

# GLOSSARY

## A r c a d i a   G e n e r a l   P l a n

**AB 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006)** established a comprehensive program of regulatory and market mechanisms to achieve real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of greenhouse gas emissions. The law aims to reduce carbon emissions in California to 1990 levels by 2020.

**Access** is a way of approaching or entering a property, including ingress (the right to enter) and egress (the right to leave).

**Acreage, Gross** is the total area within the lot lines of a lot of land before public streets, easements, or other areas to be dedicated for public use, and not including adjacent lands already dedicated for such purposes. An acre is 43,560 square feet.

**Acreage, Net** is the portion of gross acreage exclusive of public streets, right-of-ways, and dedications of land for public uses.

**ACTION (Arcadians Caring Together Improves Our Neighborhoods)** is a program that covers general emergency preparedness with information on putting together a survival kit, first aid kit, storing appropriate food and water, and how to care for people with special needs in the time of an emergency. The ACTION program also addresses earthquake preparedness, terrorism preparedness, crime prevention, and fire safety and prevention, and provides an emergency resource guide.

**Adaptive Use/Reuse** is the process of converting a building to a use other than that for which it was originally designed and/or built. Such a conversion may be accomplished with varying alterations to the building.

**ADT** is the average daily trips made by vehicles in a 24-hour period.

**Affordable Housing** usually refers to housing that is affordable to people/families at low-or moderate-income levels. Those levels are based on the median income in Los Angeles County. Extremely low income is 30%, very low is 50% of median, low is 80% of median, and moderate is 120% of median.

**Air Basin** is a geographical area in California defined as a distinct air basin for the purpose of managing the air resources of the State on a

regional basis. An air basin generally has similar meteorological and geographic conditions throughout.

**Air Pollution** is the presence of contaminants in the air concentrations that exceed naturally occurring quantities and are undesirable or harmful.

**Air Quality Standards** are the prescribed (by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the California Air Resources Board) level of pollutants in the outside air that cannot be exceeded legally during a specified time in a geographical area.

**Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act** specifies the process to define fault-rupture hazard zones in California. One of the specific criteria given in this act provides that: “No structure for human occupancy shall be permitted to be placed across the trace of an active fault.”

**Ambient Noise Level** is the overall noise from all sources near and far. In this context, the ambient noise level constitutes the normal or existing level of environmental noise at any given time.

**Annexation** is the incorporation of a land area into an existing city with a resulting change in the boundaries of that city.

**AQMP (Air Quality Management Plan)** is a plan prepared by an air pollution control district or air quality management district, for a county or region designated as a “nonattainment” area, for the purpose of bringing the area into compliance with the requirements of the national and/or California Ambient Air Quality Standards. AQMPs are incorporated into the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

**Aquifer** is an underground, water-bearing layer of earth, porous rock, sand, or gravel through which water can seep or be held in natural storage. Aquifers generally hold sufficient water to be used as a water supply.

**Arterial** is a major street carrying the traffic of local and collector streets to and from freeways and other major streets, with controlled intersections and generally providing direct access to nonresidential properties.

**Assisted Housing** is housing that has been subsidized by federal, State, or local housing programs.

**Assisted Living Facility** is a special combination of housing, supportive services, personalized assistance, and health care designed to assist individuals who need help with activities of daily living. A facility with a central or private kitchen, dining, recreational,

and other facilities with separate bedrooms or living quarters, where the emphasis of the facility remains residential.

**At-Risk Housing** is multifamily rental housing that is at risk of losing its status as affordable housing for low- and moderate-income tenants due to the expiration of federal, State, or local arrangements.

**Automatic Aid Agreement** is assistance from neighboring jurisdictions for general fire and emergency services that is dispatched automatically through contractual agreement.

**Average Daily Trip (ADT)** is the total volume of traffic that travels over a fixed point on a road in a 24-hour period. This is a commonly used measure of traffic volume.

**A-Weighted Decibel (dBA)** is a numerical method of rating human judgment of loudness. The A-weighted scale reduces the effects of low and high frequencies in order to simulate human hearing.

**Base Flood** is a 100-year flood that has a one percent likelihood of occurring, and is recognized as a standard for acceptable risk.

**Best Management Practices (BMP)** are practical, structural or nonstructural methods which prevent or reduce the movement of sediment, nutrients, pesticides and other pollutants from the land to surface or ground water, or which otherwise protect water quality from potential adverse effects of cultural activities. These practices are developed to achieve a balance between water quality protection and the production of wood crops within natural and economic limitations.

**Bikeways** is a term that encompasses bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, and bicycle routes.

**Bike Lane** is a corridor expressly reserved by markings for bicycles, existing on a street or roadway in addition to any lanes for use by motorized vehicles.

**Bike Path** is a paved route not on a street or roadway and expressly reserved for bicycles. Bike paths may parallel roads but typically are separated from them.

**Bike Route** is a facility shared with motorists and identified only by signs. A bike route has no pavement markings or lane stripes.

**Blight** is a condition of a site, structure, or area that may cause nearby buildings and/or areas to decline in attractiveness and/or utility.

**Buffer** is a portion of land designated to protect one type of land use from another with which it is incompatible. Where a commercial district abuts a residential district, for example, additional use, yard, or height restrictions may be imposed to protect residential properties. The term may be used to describe any zone that separates two unlike zones such as a multifamily zone between single-family zone.

**Build-out Scenario** is the calculation to determine the potential development capacity that is available based on a land use plan.

**California Air Resources Board (CARB)** is a State agency tasked with promoting and protecting public health, welfare, and ecological resources through the effective and efficient reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering the effects on the economy of the State.

**California Building Code** is a standard building code that sets for minimum standards for construction. The California Building Code is outlined in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and includes the Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Mechanical Code, National Electric Code, California Fire Code, and the California Energy Code.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** is a State law requiring State and local agencies to regulate activities with consideration for environmental protection. If a proposed activity has the potential for a significant adverse environmental impact, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) may be required to be prepared and certified as to its adequacy before taking action on the proposed project.

**California Register of Historic Resources** is a listing of archaeological and historic resources that meet the criteria for designation on the state register.

**Caltrans (California Department of Transportation)** is responsible for the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the California State Highway System, as well as that portion of the Interstate Highway System within the State's boundaries. Alone and in partnership with Amtrak, Caltrans is also involved in the support of intercity passenger rail service in California, and promotes the use of alternative modes of transportation.

**Capacity** of a road is the maximum number of vehicles that can safely use the road over a time period, such as one hour, under the prevailing roadway and traffic conditions. The prevailing roadway conditions are the factors that influence the design capacity of a roadway. The design capacity is a volume of traffic selected for design purposes which will provide a desired level of service.

Intersection capacity is affected by design factors such as width of the streets and the timing and length of the traffic signal and is the single most important factor influencing the capacity of a street. The capacity of an intersection is the maximum number of vehicles that can enter an intersection from a single approach with most drivers being able to clear the intersection without waiting for more than one complete signal cycle. The character, or type of traffic, also factors into the capacity of an intersection. These characteristics are the percent of turning vehicles; percent of commercial vehicles; whether parking is allowed nearby; pedestrian use of the intersection; and the location of bus stops.

**Capital Improvements Program (CIP)** a program established by a city or county government which schedules permanent improvements, usually for a minimum of five years in the future, to fit the projected fiscal capability of the local jurisdiction. The program generally is reviewed annually for conformance to and consistency with the general plan.

**Carbon Footprint** is the total greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, etc.) produced directly or indirectly by an entity.

**Census** is the official decennial enumeration of the population conducted by the federal government.

**Climate Change** is an effect of global warming, and can include changes in rainfall patterns and increased intensity and frequency of extreme weather events.

**Collector** is a relatively low-speed and low-volume street for moving traffic between arterial and local streets, and generally providing direct access to properties.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** is a grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This grant allots money to cities and counties for housing rehabilitation and community development activities, including public facilities and economic development.

**Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL)** is the average equivalent sound level during a 24 hour day, obtained after addition of five decibels to sound levels in the evening from 7 P.M. to 10 P.M. and after addition of 10 decibels to sound levels in the night after 10 P.M. and before 7 A.M.

**Community Park** is a land with full public access intended to provide recreational opportunities beyond those supplied by neighborhood

parks. Community parks are larger in scale than neighborhood parks, but smaller than regional parks.

**Congestion Management Plan (CMP)** is a mechanism employing growth management techniques, including traffic level of service requirements, development mitigation programs, transportation systems management, and capital improvement programming, for the purpose of controlling and/or reducing the cumulative regional traffic impacts of development. AB 1791, effective August 1, 1990, requires all cities and counties that include urbanized areas to adopt and annually update a Congestion Management Plan.

**Conservation** is the management of natural resources to prevent waste, destruction or neglect.

**Council of Government (COG)** is a regional planning and review authority whose membership includes representation from all communities in the designation region. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is an example of a COG in Southern California.

**Coverage** is the proportion of the area of the footprint of a building in relation to the area of the lot on which it stands.

**Cumulative Traffic** is the traffic generated by other known projects in the vicinity of the new development.

**Decibel (dB)** is a unit for describing the amplitude of sound, as it is heard by the human ear.

**Density Bonus** is the allocation of development rights as required by state law that allow a parcel to be developed at a higher residential density than the maximum for which the parcel is designated in exchange for the provision of a certain percentage of those units as affordable.

**Density Bonus Regulatory Concessions** is a specified California Government Code Section 65915 to include, but not limited to, the reduction of site development standards or zoning code requirements, direct financial assistance, approval of mixed-use zoning in conjunction with the housing development, or any other regulatory incentive which would result in identifiable cost avoidance or reductions that are offered in addition to a density bonus.

**Density, Residential** refers to the population and development capacity of residential land. Density is described in terms of the dwelling units that can be accommodated on one acre of land (dwelling units per acre or du/acre) and the population associated with that density (population per acre or pop/ac).

**Developable Land** is land that is suitable as a location for structure that can be developed free of hazards to, and without disruption of, or significant impact on, natural resource areas.

**Development** is the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any structure; any mining, excavation, landfill or land disturbance; or any change in use, or alteration or extension of the use, of land.

**Development Agreement** is a contractual agreement between a developer and the City that clearly establishes the developer's responsibility to provide a certain type of development, streets, and sewer improvements, and any other mutually agreed to terms and responsibilities as a precondition for securing approval of a project.

**Development Impact Fees** is a fee or charge imposed on developers to pay for jurisdiction's costs of providing services to new development.

**Dwelling** is a structure or portion of a structure used exclusively for human habitation.

**Dwelling, Multifamily** is a building containing two or more dwelling units for the use of individual families maintaining households; an apartment or condominium building is an example of this dwelling unit type.

**Dwelling, Single-Family Attached** is a dwelling attached to one or more other dwellings by a common vertical wall; duplexes and townhomes are examples of this dwelling unit type.

**Dwelling, Single-Family Detached** is a dwelling, not attached to any other dwelling, which is designed for and occupied by not more than one household and is surrounded by open space or yards.

**Dwelling Unit** is one or more rooms, designed, occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters, with cooking, sleeping and sanitary facilities provided within the unit for the exclusive use of a single family maintaining a household.

**Elderly Household**, as defined by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, are households within which one to two members (family or non-family) is age 62 or older.

**Emergency Operation Center (EOC)** is a central command post to manage emergency efforts, in the event of a disaster.

**Emergency Operating Plan (EOP)** establishes policies and structure for the City of Arcadia management of emergencies and disasters. The EOP prescribes the phases of emergencies and disasters: Prevent Mitigation, Preparedness, and Response and Recovery. The EOP is an all-hazard plan. It assigns responsibilities for actions and tasks that the City will take to provide for the safety and welfare of its citizens against the threat of natural, technological, and natural security emergencies, and disasters. It establishes a base on which further plans, procedures, guidelines, arrangement, and agreements can be elaborated.

**Emergency Shelter** is a facility that provides immediate and short-term housing and supplemental services for the homeless. Supplemental services may include food, counseling, and access to other social programs.

**Emission Standards** are the maximum amount of pollutant legally permitted to discharge from a single source, either mobile or stationary.

**Endangered Species** is a species of animal or plant is considered to be endangered when its prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes.

**Environment** is the sum of all external conditions and influences affecting the life, development and, ultimately, the survival of an organism.

**Environmental Impact Report (EIR)** is a report, required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which evaluates a proposed project's impacts on the environment. The report also recommends steps to avoid or minimize those impacts, called mitigation measures. Possible alternatives to the project are considered as well, including the option of not doing the project.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** is the federal agency that is responsible for administration of laws to control and/or reduce pollution of air, water, and land systems.

**Erosion** is loosening and transportation of rock and soil debris by wind, rain, or running water.

**Family** is one or more persons occupying one dwelling unit and living together as a single housekeeping unit.

**Fault** is a fracture in the earth's crust forming a boundary between rock masses that have shifted.



**Fault, Active** is a fault that has moved within the last 11,000 years and which is likely to move again within the next 100 years.

**Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** is an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation that regulates civil aviation and certifies the airworthiness of aircraft.

**FEMA** is the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Fire Flow** is a rate of water flow that should be maintained to halt and reverse the spread of fire.

**Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** is, for each community, the official map which the Federal Insurance Administration has delineated areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to that community.

**Floodplain** is a lowland or relatively flat area adjoining the banks of a river or stream which is subject to a one percent or greater chance or flooding in any given year (i.e. 100-year flood).

**Floor-Area Ratio (FAR)** is the ratio between the total gross floor area of all buildings on a lot and the total land area of that lot; usually expressed as a numerical value (for example, a building having 5,000 square feet of gross floor area located on a lot of 10,000 square feet in area has a floor area ratio of 0.5).

**Gateway** is a point along a roadway entering a city or county at which a motorist gains a sense of having left the environs and of having entered a particular city or county.

**General Plan** is a legal document which takes the form of a map and accompanying text adopted by the local legislative body. The plan is a compendium of policies regarding the long term development of a jurisdiction. The State requires the preparation of seven elements or divisions as part of the plan: land use, housing, circulation, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. Additional elements pertaining to the unique needs of an agency are permitted.

**General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC)**, in Arcadia, is a volunteer body representing various City Commissions, major stakeholder groups, and the general public, and formed for the purpose of providing the City's decision-makers, City staff, and the General Plan consulting team with the insight that only residents and the business community can give. This group provides assistance and makes recommendations to the Planning Commission regarding the General Plan Update.

**Global Warming** relates directly to the greenhouse effect, which is an increase in temperature around the world as a result of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases trapping the sun's warmth below our atmosphere. This process then causes rising sea levels, as water stored in the form of icecaps, icebergs, and glaciers begins to melt at accelerated rates.

**Goal** is the ultimate purpose of an effort stated in a way that is general in nature and immeasurable; a broad statement of intended direction and purpose.

**Gold Line Light Rail**, of the Los Angeles County Metro Rail, is a light rail line in Los Angeles County that serves users from East Los Angeles to the San Gabriel Valley.

**Grade** is the degree of rise or descent of a sloping surface.

**Green Building** is the practice of increasing the efficiency of buildings and their use of energy, water, materials, and reducing building impacts on human health and the environment, through better design, construction, operation, maintenance, etc.

**Greenhouse Gases** are one of a variety of different gases, the most prevalent of which include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. An increase in the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere has been linked with global warming.

**Ground Failure** is a mudslide, landslide, liquefaction or the compaction of soils due to ground shaking from an earthquake.

**Ground Shaking** is ground movement resulting from the transmission of seismic waves during an earthquake.

**Groundwater** is the supply of fresh water under the ground surface in an aquifer or soil that forms a natural reservoir.

**Group Housing** is any living situation, that accommodates more than six unrelated individuals and may include, but not be limited to, the following types of facilities: 1) licensed alcohol and drug treatment facilities; 2) licensed board and care homes for the elderly including convalescent or rest homes and nursing homes; 3) licensed homes for minor children; 4) licensed homes for mental patients; 5) licensed homes for the developmentally disabled; and 6) single-room occupancy projects. Group housing would typically involve a living arrangement where either support services are provided to the occupants, where cooking, living, or support sanitary facilities are shared in common between the occupants, or where there is a formal program establishing rules of conduct and purpose of the facility.

**Growth Management Plan** is a plan for a given geographical region containing demographic projections (i.e. housing units, employment and population) through some specified point in time and which provides recommendations for local governments to better manage growth and reduce projected environmental impacts.

**Guiding Principles** provide the framework for decision-making and establish benchmarks to measure decisions relative to community values and desires.

**Habitat** is the physical location or type of environment in which an organism or biological population lives or occurs.

**Hazardous Materials** are injurious substances, including pesticides, herbicides, toxic metals and chemicals, liquefied natural gas, explosives, volatile chemicals and nuclear fuels.

**HCD** is the State Department of Housing and Community Development.

**Historic Preservation** is the preservation of historically significant structures and neighborhoods until such time as, in order to facilitate, restoration and rehabilitation of the building(s) to a former condition.

**Household**, according to the Census, is all persons living in a dwelling unit whether or not they are related. Both a single person living in an apartment and a family living in a house are considered households.

**Homeless** is defined as unsheltered homes are families and individuals whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (e.g. the street, sidewalks, cars, vacant, and abandoned buildings). Sheltered homeless are families and persons whose primary nighttime residence is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (e.g. emergency, transitional, battered women, and homeless youth shelters, and commercial hotels or motels used to house the homeless).

**Household Income** is the total income of all the people living in a household. Households are usually described as very low income, low income, moderate income, and upper income for that household size, based on their position relative to the county median income.

**Housing Affordability** is based on State and federal standards, and is the cost of housing as compared to a household's income. Housing is affordable when the housing costs are no more than 30 percent of household income.

**Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** is the federal agency that oversees the Federal Housing Administration and a variety of housing and community development programs.

**Housing Unit** is a single-family, a multifamily, a condominium, a modular home, a mobile home, a cooperative, or any other residential unit considered real property under State law.

**Impact Fee** is a fee, also referred to as a development fee, levied upon the developer of a project by a jurisdiction as compensation for otherwise unmitigated impacts the project will produce. Development fees must correspond to the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service for which the fee is charged.

**Impervious Surface** is surface through which water cannot penetrate, such as roof, road, sidewalk, and paved parking lot. The amount of impervious surface increases with development and establishes the need for drainage facilities to carry the increased runoff.

**Implementation Measure** is an action, procedure, program, or technique that carries out general plan policy.

**Implementation Plan** is an action, procedure, program, or technique that carries out General Plan policy.

**Infill Development** is development of vacant land (usually individual lots or leftover properties) within areas that are already largely developed.

**Infrastructure** is the physical systems and services which support development and population, such as roadways, railroads, water, sewer, natural gas, electrical generation and transmission, telephone, cable television, storm drainage, and others.

**Institutional Uses** are (1) publicly or privately owned and operated activities such as hospitals, convalescent hospitals, intermediate care facilities, nursing homes, museums, and schools and colleges; (2) churches and other religious organizations; and (3) other non-profit activities of a welfare, educational, or philanthropic nature that cannot be considered residential, commercial, or industrial.

**Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)** is the application of advanced technologies to traffic and transportation problems to improve traffic signal coordination across jurisdictional boundaries for both normal congestion and incidents, to improve regional signal system operations, to improve regional agency coordination regarding traffic operations, to improve traffic management during incidents and events, and to better inform the public about congestion and incidents.

**Intensity** is a measure of the amount or level of development often expressed as the ratio of building floor area to lot area (floor-area ratio) for commercial and industrial development, or dwelling units per acre of land for residential development (also called “density”). For the purposes of this General Plan, the intensity of non-residential development is described through the use of floor area ratio and building floor area square footage.

**Intersection** is where two or more roads cross at grade.

**Issue** is a problem, constraint, or opportunity which becomes the basis for community action.

**Jobs-to-Housing Ratio** measures the extent of which job opportunities in a given geographic area are sufficient to meet the employment needs of area residents. This ratio identifies the number of jobs available in a given region compared to the number of housing units in the same region. For example, a region with a jobs-to-housing factor of 1.5 would indicate that 1.5 jobs exist for every housing unit within that region.

**Landmark** is a site (including significant trees or other significant permanent landscaping located on a site), place, building, structure, street, improvement, street furniture, sign, work of art, natural feature, or other object representative of the historical, archaeological, cultural, architectural, community, aesthetic, or artistic heritage of the City.

**Landscaping** is planting, including, but not limited to, trees, shrubs, and ground covers, suitably designed, selected, installed, and maintained to enhance a site or right-of-way.

**Land Use** is a description of how land is occupied or used.

**Land Use Plan** is a plan showing the existing and proposed location, extent and intensity of development of land to be used in the future for varying types of residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational and other public and private purposes or combination of purposes.

**Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®)** is a third-party certification program and a nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED gives building owners and operators the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their buildings’ performance. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health; sustainable site development, water

savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

**Level of Service (LOS)** is a measure of congestion on a road, or at an intersection, that express the percentage of capacity of a road or intersection from being used during a peak period. The LOS levels are designated “A” through “F”, from the best to the worst, and cover the entire range of traffic operations that may occur.

**Liquefaction** is a process by which water saturated granular soils transform from a solid to liquid state due to ground shaking. This phenomenon usually results from shaking from energy waves released in an earthquake.

**Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO)** are independent, quasi-legislative agencies that were created in 1963 by the California Legislature, and are responsible for reviewing and approving proposed jurisdictional boundary changes, including the annexation and detachment of territory to and/or from cities and special districts, incorporations of new cities, formations of new special districts, and consolidations, mergers, and dissolutions of existing districts. All LAFCOs include at least five commissioners from cities, the county, and the public.

**Main San Gabriel Basin** is located underneath the majority of the valley floor of the San Gabriel Valley, and is bounded by the Raymond Basin on the northwest, the base of the San Gabriel Mountains on the north, the Puente Basing on the east, and Whittier Narrows to the south. The basin is replenished by stream runoff, rainfall, and inflow from the surrounding Raymond and Puente Basins, and is also replenished with imported water.

**Median Income** is the annual income for each household size which is defined annually by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)** is a consortium of 26 cities and water districts that provide drinking water to consumers in parts of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties.

**Mixed-Use Development** refers to the mixing of compatible land uses such as residential, commercial, and office. While existing in different varieties, in most mixed-use structures or developments, commercial retail is encouraged as a focal point, particularly on ground-floor levels, as it can encourage increased activity at neighboring uses.

**Mobile Home** is a state-licensed moveable or transportable vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, designed as a permanent structure of not

less than two hundred fifty square feet in area intended for occupancy by one family, and having no foundation other than jacks, piers, wheels, or skirtings.

**Moderate-Income Household** is a household with an annual income between the lower income eligibility limits and 120% of the area median family income adjusted by household size, usually as established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Section 8 housing program.

**Mutual Aid Agreements** with neighboring jurisdictions for general fire and emergency services provide additional response capabilities throughout the rest of the City.

**National Ambient Air Quality Standards** are the prescribed level of pollutants in the outside air that cannot be exceeded legally during a specified time in a specified geographical area.

**Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP)** is a plan that includes resources and information to assist City residents, public and private sector organizations, and others interested in participating in planning for natural hazards. The NHMP provides a list of activities that may assist the City of Arcadia in reducing risk and preventing loss from future natural hazard events.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)** is the federal permitting program and requirement, implemented through the State Regional Water Quality Control Board, that mandates control of urban runoff to eliminate the percolation of pollutants from surface runoff into underground water supplies.

**National Register of Historic Places** is an official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation; part of a federal program designed to protect the nation's historic, architectural, and archaeological assets.

**Neighborhood** is a planning area commonly identified as such in a community's planning documents, and by the individual's residing and working within the neighborhood. Documentation may include a map prepared for planning purposes, on which the names and boundaries of the neighborhood are shown.

**Noise** is an undesired audible sound.

**Noise Contours** are continuous lines of equal noise level usually drawn around a noise source, such as an airport or highway. The lines are generally drawn in five-decibel increments so that they resemble elevation contours in topographic maps.

**Objectives** are policies, results, or program improvements that decisions maker wish to attain. Objectives should be independent of the solution and stated in a manner that does not preclude alternative approaches.

**Open Space** is any parcel or area of land or water essentially unimproved and set aside, designated, dedicated, or reserved for public or private use or enjoyment.

**Ordinance** is a law or regulation set forth and adopted by a governmental authority.

**Outreach** is an effort by individuals in an organization or group to connect its ideas or practices to the efforts of other organizations, groups, specific audiences, or the general public.

**Overcrowding**, as defined by the federal government, is found in households with more than one person per room, excluding bathrooms, kitchens, hallways, and porches. Severely overcrowded households are households with greater than 1.5 persons per room.

**Overlay** is a land use designation or a zoning designation that modifies the basic underlying designation in some specific manner.

**Ozone** is a pollutant formed by photochemical reactions between nitrogen oxides and reactive organic gases, levels of which are related to the formation of smog.

**P.A.C.E. 2000 (Peaceful Arcadia through Community Efforts)** is a City program that establishes collaborative partnerships between the police and the community to reduce crime and enhance the quality of life in Arcadia

**Parcel** is a lot or tract of land.

**Parks** are open space lands whose primary purpose is recreation.

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan**, adopted in 2007, was the first document to consolidate City goals and strategies regarding park spaces and recreation programs. As part of this comprehensive master planning effort, the City established a standard for parkland provision/acquisition based on population. Standards in the plan are used to maintain park and recreational facilities fund fees commensurate with the cost of developing new facilities.

**Particulate** is a minute, separate airborne particle of such materials as dust, smoke and pollen.



**Peak hour(s)** is the time in which traffic volume is the highest for the day, and is commonly the period of greatest congestion.

**Pedestrian Friendly** is the extent to which the built environment is friendly to the presence of people living, shopping, visiting, enjoying or spending time in the area.

**Performance Standards** are zoning regulations that permit uses based on a particular set of standards of operation rather than on particular type of use. Performance standards provide specific criteria limiting noise, air pollution, emissions, odors, vibration, dust, dirt, glare, heat, fire hazards, wastes, traffic impacts, and visual impact of a use.

**Planning Area** is the area directly addressed by the General Plan. The planning area encompasses the corporate City limits and potentially annexable land within its sphere of influence.

**Planning Commission** is a body, usually having five or seven members, created by a city or county in compliance with California law (Section 65100) which requires the assignment of the planning functions of the city or county to a planning department, planning commission, hearing officers, and/or the legislative body itself, as deemed appropriate by the legislative body.

**Policy** is a specific statement that guides decision-making as the City works to achieve a goal. Such policies, once adopted, represent statements of the City's intent. The General Plan policies set standards that will be used by City staff, the Planning Commission, and City Council in their review of land development projects and in decision-making about the City's actions.

**Pollution, Non-Point** is a source for pollution that is less definable and usually cover broad areas of land, such as agricultural land with fertilizers that are carried from the land by runoff, or automobiles.

**Pollution, Point** in reference to water quality, is a discrete source from which pollution is generated before it enters receiving waters, such as a sewer outfall, a smokestack, or an industrial waste pipe.

**Program** is a coordinate set of specific measures and actions (e.g. zoning, subdivision procedures, and capital expenditures) the local government intends to use in carrying out the policies of the General Plan.

**Public and Quasi-public Facilities** include private and publicly owned land serving public agencies. Public uses include the civic center, public schools, parks, government facilities, police and fire stations, libraries, and water treatment facilities. Quasi-public uses include

land owned by private entities that serve a community-wide function, such as private schools and utility easements.

**Raymond Basin** is a local geologic structure that covers approximately 40 square miles, is located in the northwesterly portion of the San Gabriel Valley, and is bounded on the north by the San Gabriel Mountains, the San Rafael Hills to the west, and the Raymond Fault to the southeast. The basin is recharged by the Los Angeles River (through the Arroyo Seco Tributary), Eaton Wash, Santa Anita Wash, and by streams in the San Gabriel River watershed.

**Recreation, Active** is a type of recreation or activity that requires the use of organized play areas including, but not limited to, softball, baseball, football, soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts, and various forms of children's play equipment.

**Recreation, Passive** is a type of recreation or activity that does not require the use of organized play areas.

**Redevelopment**, under the California Community Redevelopment Law, is a process with the authority, scope, and financing mechanisms necessary to provide stimulus to reverse current negative business trends, remedy blight, provide job development incentives, and create a new image for a community. It provides for the planning, development, redesign, clearance, reconstruction, or rehabilitation, or any combination of these, and the provision of public and private improvements as may be appropriate or necessary in the interest of the general welfare. In a more general sense, redevelopment is a process in which existing development and use of land is replaced with new development and/or use.

**Regional** is pertaining to activities economies at a scale greater than that of single jurisdiction, and affecting a broad homogeneous area.

**Regional Housing Needs Plan (RHNA)** is based on the State of California projections of population growth and housing unit demand and assigns a share of the region's future housing need to each jurisdiction within the SCAG (Southern California Association of Government) region. These housing need numbers serve as the basis for the update of the Housing Element in each California city and county.

**Regional Park** is a park typically 150 to 500 acres in size focusing on activities and natural features not included in most other types of parks and often based on a specific scenic or recreational opportunity.

**Regulation** is a rule or order prescribed for managing government.

**Rehabilitation** is the upgrading of a building in previously dilapidated or substandard condition, for human habitation or use.

**Richter Scale** is a measure of the size or energy release of an earthquake at its source. The scale is logarithmic; the wave amplitude of each number on the scale is 10 times greater than that of the previous whole number.

**Ridesharing** generally refers to people sharing the same vehicle to travel to their final destinations; including carpooling and vanpooling.

**Right-of-Way** is a strip of land acquired by reservation, dedication, prescription or condemnation and intended to be occupied or currently occupied by a road, crosswalk, railroad, electric transmission lines, oil or gas pipeline, water line, sanitary or storm sewer, or other similar uses.

**Roadway Functional Classifications** are used to categorize roadways according to their predominant role in the highway network and also on the basis of their physical setting.

**SB 375 - Redesigning Communities to Reduce Greenhouse Gases** passed into law in 2008, has the goal of fostering development patterns—and more compact patterns in particular—that reduce the need to drive, thereby reducing air pollution from car exhaust, conserving water, and protecting habitat, among other benefits.

**Second Dwelling Unit** is an accessory dwelling unit that is subordinate to and on the same lot or parcel of property as another single-family dwelling unit in a residential district. It includes a kitchen and sanitary facilities for the exclusive use of one household.

**Seiche** is an earthquake-generated wave in an enclosed body of water such as a lake, reservoir, or bay.

**Seismic** is caused by or subject to earthquakes or earth vibrations.

**Sewer** is any pipe or conduit used to collect and carry away wastewater from the generating source to a treatment plant or discharge outfall.

**Significant Effect** is a beneficial or detrimental impact on the environment. May include, but is not limited to, significant changes in an area's air, water, and land resources.

**Single Room Occupancy (SRO)** is a single room used as a dwelling, typically with a sink and closet, but which requires the occupant to share a communal bathroom, shower, and kitchen.

**Site** is a parcel of land used or intended for one use or a group of uses and having frontage on a public or an approved private street.

**Site Plan** is the development plan for one or more lots on which is shown the existing and proposed conditions of the lot including: topography, vegetation, drainage, flood plains, marshes and waterways; open spaces, walkways, means of ingress and egress, utility services, landscaping, structures and signs, lighting, and screening devices; and other information that reasonably may be required in order that an informed decision can be made by the approving authority.

**Slope** is the land gradient described as the vertical rise divided by the horizontal run, and expressed in percent.

**Smart Growth** is an urban planning and transportation practice that concentrates growth in the center of a city to avoid urban sprawl, and that advocates compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, including neighborhood schools, complete streets, and mixed-use development with a range of housing choices.

**Solid Waste** is unwanted or discarded material, including garbage with insufficient liquid content to be free flowing, generally disposed of in landfills or incinerated.

**Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)** is a Metropolitan Planning Organization that is mandated by the federal government to research and draw up plans for transportation, growth management, hazardous waste management, and air quality. Additional mandates exist at state level.

**South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)**, established in 1976, is the regional agency authorized to develop and enforce air pollution control standards mandated by the federal and State Clean Air Acts.

**Special Needs Groups** are those segments of the population which have a more difficult time finding decent affordable housing due to special circumstances. Under State planning law, these special needs groups consist of the elderly, handicapped, large families, single-parent households, farmworkers and the homeless.

**Specific Plan**, under Article 8 of the Government Code, is a legal tool for detailed design and implementation of a defined portion of the area covered by the General Plan. A specific plan may include all detailed regulations, conditions, programs, and/or proposed legislation which may be necessary or convenient for the systematic implementation of any General Plan Element(s).

**Sphere of Influence** is the probably physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). LAFCOs are responsible for establishing a sphere of influence for each city and district whose boundaries are regulated by LAFCO. Typically, a sphere of influence is the territory a city or district is expected to annex. Thus, spheres of influence are usually larger in area than the actual boundaries of a city or district, although they can be the same as the city or district boundaries. Cities and districts cannot provide services outside their sphere of influence except in very limited circumstances.

**Standard** is a rule or measure establishing a level of quality or quantity that must be complied with or satisfied. The California Government Code requires that General Plan describe “standards”. Examples of standards might include the number of acres of parkland per 1,000 populations that the community will attempt to acquire and improve. A standard is also a requirement in a zoning ordinance that govern building and development as distinguished from use restrictions; for example, site design regulations such as lot area, height limit, frontage, landscaping, and floor area ratio.

**State Regional Water Quality Control Board** is the agency that regulates urban runoff control to eliminate the percolation of pollutants from surface runoff into underground water supplies.

**Stationary Source** is a non-mobile emitter of pollution.

**Structure** is anything, including a building, located on the ground in a permanent location or attached to something having a permanent location on the ground.

**Subdivision** is the division of a tract of land into defined lots, either improved or unimproved, which can be separately conveyed by sale or lease, and which can be altered or developed. “Subdivision” includes a condominium project as defined in the California Civil Code and a community apartment project, as defined in the Business and Professions Code.

**Subsidence** is the sudden sinking or gradual downward settling and compaction of soil and other surface material with little or no horizontal motion. Subsidence may be caused by a variety of human and natural activity, including earthquakes.

**Subsidize** is to assist by payment of sum of money or by the granting of terms or favors that reduce the need for monetary expenditures. Housing subsidies may take the forms of mortgage interest deductions or tax credits from federal and/or state income taxes, sale or lease at less than market value of land to be used for the

construction of housing, payments to supplement a minimum affordable rent, and the like.

**Substandard Housing** is residential housing that, because of their physical condition, does not provide safe and sanitary housing.

**Substation** is a station where electricity transformed from high voltage to low voltage for distribution.

**Supportive Services** are services provided to residents of supportive housing for the purpose of facilitating the independence of residents. Some examples are case management, medical or psychological counseling and supervision, child care, transportation, and job training.

**Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA)**, enacted in 1977, is the State law that regulates the environmental effects of mining activities.

**Sustainability** is a community use of natural resources in a way that does not jeopardize the ability of future generations to live and prosper.

**Sustainable Development** is a development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well-being while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Topography** is a configuration of a surface, including its relief and the position of natural and human-made features.

**Traffic Calming** is a combination of policies and measures that reduce the negative effects of motorized vehicle use by improving livability in the surrounding neighborhood. With traffic calming, accessibility and mobility are not reduced; they are modified to fit needs of neighborhood. Traffic calming achieves this by modifying the design of streets to serve a broad range of transportation, social, and environmental purposes.

**Traffic Model** is an aid used to forecast the future actions and interactions of a transportation system under a given set of conditions such as land use, population and socioeconomic characteristics, and travel characteristics.

**Transit** is the conveyance of persons or goods from one place to another by means of a local, public transportation system.

**Transit Center** is a facility where buses and/or other transit routes converge, enabling passengers to transfer among routes and services.

**Transit-Oriented Development or TOD** is the creation of compact, walkable communities centered around high quality train systems. This makes it possible to live a higher quality life without complete dependence on a car for mobility and survival.

**Transit, Public** is a system of regularly scheduled buses and/or trains available to the public on a fee-per-ride basis.

**Transitional Housing** is residential accommodations for two or more persons unrelated by blood, marriage, or legal adoption, including support/counseling services for homeless individuals and/or families. The intent of this type of facility is to provide a stable environment for the homeless and to facilitate self-sufficiency. This type of facility typically involves a situation wherein the resident is accountable to the owner/operator for his location and conduct among other factors. The use of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development repossessed single-family residences for shelter purposes shall not be defined as “transitional shelter”.

**Transportation Control Measure (TCM)** is any control measure to reduce vehicle trips, vehicle use, vehicle miles traveled, vehicle idling, or traffic congestion for the purpose of reducing motor vehicle emissions. TCMs can include encouraging the use of carpools and mass transit.

**Transportation Demand Management (TDM)** is a process which encourages people to change their mode of travel or to not make a trip at all, for the purposes of reducing peak hour congestion and improving air quality. TDM programs include, for example, incentives for ridesharing or using public transit, disincentives for single auto occupancy trips, and telecommuting.

**Transportation Systems Management (TSM)** is a methodology for improving local transportation systems that is aimed at creating a more efficient use of the existing roadway system. TSM measures to increase existing system efficiency include signal synchronization, re-striping of streets to add lanes, and adding right or left turn pockets at intersections, and they typically do not include construction of new roadways or the acquisition of additional right-of-way to widen existing roads.

**Trip** is one-way travel from an origin to a destination for a particular purpose such as a journey to work or to the grocery store. The trip end is both the origin and destination of a trip; each trip has two trip ends. A person trip is one way travel by one person from an origin to

a destination by any mode of travel. Trip generation refers to vehicle or person trips produced by or attracted to specific land uses.

**Trip Distribution** is the origins and destinations of inbound and outbound project traffic.

**Trip Generation** is an estimation of vehicular trip generated by a development. Generation factors and equations used in the traffic forecasting are found in the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).

**Tsunami** is an ocean wave produced by sub-marine earthquake, landslide, or volcanic eruption. These waves may reach enormous dimensions and have sufficient energy to travel across the entire oceans.

**Unimproved Land** is land in its natural state with no man-made changes in its appearance.

**Urban Design** concerns the arrangement, appearance and functionality of towns and cities, and in particular the shaping and uses of urban public space. It has traditionally been regarded as a disciplinary subset of urban planning, landscape architecture, or architecture.

**Urban Forest** is comprised of street trees, trees on parks and other public lands, and trees on private properties throughout Arcadia.

**Urban Runoff** is stormwater from City streets and adjacent domestic or commercial properties that carries pollutants of various kinds into the sewer systems and receiving waters.

**Urban Water Management Plan** help with projections for future water demand, identify conservation strategies and reliable water sources, and create a contingency plan for water shortages.

**Use** is the purpose for which land or building is designed, arranged, or intended, or for which the land or building may be occupied or maintained.

**U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** is a non-profit trade organization that promotes sustainability in how buildings are designed, built and operated. The USGBC is best known for the development of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system and Greenbuild, a green building conference that promotes the green building industry, including environmentally responsible materials, sustainable architecture techniques and public policy.



**Vacant** is lands or buildings that are not actively used for any purpose.

**Vehicle-Miles Traveled (VMT)** is a key measure of an overall street and highway use. Reducing VMT is often a major objective in efforts to reduce vehicular congestion and achieve regional air quality goals.

**Very-Low Income Household** is a household with an annual income usually no greater than 50 percent of the area median family income adjusted by household size, as determined by a survey of incomes conducted by a city or a county, or in the absence of such a survey, based on the latest available eligibility limits established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Section 8 housing program.

**Volume/Capacity Ratio, or V/C Ratio** is the ratio of the volume of traffic to the design capacity of a road to handle those volumes. For example, if the capacity of the road is 20,000 vehicles/day and traffic counts indicate 18,000 vehicle/day are using the road, then the V/C ratio is 1.8:2.0. V/C ratios are used to estimate levels of service and congestion.

**Volunteers in Patrol Support (VIPS)** provides additional volunteer support to the Arcadia Police Department operations, increases police visibility in the City, and enhances partnerships with the community

**Water Master Plan** is the primary information and planning tool used to assess water supply adequacy. The City of Arcadia updates the Water Master Plan every five years.

**Water Supply Assessment** must describe a project's water demand over a 20-year period, identify the sources of water available to meet that demand, and include an assessment of whether or not those water supplies are, or will be, sufficient to meet the demand for water associated with the proposed project, in addition to the demand of existing customers and other planned future development. If a 20-year supply is not demonstrated, the water supply assessments identify plans for acquiring additional supplies.

**Watershed** is the total area above a given point on a watercourse that contributes water to its flow, the entire region drained by a waterway or watercourse that drains into a lake or reservoir.

**Xeriscape** is to landscape and garden in ways that reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental irrigation. It is promoted in areas that do not have easily accessible supplies of fresh water, and is gaining acceptance in other areas as climate patterns shift.

**Youth Master Plan** assesses the recreation needs of Arcadia's youth and identifies what types of programs, facilities, and funding are needed to accommodate those needs.

**Zoning** is a police power measure, enacted primarily by units of local government, in which the community is divided into districts or zones within which permitted and special uses are established as are regulations governing lot size, building bulk, placement, and other development standards. Requirements vary from district to district, but they must be uniform within the same district. The zoning ordinance consists of a map and text.

**Zoning District** is a geographical area of a city zoned with uniform regulations and requirements.