

GLOSSARY OF TRANSPORTATION TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

Transportation, like many other fields, has numerous uses of "jargon." These language short-cuts ease communication among professionals in the field, but can be confusing to everyone else. Here is an abridged list of commonly used transportation terms, abbreviations, and acronyms:

- ADA** Americans with Disabilities Act:
Federal civil rights legislation for disabled persons that was passed in 1990; requires public transportation systems to be more fully accessible, including the provision of paratransit service.
- ADT** Average Daily Traffic:
The average number of vehicles that travel on a given roadway in a 24-hour period (weekday).
- AHS** Automated Highway System:
Roadways on which vehicles are instrumented to operate automatically with minimal operator input. AHS technologies (demonstrated in the San Diego region in 1997) generally consist of advanced guidance and collision avoidance systems designed to eliminate accidents and improve the carrying capacity of the roadway from 2,200 vehicles per lane per hour to about 6,000 vehicles per lane per hour.
- Air Cargo** Revenue producing items in domestic or international commerce, composed of freight, express, and mail, but excluding passenger baggage.
- Air Carrier** An aviation operator who provides regular round-trips per week between two or more points and publishes flight schedules that specify the times, days of the week, and places between which such flights are performed; or that transports mail by air pursuant to a contract with the US Postal Service.
- Alternative Fuels** Low-polluting fuels that are used to propel a vehicle instead of high-sulfur diesel or gasoline. Examples include methanol, ethanol, propane, compressed natural gas, liquid natural gas, low-sulfur or "clean" diesel, and electricity.
- Amtrak** A federal governmental agency that provides intercity railroad passenger service. Amtrak also provides commuter rail passenger service by contract. In San Diego, Amtrak operates both the Amtrak San Diegan service to Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo (subsidized by the state) and the Coaster service (under contract to NCTD).
- Annual Service Miles** The number of miles that all transit vehicles travel each year in scheduled transit service operations, or when carrying passengers in door-to-door (or demand-responsive) transit service.

APCD	<p>Air Pollution Control District: The APCD is a government agency that regulates sources of air pollution within San Diego County. The County Board of Supervisors sits as the Air Pollution Control Board. The mission of the APCD is to protect the public from the harmful effects of air pollution, achieve and maintain air quality standards, foster community involvement, and develop and implement cost-effective programs meeting state and federal mandates, considering environmental and economic impacts.</p>
Apportionment	<p>A federal budgetary term that refers to a statutorily prescribed division of assignment of funds. It is based on prescribed formulas in law.</p>
Arterial	<p>Signalized streets that serve primarily through traffic and provide access to abutting properties as a secondary function.</p>
Auxiliary Lane	<p>An additional freeway lane between adjacent interchanges that improves the weaving conflicts between exiting and entering vehicles. The lane begins where an on-ramp enters the freeway and ends at the next off-ramp.</p>
AVL	<p>Automated Vehicle Location: A transportation device that uses the coordinates from earth-orbit satellites to determine the precise location of a vehicle on the earth's surface. AVL is used to manage taxi, bus, and commercial vehicle fleet operations, providing site-specific travel information to travelers based upon the vehicle location.</p>
Bikeway Classifications	<p>As defined by the Caltrans Highway Design Manual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Class I Bike Path: A paved path within an exclusive right of way. ■ Class II Bike Lane: Signed and striped lanes within a street right of way. ■ Class III Bike Route: Preferred routes on existing streets identified by signs only.
CAA	<p>Clean Air Act: Federal legislation that sets national air quality standards and requires each state with areas that have not met federal air quality standards to prepare a State Implementation Plan, or SIP. The 1990 amendments to the CAA, often referred to as the CAAA, established new air quality requirements for the development of metropolitan transportation plans and programs. State legislation called the California Clean Air Act (CCAA) sets even more stringent state air quality standards.</p>
CAAA	<p>Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990: Federal legislation which establishes criteria for attaining and maintaining the federal air quality standards for allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various air pollutants. The legislation also provides emission standards for specific vehicles and fuels.</p>

Caltrans	<p>California Department of Transportation: The state agency responsible for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the state highway system. The State system includes interstate freeways and state highways. Caltrans and SANDAG cooperate in highway planning and in preparing the funding priorities of the state highway system. Final funding priorities for the region are adopted by SANDAG in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Caltrans is administered through 12 geographic districts: For Southern California, District 11 (D11) administers San Diego and Imperial Counties, D7 administers Los Angeles County, D8 administers Riverside County, and D12 administers Orange County.</p>
CARB	<p>California Air Resources Board: The state agency responsible for adopting state air quality standards, establishing emission standards for new cars sold in the state, and overseeing activities of regional and local air pollution control agencies.</p>
Carpool	<p>An arrangement in which two or more people share the use and cost of privately-owned automobiles in traveling together to and from prearranged destinations, typically between home and work or home and school.</p>
Carsharing	<p>Organized short-term auto rental, often located in downtown areas near public transit as well as near residential communities and employment center. Car sharing organizations operate fleets of rental vehicles that are available for short trips by members who pay a subscription fee plus a per trip charge.</p>
CCAA	<p>California Clean Air Act: A California law passed in 1988 that provides the basis for air quality planning and regulation independent of federal regulations. The CCAA requires that local air districts in violation of the California Ambient Air Quality Standard must prepare attainment plans which identify air quality problems, causes, trends, and actions to be taken to attain and maintain California's air quality standards by the earliest practicable date.</p>
CCI	<p>Construction Cost Index: A measurement of the inflation rate in the cost of major construction projects.</p>
CHP	<p>California Highway Patrol: State law enforcement agency responsible for highway safety.</p>
CHSRA	<p>California High-Speed Rail Authority: The California-High Speed Rail Authority was created by the California Legislature in 1996 to develop a plan for the construction, operation, and financing of a statewide, intercity high-speed passenger rail system.</p>
CMA	<p>Congestion Management Agency: A countywide agency responsible for preparing and implementing a Congestion Management Program (CMP). SANDAG is the San Diego region's CMA. CMAs came into existence as a result of state legislation and voters approval of Proposition 111 in 1990.</p>
CMAQ	<p>Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program: A category of funds contained in TEA-21 for projects and activities that reduce congestion and improve air quality in regions not yet attaining federal air quality standards.</p>

CMP	Congestion Management Program: Required of every county in California with a population of 50,000 or more to qualify for certain state and federal funds. CMPs set performance standards for roads and public transit, and show how local agencies will attempt to meet those standards. The CMP is required to be adopted by the CMA and must be consistent with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas: A clean-burning alternative fuel for vehicles.
COG	Council of Governments: A voluntary organization of local governments that strives for comprehensive, regional planning. SANDAG is the COG in the San Diego region.
Community Plan	More specific versions of the General Plans, generally dealing with smaller geographical areas, but having the same force of law. See General Plan.
Commuter	A person who travels regularly between home and work or school.
Commuter Rail	Conventional rail passenger service within a metropolitan area, usually operating over existing, inter-city railroad tracks. Service is normally provided by a diesel locomotive pulling three (or more) passenger coaches, with service primarily in the morning and afternoon home-to-work travel periods.
Conformity	A demonstration of whether a federally-supported activity is consistent with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) — per Section 176 (c) of the Clean Air Act. Transportation conformity refers to plans, programs, and projects approved or funded by the Federal Highway Administration or the Federal Transit Administration.
Congestion	Congestion is usually defined as travel time or delay in excess of that normally experienced under free-flow traffic conditions. Congestion is typically accompanied by lower speeds, stop-and-go travel conditions, or queuing, such as behind ramp meters or heavily-used intersections. Unacceptable congestion is travel time or delay in excess of an agreed-upon norm. The agreed-upon norm can vary depending on the type of transportation facility, the location, and the time of day.
Corridor	A broad geographical band that follows a general directional flow connecting major trip origins and destinations. A corridor may contain a number of streets, highways and transit route alignments.
Corridor Level Red Car Service	Provides rapid, relatively frequent transit services along the region's major travel corridors, with average speed of 25 miles per hour. The San Diego Trolley is an existing example of Red Car service.
CPI	Consumer Price Index: Developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor to provide a measurement of the inflation rate in the general economy of a given metropolitan area.

CTC	California Transportation Commission: A state agency that sets state spending priorities for many state and federally funded highway and transit projects and allocates funds to those projects. CTC members are appointed by the Governor.
CVO	Commercial Vehicle Operations: The segment of the surface transportation system involved in the movement of commercial goods or freight. Commercial vehicles are generally trucks and rail cars. The management of these fleets and the movement of freight, including its movement through ports of entry, intermodal transfer facilities, and other services is referred to as commercial vehicle operations.
Deficient Segment	As used in the RTP, a portion of freeway experiencing LOS F, where demand exceeds capacity.
DEFM	Demographic and Economic Forecasting Model: DEFM is an econometric forecasting model with a demographic module. It produces annual forecasts of the size and structure of the region's economy and a demographic forecast consistent with that future economy. Outputs include data such as the size and composition of the region's population, employment by industrial sector, household and personal income, housing units by structure type, vacancy status and persons per household, labor force, and school enrollment.
Demand-Responsive Service	Transit service that is provided in response to a pre-ordered or telephone reservation.
Development Impact Fee	A fee charged to private developers, usually on a per dwelling unit or per square foot basis, to help pay for infrastructure improvements necessitated as a result of the development.
DOT	Department of Transportation: At the federal level, the cabinet agency, headed by the Secretary of Transportation, that is responsible for highways, transit, aviation, and ports. The DOT includes Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and others. The state DOT is Caltrans.
Drive-Alone	See SOV.
EIR	Environmental Impact Report: A detailed statement prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) describing and analyzing the significant environmental effects of a project and discussing ways to mitigate or avoid the effects. The term EIR may mean either a draft or a final EIR depending on the context.
Environmental Justice	The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws and policies.
EPA	See U.S. EPA.
E-work	See Telework.
Expressway	Similar to a freeway but with some signal-controlled intersections.

FAA	Federal Aviation Administration: Federal agency that regulates the use of airspace and is responsible for evaluating and disseminating information about hazards and obstructions to aviation.
Farebox Recovery Ratio	Measure of the proportion of operating expenses covered by passenger fares. The ratio divides the farebox revenue by the total operating expenses.
Farebox Revenue	Value of cash, tickets, and pass receipts given by passengers for payment for rides on public transit.
Fare Structure	The varying fees charged to use transit, normally differing by the age of the transit rider, single versus multiple transit trips, the type of service (Trolley, express bus, etc.), and, for some types of services, the length of the trip.
Ferry	Transit service provided by boat.
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration: Federal agency responsible for the administration of federal highway funds and issuing policy and procedures for implementation of federal legislative directives. FHWA is a component of the federal DOT.
Fiscal Year	The 12-month period established for budgeting purposes. In California, the commonly accepted fiscal year for governmental purposes starts July 1 and continues to the following June 30.
Fixed-Route Service	Service provided on a regular, fixed-schedule basis along a specific route with vehicles stopping to pick up and deliver passengers to specific locations. Each fixed-route trip serves the same origins and destinations, unlike demand-responsive services and taxicabs.
Freeway	Multilane divided roadway, grade separated from other roadways, with full control access and egress.
FSP	Freeway Service Patrol: An ongoing program to provide a roving tow and motorist aid service. This service assists or removes stranded and disabled vehicles on designated urban freeways and state roadways during the peak period commute hours. It is operated by SANDAG in cooperation with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol.
FTA	Federal Transit Administration: Federal agency responsible for the administration of federal transit funds. Formerly known as the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), FTA is a component of the federal DOT.
Gas Tax	The tax applied on each gallon of fuel sold. Currently, the federal government has imposed an 18.3 cents per gallon tax and the state has imposed an 18 cents per gallon tax.
General Plan	A policy document required of cities and counties by state law which describes a jurisdiction's future development in general terms in text and map form. It is the document from which all land use decisions must derive. The General Plan contains a set of broad policy statements about the goals for the jurisdiction and must contain seven mandatory elements: Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise, and Safety. Optional elements also are identified by law.

GIS	Geographic Information System.
Grade Separation	A vertical separation between intersecting roads and or railway tracks. One facility typically travels over or under the other via an overpass, tunnel, or other structure.
HCM	Highway Capacity Manual: A resource for technical information that is used by transportation planners, designers, and operators. The materials contained in the HCM represent a collection of state-of-the-art techniques for estimating level-of-service for many transportation facilities and modes.
Heavy Rail	Railroad services that operate in a mixed-user environment on conventional railroad tracks. Heavy rail services include freight trains, Amtrak, Commuter Rail, and most conventional rail transit systems. Services operating in the mixed-user environment must meet federal signaling and crash (buffing) strength standards.
Highway	A general term usually referring to a state or federally-designated urban or rural route, designed to accommodate longer trips in the region.
Household	All people living in a housing unit, regardless of whether they are related to each other. Housing units include houses, apartments, and mobile homes.
HOT Lane	High Occupancy Toll Lane: HOT lanes are limited access lanes in which carpools, vanpools, and buses travel for free, while other vehicles gain access by paying a fee.
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle: A vehicle that carries more than one occupant. Examples include carpools, vanpools, shuttles, and buses.
HOV Lane	High Occupancy Vehicle Lane: Exclusive road or traffic lane limited to HOVs that typically has a higher operating speed and lower traffic volumes than a general purpose or mixed flow lane. In California, vehicles that typically can use HOV lanes include carpools, vanpools, buses, other multi-passenger vehicles, and motorcycles and emergency vehicles.
HSR	High Speed Rail: Railroad passenger service that, as defined by California state law, operates at maximum speeds of over 200 miles per hour. Because of the speed, high speed rail normally operates on inter-city (longer) routes and HSR vehicles may not meet federal heavy rail crash standards.
I-15 FasTrak™	The I-15 FasTrak Program uses electronic toll collection technology to employ dynamic pricing that allows solo drivers to use the lanes for a fee. The net revenues generated by the program are used to improve transit and carpool services in the I-15 corridor.
I-15 IRP	I-15 Interregional Partnership: The I-15 IRP is a voluntary partnership of local officials representing SANDAG and the Western Riverside Council of Governments. The I-15 IRP is working to identify and prioritize issues as well as recommend short- and long-term solutions related to the jobs/housing imbalance and traffic congestion along the north I-15 corridor.
Incident	An incident may be a traffic collision, stalled vehicle, load spillage, or other event that affects one or more lanes of traffic.

Inter-city Rail	Railroad passenger service which primarily serves longer trips such as those between major cities or regions.
Intermodal	Passenger or freight transportation services which involve or use more than one type of transportation facility (or mode). Aviation, automobile, rail, and transit are travel modes.
IMTMS	Regional Intermodal Transportation Management Systems: This network will interconnect the region's local transportation management centers and will enable the modal agencies to cooperatively manage the overall performance of both the local and regional transportation systems.
ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems: A general classification of transportation technologies, management tools, and services made possible through advances in computer and communication technologies. ITS is used to make transportation systems safer and more efficient.
Light Rail	A passenger transportation system of self-propelled vehicles which operate over steel rails located in the street, on an aerial structure, or on a separated right-of-way. Vehicles can operate as a one-car unit or in trains of up to four vehicles, and are powered by either diesel or electric motors.
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas: An alternative fuel that is a natural gas cooled to below its boiling point so that it becomes a liquid.
LOS	Level of Service: A qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream and motorists' perception of those conditions. LOS ratings typically range from LOS A, which represents free flow conditions, to LOS F, which is characterized by forced flow, heavy congestion, stop and go traffic, and long queues forming behind breakdown points.
LOSSAN	Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) The LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency coordinates planning and programming on the coastal rail line. SANDAG, MTDB, and NCTD are voting members of LOSSAN along with regional transportation planning agencies in Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. LOSSAN sets priorities for improvements in the corridor that will increase the capacity of the rail line and the reliability of service.
LRT	Light Rail Transit: A type of transit vehicle and service that uses steel wheels and operates over railroad tracks. LRT systems generally serve stations averaging one-mile apart, are not remotely controlled, and can operate in a separated right-of-way or on public streets. The San Diego Trolley is a LRT system.
Managed Lanes	Freeway lanes on which the number of vehicles using the facility can be limited, and/or where the direction of the lanes can be changed.

Mixed Use	The combining of commercial, office, and residential land uses to provide easy pedestrian access and reduce the public’s dependence on the automobile. It can be implemented in multi-story buildings containing business and retail uses on the lower floors, and residential uses on the upper floors. The uses also can be grouped horizontally, as long as good pedestrian connections between uses are provided.
Mode	One of various forms of transportation, including automobile, transit, bicycle, and walking. Intermodal refers to the connection between modes; multimodal refers to the availability and/or use of multiple transportation modes.
MIS	Major Investment Study: A feasibility study and resulting document which is required for major surface transportation projects involving significant federal funds. An MIS identifies the cost-effectiveness and overall effectiveness of various travel modes in serving a study area’s travel needs. It also requires broad public and agency input.
MOBILITY 2030	The region’s blueprint for a transportation system that enhances our quality of life and meets our mobility needs now and in the future.
Mode Split	The percent of trips that use each of the various travel modes. If a specific mode is not stated, the transit percentage is usually implied.
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization: A federally-designated agency that is responsible for regional transportation planning in each metropolitan area. SANDAG is the MPO for the San Diego region.
MTDB	San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board: The agency created by the California legislature to plan, build, and operate transit facilities in the southwestern portion of the region.
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement: A formal agreement between Canada, Mexico, and the United States to promote means for improved and increased free trade between the three countries. The effect of NAFTA on transportation has been the need to study and upgrade existing facilities, or build new facilities between and within the countries.
NCTD	North San Diego County Transit Development Board: The agency created by the California legislature to plan, build and operate transit facilities in the northwestern portion of the region.
Non-attainment Area	A geographic area identified by the U.S. EPA and/or the California Air Resources Board (CARB) as not meeting either the national or California Ambient Air Quality Standards for a given pollutant.
Off-Peak Periods	The times of day when the least concentration of vehicles or transit riders are on the road or other transit facility. These times are generally before 6:00 a.m., between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00p.m., and after 6:00 p.m.
Paratransit	The range of demand-responsive (or on-request) transit providing service from a trip origin to trip destination.

Park and Ride	A travel option where commuters park their personal vehicles in a publicly provided lot or other location, and continue their trip via carpool, vanpool, or transit.
Park and Ride Lot	Facilities where individuals can rendezvous to utilize carpools, vanpools, and transit for group travel to their destinations.
Parking Cash-out Program	An employer-funded program, which provides a cash allowance to employees who do not drive alone that is equivalent to the parking costs that the employer would otherwise pay to provide a parking space for the employee.
Passenger Miles	The total number of passengers carried by a transit system multiplied by the number of miles each passenger travels. Passenger miles are normally measured on a daily or annual basis.
Peak Period	The time of day when the greatest concentrations of vehicles or transit riders are on the road or other transit facility. The morning peak period is generally considered to be from 6:00 to 9:00 a.m.; the afternoon peak period is from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
PeMS	Performance Monitoring System: The PeMS program uses the urban freeway data collected through freeway loop detectors to provide current, ongoing data on freeway volumes and speeds that can be displayed graphically and exported to other monitoring applications.
Performance Measures	Objective, quantifiable criteria used to evaluate the performance of the transportation system and to determine how well planned improvements to the system are achieving the established objectives.
Person Trip	Any person's one-way travel to any destination for any purpose. More specifically, a trip is the one-way movement from an origin to a destination, whereby each trip has two trip ends.
POE	Port of Entry: Trans-border facilities that process conveyances, passengers, and all goods entering and exiting the United States. In addition to enforcing U.S. Customs laws, these offices enforce laws for other agencies involved in international commerce.
Preliminary 2030 Cities/County Forecast	The Preliminary 2030 Cities/County Forecast was approved for use in planning studies by the SANDAG Board of Directors in October 2002. Within the 18 incorporated cities, the forecast is based on current plans and policies plus areas identified by the jurisdictions as having the potential for more intense smart growth development. For the unincorporated area, the forecast uses the population targets and spatial "footprints" that were developed for each Community Plan Area and Sponsor Group Area as part of the County's General Plan 2020 plan update.
PSR	Project Study Report: A preliminary engineering report which documents agreement on the scope, a set of reasonable and feasible alternatives, schedule, and estimated cost of a project so that the project can be included in a future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
Public Transit	See Public Transportation.

Public Transportation	Travel by bus, rail, or other vehicle, either publicly or privately owned, which provides general or specialized service on a regular or continuing basis.
Ramp Metering	Electronic traffic control devices located at freeway access points to meter the entry of vehicles onto the freeway to help optimize the movement of persons and vehicles.
RAQS	Regional Air Quality Strategy: The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District developed the Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS) pursuant to California Clean Air Act requirements. It identifies emission control measures to provide expeditious progress toward attaining the state ozone standard.
RCP	Regional Comprehensive Plan: A plan that will serve as a foundation for integrating land uses, transportation systems, infrastructure needs, and public investment strategies within a regional smart growth framework. The RCP will be the regional vision to prepare for change and meet our future needs.
Regional Yellow Car Service	Provides the fastest type of transit service and is designed to serve longer-distance regional trip making, with an average of 40 miles per hour travel speed. The Coaster commuter rail system is an existing example of Yellow Car service.
Reverse Commute	Travel in the direction opposite to the main flow of peak period commute traffic.
REGION2020	The San Diego region's strategy to accommodate projected growth, while maintaining the quality of life. The Strategy seeks to (1) create a sustainable and prosperous economy; (2) provide an equitable and accessible transportation system; (3) preserve natural habitat and open space and protect the environment; (4) provide homes and opportunities for homeownership; and (5) achieve a new state-local tax system and ensure financing for needed infrastructure improvements.
RideLink	The San Diego regional rideshare agency that provides information to commuters and employers on travel options such as carpooling, vanpooling, public transportation, bicycling, and telecommuting. RideLink operates a carpool ridematching service, the San Diego Regional Vanpool Program, the San Diego Regional Bike Locker Program, and the RideLink Guaranteed Ride Home Program.
Ridership	The number of transit users, usually reported as a yearly total or as the average for a normal workday.
Ridesharing	A mode of travel where at least two individuals share the same vehicle to get to their destination. Rideshare vehicles include private automobiles, privately owned and operated vans and buses, as well as public transportation.
Route Miles	The length of a transit route or service, multiplied by the number of trips made by transit vehicles or trains each day.
ROW	Right-of-Way: The land required for the construction and operation of a transportation facility.

RSTN	Regionally Significant Transportation Network: The regional systems that form the RSTN consist of interstate freeways and state highways, corridor and regional transit services, and a subset of arterials that provide continuous, longer facilities accommodating the highest volumes of regional trips.
RTIP	Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP): A three- to seven-year listing of major highway and transit projects including project costs, funding sources, and development schedules. Compiled from priority lists submitted by local jurisdictions and transportation agencies.
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan: A minimum 20-year plan that is required by state and federal law to guide the development of the region's transportation system.
RTPA	Regional Transportation Planning Agency: A state-designated agency responsible for preparing the RTP and the RTIP and administering state transportation funds. SANDAG is the San Diego region's RTPA.
RTV	Regional Transit Vision: Adopted in November 2001 as a 21 st century strategy to develop a seamless public transportation system for the region. The RTV integrates new era transit services into San Diego's growing communities.
State Highway	A state-designated roadway. May be urban or rural.
SAHOPE	Secretaría de Asentamientos Humanos y Obras Públicas del Estado: State of Baja California Secretary of Public Works and Human Settlements
SANDAG	San Diego Association of Governments: The regional council of Governments for the San Diego region. SANDAG is responsible for long-range transportation planning and programming under both federal and state law.
SD&AE	San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway: The San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway is the only rail link to the east which will improve the international and interstate movement of goods in, out, and through the Southern California/Baja California region.
SIP	State Implementation Plan: A document that shows the steps planned to meet federal air quality standards (outlined in the Clean Air Act). Each non-attainment area prepares an air quality improvement plan; those are combined to make up the statewide SIP.
SHOPP	State Highway Operation and Protection Program: Caltrans' three-year program to address traffic safety, roadway rehabilitation, roadside rehabilitation, or operations needs on the state highway system.
Smart Growth	A compact, efficient, and environmentally sensitive pattern of development that provides people with additional travel, housing, and employment choices by focusing future growth away from rural areas and closer to existing and planned job centers and public facilities.
SOV	Single-occupant vehicle: A vehicle with one occupant – the driver. Also referred to as a "drive-alone."

STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program: A multi-year program of major transportation projects to be funded by the state. The CTC adopts the STIP every two years based on projects proposed in RTIPs and from Caltrans.
STP	Surface Transportation Program: A federal program originally established in the federal ISTEA legislation which provides flexible funding allocated by regional agencies like SANDAG for a wide range of projects including highways, transit, local streets and roads, and bicycles.
TCM	Transportation Control Measure: A transportation strategy intended both to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to make VMT more efficient. TCMs include transportation system management (TSM) and transportation demand management (TDM) elements. Examples include carpooling, transit, and computer-optimized traffic signals.
TDA	Transportation Development Act: TDA funds are generated from a tax of one-quarter of one percent on all retail sales in each county and are used for transit, specialized transit for disabled persons, and bicycle and pedestrian purposes.
TCRP	Transportation Congestion Relief Program
TDM	Transportation Demand Management: Programs to reduce demand by automobiles on the transportation system, such as telecommuting, flextime, bicycling, walking, transit use, staggered work hours, and ridesharing.
TEA-21	Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century: Federal legislation enacted in 1998, authorizing the preparation and funding of a surface transportation program. Like the previous ISTEA legislation, TEA-21 emphasizes diversity and balance of modes as well as the preservation of existing systems before construction of new facilities.
Telework	Teleworkers or e-workers are wage and salary employees who conduct some or all of their daily work activities from their home or a remote site other than at the normal work site in order to avoid commuting during peak periods.
Tranplan	A computer model that simulates travel demand and its distribution to facilities within a geographic area.
Transit	See Public Transportation.
TransNet	A half-cent local sales tax approved by San Diego region voters in 1987. Administered by SANDAG, this 20-year program to improve the region's transportation system is expected to generate \$2.7 billion (in 1995 dollars). The funds are to be divided equally among three major transportation categories: highways, public transit, and local streets.
Trip	See Person Trip and/or Vehicle Trip.
Trolley	The urban light rail transit service currently provided in the San Diego region: the San Diego Trolley.

TSM	Transportation System Management: Strategies that allow transportation systems to operate to maximize the number of persons traveling in a corridor or facility. These strategies include traffic flow improvements, ramp metering, and park-and-ride lots.
U.S. DOT	United States Department of Transportation: The federal cabinet-level agency with responsibility for highways, mass transit, aviation and ports; headed by the secretary of transportation. The DOT includes the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, among other agencies.
U.S. EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: The federal agency charged with setting policy and guidelines, and carrying out legal mandates for the protection of national interests in environmental resources.
Vanpool	A vehicle operating as a ridesharing arrangement, providing transportation to a group of individuals traveling directly between their homes and a regular destination within the same geographic area. Vanpool vehicles have a minimum seating capacity of seven passengers, including the driver.
V/C Ratio	Volume to Capacity Ratio: The volume of traffic divided by the capacity of a transportation facility. Traffic volume is defined as the number of vehicles passing (or proposed to pass) a point or section of roadway in a given time interval. Capacity is defined as the maximum number of vehicles that can reasonably be expected to traverse that point or section of roadway during the same time period under prevailing roadway, traffic, and control conditions.
Vehicle trip	A single vehicle movement from the beginning of travel to its destination, in a vehicle that is motor-driven (e.g., automobiles, motorcycles, trucks, buses, and vans).
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled: The total number of miles traveled on all roadways by all vehicles. Reducing VMT can help ease traffic congestion and improve air quality.
Weaving	The crossing of two or more traffic streams traveling in the same general direction along a significant length of highway without the aid of traffic control devices.
Work trip	Any "person" or "vehicle" trip whose purpose (on at least one trip end) involves work or work-related business.