GLOSSARY

Some of the most commonly referenced terms (and acronyms) in the toolbox are described below and on the following pages.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS (AASHTO)
nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; primary goal is to foster the development, operation, and maintenance of an integrated national transportation system; publishes several design guides

ACCESS MANAGEMENT
the principles and techniques used to control access to a highway, roadway, or street

ACCESSIBILITY
a condition that accommodates people with disabilities; ease of access for pedestrians

ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL (APS)
a device that communicates information about pedestrian signal timing in a nonvisual format including audible tones, verbal messages, and/or vibrotactile information

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES (ADAAG)
provides scoping and technical specifications for new construction and alterations undertaken by entities covered by the ADA

APPROACH
section of the accessible route that flanks the landing of a curb ramp. The approach may be slightly graded if the landing level is below the elevation of the adjoining sidewalk

ARTERIAL
a street or roadway that provides the highest level of service at the greatest speed for the longest uninterrupted distance, with some degree of access control

ASPHALT CONCRETE
a concrete composition in which asphalt is used as a binder; a material often used for roadway pavement

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Average Daily Traffic (ADT)
measurement of the average number of vehicles passing a certain point each day on a highway, roadway, or street

Alley
a road primarily used to access the rear of residences and businesses, not designed for general travel

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
civil rights legislation passed in 1990, effective July 1992; mandated sweeping changes in building codes, transportation, and hiring practices to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities; the federal law prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities; requires public entities and public accommodations to provide accessible accommodations for people with disabilities

Accessibility
a condition that accommodates people with disabilities; ease of access for pedestrians

Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS)
a device that communicates information about pedestrian signal timing in a nonvisual format including audible tones, verbal messages, and/or vibrotactile information
AT-GRADE CROSSING
the general area where two or more roadways, railways, and/or pathways join or cross, as in an “at-grade railroad crossing”

AUDIBLE WARNING
see Accessible Pedestrian Signal

BARRIER CURB
see Vertical Curb

BICYCLE
a vehicle having two tandem wheels, propelled solely by human power, upon which any person or persons may ride. A three-wheeled adult tricycle is considered a bicycle

BICYCLE FACILITY
a general term denoting improvements and provisions made by public agencies specifically to accommodate or encourage bicycling, including parking and storage facilities

BICYCLE LANE/BIKE LANE
a portion of a roadway that has been designated by striping and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use by bicyclists

BICYCLE PATH
a bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicle travel

BICYCLE ROUTE
a shared roadway that has been designated by signing as a preferred route for bicycle use; also called a signed shared roadway

BIKEWAY
a general term for any road, street, path, or way that is used for bicycle travel regardless of whether such facilities are designated for exclusive use by bicycles or are to be shared by other transportation modes; a bikeway may be signed or unsigned for bicycle use

BOLLARD
a post or similar obstruction that prevents the passage of vehicles; the spacing of bollards usually allows the passage of bicycles and pedestrians; bollards may incorporate lighting

BOULEVARD
street classification encouraging physical design features that provide a park like atmosphere and/or enhance appreciation or use of adjacent parkland,

on a street otherwise intended to move traffic

BUFFER
a strip of land that physically and/or visually separates two land uses, especially if the uses are incompatible

BUILDING FRONTAGE ZONE
area along right-of-way that functions to provide space between the building facade, wall, fence or other edge and the through zone of the sidewalk

BULB-OUT
see Curb Extension

BUS PULL OUT/TURN OUT
a section of pavement at a bus stop that allows buses to leave the flow of traffic while stopped to load and unload passengers

BUS SHELTER
any covered area within a bus stop zone that provides riders protection from the weather

BUS ZONE
a portion of the roadway along the curb which
is reserved for loading and unloading of either local transit or school buses

**CATCH BASIN**
a receptor, typically of masonry with cast iron top grate, that receives surface water runoff or drainage

**CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD)**
a traditional downtown area usually characterized by established business fronting the street, sidewalks, slow traffic speeds, on-street parking, and a compact grid street system

**CENTER LINE**
the line separating traffic traveling in opposite directions

**CHIP SEAL**
a thin asphalt surface treatment used to waterproof and improve the texture of the wearing surface of a pavement

**CLEARANCE, LATERAL**
the width required for safe passage as measured in a horizontal plane

**CLEARANCE, VERTICAL**
the height required for safe passage as measured in a vertical plane

**COLLECTOR**
a street designated to carry traffic between arterials and local streets

**COMMERCIAL LOAD ZONE**
a portion of a street designated by a sign and yellow paint markings, reserved for the exclusive use of vehicles with a valid commercial load zone permit

**COMMERCIAL FACILITY**
a facility that is intended for nonresidential use by private entities and whose operation brings about commerce

**COMPLETE STREETS**
streets and roadways and street/roadway networks that provide for the accommodation of all users regardless of their age, ability, or preferred mode of transportation; the Hawaii Department of Transportation has an adopted Complete Streets policy

**CONCRETE**
a hard, strong construction material made by mixing a binder such as portland cement or asphalt with a mineral aggregate (sand and gravel) so that the entire mass is bound together and hardened

**CROSS SECTION**
diagrammatic presentation of a highway profile at right angles to the centerline at a given location

**CROSSING ISLAND**
pedestrian island within the right-of-way and traffic lanes of a highway or street

**CROSSWALK**
portion of a roadway designated for pedestrian crossing, marked or unmarked; unmarked crosswalks are the natural extension of the shoulder, curb line, or sidewalk

**CROSSWALK BEACON**
amber flashing lights, usually accompanied by a sign, used to notify motorists of a pedestrian crosswalk
**CROSS SLOPE**
the slope measured perpendicular to the direction of travel

**COMMUTE TRIP REDUCTION (CTR)**
a program that either requires or encourages major employers to take measures to reduce the number of single-occupant vehicle trips and the number of vehicle miles traveled by their employees

**CUL-DE-SAC**
a street closed at one end that is enlarged to provide turn around space for motor vehicles

**CULVERT**
a transverse drain under a roadway, canal, or embankment other than a bridge; most culverts are fabricated with materials such as corrugated metal and precast concrete pipe

**CURB**
a rim along a street or roadway, an edge for a sidewalk; a curb is usually constructed from cement concrete, asphalt concrete, or granite; curbs create a physical barrier between the roadway and the planting strip, which provides a safer environment for pedestrians, and facilitates street drainage

**CURB BULB**
an extension of the curb line into the roadway

**CURB CUT**
used to describe a depression in the curb to accommodate a driveway; where there is no curb, the point at which the driveway meets the roadway pavement is considered the curb cut

**CURB EXTENSION**
a section of sidewalk extending into the roadway at an intersection or midblock crossing that reduces the crossing width for pedestrians and may help reduce traffic speeds

**CURB LINE**
the edge of a roadway; it may or may not be marked by a curb

**CURB RADIUS**
refers to the degree of curvature of the curb at a corner; other conditions being equal, a large curb radius allows right-turning vehicles to turn more quickly than a small curb radius

**CURB RAMP**
the area of the sidewalk, usually at the intersection, that allows easy access/transition for wheelchairs, strollers, and other wheeled equipment, between the sidewalk and the street

**DEAD-END STREET**
street-end formed when an existing right-ofway is not platted through from street to street, or when topography or other conditions preclude a street from being improved to its full length

**DETECTABLE WARNING**
standardized surface feature built in or applied to walking surfaces or other elements to warn pedestrians with vision impairments of hazards on a sidewalk and or loading platform, such as the curb line or drop-off

**DIAGONAL CURB RAMP**
curb ramp positioned at the appex of the curb radius at an intersection, bisecting the corner angle

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT)**
may refer to US DOT or a state DOT
DRAINAGE INLET
site where water runoff from the street or sidewalk enters the storm drain system. The openings to drainage inlets are typically covered by a grate or other perforated surface to protect pedestrians.

DRAINAGE SWALE
a shallow, grassy drainage channel that accommodates surface water runoff; used on street, without curbs and gutters.

DRIVEWAY
the portion of the street or alley area which provides vehicle access to an off-street area through a depression in the curb.

DRIVEWAY CROSSING
extension of sidewalk across a driveway that meets the requirements of ADAAG.

EDGE ZONE
interface between on-street parking or motor vehicle travel lane; the curb line.

EFFECTIVE SIDEWALK WIDTH
the width of the sidewalk area available for walking or wheelchair travel, unobstructed by street furniture or other impediments.

EXTENSION ZONE
combination of the furnishings and edge zone; additional space for pedestrians and streetscape elements; often utilized with curb extensions/bulb-outs at block ends or mid-block.

FEASIBLE
capable of being accomplished with a reasonable amount of effort, cost, or other hardship. With regard to ADA compliance, feasibility is determined on a case-by-case basis.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA)
agency of the US Department of Transportation with jurisdiction over highways.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)
agency of the US Department of Transportation with jurisdiction over transit.

FESTIVAL STREET
see shared street/shared space; also a street segment that is designed to be closed to motor vehicle travel during special events, such as farmers markets or street fairs.

FIRE LANE
an area on public or private property reserved for providing fire department access to structures, fire-sighting fixtures, or equipment.

FLARE
sloped surface that flanks a curb ramp and provides a graded transition between the ramp and the sidewalk. Flares bridge differences in elevation and are intended to prevent ambulatory pedestrians from tripping. Flares are not considered part of the accessible route.

FOG LINE
the white line at the outside edge of the motor vehicle travel lane, used to designate the boundary of the vehicle travel lane.

FRONTAGE ROAD
a road designated and designed to serve local traffic parallel and adjacent to a highway or arterial street.

FURNISHINGS ZONE
primary buffer space between the active pedestrian walking area of the through zone and adjacent throughfares.
GAP
(1) an opening embedded in the travel surface. Railroad and trolley tracks and concrete joints are common gaps that pedestrians must negotiate. Wheelchair casters and tires of road bicycles can get caught in poorly placed gap openings; or (2) a break in the flow of vehicular traffic, sufficiently long enough for a pedestrian to cross to the other side of the street or to a place of refuge.

GRADE
the slope parallel to the direction of travel that is calculated by dividing the vertical change in elevation by the horizontal distance covered, measured in percent; also: a measure of the steepness of a roadway, bikeway, or walkway, expressed in a ratio of vertical rise per horizontal distance, usually in percent; e.g. a 5 percent grade equals 5 ft of rise over a 100 ft horizontal distance.

GRADE-SEPARATED CROSSING
a facility such as an overpass, underpass, skywalk, or tunnel that allows pedestrians and motor vehicles to cross each other at different levels.

GRADE SEPARATION
the vertical separation of conflicting travelways with a structure.

GRATE
a framework of latticed or parallel bars that prevents large objects from falling through a drainage inlet but permits water and some sediment to fall through the slots. Wheelchair casters and tires of road bicycles can get caught in poorly placed grate openings.

GREEN STREETS
streets that integrate sustainable features, including low impact development and stormwater management and treatment; streets that emphasize travel by pedestrians, bicycles, and transit; could include all of the above.

GREEN TIME
the length of time a traffic signal indicates a green light.

GUIDESTRIP
some type of raised material with grooves that pedestrians with vision impairments use for cane directional cues. For example, guidestrips may be used by pedestrians with vision impairments to navigate a crosswalk, track to an emergency exit, or access the door of a light rail system.

GUTTER
trough or dip used for drainage purposes that runs along the edge of the street and curb or curb ramp.

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (HDOT)
responsible to plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain State facilities in all modes of transportation, including air, water, and land. Coordination with other State, County, and Federal programs is maintained in order to achieve these objectives.

HAWAII DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD (DCAB)
an advisory board of governor-appointed members that serve as public advocates of persons with disabilities, establish guidelines for the design of buildings and facilities, issue administrative rules for the utilization of communication access services, and administer the statewide program for the issuance of parking placards to disabled persons.
HEARING IMPAIRMENT/HEARING-IMPAIRED
condition of partial loss of hearing or total deafness

HIGHWAY
a general term denoting a public way for purposes of travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way

HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV)
a car carrying enough people to be able to travel in the HOV/diamond lane or a vanpool or bus

INLET
an opening at the surface of the ground through which runoff water enters the drainage system

INTERMODALISM
a transportation policy that promotes full development of multiple alternative modes of travel, and encourages the optimization of mode or combination of modes for travel mobility, efficiency, sustainability, economy, and environmental health. The availability, effectiveness, and safety of pedestrian facilities contribute to the achievement of intermodalism

INTERSECTION
a place or area where two or more roads or pathways cross

JAYWALKING
crossing a street illegally; includes walking against a traffic control device or stepping out in front of a moving vehicle so as to present an immediate danger, whether in a crosswalk or not, or crossing at an intersection outside of a crosswalk

KINESTHETIC
sensory experience derived from the movement of the body or limbs

KIOSK
a small freestanding structure either open or partially closed, where merchandise is displayed, advertised, or sold, or where notices are displayed

LANDING
level area of sidewalk at the top or bottom of a ramp

LANDSCAPE LIGHTING
lighting that is designed to accompany and illuminate landscaping features

LANE LINE
a solid or broken paint line or other marker separating lanes of traffic moving in the same direction

LEGEND
words, phrases, or numbers appearing on all or part of a traffic control device; also the symbols that appear on maps

LOADING AND UNLOADING ZONE
a portion of the street or alley, designated by a sign and white paint markings, reserved for picking up and dropping off people or property

LOCAL ROAD/STREET
road that serves individual residences or businesses, and/or distributes traffic within a given urban or rural area; a street designated to provide access to and from residences or businesses

LOCATOR TONE
a repeating sound that informs approaching pedestrians that they are required to push a button to actuate the pedestrian signal. This tone enables pedestrians with vision impairments to locate the pushbutton
LOOP DETECTOR
a wire buried in the street and connected to a traffic signal allowing the signal to sense the presence of vehicle traffic

MAIN STREET
a type of street that is the primary place for multi-modal travel and interaction in a town; highways often are also main streets in small towns and villages

MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (MUTCD)
approved by the Federal Highway Administration as a national standard for placement and selection of all traffic control devices on or adjacent to all highways open to public travel

MARKED CROSSWALK
any portion of the roadway distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings

MEDIAN
a physical barrier, or a solid yellow or cross hatched pavement marking at least 18” in width, which divides any street into two or more roadways

MEDIAN ISLAND
an island in the center of a road that physically separates the directional flow of traffic and can provide pedestrians with a place of refuge and reduce the crossing distance

MID-BLOCK CROSSING
a crossing point positioned within a block rather than at an intersection

MINIMUM CLEARANCE WIDTH
the narrowest point on a sidewalk or trail. A minimum clearance width is created when obstacles, such as utility poles or tree roots, protrude into the sidewalk and reduce the design width

MOTOR VEHICLE
a vehicle that is self-propelled or propelled by electric power but not operated upon rails; excludes a moped

MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY 21ST
Federal transportation legislation that authorizes Federal-aid highway transportation programs, including the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) that provides funding for pedestrian and bicycle projects and safe routes to school

MOUNTABLE CURB
see Sloping Curb

MULTI-USE PATH/TRAIL
see Shared Use Path

NATIONAL HIGHWAY COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM (NCHRP)
a program that conducts research in problem areas that affect highway planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance in the United States

NEW CONSTRUCTION
project where an entirely new facility will be built from the ground up

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM (NHS)
National Highway System; designated by the US Congress; contains all interstate routes, a large percentage of urban and rural principal arterials, and strategic highways and connectors
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OBSTACLE</td>
<td>an object that limits the horizontal or vertical passage space, by protruding into the circulation route and reducing the clearance width of a sidewalk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFF-STREET PARKING</td>
<td>publicly or privately owned parking located outside the street right-of-way; may be perpendicular, angled, or parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ON-STREET PARKING</td>
<td>parking located within the public right-of-way; may be parallel, angled (front-in or back-in); typically not perpendicular; provides a buffer between vehicle travel lanes and sidewalk/walkway areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN SPACE</td>
<td>land and/or water area with its surface open to the sky or predominantly undeveloped, which is set aside to serve the purposes of providing park and recreation opportunities, conserving valuable resources, and structuring urban development and form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTDOOR DEVELOPED AREAS ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES (ODAAG)</td>
<td>guidelines for accessibility for outdoor developed areas administered by the US Access Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARALLEL CURB RAMP</td>
<td>curb ramp design where the sidewalk slopes down on either side of a landing. Parallel curb ramps require users to turn before entering the street</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARKING</td>
<td>see off-street parking and on-street parking</td>
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<tr>
<td>PASSING SPACE</td>
<td>section of path or sidewalk wide enough to allow two wheelchair users to pass one another or travel abreast</td>
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<tr>
<td>PATH OR PATHWAY</td>
<td>track or route along which pedestrians are intended to travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAVEMENT MARKINGS</td>
<td>painted or applied lines or legends placed on a roadway surface for regulating, guiding or warning traffic</td>
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<tr>
<td>PED SHED</td>
<td>see WALK SHED</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEDESTRIAN</td>
<td>a person afoot, in a wheelchair, or in a vehicle propelled by a person afoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEDESTRIAN ACCESS ROUTE (PAR)</td>
<td>a continuous, unobstructed path connecting all accessible elements of a pedestrian system that meets the requirements of ADAAG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEDESTRIAN-ACTUATED TRAFFIC CONTROL</td>
<td>pushbutton or other control operated by pedestrians designed to interrupt the prevailing signal cycle to permit pedestrians to cross a signalized intersection or midblock crossing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE INFORMATION CENTER (PBIC)</td>
<td>non-profit organization committed to improving the quality of life in communities through the increase of safe walking and bicycling as a viable means of transportation and physical activity; website <a href="http://www.pedbikeinfo.org">www.pedbikeinfo.org</a> serves as a clearinghouse for research, statistics, design guidance and other information</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PEDESTRIAN DETECTORS
devices, usually push-button activated, that allow pedestrians and bicyclists to change the signal light at a crosswalk

PEDESTRIAN FACILITY
a facility provided for the benefit of pedestrian travel, including walkways, crosswalks, signs, signals, and illumination

PEDESTRIAN HALF SIGNAL
a traffic control signal often located at the junction of an arterial and a residential street, which provides pedestrian signals for crossing the arterial but not for crossing the residential street

PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS
a pedestrian walkway above the grade of the roadway, which allows pedestrians to cross the roadway without interacting with motor vehicles

PEDESTRIAN REALM
area where pedestrian travel occurs; generally located between the curb line and right-of-way line and also including crossings at intersections and mid-block; the pedestrian realm is intended for pedestrian use and offers opportunity to incorporate urban design elements, based on the adjacent land use

PEDESTRIAN REFUGE ISLAND
a defined area between traffic lanes that provides a safe place for pedestrians to wait as they cross the street

PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING
overhead street lighting which is typically over the sidewalk instead of the roadway, and at a lower height than typical street light fixtures; providing illumination for pedestrians instead of motorists

PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS
electronic devices used for controlling the movement of pedestrians at signalized midblocks or intersections, which may include the “walk/don’t walk” messages or the symbolic walking person/hand message

PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
a surfaced walkway, separated from the roadway, usually of constructed of asphalt, concrete, compacted crushed rock, unit pavers, or other firm, stable, slip resistant surface, following the existing ground surface/at grade and distinguished from sidewalk by typically not being adjacent to curb and gutter

PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY
describing an environment that is pleasant and inviting for people to experience on foot; specifically offering sensory appeal, safety, street amenities such as plantings and furniture, good lighting, easy visual and physical access to buildings, and diverse activities

PERPENDICULAR CURB RAMP
curb ramp design where the ramp path is perpendicular to the edge of the curb

PLANTING STRIP
the street right-of-way area lying between the constructed curb and the sidewalk

PLAY STREET
see shared street/shared space; also a segment of neighborhood street that may be closed to motor vehicle traffic or marked temporarily at certain times for play

PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL
a main traffic route which connects major activity centers, usually characterized by trip lengths of two miles or more
PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES (PROWAG)
guidelines for design of accessible public rights-of-way administered by the US Access Board

RAMP
sloped transition between two elevation levels

RESIDENTIAL PARKING ZONE
a designated zone in which on-street parking for the general public is restricted. Residents of the area are exempted from the parking restrictions by permit

RESIDENTIAL STREET
a non-arterial street that provides access to residential land uses, and connects to higher level traffic streets; also called residential access street

RESURFACING
the placing of a new surface on an existing pavement to improve its conformation or to increase its strength

RETAINING WALL
a structure used to sustain the pressure of the earth behind it

RIGHT-OF-WAY
a strip of land platted, dedicated, condemned, established by prescription, or otherwise legally established for the use of pedestrians, vehicles or utilities; the legal right of one vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, or device to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, or device; also: real property rights (whether by fee-simple ownership, by easement, or by other agreement) acquired across land for a public purpose, including pedestrian use

ROADWAY
the portion of the highway or street improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel; excludes the berm or shoulder

ROOT BARRIER
a barrier installed in tree wells/pits and planting strips that directs root growth away from paved areas, utilities, or other elements

RULES OF THE ROAD
the portion of a motor vehicle law that contains regulations governing the operation of vehicular and pedestrian traffic

RURAL
areas outside the boundaries of urban areas

SANDWICH BOARDS/SOFT SANDWICH
stand-up A-shaped signs often placed on the sidewalk or street right-of-way to advertise a business or an attraction

SCHOOL CROSSING
a crossing adjacent to a school or on established school pedestrian routes, designated as a preferred crossing for school users

SCHOOL ZONE
an established reduced speed area; installed around established school crossing; speed limits are posted at 20 mph

SERVICE LANE
the curb lane that provides access to businesses for service vehicles

SETBACK
the required or actual placement of a building a specified distance away from a road, property line, or other structures
SHARED ROADWAY
a street or highway that is open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel

SHARED STREET/SHARED SPACE
a segment of street that is designed to accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicles moving together in the same space; typically very low speed, low vehicle volume streets in urban areas, town centers, or neighborhoods; typically includes special paving and often places street and sidewalk areas at the same grade (sometimes also called festival streets or play streets)

SHARED USE PATH
a path physically separated from motor vehicle traffic by an open space or barrier and either within a highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way, used by bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, skaters and other non-motorized travelers (sometimes called a multi-use path or trail)

SHOULDER
the paved or unpaved area between the roadway edge and the property line contiguous to the travel lanes that provides space for emergency use by vehicles and for lateral support of base and surface courses; may be designed to be used by bicyclists and can be used informally by pedestrians but is not a recognized pedestrian facility

SHOULDER BIKEWAY
a type of bikeway where bicyclists travel on a paved shoulder

SHY DISTANCE
the distance between the edge of a travelway and a fixed object; or the area along sidewalk closest to buildings, retaining walls, curbs, and fences generally avoided by pedestrians

SIDEWALK
the improved portion of a street or roadway between the curb lines and the adjacent property lines, intended for use by pedestrians

SIGHT DISTANCE
the length of roadway visible to a driver; the distance a person can see along an unobstructed line of sight

SIGHT IMPAIRMENT/SIGHT-IMPAIRED
see vision impairment /vision-impaired

SIGNAL TIMING
the green time allotted each direction of travel; the time between start of green for adjacent/sequential traffic signals

SIGNS
provide information to motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists; white background indicates a regulatory sign; yellow background conveys a general warning message; green background shows permitted traffic improvements or directional guidance; fluorescent yellow/green background indicates pedestrian crossings and school zones; orange background is used for warning and guidance in work zones (per the MUTCD)

SKEW ANGLE
the angle formed between a roadway, bikeway, or walkway and an intersecting roadway, bikeway, walkway, or railway, measured away from the perpendicular
SLOPE
ground that forms a natural or artificial incline

SLOPE LINE
the line where the graded portion of the roadway from the center line toward the edge changes to the transition slope required to meet the surface of the abutting private property

SLOPING CURB
a curb with a sloping face, usually on the order of 30-to-45 degrees from vertical, that can be traversed in emergency situations

SINGLE-OCCUPANT/OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (SOV)
a vehicle carrying only the driver and no passengers

STOP BAR
a painted stripe across a traffic lane to indicate where vehicles should stop at a stop sign or a traffic signal

STORM DRAIN
a system of gutters, pipes or ditches used to carry storm water from surrounding lands to streams and lakes, and larger bodies of water

STREET FURNITURE
accessories and amenities placed on sidewalks for the convenience and accommodation of pedestrians including elements such as benches or other seating, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, planter, kiosks, clocks, newspaper dispensers, or telephones

STREET IMPROVEMENT
an improvement in the public right-of-way, whether above or below ground, such as pavement, sidewalks, or a storm water drainage system

STREET TREE
a tree planted within public right-of-way

STREET TREE GRATES
grates, usually metal and often decorative, that cover street tree pits and allow air and water to reach the soil

STREET TREE PITS
cutouts from a sidewalk or paved planting strip, to allow air and water to reach the trees planted in the cutout

STREET-END
formed where an existing right-of-way ends or is not platted through from street to street, often due to topographical conditions (such as bluffs or shorelines)

STREETSCAPE
the visual character of a street as determined by elements such as structures, greenery, driveways, open space, view, and other natural and man-made components

STRUCTURE
a bridge, retaining wall, or tunnel

SUBURBAN
built up area surrounding a core urban area

SUSTAINABLE STREETS
integration of sustainable features in street design; may combine features of complete streets and green streets to meet environmental objectives

T-INTERSECTION
the meeting of two streets, usually perpendicular, where one of the streets does not continue through; approximately resembling the letter “t”
**TACTILE WARNING/TACTILE WARNING STRIP**
change in surface condition providing a tactile 
cue to alert pedestrians with vision impairments 
of a potentially hazardous situation

**THROUGH ZONE**
obstacle-free space for clear pedestrian through 
travel that is often the primary walking area of 
the sidewalk

**TOUCH TECHNIQUE**
environmental scanning method in which a blind 
person arcs a cane from side to side and touches 
points outside both shoulders. Used primarily in 
unfamiliar or changing environments, such as on 
sidewalks and streets

**TRAFFIC ACTUATED SIGNAL**
a signal that responds to the presence of a 
vehicle or pedestrian (for motor vehicles, loop 
detectors; for pedestrians, usually push buttons)

**TRAFFIC CALMING**
of or relating to transportation techniques, 
programs, or facilities intended to slow the 
movement of motor vehicles

**TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE**
any sign, signal, marking, or device placed 
or erected for the purpose of regulating, warning, or 
guiding vehicle traffic and/or nonmotorized traffic

**TRAFFIC SIGNAL**
any traffic device, whether manually, electrically, 
or mechanically operate, which assigns right-of-
way to vehicles and pedestrians at intersections

**TRAFFIC VOLUME**
the given number of vehicles that pass a given 
point for a given amount of time (hour, day, 
year); see “ADT”

**TRANSIT STOP OR TRANSIT STATION**
a regular stopping place on a transit route that 
may include transit shelter and parking

**TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**
Federal, state, or local government entity 
responsible for planning, designing, constructing, 
and operating transportation systems and 
facilities for a particular jurisdiction

**TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)**
Program of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 
21st Century federal legislation that administers 
funding for pedestrian and bicycle projects and 
safe routes to school

**TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM)**
measures that are implemented to attempt to 
reduce the proportion of trips made by single-
occupant vehicles

**TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)**
a program in the United States that conducts 
research in problem areas related to 
planning, design, construction, operation, and 
maintenance for all types of transportation 
facilities and systems

**TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN (TSP)**
the overall plan for all transportation modes for 
a given area (usually city, county, or region)

**TRAVEL LANE**
roadway lanes on which traffic moves
TRUNCATED DOMES
small domes with flattened tops used as tactile warning at transit platforms and at other locations where a tactile warning is needed

TWO-WAY LEFT TURN LANE
a lane near the center of the roadway set aside for use by vehicles making left turns in both directions from or into the roadway

UNCONTROLLED INTERSECTION
an intersection where the right-of-way is not controlled by a stop sign, yield sign, or traffic signal

UNIFORM FEDERAL ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
accessibility standards that all Federal agencies are required to meet. Includes scoping and technical specifications

URBAN
places within boundaries set by state and local officials, having a population of 5,000 or more. Urban areas are often densely populated and contain a high density of built structures

URBAN AREA
the area immediately surrounding an incorporated city or rural community that is urban in character, regardless of size

URBAN TRAILS
off-road trails, special bike lanes, and signed routes in the street right-of-way

UNITED STATES ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD (US ACCESS BOARD)
independent Federal agency responsible for developing Federal accessibility guidelines under the ADA and other laws

UTILITY POLES
poles used to carry utility wires, such as electric, cable television, telephone, or electrified trolley wires that may be operated by telephone companies, power companies, or any combination of these and/or others

VEHICLE
a device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, including mopeds and bicycles, but excluding toy bicycles, devices other than bicycles moved by human power, and devices used exclusively upon rails or tracks

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT)
vehicle miles traveled describes the number of miles traveled during a typical trip (such as a commute trip) and can serve as an indicator for TDM activities

VERTICAL CLEARANCE
minimum unobstructed vertical passage space required along a sidewalk or trail. Vertical clearance is often limited by obstacles such as building overhangs, tree branches, signs, and awnings

UTILITIES
services and facilities such as water, sanitary sewer, storm drainage, electricity, communication lines, and other elements, often located in street, roadway, and highway rights-of-way; typically housed in underground pipes, conduits, and vaults and may include some above ground features for access and control; above ground features need to be provided with clearance area for access and should be designed to avoid becoming obstacles in the pedestrian realm
VERTICAL CURB
a steep-faced curb, designed with the intention of discouraging vehicles from leaving the roadway

VIBROTACTILE PEDESTRIAN DEVICE
device that communicates information about pedestrian timing through a vibrating surface by touch

VISION IMPAIRMENT/VISION-IMPAIRED
loss or partial loss of vision; also may be called sight impairment; a blind person is one who has a total loss of vision

VISUAL WARNING
Use of contrasts in surface to indicate a change in environment, as at a curb ramp where the sidewalk changes to the street

WALK SCORE
a program that measures walkability of areas; www.walkscore.com

WALK SHED/PED SHED
a defined/analyzed geographic area that is the walkable area surrounding a specific pedestrian origin/destination, such as a transit station or school

WALKABILITY/WALKABLE AREAS
the extent to which an area accommodates pedestrians; walkable areas are pedestrian-friendly and encourage pedestrian travel

WALKABLE DISTANCES
recognized distances from an origin/destination that are conducive to encouraging walking; a five-minute/¼ mile zone is often used for the most walkable distance and ten-minute/½ mile zone is often used for the walkable distance

WALKWAY
a transportation facility built for use by pedestrians, including persons in wheelchairs; walkways include sidewalks, and paths

WALK INTERVAL
traffic signal phase in which the WALKING PERSON (symbolizing WALK) signal indication is displayed

WAYFINDING
a system of information comprising visual, audible, and tactile elements that helps users experience an environment and facilitates getting from point A to point B

WIDE OUTSIDE LANE
a wider than normal curbside travel lane that is provided for ease of bicycle operation where there is insufficient room for a bike lane or shoulder bikeway

WIDTH, SIDEWALK
total width of a sidewalk includes obstructions and begins at the edge of a roadway to the side of a building. Clear width is the portion of sidewalk that excludes obstructions and any attached curb. Effective width is the portion of clear width that excludes any shy distances

WOONERF OR SHARED STREET
a common space to be shared by pedestrians, bicyclists, and low-speed motor vehicles. These are usually narrow streets without curbs and sidewalks. Plantings, street furniture, and other obstacles are placed so as to discourage and inhibit through traffic movements