

# 1. Glossary

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## 100. Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Glossary

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### 100.1. Abbreviations and Acronyms

<b>3R:</b>	Resurfacing, Restoration, and Rehabilitation	<b>CEA:</b>	Cost-Effective Analysis
<b>AAA:</b>	Authority to Appraise and Acquire	<b>CE:</b>	Categorical Exclusion
<b>AAC:</b>	Alaska Administrative Code	<b>CFR:</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>AADT:</b>	Average Annual Daily Traffic	<b>CGP:</b>	Construction General Permit
<b>AASHTO:</b>	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials	<b>CIP:</b>	Capital Improvement Program
<b>ABSM:</b>	Alaska Bridges and Structures Manual	<b>CL:</b>	Centerline
<b>ADA:</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act	<b>COA:</b>	Class of Action
<b>ADF&amp;G:</b>	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	<b>CR:</b>	Constructability Review
<b>ADT:</b>	Average Daily Traffic	<b>CRO:</b>	Civil Rights Office
<b>AHDM:</b>	Alaska Highway Drainage Manual	<b>CSS:</b>	Context Sensitive Solutions
<b>AKFPDM:</b>	Alaska Flexible Pavement Design Manual	<b>CWA:</b>	Clean Water Act
<b>ALBDS:</b>	AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications	<b>CZ:</b>	Clear Zone
<b>AO:</b>	Administrative Order	<b>DBE:</b>	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
<b>APDES:</b>	Alaska Pollution and Discharge Elimination System	<b>DD:</b>	Decisional Document
<b>ARRC:</b>	Alaska Railroad Corporation	<b>DEC:</b>	Department of Environmental Conservation
<b>AS:</b>	Alaska Statute	<b>DEIS:</b>	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
<b>ATA:</b>	Authority to Advertise	<b>DHV:</b>	Design Hourly Volume
<b>ATM:</b>	Alaska Traffic Manual (MUTCD with Alaska Supplement)	<b>DNR:</b>	Department of Natural Resources
<b>ATP:</b>	Authority to Proceed	<b>DOL:</b>	Department of Labor
<b>B/C:</b>	Benefit/Cost	<b>DOT&amp;PF:</b>	Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
<b>BMP:</b>	Best Management Practices	<b>DPDR:</b>	Department Procedures and Regulations
<b>CA:</b>	Certification Acceptance	<b>DPOL:</b>	Department Policy
<b>CCO:</b>	Chief Contracts Officer	<b>DSR:</b>	Design Study Report
		<b>EA:</b>	Environmental Assessment
		<b>EEO:</b>	Equal Employment Opportunity
		<b>EFH:</b>	Essential Fish Habitat
		<b>EIS:</b>	Environmental Impact Statement
		<b>EO:</b>	Executive Order
		<b>EPA:</b>	Environmental Protection Agency

<b>EPM:</b>	NEPA Assignment Program Environmental Procedures Manual	<b>MASH:</b>	Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware
<b>ESA:</b>	Endangered Species Act	<b>MCL:</b>	Materials Certification List
<b>ESC:</b>	Erosion and Sediment Control	<b>MMCL:</b>	Master Materials Certification List
<b>ESCP:</b>	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan	<b>MMPA:</b>	Marine Mammal Protection Act
<b>FAA:</b>	Federal Aviation Administration	<b>MOA:</b>	Memorandum of Agreement
<b>FAHP:</b>	Federal-Aid Highway Program	<b>MOU:</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>FAST Act:</b>	Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act	<b>mph:</b>	Miles Per Hour
<b>FEIS:</b>	Final Environmental Impact Statement	<b>MPO:</b>	Metropolitan Planning Organization
<b>FHPM:</b>	Federal Highway Program Manual	<b>MRS:</b>	Management Reporting System
<b>FHWA:</b>	Federal Highway Administration	<b>MUTCD:</b>	Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
<b>FONSI:</b>	Finding of No Significant Impact	<b>MVM:</b>	Million Vehicle Miles
<b>FTA:</b>	Federal Transit Administration	<b>NCHRP:</b>	National Cooperative Highway Research Program
<b>GB:</b>	Green Book. More specifically, the <i>AASHTO A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets</i>	<b>NEPA:</b>	National Environmental Policy Act
<b>GDVLVLR:</b>	<i>Guidelines for Geometric Design of Very Low-Volume Local Roads (AASHTO)</i>	<b>NHS:</b>	National Highway System
<b>GPS:</b>	Global Positioning System	<b>NMFS:</b>	National Marine Fisheries Service
<b>HCM:</b>	Highway Capacity Manual	<b>NOC:</b>	Notice of Cancellation
<b>HEC-22:</b>	<i>Urban Drainage Design Manual, Hydraulic Engineering Circular, No. 22</i>	<b>NOI:</b>	Notice of Intent
<b>HOV:</b>	High Occupancy Vehicle	<b>NTP:</b>	Notice to Proceed
<b>HPCM:</b>	Alaska Highway Preconstruction Manual	<b>P&amp;P:</b>	Policy and Procedure
<b>HSIP:</b>	Highway Safety Improvement Program	<b>PDA:</b>	Project Development Authorization
<b>ITE:</b>	Institute of Transportation Engineers	<b>PE:</b>	Preliminary Engineering
<b>ITS:</b>	Intelligent Transportation System	<b>PID:</b>	Project Information Document
<b>LA:</b>	Legislative Authority	<b>PIF:</b>	Public Interest Finding
<b>LON:</b>	Length of Need	<b>PIH:</b>	Plans in Hand
<b>LOS:</b>	Level of Service	<b>PIP:</b>	Public Involvement Plan
<b>LPA:</b>	Local Public Agency	<b>PL:</b>	Public Law
<b>MAP-21:</b>	Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Act	<b>PM:</b>	Preventive Maintenance
		<b>PMP:</b>	Project Management Plan
		<b>PoDI:</b>	Projects of Division Interest
		<b>PS&amp;E:</b>	Plans, Specifications, and Estimate
		<b>PSA:</b>	Professional Services Agreement

<b>RDG:</b>	Roadside Design Guide	<b>T/W:</b>	Traveled Way
<b>REM:</b>	Regional Environmental Manager	<b>US:</b>	United States
<b>RIP:</b>	Roadway Information Portal	<b>USACE:</b>	United States Army Corps of Engineers
<b>RLDG:</b>	Roadside Lighting Design Guide	<b>USC:</b>	United States Code
<b>ROD:</b>	Record of Decision	<b>USCG:</b>	United States Coast Guard
<b>ROW:</b>	Right-of-Way	<b>USFWS:</b>	US Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>RPRL:</b>	Recommended Practice for Roadway Lighting (RP-8-14)	<b>V:</b>	Design Speed (expressed in miles per hour, unless otherwise noted)
<b>RSAP:</b>	Roadside Safety Analysis Program	<b>VE:</b>	Value Engineering
<b>RTSE:</b>	Regional Traffic and Safety Engineer	<b>VLVLR:</b>	Very Low-Volume Local Road
<b>R/W:</b>	Right-of-Way	<b>vpd:</b>	Vehicles per Day
<b>SAFETEA-LU:</b>	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equality Act: A Legacy for Users	<b>VSL:</b>	Value of Statistical Life
<b>SD:</b>	Sight Distance		
<b>SE:</b>	Systems Engineering		
<b>SEA:</b>	Systems Engineering Analysis		
<b>SEO:</b>	Statewide Environmental Office		
<b>SHPO:</b>	Statewide Historic Preservation Office		
<b>SNTB:</b>	Special Notice to Bidders		
<b>SOA:</b>	Stewardship and Oversight Agreement		
<b>SSD:</b>	Stopping Sight Distance		
<b>SSHC:</b>	Alaska Standard Specifications for Highway Construction		
<b>STIP:</b>	Statewide Transportation Improvement Program		
<b>SWPPP:</b>	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan		
<b>T&amp;M:</b>	Time and Materials		
<b>TAP:</b>	Transportation Alternatives Program		
<b>TCP:</b>	Traffic Control Plan		
<b>TL-3:</b>	Test Level 3		
<b>TMDL:</b>	Total Maximum Daily Load		
<b>TOP:</b>	Traffic Operation Plan		
<b>TRB:</b>	Transportation Research Board		

## 100.2. Glossary

**6004:** Section 6004(a) of SAFETEA-LU, which allows DOT&PF to assume responsibility for determining whether certain designated activities are included within classes of action that are categorically excluded from requirements for Environmental Assessments or Environmental Impact Statements.

**85th Percentile Speed:** The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of the distribution of observed speeds.

**AASHTO Bike Guide:** The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials *Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities*.

**Adjacent Path:** A path alignment that closely parallels the main roadway corridor.

**Administrative Order (AO):** An order issued by The Governor to take certain corrective action, or to refrain from an activity. A list of AOs is found here:

<https://gov.alaska.gov/admin-orders/index.php>

**Alaska Administrative Code (AAC):** The regulations implementing state law, referred to by title, chapter, and section e.g., 17 AAC 15.011.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/aac.asp>

**Alaska Statutes (AS):** Usually referred to by title, chapter, and section, e.g., AS 36.30.100.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112, amended by PL 516 and PL95-602) requires federally funded facilities and programs to be accessible to people with disabilities. A federal law (#103-366) enacted on July 26, 1990 that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities regarding access to programs, activities, or facilities provided by state and local governments. Also includes companion regulations in 28 CFR parts 35, 36, 37, and 36 CFR part 1191.

**Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT):** The total volume of traffic passing a point or segment of a highway facility in both directions for one year divided by the number of days in the year.

**Arterial Highway:** That portion of the road system which provides a high-volume, higher speed network for travel between major points in both rural and urban areas.

**At-grade Intersection:** An intersection where all roadways join or cross at the same level.

**Authority to Advertise (ATA):** DOT&PF approval to advertise a project for bids, requested in a standardized memo format. ATA is granted when all signatures are obtained and any limiting conditions or exceptions are satisfied.

**Authority to Proceed (ATP):** FHWA or DOT&PF approval to proceed with the initial, or next stage of project development.

**Auxiliary Lane:** The portion of the roadway adjoining the through-traveled way for speed change, turning, storage for turning, weaving, truck climbing, or other purposes supplementary to through-traffic movement.

**Average Daily Traffic (ADT):** The total volume during a given time period (in whole days), greater than one day and less than one year, divided by the number of days in that time period.

**Average Running Speed:** The sum of the distances traveled by vehicles on a highway section during a specified time period divided by the sum of their running times.

**Average Travel Speed:** the length of the highway segment divided by the average travel time of all

vehicles traversing the segment, including all stopped delay times.

**Backfill:** Material used to replace or the act of replacing material removed during construction. Also may denote material placed or the act of placing material adjacent to structures.

**Bicycle Facility:** A general term denoting improvements and provisions to accommodate or encourage bicycling, including parking and storage facilities, and shared roadways not specifically defined for bicycle use.

**Bicycle Lane:** A portion of roadway that has been designated for preferential or exclusive use by bicyclists by pavement markings and, if used, signs. It is intended for one-way travel, usually in the same direction as the adjacent traffic lanes, unless designated as a contra-flow lane.

**Borrow:** An approved material required for embankments or for other portions of the work, and obtained from sources outside the right-of-way limits for the project.

**Bus:** A self-propelled, rubber-tired road vehicle designed to carry a substantial number of passengers (at least 16) and commonly operated on streets and highways.

**Capacity:** The maximum sustainable hourly flow rate at which persons or vehicles reasonably can be expected to traverse a point or a uniform segment of a lane or roadway during a given time period under prevailing roadway, environmental, traffic, and control conditions.

**Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):** The Department's plan for project activities spanning the next six federal fiscal years.

**Categorical Exclusion (CE):** A type of environmental classification used on federal-aid highway projects when there are no significant environmental impacts, as described in Section 430.4.2.

**Certification Acceptance (CA):** Certification Acceptance. A program agreement with the FHWA contained in the Stewardship and Oversight Agreement (SOA) that grants the Department authority to administer certain federally funded roadway projects.

**Clear Runout Area:** The additional clear zone space that is needed because a portion of the suggested clear zone falls on a non-recoverable slope. The width of the clear runout area is equal to portion of the clear zone distance that is located on the non-recoverable slope.

**Clear Zone (CZ):** The unobstructed, traversable area provided beyond the edge of the through traveled way for the recovery of errant vehicles. The clear zone includes shoulders, bike lanes, and auxiliary lanes, except those auxiliary lanes that function like through lanes.

**Code of Federal Regulations (CFR):** Regulations that implement federal law, referred to by title, part, and section, e.g., 23 CFR 630.114. Title 23 covers Highways.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=%2Findex.tpl>

**Collector Road:** A road collecting traffic from local roads and channeling it to the arterial system.

**Collector-Distributor Road:** A continuous roadway without local access provided parallel to a freeway mainline through one or more interchanges for the purpose of removing weaving movements or closely spaced merges and diverges from the mainline.

**Collector Street:** A public highway, usually serving moderate traffic volumes. Collector streets serve a dual function: collecting traffic for movement between arterial streets and local roads, and providing access to abutting properties. Collector streets link neighborhoods or areas of homogenous land use with the arterial street systems. These streets not only serve traffic movements between arterials and local streets, but also serve through traffic within local areas.

**Commissioner:** The Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

**Construction:** Defined in AS 19.59.001(2) as construction, reconstruction, alteration, improvement, or major repair.

Construction is also defined in 23 USC 101(a)(4) as it applies to most FHWA funded projects. This definition is particularly important in the context of a project's eligibility for FHWA funding.

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2016-title23/pdf/USCODE-2016-title23-chap1-sec101.pdf>

**Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS):** A collaborative interdisciplinary approach that involves interested stakeholders in developing a transportation facility that, to the extent practical, maintains or enhances mobility, provides a high level of safety, fits its physical setting and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, cultural and environmental values and resources. CSS is an approach that considers the total context within which a transportation improvement project exists.

**Controlling Design Criteria:** Design criteria identified by FHWA as having substantial importance to the operational and safety performance of any highway such that special attention should be paid to them in design decisions. See Section 1100.3.2. for a listing.

**Cross-slope:** The slope across the traveled way, auxiliary lane, or shoulder of a roadway. Usually expressed in percentage of fall in feet of the roadway per foot of width.

**Cul-de-sac Street:** A local street open at one end only. A cul-de-sac should have a special turning area at the closed end.

**Department:** The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF).

**Design Criteria:** Minimum dimensional values or ranges of values for various elements of the three-dimensional design features of a highway.

**Design Exception:** A documented approval to design a highway element or segment(s) of a highway project using a criterion that does not meet standards when that criterion is one of the controlling criteria adopted by FHWA. See Section 1100.3.2.

**Design Hourly Volume (DHV):** The DHV used in design is generally the 30<sup>th</sup> highest hourly volume of the year, abbreviated as 30 HV, which is typically about 15 percent of the ADT on rural roads.

**Design Speed (V):** A selected speed used to determine the various geometric design features of the roadway. The assumed design speed should be a logical one with respect to the topography, anticipated operating speed, the adjacent land use, and the functional classification of highway.

**Design Standards:** Design criteria, typically from published policies or guidelines, that are adopted by regulation or included in Table 1100-1. Design standards establish a uniform set of values to use as the basis for project design.

**Design Study Report (DSR):** A formal report that documents the preferred design solution. Approval of the DSR constitutes Design Approval. See Section 450.5.1.

**Design Vehicle:** A selected motor vehicle, the weight, dimensions, and operating characteristics of which are used in highway design.

**Design Waiver:** A documented approval to design a highway element or a segment(s) of a highway project using a design criterion that does not meet standards, when that criterion is not one of the FHWA controlling criteria. See Section 1100.3.2.

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE):** A for-profit business concern that: (1) is at least 51 percent owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged or, in the case of a corporation, in which 51 percent of the stock is owned by one or more such individuals; and (2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of the socially and economically disadvantaged individuals who own it.

**Ditch:** A channel cut in the surface of the ground for drainage purposes. Usually parallel and adjacent to the roadway.

**Divided Highway:** A highway with separated roadways for traffic in opposite directions.

**DOT&PF:** The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. Also referred to in this manual as the Department.

**DPDR:** Department Procedures and Regulations. See also P&P.

**DPOL:** Department Policy. See also P&P.

**Embankment:** A structure of soil, soil-aggregate, or broken rock between the embankment foundation and the subgrade.

**Environmental Document:** A report required on all federal-aid capital projects because of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). It summarizes the alternative courses of action,

evaluates their potential environmental effects, commits to measures necessary to mitigate adverse impacts, and includes agency coordination and public involvement. The type of document (classification), as defined in 23 CFR 771.115, depends on the project's environmental impact. It may be an EIS, CE, or EA, as described in Section 430.4.2. An environmental document may also be necessary on a state-funded project that requires action by a federal agency, such as federal permits or clearances.

**Environmental Assessment (EA):** A type of environmental classification used on federal-aid highway projects when the extent of environmental impacts is uncertain. The EA results in either a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or a decision to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), as described in Section 430.4.2.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):** A type of environmental classification used on highway projects when a significant environmental impact is anticipated, as described in Section 430.4.2. The concluding action on an EIS results in a Record of Decision (ROD) through the federal agency with jurisdiction.

**Executive Order (EO):** Legally binding orders given by the President of the United States to federal agencies.

**Expressway:** A high-speed divided arterial highway for through traffic with access partially or fully controlled and grade-separations at major intersections

**FAST Act:** Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act of Dec. 4, 2015.

**Federal-Aid Highway Program Policy and Guidance Center (PGC):** A web-based searchable source of official FAHP policy and guidance documents.

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pgc/>

**Federal-Aid Policy Guide (FAPG):** The collection of policies, procedures, and directives from the FHWA for administering the federal-aid program. The FAPG has been terminated and guidance is now found at the Federal-Aid Highway and Program Policy and Guidance Center.



**Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):** Usually refers to the Alaska Region offices in Anchorage.

**Federal Highway Administration (FHWA):** Usually refers to the Alaska Division offices in Juneau.

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA):** Sister agency to the FHWA and FAA, administrating the federal transit program. The regional office is located in Seattle, Washington.

**Final Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E):** The final PS&E assembly, with corrections made from the PS&E review, ready for advertisement.

**Finding of no Significant Impact (FONSI):** An environmental assessment conclusion, as described in Section 430.4.2, signed by the federal agency with jurisdiction.

**Freeway:** An expressway with fully controlled access.

**Frontage Road:** A local road auxiliary to and located adjacent to the side of an arterial highway for service to abutting property and adjacent areas and for control of access.

**Functional Group:** Same as Support Group.

**Gore:** The area immediately beyond the divergence of two roadways bounded by the edges of those roadways.

**Grade:** The level or elevation of something, or the longitudinal slope of an alignment.

**Grade-Separation:** A crossing of two highways, or a highway and a railroad, at different levels.

**Gravel to Pavement Project:** A road construction project with the primary purpose of reducing maintenance costs and improving roadway driving characteristics by hard surfacing gravel roads in accordance with the guidance provided in Section 1160.4 of this manual.

**Green Book (GB):** *AASHTO A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets.*

**Highway:** A highway (whether included in primary or secondary systems), road, street, trail, walk, bridge, tunnel, drainage structure and other similar or related structure or facility, and right-of-way thereof, and further includes a ferry system, whether operated solely inside the state or to connect with a

Canadian highway, and any such related facility. Defined in AS 19.59.001(8).

**Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP):** A federally-mandated program to identify, evaluate, prioritize, and fund highway safety improvements. The HSIP focuses on reducing or eliminating fatal and serious injury crashes on all public roads.

**Highway, Street, or Road:** Recommended usage: In urban areas – highway or street. In rural areas – highway or road.

- **Highway:** A general term denoting a public way for vehicular travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way.
- **Road:** A general term usually denoting a rural public way for vehicular travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way.
- **Street:** A general term for an urban or suburban public way for vehicles, including the entire area within the right-of-way.

See Section 1.3 of the Green Book for definitions of urban and rural areas.

**Horizontal Clearance:** The horizontal distance from the edge of traveled way to a roadside object or feature.

**Interchange:** A system of interconnecting roadways in conjunction with one or more grade-separations, providing for the movement of traffic between two or more roadways on different levels.

**Intersection:** The general area where two or more highways join or cross, which includes the roadway and roadside facilities for traffic in that area. Where separate right-turn roadways are provided through use of curbed or unpaved islands, the intersections of the turning roadway with the other highways are considered separate intersections.

**Interstate:** Interstate is the highest level of principal arterial, primarily rural. Interstates connect large population centers.

**Island:** A defined area between traffic lanes for control of vehicle movements or for pedestrian refuge. Within an intersection, a median or an outer separation is considered an island. A right-turn lane created with a painted island is not considered a separate turning roadway.

**Intelligent Transportation System (ITS):** Electronics, communications, or information processing used to improve the efficiency or safety of a surface transportation system.

**Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Project:** Any project that in whole or in part funds the acquisition of technologies that provide or significantly contribute to the provision of one or more ITS user services as defined in the National ITS Architecture.

**Legislative Authority (LA):** Approval given by the Alaska Legislature to the Executive Branch to spend state or federal funds towards a specific project. A legislative authority citation is given as ww.xx.yy.zz, where ww is the chapter, xx is the year, yy is the page, and zz is the line.

**Length of Need (LON):** Total length of a longitudinal barrier needed to shield an area of concern. The length of need point for a given system is usually confirmed by successfully passing a redirection crash test with impact at the length of need point.

**Level of Service (LOS):** A quantitative stratification of a performance measure or measures that represent a quality of service, measured on an A - F scale, with LOS A representing the best operating conditions from the traveler's perspective and LOS F the worst.

**Local Road:** A road primarily for access to homes, businesses, or other abutting property.

**Local Street:** A street primarily for access to homes, businesses, or other abutting property.

**Maintenance:** The preservation of each type of highway, roadside structure, and facility as nearly as possible to its original condition as constructed, or as subsequently improved, and the operation of highway facilities and services to provide satisfactory and safe highways. Defined in AS 19.59.001(9). See also Preventive Maintenance and Routine Maintenance.

**Major Highway:** An arterial highway, with intersections at-grade and direct access to abutting property, on which geometric design and traffic control measures are used to improve the safety of the movement of through traffic.

**MAP-21:** The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (P.L. 112-141) enacted on July 6, 2012 that funds surface transportation programs.

**Markings:** All lines, patterns, words, colors, or other devices, except signs, set into the surface of, applied on, or attached to the pavement or curbing or to objects within or adjacent to the roadway, officially placed for regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.

**Median:** The portion of a divided highway separating the traveled ways of opposing traffic.

**Median Opening:** A gap in a median provided for crossing and/or turning traffic

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):** An MPO carries out transportation planning for urban areas with a population greater than 50,000 people. Defined in Federal Regulation 23 USC Sec. 134 (b) through (d). This includes Anchorage and Fairbanks.

**Mid-block Crossing:** Intersections formed when paths or sidewalks cross other transportation facilities at locations other than roadway-to-roadway intersections.

**Mid-Design Period ADT:** The projected ADT that occurs at a point in time equal to one-half the project design life.

**National Highway System (NHS):** The NHS includes the Interstate System; Congressional High Priority Routes; National Defense Roads (i.e. the Strategic Highway Network); and principal arterial routes or other routes that connect intermodal facilities.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment Program:** The surface transportation project delivery program established in 23 U.S.C. 327 allows DOT&PF to assume FHWA's responsibilities under NEPA.

**New Construction:** A major highway improvement that constructs a roadway, on new alignment, to the design requirements of the Green Book, and the *Alaska Highway Preconstruction Manual*.

**New Construction - Reconstruction:** A major highway improvement that completely rebuilds an existing roadway or constructs a roadway on new alignment, to the contemporary design requirements

of the Green Book, and the *Alaska Highway Preconstruction Manual*.

**Non-Motorized Transportation:** Transportation by human power, including bicycling, walking, in-line skating, skiing, and other methods.

**Non-NHS:** A term used to designate roads other than those on the NHS. Non-NHS roads are to be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with state laws, regulations, directives, safety standards, design standards, and construction standards.

**Non-recoverable Slope:** A slope that is considered traversable but on which the errant vehicle will continue on to the bottom. Embankment slopes between 3:1 and 4:1 may be considered traversable but non-recoverable if they are smooth and free of fixed objects.

**Notice of Intent (NOI):** The official notification that a federal agency is beginning the process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

**Operating Speed:** The speed at which drivers are observed operating their vehicles during free-flow conditions. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of the distribution of observed speeds is the most frequently used measure of the operating speed associated with a particular location or geometric feature. This speed may be higher or lower than posted or legislated speed limits or nominal design speeds where alignment, surface, roadside development, or other features affect vehicle operations.

**Overpass:** A grade-separation where the subject roadway, railroad, or pedestrian facility passes over the subject highway.

**Parked Vehicle:** A vehicle stopped for temporary storage.

**Passenger Car:** A motor vehicle, except motorcycles, designed for carrying a limited number of passengers and used for the transportation of people.

**Path:** An improved facility, greater than or equal to 8 feet in width, physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way. Bicyclists, pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair (both self- and electric-powered)

users, joggers, skiers, and other non-motorized users may use paths.

**Pavement Replacement:** The replacement of the entire existing pavement structure by the placement of new pavement structure.

Pavement replacement may utilize either new or recycled materials incorporated into the materials used for the replacement of the existing pavement section. Pavement replacement is required when a pavement has either failed or has become functionally obsolete.

**Pavement Rehabilitation:** Structural enhancements that extend the service life of an existing pavement and/or improve its load carrying capacity. Rehabilitation techniques include restoration treatments and structural overlays.

**Pavement Structure:** The combination of select material, subbase, base, and surface course placed on a subgrade to support the traffic load and distribute it to the roadbed (42 inches below the asphalt concrete layer).

**Phase:** Refers to project programming phase as it appears in the STIP.

- Phase 1 – Unprogrammed Legislative Authority
- Phase 2 – Preliminary Engineering
- Phase 3 – ROW
- Phase 4 – Construction
- Phase 7 – Utility Relocation
- Phase 8 – Planning & Research
- Phase 9 – Other

**Policy & Procedures (P&P):** Synonymous with DPOL (Department Policy) and DPDR (Department Procedures and Department Regulations). Policies and Procedures are found at:

[http://www.dot.state.ak.us/admsvc/pnp/policy\\_and\\_procedures.shtml](http://www.dot.state.ak.us/admsvc/pnp/policy_and_procedures.shtml)

**Posted Speed:** The regulatory speed conveyed on a traffic sign.

**Preliminary Engineering (PE):** Preliminary engineering includes preliminary and final design, both defined in 23 CFR 636.103, and other project-related work leading to physical construction. This includes costs to perform studies needed to address requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental laws. It may include advertising and other pre-award work such

as bid analysis, although it is also acceptable to include this work as construction engineering cost.

**Preservation:** Preservation consists of work that is planned and performed to improve or sustain the condition of the transportation facility in a state of good repair. Preservation activities generally do not add capacity or structural value, but do restore the overall condition of the transportation facility.

**Preventive Maintenance (PM):** A cost-effective means of extending the useful life of highways. PM slows or delays future deterioration and maintains or improves the functional condition of highway facilities without increasing structural capacity.

**Preventive Maintenance (PM) Project:** A project that is a cost-effective means of extending the useful life of Alaska's highways. A PM project slows or delays future deterioration and maintains or improves the functional condition of highway facilities without increasing structural capacity. A PM project is a proactive approach to maintaining highway facilities while they are still in relatively good condition and is performed before the onset of serious damage, delays or eliminates the need for major rehabilitation or reconstruction. See Section 1140 for further information on this type of project.

**Professional Services Agreement (PSA):** A contract between the professional service provider (consultant) and the Department. The PSA Manual is found here:

[http://www.dot.alaska.gov/procurement/prosvcs/assets/Prosvcs\\_PSAManualComplete.pdf](http://www.dot.alaska.gov/procurement/prosvcs/assets/Prosvcs_PSAManualComplete.pdf)

**Program Year:** Refers to the federal fiscal year running from October 1 to September 30. Generally used in the context of STIP funding of project phases.

**Project Certification:** A document required at the completion of project design and before a project is advertised for construction bids. It attests that the Department has performed environmental, design, right-of-way, and utility work in accordance with the terms of the certification. See Subsections 470.3 and 490.4 for further information on project certifications.

**Project Design Criteria:** The project specific design criteria as designated on the Project Design Criteria form. The project design criteria values may not meet design standards due to project

specific considerations. See Section 1100 (ref: Figure 1100-2).

**Project Development Authorization (PDA):** A Department programming document requesting funding and showing funding sources and levels in each phase of a project.

**Project Information Document (PID):** A standardized form prepared by the engineering manager or project control and signed by the engineering manager and the regional environmental manager. It provides project and environmental status information.

**Project Management Plan (PMP):** A plan outlining and establishing scope, activities, support group involvement, schedule, and budget for a project.

**Project of Division Interest (PoDI):** Project of interest to the Alaska Division of FHWA. These projects are identified and updated on an annual basis. See Section 497 for further information.

**Public Interest Finding (PIF):** Documentation used to satisfy a "findings-of-fact" and "State's best interest" requirement on certain types of construction related work. See P&P 10.02.013.

**Public Involvement Plan (PIP):** A plan to inform and gather input from agencies and the public.

**Railroad Grade Crossing:** The area where a highway and a railroad cross at the same level, which includes the railroad, roadway, and roadside facilities for traffic.

**Reconstruction:** A major highway improvement that completely rebuilds an existing roadway, on a new alignment over a significant portion of the project length, to the design requirements of the Green Book, and the *Alaska Highway Preconstruction Manual*.

**Record of Decision (ROD):** The concluding action on an Environmental Impact Statement, as described in Section 430.4.8.

**Recoverable Slope:** A slope on which a motorist may, to a greater or lesser extent, retain or regain control of a vehicle. Slopes flatter than 4:1 are generally considered recoverable.

**Region:** Typically refers to one of the three organizational units of the Department (Central,

Northern, and Southcoast) having authority for highway program development.

**Resurfacing, Restoration, and Rehabilitation**

**(3R):** Restoring the structural integrity of the existing roadway. Additionally, enhancing safety and capacity, if required. See Section 1160.

**Road:** A general term usually denoting a rural or village public way for vehicular travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way.

**Roadside:** A general term for the area adjoining the outer edge of the roadway. Extensive areas between the roadways of a divided highway may also be considered roadside.

**Roadway:** The portion of a highway, including shoulders, for vehicular use. A divided highway has two or more roadways.

**Roadway Information Portal (RIP):** A web application for accessing information on roadway characteristics for Alaska roads.

**Rock Excavation:** Excavation of igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rock that cannot be excavated without blasting or the use of rippers.

**Roundabout:** A confluence of three or more intersection legs at which traffic merges into and emerges from a one-way roadway counterclockwise around a central area.

**Routine Maintenance:** Work performed in reaction to an event, season, or over all deterioration of the transportation asset. This work requires regular reoccurring attention. Routine maintenance is not eligible for federal-aid funding.

**Rules of the Road:** Regulations in the State of Alaska Administrative Code that govern the operation of motorized and non-motorized use of transportation facilities.

**Safe, Accountable, Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU):** A surface transportation funding and authorization bill signed into law on August 10, 2005 and expiring September 30, 2009. It was replaced with MAP-21 in 2012.

**Shared Use Path:** See “Path”.

**Shoulder:** The portion of a highway contiguous to any traveled way for accommodation of bicycles, pedestrians, and vehicles stopped for emergencies, and for lateral support of base and surface courses.

**Shy Distance:** The distance from the edge of the traveled way beyond which a roadside object will not be perceived as an obstacle by the typical driver to the extent that the driver will change the vehicle’s placement or speed.

**Sidewalk:** The portion of a road, street, or highway between the curb lines of a roadway and the adjacent property lines, typically elevated and hard-surfaced, intended for pedestrian use.

**Slope:** The inclination of a surface with respect to the horizontal, expressed as a number of horizontal units to one vertical unit (e.g., 2:1, 4:1, 6:1).

**Backslope:** On a roadway section in a cut (where the original ground has been excavated), the portion of the plane cross-section from the bottom of the roadside ditch to the top of cut. Also known as a cut slope.

**Foreslope:** On a roadway section, the portion of the roadside that slopes down and away from the roadway. Also referred to as a fill slope.

**Sideslope:** Aggregate term encompassing backslopes and foreslopes along a roadway.

**Small Community:** Topographically concentrated, unincorporated population areas large enough to support a nearby post office or local school.

**Special Provisions:** An addition or revision that amends or supersedes the Standard Specifications or Standard Modification, and is applicable to an individual project.

**Specifications:** A general term applied to all contract terms, conditions, directions, provisions, and requirements.

**Speed:** The rate of vehicular movement, generally expressed in miles per hour.

**Speed Change Lane:** An auxiliary lane, including tapered areas, primarily for the acceleration or deceleration of vehicles entering or leaving the through-traffic lanes.

**Stage:** A subdivision of a phase with respect to level or degree of development.

**Standard Modification:** An addition or revision that amends or supersedes the Standard Specification, and is approved by the Department for general application and repetitive use.

**Standard Specifications:** The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Standard Specifications for Highway Construction.

**State Highway:** Any highway owned by the State of Alaska.

**Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP):** The Department's plan for initiating federal-aid highway projects, by phase, for a given fiscal year of the Capital Improvement Program. Projects must be included in the STIP and approved by the FHWA (and, in the case of urban area [MPO] projects, the Federal Transit Authority), before a PDA is issued.

**Stewardship and Oversight Agreement (SOA):** The Joint Stewardship and Oversight Agreement between the FHWA Alaska Division and DOT&PF. It formalizes the roles and responsibilities of the two parties in administering the Federal-Aid Highway Program, outlines authorities, and assures accountability.

**Street:** A general term for an urban or suburban public way for vehicles, including the entire area within the right-of-way.

**Superelevation:** The cross-slope at right angles to the centerline, across the roadway from the inside to the outside edge of a curve. Usually denoted as a percentage or by foot of rise of the roadway per foot of width.

**Support Group:** Groups other than engineering that play a role in project development. These include:

1. Bridge Design
2. Civil Rights
3. Construction
4. Contracts
5. Drafting
6. Environmental
7. Foundations
8. Geotechnical
9. Hydraulics/Hydrology
10. Planning
11. Project Control
12. Right-of-Way
13. Surveying
14. Traffic and Safety
15. Utilities

**Traffic Control Device:** A sign, signal, marking, or other device used to regulate, warn, or guide traffic, placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, highway, private road, open to public travel, pedestrian facility, or shared-use path by authority of a public agency or official having jurisdiction, or, in the case of a private road open to public travel, by authority of the private owner or private official having jurisdiction.

**Traffic Control Plan (TCP):** A drawing of one or more specific plans that detail the routing of pedestrians and/or vehicles through or around a construction area, including the location of all traffic control devices.

**Traffic Control Signal:** Any device—operated manually, electrically, or mechanically—that alternately directs traffic to stop and permits it to proceed.

**Traffic Lane:** The portion of a traveled way for the movement of a single line of vehicles.

**Traffic Operation Plan (TOP):** A program designed to improve the use of a highway, street, or highway and street network, through the principles of traffic engineering.

**Traffic Sign:** A device mounted on a fixed or portable support that conveys a message with words or symbols, officially erected for regulating, warning, or guiding traffic.

**Traffic Signal:** A power-operated traffic control device that regulates or warns traffic, or alternately directs traffic to take actions.

**Trail:** An unpaved or unimproved route, which may serve non-motorized or motorized off-road uses.

**Trailer:** A vehicle designed for carrying people or property and drawn by a motor vehicle, which carries no part of the weight or load of the trailer.

**Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP):** A program that provides for a variety of transportation alternative projects. The TAP program replaces the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including Transportation Enhancements, Recreational Trails, and Safe Routes to School, wrapping them into a single funding source.

**Traveled Way (T/W):** The portion of a roadway for the movement of vehicles, exclusive of shoulders.

**Traversable Slope:** A slope from which a motorist will be unlikely to steer back to the roadway but may be able to slow and stop safely. Slopes between 3:1 and 4:1 generally fall into this category.

**Truck:** A heavy vehicle engaged primarily in the transport of goods and materials or services other than public transportation.

**Turning Movement:** The traffic making a designated turn at an intersection.

**Turning Path:** The path of a designated point on a vehicle making a specified turn.

**Turning Roadway:** A connecting roadway for traffic turning between two intersection legs.

**Underpass:** A grade-separation where the subject roadway, railroad, or pedestrian facility passes under the subject highway.

**United States Code (USC):** Federal laws, usually referred to by title and section, e.g., 23 USC 109.

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionUSCode.action?selectedYearFrom=-1&go=Go>

**Value Engineering (VE):** The systematic application of recognized analytical techniques by a multi-disciplined team, which identifies the function of a product or service, establishes a monetary value, generates alternatives, and reliably provides the function at the lowest life-cycle cost consistent with performance, maintainability, safety, and aesthetics.

**Van:** A vehicle designed to carry passengers (less than 16) or cargo, or both.

**Vertical Clearance:** The distance from the top of the roadway surface to the lowest part of an overhead facility or obstruction.

**Very Low-Volume Local Road (VLVLR):** A road that is functionally classified as a local road and has a design average daily traffic volume of 400 vehicles per day or less.

**Volume:** The total number of vehicles or other roadway users that pass over a given point or section of a lane or roadway during a given time interval, often 1 hour.

**Warrants:** The criteria by which the need for a safety treatment or improvement can be determined.

**Weaving:** The crossing of two or more traffic streams traveling in the same direction along a significant length of highway, without the aid of traffic control devices (except for sign guides).

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