

Appendix E Glossary of Technical Terms

abutment	An abutment is an end support of a bridge superstructure used to either transmit the reaction of superstructure to the foundations, to retain the earth filling, or to connect the superstructure to the approach roads.
active fault	A fault that has moved within late-Quaternary time (the last 750,000 years). Note that this definition is broader than that used by the California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey (CGS), which defines an active fault as one that has moved within Holocene time (the last 11,000 years).
acquisition	The process of obtaining right of way.
Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP)	The ACHP promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy.
alternative	An alternative is one possible east/west route between I-15 on the west and SR-79 on the east, and is made up of several segments.
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)	The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 extends the protection of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to the disabled, prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations and transportation and other services.
aqueduct	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) A major conduit.(2) The entire transmission main for a municipal water supply that may consist of a succession of canals, pipes, tunnels, etc.(3) Any conduit for water; especially one for a large quantity of flowing water.(4) A structure for conveying a canal over a river or hollow.
Area of Potential Effect (APE)	A term used in Section 106 to describe the area in which historic resources may be affected by a federal undertaking. This term should only be used in the cultural resource reports; "survey area" or "project footprint" should be used as applicable in other reports.
Archaeological Evaluation Report (AER)	The AER provides the basis for determining whether a site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) or is a historical resource under CEQA. It is an attachment of the HPSR.

Archaeological Survey Report (ASR)	Caltrans uses the Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) to present results of identification efforts conducted for a project. The ASR is an attachment to the HPSR.
Austin sand filter	An Austin Sand Filter is a specific type of media filter that is usually open and at grade. It has no permanent water pool and may be configured with earthen or concrete sides and invert. Storm water is directed into the first chamber where the larger sediments and particulates settle out, and the partially treated effluent is metered into the second chamber to be filtered through a media.
base floodplain (100-year floodplain)	The area subject to flooding once every 100-years, or having a 1 percent chance of being flooded in any given year.
beneficial use	A use of a natural water resource that enhances the social, economic, and environmental well-being of the user. A total of 21 beneficial uses are defined for the waters of California, ranging from municipal and domestic supply to fisheries and wildlife habitat.
Best Management Practices (BMPs)	Best Management Practices (BMPs) are procedures and/or actions applied and/or implemented during construction and/or operation of the project to minimize environmental impacts (i.e., water quality).
biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)	BOD refers to the oxygen used in meeting the metabolic needs of aerobic microorganisms in water containing organic matter. The higher the level of organic matter, the higher the BOD.
biofiltration swales/strips	Biofiltration Strips are vegetated land areas, over which storm water flows as sheet flow. Biofiltration Swales are vegetated channels, typically configured as trapezoidal or v-shaped channels, that receive and convey storm water flows while meeting water quality criteria and other flow criteria.
bridges	Structures that span more than 6.1 meters, measured along the centerline of the road between undercroppings of abutments, and multiple span structures, including culverts, where the total measurement of the individual spans are in excess of 6.1 meters, measured from center to center of supports along the centerline of the road and the distance between individual culvert barrels is less than one-half the culvert diameter.
California Register of Historical Resources (California Register)	The California Register is the authoritative guide to the state's significant historical and archeological resources.

Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 (CAA)	The Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 proposed emissions trading, added provisions for addressing acid rain, ozone depletion and toxic air pollution, and established a national permits program.
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is a California law (California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) passed in 1970, shortly after the Federal Government passed the National Environmental Policy Act. CEQA does not directly regulate land uses, but instead requires development projects to provide documentation of their potential environmental impact.
California Endangered Species Act (CESA)	The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) generally parallels the main provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act and is administered by the California Department of Fish and Game. CESA establishes a petitioning process for the listing of threatened or endangered species. The California Fish and Game Commission is required to adopt regulations for this process and establish criteria for determining whether a species is endangered or threatened. CESA also prohibits the “taking” of listed species except as otherwise provided in State law. Unlike its Federal counterpart, CESA applies the take prohibitions to species petitioned for listing (state candidates).
California State Highway System	The California State Highway System is comprised of designated roads intended for travel by the public throughout the state of California and are maintained by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).
channelization	The separation or regulation of conflicting traffic movements into definite paths of travel by the use of pavement markings, raised islands, or other suitable means to facilitate the safe and orderly movement of both vehicles and pedestrians.
collector-distributor road	A collector-distributor road is a one-way road next to a freeway that is used for some or all of the ramps that would otherwise merge into or split from the main lanes of the freeway and/or highway.
Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP)	Established by the Riverside County Integrated Project to aid in the preparation of environmental, transportation, housing, and development guidelines for Riverside County for the first half of the 21st century, CETAP included the study of two intercounty corridors (Riverside County to Orange County and Riverside County to San Bernardino County) and two intracounty transportation corridors (a north-south and an east-west corridor in western Riverside County). The Mid County Parkway project is included as one of the east-west intracounty transportation corridor.

community character	Community character is the qualities of the residents that live in a specific community (i.e. age, gender, ethnicity, etc).
community cohesion	Community cohesion is the degree to which residents have a “sense of belonging” to their neighborhood, a level of commitment of the residents to the community, or a strong attachment to neighbors, groups, and institutions, usually as a result of continued association over time.
Cooperating Agency	“Cooperating Agency,” under NEPA, means any agency other than the lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal for any action significantly affecting the human environment. Under CEQA, the term “responsible agency” is used.
concentration flow conveyance systems	Where cut slopes are steeper than 1:4 (slope sections are defined as height: length), asphalt concrete dike, tow of fill ditches, and downdrains/overside drains would be used to control runoff and minimize gullies and scour. Direct surface runoff would be need to be intercepted.
conduit	Any pipe, arch, box or drain tile through which water is conveyed.
cul-de-sac street	A local street open at one end only, with special provisions for turning around.
cultural resources	Any tangible or observable evidence of past human activity, regardless of significance, found in direct association with a geographic location, including tangible properties possessing intangible traditional cultural values.
culvert	A closed conduit which allows water to pass under a highway. The following three conditions constitute a culvert: <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) Single Barrel – span measured along centerline of road 6.1 meters or less.(2) Multi-Barrels – total of the individual spans measured along centerline of road is 6.1 meters or less.(3) Multi-Barrels – total of the individual spans measured along centerline of road is 6.1 meters or greater, but the distance between individual culverts is more than one-half the culvert diameter.
cumulative impact	Impacts that result from past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions/projects, combined with the potential impacts of the MCP project.

dead end street	A local street open at one end only, without special provisions for turning around.
design variation	A modification in design for a specific alignment that may be applied to one or more of the MCP Build Alternatives.
detention basin	A detention basin is an artificial flow control structure that is used to contain flood water for a limited period of a time, thereby providing protection for areas downstream.
detention devices	A Detention Device is a permanent treatment BMP designed to reduce the sediment and particulate loading in runoff from the water quality design storm by temporarily detaining the WQV.
direct area of potential effect (APE)	The direct APE is the area that potentially would be directly and physically impacted by the project.
drainage area (drainage basin) (basin)	That portion of the earth's surface upon which falling precipitation flows to a given location. With respect to a highway, this location may be either a culvert, the farthest point of a channel, or an inlet to a roadway drainage system.
embankment	A prism of earth that is constructed from excavated or borrowed natural soil and/or rock, extending from original ground to the grading plane, and designed to provide a stable support for the pavement structure.
encroachment	Any structure or object of any kind or character which is within the right of way, but not a part of the State facility.
Environmental Justice	Environmental Justice in terms of transportation projects can be defined as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income, from the early stages of transportation planning and investment decision making through construction, operations and maintenance. As defined by SB 115, environmental justice is "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."
United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	An agency of the executive branch of the federal government charged with establishing and enforcing environmental regulations.
Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)	ESAs are locations of identified resources within a project APE that are to be protected by avoidance or restrictions on construction activities.

Executive Order	In the United States, an executive order is a directive used by the President. The Mid County Parkway project falls under Executive Order 13274, signed on September 18, 2002, by President George W. Bush.
Extended Phase I Survey Report (XPI)	XPI study is an extension of the identification phase. The chief goal of the XPI study is to define part or all of the boundaries (horizontal or vertical) of an archaeological site.
Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA)	The purposes of the FESA are to provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved, to provide a program for the conservation of such endangered species and threatened species, and to take such steps as may be appropriate to achieve the purposes of the treaties and conventions set forth in subsection.
floodplain	Normally dry land areas subject to periodic temporary inundation by stream flow or tidal overflow. Land formed by deposition of sediment by water; alluvial land.
footprint	Area and/or boundary planned to be used for the project.
fossil	Any remains, trace, or imprint of a plant or animal that has been preserved in the Earth's crust since some past geologic time (Bates and Jackson 1980:243).
freeboard	Distance between the water surface and the bottom of the bridge deck.
frontage street or road	A local street or road auxiliary to and located on the side of an arterial highway for service to abutting property and adjacent areas and for control of access.
General Plan	<p>A General Plan provides a focus and a guide for local land use decisions. Local land use plans consist of goals and policies which aim to direct the physical development of communities and depend on regulatory mechanisms to implement those policies and guide growth and development. A General Plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goals and objectives for long-range land use planning.• Specific policies to support goals and objectives.• Seven required "elements": land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. The local government has the option to adopt additional separate elements if it so wishes (e.g., historical, agricultural). Also be aware that area, community, and neighborhood plans are policy instruments adopted as part of the general plan itself.

groundwater	That water which is present under the earth's surface. Ground water is that situated below the surface of the land, irrespective of its source and transient status. Subterranean streams are flows of ground waters parallel to and adjoining stream waters, and usually determined to be integral parts of the visible streams.
growth-related effect	Effects resulting from changes in accessibility to a previously undeveloped area or a redistribution of growth.
Habitat Conservation Plans	Plans developed to lessen habitat loss and fragmentation and to maintain wildlife corridors.
High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane	A lane reserved for vehicles with a driver and one or more passengers.
Historic Properties Survey Report (HPSR)	The HPSR is the summary document Caltrans uses as its consultation and decision-making document. Under Section 106 PA [1], Caltrans uses it to request SHPO's concurrence on determinations of eligibility or ineligibility for properties within the project APE that were evaluated as part of the project.
Historic property	In federal law, a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archaeology, or culture at the national, state, or local level, that has integrity, and that meets the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria (is eligible for or listed in the NRHP).
Historic resource	In state law, any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript found to be historically or archaeologically significant, or significant in other specific aspects of California life, and that meets the California Register criteria.
Historic resource under CEQA	In state law, any cultural resource designated as historic under a local ordinance or resolution, identified as significant in a local survey that meets the Office of Historic Preservation standards, is listed in or has been determined eligible for listing in the California Register or National Register of Historic Places.
Historical Resources Evaluation Report (HRER)	The HRER is used to document identification, recordation and evaluation efforts for historical archaeological resources, built environment resources, such as buildings, structures, objects, districts, and linear features. The HRER is an attachment of the HPSR.

Indirect area of potential effect (APE)	The Indirect APE is usually larger than the Direct APE and may extend beyond it to encompass additional properties that could be affected indirectly by the project. Indirect effects may extend beyond the project's footprint to encompass visual, audible, or atmospheric intrusions; shadow effects; vibrations from construction activities; or change in access or use.
interchange	A system of interconnecting roadways in conjunction with one or more grade separations providing for the inter-change of traffic between two or more road-ways on different levels.
infiltration devices	An Infiltration Device is designed to remove pollutants from surface discharges by capturing the Water Quality Volume (WQV) and infiltrating it directly to the soil rather than discharging it to surface waters.
invasive species	Any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of breeding that species, that is not native to that ecosystem and whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.
key view	Specific views selected to represent the various landscape units throughout the study area, the visual resources, and a number of sensitive viewer perspectives.
Lead Agency	“Lead Agency” means the public agency which has primary responsibility for carrying out or approving a project which may have a significant effect on the environment and preparing the environmental document.
levee	A levee is a natural or artificial slope or wall, usually earthen and often parallels the course of a river.
level of service (LOS)	A rating using qualitative measures that characterize operational conditions within a traffic stream and their perception by motorists and passengers.
liquefaction	The loss in the shearing resistance of a cohesionless soil, caused by an earthquake wave. The soil is turned into a fluid mass.
longitudinal encroachment	A longitudinal encroachment would result from a bridge, levee, or road constructed parallel to the existing floodplain.
Measure A:	In 1988 Riverside County voters approved Measure A which established a half-cent sales tax in order to fund transportation improvement projects to address growing transportation congestion in Riverside County. Measure A was reauthorized by the voters in 2002.

media filters	A Media Filter Treatment BMP device primarily removes TSS pollutants (sediments and metals) from runoff by sedimentation and filtering.
Most Likely Descendant (MLD)	Native American tribes, organizations, and individuals who have requested to be placed on the register to be contacted to make recommendations for the treatment and disposition of Native American human remains.
multi-chambered treatment trains (MCTT)	The MCTT is a storm water treatment device that uses sedimentation and filtering in each of three sequential chambers to primarily remove TSS pollutants (sediments and metals) from runoff. The MCTT was developed for treatment of storm water at critical source areas, such as vehicle service facilities, parking areas, paved storage areas and fueling stations.
Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)	The MCP project involves two MSHCPs; one for the Metropolitan Water District and one for the Western Riverside County MSHCP.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	An Act to establish a national policy for the environment, to provide for the establishment of a Council on Environmental Quality, and for other purposes.
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)	The NHPA (Public Law 89-665; 16 USC 470 <i>et seq.</i>) became law in 1966 and consists of legislation creating the National Register of Historic Places, the list of National Historic Landmarks and the posts of State Historic Preservation Officers with the intent of preserving historical and archaeological sites.
National Register of Historic Places (National Register)	National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.
Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)	The NAHC is to provides protection to Native American burials from vandalism and inadvertent destruction, provides a procedure for the notification of most likely descendants regarding the discovery of Native American human remains and associated grave goods, brings legal action to prevent severe and irreparable damage to sacred shrines, ceremonial sites, sanctified cemeteries and place of worship on public property, and maintains an inventory of sacred places.

NPDES Permit	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, which is required for facilities and activities that discharge waste into surface waters from a confined pipe or channel.
nonattainment area	Any geographic region of the United States that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated as a nonattainment area for a transportation-related pollutant for which a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) exists.
nonpoint source	A dispersed source of pollution that is not identifiable as to specific location, but may be identified as contributing to water quality degradation from a tributary drainage area (e.g., pesticide residues distributed over an agricultural area).
Notice of Intent (NOI)	A notice that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared and considered. The Notice of Intent is published in the Federal Register by the lead federal agency. The CEQA equivalent of this notice is called the Notice of Preparation. The NOI for the MCP project was published in November 2004.
Notice of Preparation (NOP)	The CEQA notice that an EIR will be prepared for a project. The NOP for the MCP project was circulated in November 2004.
Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)	The OHP, in partnership with the people of California and governmental agencies, helps to preserve and enhance California's irreplaceable historic heritage as a matter of public interest so that its legacy will be maintained and enriched for present and future generations.
Paleontology	The study of life in past geologic time based on fossil plants and animals and including phylogeny, their relationships to existing plants, animals, and environments, and the chronology of the Earth's history (Bates and Jackson 1980:451).
paleontologic species	A morphologic species based on fossil specimens. It may include specimens that would be considered specifically distinct if living individuals could be observed (Bates and Jackson 1980:451).
paleontological resource	A locality containing vertebrate, invertebrate, or plant fossils (i.e., fossil location, fossil bearing formation or a formation with the potential to bear fossils).
partial acquisition	The acquisition of a portion of a parcel of property.

pathogens	Pathogens are disease-causing organisms that grow and multiply within the host. Pathogens include viruses, bacteria, protozoa, and possibly helminth worms and are a concern in storm water runoff.
project	CEQA (§21065) defines a “project” as an activity which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and which is any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) An activity directly undertaken by any public agency.(b) An activity undertaken by a person which is supported, in whole or in part, throughout contracts, grants, subsidies, loans, or other forms of assistance from one or more public agencies.(c) An activity that involves the issuance to a person of a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use by one or more public agencies.
project footprint	The project footprint is the future ROW for all alternatives, based on a minimum 224-foot roadway cross-section for the parkway alternatives and a 128- to 196-foot or greater cross-section for the General Plan alternatives. The project footprint defines the cultural resources Area of Potential Effect (APE) for evaluation purposes of archaeological sites. The project footprint defines the area of direct impacts for all alternatives. The project footprint also includes areas of cut and fill, staging areas for construction vehicles, equipment and materials, haul routes, and borrow areas.
Riverside County Integrated Project (RCIP)	The Riverside County Integrated Project (RCIP) is a comprehensive, three-part, integrated program to determine future conservation, transportation and housing and economic needs in Riverside County.
Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)	The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) coordinates transit plans with regional and state agencies and allocates transportation development act funds for Riverside County.
Record of Decision (ROD)	A formal written statement required under NEPA, wherein a federal lead agency must present the basis for its decision to approve a selected project alternative, summarize mitigation measures incorporated into the project, and document any required Section 4(f) approval.

Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)	Based on the State Regional Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), regional agencies, such as Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), prepare Regional Transportation Improvement Programs to determine programming and funding for local and regional transportation projects.
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)	“ . . . the official intermodal metropolitan transportation plan that is developed through the metropolitan planning process for the metropolitan planning area, developed pursuant to 23 CFR part 450.”
responsible agency	A “public agency, other than the lead agency which has responsibility for carrying out or approving a project” (PRC 21069). The CEQA Guidelines further explains the statutory definition by stating that a “responsible agency” includes “all public agencies other than the Lead Agency which have discretionary approval power over the project” (14 CCR 15381). State and local public agencies that have discretionary authority to issue permits, for example, fall into this category.
retaining wall	A retaining wall is a structure that holds back soil or rock from a building, structure or area. Retaining walls prevent downslope movement or erosion and provide support for vertical or near-vertical grade changes.
runoff	The portion of precipitation that appears as flow in streams. Drainage or flood discharge which leaves an area as surface flow or a pipeline flow, having reached a channel or pipeline by either surface or subsurface routes.
scoping	A process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in an environmental document and for identifying significant issues to be analyzed in depth in an EIS and/or EIR.
scour	Process by which water erodes the streambed and banks of a waterway.
Section 4(f)	Section 4(f) of the 1966 Department of Transportation Act prohibits use of land from any historic property on or eligible for the National Register unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of land from the affected historic property and the project includes all possible planning to minimize harm.
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)	The 1966 National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) set forth national policy for recognizing and protecting historic properties. It established the National Register of Historic Places, State Historic Preservation Officers and programs, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).

Under Section 106 of the Act, federal agencies are required to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and provide the ACHP an opportunity to comment on those undertakings. Historic properties are defined in federal law as those properties that are listed in, or meet the criteria for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places.

segment

Shorter than an alternative, most segments run in an east-west direction, although a few run north-south. Data was collected and tabulated for the project technical reports by segment to assist in organizing data collection and analysis for the MCP Alternatives.

seiche

A wave oscillation of the surface of water in an enclosed basin initiated by an earthquake.

setbacks

The minimum horizontal distance slopes shall be set back from site boundaries according to Chapter 70 of the Uniform Building Code. Also applies to the minimum horizontal distance required from faults to structures (see CGS Special Publication 42, pp. 27 and 29).

Service Interchange

An interchange of traffic to or from a local roadway to or from a freeway; also known as local interchange.

significance – CEQA

CEQA defines a “Significant effect on the environment” as “a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance. An economic or social change by itself shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. A social or economic change related to a physical change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant” (15382).

CEQA requires that the lead agency identify each “significant effect on the environment” resulting from the project and avoid or mitigate it.

The CEQA Guidelines include mandatory findings of significance for certain effects, thus requiring the preparation of an EIR.

significance – NEPA

NEPA requires that an EIS is required when the proposed federal action has the potential to “significantly affect the quality of the human environment.” To determine that potential, one must consider both the context in which the action takes place and the intensity of its effect.

slope ratio

Defined as height to length.

sound wall	A sound wall is a noise barrier exterior structure, designed to protect sensitive land uses from noise pollution.
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)	The SHPO is responsible for the operation and management of the Office of Historic Preservation, as well as long range preservation planning.
State Implementation Plan (SIP)	The portion (or portions) of an applicable implementation plan approved or promulgated, or the most recent revision thereof, under Sections 110, 301(d) and 175A of the Clean Air Act.
State Water Resources Control Board	The principal authority of California for regulation of the quantity and quality of waters of the State, established by act of the legislature in 1967. It assumed responsibility for administration of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act of 1969.
State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)	A staged, multiyear, statewide, intermodal program of transportation projects that is consistent with the statewide transportation plan and planning processes and metropolitan plans, TIPS, and processes.
STAA National Network	The STAA National Network is made up of the National Network (NN), Terminal Access (TA) and Service Access routes and determines route classification for STAA trucks.
study area	The MCP study area is the broad area defined in the Statement of Purpose and Need that ranges from approximately 1 to 4 miles in width. The study area for each environmental topic may vary (e.g., the water quality study may consider watersheds that extend outside of the MCP study area).
subsidence	A localized mass movement that involves the gradual downward settling or sinking of the Earth's surface.
surface runoff	The movement of water on Earth's surface, whether flow is over surface of ground or in channels.
survey area	The survey area is the area that ranges from 200 to 700-plus feet in width along the centerline of each alternative, except in areas around Lake Mathews, where the survey area is much wider ("expanded survey area"). It is the survey area for biological resources and for the site identification phase for cultural resources. Surveys of the buffer area will result in a database of identified resources that will be used by the engineering team to avoid and minimize impacts to resources as much as possible when establishing the right-of-way for each alternative. The survey area was previously referred to as a "buffer area" in early project correspondence.

swale	A shallow, gentle depression in the earth's surface. This tends to collect the waters to some extent and is considered in a sense as a drainage course, although waters in a swale are not considered stream waters.
System Interchange	Interchange of traffic to or from controlled access facilities, with one or more grade separation.
threatened and endangered species	Threatened or endangered species are species of plants and animals that are formally listed as endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act of California Endangered Species Act.
total dissolved solids (TDS)	TDS refers to the sum of all cations or anions (sometimes measured in parts per million as calcium carbonate). TDS comprise inorganic salts (principally calcium, magnesium, potassium, sodium, bicarbonates, chlorides and sulfates) and small amounts of organic matter that are dissolved in water.
total suspended solids (TSS)	TSS is the dry-weight of particles that are suspended in water.
Traditional Cultural Property (TCP)	A TCP can be defined generally as one that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community's history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community.
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	A staged, multiyear, intermodal program of transportation projects that is consistent with the metropolitan transportation plan. It is a federal term.
Transportation Control Measure (TCM)	“. . . is any measure that is specifically identified and committed to in the applicable implementation plan that is either one of the types listed in § 108 of the CAA, or any other measure for the purpose of reducing emissions or concentrations of air pollutants from transportation sources by reducing vehicle use or changing traffic flow or congestion conditions. Notwithstanding the above, vehicle technology-based, fuel-based, and maintenance-based measures which control the emissions from vehicles under fixed traffic conditions are not TCMs for the purposes of Project-level conformity.”
transverse encroachment	A transverse encroachment would result from construction, or placement of fill, in the base floodplain perpendicular to the direction of flow.

truck climbing lane	A lane required by Caltrans Highway Design Manual Section 204.5 when the grade of the transportation facility exceeds 2 percent and the total change in elevation is greater than 75 m (246 ft).
trustee agency	A state agency having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by project which are held in trust for the people of the State of California. Trustee agencies include: (a) the California Department of Fish and Game with regard to the fish and wildlife of the state, to designated rare or endangered native plants, and to game refuges, ecological preserves, and other areas administered by the department; (b) the State Lands Commission with regard to state owned “sovereign” lands such as the beds of navigable waters and state school lands; (c) the State Department of Parks and Recreation with regard to units of the State Park System; and (d) the University of California with regard to sites within the Natural Land and Water Reserves System” (14 CCR 15386).
Value Analysis	A value analysis is a required by Caltrans during large transportation projects and is a method for enhancing product value by improving the relationship of performance to cost through the study of function.
viaducts	A viaduct is a bridge composed of several small spans. Many viaducts over land connect points of similar height in a landscape, usually by bridging a river valley or other eroded opening in an otherwise flat area. Viaducts over water are often combined with other types of bridges or tunnels to cross navigable waters.
vista point	A paved area beyond the shoulder that permits travelers to safely exist the highway to stop and view a scenic area. In addition to parking areas, amenities such as trash receptacles, interpretive displays, and in some cases, rest rooms, drinking water and telephones may be provided.
Uniform Act	The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act of 1970, as amended in 1987, collectively known as the Uniform Act, as amended, provides for uniform and equitable treatment of persons displaced from their homes, businesses, non-profit associations, or farms by Federal and federally-assisted programs, and establishes uniform and equitable land acquisition policies.
watershed	The area drained by a stream or stream system.

wet basins

Wet Basins are detention systems comprised of a permanent pool of water, a temporary storage volume above the permanent pool, and a shoreline zone planted with aquatic vegetation. Wet Basins are designed to remove pollutants from surface discharges by temporarily capturing and detaining the WQV in order to allow settling and biological uptake to occur.

wetland

Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. (USACE and EPA definition)

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