



**MPO  
TRANSPORTATION  
ACRONYMS  
&  
GLOSSARY**

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## Transportation Acronyms & Glossary

- AASHTO**     **American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials:** The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. AASHTO, representing all five transportation modes: air, highways, public transportation, rail, and water, advocates transportation-related policies and provides technical services to support states in their efforts to efficiently and safely move people and goods. Its primary goal is to foster the development, operation, and maintenance of an integrated national transportation system.
- AADT**     **Annual Average Daily Traffic:** The total volume of traffic on a highway segment for one year, divided by the number of days in the year. Both directions of traffic volumes are reported as well as total two-way volumes.
- Access**     **Accessibility:** The opportunity to reach a given end use within a certain time frame, or without being impeded by physical social or economic barriers. Enhancing mobility is one way of improving access.
- ADA**     **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990:** A Federal law that requires public facilities (including transportation services) to be accessible to persons with disabilities, including those with mental disabilities, temporary disabilities, and the conditions related to substance abuse.
- ADT**     **Average Daily Traffic:** The number of vehicles passing a fixed point in a day, averaged over a number of days. The number of count days included in the average varies with the intended use of data.
- AICP**     **American Institute of Certified Planners:** AICP is the American Planning Association's professional institute, providing recognized leadership nationwide in the certification of professional planners, ethics, professional development, planning education, and the standards of planning practice.
- AMPO**     **Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations:** A national nonprofit membership organization serving the interests of metropolitan planning organizations nationwide.

- APA**      **American Planning Association:** The American Planning Association brings together thousands of people – practicing planners, citizens, elected officials – committed to making great communities happen.
- ASCE**      **American Society of Civil Engineers:** Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) represents more than 133,000 members of the civil engineering profession worldwide, and is America's oldest national engineering society. ASCE's vision is to position engineers as global leaders building a better quality of life.
- AVO**      **Average Vehicle Occupancy:** The ratio of person trips to vehicle trips; often used as a criteria in judging the success of trip reduction programs.
- AVR**      **Average Vehicle Ridership:** The number of employees scheduled to start work during specified hours divided by the number of vehicles arriving at the site during those same hours.
- BCC**      **Board of County Commissioners:** The State constitution gives the Board of County Commissioners the power to adopt ordinances (local laws), approve the County budget and set millages, and establish the requirements for the departments under its control. The Board governs all unincorporated areas of the county directly; municipalities may call upon the County for specialized services.
- BMS**      **Bridges Management Systems:** Process for analyzing existing conditions and identifying future needs with respect to bridges; required for the National Highway System (NHS) as a part of ISTEA; and the extent to which the remaining public bridges are included in the process is left to the discretion of state and local officials.
- BOA**      **Board of Adjustments:** The Board of Adjustment reviews applications submitted for a variance to the Land Development Regulations. The Board then approves or denies the applications based on staff reports and evidence submitted during the hearing, taking into consideration the applicant's and other testimony in favor or against the request.
- BPAC**      **Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee:** The Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee examines alternatives and makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners in the areas of facilities, engineering, education programs for transportation professionals, bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, uniform traffic enforcement and programs to encourage increased safe cycling and walking as modes of transportation.

- CAAA**      **Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990:** Amendments to the federal Clean Air Act which classify nonattainment areas and provide for rules dealing with air pollution in such areas; specifically brought transportation decisions into the context of air quality control.
- CAC**      **Citizen Advisory Committee:** Advisory committee utilized by most metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) for citizen input into the transportation planning process.
- CBD**      **Central Business District:** The area of a community with the most intense commercial and business development.
- CCI**      **Community Characteristics Inventory:** The history of a community with present and future conditions of an area. Includes physical characteristics of an area, narrative text that describes the community, tables or graphics that summarize data.
- CE**      **Categorical Exclusion:** A technical exclusion for projects that do not result in significant environmental impacts. Such projects are not required to prepare environmental reviews.
- CEMO**      **Central Environmental Management Office:** Represents FDOT in protecting and enhancing a sustainable human and natural environment while developing safe, cost effective and efficient transportation systems.
- CFMPOA**      **Central Florida MPO Alliance:** A coalition of transportation and government organizations committed to addressing transportation challenges on a regional basis. The alliance is comprised of representatives from METROPLAN ORLANDO, the Volusia County MPO, Brevard MPO, Polk County TPO and the Lake-Sumter MPO.
- CFR**      **Code of Federal Regulations:** The codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government. It is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each volume of the CFR is updated once each calendar year and is issued on a quarterly basis.
- CIGP**      **County Incentive Grant Program:** This program provides grants to counties to improve a transportation facility which is located on the State Highway System or which relieves traffic congestion on the State Highway System.

- CIE**      **Capital Improvements Element:** A required element of local comprehensive plans which evaluates the need for public facilities, their cost and funding/schedule for construction; specific content for the CIE is found in Rule 9J-5.016 of the Florida Administrative Code and Chapter 163.3177(3), Florida Statutes.
- CLC**      **Community Liaison Coordinator:** The FDOT district person responsible for implementing effective public involvement to identify potential sociocultural effects for transportation projects; responsible for public involvement and assessment of sociocultural effects in the non-MPO areas of the state.
- CMAQ**      **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program:** A categorical funding program created under ISTEA, which directs funding to projects that contribute to meeting national air quality standards in non-attainment areas for ozone and carbon monoxide.
- CMS**      **Congestion Management System:** A systemic process required under ISTEA to provide information on transportation system performance and identify alternative strategies to alleviate congestion and enhance mobility of persons and goods; process must be developed in Transportation Management Areas (TMAs), the use of CMS in non-TMAs is left to the discretion of state and local officials; in Florida, MPOs will take the lead for the CMS in urbanized areas and FDOT will take the lead elsewhere.
- CMS**      **Concurrency Management System:** A systematic process utilized by local governments to ensure that new development does not occur unless adequate infrastructure (such as public facilities) is in place to support growth; requirements for the CMS are found in Rule 9J-5.0055, Florida Administrative Code.
- CNU**      **Congress for the New Urbanism:** CNU advocates the restructuring of public policy and development practices to support the restoration of existing urban centers and towns within coherent metropolitan regions. We stand for the reconfiguration of sprawling suburbs into communities of real neighborhoods and diverse districts, the conservation of natural environments, and the preservation of our built legacy.
- Community** Behavior patterns which individuals or groups of individuals hold in common, usually expressed through daily social interaction, the use of local facilities, participation in local organizations, and involvement in activities that satisfy the population's economic and social needs.

<b>CTCs</b>	<b>Community Transportation Coordinators:</b> People contracted by the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission to provide complete, cost-effective and efficient transportation services to transportation disadvantaged (TD) persons.
<b>CTD</b>	<b>Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged:</b> An independent commission housed administratively within the Florida Department of Transportation. Our mission is to insure the availability of efficient, cost-effective, and quality transportation services for transportation disadvantaged persons.
<b>CUTR</b>	<b>Center for Urban Transportation Research:</b> A legislatively created research center, located at the University of South Florida, whose purpose is to conduct and facilitate research and serve as an information exchange on issues related to urban transportation problems in Florida.
<b>DCA</b>	<b>Department of Community Affairs:</b> State and land planning agency responsible for a number of local and regional planning of programs, established in Chapter 163 and 380 of the Florida Statutes.
<b>DOT</b>	<b>Department of Transportation:</b> Agency responsible for transportation at the local, state, or federal level.
<b>DRI</b>	<b>Development of Regional Impact:</b> A large-scale development which is required to undergo an extra-local review process; the appropriate regional planning council coordinates the review; the appropriate local government makes the approval decision, with the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) retaining appeal authority; Rule 28-24, F.A.C. identified types of development subject to DRI review.
<b>EA</b>	<b>Environmental Assessment:</b> A document that must be submitted for approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation for transportation projects in which the significance of the environmental impact is not clearly established. An EA is required for all projects for which a Categorical Exclusion or Environmental Impact Statement is not applicable.
<b>EAR</b>	<b>Evaluation and Appraisal Report:</b> Periodic review and evaluation of a local government comprehensive plan; generally due every five years; requirements for contents are identified in Rule 9J-5.0053, Florida Administrative Code and Chapter 163.3191, Florida Statutes.

<b>EIS</b>	<b>Environmental Impact Statement:</b> A document that explains the purpose and need for a project, presents project alternatives, analyzes the likely impact of each, explains the choice of a preferred alternative, and finally details measures to be taken in order to mitigate the impacts of the preferred alternative.
<b>EPA</b>	<b>Environmental Protection Agency:</b> Protects human health and the environment. Since 1970, EPA has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people. EPA is led by the Administrator, who is appointed by the President of the United States.
<b>ETDM</b>	<b>Efficient Transportation Decision Making:</b> Creates a linkage between land use, transportation and environmental resource planning initiatives through early, interactive agency and public involvement.
<b>FAPA</b>	<b>Florida Chapter of the APA:</b> The Florida Chapter of APA provides statewide leadership in the development of sustainable communities by advocating excellence in planning, providing professional development for its members, and working to protect and enhance the natural and built environments.
<b>FDOT</b>	<b>Florida Department of Transportation:</b> State agency responsible for transportation issues in Florida.
<b>FHPP</b>	<b>Federal High Priority Projects:</b> Projects earmarked by Congress in TEA-21 as high priorities at the federal level. These amount to roughly 5% of the total transportation budget.
<b>FHWA</b>	<b>Federal Highway Administration:</b> Division of the U.S. Department of Transportation responsible for administering federal highway transportation programs.
<b>FONSI</b>	<b>Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI):</b> A statement indicating that a project was found to have no significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which an environmental impact statement will therefore not be prepared.
<b>F.S.</b>	<b>Florida Statutes:</b> Documents in which Florida's laws are founds.
<b>FSUTMS</b>	<b>Florida Standard Urban Transportation Modeling Structure:</b> Computer model used in Florida for transportation planning to simulate existing and future travel patterns; developed by FDOT for long-range urban area transportation modeling.

<b>FTA</b>	<b>Federal Transit Administration:</b> Federal entity responsible for transit planning and programs.
<b>FTE</b>	<b>Florida Turnpike Enterprise:</b> As part of FDOT, the Turnpike Enterprise's objective is to employ private sector methods in operating the Turnpike as a business for the State. A centerpiece of this strategy is to capitalize on the advantages of electronic toll collection.
<b>FGDL</b>	<b>Florida Geographical Data Library (FGDL):</b> Housed at the GeoPlan Center at the University of Florida, contains GIS data from federal, state and local agencies.
<b>FIHS</b>	<b>Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS):</b> A statewide network of limited and controlled access highways whose primary function is for high speed and high volume traffic movements; built and maintained by FDOT.
<b>FTP</b>	<b>Florida Transportation Plan:</b> A statewide, comprehensive transportation plan, which establishes long-range goals to be accomplished over a 20-25 year time frame; developed by Florida Department of Transportation; updated on an annual basis.
<b>FY</b>	<b>Fiscal Year:</b> A budget year; runs from July 1 through June 30 for the State of Florida; and from October 1 through September 30 for the federal governments.
<b>GIS</b>	<b>Geographic Information Systems:</b> A system of mapping software that integrates the collection, management and analysis of geographic data. This can be used to display the results of data queries as maps and analyse spatial distribution of data.
<b>GPS</b>	<b>Global Positioning System:</b> A satellite based navigation system providing accuracy usable for side scan sonar surveys on a worldwide basis. GPS has become a universal, reliable positioning system.
<b>HCM</b>	<b>Highway Capacity Manual:</b> A collection of state-of-the-art techniques for estimating capacity and determining level of service for many transportation facilities and modes.
<b>HOV</b>	<b>High Occupancy Vehicle:</b> In Florida, vehicles carrying two (2) or more people; freeways, expressways and other large volume roads may have lanes designated for HOV use by carpoolers, vanpools, and buses.

- ICE**      **Intergovernment Coordination Element:** Required element of a local government comprehensive plan addressing coordination between adjacent local governments, and regional and state agencies; requirements for content are found in rule 9J-5.015, F.A.C. and 163.3177(b)(h), F.S.
- ISTEA**    **Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991:** Federal law which restructured transportation planning and funding by requiring consideration of multimodal solutions, emphasis on the movement of people and goods as opposed to traditional highway investments, flexibility in the use of transportation funds, a greater role of MPOs, and a greater emphasis on public participation.
- ITE**      **Institute of Transportation Engineers:** An international society of professionals in transportation and traffic engineering; publishes Trip Generation (a manual of trip generation rates by land use type).
- ITS**      **Intelligent Transportation System:** Use of computer and communications technology to facilitate the flow of information between travelers and system operators to improve mobility and transportation productivity, enhance safety, maximize the use of existing transportation facilities, conserve energy resources and reduce adverse environmental effects; includes concepts such as "freeway management systems," "automated fare collection" and "transit information kiosks."
- JPA**      **Joint Participation Agreement:** Legal instrument describing intergovernmental tasks to be accomplished and/or funds to be paid between government agencies.
- LGCP**    **Local Government Comprehensive Plan:** As required by Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, requires local governments to develop local comprehensive plans; also contains capital improvements, consistency and concurrency requirements, and provides for Rule Chapter 9J-5, F.A.C.
- LOS**      **Level of Service:** A qualitative assessment of a road's operating condition, generally described using a scale of A (little congestion) to E/F (severe congestion).
- LPA**      **Local Planning Agency:** The Local Planning Agency (LPA) is responsible for assisting in development and revision of the Lake County Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations, and subsequent ongoing monitoring and oversight of its implementation. Participation involves extensive discussions of the current state of the County and planning for the period ending in the year 2025.

<b>L RTP</b>	<b>Long Range Transportation Plan:</b> A 20-year forecast plan required of state planning agencies and MPOs; must consider a wide range of social, environmental, energy and economic factors in determining overall regional goals and consider how transportation can best meet these goals.
<b>LU</b>	<b>Land Use:</b> Refers to the manner in which portions of land or the structures on them are used, i.e., commercial, residential, retail, industrial, etc.
<b>MG</b>	<b>Minimum Guarantee:</b> A funding category created in TEA-21 that guarantees a 90% return of contributions on formula funds to every state.
<b>M MTD</b>	<b>Multimodal Transportation District:</b> Jointly administered by FDOT and DCA, this planning framework was established by statute based on recommendations by the <i>Transportation and Land Use Study Committee (1999)</i> , which sought to reconcile transportation programs and land use practices. Its goal is to expand the use of multiple modes by coordinating transportation improvements (such as improved transit service and pedestrian facilities) and land use measures that enable multimodal transportation to succeed.
<b>Mobility</b>	The ability to move or be moved from place to place.
<b>Mode</b>	<b>Mode, Intermodal, Multimodal:</b> Form of transportation, such as automobile, transit, bicycle and walking. Intermodal refers to the connections between modes and multimodal refers to the availability of transportation options within a system or corridor.
<b>MPO</b>	<b>Metropolitan Planning Organization:</b> The forum for cooperative transportation decision-making; required for urbanized areas with populations over 50,000
<b>MPOAC</b>	<b>Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council:</b> A statewide advisory council (consisting of one member from each MPO) that serves Florida's 25 MPOs as the principal forum for collective policy discussion; created by law to assist the MPOs in carrying out the urbanized area transportation planning process.

<b>MSTU</b>	<b>Municipal Services Tax Unit:</b> A Taxing District authorized by State Constitution, Article VII and Florida Statute 125.01. The MSTU is a legal and financial mechanism for providing specific services and/or improvements to a defined geographical area. An MSTU may levy ad valorem taxes to provide funds for the improvements.
<b>NAAQS</b>	<b>National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS):</b> Establishes maximum concentrations for criteria air pollutants in specified geographical areas. These pollutants include carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ), particulate matter (PM-10), ozone (O <sub>3</sub> ), and sulfur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ). To prevent established concentrations from being exceeded, State and local governments may require air pollution controls on existing, new, and modified industrial facilities; tighter standards on emissions from motor vehicles; and the use of alternative fuels.
<b>NEPA</b>	<b>National Environmental Policy Act of 1969:</b> An Act to establish a national policy for the environment, to provide for the establishment of a Council on Environmental Quality, and for other purposes.
<b>NHS</b>	<b>National Highway System:</b> Specific major roads to be designated by September 30, 1995; the NHS will consist of 155,000 (plus or minus 15%) miles of road and represents one category of roads eligible for federal funds under ISTEA.
<b>NEPA</b>	<b>National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):</b> Federal law passed in 1969 which requires an analysis of environmental impacts of federal actions (including the funding of projects).
<b>NHPA</b>	<b>National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):</b> Law requiring federal agencies to consider the potential effect of a project on a property that is registered on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. If effects are identified, federal and state agencies and the public must identify means to mitigate the harm.
<b>PC</b>	<b>Public Comment:</b> Once a public involvement program is underway, extensive information begins to accumulate about the views of the public and interest groups in the form of public comment.
<b>PD&amp;E</b>	<b>Project Development and Environment Study (PD&amp;E):</b> FDOT's name for a corridor study to establish conceptual design for a roadway and to determine its compliance with federal and state environmental laws and regulations.

- PEA**      **Planning Emphasis Area:** Planning for the appropriate use of land within communities.
- PHF**      **Peak Hour Factor:** Traffic engineers focus on the peak-hour traffic volume in evaluating capacity and other parameters because it represents the most critical time period. The analysis of level of service is based on peak rates of flow occurring within the peak hour because substantial short-term fluctuations typically occur during an hour. Common practice is to use a peak 15-minute rate of flow. Flow rates are usually expressed in vehicles per hour, not vehicles per 15 minutes.
- PIO**      **Public Information Officer:** The individual in an agency or district responsible for disseminating information and responding to inquiries from the media.
- PI**        **Public Involvement:** The process by which public concerns, needs, and values are solicited and incorporated into decision-making.
- PIP**      **Public Involvement Plan (PIP):** A written plan of public involvement strategies and activities for a specific transportation plan or project. The PIP provides a systematic approach to how the results and outcomes of public involvement activities are integrated into the decision-making process.
- PMS**      **Pavement Management System:** A systematic process utilized by state agencies and MPOs to analyze and summarize pavement information for use in selecting and implementing cost-effective pavement construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance programs; required for roads in the National Highway System as a part of ISTEA; the extent to which the remaining public roads are included in the process is left to the discretion of state and local officials; criteria found in 23 CFR 500.021-209.
- PP**        **Public Participation:** The active and meaningful involvement of the public in the development of transportation plans and improvement programs. The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and subsequent regulations require that state departments of transportation and MPOs proactively seek the involvement of all interested parties, including those traditionally underserved by the current transportation system.

- PTMS**      **Public Transportation Facilities and Equipment Management System:**  
A systematic process (required under ISTEA) utilized by state agencies and MPOs to collect and analyze information on the condition and cost of transit assets on a continual basis; data is to be used to help people choose cost effective strategies for providing and keeping transit facilities and equipment in good condition; process must be developed in Transportation Management Areas (TMAs); the use of CMS in non-TMAs is left to the discretion of state and local officials.
- PUD**      **Planned Unit Development:** A zoning category that allows innovation in development by the suspension of standard zoning to be replaced by negotiated agreements. A PUD requires a comprehensive development plan for the entire area, usually including residences, roads, schools, recreational facilities and service areas, plus commercial, office and industrial areas.
- ROW**      **Right-of-Way:** Real property that is used for transportation purposes; defines the extent of the corridor that can be used for the road and associated drainage.
- RPC**      **Regional Planning Council:** A multipurpose organization composed of representatives of local governments and appointed representatives from the geographic area covered by the council, and designated as the primary organization to address problems and plan solutions that are of greater than local concern or scope; currently there are 11 regional planning councils in Florida. In some area of Florida the Regional Planning Council is under contract to provide staff services to MPOs.
- SAFETEA – LU:**      **Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: Legacy for Users:** Reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Bill authorizing the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 5-year period, 2005-2009.
- SCE**      **Sociocultural Effects:** The effects a transportation action has on social, economic, aesthetic and livability, relocation and displacement, civil rights and land use issues.
- SCOP**      **Small County Outreach Program:** Assists small county governments (population of 150,000 or less) in resurfacing or reconstructing county roads or in constructing capacity or safety improvements to county roads.

- SIS**      **Strategic Intermodal System:** A transportation system comprised of facilities and services fo statewide and interregional significance, including appropriate components of all modes.
- SOV**      **Single Occupant Vehicle:** Privately operated vehicle whose only occupant is the driver.
- Stakeholder** A person, community or organization that has an interest in or may be affected by a transportation decision.
- STIP**      **State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP):** A staged, multiyear, statewide, intermodal program that is consistent with the state and metropolitan transportation plans and identifies the priority transportation projects to be undertaken over the next three years. The STIP is developed by the Florida Department of Transportation
- SIB**      **State Infrastructure Bank:** Method of financing large capital projects by taking advantage of borrowing against future state revenues.
- SRPP**      **Strategic Regional Policy Plan:** A plan, developed by each regional planning council (RPC), which contains goals and policies addressing affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources of regional significance, and regional transportation issues; must be consistent with the state comprehensive plan.
- STIP**      **State Transportation Improvement Program:** The FDOT five-year work program as prescribed by federal law.
- TAC**      **Technical Advisory Committee:** A standing committee of most metropolitan organizations (MPOs); function is to provide advise on plans or actions of the MPO from planners, engineers and other staff members (not general citizens).
- TCEA**      **Transportation Concurrency Exception Area:** Special areas designated in local government comprehensive plans where special level of service standards or analysis techniques may be prescribed. Usually implemented in support of urban infill, urban redevelopment, and/or downtown revitalization.

<b>TCMA</b>	<b>Transportation Concurrency Management Area:</b> Special areas designated in local government comprehensive plans where special level of service standards or analysis techniques may be prescribed. Usually implemented in support of urban infill, urban redevelopment, and/or downtown revitalization.
<b>TD</b>	<b>Transportation Disadvantaged:</b> People who are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation due to disability, income status or age.
<b>TDCB</b>	<b>Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board:</b> This committee is responsible for defining transportation disadvantaged-related goals and objectives, preparing a service plan, and ensuring that the needs of the transportation disadvantaged citizens are being met.
<b>TDM</b>	<b>Transportation Demand Management:</b> A transportation planning process that is aimed at relieving congestion on highways by the following types of actions: (1) actions that promote alternatives to automobile use; (2) actions that encourage more efficient use of alternative transport systems, and (3) actions that discourage automobile use.
<b>TDP</b>	<b>Transit Development Plan:</b> An intermediate-range transit plan (usually five years) that examines service, markets, and funding to make specific recommendations for transit improvements.
<b>TE</b>	<b>Transportation Enhancements:</b> Specific activities which can be funded with Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds; activities include pedestrian/bicycle facilities, acquisition of scenic easements and scenic historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs, scenic beautification, historic preservation, rehabilitation/operation of historic transportation structures, railway corridor preservation, control/removal of outdoor advertising, archeological planning/research and mitigation of highway runoff water pollution.
<b>TEA-21</b>	<b>Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:</b> Federal Legislation authorizing funds for all modes of transportation and guidelines on the use of those funds. Successor to ISTEA, the landmark legislation that clarified the role of the MPOs in the local priority-setting process, TEA-21 emphasizes simplicity, fairness, and higher funding levels for transportation.

- TIP**      **Transportation Improvement Program:** A priority list of transportation projects developed by a metropolitan planning organization that is to be carried out within the five (5) year period following its adoption; must include documentation of federal and state funding sources for each project and be consistent with adopted MPO long range transportation plans and local government comprehensive plans.
- TMA**      **Transportation Management Association:** A membership organization designed to help a group of businesses, companies, and other interested parties implement a commute management program; some funding for these groups is available through the state Commuter Assistance Program (CAP).
- TMA**      **Transportation Management Area:** An area designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation given to all urbanized areas with a population over 200,000 (or other area when requested by the Governor and MPO); these areas must comply with special transportation planning requirements regarding congestion management systems, project selection and certification; requirements identified in 23 CFR450.300-33.6.
- TOP**      **Transit Operations Plan:** An operational and cost feasibility analysis performed prior to implementation of transit services.
- TRB**      **Transportation Research Board:** A unit of the National Research Council whose purpose is to advance knowledge about transportation systems; publishes the Highway Capacity Manual.
- TRIP**      **Transportation Regional Incentive Program:** TRIP was created to improve regionally significant transportation facilities in "regional transportation areas". State funds are available throughout Florida to provide incentives for local governments and the private sector to help pay for critically needed projects that benefit regional travel and commerce. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will pay for 50 percent of project costs, or up to 50 percent of the nonfederal share of project costs for public transportation facility projects.
- TSCP**      **Transportation and Community and Systems Preservation Pilot Program:** A federal discretionary grant program created in TEA-21 that is designed to provide funding for revitalizing and rehabilitating transportation corridors.

- TSM**      **Transportation Systems Management:** Strategies to improve the efficiency of the transportation system through operational improvements such as the use of bus priority or reserved lanes, signalization, access management, turn restrictions, etc.
- UA**      **Urbanized Area:** The US Census Bureau defines an urbanized area as: "Core census block groups or blocks that have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile (386 per square kilometer) and surrounding census blocks that have an overall density of at least 500 people per square mile (193 per square kilometer)."
- UPWP**      **Unified Planning Work Program:** Developed by Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPOs); identifies all transportation and transportation air quality tasks and activities anticipated within the next one to two years, including a schedule for the completion of the identified tasks and activities.
- USC**      **United States Code:** The United States Code is the codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States. It is divided by broad subjects into 50 titles and published by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the U.S. House of Representatives. Since 1926, the United States Code has been published every six years. In between editions, annual cumulative supplements are published in order to present the most current information.
- USDOT**      **United States Department of Transportation:** Established by an act of Congress on October 15, 1966, the Department's first official day of operation was April 1, 1967. The mission of the Department is to: *Serve the United States by ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future.*
- VHT**      **Vehicle Hours Traveled:** On highways, a measurement of the total hours traveled in a given area for a specified time period. It is calculated by multiplying the number of vehicles by the hours traveled in a given area or on a given highway during the time period. In transit, it is calculated by multiplying the number of vehicles by the hours traveled on a given area or on a different route, line, or network during the time period.

- VMS**      **Variable Message Sign:** An electronic traffic sign often used on roadways to give travelers information about special events. Such signs warn of traffic congestion, accidents, incidents, roadwork zones, or speed limits on a specific highway segment. They may also ask vehicles to take alternative routes, limit travel speed, warn of duration and location of the incidents or just inform of the traffic conditions.
- VMT**      **Vehicle Miles Traveled:** On highways, a measurement of the total miles traveled in a given area for a specified time period. It is calculated by multiplying the number of vehicles by the miles traveled in a given area or on a given highway during the time period. In transit, it is calculated by multiplying the number of vehicles by the miles traveled on a given area or on a different route, line, or network during the time period.
- WAGES**      **Work and Gain Economic Self Sufficiency:** Florida's welfare to work program.