

Glossary

Advanced Traffic Management Systems (ATMS)	ATMS technologies apply surveillance and control strategies to improve traffic flow on roadways.
AM Peak Period	The time period in the morning when the greatest demand for transportation occurs. The AM Peak Period is typically from approximately 7:00 AM to approximately 9:00 AM.
Arterial Road	A roadway intended to carry “through” traffic, designed with restricted access.
Bridge Health Index	Rating system to determine condition of the bridge. The BHI is on a scale of 1-100 with 100 being the best condition.
Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	BRT is a high speed bus system operated within an exclusive right-of-way. BRT incorporates exclusive transitways, modern stations, on-board fare collection, high-tech vehicles and frequent service. BRT systems can be built incrementally and designed for vehicles – rather than people – transfer from local bus routes to the high speed lines.
Bus	A transit mode comprised of passenger vehicles with rubber tires operating on selected routes and schedules over roadways. Vehicles are powered by diesel, gasoline, battery, electricity or alternative fuel engines contained within the vehicle.
Bus Routes	Predetermined paths on streets or guideways with designated stops or stations.
Bus on Shoulders	Buses or other transit vehicles are allowed to use the freeway shoulder to bypass stopped or slow traffic under certain conditions.
Collector Road	A roadway linking local road traffic to an arterial roadway, is classified a collector roadway.
Congestion	A traffic condition characterized by slower speeds, longer traffic times, and a large number of vehicles on the road.
Express Buses	Bus routes where passengers are picked up in outlying suburban areas and then travel non-stop to a single high density area such as downtown Kansas City.
Expressway	Roadways not on the Interstate Highway System with limited access points designed to move high volumes of traffic at high speeds. Access to Expressways is provided at major street intersections and occasionally at an interchange.
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	A Federal agency that approves and oversees highway projects using federal funds.
Growth Management	A general term used regarding regulation of new land use and development. Growth management is often associated with the attempt to control urban sprawl.
Headway	The time interval between vehicles moving in the same direction on a particular route.
High Occupancy Toll lanes (HOT)	A road pricing system that gives motorists in single-occupant vehicles access to high-occupancy vehicle lanes.

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)	Passenger vehicles or mass transit buses carrying one or more passengers (excluding the driver).
HOV Lanes	Generally, a term for carpool lanes. HOV lanes include an exclusive or controlled access right-of-way that is restricted to high occupancy vehicles (buses and/or passenger cars/vans carrying one or more passengers) for a portion or all of the day.
Interstate Highways	Limited access roadways designed for high speed travel over long distances. Interstate highways generally connect large metropolitan areas or serve as a “by-pass” around a large metropolitan area.
Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)	The application of advanced technologies to improve the safety and efficiency of transportation systems.
Level of Service (LOS)	A qualitative measure that characterizes operational conditions within a traffic stream and their perception by motorists and passengers. The descriptions of LOS categories characterize traffic flow conditions in terms of such factors as speed, travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, comfort and convenience. The LOS categories range from “A”, which is full free flow traffic conditions, to “F” which is complete gridlock. LOS is C signifies full but constant traffic flow with only occasional interruptions.
Limited Access	Roadways with access limited to specific points with arterial or other limited access roadways. Access rights along the roadway right-of-way have been purchased by the government entity responsible for the roadway thus eliminating individual property access to the roadway. Limited access roadways are designed to facilitate the movement of high traffic volumes at high speeds over great distances.
Local Road	A road that serves individual residences or businesses and distributes traffic to collector and arterial roadways.
Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)	A transportation plan developed by the MPOs in partnership with transit agencies and the KDOT to encapsulate at least 20 years of transportation planning and policy.
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)	The areawide agency charged with the conduct of the urban transportation planning process. In this study area the MPO is the Mid American Regional Council (MARC). Together with the KDOT, MPOs carry out the planning and programming activities necessary for Federal capital funding assistance. The MPOs are designated by agreement among the various units of local government and the Governor.
Mode	Refers to a means of transportation (auto, bus, rail, pedestrian, bicycle, etc.).
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Federal legislation signed into law in 1970 that promotes the enhancement of the environment. The law requires that federal agencies prepare a statement of environmental impact to accompany any action that is “major”, “significant”, or “federal”.
PM Peak Period	The time period in the afternoon or evening when the greatest demand for transportation occurs. The PM Peak Period is typically from approximately 4:00 PM to approximately 6:00 PM.
Public Transportation	As defined in the Federal Transit Act, transportation by bus, rail, or other conveyance, either publicly or privately owned, providing to the public general or special service (but not including school buses, charter or sightseeing service) on a regular and continuing basis. Public transportation is also synonymous with the terms mass transportation and transit.

Glossary and Acronyms

Right-of-Way	Real property rights (whether by fee simple ownership, by easement or by other agreement) acquired across land for a purpose (i.e., transit facilities, roadways, sidewalks and utilities).
Roadway Functional Classification	A system of classifying roadways based on their function (the type of traffic typically handled by the roadway) rather than their capacity or location. Roadways are classified as Freeway, Major Arterial, Minor Arterial, Collector and Local from the highest, most intensive function to the lowest.
Smart Bus	Transit vehicle equipped with ITS applications.
T-WORKS	Transportation Works for Kansas is the new 10-year transportation plan passed by the Legislature in May 2010.
Urbanized Area	An area defined by the U.S. Census Bureau that includes one or more incorporated cities, villages and towns (central place) and the adjacent densely settled surrounding territory (urban fringe) that together have a minimum population of 50,000 persons.
Vehicle Hours [miles]	The hours (miles) a vehicle travels, from the time it pulls out from its garage to go into revenue service to the time it returns to the garage from revenue service. For conventional scheduled services, vehicle hours include revenue time, layover time and deadhead time.
V/C Ratio	Used as a principal measure of congestion. The "V" represents the volume or the number of vehicles that are using the roadway at any particular period. The "C" represents the capacity of a roadway at its adopted LOS. If the volume exceeds the capacity of the roadway (volume divided by capacity exceeds 1.00), congestion exists.
VISSIM Model	A traffic flow simulation modeling software used to replicate and project traffic conditions in an area based on data. VISSIM is the manufacturer of the software.
Zoning	The traditional method of allocating land uses to land. Zoning is enacted and enforced by local governments (city or county).

Acronyms

- AG – Advisory Group
- AADT – Average Annual Daily Traffic
- ATMS – Advanced Traffic Management Systems
- AVL – Automatic Vehicle Location
- BOS – Bus on Shoulder
- BHI – Bridge Health Index
- BNSF – Burlington Northern Santa Fe
- BRT – Bus Rapid Transit
- CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch
- CCTV – Closed Circuit Television
- CMS – Congestion Management System
- CTP – Comprehensive Transportation Program
- DMS – Dynamic Message Signs
- DOT – Department of Transportation
- EB – East Bound
- EIS – Environmental Impact Statement
- FHWA – Federal Highway Administration
- GIS – Geographic Information System
- GPS – Global Positioning System
- HOT – High Occupancy/Toll
- HOV – High Occupancy Vehicle
- ITS – Intelligent Transportation Systems
- JCT – Johnson County Transit
- KDOT – Kansas Department of Transportation
- LPA – Locally Preferred Alternative
- LOS – Level of Service
- LRTP – Long-Range Transportation Plan
- MARC – Mid-America Regional Council
- MIS – Major Investment Study
- MPO – Metropolitan Planning Organization
- NB – North Bound
- NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act
- SB – South Bound
- TAZ – Traffic Analysis Zone
- TDM – Travel Demand Management
- TMC – Traffic Management Center
- TTPC – Total Transportation Policy Committee
- V/C – Volume to Capacity Ratio
- WB – West Bound