

Appendix B

Glossary

APPENDIX B – GLOSSARY

Access Time. The time required to walk, bicycle, or drive from the origin of the trip (for example, from home) to a (boarding) transit stop, plus the waiting time based on the frequency of transit service, and/or the transfer time and the walking or driving time from the transit (de-boarding) stop to the destination. For automobile trips, it is the time required to walk to and from parking places, and delays within parking facilities, if any.

Accessibility. The ease by which an individual can reach desired activities in any location by use of the transportation system.

Air Pollutant. Smoke, dust, fumes, or odors in the ambient air that have the potential for harmful effects.

Alighting. Term describing the departure of passengers from a bus or transit vehicle.

Alignment. Horizontal geometric elements, which define the location of the light rail track or roadway.

Alluvium. An unconsolidated, terrestrial sediment composed of sorted or unsorted sand, gravel, and clay that have been deposited by water in streams, rivers, and creeks.

Annualized Capital Cost. A one-time capital cost converted into an annual value that incorporates both the depreciation on the capital item and the foregone interest on the money invested in the project.

Aquatic Resource. The physical elements of the aquatic environment, such as streams, rivers, lakes, and shorelands; as well as life forms such as aquatic plants and fish that live within the aquatic environment.

Aquifer. An underground layer of water-bearing permeable rock or unconsolidated materials (gravel, sand, or silt) from which groundwater can be extracted using a water well.

Area Source. A general classification of the origin of an air pollutant (e.g., park-and-ride lots are area sources of carbon monoxide emissions).

Arterial. A major thoroughfare used mainly for through traffic rather than access to adjacent property. Arterials generally have greater traffic-carrying capacity than collector or local streets and are designed for continuously moving traffic.

Artifact. Any portable object used and/or modified by civilization (particularly during prehistoric times).

At-Grade. Term used to express that a feature, such as a rail track or crosswalk, and a roadway meet at the same elevation.

At-Grade Crossing. Any intersection of two or more flows of traffic at the same elevation (possibly involving more than one mode of transportation), such as light rail/road crossings.

Attainment Area. An attainment area is an area considered to have air quality as good as or better than the national ambient air quality standards for specific pollutants as defined in the Clean Air Act.

Average Annual Megawatt. The average hourly demand for or supply of electricity measured in megawatts over a year.

Average Daily Traffic (ADT). The total volume of traffic during a given time period divided by the number of days in that time period, representative of average traffic in a 1-day time period.

Average Time (also, Exposure Time). The duration of exposure to a given concentration of an air contaminant, specified in the ambient air quality standards (e.g., the two national standards of 9 parts per million and 35 parts per million specify averaging times of 8 hours and 1 hour).

Average Wait Time. Average time spent by passengers at a station or bus stop waiting for transit service.

Average Weekday. A measurement of average conditions during one weekday, i.e., Monday through Friday.

A-Weighted Sound Level (dBA). To approximate the way humans interpret sound, a filter circuit with frequency characteristics similar to the human hearing system is built into sound measurement equipment. Measurements with this filter enacted are referred to as A-weighted sound levels, expressed in dBA (see Decibel).

Background Concentration. The pollutant level that would exist at a site in the absence of air pollution sources in the neighborhood of the site.

Baseline Energy Consumption. Energy consumption, usually for a no-build alternative, that is used as a reference against which energy consumption for a build alternative is compared.

Best Management Practices (BMPs). Approved physical, structural, and/or managerial practices that, when used singularly or in combination, prevent or reduce pollutant discharges.

Bioretention Facility. A shallow landscaped depression with an engineered soil mix designed to filter runoff from a small contributing area, which can be in the form of a swale or cell. It is commonly referred to as a rain garden.

Boarding. Term describing the arrival of passengers onto a bus or transit vehicle.

Boarding Trips. A trip on a transit line or group of lines where each boarding of a transit vehicle is considered the start of a new trip. Number of trips boarding (entering) transit vehicles, regardless of whether the trip involves a transfer from another transit vehicle. A fare may or may not be collected for each boarding trip, depending on whether a transfer is used.

British Thermal Unit (Btu). An energy unit equal to the quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 pound of water 1 degree Fahrenheit.

Buffer. An area adjacent a critical area (e.g., wetland or stream) that functions to avoid loss or decline in ecological functions and values. In addition to preserving the ecological functions of a

wetland system, a buffer physically isolates a critical area from potential disturbance and harmful intrusion, and works to minimize risk to the public from loss of life, well-being, or property damage.

Capacity, Person. The maximum number of persons that can be carried past a given location during a given time period under specified operating conditions without unreasonable delay, hazard, or restriction (usually measured in terms of persons per hour).

Capacity, Roadway. The maximum hourly rate at which persons or vehicles can reasonably be expected to traverse a point or uniform section of a lane or roadway during a given time period under prevailing roadway and traffic conditions.

Capacity, Vehicle. The maximum number of vehicles that can be accommodated in a given time by a transit or highway facility.

Capital Costs. Non-recurring costs required to construct transit systems, including costs of right-of-way, facilities, rolling stock, power distribution, and the associated administrative and design costs, as well as financing charges during construction.

Carbon Monoxide (CO). A colorless, odorless, tasteless gas, and one of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's criteria air pollutants released from automobile exhaust.

Carpool. A group of passengers and drivers organized to use one automobile on a regular basis, riding together, for the same trip purpose (generally the work trip).

Census Tract. A census tract is a small subdivision of an urban area used by the U.S. Census Bureau to identify population and housing statistics. Census blocks are subdivisions of census tracts and are the smallest unit of census geography for which the Census Bureau collects data. The boundaries of census blocks are generally streets or other notable physical features and often correspond to a city block. A census block group is a combination of census blocks, typically encompassing two to four city blocks. The U.S. Census collects some information at the block level, some at the block group level, and some at the tract level.

Channelization. The use of traffic markings or islands to direct traffic into certain paths. For example, a "channelized" intersection directs portions of traffic into a left turn lane through the use of roadway islands or striping that separates the turn lane from traffic going straight.

Circulation. The free movement or passage of a vehicle, pedestrian, bicycle, or other transportation mode through a given area.

Concentration (also, level). A measure of the air pollutant in the ambient air, having the units of mass per volume.

Conformity (air quality). A process that ensures federal funding and approval goes to transportation activities consistent with federal air quality goals. The Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration jointly determine that specific regions meet air quality standards.

Construction Staging Area. During construction, a site temporarily used for materials or equipment storage, assembly, or other temporary, construction-related activities.

Corridor. A general path from one point to another; the Lynnwood Link Extension study corridor begins in Northgate and travels north to Shoreline, Mountlake Terrace, and Lynnwood.

Criteria Air Pollutants. Those air pollutants that have been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as potentially harmful and for which standards have been set to protect the public health and welfare. The criteria air pollutants are carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, particulates, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, hydrocarbons, and lead.

Day Night Sound Level (Ldn). Ldn is a 24-hour equivalent continuous sound level (Leq), but with a 10-dB penalty assessed to noise events occurring at night. Nighttime is defined as 10 pm to 7 am. This strongly weights Ldn toward nighttime noise because most people are more easily annoyed by noise during the nighttime hours when background noise is lower and most people are sleeping.

dBA. The sound level obtained through the use of A-weighting characteristics specified by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard S1.4-1971. The unit of measure is the decibel (dB), commonly referred to as dBA when A-weighting is used. The “A” weighting scale closely resemble human response to noise.

Decibel. The unit used to measure the loudness of noise.

De Minimis Finding. De minimis is a Latin phrase meaning something of insignificance or negligible. De minimis impacts are defined as those elements that do not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes of a Section 4(f) resource or property.

Dewatering. The temporary removal of ground or surface water from a construction area to allow construction to be done under dry conditions.

Displacement. A property acquisition that would require removing an existing use.

Disturbed Habitat. A habitat in which naturally occurring ecological processes and species interactions have been significantly disrupted by the direct or indirect results of human presence and activity.

Drop-Off Zone. A station that provides temporary loading and unloading facilities for automobiles and/or buses. The station may be combined with feeder bus stations, stations that provide lateral bus transportation service for riders to transfer to a light rail mode.

Ecologically Sensitive Area. An area, valued locally for its rare or sensitive habitat, existing in a relatively undisturbed, natural state and supporting indigenous species.

Elevated Guideway. A guideway that is positioned above the normal activity level (e.g., elevated structure for light rail to cross over a street).

Emission. Particulate, gaseous, noise, or electromagnetic byproducts of the transit system or vehicle.

Emission Control. Method by which emissions are governed in an effort to minimize pollutants and/or noise.

Emission Inventory. A listing by emission source of the amounts of air pollutants released into the atmosphere (generally, in tons or kilograms per day).

Emission Source. The origin of an air pollutant (e.g., automobiles and trucks are sources of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and nitrogen oxides).

Emission Standards. A limitation on the release of an air contaminant into the ambient air (e.g., the federal government limits carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon, and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) emissions per mile of travel in new automobiles).

Endangered Species. According to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, an endangered species is any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, other than an insect determined by the Secretary of the Interior to constitute a pest whose protection under the provisions of this act would present an overwhelming and overriding risk to man.

Equivalent Level (Leq). Leq is a measure of sound energy over a period of time. It is referred to as the equivalent sound level because it is equivalent to the level of a steady sound which, over a referenced duration and location, has the same A-weighted sound (dBa) energy as the fluctuating sound.

Express Service. Transit service where a very limited number of stops is made.

Facility. The means by which a transportation mode is provided. For example, a sidewalk is a facility for pedestrians as a highway is a facility for vehicles.

Fixed Guideway. A public transportation facility using a separate right-of-way for the exclusive use of public transportation or a system of vehicles that can operate on its own guideway constructed for that purpose (e.g., commuter rail, light rail).

Forest or Woodland Habitat. In the Puget Sound lowlands, a habitat type generally dominated by Douglas fir, western red cedar, and western hemlock, frequently with a hardwood understory. The ground cover is generally lush. Birds and small mammals abound, and larger mammals are common in large stands.

Frequency, Vehicle. Time rate of vehicle arrivals at a station stop or along a transit line.

Full Acquisition. The full parcel would be acquired and the current use would be displaced. Full acquisitions include parcels that might not be fully needed for the project but would be affected to the extent that current uses would be substantially impaired (e.g., loss of parking or access).

General Purpose Lane. Term used to describe a traffic lane on a highway that can be used by all types of vehicles including single-occupant automobiles, carpools, trucks, and motorcycles.

Glacial Till. This type of soil typically consists of a diverse mix of gravelly sand with scattered cobbles and boulders in a clay/silt matrix. It is very dense and is locally referred to as “hardpan.” The predominant glacial till encountered in the project area is Vashon-age glacial till.

Grade Separated. Parallel or crossing lines of traffic that are vertically or horizontally physically separated from each other and do not share a common intersection.

Greenhouse Gases (GHG). Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), ozone (O₃), water vapor, nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆). These gas emissions are collectively leading to the greenhouse effect, trapping the sun's solar rays and leading to an increase in Earth temperature.

Groundborne Noise. Noise that is transmitted through the ground, typically reported in decibels.

Groundborne Vibration. A small but rapidly fluctuating motion transmitted through the ground, typically reported as velocity or acceleration.

Guideway. Specifically designed way traversed by transit vehicles constrained to the way (see Elevated Guideway).

Habitat Function. Terrestrial plant communities, wetlands, and aquatic systems such as streams provide a variety of functions in the environment. For instance, depending on the condition and location of a wetland, wetland functions might include water quality improvement, groundwater recharge, nutrient and sediment filtering, and habitat for a variety of animals, as well as education and recreation opportunities for people—the habitat function is one of several functions potentially performed by wetlands. Similarly, terrestrial and aquatic systems each also may perform many functions. When they provide habitat for animals, they are said to be performing or providing a “habitat function.”

Habitat Value. The value of a plant community's function as determined by the habitat's ability to support the needs of biological species. High-value habitats are those that support or may support threatened, endangered, and/or sensitive species as determined by federal, state, and local jurisdictions.

Hazardous Materials. Hazardous materials are materials, which, because of their chemical, physical, or biological nature, pose a potential risk to life, health, or property when released. Such materials include hazardous waste, dangerous waste, hazardous substances, and toxic substances.

Headway. The headway between vehicles in public transit systems is the amount of time (usually in minutes) that elapses between two vehicles passing the same point traveling in the same direction on a given route.

High-Capacity Transit. A system of public transportation services within an urbanized region operating principally on exclusive rights-of-way; examples include light rail transit or express buses on exclusive bus ways and their supporting services.

High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV). Any passenger vehicle that meets or exceeds a certain predetermined minimum number of passengers, for example, more than two or three people per automobile. Typically includes carpools with two or more people, vanpools, and buses.

Hours of Service. The number of hours during the day between the start and end of service on a transit route, also known as the service span.

Indirect Energy. A term used to denote all energy inputs for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a system.

Indirect Source. An entity that does not directly emit pollutants but attracts emission sources such as automobiles and trucks. Shopping centers, stadiums, and highways are examples of indirect sources.

Integration with Other Modes. Method by which a transit system interfaces with other modes of transportation.

Interchange. The system of interconnecting ramps between two or more intersecting roadways or guideways that are grade separated.

Interim Terminus. A station where the project would operate until the next portion of the project can be built. The terminus would typically include a station with tail tracks extending beyond the station for layover of trains.

Kilowatt (kW). A unit of electrical energy.

Kilowatt-hour (kWh). One kilowatt of energy used over one hour.

Land Development Pattern. The use, types, and intensity of development. Land development patterns affect trip demand, average trip length, and, therefore, energy consumption.

Landscaped Habitat. A habitat in urban areas having limited native species. Vegetation generally consists of mowed lawns and exotic trees and bushes.

Ldn. The day/night average noise level.

Leq. The equivalent steady-state sound level that, in a specified time period, would contain the same acoustic energy as the varying sound level during the same period; considers volume capacity, travel speeds, and delay.

Leq(h). The hourly value of Leq.

Level of Service (LOS). A qualitative measure that represents the collective factors of travel under a particular volume condition. A measure of traffic congestion.

Light Rail Transit (also Light Rail). A mode of mass transportation comprising light rail vehicles, which travel on steel tracks and are powered by electricity from overhead wires. This mode is characterized by its ability to operate in at-grade and/or grade-separated environments.

Link. Sound Transit's light rail system.

Liquefaction. Conversion of soil into a fluid-like mass during an earthquake or other seismic event.

Load Factor. The average ratio of passengers to seats, during a specified period of operation of a public transit route.

Local Service. A type of transit operation involving frequent stops and consequent low speeds, the purpose of which is to deliver and pick up transit passengers as close to their destinations or origins as possible.

Locally Preferred Alternative. Following the publication of the Draft EIS, the Sound Transit Board identifies a preferred alternative consisting of routes and station preferences. This is known as

a “locally” preferred alternative because the Federal Transit Administration has not yet selected a preferred alternative.

Low Income. A person whose median household income is at or below the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.

Low Income Population. Any readily identifiable group of low-income persons who live in geographic proximity, and, if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed/transient persons (such as migrant workers or Native Americans) who will be similarly affected by the project.

Maintenance Area. Maintenance areas are geographic areas with a history of non-attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) but which now consistently meet NAAQS.

Median Alignment. In rail operations, a type of alignment where tracks are positioned in the median on the street, as opposed to being positioned on one side of the street.

Megawatt (MW). 1,000,000 watts.

Microgram per Cubic Meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). A unit of concentration equal to one thousandth of a gram per cubic meter.

Minimum Turn Radius. Generally assumed to be the minimum horizontal turn radius (tightest curve).

Minority. A person who is:

- Black - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa;
- Hispanic or Latino - A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race;
- Asian - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent;
- American Indian or Alaskan Native - A person having origins in any of the original people of North or South America, including Central America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition; or
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

Minority Population. Any readily identifiable groups of minority persons who live in geographic proximity, and if circumstances warrant, geographically dispersed/transient persons (such as migrant workers or Native Americans) who will be similarly affected by the project.

Mobility. The ease of continuous movement along the transportation system.

Mode. A particular form or method of travel, such as pedestrian, bicycle, automobile, bus, or light rail.

Mode Share. The percentage of travelers that travel either by single-occupancy vehicle, high-occupancy vehicle, or transit modes on a given roadway facility.

Mode Split. Forecast of proportion of total person trips that would use each of the various modes of transportation that include transit and cars.

Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA). The Model Toxics Control Act Cleanup Regulation, WAC 173-340, implements the Model Toxics Control Act, RCW 70.105D, which addresses strict requirements for site discovery and reporting, site assessments, and site remediation. Most important, the regulation defines standard methods used to assess whether a site is contaminated or clean.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Federal limits on levels of atmospheric contamination necessary to protect the public from adverse effects on health (primary standards) and welfare (secondary standards).

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHRA). The Act that established the National Register of Historic Places and State Historic Preservation program and set forth guidelines and regulations for environmental review of projects involving federal funding.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The official list of the nation's cultural resources determined to be worthy of preservation; the register is maintained by the National Park Service.

Network. A system of real or hypothetical interconnecting links that forms the configuration of transit routes and stops comprising the total system.

New Starts. A federal funding program administered by the Federal Transit Administration. Section 5309 New Starts funds are discretionary federal funds available for new fixed guideway systems and extensions to existing systems.

Noise Wall. A noise barrier (also called a sound wall) that is an exterior structure designed to protect inhabitants of sensitive land use areas from noise pollution. Noise walls are considered the most effective method of mitigating roadway, railway, and industrial noise sources.

Nonattainment Area. An area designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as currently violating the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, based on archival air quality data.

NO_x. Oxides of nitrogen (nitrogen oxide and nitrogen dioxide). The pollutants released during high-temperature combustion of fossil fuels such as diesel.

Off-Peak. Those periods of the day when demand for transit service is not at a maximum.

Operating Costs. Recurring costs incurred in operating transit systems, including wages and salaries, maintenance of facilities and equipment, fuel, supplies, employee benefits, insurance, taxes, and other administrative costs. Amortization of facilities and equipment is not included.

Operating Revenue. The gross income from operation of the transit system including fares, charter income, concessions, advertising, etc. Does not include interest from securities, non-recurring income from sale of capital assets, etc.

Operational Energy. The energy used for vehicle propulsion, facilities, and maintenance for a specified period, usually one year.

Originating Ride (or Trip). A one-way trip taken on a transit line or group of lines, where a transfer from one line to another is not considered to be the start of a new trip.

Overhead Catenary. The system of electrical transmission wires suspended over the track to supply power for the light rail vehicles.

Ozone. A gas consisting of three oxygen atoms formed in reactions of non-methane hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides in the presence of sunlight. Ozone is one of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's criteria air pollutants.

Palustrine Wetland. Freshwater wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, and emergent vegetation.

Park-and-Ride Lot. A lot that provides parking for patrons of a transit facility.

Parking Utilization. The number of parking spaces being utilized at a given location; it is calculated as the total number of parking spaces occupied divided by the total parking supply at a given location.

Partial Acquisition. Part of a parcel would be acquired, but the current use generally would not be displaced. In some instances, such as larger parcels that hold multiple uses, a business or residential unit on a parcel could be displaced, but most uses would remain.

Particulate Matter. A mixture of extremely small particles and liquid droplets that is made up of a number of components, including acids (such as nitrates and sulfates), organic chemicals, metals, and soil or dust particles. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is concerned about particles that are 10 micrometers in diameter or smaller because those are the particles that generally pass through the throat and nose and enter the lungs.

Passenger Load/Passenger Load LOS. The number of passengers on a transit unit (vehicle or train) at a specified point.

Patronage. The number of person-trips carried by a transit system over a specified time period.

Peak Hour. The hour of the day in which the maximum demand for service is experienced, accommodating the largest number of automobile or transit patrons.

Peak Particle Velocity (PPV). Specifications for allowable levels of vibration from blasting, pile driving, and other construction processes with the potential of causing building damage are almost always expressed in terms of peak particle velocity because this is thought to be well correlated with maximum stresses in buildings. Peak particle velocity is the instantaneous positive or negative peak in the vibration signal.

Peak Period. A time period or periods when travel activity is at its heaviest.

Pedestrian Level of Service (LOS). An overall measure of walking conditions on a route, path, or facility.

Person Demand. The number of persons that use a specific roadway or highway facility, thus creating a demand for usage of the facility; it is often compared to roadway capacity to determine the level of congestion.

Person Throughput. The amount of persons that can pass a point on a roadway or pass through an intersection over a specified period of time.

Person Trip. A trip from a point of origin to a destination made by a person by any travel mode. Within transit, transfers are not counted. That is, a person traveling from home to work on a bus with one transfer creates only one-person trip.

Point Source. A general classification of the origin of an air or water pollutant, usually characterized as smokestacks or outfalls.

Pollution-Generating Impervious Surface (PGIS). Impervious surfaces considered to be a significant source of pollutants in stormwater runoff. Such surfaces include those subject to vehicular use, industrial activities (as defined in Washington State Department of Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual), or storage of erodible or leachable materials, wastes, or chemicals, and which receive direct rainfall or the run-on or blow-in of rainfall.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). Hazardous environmental pollutants upon which the federal government has placed additional controls regulating disposal.

Potentially Affected Area. This is defined differently by each technical discipline. It includes the area that could be affected by the light rail alternatives.

Poverty-Level Household. As used for the 2000 U.S. Census data, the average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$17,603 in 2000. The defined family poverty level threshold varied by total number of family members, number of children under 18 years, and number of persons over age 65. For a detailed discussion of the poverty definition, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 171, Poverty in the United States: 1988 and 1989*.

Preferred Alternative. Following publication of the Draft EIS, the Sound Transit Board identifies a Preferred Alternative, including route and station options. The Final EIS will further evaluate the Preferred Alternative as well as other alternatives.

Queue. A line of vehicles, bicycles, or persons waiting to be served by the system in which the flow rate from the front of the queue determines the average speed within the queue. Slowly moving vehicles or people joining the rear of the queue are usually considered part of the queue. The internal queue dynamics can involve starts and stops.

Recessional outwash. Sediment deposited by meltwater streams flowing away from a retreating glacier during the last episode of glaciation.

Reliability. How often transit service is provided as promised; affects waiting time, consistency of passenger arrivals from day to day, total trip time, and loading levels.

Right-of-Way. The corridor (horizontal and vertical space) owned by the transit agency for the transportation way.

Riparian Habitat. A habitat type associated with stream or river margins and characterized by dense vegetation consisting primarily of willow, alder, and cottonwood species, supporting a wide variety of waterfowl, songbirds, amphibians, and small mammals.

Route. The course followed by a transit vehicle as a part of the transit system.

Runoff. The rainwater that directly leaves an area in surface drainage, as opposed to the amount that seeps out as groundwater.

Screenline. A screenline is an imaginary line across a section of freeways or arterials. Screenlines are often used in traffic analyses to determine how much volume is entering or exiting a particular area.

Section 106. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established a procedure to review the potential effects on cultural resources by projects that involve a federal action.

Section 4(f). Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act restricts the United States Department of Transportation's approval of projects affecting the following properties: publicly owned land from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or any land from a significant historic site.

Section 401. Section 401 of the Clean Water Act is a certification program administered by the Washington Department of Ecology under guidelines of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure projects applying for a Section 404 permit comply with state water quality standards and other requirements of the state law.

Section 404. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act is a permit program administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under guidelines by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to protect the nation's waters from dredged and fill sources.

Section 6(f). Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 established restrictions on, and replacement requirements for, the use of land acquired with funds authorized under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

Segment. Refers to the three geographic sections of the Lynnwood Link Extension (A, B, and C) in which the proposed alternatives reside, as defined in Chapter 2 of the EIS.

Sensitive Receptor (Auditory). A local area or site that supports activities easily disrupted by audio intrusions or distractions, such as a school, historic landmark, or residential neighborhood.

Sensitive View. A view that is identified by local jurisdictions as requiring protection.

Sensitivity Analysis. A “what-if” type of analysis to determine the sensitivity of the outcomes to changes in parameters; if a small change in a parameter results in relatively large changes in the outcomes, the outcomes are said to be sensitive to that parameter.

Service Frequency. The number of transit units (vehicles or trains) on a given route or line, moving in the same direction, that pass a given point within a specified interval of time, usually 1 hour.

Side-Track Alignment. In rail operations, a type of alignment where the tracks are positioned on one side of the street, as opposed to being positioned in the median of the street.

Signal Phasing. A group of three traffic-signal timed intervals (green, yellow, red) that are assigned to an independent traffic movement or combination of movements.

Social Interaction. Intra-neighborhood communication and circulation using street, sidewalk, and bikeway connections between residential areas and community facilities, retail businesses, and employment centers. Also includes verbal interaction and telecommunications facilities.

Sounder. Sound Transit's commuter rail system, which travels from Everett to Lakewood, through Seattle.

Sound Transit 2 (ST2). A package of high-capacity transit investments in the regional transit system, adopted by the Sound Transit Board in July 2008, which included light rail as the mode choice for the project corridor. ST2 includes a major expansion of the Link light rail system. ST2 would extend light rail from North Seattle into Snohomish County, across Lake Washington into East King County, and south of Sea-Tac International Airport to Federal Way.

Staging Area. Section of land near a construction site designated for equipment and truck storage, maintenance, and warm-up prior to engagement in construction activities.

State Implementation Plan (SIP). A plan required of each state by the Clean Air Act that describes how the state will attain and maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Stormwater. Stormwater is rain and snow melt that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, paved streets, highways, and parking lots. As water runs off these surfaces, it can pick up pollution.

Stormwater Detention. The temporary storage of stormwater runoff and subsequent release at a slower rate.

Stormwater Treatment. Stormwater ponds and underground vaults are used to remove sediments and dissolved metals from stormwater. They collect sediments on the bottom of the pond or vault, where maintenance workers can clean them out on a regular basis.

Subarea. A unique portion of the Regional Transit Authority taxing district, one of five as defined in *Sound Move* (Snohomish County, North King County, East King County, South King County, and Pierce County).

Subduction Zone. An area where one crustal plate is descending below another. The Puget Sound area is close to a subduction zone, which is formed by the Juan de Fuca plate descending below the North American plate. This action can cause significant seismic activity.

Terminal. The terminating point of transportation routes with transfer facilities and, often, amenities for passenger convenience.

Terminus. A transit station located at the end of a transit (including light rail) line.

Threatened Species. According to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 771 (23 CFR Part 771) (Revised 1987). Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration regulations governing the preparation of environmental impact statements and related documents.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL). For 303(d)-listed water bodies, TMDLs are developed by the Washington State Department of Ecology for the pollutants that exceed water quality standards as a means for ultimately attaining the standards.

Till. A poorly sorted, gravel-like deposit of sediment that is left behind by a glacier, which does not show stratification. Till is sometimes called boulder clay because it is composed of clay, boulders of intermediate sizes, or a mixture of these.

Total Suspended Particulates (TSP). Air pollutants that consist of solid particles (dust, lead, salts, etc.) suspended in the atmosphere. TSP is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's criteria air pollutant.

Total Travel Time. The total elapsed time between the beginning and ending of a trip, including travel, terminal, and waiting time.

Traction Power Substation (TPSS). An electrical station that provides the power needed to drive the trains. The substations are housed in either standalone structures, or within transit stations, typically within or adjacent to the right-of-way. The substations would typically be built about 1.5 miles apart.

Transfer Ratio. The number of boarding trips divided by originating trips.

Transfer Time. The elapsed trip time required to change between modes (e.g., bus to light rail) or to transfer between routes of the same mode (e.g., bus to bus).

Transfer. The portion of a trip between two connecting transit lines, both of which are used for completion of the trip.

Transit. A transportation system principally for moving people in an urban area and made available to the public usually through paying a fare.

Transit Center. A station with shelters where a large number of transit vehicles and passengers can be brought together with safety and convenience.

Transit-Oriented Development. The Transportation Research Board provides several definitions of transit-oriented development that emphasize high-quality walking environments, mixed land uses, and high-density developments linked to transit. Generally, transit agencies agree that what constitutes a transit-oriented development is a pattern of dense, diverse, pedestrian-friendly land uses near transit nodes that, under the right conditions, translates into higher transit patronage.

Transit Service Reliability. Reliability is defined as the degree to which transit service can be counted on for consistent, on-time performance.

Transit Street Classification System. The City of Seattle's system for designating certain streets as being important for transit. This is part of the city's overall street classification system.

Transportation Corridor (also, Corridor). The group of travel movements (or travel flows) between two or more locations. A corridor might have components or subcorridors. A corridor

includes all facilities, transit and highway, that might be used to accommodate the specified travel movement.

Transportation Systems Management (TSM). Incorporates relatively low-cost approaches to improving mobility without constructing major new transportation facilities. TSM generally emphasizes smaller physical improvements and operational changes such as intersection improvements, minor widenings, traffic engineering actions, operational changes such as queue jumps or queue bypass lanes for buses, expanded bus service, transit centers, and improved transit access.

Travel Time (in vehicle). The time required to travel between two points, not including terminal or waiting time.

Trip. The one-way movement of one person between the origin and the destination, including transfers, and the walk distance to and from the means of transportation.

Trip Demand. The number and type (public or private origin and destination) of trips measured, calculated, or forecasted in a specified area having a given land development pattern. Trip demand also depends on prevailing economic, behavioral, and attitudinal conditions.

Trip Length. The number of miles per trip. This is usually an average number for a specified trip type, area, and analysis year.

Turn Pocket. Term used to describe a traffic lane that separates turning vehicles from through lanes. For example, a left-turn pocket is also commonly known as a left-turn lane.

Unity. In visual analysis, the visual coherence and compositional harmony of the landscape.

Use of Section 4(f) Land. According to regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, use of Section 4(f) land is defined as: (1) acquisition of title or easement to land, or (2) in unusual circumstances, serious indirect impacts, such as increase in noise, visual intrusion, or access obstruction.

Vehicle Hours of Travel (VHT). The total vehicle hours expended traveling on the roadway network in a specified area during a specified time period.

Vehicle Mile. The amount of travel equivalent to one vehicle traveling one mile.

Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT). The total number of vehicle miles traveled within a specific geographic area over a given period of time.

Vehicle Occupancy. The number of persons per vehicle. Usually an average number for a specified trip type, area, and analysis year.

Vehicle Throughput. The number of vehicles, usually on a highway, that get through a screenline over a short time period such as an hour.

Vibration Velocity. Vibration velocity is the basic measure of groundborne vibration. It is a measure of the rate at which particles in the ground are oscillating relative to the equilibrium point.

Vibration Velocity Level. It is generally accepted that, over the frequency range important for groundborne vibration from transit systems, human response to vibration is best correlated to the root mean square (rms) vibration velocity. In this EIS, rms vibration velocity is always expressed as decibels relative to 1 micro-inch per second.

Viewer Sensitivity. The extent of the viewer's concern for a particular view or viewshed. Viewer sensitivity to the viewed environment is classified as low, average, or high.

View. A scene observed from a given vantage point.

Viewshed. An area of land, water, or other environmental element that is visible to the human eye from a fixed vantage point.

Visual Character. Refers to identifiable visual information, including visual elements and major environmental features.

Visual Encroachment. The imposition of an object, or objects, on a view such that the view is disrupted, obstructed, or otherwise modified from its original state.

Visual Quality. Refers to the evaluation of the visual experience to the public and is described in terms of vividness, intactness, and unity. *Vividness* refers to the way landscape components combine in distinctive and memorable visual patterns. *Intactness* refers to whether the natural and human-built visual patterns form a consistent landscape, or whether highly contrasting features intrude into the view. *Unity* refers to the visual coherence and compositional harmony of the landscape considered as a whole. Visual quality is an assessment of the visual character and is categorized as low, medium, or high, as follows:

Low Visual Quality. Views that lack a dominant visual character in which there is a low level of fit between disparate elements. In some cases, these views appear disorganized with features that seem out of place, or are views with some compositional harmony but include eyesore elements that can dominate one's perception.

Medium Visual Quality. Views with a unity or compositional harmony between elements of the landscape that produce a pleasing overall impression in which encroaching elements are minor and do not substantially alter the perception of the landscape as a unit. These views lack vivid, memorable features and are generally characterized as common or ordinary.

High Visual Quality. Views with vivid, memorable, distinctive features in a landscape with compositional harmony or that fit between elements of the landscape that is free from encroaching elements.

Volume to Capacity (v/c) Ratio. The ratio of demand flow rate to capacity for a highway or arterial facility; a v/c ratio below 1.0 means that traffic volumes are below the capacity of the roadway, when identified as greater than 1.0, the traffic volume has theoretically exceeded the carrying capacity of the roadway.

Washington State Department of Ecology 303(d) List. The federal Clean Water Act (CWA), adopted in 1972, requires states to restore their waters to be “fishable and swimmable.” The CWA established a process to identify and clean up polluted waters. Every 2 years, all states are required to prepare a list of water bodies that do not meet water quality standards. This list is called the 303(d) list because the process is described in Section 303(d) of the CWA.

