



Appendix A: Glossary of Terms and Acronyms



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Glossary of Terms

A

Access/Accessible

The ability or right to make use of.

Accessible Design / Universal Design

Design to accommodate a wide range of users, including people with disabilities and other special needs.

Active Park

Open space improved for recreational use with facilities such as graded spaces, tailored playing surfaces, buildings, parking areas, and similar modification to the natural site.

Activity Node / Node

Point within the City, relating to paths and districts, into which people enter or where people congregate.

Arterial

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

Assessment District

Financing mechanism used to raise funds for improvements that benefit a specific area, by levying an annual assessment on all property owners in the district. Each parcel of property is assessed a portion of the costs of the public improvements, based on the proportion of benefit received by that parcel.

Auxiliary Lane

A lane other than a through lane, used to separate entering, existing or turning traffic from the through traffic.

B

Bicycle Facilities

Improvements and provisions which accommodate or encourage bicycling, including parking facilities, maps, signs, bike lanes, multi-use paths, and shared roadways designated for bicycle use.

Brownfield



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An abandoned, idled or under-used industrial or commercial property where expansion or reuse is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

Buffer Zone

An area of land designated for environmental protection.

Built Out

A condition reached when land has been developed to its full capacity as permitted under current general plan designations.

C

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

A California statute passed in 1970 to institute a statewide policy of environmental protection. CEQA does not directly regulate land uses, but instead requires state and local agencies within California to follow a protocol of analysis and public disclosure of environmental impacts of proposed projects and adopt all feasible measures to mitigate those impacts.

Capacity

Ability of a roadway or intersection to accommodate a moving stream of people or vehicles in a given time period.

Capital Improvement

The addition of a permanent structural improvement or the restoration of some aspect of a property that will either enhance the property's overall value or increase its useful life.

Capital Improvement Program

A program, administered by a city or county government, which schedules permanent improvements, usually for a minimum of five years in the future, to fit the projected fiscal capability of the local jurisdiction. This program generally is reviewed annually for conformance to and consistency with the general plan.

Character

Special physical attributes of a structure or area that set it apart from its surroundings and contribute to its individuality.

Classification

The assignment of roads and intersections into categories according to the character of service they provide in relation to the entire road network.

Community-Based



Taking place in community settings and involving community members in planning, decision-making and implementation.

Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL)

A weighted average of sound levels gathered throughout a 24-hour period. This is essentially a measure of ambient noise. A rating of community noise exposure to all sources of sound that differentiates between daytime, evening, and nighttime noise exposure.

Compatibility

The characteristics of different uses or activities that permit them to be located near each other in harmony and without conflict.

Complete Street

A street designed and operate to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.

Conditions of Approval

Requirements placed on a permit or development that may require further submittal of documents, inspections, etc.

Corridor / Path

Channel along which the observer moves and observes the city. Examples are streets, walkways, trails, transit lines, bike paths, and rail lines.

D

Density

The number of residential dwelling units permitted per gross acre of land, determined by dividing the number of units by the total area of land within the boundaries of a lot or parcel.

Design Guidelines

A set of standards regarding site and landscape design, architecture, materials, color, lighting and signs of a building or other improvement.

Development Review

The process which a development application undergoes to determine compliance with all applicable local standards and requirements.

Development Standards

Set of requirements for each zoning district that regulate the development of building sites. Such standards include but are not limited to building setbacks, street frontages and lot sizes.

Dwelling Unit



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A structure or the part of a structure that is used as a home, residence or sleeping place by one person who maintain a household or by two or more persons who maintain a common household.

E

Easement

The right to make use of the land of another for a limited purpose, such as right of passage.

Emergency Response Plan

A plan of action for the efficient deployment and coordination of services, agencies and personnel to provide the earliest possible response to an emergency.

F

Facility

A structure or place which is built, installed, or established to serve a particular purpose.

Floor Area Ratio (FAR)

The total square feet of a building divided by the total square feet of the lot the building is located on. Higher FARs tend to indicate more urban (dense) development.

G

Gateway

The design of a building, site or landscape to symbolize an entrance or arrival to a special area or district.

General Purpose Lanes

Traffic lanes available for use by the general public without any restrictions or tolls.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Computer-based systems that produce maps showing spatial relationships, patterns, and trends by managing and integrating multiple types of data that all have a geographic component.

Green Building

The practice of creating and using healthier and more resource-efficient models of construction, renovation, operation, maintenance and demolition.

Greenhouse Gas

Chemical compounds that trap heat in the earth's atmosphere, including methane, chlorofluorocarbons, and carbon dioxide.



Groundwater

Water beneath the earth's surface, often between saturated soil and rock that supplies wells and springs.

H

Hardscape

The nonliving or man-made fixtures of a planned outdoor area.

Hazardous Waste

Waste that is dangerous or potentially harmful to human health and the environment.

High-Occupancy Vehicle Lane

A restricted traffic lane reserved at peak travel times or longer for the exclusive use of vehicles with a driver and one or more passengers, including carpools, vanpools, and transit buses.

Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) Methodology

A methodology used to analyze the peak hour operation of signalized intersections. HCM methodology calculates the amount of delay for vehicles passing through an intersection during a given hour, based on the volume of cars and the amount of green time given to each movement. The results are reported as average seconds of delay per vehicle.

Household Hazardous Waste

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable or reactive ingredients that are potentially harmful to human health and the environment.

I

Impact Fee

A fee assessed on new development in order to fund improvements to infrastructure that is impacted by that development, such as water, parks, and roads.

In-Lieu Fee

Cash payment that may be required of an owner or developer as a substitute for (in lieu of) a dedication of parkland, construction of affordable housing units, or other required improvement.

Intensity

The level of concentration of activity occurring on a site or in an area. Intensity is often used interchangeably with density.

Intersection Capacity Utilization (ICU) Methodology



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A methodology used to analyze the peak hour operation of signalized intersections. ICU methodology provides a comparison of the number of vehicles passing through an intersection during a given hour to the theoretical hourly vehicular capacity of that intersection. Results are reported as a percentage value.

J

Joint-Use Agreement

A formal agreement between two separate government entities—often a school and a city or county—setting forth the terms and conditions for shared use of public property or facilities.

L

Landmark

An identifiable, simple physical object- such as a building, sign, store, tower, mountain, etc. - that serves as a point of reference.

Landscaping

To change the natural features of an area of land with carefully designed planting and arrangement.

Land Use Designation

The City's classification of land specifying the appropriate use of properties.

Level of Service (LOS)

A qualitative measure which reflects the relative ease of traffic flow on a scale of A to F, with free-flow being rated LOS A and congested conditions rated as LOS F. Corresponds to the ICU for ICU methodology or delay using HCM methodology. See Intersection Capacity Utilization (ICU) and Highway Capacity Manual (HCM).

Liquefaction

A phenomenon in which the strength and stiffness of a soil is reduced by earthquake shaking or other rapid loading. When soil liquefies, it loses strength and behaves as a viscous liquid (like quicksand) rather than as a solid.

Live-Work

A building that serves both as home and commercial space for the inhabitant.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)

Political entities sponsored by the State of California who's regulatory duties include approving, establishing, expanding, reorganizing—and in limited circumstances decertifying—municipalities and most types of special districts. Spheres-of-influence demark the territory the affected LAFCO



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independently believes represents the appropriate and probable future jurisdictional boundary and service area of the subject agency.

M

Master Plan

A comprehensive long range plan intended to guide growth and development of an area.

Mills Act

A property tax reduction for designated historic properties. The tax savings can be used to help maintain that historic property.

Mixed-Use

Development that includes a mixture of complementary land uses, such as housing, retail, office, commercial services, and civic uses.

Mobility

The ability to move or be moved from place to place.

Mode

A specific form of transportation, such as automobile, bus, rail, bicycle, or walking.

Multi-Modal

Having a variety of modes available for any given trip, such as being able to walk, ride a bicycle, take a bus, or drive to a certain destination. In a transportation system, it means providing for many modes within a single transportation corridor.

N

National Register of Historic Places

The US Government's official list of buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts worthy of preservation because of their significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register recognizes resources of local, state and national significance which have been documented and evaluated according to uniform standards and criteria.

Natural Resource

Materials and organisms that naturally occur within environments that exist relatively undisturbed by human activity and development.

Neighborhood

Area that is primarily residential with ancillary supporting uses such as small commercial centers.

Noise Attenuation



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Reduction of the level of noise using a substance, material, or surface, like earth berms or solid concrete walls.

Noise Mitigation

A set of strategies to reduce noise pollution that may include transportation noise control, architectural design, and occupational noise control.

Noise Reduction

Lessening or diminishing unwanted sound.

Noise-Sensitive Use

A land use in which noise can adversely affect what people are doing—such as a residence or school.

O

Open Space

Any parcel or area that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space use for the purposes of (1) the preservation of natural resources, (2) the managed production of resources, (3) outdoor recreation, or (4) public health and safety.

P

Parcel

A section or area of land.

Park

An area improved for recreational use with facilities such as trails, community gardens, playing surfaces, buildings, and parking. Active parks have significant modifications, while passive parks have non-intrusive changes to accommodate less structured recreational pursuits.

Park-and-Ride

A system for reducing traffic congestion, in which drivers leave their cars in parking lots on the outskirts of a city and travel to the city center or other job centers on public transportation.

Paseo

Pedestrian pathway through a developed area that is not a street-adjacent sidewalk or a trail.

Passive Park

Open space improved with non-intrusive changes to accommodate less structured recreational pursuits than in an active park. Typical minor modifications include trails, service vehicle access improvements, and enhanced landscape materials.

Path / Corridor



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Channel along which the observer moves and observes the city. Examples are streets, walkways, trails, transit lines, bike paths, and rail lines.

Plant Communities

Associated plant species that form the natural vegetation of an area.

Project

A public- or private-sector venture involving the development or structural modification of property.

Q

Quimby Act

Established by the California legislature in 1965 and provided provisions in the State Subdivision Map Act for the dedication of parkland and/or payment of in-lieu fees as a condition of approval of certain types of residential development projects.

R

Recreational Facility

Infrastructure constructed for recreational use or to support recreational use, such as a park, building, trail, or parking lot.

Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA)

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) is mandated by State Housing Law as part of the periodic process of updating local housing elements of the General Plan. The RHNA quantifies the need for housing within each jurisdiction during specified planning periods.

Right-of-Way

A linear area that allows for the passage of people or goods. Right-of-way includes passageways such as freeways, streets, bikeways, alleys, and walkways. A public right-of-way is dedicated or deeded to the public for public use and under the control of a public agency.

Riparian Corridor

A unique plant community consisting of the vegetation growing near a river, stream, lake, lagoon or other natural body of water.

S

Seismic

Subject to or caused by an earthquake or vibration.

Sense of Place

The feeling associated with a location, based on a unique identity and other memorable qualities.



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Sensitive Receptor

People or other organisms that may have a significantly increased sensitivity or exposure to contaminants by virtue of their age and health, status, proximity to the contamination, dwelling construction, or the facilities they use.

Sensitive Species

Species that can only survive within a narrow range of environmental conditions and whose disappearance from an area is an index of pollution or other environmental change.

Setback

The distance of a structure or other feature from the property line or other feature.

Site Plan

A plan, to scale, showing uses and structures proposed for a parcel of land. It includes lot lines, streets, building sites, public open space, buildings, major landscape features, both natural and man-made, and depending on requirements, the locations of proposed utility lines.

Solid Waste

Any garbage or refuse; sludge from a wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; and other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semi-solid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations, and from community activities.

Slope

An upward or downward slant or inclination or degree of slant.

Specific Plan

A plan, adopted by city ordinance, which shows the future physical development to be implemented within a specifically defined and circumscribed area of the city. The plan shows types of land uses to be developed; a plan for circulation in and adjacent to the area; and written standards, regulations, and policies for such items as architectural design, open spaces, preservation of existing structures, and other relevant factors.

Sphere-of-Influence

A planning boundary outside of an agency's legal boundary (such as the city limit line) that designates the agency's probably future boundary and service area.

Streetscape

Physical elements found along streets, including the roadway, sidewalks, landscaping, street furniture (such as utility poles, benches or garbage cans), building fronts, and signage.

Subsidence



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The gradual sinking of landforms to a lower level as a result of earth movements, mining operations, etc.

Suburban

Characteristic of a suburb or suburbs, which pertains to a mostly residential community.

Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA)

The primary federal law that regulates the environmental effects of coal mining in the United States. SMCRA created two programs: one for regulating active coal mines and a second for reclaiming abandoned mine lands.

Sustainable / Sustainability

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

T

Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

Various strategies that change travel behavior (how, when and where people travel) in order to increase transportation system efficiency and achieve specific objectives such as reduced traffic congestion, road and parking cost savings, increased safety, improved mobility for non-drivers, energy conservation and pollution emission reductions.

Transportation System Management (TSM)

Techniques for increasing the efficiency, safety, capacity, or level of service of a transportation facility without increasing its size. Examples include traffic signal improvements and traffic control devices including installing medians and parking removal.

U

Universal Design/Accessible Design

Design to accommodate a wide range of users, including people with disabilities and other special needs.

W

Watershed

The physical land area that naturally drains into a lake, river or stream system.

Wayfinding

Signs, maps and other graphic or audible methods used to convey location and directions to travelers.

Wetlands



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Areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season.

Z

Zoning Code/Zoning Ordinance

An ordinance enacted by the city council pursuant to state law that sets forth regulations and standards relating to the nature and extent of uses of land and structures in the city.

Zoning Map

A map showing the allowed uses of real property in certain areas.

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Acronyms

AB	Assembly Bill
ac	acre
ACS	American Community Survey
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AMI	Area Median Income
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
ARB	California Air Resource Board
BMPs	Best Management Practices
C-G	Commercial General
C-N	Commercial Neighborhood
C-O	Commercial Office
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CBSP	Commuter Bikeways Strategic Plan
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
cfs	Cubic feet per second
CHAS	Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy
CMA	Congestion Management Agency
CMP	Congestion Management Plan
CN	Conservation
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CR	Circulation
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
CWA	Clean Water Act
DAMP	Drainage Area Master Plan
dB	Decibels
dBA	A-weighted decibels
DOGGR	California Department of Conservation, Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
DOT	Department of Transportation
DR	Design Review
DU	Dwelling units
ED	Economic Development
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
ELI	Extremely Low-Income
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAR	Floor Area Ratio
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zones
FIRMS	Flood Insurance Rate Maps
FP	Fully Protected
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GM	Growth Management
GPAC	General Plan Advisory Committee
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development



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HE	Housing Element
HMDA	Home Mortgage Disclosure Act
HR	Historic Resources
HUD	Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development
Hz	Hertz
I-	Interstate
I-M	Industrial Manufacturing
ICU	Intersection Capacity Utilization
Ldn	Annual-average day-night noise level
LOS	Level of Service
LRAs	Local Responsibility Areas
LU	Land Use
MEP	Maximum Extent Practicable
MHP	Mobile Home Park
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
MS4s	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
N	Noise
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
O	Oil Combining Zone
O-S	Open Space
OCFA	Orange County Fire Authority
OCSD	Orange County Sanitation District
OCTA	Orange County Transportation Authority
OHDC	Orange Housing Development Corporation
OPR	Office of Planning and Research
OR	Open Space and Recreation
PITS	Point-In-Time Homeless Count and Survey
PRC	Project Review Committee
PRMP	Yorba Linda Parks and Recreation Master Plan
PS	Public Health and Safety
PSU	Public Services and Utilities
R-H	Residential High
R-L	Residential Low
R-MH	Residential Medium-High
R-ML	Residential Medium-Low
RHNA	Regional Housing Needs Assessment
RCOC	Regional Center of Orange County
RPTTF	Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SB	Senate Bill
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCE	Southern California Edison
SCS	Sustainable Communities Strategy
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SF	Square feet



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SMARA	California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SR-	State Route
SRA	State Responsibility Areas
SRO	Single Room Occupancy
SSC	Species of Special Concern
TDM	Transportation Demand Management
TMA	Transportation Management Areas
V/C	Volume-to-Capacity
vpd	Vehicles per Day
YLWD	Yorba Linda Water District

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