

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

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 OF 1990 (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

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

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 refuge 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-of-way 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 apex 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

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

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)

agency of the US Department of Transportation with jurisdiction over transit

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

OBSTACLE

an object that limits the horizontal or vertical passage space, by protruding into the circulation route and reducing the clearance width of a sidewalk

OFF-STREET PARKING

publicly or privately owned parking located outside the street right-of-way; may be perpendicular, angled, or parallel

ON-STREET PARKING

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

OPEN SPACE

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

OUTDOOR DEVELOPED AREAS ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES (ODAAG)

guidelines for accessibility for outdoor developed areas administered by the US Access Board

PARALLEL CURB RAMP

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

PARKING

see off-street parking and on-street parking

PASSING SPACE

section of path or sidewalk wide enough to allow two wheelchair users to pass one another or travel abreast

PATH OR PATHWAY

track or route along which pedestrians are intended to travel

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

painted or applied lines or legends placed on a roadway surface for regulating, guiding or warning traffic

PED SHED

see WALK SHED

PEDESTRIAN

a person afoot, in a wheelchair, or in a vehicle propelled by a person afoot

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS ROUTE (PAR)

a continuous, unobstructed path connecting all accessible elements of a pedestrian system that meets the requirements of ADAAG

PEDESTRIAN-ACTUATED TRAFFIC CONTROL

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

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE INFORMATION CENTER (PBIC)

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 www.pedbikeinfo.org serves as a clearinghouse for research, statistics, design guidance and other information

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; florescent 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

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

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

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/ $\frac{1}{4}$ mile zone is often used for the most walkable distance and ten-minute/ $\frac{1}{2}$ 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