

## Appendix I: Glossary of Terms

### **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.

### **Access Management**

The control and regulation of the spacing and design of driveways, medians, median openings, traffic signals and intersections on arterial roads to improve safe and efficient traffic flow on the road system.

### **CAMBUS Safe Ride**

A special transit route which operates after regular service hours on weekends; intent of service is to provide a safe way for students to get home.

### **Complete Streets Policy**

Complete streets are designed and operated to enable safe access to streets for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities should be able to safely move along and across a complete street.

### **Categorical Exclusion**

A formal ruling by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation that a transportation project or group of projects do(es) not individually or cumulatively have a significant environmental effect on the natural or human environment.

### **Deadhead Mileage**

Miles that are accumulated by a transit service when not operating for revenue.

### **Environmental Assessment**

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.

### **Environmental Impact Statements**

Environmental Impact Statements are reports that outline the predicted environmental effects of a particular action which the federal government is involved. Environmental impact statements of a necessary or projected activity highlight the significant environmental ramifications of a project, describing alternative actions which also must include no action being taken.

### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

The Environmental Protection Agency is an agency of the federal government of the United States charged with protecting human health and with safeguarding the natural environment: air, water, and land.

### **EPA Brownfield Assessment Demonstration Pilot Project Area**

EPA is providing funding to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs, and to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment of brownfields.

### **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)**

The Federal Highway Administration is the federal agency that carries out federal transportation programs in partnership with state and local agencies to meet the nation's transportation needs.

### **Federal Recreational Trails Program (FRT)**

The Recreational Trails Program is an assistance program of the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. Federal transportation funds benefit recreation by making funds available to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses.

### **Federal Transit Administration (FTA)**

The Federal Transit Administration administers federal funding to support a variety of locally planned, constructed, and operated public

transportation systems throughout the U.S., including buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, streetcars, monorail, passenger ferry boats, inclined railways, and people movers.

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is a document that briefly presents the reasons why an action, not otherwise excluded, will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which, therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

**Global Positioning Systems**

The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a satellite-based navigation system made up of a network of 24 satellites placed into orbit by the U.S. Department of Defense. GPS was originally intended for military applications, but in the 1980s, the government made the system available for civilian use. GPS works in any weather conditions, anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day.

**Headway**

The difference, in time, between two transit vehicles of the same route.

**Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture**

A framework which interrelated systems such as electronics, communications, and information processing can be built to work together in order to deliver more safe and efficient transportation services.

**Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)**

ICAAP is a program intended to help finance transportation projects and programs that result in attaining or maintaining the national ambient air quality standards of the 1990 Clean Air Amendments Act. ICAAP funds are awarded to projects and programs with the highest potential for reducing transportation-related congestion and air pollution, thereby maintaining Iowa's clean air quality.

**ITS (Intelligent Transportation System)**

An integrated application of a wide range of advanced technologies and ideas, which, in combination, can improve mobility and transportation productivity, enhance safety, maximize the use of existing transportation facilities, conserve energy resources and reduce adverse environmental effects and transportation problems.

**Intermodal**

Relating to the connection between any two or more modes of transportation.

**Intermodal Center**

An existing or planned transportation facility providing an interface between more than one mode of transportation.

**Level of Service (LOS)**

A qualitative assessment of a road's operating conditions. For local government comprehensive planning purposes, level of service means an indicator of the extent or degree of service provided by, or proposed to be provided by, a facility based on and related to the operational characteristics of the facility. Level of Service indicates the capacity per unit of demand for each public facility.

**Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**

A long range strategy and capital improvement program developed to guide the effective investment of public funds in transportation facilities. The plan is updated every five years and may be amended as a result of changes in projected federal, state and local funding, major improvement studies, congestion management system plans, interstate interchange justification studies and environmental impact studies.

**Master Plan**

A comprehensive plan to guide the long-term physical development of a particular transportation facility.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**

An organization made up of local elected and appointed officials responsible for the development and coordination of transportation plans and programs, in cooperation with the state, for metropolitan areas containing 50,000 or more residents.

**NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act of 1969)**

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), established a national environmental policy requiring that any project using federal funding or requiring federal approval, including transportation projects, examine the effects of proposed and alternative choices on the environment before a federal decision is made.

**Paratransit**

Forms of transportation service that are more flexible and personalized than conventional fixed route, fixed schedule service; often utilized to accommodate the elderly and disabled passengers unable to use the fixed route service.

**SAFETEA-LU** (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users)

The federal surface transportation legislation (Public Law 109-59) that authorizes programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 5-year period 2005-2009.

**Signal Pre-emption**

An interruption of the normal operation of a traffic signal in order to immediately serve a particular traffic movement.

**Small Transit Intensive Communities Funding**

A tier in the Urbanized Area Formula program of SAFETEA-LU that distributes funds to urbanized areas with fewer than 200,000 in population that provide transit service above a certain level.

**Special Transit Levy**

A separate levy specifically used for transit service as part of property taxes.

**Surface Transportation Program (STP)**

The STP provides flexible funding that may be used by States and localities for projects on any Federal-aid highway, including the NHS, bridge projects on any public road, transit capital projects, and intra-city and intercity bus terminals and facilities. A portion of funds reserved for rural areas may be spent on rural minor collectors.

**Stanley Plan**

The 1975 Stanley Plan was the first plan for the Iowa River Corridor through Iowa City. The Stanley Plan is the first time a linear trail and park system in the Iowa River Corridor was contemplated and adopted in an approved plan.

**TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan)**

Short-term (three to five years) plan of approved policies developed by an MPO for a jurisdiction that is fiscally constrained.

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD)**

A transit-oriented development is a residential or commercial area designed to maximize access to public transport, and often incorporates features to encourage transit ridership. A TOD neighborhood typically has a center with a train station, metro station, tram stop, or bus station, surrounded by relatively high-density development with progressively lower-density development spreading outwards from the center.

**Transportation Enhancement Program (TE)**

The TE Program required each state to set aside 10 percent of its Surface Transportation Program funds for transportation enhancement projects. These federal funds cannot be used for traditional highway projects or roadway improvements. They are for activities that go above and beyond common transportation practice.

**Transportation Investment Study**

A Transportation Investment Study is the process of exploring project alternatives to balance the needs of mobility, safety, and project impacts.

**Trippler Route**

A transit service that operates on only a portion of a route.

**Volume/Capacity Ratio**

The ratio of demand to capacity for a given type of transportation facility.