



Appendix Sections:

F.1 Glossary of Terms

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AASHTO – American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials: a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments of all transportation modes in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

“A” Cyclist – a term generally used to describe experienced or advanced bicyclists that are comfortable in all cycling environments, even busy roadways that lack bicycle facilities. “A” Cyclists will typically bicycle in any condition, whether hospitable or not.

ADA – American Disabilities Act of 1991: The Act gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities including equal opportunities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications.

Advance Stop lines - applies to a stop line placed prior to a crosswalk or bicycle box, to either prevent motor vehicle encroachment, or to improve visibility. It plays an important safety role especially in multi-lane roads.

Alternative Transportation Network – a connected system for travel using transportation other than private cars, such as walking, bicycling, rollerblading, carpooling and transit

Arterial Connections – interconnected corridors designed to accommodate a large volume of through traffic

Bargain Sale – the sale of a property at less than the fair market value. The difference between a bargain sale price and fair market value often qualifies as a tax-deductible charitable contribution. Commonly used to acquire land or easements for greenways or multi-use paths.

“B” Cyclist – a term generally used to describe intermediate level cyclists, who bicycle for reasons ranging from recreation and fitness riding to commuting. “B” cyclists typically prefer on-street bicycle facilities, such as bicycle lanes and paved shoulder.

Bicycle – Every vehicle propelled solely by human power upon which any person may ride, having two tandem wheels, except scooters and similar devices. The term “bicycle” in this document also includes three and four-wheeled human-powered vehicles, but not tricycles for children.

Bicycle Activated Detector Loop – sensors installed in the roadway at intersections that trigger a change in a traffic signal. They allow cyclists to remain in the travel lane and avoid maneuvering to the side of the road to trigger a push button.

Bicycle Box – a box painted on a roadway at an intersection that allows bicyclists to move to the front of the line in traffic. Generally a bicycle lane allows cyclists to pass stopped motor vehicle traffic and enter the bicycle box. The bicycle box is located between the intersection and front of the motor vehicle stop line. Bicycle Boxes increase awareness of cyclists in the roadway environment and provide the opportunity to cross intersections before motor vehicles.

Bicycle Facilities – a general term denoting improvements and provisions made by public agencies to accommodate or encourage bicycling. Examples include, but are not limited to bicycle parking/storage facilities, shared roadways not specifically designated for bicycle use, bicycle lanes, paved shoulders, and sidepaths.

Bicycle Friendly Community – a program established by the League of American Bicyclists that recognizes and awards municipalities who encourage bicycling and make significant strides in creating a bicycle friendly environment.

Bicycle Lane - a portion of a roadway that has been designated by striping, signing, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. AASHTO requires that bike lanes provide five feet of space between the travel lane and parking, curb face or other roadway barrier. Four-foot bike lanes are acceptable for roadways without curb and gutter.

Bikeway – a generic term for any road, street, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated for bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes.

Blank Walls – relatively large walls of empty surface that provide opportunity for vandalism with graffiti. Set backs, special lighting, and aesthetic architectural interruptions are possible blank wall treatments.

Bridge Culvert – a sewer or drain crossing used for the transference of surface water from a bridge

Buffer Zone - an area of land specifically designed to separate one zoning use from another

Bulb-out - extended pavement to narrow roadway, or pinch through fare, or provide space for bus stop, bench, etc. Commonly used as a traffic calming measure.

“C” Cyclist – a term generally used to describe beginner, juvenile or elderly cyclists who are not comfortable bicycling in an environment with significant motor vehicle traffic. Typically “C” cyclists prefer to cycle on shared-use paths, greenways, and calm neighborhood streets.

Collector Streets – a public road designed to flow traffic from small neighborhood streets and connect to larger thoroughfares

Concurrent Signal Timing - motorists running parallel to a crosswalk are allowed to turn into and through the crosswalk (left or right) after yielding to bicyclists or pedestrians

Condemnation - the taking of private property for public use, with adequate compensation to the owner, under the right of eminent domain

Connectivity - the logical and physical interconnection of functionally related points so that people can move among them

Contra Flow Bicycle Lane – a striped bicycle lane that goes against the flow of motor vehicle traffic and is separated by a double yellow line.

Conservation Easement - a legally binding agreement not to develop part of a property, but to leave it “natural” permanently or for some designated very long period of time regardless of ownership transfer

Corridor - a spatial link between two or more significant locations

Crosswalk - a designated point on a road at which some means are employed to assist bicyclists and pedestrians who wish to cross a roadway or intersection. They are designed to keep bicyclists and pedestrians together where they can be seen by motorists, and where they can cross most safely with the flow of vehicular traffic.

Curb Cut – interruption in the curb, as for a driveway

Curb Extension - a section of sidewalk at an intersection or mid-block crossing that reduces the crossing width for bicyclists and pedestrians and is intended to slow the speed of traffic and increase driver awareness

Curb ramp - a ramp leading smoothly down from a sidewalk, greenway or multi-use path to an intersecting street, rather than abruptly ending with a curb

DCHC MPO – Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization

Driveway Apron – the section of a driveway between a sidewalk or greenway and the curb

East Coast Greenway – a 2,950 mile off road multi-use path proposed to extend from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida and will connect most major cities along the East Coast. 21 percent of the trail is open for public use, as of July 2006. The American Tobacco Trail in Durham is an existing segment.

Eminent Domain – the acquisition of property by the government which is deemed to be necessary for the completion of a public project from an owner that is unwilling to negotiate a price for its sale.

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

Fee Simple Purchase – an outright purchase of the land by municipality

FHWA – Federal Highway Administration

First Right of Refusal - the right specified in an agreement to have the first opportunity to purchase or lease a given property before it is offered to others

Fitness Trail - a pathway upon which users jog or walk from station to station to perform various exercise tasks

Greenway - a linear open space; a corridor composed of natural vegetation. Greenways can be used to create connected networks of open space that include traditional parks and natural areas. Greenways provide an off street component to the bicycle network.

High Volume Artery – an important transportation corridor that is used by large traffic levels

Hydrologic Resources – stream and sewer corridors and buffer zones that can be used to facilitate the building of greenways

Incentive Zoning - a system by which zoning incentives are provided to developers on the condition that specific physical, social, or cultural benefits are provided to the community

Intersection - an area where two or more pathways or roadways join together

ISTEA – Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991

Islands of Vegetation - a landscaping feature that is planted with flora chosen for its ability to remove pollution and toxins. These spaces manage stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces; the water is slowed down, preventing erosion and allowing water to be absorbed into the ground.

Leaseback - the process of selling a property and also entering into a lease to continue using that property

Linear Stream Corridor - generally consists of the stream channel, floodplain, and transitional upland fringe aligned linearly

L RTP – Long Range Transportation Plan

Median - a median is a barrier, constructed of concrete, asphalt, or landscaping, that separates two directions of traffic

Mixed Use Area – a term used to describe a specific area that possesses a combination of different land use types, such as residential, commercial, and recreation

Mode Share - a term used to describe percentage splits in transportation options

MPO – Metropolitan Planning Organization

MST – Mountains-to-Sea Trail: a 900+ mile trail corridor that traverses the State of North Carolina from the Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks. The proposed corridor crosses Durham County from west to east along the Eno River.

MUTCD – Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices: National standards guidebook on signage and pavement marking for roadways

Municipal Boundary – the limit of municipal jurisdiction

Nature Trail - a marked trail designed to lead people through a natural environment, which highlights and protects resources

NCDOT – North Carolina Department of Transportation

Negotiated dedications - a local government may ask a landowner to enter into negotiations for certain parcels of land that are deemed beneficial to the protection and preservation of specific parcel of land

Off-road Trail – paths or trails in areas not served by the street system, such as parks and greenbelt corridors. Off-street paths are intended to serve both recreational uses and other trips, and may accommodate other non-motorized travel modes, such as bicycles in addition to walking.

On-road Bicycle Facility – any bicycle facility that is constructed or marked on a roadway, such as a shared roadway, signed route, wide outside lane, bicycle lane, or paved shoulder

Open Space - empty or vacant land which is set aside for public or private use and will not be developed. The space may be used for passive or active recreation, or may be reserved to protect or buffer natural areas.

Overlay Zone - a zone or district created by the local legislature for the purpose of conserving natural resources or promoting certain types of development. Overlay zones are imposed over existing zoning districts and contain provisions that are applicable in addition to those contained in the zoning law.

Pedestrian - a person on foot or a person on roller skates, roller blades, child's tricycle, non-motorized wheelchair, skateboard, or other non-powered vehicles (excluding bicycles)

Planned Unit Development (PUD) - a project or subdivision that includes common property that is owned and maintained by a homeowners' association for the benefit and use of the individual PUD unit owners

Pocket Park - a small area accessible to the general public that is often of primarily environmental, rather than recreational, importance; they can be urban, suburban or rural and often feature as part of urban regeneration plans in inner-city areas to provide areas where wild life can establish a foothold.

Preservation Easement – a voluntary legal agreement that protects historic, archaeological, or cultural resources on a property. The easement provides assurance to the property owner that intrinsic values will be preserved through subsequent ownership. In addition, the owner may obtain substantial tax benefits.

Public Access Easement – a voluntary legal agreement which grants a municipality a perpetual right-of-way and easement for public access and public benefit

Quality of Life - a measure of the standard of living which considers non-financial factors such as health, functional status and social opportunities that are influenced by disease, injury, treatment or social and political policy

Regional Bikeway Network- a system of high-quality bicycle facilities, including shared use paths that are a minimum of 10 feet, paved shoulders that are four feet or wider, and bike lanes (see acceptable widths under the definition for bike lanes). In constrained situations, wide curb lanes, with a minimum of 14 feet usable width, can also be used to accommodate bicyclists.

Retrofit - the redesign and reconstruction of an existing facility or subsystem to incorporate new technology, to meet new requirements, or to otherwise provide performance not foreseen in the original design

Road Diet – reconfiguring or reducing the number of motorized vehicle lanes to provide room to integrate a bicycle facility into a roadway. Commonly used on 4 lane roads with moderate motorized traffic volumes. Generally roadways are reconfigured to include a center turn lane, two 5’ bicycle lanes and two motor vehicle travel lanes on either side.

Roundabout - traffic calming device at which traffic streams circularly around a central island after first yielding to the circulating traffic

ROW (right of way) - an easement held by the local jurisdiction over land owned by the adjacent property owners that allows the jurisdiction to exercise control over the surface and above and below the ground of the right-of-way; usually designated for passage

RTOR – Right turn on red

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) – a federal program that provides funding to encourage and facilitate the planning and implementation of bicycle and pedestrian projects near schools.

SAFETEA - Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2003:

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

Sharrow – painted roadway marking that alerts motorists that bicyclists are present and frequently use the roadway. Traditionally used in slower, low volume roadways with wide curb lanes, such as neighborhood routes. Successfully pioneered and used by San Francisco and Denver.

Shoulder - The portion of the roadway contiguous with the traveled way for the accommodation of stopped vehicles, for emergency use, and for lateral support of sub-base, base, and surface courses. Paved shoulders can be used for bicycle travel as well.

Shared Roadway – A roadway that is open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel. This may be an existing roadway, street with wide curb lanes of 14-feet to 15-feet, or road with paved shoulders. Generally lower speed roadways that are located in residential or compact urban environments.

Shared Use Path (Multi Use Path/Sidepath) - A bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and located either within the highway right-of-way (often termed “parallel shared use path”) or within an independent right-of-way. Shared use paths may also be used by pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers, and other non-motorized users. In some cases shared use paths also accommodate equestrians.

Sidewalk - an improved facility intended to provide for pedestrian movement; usually, but not always, located in the public right-of-way adjacent to a roadway. Typically constructed of concrete, but can be made with asphalt, bricks, stone, wood, and other materials.

Signed Shared Roadway (signed bike route) – A shared roadway that has been designated by signing as a preferred route for bicycle use with either a “Share the Road” or “Bike Route” sign.

Thoroughfare - a public road from one place to another, designed for high traffic volumes and essential connections

TND (traditional neighborhood development) - an area of land developed in a planned fashion for a compatible mixture of residential units for various income levels and nonresidential commercial and workplace uses, with a high priority placed on access to open spaces

Traffic Calming - a range of measures that reduce the impact of vehicular traffic on residents, pedestrians and cyclists - most commonly on residential streets, but also now on commercial streets

Trip Attractor - a location which, because of what it contains, generates itself as a destination for people

UDO – Universal Development Ordinance: Document outlining ordinances for development and construction in a given area, such as Durham

Wide Outside Lane – roadway with additional unmarked space in the outermost lane that allows motorized vehicles to pass cyclists without changing lanes