Control Board

