

## Glossary of Technical and Abbreviated Terms

AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic represents an average 24-hour period of traffic on a facility in both directions averaged over 1 year, or the total of all traffic counted for 1 year, divided by 365 days.
ADT	Average Daily Traffic, total traffic on a facility in both directions, for one 24-hour day, averaged over a given time period.
APE	Area of Potential Effects, the area within which archaeological or historical resources may be affected by a project.
Auxiliary Lane	The auxiliary lanes allow traffic entering and exiting the freeway to accelerate or decelerate outside of the through traffic lanes.
Beneficial Use	Use of a natural water resource that enhances the social, economic, and environmental well-being of the user. Twenty-one beneficial uses are defined for the waters of California, ranging from municipal and domestic supply to fisheries and wildlife habitat.
BSA - Biological Study Area	Line area within which biological resources may be permanently and/or temporarily be impacted by project-related activities.
Cortese	Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List (or Cortese List) is named after State Assemblyman Dominic Cortese. PRC § 65962.5 requires Cal EPA to develop an updated Cortese list at least annually.
dB	Decibel: a measurement unit for noise.
dBA	A-weighted decibel: the measurement unit for noise that best represents human perception.
HOV Lane	High-occupancy vehicle lane: a lane reserved for vehicles with a driver and one or more passengers. Also known as carpool lanes and diamond lanes.
ISA	Initial Site Assessment, a review of all published data sources on hazardous waste sites and hazardous waste releases in the vicinity of a project.
Lead Agency	Public agency that has primary responsibility for carrying out or approving a project that may have a significant effect on the environment and preparing the environmental document.
LOS - Level of Service	Measure used to rate roadway facilities and based on their traffic conditions. It varies from LOS A (free flow conditions) to LOS F (stop-and-go conditions).
Maintenance Area	A federal term to describe any geographic region of the United States designated as a nonattainment area pursuant to the CAA and subsequently redesignated as an attainment area subject to the requirement to develop a maintenance plan under Section 175A of the CAA.
MIS	Major Investment Study, a study prepared during the early planning phase to analyze the range of modal alternatives and cost/benefits of “major metropolitan transportation investments,” which are defined as highway or transit improvements of substantial cost that are expected to have a significant effect on capacity, traffic flow, level of service, or mode share at the transportation corridor or subarea scale. TEA-21 eliminated the requirement for a separate MIS document, but the analysis still must be conducted.
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization, a federal designation for the forum for cooperative transportation decision-making for an urbanized area with population of more than 50,000.

MTP	Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the official intermodal transportation plan that is developed and adopted through the metropolitan transportation planning process for the metropolitan planning area.
Nonattainment Area	Any geographic region of the United States that EPA has designated as not attaining the applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) or a transportation related pollutant(s) for which an NAAQS exists.
NOP	Notice of Preparation: the CEQA notice that an Environmental Impact Report will be prepared for a project.
NPDES Permit	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit: required for facilities and activities that discharge waste into surface waters from a confined pipe or channel.
OHWM	Ordinary high water mark: a distinguishing characteristic of other waters of the United States. (“Other waters” refers to waters of the United States, other than wetlands, that are subject to the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.)
PDT	Project Development Team: a multidisciplinary advisory group assembled to review and provide direction on project development.
PM <sub>10</sub>	Particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (one micron equals one-millionth of a meter).
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter, considered to be fine particulate matter (one micron is equal to one-millionth of meter)
Profile	The vertical alignment and elevation of the roadway surface along a designated line, typically the center of the roadway or median.
PSR	Project Study Report, a Caltrans document establishing consensus among state and local decision makers regarding the viability and appropriateness of a project. Approval of this report initiates preliminary engineering and environmental review phase of project development.
PSR/PDS	Project Study Report/Project Development Support, a California Department of Transportation project initiation document.
Recurrent Congestion	Average travel speeds at 35 mph or less on incident-free weekdays, during rush hours, for a duration of at least 15 minutes.
Responsible Agency	A “public agency, other than the lead agency that has responsibility for carrying out or approving a project” (PRC 21069). The CEQA Guidelines further explain the statutory definition by stating that a “responsible agency” includes “all public agencies other than the Lead Agency which have discretionary approval power over the project” (14 CCR 15381). State and local public agencies that have discretionary authority to issue permits, for example, fall into this category.
Scoping	A process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in an Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and for identifying significant issues to be analyzed in depth in an EIS.

Significance	<p>The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) defines a “significant effect on the environment” as “a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance. An economic or social change by itself shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. A social or economic change related to a physical change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant” (Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15382).</p> <p>CEQA requires that the lead agency identify each “significant effect on the environment” resulting from the project and avoid or mitigate it.</p> <p>The CEQA Guidelines include mandatory findings of significance for certain effects, thus requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.</p>
SIP	<p>State Implementation Plan, the portion (or portions) of an applicable implementation plan approved or promulgated, or the most recent revision thereof, under Sections 110, 301(d) and 175A of CAA.</p>
Sole Source Aquifer	<p>An aquifer upon which a community depends exclusively for its fresh water supply.</p>
Special-status Species	<p>Selected for protection because they are rare and/or subject to population and habitat declines. These species are afforded varying levels of regulatory protection.</p>
STIP	<p>Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, a staged, multiyear, statewide, intermodal program of transportation projects that is consistent with the statewide transportation plan and planning processes and metropolitan plans, transportation improvement programs, and processes.</p>
STP	<p>Statewide Transportation Plan: the official statewide, intermodal transportation plan that is developed through the statewide transportation planning process.</p>
SWRCB	<p>California State Water Resources Control Board: the principal authority for regulating the quantity and quality of waters in the state, established by act of the California legislature in 1967.</p>
TCM	<p>Transportation Control Measure: any measure specifically identified and committed to in the applicable implementation plan that is either one of the types listed in § 108 of the CAA, or any other measure for the purpose of reducing emissions or concentrations of air pollutants from transportation sources by reducing vehicle use or changing traffic flow or congestion conditions. Notwithstanding the above, vehicle technology-based, fuel-based, and maintenance-based measures that control the emissions from vehicles under fixed traffic conditions are not TCMs for the purposes of project-level conformity.</p>
TIP	<p>Transportation Improvement Program, a staged, multiyear, intermodal program of transportation projects that is consistent with the metropolitan transportation plan. TIP is a federal term.</p>
TMP	<p>Transportation Management Plan, used to maintain and manage traffic and transportation in a project’s vicinity during construction.</p>
Traffic Study Area	<p>The area for which traffic conditions are reported in this document.</p>
TSCA	<p>Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, federal law enacted to give EPA the ability to track industrial chemicals produced in or imported into the United States.</p>
WET-DI	<p>A waste extraction procedure using deionized water as a leaching agent.</p>
Wetland	<p>Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (US Army Corps of Engineers and EPA definition).</p>

WH&SP                      Worker Health and Safety Plan, a plan designed to prevent exposure of workers to potentially hazardous excavated soils and to comply with applicable waste handling and disposal regulations.