

Appendix F:

Acronyms & Glossary

Appendix F: Glossary and Acronyms

Acronyms

3RC	3 Rivers Connect
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AMPO	Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
APTA	American Public Transportation Association
ARC	Appalachian Regional Commission
ARE	Available Resources Element
BOA	Bureau of Aviation, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments
CASPP	Continuous Airport Systems Planning Program
CEDS	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality
CMS	Congestion Management System
CSO	Combined Sewer Overflow
DCED	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
DCNR	Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Study
DEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
DVMT	Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled
EDA	U.S. Economic Development Administration
EDD	Economic Development District
EIS	Environmental Impact Study
EJ	Environmental Justice
EOA	Early Options Analysis
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FBO	Fixed Base Operator
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FRE	Future Resources Element
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GA	General Aviation
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GPS	Global Positioning Systems
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HPMS	Highway Performance Monitoring System
ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems
KOZ	Keystone Opportunity Zone

KOEZ	Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone
LDD	Local Development District
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
LTAP	Local Technical Assistance Program
LRP	Long Range Plan
LRT	Light Rail Transit
MERLAM	Mature Economic Regional Land Use Allocation Model
MIS	Major Investment Study
MPC	Municipalities Planning Code
MTAP	Municipal Technology Assistance Program
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
NARC	National Association of Regional Councils
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Act
NHS	National Highway System
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOX	Nitrous Oxides
OIBD	Office of International Business Development
PAACA	Pennsylvania Appalachian Capital Alliance
PASA	Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture
PEMA	Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
PGDSS	Pennsylvania Geospatial Data Sharing Standards
PAMAGIC	Pennsylvania Mapping & Geographic Information Consortium
PE	Preliminary Engineering
PENNDOT	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
PARG	Policy Analysis & Research Group
PPM	Parts Per Million
PPP	Public Participation Panel
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PTC	Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
PTIA	Pennsylvania Technology Investment Authority
RACP	Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program
REMI	Regional Economic Models, Inc.
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	Right of Way
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, & Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users
SBF	Small Business First
SOV	Single Occupancy Vehicle
SSO	Sanitary Sewer Overflow
STC	State Transportation Commission
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
STPP	Surface Transportation Policy Project
SXF	Special Federal Funds
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone
TEA-21	Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century

TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMA	Transportation Management Area
TOC	Transit Operators Committee
TOD	Transit-Oriented Development
TRB	Transportation Research Board
TTC	Transportation Technical Committee
UPWP	Unified Planning Work Program
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
W&LE	Wheeling & Lake Erie Railroad
YOE	Year of Expenditure

Glossary of Terms

Abutment - Part of a structure which supports the end of a span or accepts the thrust of an arch; often supports and retains the approach embankment.

Air quality conformity determination - A process in which transportation plans and programs are reviewed to ensure that they are consistent with federal clean air requirements. Changes to the transportation system collectively must not worsen air quality; in areas where air quality does not meet federal standards, transportation plans and programs are expected to improve the air quality.

Allegheny Mountain Section - A physiographic section in southwestern Pennsylvania, containing broad, rounded ridges separated by broad valleys.

Allocation - An administrative distribution of funds for programs that do not have statutory distribution formulas.

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

Anticline - A configuration of folded, stratified rocks in which rocks dip in two directions away from a crest, as principal rafters of a common gable roof dip away from ridgepole. Reverse of syncline.

Appalachian Plateau Province – A rugged, well-dissected physiographic province covering nearly half of the state of Pennsylvania, including all of southwestern Pennsylvania, consisting of numerous hills and stream valleys, and containing minable deposits of coal, oil and natural gas.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) - A federal agency charged with assisting economic development and improving communities in America's Appalachia region. All nine counties of southwestern Pennsylvania are considered part of Appalachia for ARC purposes. SPC is the designated agency through which federal ARC funds are invested in this region.

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

Arterial Highway - A major highway used primarily for through traffic.

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

Attainment Area - An area considered to have air quality that meets or exceeds the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health standards used in the Clean Air Act. Nonattainment areas are areas considered not to have met these standards for designated pollutants. An area may be an attainment area for one pollutant and a nonattainment area for others.

Beam - A horizontal structure member supporting vertical loads by resisting bending. A girder is a larger beam, especially when made of multiple plates. Deeper, longer members are created by using trusses.

Bearing - A device at the ends of beams which is placed on top of a pier or abutment. The ends of the beam rest on the bearing.

Bikeway - 1) Any road, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated as being open to bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes. (23CFR217) 2) A facility designed to accommodate bicycle travel for recreational or commuting purposes. Bikeways are not necessarily separated facilities; they may be designed and operated to be shared with other travel modes.

Bituminous Coal - A soft coal, containing about 80 percent carbon and 10 percent oxygen. The most abundant rank of coal, it is dark brown to black in color and burns with a smoky flame.

Bridge - A raised structure built to carry vehicles or pedestrians over an obstacle.

Bridge Deck - The top surface of a bridge which carries the traffic.

Brownfield - Abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contaminations; a tract of land that has been developed for industrial purposes, polluted, and then abandoned.

Bus - Large motor vehicle used to carry more than 10 passengers, including school buses, intercity buses, and transit buses.

Bus Lane - 1) A street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or during specified periods, but sometimes also used by carpools meeting requirements set out in traffic laws. (APTA1) 2) A lane reserved for bus use only. Sometimes also known as a "diamond lane."

Camber - A positive, upward curve built into a beam which compensates for some of the vertical load and anticipated deflection.

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

Carbon Monoxide (CO) - A colorless, odorless, tasteless gas formed in large part by incomplete combustion of fuel. Human activities (i.e., transportation or industrial processes) are largely the source for CO contamination.

Carpool - An arrangement where two or more people share the use and cost of privately owned automobiles in traveling to and from pre-arranged destinations together.

CEDS – see Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Census Block - The smallest geographic unit used by the United States Census Bureau for tabulation of 100-percent data.

Clean Air Act (CAA) - The original Clean Air Act was passed in 1963, but the national air pollution control program is actually based on the 1970 version of the law. The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) are the most far-reaching revisions of the 1970 law. The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendment is the most recent version of the 1970 version of the law. The 1990 amendments made major changes in the Clean Air Act.

Cluster Development – Development that takes place in tighter on smaller parcels organized in close proximity, typically mixed use with a high to medium development density.

Column - A vertical structural member used to support compressive loads. Also see pier and pile.

Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) - Overflow of a sewer system that handles both sewage and storm water.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) - Official planning document of regional strategy recognized by the EDA. A CEDS is a plan that emerges from a broad-based continuous planning process addressing the economic opportunities and constraints of a region. The guidelines for developing a CEDS include effective general planning practices that can be used by any community to design and implement a plan to guide its economic growth. A CEDS should promote economic development and opportunity, foster effective transportation access, enhance and protect the environment, and balance resources through sound management of development.

Congestion Management System (CMS) Analysis. A study of congestion and how it will be managed. Under federal requirements, SPC has prepared a CMS for the region; this document identifies corridors for congestion monitoring and evaluates and advances strategies for managing congestion. Project sponsors also prepare (and SPC reviews) specific CMS analyses for corridors where new transportation facilities are proposed to serve single-occupant vehicles.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) - A category in federal transportation legislation under which funds are available for projects that would reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Conglomerate – Detrital sedimentary rock made up of more or less rounded fragments of such size that an appreciable percentage of volume of rock consists of particles of granule size or larger.

Corridor Development – Development that takes place along a linear transportation infrastructure or asset, be it highway, rail, transit, and/or waterway, most often at major hubs and/or intersections.

Corridor/Sub-area Study - Also known as "Major Investment Studies," these studies are used to flesh out transportation strategy and project recommendations on a geographic basis. A Corridor or Sub-area is a context for evaluating how specific transportation conditions, problems, and needs should be addressed within the defined geographic area. A wide range of multimodal strategies, including ITS, are considered as candidate solutions for those problems.

Culvert - A drain, pipe or channel which allows water to pass under a road, railroad or embankment.

Deck - The top surface of a bridge which carries the traffic. *See Bridge Deck.*

DCED - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; agency of state government whose goal is to foster opportunities for businesses and communities to succeed and thrive in a global economy.

Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) - A draft version, prepared for public comment and review, of an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) required for a transportation project.

EDA - Economic Development Administration; EDA was created by Congress pursuant to the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide financial assistance to both rural and urban distressed communities.

Economic Development District (EDD) - A federally designated region for purposes of investment of federal funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (part of the U.S. Department of Commerce). SPC is the EDD for its nine-county region.

Embankment - Angled grading of the ground.

Environmental Impact Study (EIS) - A study of the anticipated environmental impact of a transportation project. Before a large transportation project can be carried out, the environmental impact of the project must be assessed and, if necessary, mitigated.

Environmental Justice (EJ) - Environmental justice assures that services and benefits allow for meaningful participation and are fairly distributed to avoid discrimination.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - The federal regulatory agency responsible for administering and enforcing federal environmental laws, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and others.

Expansion joint - A meeting point between two parts of a structure which is designed to allow for movement of the parts due to thermal or moisture factors while protecting the parts from damage. Commonly visible on a bridge deck as a hinged or movable connection.

Facilities - As used in transportation, "facilities" means all the fixed physical assets of a transportation system, such as roads, bus terminals, bridges, bike paths, and train stations.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) - A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation that administers the Federal-aid Highway Program, providing financial assistance to states to construct and improve highways, urban and rural roads, and bridges. The FHWA also administers the Federal Lands Highway Program, including survey, design, and construction of forest highway system roads, parkways and park roads, Indian reservation roads, defense access roads, and other Federal lands roads.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation that assists communities in developing and improving mass transportation equipment, facilities, techniques, and methods with the cooperation of public and private mass transportation companies. The FTA also assists States and local governments and their authorities in financing areawide urban mass transportation systems that are to be operated by public or private mass transportation companies as decided by local needs.

Fill - Earth, stone or other material used to raise the ground level, form an embankment or fill the inside of an abutment, pier or closed spandrel.

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

Fine Particulates - Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size (PM-2.5). A micron is one millionth of a meter. See "Particulate Matter" below.

Fiscal Constraint - Making sure that a given program or project can reasonably expect to receive funding within the time allotted for its implementation.

Fixed Base Operator (FBO) - An operator based at an airport that provides various services such as selling fuel, repairing aircraft, or giving flying lessons.

Fixed Guideways - Transportation pathways reserved for transit vehicles. These may include rail lines, inclines, busways, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, and reserved bus lanes on roads.

Functionally Obsolete Bridge - A bridge that lacks adequate clearances, deck geometry, and/or alignment.

General Aviation (GA) - A generic term used to reflect the most basic aviation activities (such as recreational flying and small corporate aircraft operations) and the airports that support them.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) - A computerized system designed to capture, update, analyze, and display all forms of geographically referenced information. GIS permits the user to view map layers on a computer screen while also accessing databases related to the map features. GIS has extensive uses in the analysis of demographic, transportation, and environmental data.

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) - A system that uses advanced technology and satellite communications to determine ground location at any place in the world. Initially developed by the U.S. military, GPS is now widely used in mapping, surveying, and navigational situations (such as traffic monitoring systems or the automatic location of transit vehicles).

Greenfield - Term used to describe a piece of undeveloped land, either currently used for agriculture or just left to nature; land (as a potential industrial site) not previously developed or polluted.

High Density – Referring to a development density and type most commonly associated with urban, vertical development with zero to limited structural separation and little open space.

High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) - Vehicles carrying two or more people. The number that constitutes an HOV for the purposes of HOV highway lanes may be designated differently by different transportation agencies.

Higher order roads – includes Interstates, freeways, expressways, and principal arterials.

Highway - Any road, street, parkway, or freeway/expressway that includes rights-of-way, bridges, railroad-highway crossings, tunnels, drainage structures, signs, guardrail, and protective structures in connection with highways. The highway further includes that portion of any interstate or international bridge or tunnel and the approaches thereto (23 U.S.C. 101a).

Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) - A nationwide system providing essential data on highway conditions, performance, and usage throughout the country.

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

Highway Trust Fund (HTF) - An account established by law to hold Federal highway user taxes that are dedicated for highway and transit related purposes. The HTF has two accounts: the Highway Account, and the Mass Transit Account.

Historic Preservation - Protection and treatment of the nation's significant historic buildings, landmarks, landscapes, battlefields, tribal communities, and archeological sites; prominent federally-owned buildings; and State and privately-owned properties.

INDEX: - An integrated suite of interactive GIS planning support tools from Criterion Planners, Inc.

Industry cluster - A geographical concentration of industries that gain performance advantages through co-location.

Infrastructure - A term connoting the physical underpinnings of society at large, including, but not limited to, roads, bridges, transit, waste systems, public housing, sidewalks, utility installations, parks, public buildings, and communications networks.

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) - Electronics, communications, and information processing used singly or integrated to improve the efficiency or safety of surface transportation.

Interested Parties - Interested parties as defined in 23 C.F.R. §450.316 include citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties.

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

Interstate - Limited access divided facility of at least four lanes designated by the Federal Highway Administration as part of the Interstate System.

Interstate Highway System (IHS) - The system of highways that connects the principal metropolitan areas, cities, and industrial centers of the United States. Also connects the U.S. to internationally significant routes in Canada and Mexico.

ITS Architecture - Defines an Architecture of interrelated systems that work together to deliver transportation Services. An ITS Architecture defines how systems functionally operate and the interconnection of information exchanges that must take place between these systems to accomplish transportation Services.

Intermodal - A term used to refer to transportation systems that involve more than one mode of travel (e.g., highway, water, rail, air, bicycling, walking).

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) - The landmark federal transportation law passed in 1991. It was the first transportation legislation to give regional agencies like SPC the primary responsibility for deciding how highway and transit funds will be spent in its region.

Interstate Era – Begun in 1956 with President Eisenhower’s signing of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 – generally considered to encompass the late 1950s, 1960s and early 1970s in Pennsylvania when most Interstate mileage was built.

Jersey Barrier - A low, reinforced concrete wall wider at the base, tapering vertically to near mid-height, then continuing straight up to its top. The shape is designed to direct automotive traffic back toward its own lane of travel and prevent crossing of a median or leaving the roadway. Commonly used on new and reconstructed bridges in place of decorative balustrades, railings or parapets.

Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) - Refers to those sites added in 2001 to the Keystone Opportunity Zone program.

Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) - A collection of identified sites where, under state legislation, businesses may obtain abatement of state and local taxes through the year 2010. The state legislation is designed to offer powerful incentives for economic development in these locations. SPC is coordinator of the KOZ program for southwestern Pennsylvania.

Land Use - Refers to the manner in which portions of land or the structures on them are used, i.e. commercial, residential, retail, industrial, etc.

Local Development District (LDD) - A federal designation given to agencies that are responsible for handing Appalachian Regional Commission funds for their region. SPC is the LDD for Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Local Street - A street intended solely for access to adjacent properties.

Long range transportation plan (LRTP) - A long range (20+ years) strategy and capital improvement program developed to guide the effective investment of public funds in multi-modal transportation facilities in the context of the regional vision. The regional plan provides the context from which the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a short-range capital improvement program for implementing transportation projects, is drawn. The regional plan is updated every four years in consultation with interested parties.

Low Density - Referring to a development density and type most commonly associated with rural, horizontal development with wide structural separation and abundant open space.

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

Major Investment Study (MIS) - A study often conducted (though no longer legally required) in order to justify the expenditure of federal funds on certain large highway or transit projects.

Mass Transportation - Another name for public transportation.

Medium Density - Referring to a development density and type most commonly associated with suburban, horizontal development with limited structural separation and some open space.

MERLAM - Mature Economic Regional Land Use Allocation Model

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Regional policy body, required in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000, and designated by local officials and the governor of the state. Responsible in cooperation with the state and other transportation providers for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning requirements of federal highway and transit legislation. SPC is the MPO for its ten-county transportation region.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) - Areas defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is 1) A county or a group of contiguous counties that contain at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or 2) An urbanized area of at least 50,000 inhabitants and a total MSA population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). The contiguous counties are included in an MSA if, according to certain criteria, they are essentially metropolitan in character and are socially and economically integrated with the central city. In New England, MSAs consist of towns and cities rather than counties.

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

Mixed-use development - Refers to the practice of allowing more than one type of use in a building or set of buildings. In planning zone terms, this can mean some combination of residential, commercial, industrial, office, institutional, or other land uses.

Mobile Source - Mobile sources include motor vehicles, aircraft, seagoing vessels, and other transportation modes. The mobile source-related pollutants are carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and particulate matter (PM-10 and PM 2.5).

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

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

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) - Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants. The EPA developed the standards in response to a requirement of the CAA. Air quality standards have been established for the following six criteria pollutants: ozone (or smog), carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, lead, and sulfur dioxide.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) - Established a national environmental policy requiring that any project using federal funding or requiring federal approval, including transportation projects, examine the effects of proposed and alternative choices on the environment before a federal decision is made.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) –Community-based Restoration Program began in 1996 to inspire and sustain local efforts to conduct meaningful, on-the-ground restoration of marine, estuarine, and riparian habitat.

Nonattainment - A geographic region of the United States that the EPA has designated as not meeting the air quality standards.

Northwestern Glaciated Plateau Section - A physiographic section in southwestern Pennsylvania, that consists of many broad, rounded uplands cut by long, linear valleys.

Ozone (O₃) - Ozone is a colorless gas with a sweet odor. Ozone is not a direct emission from transportation sources. It is a secondary pollutant formed when VOCs and NO_x combine in the presence of sunlight. Ozone is associated with smog or haze conditions. Although the ozone in the upper atmosphere protects us from harmful ultraviolet rays, ground-level ozone produces an unhealthy environment in which to live. Ozone is created by human and natural sources.

Parapet - A low wall along the outside edge of a bridge deck used to protect vehicles and pedestrians.

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

Particulate Matter (PM-10 and PM 2.5) - Particulate matter consists of airborne solid particles and liquid droplets. Particulate matter may be in the form of fly ash, soot, dust, fog, fumes, etc. These particles are classified as "coarse" if they are smaller than 10 microns, or "fine" if they are smaller than 2.5 microns.

Parts Per Million (PPM) - A measure of air pollutant concentrations.

Passenger Mile - One passenger transported one mile.

Passenger Service - Both intercity rail passenger service and commuter rail passenger service.

Pedestrian - Any person not in or on a motor vehicle or other vehicle. Excludes people in buildings or sitting at a sidewalk cafe. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration also uses another pedestrian category to refer to pedestrians using conveyances and people in buildings. Examples of pedestrian conveyances include skateboards, nonmotorized wheelchairs, rollerskates, sleds, and transport devices used as equipment.

Pedestrian Walkway (or Walkway) - A continuous way designated for pedestrians and separated from the through lanes for motor vehicles by space or barrier.

Physiographic Province - A geographic region in which climate and geology have given rise to landforms similar in geologic structure and which has consequently had a unified geomorphic history; a region whose pattern of relief features or landforms differs significantly from that of adjacent regions.

Physiographic Section - A geographic subdivision of a physiographic province within whose which the geology and landforms have a degree of uniformity in contrast to contiguous units.

Pier - A vertical structure which supports the ends of a multi-span superstructure at a location between abutments. Also see column and pile.

Pile - A long column driven deep into the ground to form part of a foundation or substructure. Also see column and pier.

Pittsburgh Low Plateau Section - A physiographic section in southwestern Pennsylvania, that consists of a smooth undulating upland surface cut by numerous, narrow, relatively shallow valleys, the uplands of which contain the bulk of the significant bituminous coal in Pennsylvania.

Public Participation - The active and meaningful involvement of the public in the development of transportation plans and programs.

Public Participation Panel (PPP) - A citizen panel (there is one in each county of SPC's transportation region) whose members are appointed for two-year terms by the county commissioners (in Allegheny County, by the County Executive and the Mayor of Pittsburgh) to represent the diverse population and transportation concerns of their county. The PPP's role is to review and provide comment on major SPC transportation decisions, such as Long Range Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs. Panels meet on an as-needed basis. They may host public meetings to solicit broader input from the general population.

Public Participation Plan - A framework that identifies strategies and tools to ensure that SPC's transportation planning processes include a proactive participation process and comply with federal participation plan requirements.

Public-Private Partnership – A system in which a government service or private business venture is funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector companies.

Public Transit - Passenger transportation services, usually local in scope, that is available to any person who pays a prescribed fare. It operates on established schedules along designated routes or lines with specific stops and is designed to move relatively large numbers of people at one time.

RACP - Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program; grant program offered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to not-for-profit entities for qualifying economic development projects with cultural, historic or civic significance.

Reclaimed Stripping Areas – Land that was once strip-mined for coal, ore, stone, gravel, or other aggregates or resources, and has been restored to original contour, use, or condition

Reinforcement - Adding strength or bearing capacity to a structural member. Examples include the placing of metal rebar into forms before pouring concrete, or attaching gusset plates at the intersection of multiple members of a truss.

REMI - Regional Economic Models, Inc.

Rural - Sparsely settled places away from the influence of large cities; of or relating to the country, country people or life, or agriculture

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) - Passed in 2005, this act reauthorizes federal surface transportation programs through the end of FY2009. SAFETEA-LU is the successor to TEA-21.

Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) - Overflow of a system designed to assure proper disposal and treatment of sewage.

Skew - When the superstructure is not perpendicular to the substructure, a skew angle is created. The skew angle is the acute angle between the alignment of the superstructure and the alignment of the substructure.

Sources - Refers to the origin of air contaminants. Can be point (coming from a defined site) or non-point (coming from many diffuse sources). Stationary sources include relatively large, fixed facilities such as power plants, chemical process industries, and petroleum refineries. Area sources are small, stationary, non-transportation sources that collectively contribute to air pollution, and include such sources as dry cleaners and bakeries, surface coating operations, home furnaces, and crop burning. Mobile sources include on-road vehicles such as cars, trucks, and buses; and off-road sources such as trains, ships, airplanes, boats, lawnmowers, and construction equipment.

Span - The horizontal space between two supports of a structure. Also refers to the structure itself. May be used as a noun or a verb. The clear span is the space between the inside surfaces of piers or other vertical supports. The effective span is the distance between the centers of two supports.

Special Federal Funds (SXF) - The term used for earmarks or line-item appropriations by which Congress designates federal funds for specified transportation projects.

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

State Transportation Commission (STC) - The committee responsible under state law for adopting the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) - A staged, multi-year, statewide, intermodal program of transportation projects, consistent with the statewide transportation plan and planning processes as well as metropolitan plans, TIPs, and processes.

Statewide Transportation Plan - The official statewide intermodal transportation plan that is developed through the statewide transportation planning process.

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

Structurally Deficient Bridge – A bridge with deteriorated condition and reduced load-carrying capacity.

Suburban – Commonly defined as residential areas on the outskirts of a city or large town; an outlying part of a city or town; a smaller community adjacent to or within commuting distance of a city

Substructure - The portion of a bridge structure including abutments and piers which supports the superstructure.

Superstructure - The portion of a bridge structure which carries the traffic load and passes that load to the substructure.

Surface Transportation Program (STP) - Federal-aid highway funding program that funds a broad range of surface transportation capital needs, including many roads, transit, sea and airport access, vanpool, bike, and pedestrian facilities.

Syncline - A configuration of folded, stratified rocks in which rocks dip downward from opposite directions to come together in a trough.

TAZ - Traffic Analysis Zone; unit of geography most commonly used in conventional transportation planning models.

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

Title VI - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Prohibits discrimination in any program receiving federal assistance.

Toll Facility – A road, bridge or tunnel for which travelers pay a specified toll for a particular class of vehicle to travel on, over, or through, respectively, the transportation facility.

Town center - Traditionally associated with shopping or retail the town center is the center of communications with major public transport hubs and often includes public buildings including town halls, museums and libraries.

Transit Operators Committee (TOC) - The SPC standing committee, comprised primarily of the region’s transit operators that is responsible for developing the region’s transit plan and the transit component of the Transportation Improvement Program.

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) - A term used to describe land-use approaches (primarily compact, mixed-use communities) that help to enhance transit usage in those centers.

Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID) - A TRID is an area (1/8 mile to ½ mile) around a major transit facility (formalized through zoning approval) in which the real estate tax increment from new development occurring within the TRID is shared among partners - typically the municipality, transit agency, school district and county – to make public improvements within the TRID. Public funding for a TRID is utilized for community infrastructure improvements including transit facilities, roadways, sidewalks, water, sewage, etc. The development within a TRID is transit oriented in nature (TOD) and should be mixed use, walkable, bikeable, etc. Some people refer to TRID as a “TIF for transit.”

Transportation Conformity - Process to assess the compliance of any transportation plan, program, or project with air quality implementation plans. The conformity process is defined by the Clean Air Act.

Transportation Control Measures (TCM) - Transportation strategies that affect traffic patterns or reduce vehicle use to reduce air pollutant emissions. These may include HOV lanes, provision of bicycle facilities, ridesharing, telecommuting, etc. Such actions may be included in a SIP if needed to demonstrate attainment of the NAAQS.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) - Programs designed to reduce demand for transportation through various means, such as the use of transit and of alternative work hours.

Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) - Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) Authorized in 1998, TEA-21 authorized federal funding for transportation investment for fiscal 1998-2003. Approximately \$217 billion in funding was authorized, the largest amount in history, which is used for highway, transit, and other surface transportation programs.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): A short range program that identifies the region's highest priority transportation projects, develops a multi-year program of implementation, and identifies available federal and non-federal funding for the identified projects. The TIP covers a four-year period of investment and is updated every two years through a cooperative effort of local, state and federal agencies, including participation by the general public and consultation with interested parties. Transportation projects included on the TIP are to be consistent with the regional plan.

Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 1998 (TIFIA) - A federal credit program under which the DOT may provide three forms of credit assistance - secured (direct) loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit - for surface transportation projects of national or regional significance. The fundamental goal is to leverage federal funds by attracting substantial private and non-federal co-investment in critical improvements to the nation's surface transportation system.

Transportation Management Area (TMA) - All urbanized areas over 200,000 in population, and any other area that requests such designation.

Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) - The SPC standing committee involved with making recommendations for SPC's transportation plans and with implementing projects included in those plans.

Truss - A structural form which is used in the same way as a beam, but because it is made of an web-like assembly of smaller members it can be made longer, deeper, and therefore, stronger than a beam or girder while being lighter than a beam of similar dimensions.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - The management plan for the (metropolitan) planning program. Its purpose is to coordinate the planning activities of all participants in the planning process.

Urbanized Area - Area that contains a city of 50,000 or more population plus incorporated surrounding areas meeting size or density criteria as defined by the U.S. Census.

United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) - The principal direct Federal funding agency for transportation facilities and programs. Includes the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and others.

Urban - An area with an increased density of human-created structures in comparison to the areas surrounding it ; of, relating to, characteristic of, or constituting a city

Viaduct - A long, multi-span structure, especially one constructed of concrete. More commonly used in relation to structures carrying motor vehicles. Trestle is the term for a similar structure when used in relation to railroads.

Waynesburg Hills Section – A physiographic section in southwestern Pennsylvania, that is very hilly with narrow hilltops and steep-sloped, narrow valleys, some of which is very susceptible to landslides.

Wing Walls - Extensions of a retaining wall as part of an abutment; used to contain the fill of an approach embankment