

Appendix C

New Connections Glossary

Access Control: The exercise of state and/or local government authority to condition a property owner's right of access to a road.

Access Management: The process that provides access to land development while simultaneously preserving the flow of traffic on the surrounding road system in terms of safety, capacity and speed.

Accessibility: A measure of the ability or ease of all people to travel among various origins and destinations.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act): Federal law that governs the provision of services and facilities necessary to accommodate people with disabilities. The law includes specific requirements regarding transportation services and facilities.

Amtrak: Passenger trains run by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation of Washington, DC.

Arterial: A major thoroughfare used primarily for through traffic and generally characterized by high vehicular capacity and continuity of movement.

Arterial, Unlimited Access: An arterial providing properties abutting the right-of-way with the right to construct driveways to the arterial.

Arterial Management: The application of (state and local) planning, capital, regulatory, and management tools to enhance and/or preserve the transportation function of the roadway.

Bicycle: Every two or three wheeled device upon which a person or persons may ride, propelled by human power through a belt, chain, or gears, with such wheels in tandem or tricycle, except that it shall not include such a device having solid tires and intended for use only on a sidewalk or by pre-teenage children. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Bicycle Facility: A general term denoting improvements and provisions made by public agencies to accommodate or encourage bicycling, including parking facilities, bikeway maps, and shared roadways not specifically designated for bicycle use.

Bicycle Lane (Bike Lane): A portion of roadway that has been designated by stripping, signing and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Bicycle Path (Bike Path): A path completely separated from vehicular traffic and within an independent right of way or the right of way of another facility. Travelways separated from vehicles, but shared by both bicycles and pedestrians are included in this definition.

Bicycle Route (Bike Route): A segment of a system of bikeways designated by the jurisdiction having authority with appropriate directional and informational markers, with or without specific bicycle route number, includes both facilities for exclusive use of bicycles and shared use with motor vehicles.

Bicycle-Sensitive Traffic Signals: Traffic detector loops that are sensitive enough to pick up a bicycle and trigger a change in the light.

Bikeway: 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.

Bulb-out (Pinch Point): A bulge in the curb intended to narrow the travel lane and thereby reduce the speed of vehicles. A variety of designs are possible.

Bus lane: A street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or at specific times.

Bus shelter: Structure at a bus stop providing seats and protection from inclement weather.

CAA (Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990): Federal law which stresses the relationship of transportation and air quality and the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Capacity: The maximum volume of traffic that a particular roadway or section of roadway is able to accommodate in a given time period.

Capacity Deficiency: Situation that occurs when the number of vehicles on a roadway exceeds the desired level of service threshold volumes for that roadway.

Capital Costs: Non-recurring or infrequently recurring costs of long-term assets, such as land, guideways, stations, buildings, and vehicles.

CO (Carbon monoxide): Colorless, odorless, very poisonous gas formed by the incomplete combustion of carbon materials, including gasoline. It is a major air pollutant based on weight.

Carpool: An arrangement in which two or more people share the use, cost, or both of traveling in privately owned automobiles between fixed points on a regular basis.

CEMP (Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan): The results of a systematic investigation and analysis of potential hazards that could affect the county, an assessment of the capabilities existing in the county to deal with potential problems and, finally, the development of necessary actions to achieve expected results.

Commute: Regular travel between home and a fixed location, usually a job. The term is often applied only to travel in the direction of the main flow of traffic, to distinguish from reverse commute.

Commuter railroad: Rapid transit services that typically use portions of main-line railroad to carry passengers among a central city and its suburbs.

Conformity (Transportation Conformity): Is a way to ensure that Federal funding and approval is applied to those transportation activities that are consistent with air quality goals. Conformity applies to transportation plans (such as the PDCTC Metropolitan Transportation Plan [MTP]), Transportation Improvement Programs [TIPs], and projects funded or approved by the Federal Highway Administration [FHWA] or the Federal Transit Administration [FTA]) in areas that do not meet or previously have not met air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, or nitrogen dioxide. These areas are known as “non-attainment areas” or “maintenance areas,” respectively. Transportation projects must demonstrate conformity in order to be funded.

Congestion: The volume of traffic at which roadway performance is no longer operating at an acceptable level of service.

CMP (Congestion Management Process): Required for a TMA, institutes a formal process to measure and manage the performance of a transportation system. Such a process must describe methods to collect and analyze transportation network data, with the intent of developing effective strategies to mitigate identified congestion.

Connections 2025: The 2003 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Poughkeepsie Metropolitan Area.

CHIPS (Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program): State funding program that provides counties and municipalities with state aid for operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating local highways and bridges.

CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality program): Federal funding program for projects and programs designed to decrease traffic congestion and/or improve air quality.

Crosswalk: Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Curb cut: Area at which a street curb has been cut and sloped so the sidewalk leads smoothly to street and crosswalk.

Delay: A measure of driver discomfort, frustration, fuel consumption, and lost travel time.

DCDPW (Dutchess County Department of Public Works): Dutchess County department charged with responsibility for county highway, bridge, and building facilities.

Demand-response: Transit service in which passengers request door-to-door or point-to-point service at a specific time. Also called Dial-A-Ride.

EPA (Environmental Protection Agency): Federal agency responsible for implementing the Clean Air Act.

Farebox: Machine that accepts tokens, bills, coins or tickets from passengers for rides on transit vehicles.

Federal-Aid System: Consists of roads which are eligible for either NHS (National Highway System) or STP (Surface Transportation Program) funding. All roads included in the Federal-Aid system are functionally classified in systems higher than local or rural minor collector.

FFY (Federal Fiscal Year): October 1- September 30.

FHWA (Federal Highway Administration): USDOT agency responsible for approval of transportation projects that affect the federal aid highway system. FHWA is a non-voting member of the PDCTC.

FRA (Federal Railroad Administration): USDOT agency responsible for the administering of federal programs concerning rail transportation. FTA is a non-voting member of the PDCTC.

FTA (Federal Transit Administration): USDOT agency responsible for approval of mass transit projects. FTA is a non-voting member of the PDCTC.

Fixed Route: Transit services that run on regular, pre-scheduled routes, usually with bus schedules and designated bus stops.

Functional Classification: Process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes or systems, according to the character of service they are intended to provide. Basic to this process is the recognition that roads do not function independently, rather most travel involves movement through a network of roads.

High-speed rail: System in densely traveled corridors at speeds of at least 124 mph.

Highway: A general term denoting a public way for purposes of vehicular travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way.

HBRR (Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation): Federal funding program for rehabilitation and replacement of deficient highway bridges.

Highway Trust Fund: Aid fund administered by FHWA. Most funds for highway improvement are apportioned to states with formulas that give weight to population, area and mileage.

HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle): A vehicle carrying two or more passengers, including carpools, vanpools, and buses.

HOV Lane: Vehicle travel lane designated for use by HOVs.

IM (Interstate Maintenance): Federal funding program for projects and programs on the Interstate Highway System.

ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems): Uses computer and communications technology to provide information to travelers about road and transit conditions and to monitor, guide, and control the operation of vehicles. The application of ITS technologies offers improved safety, more efficient use of infrastructure, and enhanced user choices.

Intermodal: A transportation system connecting or including different types of transportation (e.g. bus service connecting to a train station).

ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991): Pronounced “ice-tea,” Federal law that included \$155 billion in federal transportation funding. Signed into law in 1991, it called for broad changes in the way transportation decisions were made. ISTEA emphasized diversity and balance of modes, as well as the preservation of existing systems before construction of new facilities. Requirements of ISTEA were jointly administered by FHWA and FTA. Succeeded in 1998 by TEA-21.

Local Authorities: Every county, municipal or other local board, body or officer, county park commissioner, parkway authority, bridge authority, bridge and tunnel authority, the office of parks and recreation, the New York State Thruway authority or similar body or person having authority to enact laws or regulations relating to traffic under the constitution and laws of this state. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

LOS (Level of Service): A measure of congestion relating actual or forecasted traffic volume with the maximum capacity of a particular roadway. A LOS A indicates free flow traffic; whereas, a LOS F denotes a very congested roadway in which traffic flow exceeds the capacity of the roadway.

Match: State or local funds required by the federal government to complement federal money for a project.

Median: The portion of a divided highway separating the traveled way from traffic traveling in opposite directions.

Metropolitan Planning Area: The region in which the MPO carries out its transportation planning responsibilities and is designated as such by the MPO and the Governor in accordance with federal regulations. The PDCTC metropolitan boundary includes all of Dutchess County.

MNR (Metro-North Railroad): An operating affiliate of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) that provides rail service to Dutchess County (among others). MTA is a voting member of the PDCTC.

Mode: A particular form of travel, for example, walking or traveling by automobile, bus, or train.

MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization): Federally mandated organization for coordinating transportation planning in a designated metropolitan area. All urbanized areas over 50,000 population are required to have an MPO. The MPO is responsible for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.

MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan): The metropolitan transportation plan for the PDCTC is *New Connections*.

Multi-Use Path: A facility physically separated from the roadway and intended for shared use by bicycle, pedestrian and other non-motorized users.

NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards): Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants.

NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act of 1969): Federal law that requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

NHS (National Highway System): A nation-wide system of highways and roads designated by the US Congress that serve to link the states, major urban areas, and other important destinations. Also a federal funding program for projects and programs on designated NHS facilities.

OCTC (Orange County Transportation Council): MPO for Orange County.

Nonattainment Area: Geographic area designated by the EPA where the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) have been exceeded. The Poughkeepsie Ozone Nonattainment area includes Dutchess, Putnam and northern Orange Counties.

NOx (Oxides of Nitrogen): A chief component of air pollution, caused by the burning of fossil fuel.

NHTS (National Household Travel Survey): Periodic survey of travel behavior of people in the United States.

NYMTC (New York Metropolitan Transportation Council): MPO for the New York metropolitan area that includes New York City, Long Island, and the Hudson Valley counties of Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester.

NYSDEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation): NYSDEC is the state air quality agency with primary responsibility for developing and amending the New York State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Air Quality.

NYSDOT (New York State Department of Transportation): NYSDOT is a voting member and Secretary to the PDCTC.

Park-and-Ride Lot: Parking area where passengers drive their cars, leave them for the day, and board transit vehicles or join carpools and vanpools.

PPM (Parts Per Million): The mass of the component in solution divided by the total mass of the solution multiplied by 106 (one million).

PDCTC (Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council): MPO for the Dutchess County portion of the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh Urbanized Area. Established in 1982, the PDCTC is responsible for adopting the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and an annual Unified Planning Work Program.

Pedestrian: Any person afoot or in a wheelchair. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

ROW (Right-Of-Way): Land corridors needed for the construction of highways, transit, railroads, etc.

Roadway: The portion of the highway, including shoulders, for vehicle use.

SAFETEA (Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act): Federal law signed in 2005 that governs how federal transportation funds are spent. With guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation totaling \$244.1 billion, SAFETEA represents the largest surface transportation investment in U.S. history. SAFTEA requirements are jointly administered jointly by FHWA and FTA.

Shared Lanes: Streets and highways with no special provisions for bicyclists. Shared motor vehicle/bicycle use of a standard width travel lane.

Shared Roadway: Any roadway upon which a bicycle lane is not designated and which may be legally used by bicycles regardless of whether such a facility is specifically designated as a bikeway.

Sidewalk: The portion of a highway designed for preferential or exclusive use by pedestrians. A separated, hard-surfaced paved path elevated from the street by means of a curb or other barrier, designed primarily for pedestrian users.

SDF (State Dedicated Fund): Funds collected and allocated by New York to fund highway and transit improvements.

Section 5303: Federal Transit Act section that funds transit planning and research.

Section 5307: Federal Transit Act section that authorizes grants to urban areas under legislated formula.

Section 5309: Federal Transit Act section that authorized discretionary grants for capital projects.

Section 5310: Federal Transit Act section that authorized transportation capital and operating grants for service for the elderly and handicapped.

Section 5311: Federal Transit Act section that authorizes capital and operating grants for non-urban areas.

SEQR or SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act): A process that introduces the consideration of environmental factors into the early planning stages of actions in order to avoid adverse impacts on the environment.

SFY (State Fiscal Year): April 1 to March 31.

SHIPS (Suburban Highway Improvement Program): State funding program that provides counties and municipalities on Long Island and in the Hudson Valley with funds for specified road and highway projects.

SIP (State Implementation Plan): A plan mandated by the Clean Air Act that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the NAAQS.

STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program): A statewide compilation of MPO and rural area TIPs that is submitted to the federal transportation agencies for approval, which serves as the basis for the obligation of federal transportation funds.

STP (Surface Transportation Program): The major federal funding program for projects and programs on federal-aid highways. STP funds can also be used for transit capital projects.

STPP (Surface Transportation Policy Project): Diverse coalition whose goal is to develop a better national transportation policy.

TDM (Transportation Demand Management): Activities and programs designed to improve travel by reducing demand. Examples include ridesharing, transit, bicycling, and telecommuting.

TEA-21 (Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century): Authorized over \$218-billion in Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 6-year period 1998-2003. Succeeded in 2005 by SAFETEA.

TIP (Transportation Improvement Program): A three-year program of highway, transit, and other transportation capital projects. All federally funded projects must appear on an approved TIP to be implemented.

TMA (Transportation Management Area): USDOT designation used to identify Urbanized Areas with a population of 200,000 or more. The TMA denotation, first instituted by ISTEA, carries with it additional responsibilities for a MPO. These include requirements for a Congestion Management Process (CMP), a system to disburse Section 5307 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds, and a formal federal certification review every four years.

TSM (Transportation Systems Management): Activities and programs designed to improve travel by improving overall operations. Examples include signalization and turning lanes.

UCTC (Ulster County Transportation Council): The MPO for the Kingston metropolitan area which covers Ulster County.

USDOT (United States Department of Transportation): The federal cabinet department that includes the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Urbanized Area: An incorporated place and adjacent densely populated area with a combined minimum population of 50,000, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled): Measure of vehicle travel; one vehicle traveling one mile.

Year of Expenditure: Year of Expenditure dollars are dollars that are already adjusted for inflation.