

CHAPTER 12.0: DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

12.1 DEFINITIONS

2000 Measure A – On August 9, 2000, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board of Directors voted to place a half-cent transit sales tax on the November 7, 2000 General Election ballot allowing Santa Clara County voters the opportunity to vote on transportation improvements in the county. Voters approved 2000 Measure A by more than 70%. The Capitol Expressway Light Rail Project was included in Measure A. Other projects include a BART extension to San Jose and increased bus service.

above grade – The location of a structure or transit guideway above the surface of the ground (also known as elevated or aerial).

acre - A unit of measurement of area equivalent to 43,560 square feet.

alight - To get down, as from a vehicle; dismount.

alignment - The horizontal and vertical ground plan of a roadway, railroad, transit route, or other facility.

alluvium - Deposits resulting from the operations of water including floodplains, lakes, rivers, and fans at the foot of mountain slopes.

AM Peak - The morning commute period, about two hours, in which the greatest movement of passengers occurs, generally from home to work; the portion of the morning service period where the greatest level of ridership is experienced and service provided.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) – The law passed by Congress in 1990, which makes it illegal to discriminate against people with disabilities in employment, services provided by state and local governments, public and private transportation, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

AMTRAK (National Passenger Corporation) – A quasi-public corporation created by the federal Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970 to improve and develop intercity passenger rail service throughout the United States.

aquifer - A permeable region of rock or soil through which groundwater can move.

aquitard - A material of low permeability that greatly slows the movement of groundwater.

at grade – The location of a structure or transit guideway at the same level as the ground surface.

British thermal unit (BTU) - A unit of heat energy defined as the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit. One Btu equals approximately 778.169 foot-pounds, 1.055 056 kilojoules or 0.293 071 watt hour.

bus shelter – A structure constructed near a bus stop to provide seating and protection from the weather for the convenience of waiting passengers.

bus stop – A curbside place where passengers board or alight transit.

bus turnout – Cutout in the roadside to permit a transit vehicle to dwell at a curb.

busway - A roadway reserved for buses only. It may be a grade separated or controlled access roadway. Also known as "Bus Lane."

CAL3QHC - Microcomputer based model used to predict CO concentrations from motor vehicles at roadway intersections

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) – Modeled after the National Environmental Policy Act, this California state law encourages the protection of the environment through policies and procedural requirements.

candidate species - Any species of fish, wildlife, or plant that has been determined to be a candidate for listing under Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (amended).

capital – Long-term assets, such as property, buildings, roads, rail lines, and vehicles.

capital costs – Costs of long-term assets of a public transit system such as property, buildings, vehicles, etc.

Capital Improvement Program – The list of capital projects for a five to seven year programming period.

Capital Project – Construction and/or procurement of district assets, such as transit centers, transit vehicles, and track.

Central Business District (CBD) – An area of a city that contains the greatest concentration of commercial activity, the “downtown.” The traditional downtown retail, trade, and commercial area of a city or an area of very high land evaluation, traffic flow, and concentration of retail business offices, theaters, hotels, and services.

Commuter Rail – Long-haul rail passenger service operating between metropolitan and suburban areas, whether within or across the geographical boundaries of a state, usually characterized by reduced fares for multiple rides, and commutation tickets for regular, recurring riders. Also known as “regional rail” or “suburban rail.”

consist - The cars of a train.

corridor - A broad geographical band that follows a general directional flow or connects major sources of trips. It may contain a number of streets and highways and many transit lines and routes.

cultural resources - Archaeological and historic resources that could be affected by a given project. Cultural resources include buildings, sites, districts, structures, or objects having historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific importance.

cumulative impact - The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

dB – Decibel. Logarithmic scale measuring the intensity of sound (the sound pressure level).

dBA – Unit of sound level adjusted by frequency weightings to correspond to human hearing response. Referred to as “A-weighted” decibel.

Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report - A draft report prepared in accordance with the requirements of both the National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act that identifies and analyzes the environmental effects of a project (see also Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Environmental Impact Report).

disabled – With respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such an individual; a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment.

discretionary – Subject to the discretion of legislators or an administrator. The federal Section 5309 New Starts Program is an example of a discretionary program.

electromagnetic field (EMF) – electromagnetic fields associated with electromagnetic radiation.

electromagnetic interference (EMI) – Electromagnetic interference may include the interruption, obstruction, or other degradation in the effective performance of electronic systems or equipment.

EMFAC2002 - USEPA approved emissions model to be used in California.

Express Service – Express service is deployed in one of two general configurations: 1) A service generally connecting residential areas and activity centers via a high speed, non-stop connection, e.g., a freeway, or exclusive right-of-way such as a dedicated busway with limited stops at each end for collection and distribution. Residential collection can be exclusively or partially undertaken using park-and-ride facilities. 2) Service operated non-stop over a portion of an arterial in conjunction with other local services. The need for such service arises where passenger demand between points on a corridor is high enough to separate demand and support dedicated express trips.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – A part of the United States Department of Transportation that administers the federal program of financial assistance to public transit.

fill – Earth used to create embankments or to raise low-lying areas in order to bring them to grade.

Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) - A report that responds to comments received on the Draft EIS/EIR, identifies and analyzes environmental effects of alternatives in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act, and identifies and analyzes environmental effects of a preferred project alternative in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (see also Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Final Environmental Impact Report).

fixed guideway – Any public transportation facility utilizing and occupying a separate right-of-way or rails for the exclusive use of public transportation service, including, but not limited to, fixed rail, automated guideway transit, and exclusive facilities for buses and other high-occupancy vehicles; and also means a public transportation facility using a fixed catenary system and right-of-way useable by other forms of transportation.

floodplain - The part of the ground surface inundated with water on a recurring basis, usually associated with the 1 percent recurrence interval (100-year) flow.

frequency – The amount of time scheduled between consecutive buses or trains on a given route segment; in other words, how often the bus or train comes (also known as Headway).

g - horizontal ground acceleration

grade separated – A crossing of two forms of transportation paths (e.g., light rail tracks and a highway) at different levels to permit unconstrained operation.

gram - Unit of measurement of mass (metric system).

headway – The scheduled time interval between any two revenue vehicles operating in the same direction on a route. Headways may be “load” driven, that is, developed on the basis of demand and loading standards or, “policy” based, i.e., dictated by policy decisions such as service every 30 minutes during the peak periods and every 60 minutes during the base period.

hectare (ha) - A measure of area that equals 2.47 acres or 10,000 square meters.

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) - A "carpool," or vehicle occupied by two or more persons.

High Occupancy Vehicle Lane (HOV Lane) - A system of exclusive lanes signed and striped for use by vehicles with multiple occupants (two or more persons). HOV lanes are designed on roadways to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety, reduce fuel consumption, and improve air quality.

intermodal – Those issues or activities that involve or affect one mode of transportation, including transportation connections, choices, cooperation, and coordination of various modes. Also known as “multimodal.”

intermodal facility – A building or site specifically designed to accommodate the meeting of two or more transit modes of travel.

Joint Powers Authority – A group of representatives from several entities that have agreed to undertake a joint operation venture. In the Santa Clara region, the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority administers the Capitol Corridor Intercity Rail service between Sacramento and San Jose.

kilo - Prefix used in metric measurement, 1000.

kilojoule (kJ) - A common metric unit of work or energy, comparable to the British thermal unit (Btu). One kilojoule equals approximately 0.947 817 Btu, 0.277 778 watt hour, or 737.562 foot-pounds.

kiss-and-ride facility – A part of a park and ride facility where commuters who are passengers in non-transit vehicles are dropped off to board a public transportation vehicle.

Ldn – Day-Night Equivalent Sound Level. The A-weighted Leq for a 24-hour period with a 10 dB penalty imposed on noise that occurs during nighttime hours.

Leq – Equivalent Sound Level. The steady sound level that represents the same sound energy as varying sound levels over a specific time period (typically 1 hour or 24 hours).

Lmax - The maximum level during a single noise event.

Ln – The sound level exceeded “n” percent of the time.

Level of Service (LOS) - The operating level of an intersection or roadway segment can be described using the term Level of Service. Level of Service is a qualitative description of operation based on delay and maneuverability. It can range from “A,” representing free flow conditions, to “F,” representing gridlock.

Light Rail Transit (LRT) – Lightweight passenger rail cars operating singly (or in short, usually two-car trains) of fixed rails in right-of-way that is not separated from other traffic for much of the way. Light rail vehicles are driven electrically with power being drawn from an overhead electric line via a trolley or a pantograph. Also known as “streetcar,” “tramway,” or “trolley car.”

liter - Unit of measurement of volume (metric system).

local service – A type of operation that involves frequent stops and consequent low speeds, the purpose of which is to deliver and pick up transit passengers as close to their destinations or origins as possible.

m – Meter.

mass transit – Another name for “Mass Transportation” or “Public Transportation.”

mass transportation – Transportation by bus, or rail, or other conveyance, either publicly or privately owned, providing to the public general or special service (but not including school buses or charter or sightseeing service) on a regular and continuing basis. Also known as “mass transit,” “public transportation,” and “transit.”

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) – The regional transportation planning agency covering the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. MTC is responsible for reviewing applications and distributing federal and state transportation grants and allocation of certain transportation monies.

milliGauss (Mg) - A unit of magnetic flux density equal to 0.001 Gauss or 0.1 microTesla. The magnetic fields generated by power lines and electronic equipment are often measured in milliGauss.

mitigation - Measures taken to minimize adverse environmental impacts. Mitigation could reduce the magnitude and extent of an impact from a level of significance to a level of insignificance.

mph - miles per hour.

mT – microTesla - A common unit of magnetic field intensity equal to 10^{-6} Tesla. The unit is widely used to measure the strength of electromagnetic fields generated by power lines or electronic equipment. By comparison, the strength of the Earth's own magnetic field at the surface is about 50 microTeslas. One microTesla equals 0.01 Gauss.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - The United States' basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy and sets goals and provides means for carrying out the policy.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - The primary federal law pertaining to protection of cultural resources.

National Register of Historic Places - A federal listing of historic resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

New Starts – Federal funding granted under Section 5309 (B) of the United States Code. These discretionary funds are made available for the construction of new fixed guideway systems or extensions of existing fixed guideway systems.

nonpoint source - Pertains to the discharge of pollutants into waters or air where the pollutant sources come from an area rather than a single source that can be pinpointed.

off-peak – Non-rush periods of the day when travel activity is generally lower and less transit service is scheduled.

operating cost – The total costs to operate and maintain a transit system including labor, fuel, maintenance, wages and salaries, employee benefits, taxes, etc.

operating expense – Monies paid in salaries and wages, settlement of claims, maintenance of equipment and buildings, and rentals of equipment and facilities.

ozone - A major component of photochemical smog, which is formed in the atmosphere by the chemical reaction between nitrogen dioxide and organic gases in the presence of sunlight. Excessive levels of ozone can cause eye irritation, reduced visibility, vegetation damage, and aggravation of respiratory conditions. The biggest source of these gases is the automobile.

park-and-ride - A parking area intended for transit riders who arrive at transit stations by car.

park-and-ride facility – A parking garage and/or pavement used for parking passengers' automobiles, either free or for a fee, while they use transit agency facilities. Park-and-ride facilities are generally established as collector sites for rail or bus service. Park-and-ride facilities may also serve as collector sites for vanpools and carpools and as transit centers.

passenger miles – A measure of service utilization that represents the cumulative sum of the distances ridden by each passenger. It is normally calculated by summing the passenger load multiplied by the distance between individual bus stops. For example, ten passengers riding in a transit vehicle for 2 miles equals 20 passenger miles.

peak hour/peak period – The period with the highest ridership during the entire service day, generally referring to either the peak hour or peak several hours (peak period).

PM₁₀ - Particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter. (One micron is equal to one-millionth of a meter.)

PM_{2.5} - Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter; considered to be fine particulate matter. (One micron is equal to one-millionth of a meter.)

PPV - Peak particle velocity. The maximum instantaneous peak in the velocity of an object's vibratory motion. The PPV is used to define thresholds of potential building damage from vibration.

program – (1) verb, to assign funds to a project; (2) assign funds to a project; (2) implementing transportation projects or policies.

revenue – Receipts derived from or for the operation of transit service including farebox revenue, revenue from other commercial sources, and operating assistance from governments. Farebox revenue includes all fare, transfer charges, and zone charges paid by transit passengers.

revenue service – When a revenue vehicle is in operation over a route and is available to the public for transport.

right-of-way (ROW) – The land over which a public road or rail line is built. An exclusive right-of-way is a road, lane, or other right-of-way designated exclusively for a specific purpose or for a particular group of users, such as light rail vehicles or buses or transportation facilities.

Root-mean-square amplitude (RMS) - The average energy of vibration measured over a short time interval, usually one second. RMS vibration velocity is considered the best available measure of potential human annoyance from ground-borne vibration.

route – A specified path taken by a transit vehicle usually designated by a number or a name, along which passengers are picked up or discharged.

SCREEN3 - Gaussian plume model used to provide maximum ground-level pollution concentrations for point, area, flare, and volume sources.

Section 106 - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

shoo-fly - A temporary track that is constructed to allow trains to continue to operate through a construction zone.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) – A plan for attaining national ambient air quality standards required by the Clean Air Act.

STA – Station or stationing. A precise point from which measurements in surveying are made.

station – A public transportation passenger facility.

transfer – The change from one transit vehicle to another.

transit center – A fixed location where passengers transfer from one route or vehicle to another that has significant infrastructure, such as a waiting room, benches, restrooms, sales outlet, ticket or pass vending machines, and/or other services.

transit corridor – A broad geographic band that follows a general route alignment such as a roadway of rail right-of-way and includes a service area within that band that would be accessible to the transit system.

trip – The one-way operation of a revenue vehicle between two terminal points on a route. Trips generally noted as inbound, outbound, eastbound, westbound, etc. to identify directionality when being discussed or printed.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) - The federal agency that administers the federal Endangered Species Act and is involved in protection of fish and wildlife habitat including wetland areas.

vehicle hours – The hours a vehicle travels while in revenue service (vehicle revenue hours) plus deadhead hours. For rail vehicles, vehicle hours refer to passenger car hours. Vehicle hours exclude hours for charter services, school bus service, operating training, and maintenance testing.

vehicle miles – The miles a vehicle travels while in revenue service (vehicle revenue miles) plus deadhead miles. For rail vehicles, vehicle miles refer to passenger car miles. Vehicle miles exclude miles for charter services, school bus service, operator training, and maintenance testing.

watershed - That part of the earth's surface from which storm water runoff flows to a single point.

wetlands - According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, wetlands are areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, under normal conditions, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, and similar areas and are subject to protection under Executive Order 11990 and Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act.

wye – three tracks forming a triangle used to turn trains around.

yard – An area in a system used for maintenance, storing, or holding trains.

12.2 ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

µg/L	micrograms per liter
µg/m³	micrograms per cubic meter
µin	micro-inch
µT	microTesla
a.m.	ante meridiem (before noon)
AATC	Advanced Automatic Train Control
AB1X	California Assembly Bill 1X
ABAG	Association of Bay Area Governments
AC	alternating current
AC Transit	Alameda – Contra Costa Transit District
ACCMA	Alameda County Congestion Management Agency
ACCWP	Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program
ACE	Altamont Commuter Express
ACFCWCD	Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
ACPWA	Alameda County Public Works Agency
ACSD	Alameda County Sewer District
ACTA	Alameda County Transit Authority
ACTIA	Alameda County Transportation Improvement Agency

ACWD	Alameda County Water District
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
APE	Area of Potential Effect
APM	Automated People Mover
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
APTA	American Public Transportation Association
ASSR	Archaeological Survey and Sensitivity Report
AST	aboveground storage tank
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
BA	Biological Assessment
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District
BART	San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit
BEIs	biological exposure indices
bgs	below ground surface
BMP	Best Management Practices
BO	Biological Opinion
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
BRT	bus rapid transit
BTEX	benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes
BTU	British Thermal Unit
BWRTR	Biological and Wetland Resources Technical Report
CA SLIC	Spills, Leaks, Investigation and Cleanup Cost Recovery List
CAA	Federal Clean Air Act
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CAFE	Corporate Average Fuel Economy
Cal EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
Cal-ISO	California Independent System Operator
CALTRANS	California Department of Transportation
CAP	Bay Area Clean Air Plan
Capitols	Capitol Corridor Intercity Rail Service
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CBC	California Building Code
CBD	Central Business District
CCAA	California Clean Air Act

CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCTV	closed-circuit television
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEMOF	Caltrain Equipment Maintenance and Operations Facility
CEQ	Federal Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Information
CERCLIS- NFRAP	CERCLIS - No Further Remedial Action Planned
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	cubic feet per second
CGP	Construction General Permit
CHMIRS	California Hazardous Material Incident Report
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CHRIS	California Historic Resources Information System
CIDH	cast in drilled hole
CMGP	City of Milpitas General Plan
CMP	Congestion Management Program
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNG	compresses natural gas
CNPPA	California Native Plant Protection Act
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide
CO₂	carbon dioxide
CONSENT	Superfund Consent Decrees List
CORRACTS	Corrective Action Activity
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CRHR	California Register of Historic Places
CRSB	Coast Range-Sierran Block
CRTP	Cultural Resources Treatment Plan
CUBC	California Uniform Building Code
CWA	Federal Clean Water Act
CWG	Community Working Group

CY	cubic yards
DC	direct current
DHS	Department of Health and Services
DMM	deep mixing method
DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
EDR	Environmental Data Resources
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMF	electromagnetic field
EMI	electromagnetic interference
EO	Federal Executive Order
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPB	earth pressure balance
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
ESU	Evolutionary Significant Units
FARES	First American Real Estate Solutions
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFGA	Full Funding Grant Agreement
FGP	Fremont General Plan
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FINDS	Facility Index System
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FMC	Food Machinery Corporation
FRR	farebox recovery ratio
ft	feet
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
FY	fiscal year
GHz	gigahertz
GIS	Geographic Information System
GW	gigawatt
GWh	gigawatt-hours
HABS	Historic American Buildings Survey

HAER	Historic American Engineering Record
HAZNET	Hazardous Waste Information System
HAZWOPER	Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response
HCM	1994 Highway Capacity Manual
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
Hg	mercury
HIP	Housing Implementation Program
HMIRS	Hazardous Materials Spill Incidents
HOV	high occupancy vehicle
HP Pavilion	Hewlett Packard Pavilion of San Jose
HPSR	Historic Property Survey Report
HRER	Historic Resource Evaluation Report
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
HVAC	heating, ventilation and air conditioning
Hz	hertz
I-205	Interstate 205
I-280	Interstate 280
I-5	Interstate 5
I-580	Interstate 580
I-680	Interstate 680
I-680 WS	Busway connector from I-680 to Warm Springs (Baseline Alternative)
I-880	Interstate 880
I-880	Interstate 880
I-880 ME	Busway connector from I-880 to Montague Expressway (Baseline Alternative)
ICG	ICG Communications, Inc.
ICNIRP	International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
ITS	Intelligent Transportation System
JPB	Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
km	kilometer
KNR	kiss-and-ride
kph	kilometers per hour
kV	kilovolt
kW	kilowatt
kWh	kilowatt hours

L3	Level 3 Communications, Inc.
LAVTA	Livermore – Amador Valley Transit Authority
Lbs/in	pounds per inch
LOC	Letter of Concurrence
LOS	Level of Service
LPA	Locally Preferred Alternative
LQG	large quantity generator
LRT	light rail transit
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
MAX	Modesto Area Express
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MCE	maximum credible earthquake
MDPW	Milpitas Department of Public Works
MFS	MFS Worldcom
mG	milliGauss
Mg/kg	milliGauss per kilogram
MIS/AA	Major Investment Study/Alternatives Analysis
M_L	local magnitude
MLTS	Materials Licensing Tracking System
MMSP	Milpitas Midtown Specific Plan
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOS	Minimum Operating Segment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
mpg	miles per gallon
mph	miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MSE	mechanically stabilized earth
MTBE	methyl tertiary-butyl ether
MTC	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
M_w	moment magnitude
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt-hour
NA	not applicable
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NAVD	North Atlantic Vertical Datum
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO₂	nitrogen dioxide
NOAA Fisheries	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO_x	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priority List
NPS	National Parks Service
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Properties
NUMMI	New United Motors Manufacturing Incorporated
NWI	National Wetland Inventory Maps
NWIC-CHRIS	Northwest Information Center of the California Historic Resources Information System
NWP	Nationwide Permit
O&M	operation and maintenance
OHP	Office of Historical Preservation
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
p.m.	post meridiem (after noon)
PAB	Policy Advisory Board
PADS	Polychlorinated Biphenyls Activity Database System
PAH	polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
PBT	persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic compounds
PCB	polychlorinated-biphenyls
PDT	Project Development Team
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PM₁₀	particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter
PM_{2.5}	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (fine particulate matter)
PNR	park-and-ride
POST	Peace Officer Standards and Training
ppd	pounds per day

ppm	parts per million
PRC	Public Resources Code
PSR	Project Study Report
RAATS	RCRA Administrative Action Tracking System
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RIP	Regional Improvement Program
ROD	Record of Decision
ROG	reactive organic gases
ROW	right-of-way
RSPA	Research and Special Programs Administration
RTIP	Regional Transportation Improvement Program
RTP	San Francisco Bay Area Regional Transportation Plan
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SAA	Streambed Alteration Agreement
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SBC	SBC Communications, Inc.
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System
SCCGP	Santa Clara County General Plan
SCDPW	Santa Clara Department of Public Works
SCGP	Santa Clara City General Plan
SCSD	Santa Clara Sewer District
SCVURPPP	Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program
SCVWD	Santa Clara Valley Water District
SFO	San Francisco International Airport
SFWD	San Francisco Water Department
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office or Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SJDPW	San Jose Department of Public Works
SJGP	San Jose General Plan
SJIA	Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport
SJSU	San Jose State University
SMART	Stockton Metropolitan Area Rapid Transit
SNI	Strong Neighborhood Initiative
SO₂	sulfur dioxide
South Bay	South San Francisco Bay Area

SO_x	sulfur oxides
SPRR	Southern Pacific Railroad
SOG	small quantity generator
SR 132	State Route 132
SR 152	State Route 152
SR 156	State Route 156
SR 17	State Route 17
SR 237	State Route 237
SR 25	State Route 25
SR 84	State Route 84
SR 85	State Route 85
SR 87	State Route 87
STAP	State Transit Assistance Program
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
STP	State Transportation Program
SVP	Silicon Valley Power
SVRTC	Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor
SWLF	solid waste landfills or transfer stations
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWQCB	State Water Quality Control Board
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TAC	Toxic Air Contaminant
TACP	Santa Clara Transit Area Concept Plan
TBM	tunnel boring machine
TCM	Transportation Control Measure
TCRP	Transportation Congestion Relief Program
TDA	State Transportation Development Act
TIA	Transportation Impact Analysis
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TLC	Transportation for Livable Communities
TLV	threshold limit value
TMDL	total maximum daily load
TOC	total organic compound
TOD	transit-oriented development

TPH	total petroleum hydrocarbons
TPSS	traction power substation
TRIS	Toxic Chemical Release Inventory System
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
TSD	treatment, storage, and disposal
U.S.	United States
UPRR	Union Pacific Railroad
US 101	United States Highway 101
USD	Union Sanitary District
USDOE	United States Department of Energy
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
v	volt
V/C	volume-to-capacity
V/m	volts per meter
VdB	Vibration velocity in terms of decibels
VdB, μin/sec	VdB relative to one micro-inch per second
VHT	vehicle hours of travel
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
vph	vehicles per hour
VPHPL	vehicles per hour per lane
VTA	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
VTP 2020	Valley Transportation Plan 2020
W	watts
WAPA	Western Area Power Administration
WDRs	Waste Discharge Requirements
WGCEP	Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities
WGNCEP	Working Group on Northern California Earthquake Potential
WRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
WS I-880	Busway connector from Warm Springs to I-880 (Baseline Alternative)