

Appendix Outline:

G.0 Overview

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APPENDIX G: GLOSSARY

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The material in this glossary is largely taken from the International Pedestrian Lexicon available online at: <http://user.itl.net/~wordcraf/lexicon.html#a>. Other definitions came from a variety of other sources.

G.1 Glossary of Terms

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

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

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

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

Alternative Transportation Network – a connected system for travel using transportation other than

private cars, such as walking bicycling, rollerblading, carpooling and transit.

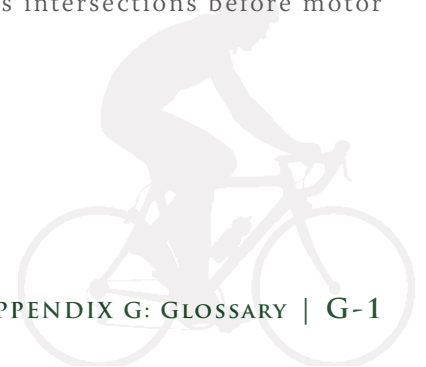
Arterial Connections – interconnected corridors designed to accommodate a large volume of through traffic.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

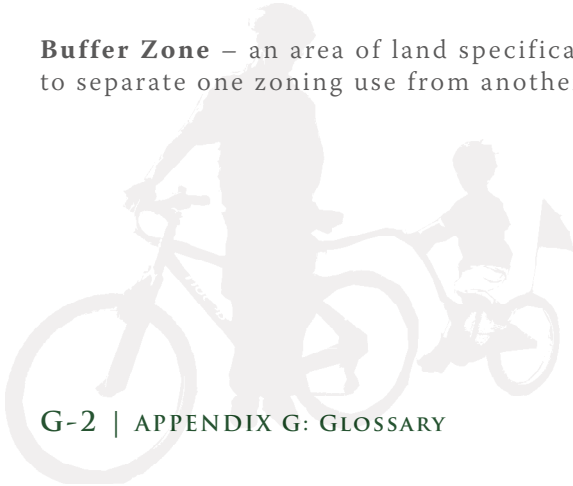
Concurrent Signal Timing – motorists running parallel to a crosswalk are allowed to turn into and through the crosswalk (left or right) after yielding to bicyclists or pedestrians.

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

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

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

Conservation Easement – a transfer of usage rights which creates a legally enforceable land preservation agreement between a landowner and a municipality



or a qualified land protection organization (often called a “land trust”), for the purposes of conservation. It restricts real estate development, commercial and industrial uses, and certain other activities on a property to a mutually agreed upon level.

Corridor – a spatial link between two or more significant locations.

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

Curb Cut – interruption of the curb, as for a driveway.

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

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

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

Eminent Domain – the acquisition of property by the government which is deemed to be necessary for

the completion of a public project from an owner that is unwilling to negotiate a price for its sale.

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency.

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

FHWA – Federal Highway Administration.

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

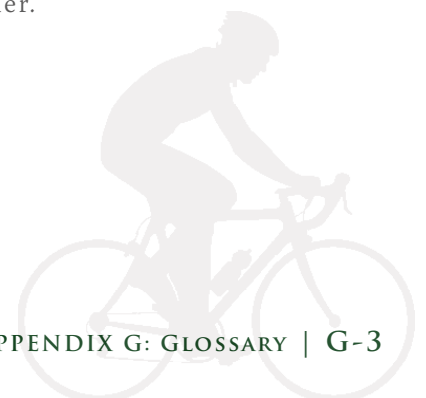
Greenway – a linear open space; a corridor composed of natural vegetation. Greenways can be used to create connected networks of open space that include traditional parks and natural areas. Greenways provide an on- and off-street component to the bicycle network.

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

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

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

Intersection – an area where two or more pathways or roadways join together.



ISTEA – Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

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

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

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

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

Median Refuge Island - island in the median, that offers a stopping or halfway point for a pedestrian

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

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

MST – Mountains-to-Sea Trail: a 900+ mile trail corridor that traverses the state of North Carolina from the Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks.

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

Municipal Boundary – the limit of municipal jurisdiction.

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

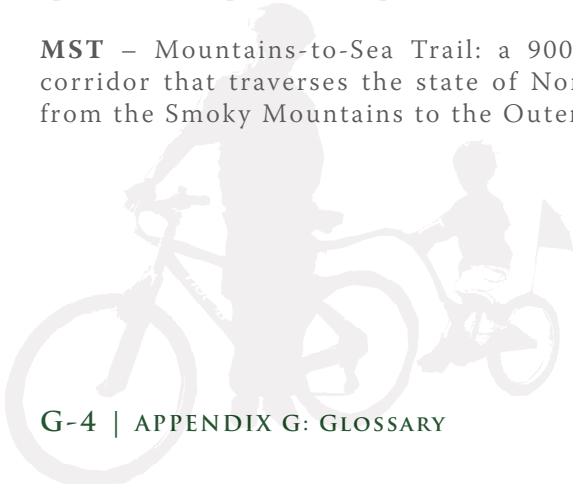
NCDOT – North Carolina Department of Transportation.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

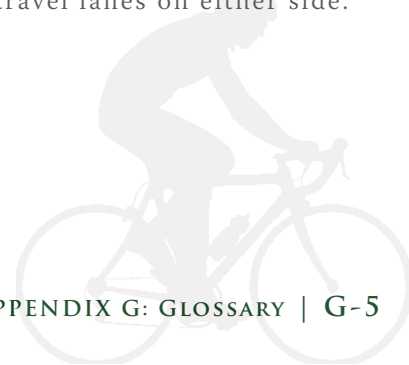
Quality of Life - a measure of the standard of living which considers non-financial factors such as health, functional status and social opportunities that are influenced by disease, injury, treatment or social and political policy.

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

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

Right Turn Cut-off - the channel created in larger intersection by a very long turning radius and the construction of a pedestrian island, to which the pedestrian must cross before being in the formal intersection that is controlled by lights. The right-turn cut-off allows continuous right turns at fairly high speeds without stopping.

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



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

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

RTOR – Right turn on red.

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

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

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

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

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

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

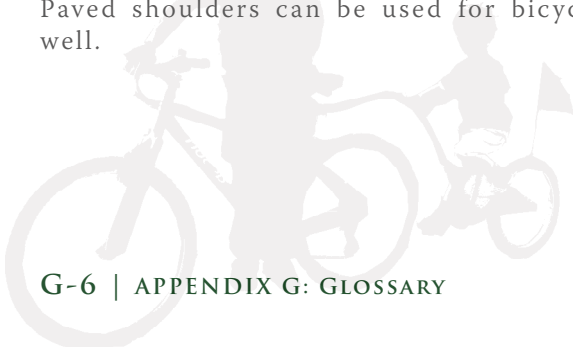
Shared Use Path (Multi Use Path/Sidepath) - A bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and located either within the highway right-of-way (often termed “parallel shared use path”) or within an independent right-of-way. Shared use paths may also be used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

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

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

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

TND (Traditional Neighborhood Development) - an area of land developed in a planned fashion for a compatible mixture of residential units for various



income levels and nonresidential commercial and workplace uses, with a high priority placed on access to open spaces.

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

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

UDO - Universal Development Ordinance; Document outlining ordinances for development and construction in a given area.

Village Center - an area in a community where people naturally congregate.

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

