

Appendix K

Glossary

Auxiliary Lanes: Can improve safety reduce congestion by accommodating cars and trucks entering or exiting the highway or traveling short distances between adjacent interchanges, and reduce conflicting weaving and merging movements. This is especially important at the river crossing, where three large interchanges (Marine Drive, Hayden Island, and SR 14) all have traffic entering and exiting I-5 within a 1.5 mile segment.

Average: The average traffic condition is defined as the vehicle flow on a weekday during the average month for a given time period, usually Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

Community Cohesion: Measures how well residents can connect with one another within their community. These connections can occur at gathering places such as schools, community centers, parks, or transit stations. High home ownership rates and active neighborhood associations also contribute to cohesion.

Community Resources: Typically include educational, religious, health care, cultural, or recreational facilities.

Congestion: For highways, congestion occurs when average speed is below 30 mph.

Couplet: A fixed method of routing two directions of travel on two adjacent, parallel streets, instead of placing both directions of travel on a single street. For example, the HCT couplet design Broadway would place northbound transit vehicles on Broadway, and southbound transit vehicles on Washington.

CRC CEI: Measures the total annualized cost per transit guideway river crossing.

Demand: The total number of users attempting to access the transportation system, including those caught in congestion.

Express bus: Operates point-to-point service, generally during peak times, typically connecting outlying points to business cores without intermediate stops.

FTA CEI: Measures the incremental transit cost per incremental transit passenger over the No-Build Alternative.

Glide: A section of stream with little or no turbulence.

Guideway: A transit right-of-way separated from general purpose vehicle transit. A guideway may have train tracks or separated bus lanes.

Headway: Amount of time that elapses between two transit vehicles passing the same point traveling in the same direction on a given route.

Hydrology: Refers to the flow of water—its volume, where it drains, and how quickly the flow rate changes in a storm.

Limited bus: Operates only during the peak period on weekdays and has a stop spacing of one-half to one mile.

Liquefaction: A phenomenon associated with earthquakes in which sandy to silty, water-saturated soils behave like fluids. As seismic waves pass through saturated soil, the structure of the soil distorts, and spaces between soil particles collapse, causing ground failure. In general, young, loose sediment and areas with high water tables are the most vulnerable to liquefaction.

Local bus: Operates throughout the day and week with frequent stop spacing.

Mode Split: The percentage travel by different forms of transportation, typically single-occupant vehicles, high-occupancy vehicles (two or more persons in a car), transit, walk, and bicycle.

Non-Revenue Hours: Hours of transit service that are unavailable to paying riders.

Other CEI: Measures the total annual incremental operating cost per place mile.

Peak Period: This is a more technically defined description of “rush hour”, when travel patterns generate the most traffic, especially in a certain direction.

Performance Standards: Local traffic impacts are measured by impacts to intersection LOS, delay, and queuing. WSDOT, ODOT, the City of Vancouver and the City of Portland all have definable standards for intersections. Further description of these standards can be found in the Traffic Technical Report.

Piles: Large-diameter steel pipes hammered or drilled into the soil until they reach dense soil or bedrock. The piles provide support to hold the weight of the bridge and traffic. Piles also provide stability in the event of an earthquake.

Platform Hours: Total of Revenue and Non-Revenue Hours of transit service.

Pool: A deep, slow moving area with smooth water surface.

Queuing: Occurs when traffic lanes cannot fit all the vehicles trying to use them, or if the line at an intersection extends into an upstream intersection.

Revenue Hours: Hours of transit service available for carrying paying riders.

Riffle: A shallow, fast-moving stream section with water broken by rocks and boulders.

Throughput: The number of users being served at any time by the transportation system.

Vehicle Hours of Delay: Cumulative delay experienced by transit vehicles during high traffic periods.

Water Quality: Refers to the characteristics of the water—for example, its temperature and oxygen levels, how clear it is, and whether it contains pollutants.