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### GLOSSARY OF TERMS/ACRONYMS

**AB 32**  
Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires that the State reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020.

**ACE**  
Altamont Corridor Express

**ADA**  
Americans with Disabilities Act

**ADT**  
Average Daily Traffic

**Air Cargo**  
Revenue producing items in domestic or international commerce, composed of freight, express, and mail, but excluding passenger baggage.

**Air Carrier**  
An aviation operator who provides regular round-trips per week between two or more points and publishes flight schedules that specify the times, days of the week, and places between which such flights are performed. The air carrier at the Modesto City-County Airport is United Express.

**Alternative Fuels**  
Low-polluting fuels that are used to propel a vehicle instead of high-sulfur diesel or gasoline. Examples include methanol, ethanol, propane, compressed natural gas, liquid natural gas, low-sulfur or “clean” diesel, and electricity.

**Amtrak**  
A federal governmental agency that provides intercity railroad passenger service. Amtrak also provides commuter rail passenger service by contract.

**Annual Service Miles**  
The number of miles that all transit vehicles travel each year in scheduled transit service operations, or when carrying passengers in door-to-door (or demand responsive) transit service.

**SJVAPCD**  
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is the governmental agency that regulates sources of air pollution within Stanislaus County.

**Bikeway Classifications**  
As defined by the Caltrans Highway Design Manual:
- **Class I Bike Path:** A paved path within an exclusive right-of-way.
- **Class II Bike Lane:** Signed and striped lanes within a street right-of-way.
- **Class III Bike Route:** Preferred routes on existing streets identified by signs only.

**BLST**  
Bus Line Service of Turlock
BRT
Bus Rapid Transit - typically a travel corridor that allows buses to operate at higher speeds in their own right-of-way minimizing conflicts with automobiles

BTA
Bicycle Transportation Account

CAA
Clean Air Act. Federal legislation which establishes criteria for attaining and maintaining the federal air quality standards for allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various air pollutants. The legislation also provides emission standards for specific vehicles and fuels.

CAC
Citizen’s Advisory Committee. A standing StanCOG advisory committee to the Policy Board

CAT
Ceres Area Transit

Caltrans
California Department of Transportation

CARB
California Air Resources Board

Carpool
Two or more people sharing the use and cost of privately owned automobiles.

CCAA
California Clean Air Act passed in 1988 that provides the basis for air quality planning and regulation independent of federal regulations.

CCI
Construction Cost Index measures the inflation rate in the cost of major construction projects.

CHP
California Highway Patrol

CHSRA
California High-Speed Rail Authority

CMIA
Corridor Mobility Improvement Account. A $4.5 billion congestion relief component of the nearly $19.9 billion Proposition 1B Infrastructure Bonds approved by voters in November 2006.

CMA

CMAQ
Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program. A category of funds contained in TEA-21 for projects and activities that reduce congestion and improve air quality in regions not yet attaining federal air quality standards.
**CMP**
Congestion Management Process. Required of every county in California with a population of 50,000 or more to qualify for certain state and federal funds. CMPs set performance standards for roads and public transit, and show how local agencies will attempt to meet those standards. The CMP is required to be adopted by the CMA and must be consistent with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

**Community Plan**
More specific versions of the General Plans, generally dealing with smaller geographical areas, but having the same force of law. See General Plan.

**Commuter Rail**
Conventional rail passenger service within a metropolitan area, usually operating over existing, inter-city railroad tracks.

**Complete Streets**
Complete Streets is a transportation policy and design approach that requires streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel and access for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation.

**Conformity**
A demonstration of whether a federally-supported activity is consistent with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) — per Section 176 (c) of the Clean Air Act.

**Congestion**
Congestion is usually defined as travel time or delay in excess of that normally experienced under free-flow traffic conditions.

**Corridor**
A broad geographical band that follows a general directional flow connecting major trip origins and destinations. A corridor may contain a number of streets, highways and transit route alignments.

**COG**
Council of Governments

**CPI**
Consumer Price Index developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor to provide a measurement of the inflation rate in the general economy of a given metropolitan area.

**CTC**
California Transportation Commission

**CTSA**
Consolidated Transportation Services Agency

**CVO**
Commercial Vehicle Operations

**DAR**
Dial-a-ride. A transit service that is pre-arranged by phone or by application

**Deficient Segment**
As used in the RTP, a portion of freeway experiencing a Level of Service where demand exceeds capacity.

**Demand-Responsive Service**
Transit service that is provided in response to a pre-ordered or telephone reservation.
Development Impact Fee
A fee charged to private developers, usually on a per dwelling unit or per square foot basis, to help pay for infrastructure improvements necessitated as a result of the development.

DOF
Department of Finance

DOT
Department of Transportation

EIR
Environmental Impact Report. A detailed statement prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) describing and analyzing the significant environmental effects of a project and discussing ways to mitigate or avoid the effects.

EMP
Environmental Mitigation Program. Provides funding for the mitigation of local and regional transportation projects and additional funding for activities that help implement the region’s habitat preservation plans

Environmental Justice (EJ)
The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws and policies.

Expressway
Similar to a freeway but with signal-controlled intersections.

FAA
Federal Aviation Administration:

Farebox Recovery Ratio
Measure of the proportion of operating expenses covered by passenger fares. The ratio divides the farebox revenue by the total operating expenses.

Farebox Revenue
Value of cash, tickets, and pass receipts given by passengers for payment for rides on public transit.

Fare Structure
The various fees charged to use transit typically delineated by age, type of service, trip length and/or time of day.

FHWA
Federal Highway Administration:

Fixed-Route Service
Service provided on a regular, fixed-schedule basis along a specific route with vehicles stopping to pick up and deliver passengers to specific locations.

Freeway
Multilane divided roadway, grade separated from other roadways, with fully controlled access and egress.

FTA
Federal Transit Administration:

FY
Fiscal Year. For local public agencies, this is typically July 1 through June 30 of each year.
FFY
Federal Fiscal Year. Typically October 1 through September 30 of each year

Gas Tax
The tax applied on each gallon of fuel sold. Currently, the federal tax is 18.3 cents per gallon and the state tax is 18 cents per gallon tax.

General Plan
A policy document required of cities and counties by state law which describes a jurisdiction’s future development in text and map form. All land use decisions must derive from the GP. The General Plan must contain seven mandatory elements: Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise, and Safety.

GHG
Greenhouse gas. Gases that effect global climate change. They include: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

GIS
Geographic Information System.

Grade Separation
A vertical separation between intersecting roads and or railway tracks.

GRH
Guaranteed Ride Home Program which provides a free taxicab ride or 24-hour car rental to those who carpool, vanpool, use premium bus service or bike to work

HCD
The California State Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department

HCM
Highway Capacity Manual

Heavy Rail
Railroad services that operate in a mixed-user environment on conventional railroad tracks.

Household
All people living in a housing unit, regardless of whether they are related to each other. Housing units include houses, apartments, and mobile homes.

HOV
High Occupancy Vehicle that carries more than one passenger. Examples include carpools, vanpools, shuttles, and buses.

HOV Lane
Exclusive road or traffic lane limited to HOVs that typically has a higher operating speed and lower traffic volumes than a general purpose or mixed flow lane.

HSR
High-Speed Rail is railroad passenger service that, as defined by California state law, operates at maximum speeds of over 200 miles per hour.

HTF
Highway Trust Fund. A federal program for transportation funding

Inter-city Rail
Railroad passenger service which primarily serves longer trips such as those between major cities or regions
**Intermodal**
Passenger or freight transportation services which involve or use more than one type of transportation facility (or mode).

**ITS**
Intelligent Transportation Systems use transportation technologies, management tools, and electronic services to improve operational efficiencies.

**JARC**
Jobs Access Reverse Commute. The SAFETEA-LU formula fund program which provides support for capital or operating costs for transportation services and facilities designed to facilitate reverse commute employment related travel for persons of limited means.

**LOS**
Level of Service. A qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream and motorists’ perception of those conditions. LOS ratings typically range from LOS A, which represents free flow conditions, to LOS F, which is characterized by forced flow, heavy congestion, stop and go traffic, and long queues.

**MAP-21**
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (P.L. 112-141), was signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012. Funding surface transportation programs at over $105 billion for fiscal years (FY) 2013 and 2014, MAP-21 is the first long-term highway authorization enacted since 2005. By transforming the policy and programmatic framework for investments to guide the system’s growth and development, MAP-21 creates a streamlined and performance-based surface transportation program and builds on many of the highway, transit, bike, and pedestrian programs and policies established in 1991.

**MAX**
Modesto Area Express. The City of Modesto’s fixed-route transit service

**Mixed-Use**
The combining of commercial, office, and residential land uses to provide easy pedestrian access and reduce the public’s dependence on the automobile.

**Mode**
One of various forms of transportation, including automobile, transit, bicycle, and walking.

**Mode Split**
The percent of trips that use each of the various travel modes.

**MPO**
Metropolitan Planning Organization is the federally-designated agency that is responsible for regional transportation planning in each metropolitan area. StanCOG is the MPO for the Stanislaus region.

**Non-attainment Area**
A geographic area identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and/or the California Air Resources Board (CARB) as not meeting either the national or California Ambient Air Quality Standards for a given pollutant.

**NMTP**
Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. A document, prepared by StanCOG that addresses all non-motorized modes of transportation.

**Paratransit**
The range of demand-responsive (or on-request) transit providing service from a trip origin to trip destination.
Park and Ride
A travel option where commuters park their personal vehicles in a publicly provided lot or other location, and continue their trip via carpool, vanpool, or transit.

PSR
Project Study Report. A preliminary engineering report which documents agreement on the scope, a set of reasonable and feasible alternatives, schedule, and estimated cost of a project so that the project can be included in a future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Public Transportation
Travel by bus, rail, or other vehicle, either publicly or privately owned, which provides general or specialized service on a regular or continuing basis.

Reverse Commute
Travel in the direction opposite to the main flow of peak period commute traffic.

RHNA
Regional Housing Needs Assessment

RHNP
Regional Housing Needs Plan

ROW
Right-of-Way. The land required for the construction and operation of a transportation facility.

RTIP
Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). A listing of major highway and transit projects including project costs, funding sources, and development schedules.

RTP
Regional Transportation Plan. A minimum 20-year plan that is required by state and federal law to guide the development of the region's transportation system.

RTPA
Regional Transportation Planning Agency. A state-designated agency responsible for preparing the RTP and the RTIP and administering state transportation funds. StanCOG is the RTPA in the Stanislaus region.

Safe Routes to School
A state and federal program which funds education, encouragement campaigns, and infrastructure improvements to help reduce the amount of traffic congestion around schools.

SAFETEA-LU

SB 45
Senate Bill 45. Commonly referred to as the STIP Reform Bill. This bill created the procedures for administering local grant projects in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and responsibilities of Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs)

SB 375
Senate Bill 375. California senate legislation that helps implement the requirements of Assembly Bill 32, by addressing the greenhouse gas emissions produced by cars and light trucks—which account for nearly 40% of the state’s total emissions.
**SCS**
Sustainable Communities Strategy. A SCS is an enhanced land use element, developed as part of each Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update, that sets forth a growth strategy for the region which combined with the transportation plan strives towards achieving GHG emissions reductions.

**SIP**
State Implementation Plan. A document that shows the steps planned to meet federal air quality standards.

**SJV**
San Joaquin Valley

**SJVAPCD**
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

**SHOPP**
State Highway Operation and Protection Program. Caltrans’ three-year program to address traffic safety, roadway rehabilitation, roadside rehabilitation, or operations needs on the state highway system.

**Smart Growth**
A compact, efficient, and environmentally-sensitive pattern of development that provides people with additional travel, housing, and employment choices by focusing future growth away from rural areas and closer to existing and planned job centers and public facilities, while preserving open space and natural resources.

**SOV**
Single occupant vehicle

**SR**
State Route, as in State Route 99 (SR-99)

**SSTAC**
Social Services Transportation Advisory Council. A standing StanCOG advisory committee to the Policy Board

**StanCOG**
Stanislaus Council of Governments

**StaRT**
Stanislaus Regional Transit. Stanislaus County’s fixed-route transit service.

**STIP**
State Transportation Improvement Program. A multi-year program of major transportation projects to be funded by the state. The CTC adopts the STIP every two years based on projects proposed in RTIPs and from Caltrans.

**STP**
Surface Transportation Program. A federal program originally established in the federal ISTEA legislation which provides flexible funding allocated by regional agencies like StanCOG for a range of projects including highways, transit, local streets and roads, and bicycles.

**Sustainability 3Es**
Environmental Quality, Economic Vitality, Social Equity

**TAC**
Technical Advisory Committee. An informal StanCOG advisory committee.

**TAZ**
Traffic Analysis Zone
TCM
Transportation Control Measure. A transportation strategy intended both to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to make VMT more efficient. TCMs include transportation system management (TSM) and transportation demand management (TDM) elements. Examples include carpooling, transit, and computer-optimized traffic signals.

TDA
Transportation Development Act. TDA funds are generated from a tax of one-quarter of one percent on all retail sales in each county and are used for transit, specialized transit for disabled persons, and bicycle and pedestrian purposes.

TCRP
Transportation Congestion Relief Program

TDM
Transportation Demand Management. Programs to reduce demand by automobiles on the transportation system, such as telecommuting, flextime, bicycling, walking, transit use, staggered work hours, and ridesharing.

Tier I
Transportation improvements and programs that are fully fundable by 2040 based on revenue projections

Tier II
Transportation improvements and programs that are desired, but are not fully fundable by 2040 based on revenue projections

TSM
Transportation System Management. Strategies that maximize the number of persons traveling in a corridor or facility. These strategies include traffic flow improvements, ramp metering, and park-and-ride lots.

U.S. DOT
United States Department of Transportation

U.S. EPA
United States Environmental Protection Agency

Vanpool
A vehicle operating as a ridesharing arrangement, providing transportation to a group of individuals traveling directly between their homes and a regular destination within the same geographic area.

V/C Ratio
Volume to Capacity Ratio. The volume of traffic divided by the capacity of a transportation facility.

VMT
Vehicle Miles Traveled. The total number of miles traveled on all roadways by all vehicles.