



Defining the Vision. Shaping the Future.

Transportation Acronym Guide

**North Jersey
Transportation
Planning
Authority**

www.njtpa.org

NJTPA

The NJTPA is the federally authorized Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the 6.7 million people in the 13-county northern New Jersey region. Each year, the NJTPA oversees more than \$1 billion in federal funding for transportation. The NJTPA evaluates and approves proposed transportation improvement projects and provides a forum for interagency cooperation and public input into funding decisions. It also sponsors and conducts studies, assists county and city planning agencies and monitors compliance with national air quality goals. The NJTPA serves the fifth most populous MPO region in the country.

The NJTPA Board consists of one elected official from each of the region's 13 counties—Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren—and two largest cities, Newark and Jersey City. The Board also includes a Governor's Representative, the Commissioner of the NJ Department of Transportation, the Executive Director of NJ TRANSIT, the Chairman of the Port Authority of NY & NJ and a Citizens' Representative appointed by the Governor. NJTPA Board meetings are held every other month and are open to the public.

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**NORTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING AUTHORITY**

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This booklet lists and defines approximately 150 acronyms typically used at the NJTPA in its transportation planning activities.

NJTPA Acronym Guide

3C

Federal law requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) such as the NJTPA to conduct a comprehensive, coordinated and continuous planning process (often referred to as three-C).

AA Alternatives Analysis

Preliminary engineering and environmental studies of a wide range of transportation project alternatives. Alternatives are narrowed down, with some selected for more detailed study, leading to a preferred alternative.

AASHTO American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

A nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the 50 states.

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

Federal law enacted in 1990 that established that persons with disabilities have the same rights as other citizens to access services and facilities available to the public. In transportation terms, the ADA seeks to ensure that all Americans can meet their basic mobility needs.

AEV All-Electric Vehicle

An automobile that runs on electricity only and is propelled by an electric motor powered by rechargeable batteries.

AICP American Institute of Certified Planners

A professional certification for planners requiring passing a test offered by the American Planning Association, meeting standards for education/experience in the field and completing continuing education.

AMPO Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

A nonprofit membership organization established to serve the needs and interests of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) nationwide. The NJTPA is a member.

APA American Planning Association

Nonprofit professional organization representing the field of city and regional planning.

APTA American Public Transportation Association

An organization that represents the bus, rapid transit and commuter rail systems industry and works to improve the accessibility and availability of public transportation.

ARC Access to the Region's Core

A former project that had been proposed to build a new rail tunnel under the Hudson River between New Jersey and Manhattan. This project has been terminated.

ARRA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

An economic stimulus package enacted by the federal government in 2009.

ARTBA American Road & Transportation Builders Association

A construction-related advocacy association which works to increase and protect funding for investment in transportation infrastructure.

BID Business Improvement District

An area within which businesses pay an additional tax (or levy) in order to fund projects within the district's boundaries.

BMS Bridge Management System

A set of tools for analyzing data on the condition of bridges, predicting deterioration, and formulating optimum and cost-effective actions for preservation and maintenance.

BRT Bus Rapid Transit

A flexible, rubber-tired form of rapid transit using semi-dedicated or dedicated routes, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) elements and specially branded vehicles to provide similar services as light rail systems with reduced capital costs.

CAAA Clean Air Act Amendments

Federal law that requires states to set budgets and timetables for reducing air pollution. The law requires the NJTPA to give priority funding to transportation projects which reduce vehicle emissions through travel pattern changes, travel mode options, and/or traffic flow improvements.

CAFRA Coastal Area Facility Review Act

A state permitting program that determines what can be built along environmentally sensitive coastal areas.

CAIT Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation

Located at Rutgers University, one of five National University Transportation Centers funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to conduct transportation research and training.

CBD Central Business District

The commercial and business center of a city, typically with a concentration of retail and office buildings.

CD Concept Development

The phase of project development in which a transportation need is studied to more precisely define the problems involved and the best strategies to address them, often resulting in a preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) and the identification of the environmental document.

CDBG Community Development Block Grant

A program that provides annual grants on a formula basis to towns and states to address a wide range of community development needs.

CE Categorical Exclusion

An environmental finding for transportation projects that have minimal environmental impacts and require the least documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

CEDS Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

A planning process in which the public sector, businesses, community groups and others establish a strategic blueprint for economic development. It is a requirement for obtaining assistance from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA).

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

A compilation of all regulations issued by the federal government's agencies and departments. Published annually.

CMAQ Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

A program that funds transportation projects or programs that will contribute to attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), with a focus on reducing ozone and carbon monoxide.

CMP Congestion Management Process

A federally mandated systematic approach to identifying and addressing congestion. It includes data collection, monitoring and measuring of transportation system performance and identifying alternative actions and strategies for particular locations.

COG Council of Governments

Regional planning bodies in many areas of the country, composed of local officials.

CPC Capital Program Committee

A New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) committee, with participation by representatives of the state's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), that reviews the technical merits of proposed capital projects and approves recommendations for project advancement as presented by the Capital Programming Steering Committee. The Deputy Commissioner chairs the Committee.

CR County Route (or County Road)

A roadway designated and/or maintained by a county.

CSX

Jacksonville, Fla.-based railroad and transportation company operating a 21,000-route-mile rail system serving 23 states, the District of Columbia, the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec and having access to 70 ports in the eastern U.S.

DBE Disadvantaged-Owned Business Enterprise

Programs to ensure that businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals can compete fairly for government-funded projects and programs.

DBNUM Database Number

A number given to each project and program in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for tracking purposes.

DBOM Design Build Operate Maintain

A term to indicate that the design, building, operation, and maintenance of a project are performed by a single agency or firm.

DCA New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

A state agency that provides assistance and guidance to local governments, community development organizations, businesses and individuals relating to fire and building safety, housing production, planning and development, and local government management and finance

DEIS Draft Environmental Impact Statement

See EIS definition.

DMS Drainage Management System

A system administered by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) used to evaluate and track roadway drainage problems and develop plans to address them.

DMU Diesel Multiple Unit

A railroad passenger vehicle that is powered by a built-in diesel engine.

DRJTBC Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission

A quasi-public body created by New Jersey and Pennsylvania that maintains 20 bridges crossing the Delaware River through toll revenues.

DVRPC Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

A bi-state Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Philadelphia area, including the New Jersey counties of Mercer, Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester.

EA Environmental Assessment

A report that identifies the environmental impacts of project alternatives as a requirement of the National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EA can lead to a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or indicate that further study through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

EIS Environmental Impact Statement

An investigative report issued to comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that quantifies the environmental impacts of major proposed transportation projects. Also: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

EJ Environmental Justice

In transportation planning, the principle that the benefits and burdens of transportation projects be equitably shared among all segments of the population. Regulations draw specific attention to low-income and minority persons; elderly and mobility impaired persons are sometimes considered in this context.

EOC Emergency Operation Center

A central command facility responsible for coordinating emergency preparedness, emergency management and/or disaster management functions.

EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Federal regulatory agency that leads the nation's environmental science, research, education and assessment efforts.

EV Electric Vehicle

Automobiles that run on electric power but may rely on assistance from additional sources like gasoline. Also see AEV.

EWR

Federal Aviation Administration code for Newark Liberty International Airport.

FA Feasibility Assessment

Formerly the second phase of work in the NJTPA's Study & Development (S&D) Program. It has become part of the Concept Development (CD) phase.

FAST Act Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act

The federal funding and authorization law that governs U.S. federal surface transportation investments from fiscal year 2016 to fiscal year 2020.

FAUS Federal Aid Urban System

Federal roadway designation prior to 1991 that included urban arterial and collector routes. Previously used in the New Jersey Department of Transportation's (NJDOT's) Local Aid funding formula.

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

A federal agency whose primary purpose is to coordinate the response to disasters that overwhelm the resources of local and state authorities.

FHWA Federal Highway Administration

The agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) that administers federal funding for highways and bridges. Along with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), FHWA oversees the planning process administered by the NJTPA.

FIC Freight Initiatives Committee

A standing committee of the NJTPA that supports the region's economically vital goods movement industry and works to fashion a transportation agenda for truck, rail, air, and waterborne commerce in the region. Meets every other month.

FIRE Finance, Insurance and Real Estate Sector

An economic sector composed of firms involved in banking, credit, investment, insurance, real estate, accounting and related industries.

FONSI Finding of No Significant Impact

A determination of an Environmental Assessment (EA) indicating that a potential project will have no significant environmental impact.

FRA Federal Railroad Administration

The agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) that issues and enforces rail safety regulations, administers railroad assistance programs, and conducts research and development in support of improved railroad safety and national rail transportation policy.

FTA Federal Transit Administration

The agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) that administers federal funding for public transit. Along with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the FTA oversees the planning process administered by the NJTPA.

FY Fiscal Year

The New Jersey state fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. The federal fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.

GARVEE Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle

Any bond or other form of debt repayable, either exclusively or primarily, with future federal highway funds.

GHG Greenhouse Gas

Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere. Some GHGs, such as carbon dioxide, occur naturally, while others, such as fluorinated gases, are created and emitted solely through human activities.

GIS Geographic Information System

A computer system that can spatially manage, analyze, and present geographic data. With it, electronic and printed maps can be generated.

HBLRT Hudson Bergen Light Rail Transit

A light rail system in Hudson County operated by NJ TRANSIT that became operational in 2000.

HOT High-Occupancy Toll Lanes

Under some road pricing systems, motorists in single-occupant vehicles can pay a premium toll to travel in these lanes, which otherwise are reserved for high-occupancy vehicle lanes (see HOV lanes).

HOV High-Occupancy Vehicle Lanes

Highway lanes designated for high occupancy vehicles such as buses and carpools.

HSIP Highway Safety Improvement Program

Federal-aid program that requires a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety on all public roads with a focus on performance.

HUD U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

A federal agency whose mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes.

ISTEA Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

A 1991 congressional act that inaugurated a new approach to transportation planning that emphasizes the interdependence and connections among major components of the national transportation system (superseded by TEA-21 in 1998, SAFETEA-LU in 2005, and MAP-21 in 2012).

ITE Institute of Transportation Engineers

An international educational and scientific association of transportation professionals who are responsible for meeting mobility and safety needs.

ITS Intelligent Transportation Systems

Technology to better manage roadway and transit systems, enhance safety and reduce accidents, inform the public about travel conditions, and more effectively handle toll collection, safety inspection, maintenance, licensing and vehicle registration.

ITSNJ Intelligent Transportation Society of New Jersey

A nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating the deployment of transportation technologies throughout New Jersey.

JARC Job Access Reverse Commute

A former Federal Transit Administration (FTA) program providing funding for selected counties and

municipalities to increase job accessibility for the most disadvantaged members of the population, including facilitating urban to suburban commuting.

LCPD Local Capital Project Delivery Program

A competitive program which provides funding to NJTPA subregions to conduct Concept Development (CD) and Preliminary Engineering (PE) on proposed transportation projects, preparing them for eventual construction.

LEED Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

An internationally recognized certification program for the design, construction and operation of “green” buildings, which minimize energy use and environmental impacts. LEED-AP is a further level of certification.

LOS Level of Service

A traffic engineering measure of vehicular flow and congestion that uses the letters A through F. An A represents freely flowing traffic while F indicates severe congestion.

LPA Locally Preferred Alternative

As required by Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations, local and regional decision makers select a locally preferred alternative after mode and alignment options for a proposed transit investment are analyzed.

MAP-21 Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century

A funding and authorization bill to govern United States federal surface transportation investment enacted in July 2012 and extended until May 2015.

MAP Forum Metropolitan Area Planning Forum

An organization of the five Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metropolitan region formed to coordinate transportation planning and address issues affecting the entire region.

MARAD Maritime Administration

Agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) dealing with waterborne transportation.

MOA Memorandum of Agreement

An official agreement designed to ensure consistency in the administration of programs or projects.

MOM Monmouth Ocean Middlesex

A proposed commuter rail extension that would connect parts of Monmouth, Ocean, and Middlesex counties with NJ TRANSIT's Northeast Corridor and/or North Jersey Coast Line.

MOS Minimum Operable Segment

The initial section or operating component of a transportation project.

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

An official agreement establishing the principles that will guide the implementation of programs or projects.

MPA Metropolitan Planning Area

An MPO's mandated planning area, encompassing the existing urbanized area and areas expected to be urbanized within 20 years.

MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

Under federal legislation, MPOs plan all federally funded transportation investments and serve as a forum where local officials, public transportation providers and state agency representatives can come together and cooperatively plan to meet a region's current and future transportation needs.

MUTCD Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

The federal standard for signs, signals and pavement markings in the U.S.

NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Standards applied to pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment.

NACO National Association of Counties

An organization representing the interests of the nation's county governments.

NARC National Association of Regional Councils

A nonprofit membership organization representing the interests of regional councils and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) nationwide. The NJTPA is a member.

NBIS National Bridge Inspection Standards

Federal program requiring inspection of all publicly owned highway bridges longer than 20 feet.

NEC Northeast Corridor

The rail corridor from Washington, D.C. to Boston. It is the busiest passenger rail corridor in the U.S. Congress created the Northeast Corridor Infrastructure and Operations Advisory Commission (NEC Commission) to coordinate improvements along the corridor.

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

A federal law that established a national policy promoting the enhancement of the environment. It aims to help public officials and citizens understand the environmental consequences of major projects and actions. It requires planners and engineers to consider alternatives and mitigation steps for major construction projects.

NHS National Highway System

The national system consisting of interstate highways and other key links such as major state highways.

NHTSA National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

An agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) that promotes and oversees motor vehicle and highway safety.

NJAC New Jersey Association of Counties

Advocacy group for the state's 21 county governments.

NJDEP New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

State agency that leads the state's environmental science, regulatory, research, education and assessment efforts.

NJDOT New Jersey Department of Transportation

State agency responsible for maintenance, construction, and operation of state and interstate highways.

NJIT New Jersey Institute of Technology

A public technology and science university located in Newark. NJIT is the host agency of the NJTPA.

NJRTE North Jersey Regional Transportation Model–Enhanced

Federally required computer model of the region's transportation system and travel patterns that guides the NJTPA's transportation planning efforts and its major products.

NJSLOM New Jersey State League Of Municipalities
Advocacy group for the state's 565 municipalities.**NJT** New Jersey Transit or NJ TRANSIT

The state agency responsible for maintenance, construction, and operation of public transit facilities.

NJTA New Jersey Turnpike Authority

The agency that maintains, operates, and plans the New Jersey Turnpike and the Garden State Parkway. NJTA facilities do not fall under the jurisdiction of the NJTPA, but its projects are included in determining air quality conformity.

NJTPA North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

The federally authorized Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the 6.7 million people in the 13-county northern New Jersey region.

NOFA Notice of Funding Availability

Announcements of grants or aid available through government programs.

NOTIS NJTPA Online Transportation Information System

An interactive text and map-based online tool that displays transportation project information.

NPRM Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

A public notice issued by law when a federal agency proposes to add, remove or change a rule or regulation.

NS Norfolk Southern

Norfolk, Va.-based transportation company which includes the Norfolk Southern Railway (21,000 route miles in 22 states and the District of Columbia), serving every major container port in the eastern United States.

NYMTC New York Metropolitan Transportation Council

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for New York City, Long Island, and Rockland, Putnam, and Westchester counties. The NJTPA has a non-voting seat on the NYMTC Board.

NYS&W New York Susquehanna & Western

An existing, privately owned rail freight line that was rehabilitated in the mid-1980s to allow low speed freight operations and is now used by several long distance and local freight trains.

O&D Origin and Destination

Key travel information considered by studies and modeling of trips.

OHSP Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness

State agency responsible for overseeing New Jersey's counterterrorism efforts and statewide emergency response coordination.

OPA Office for Planning Advocacy

Oversees implementation of New Jersey's State Development and Redevelopment Plan. It is located in the Business Action Center in the Department

of State. Formerly it was called the Office of Smart Growth (OSG) and was a division of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

PANYNJ Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

The bi-state agency responsible for overseeing port operations, major airports, and for operating the Hudson River crossings, including the PATH rail system, tunnels and bridges. PANYNJ facilities do not fall under the jurisdiction of the NJTPA, but its projects are included in determining air quality conformity.

PATH Port Authority Trans-Hudson

A 13-station rail line connecting Essex and Hudson counties to Manhattan.

PD Preliminary Design

Formerly the final phase of work in the Study & Development (S&D) Program. It has become part of the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase.

PDWP Project Development Work Program

This program is now known as the Study & Development Program (see S&D).

PE Preliminary Engineering

The phase of project development in which the preferred alternative identified in Concept Development (CD) is further developed and refined to a level of detail necessary to secure the approval of the environmental document, also known as the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) document.

PE Professional Engineer

The license awarded to engineers who must meet education and experience requirements, pass exams administered by the state and complete continuing education.

PEDC Planning & Economic Development Committee

A standing committee of the NJTPA. It oversees the content of and provides policy direction for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and other planning-related matters. Meets every other month.

PHT Person Hours Traveled

A measure of overall time spent traveling, considering how many people are traveling and their travel times.

PL Planning Funds

Federal funds provided for planning projects and programs derived from a 1.25 percent set-aside from the federal transportation funding provided to states. PL funds are the principal revenue source for the NJTPA's Central Staff operation and other components of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

PM2.5 Particulate Matter

Particulate matter in the air, including dust, dirt, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets, of 2.5 micrometers or less; a regulated pollutant.

PMS Pavement Management System

A set of tools or methods for assessing the condition of roadway pavements and selecting strategies for pavement maintenance and preservation.

PMT Person Miles Traveled

A measure of an overall amount of travel, the product of how many people are traveling and how far they go.

PP Professional Planner

The license awarded to planners who have completed an exam on planning law and practices and met standards for education/experience in the field.

PPC Project Prioritization Committee

A standing committee of the NJTPA. It oversees development of the four-year, fiscally constrained Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and other capital programming activities. Meets every other month.

PPP Public-Private Partnership

A project or program funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector companies.

RCIS Regional Capital Investment Strategy

The NJTPA's policy on how transportation funds should be spent, centered on eight broad principles.

RFP Request for Proposals

An invitation—often issued as part of a competitive bidding process—for consultants, suppliers, vendors, etc. to submit a proposal on a specific service or commodity.

ROD Record of Decision

The official record resulting from an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

ROW Right of Way

Property on which a transportation project is built. Also regularly used to refer to the phase of work during which such property is acquired.

RPSD Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

A U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-funded plan developed to help integrate plans, regulations, investments, and incentive programs at all levels of government to improve economic and environmental conditions in a region. In northern New Jersey, it is developed by Together North Jersey (TNJ).

RTAC Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

A group of planners and engineers from NJTPA member counties, cities and partner agencies that meets every other month to review regional issues related to transportation planning. Members of the RTAC also serve as advisers to members of the Board of Trustees.

RTP Regional Transportation Plan

The federally mandated long-range transportation plan for the region. It sets out a vision for development of the transportation system over the next 20 to 25 years and serves as an investment guide for the region. Updated every four years.

S&D Study & Development Program

The program for planning projects through various stages of project development, including Concept Development (CD), and Preliminary Engineering (PE), normally required before projects can be included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Formerly known as the Project Development Work Program (PDWP).

SAFETEA-LU Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
Enacted in 2005 and extended by Congress a number of times, SAFETEA-LU was the nation's principal transportation funding law before it was replaced in 2012 by MAP-21.

SCIS State Capital Investment Strategy
Statewide transportation investment recommendations in various program categories based upon goals, objectives, and performance measures.

SDRP State Development and Redevelopment Plan
A plan intended to control suburban sprawl by influencing the intensities and locations of development and redevelopment. Required under a 1986 act of the state legislature.

SIP State Implementation Plan
Description of the programs a state will use to carry out its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act to reduce air pollution in areas that do not meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

SJTA South Jersey Transportation Authority
The agency that maintains and operates Atlantic City International Airport and the Atlantic City Expressway.

SJTPO South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization
The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) serving Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Salem counties in South Jersey.

SOV Single-Occupancy Vehicle

Refers to motor vehicles occupied by the driver only (excludes motorcycles).

SPR State Planning & Research

A federal funding category that provides funds for planning and research projects and programs administered by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT).

SRTS Safe Routes to School

A funding program for education and infrastructure to create safe, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to bicycle and walk to and from schools, for grades K-8.

STB Surface Transportation Board

The STB is a federal agency that adjudicates disputes and regulates federal interstate surface transportation, including trucking, rail freight, ocean shipping, interstate buses, and other modes.

STIP State Transportation Improvement Program

The state's fiscally constrained agenda of transportation improvement projects that is made up of the Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPS) approved by the state's three Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).

STP Subregional Transportation Planning

The program of planning tasks carried out by the NJTPA's 15 subregions (13 counties and two cities).

STP Surface Transportation Program

Provides flexible funding that may be used by the state and localities for projects on any federal-aid highway,

including the National Highway System (NHS), bridge projects on any public road, transit capital projects, and intracity and intercity bus terminals and facilities. Referred to as STP-NJ in NJTPA planning and programming documents.

SWRMPO South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for lower Fairfield County, Connecticut.

SWRPA South Western Regional Planning Agency

A regional planning organization for eight municipalities in lower Fairfield County, Connecticut. It houses the South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (SWRMPO).

TAP Transportation Alternatives Program

Provides federal funding for projects and programs for enhancing pedestrian and bicycle mobility, access to transit, community improvement, environmental mitigation, recreational trails and other transportation alternatives.

TAC Technical Advisory Committee

A committee formed to provide feedback, guidance, and technical input regarding a project, program, or product. May include partner organizations and agencies, stakeholders, and representatives of other relevant groups.

TAZ Transportation Analysis Zone

Subdivisions of counties that are delineated for land use and travel analysis purposes.

T&I Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

The committee of the House of Representatives with jurisdiction over all modes of transportation, including aviation, maritime and waterborne transportation, roads, bridges, mass transit, and railroads.

TCAM Transportation Clean Air Measures

Measures intended to reduce transportation-related emissions. TCAMs can include clean vehicle technology and diesel retrofits, anti-idling strategies, vehicle travel reduction, and public outreach programs.

TCM Transportation Control Measures

Projects or programs that will reduce transportation-related emissions by reducing vehicle use or improving traffic flow. In the context of transportation conformity, TCMs refer to actions that are specifically identified and committed to in a State Implementation Plan (SIP).

TCP Transportation Capital Program

A listing of New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and NJ TRANSIT projects and programs, formerly known as the Capital Construction Program, that is annually submitted to the state Legislature for approval and to be considered for inclusion in the draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

TDM Transportation Demand Management

Actions to reduce transportation demand, such as telecommuting, ridesharing, transit service improvements, commuter incentives, access management, and parking management.

TEA-21 **Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century**
The nation's principal transportation law from 1998 to 2005. It continued the essential features of ISTEA, including a strong role for local elected officials in making transportation funding decisions through Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Replaced by SAFETEA-LU in 2005.

TEU **Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit**
The standardized unit for measuring container capacity on ships, railcars, etc.

TIFIA **Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act**
Legislation that created a program to provide federal credit assistance in the form of direct loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit to finance surface transportation projects of national and regional significance.

TIGER **Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery**
A federal competitive grant program for communities to obtain funding for critical road, rail, transit and port projects oriented towards safety, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, livability and environmental sustainability.

TIP **Transportation Improvement Program**
A four-year, fiscally constrained agenda of improvement projects drawn from the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). To be eligible for federal funds, proposed projects must be approved by the NJTPA Board for inclusion in the TIP. Updated every two years.

TMA Transportation Management Area
(federal designation)

By federal designation, an urbanized area with a population over 200,000 (such as northern New Jersey) that is required by United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) to carry out special congestion reduction and transportation planning activities.

TMAs Transportation Management Associations

Organizations established to work with employers to help provide more effective transportation options. They promote ridesharing and transit use, among other activities. The NJTPA provides administrative oversight for the eight TMA's in New Jersey.

TNJ Together North Jersey

A consortium of agencies, communities and nonprofit groups formed to develop a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD) and conduct other regional planning activities with grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

TOD Transit-Oriented Development

Compact, pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use development near bus and rail stations that serves housing, transportation, and neighborhood goals.

TRANSCOM Transportation Operations
Coordinating Committee

A coalition of 16 transportation and public safety agencies in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region providing a cooperative, coordinated approach to regional transportation management.

TRB Transportation Research Board

A division of the National Research Council, which serves as an independent adviser to the federal government and others on scientific and technical questions of national importance.

TSM Transportation System Management

Initiatives designed to create the more efficient use of existing transportation facilities through improved infrastructure management and operation.

TTF Transportation Trust Fund

The account established by New Jersey state law in 1984 for funding transportation programs and initiatives with revenues from fuel taxes and other sources.

UASI Urban Areas Security Initiative

Federal funding program to enhance emergency preparedness in the 64 highest-risk urbanized areas throughout the United States.

UPWP Unified Planning Work Program

Summarizes the transportation planning activities of the NJTPA Central Staff, the subregions and other transportation agencies in the region. Updated annually.

USDOT U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal agency that develops and coordinates policies pertaining to the national transportation system. It includes the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

V/C Ratio Vehicle to Capacity Ratio

The number of vehicles divided by the capacity of the roadway—a measure that reflects mobility and quality of travel for a roadway segment.

VMS Variable Message Sign

An electronic traffic sign often used to give travelers information about emergencies, special events, construction, speed limits, etc.

VMT Vehicle Miles Traveled

A measure of the amount of vehicular travel. One vehicle traveling the distance of one mile equals one VMT.

WTS Women's Transportation Seminar

An international organization dedicated to the professional advancement of women in transportation.

XBL Exclusive Bus Lane

A lane at the Lincoln Tunnel dedicated to bus traffic during the morning rush.

YOE Year of Expenditure

Cost estimates adjusted for inflation from the present time to the expected year of construction.



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