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Definitions of Transportation Terms

1. Bridge A structure having a clear span in excess of 20 feet designed to convey vehicles and/or pedestrians over a watercourse, railroad, public right of way or other manmade or natural features.
2. Cartway The area within the right of way of a road consisting of the travel lanes plus the shoulders.
3. Clear Zone The area within the right of way, outside the cartway, which is to be maintained open and unobstructed for purposes of visibility, safety, and to accommodate the placement of utilities, road signs, drainage structures, plowed snow, etc.
4. Culvert A structure designed to convey water under a road or pedestrian walk, not incorporated in a closed drainage system, having a clear span of 20 feet or less.
5. Level of Service A conceptual description of traffic flow conditions broken down into six levels, designated A through F, from best to worst, respectively. Factors that may be considered in evaluating level of service include the following: speed and travel time; traffic interruptions or restrictions; freedom to maneuver; safety; driving comfort and convenience; economy.
6. Marginal Service Roads A road built parallel to an arterial highway to which driveways from adjacent land uses gain direct access. The service road then provides connections to the highway at a controlled number of intersections.
7. Paratransit A style of public transportation unlike scheduled, fixed route service, in that it is more passenger demand responsive in terms of routing and scheduling. Generally using smaller vehicles, this type of service is most appropriately operated in areas of low population density, light passenger loads and/or where passengers require specialized service, such as the handicapped or elderly.
8. Streetscape What is viewed while traveling a thoroughfare, frequently consisting of trees and shrubs; street furniture and signs; fences, hedgerows, and walls; building facades.
9. Transit Hub An appropriately sited facility designed to permit access to public transit vehicles and routes, and where ridesharing arrangements can be supported through the provision of parking and loading areas. The facility also provides shelter from the elements and may include fare vending and information services.
10. Transportation Management Association An organization which could be comprised of representatives of major employers, the chamber of commerce, the public sector, public and private transportation providers, and ridesharing coordinators. Its purpose is to reduce commuter traffic through promoting and organizing ridesharing arrangements and by facilitating access to and use of transit vehicles.

