



A Appendix - Acronyms and Definitions

This appendix is intended for general guidance only. In the event of a conflict between these acronyms/ definitions and a formal, legal definition established by a County ordinance, the legal definition shall prevail.

ACRONYMS

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| AADT | Average Annual Daily Traffic |
| ACS | American Community Survey |
| ACUB | Army Compatible Use Buffer |
| ADA | Americans with Disabilities Act |
| AG | Agriculture |
| AMI | Area Median Income |
| APD | Aberdeen Police Department |
| APF | Adequate Public Facilities |
| APFO | Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance |
| APG | Aberdeen Proving Ground |
| ARC | Architectural Review Committee |
| ATEC | Army Test and Evaluation Command |
| AVFD | Aberdeen Volunteer Fire Department |
| AWWTP | Aberdeen Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant |
| BMC | Baltimore Metropolitan Council |
| BMP | Best Management Practice |
| BRAC | Base Realignment and Closure |
| BRIP | Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program |
| BWI | Baltimore/Washington International-Thurgood Marshall Airport |
| CALEA | Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies |
| CBCA | Chesapeake Bay Critical Area |
| CIM | Community Informational Meeting |
| CL | Community Legacy |
| CRS | Community Rating System |
| CTP | Consolidated Transportation Program |
| DNR | Department of Natural Resources |
| DPW | Department of Public Works |
| EDC | Economic Development Commission |
| EDU | Equivalent Dwelling Units |
| EFC | Environmental Finance Center |
| EMS | Emergency Medical Service |
| EMT | Emergency Medical Technicians |
| ENR | Enhanced Nutrition Reduction |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| FEMA | Federal Emergency Management Agency |
| FHWA | Federal Highway Administration |
| FIDS | Forest Interior Dwelling Species |
| FIRM | Flood Insurance Rate Map |
| FIS | Flood Insurance Study |
| FMR | Fair Market Rent |

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| FPMO | Maryland Model Floodplain Management Ordinance |
| FTA | Federal Transit Administration |
| GBC | Greater Baltimore Committee |
| GED | Graduate Equivalency Diploma |
| GGRA | Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| HCPS | Harford County Public School |
| HEAT | Higher Education and Applied Technology |
| HECM | Home Equity Conversion Mortgage |
| HMP | Hazard Mitigation Plan |
| HUD | U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development |
| I&I | Inflow and Infiltration |
| IBD | Integrated Business District |
| IDA | Intensely Developed Area |
| ISO | Insurance Services Office |
| JLUS | Joint Land Use Study |
| LDA | Limited Development Area |
| LEHD | Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics |
| LIHTC | Low-Income Housing Tax Credit |
| LOS | Level of Service |
| L RTP | Long-Range Transportation Plan |
| MALPF | Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation |
| MARC | Maryland Area Rail Commuter |
| MCCC | Maryland Commission on Climate Change |
| MCL | Maximum Contaminant Levels |
| MD | Maryland |
| MD DHCD | Maryland Dept. of Housing and Community Development |
| MDE | Maryland Dept. of the Environment |
| MDP | Maryland Dept. of Planning |
| MDOT | Maryland Dept. of Transportation |
| MDOT MAA | Maryland Dept. of Transportation Maryland Aviation Administration |
| MDOT MPA | Maryland Dept. of Transportation Maryland Port Administration |
| MDOT MVA | Maryland Dept. of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration |
| MDOT SHA | Maryland Dept. of Transportation State Highway Administration |
| MDSBDC | Maryland Small Business Development Center Network |
| MDTA | Maryland Transportation Authority |
| MEAF | Maryland Economic Adjustment Fund |
| MEDCO | Maryland Economic Development Corporation |
| MET | Maryland Environmental Trust |
| MGD | Million Gallons per Day |
| MGE | Municipal Growth Element |
| MHT | Maryland Historic Trust |
| MIDFA | Maryland Industrial Development Financing Authority |
| MIHP | Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties |
| MLB | Major League Baseball |
| MML | Maryland Municipal League |

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| MPO | Metropolitan Planning Organization |
| MSA | Metropolitan Statistical Area |
| MTP | Maryland Transportation Plan |
| NCSS | National Cooperative Soil Survey |
| NFIP | National Flood Insurance Program |
| NBW | Neighborhood Business Works |
| NPDES | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| NRCS | Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| NRHP | National Register of Historic Places |
| OLDCC | Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation |
| OSDS | Onsite Sewage Disposal System |
| PFA | Priority Funding Area |
| PPP | Public Participation Plan |
| POS | Program Open Space |
| PWQ | Partnership for Workforce Quality |
| QMTC | Qualified Maryland Technology Company |
| RCA | Resource Conservation Area |
| SBA | Small Business Administration |
| SCORE | Service Corps of Retired Executives |
| SD | Special Districts |
| SGSC | Smart Growth Subcabinet |
| SJRIS | Statewide Joint Land Use Response Implementation Strategy |
| SLR | Sea Level Rise |
| SMART | Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer |
| SMC | Sustainable Maryland Certified |
| SSPRA | Sensitive Species Project Review Areas |
| STEAM | Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics |
| TAP | Transportation Alternative Program |
| TDM | Transportation Demand Management |
| TEDCO | Maryland Technology Development Corporation |
| TIF | Tax Increment Financing |
| TMDL | Total Maximum Daily Loads |
| TOD | Transit-Oriented Development |
| TOD-C | TOD Corridor |
| TOD-D | TOD Downtown |
| TOD-N | TOD Neighborhood District |
| UCMC | University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Campus |
| UCRM | Uniform Crime Reporting Model |
| UPWP | Unified Planning Work Program |
| U.S. | United States [of America] |
| USACE | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| USDA | U.S. Dept. of Agriculture |
| US DOD | U.S. Dept. of Defense |
| US DOT | U.S. Dept. of Transportation |
| US EPA | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| USGS | United States Geological Survey |

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| US HUD | U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development |
| VCP | Voluntary Cleanup Program |
| WAUP | Water Appropriation and Use Permit |
| WIP | Watershed Implementation Plan |
| WRE | Water Resources Element |
| WWTP | Wastewater Treatment Plant |

DEFINITIONS

Affordable Housing: Housing for which the household is paying no more than 30% of their annual income for gross housing costs, including utilities.

Agriculture: All methods of production or management of livestock, poultry, crops, vegetation, and soil, other than commercial logging and timber harvesting operations, and includes but is not limited to tillage, plowing, seeding, fertilization, pest control, harvesting, maintenance of best management practices, and marketing; feeding, housing, grazing, raising, and maintaining animals such as cattle, dairy cows, sheep, hogs, poultry, and equine and the handling of their by-products; orchards, nurseries, vineyards, cheese making, winery, and U-pick operations; and silviculture, sod production, and aquaculture.

Area Median Income (AMI): The median household income for the area adjusted for household size as published and annually updated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Base Realignment & Closure (BRAC): The congressionally authorized process the US DOD has used to reorganize its base structure to more efficiently and effectively support our military forces, increase operational readiness, and facilitate new ways of doing business.

Building Permit: A permit (or other final approval) required before the construction, extension, conversion, alteration, or reconstruction of a structure.

Capital Improvement Program (or Plan) (CIP): An annually revised document that guides the County's investments in public facilities and infrastructure during a five-year time horizon.

Character: The result of the combination of various features and traits of an area as defined by the predominant pattern of physical scale, land use, building and site design, natural and historic features, and the vision for the area as expressed in adopted plans. Not all elements affect community character in all cases; a community usually draws its distinctive character from a few elements.

Chesapeake Bay Critical Area – generally defined as all land and water areas within 1,000 feet beyond the landward boundaries of tidal wetlands, the Bay and its tributaries.

Civilian Labor Force: All persons 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed.

Commercial Use: Any development approved by the County or a municipality that involves the retail or wholesale marketing of goods and services.

Community Facility: Facilities financed by public revenues and available for use by the public (e.g., roads, schools, sewerage treatment plants).

Community Sewerage System: Any system, whether publicly or privately owned, serving two or more individual lots, for the collection and disposal of sewerage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature, including various devices for the treatment of the sewage and industrial wastes.

Complete Streets: A policy that aims to improve transportation options and safety by ensuring that alterations to transportation systems are implemented to provide all users regardless of age or ability with a comprehensive and connected multimodal network.

Comprehensive Plan: The most recently adopted Aberdeen Comprehensive Plan text and all accompanying maps, charts, and explanatory material and all its amendments. A document, officially adopted by the local governing body, which spells out the manner a municipality, county, or county sub-area must develop. Typically, it includes a map showing proposed future land use and anticipated transportation and community facilities. It also contains policies for protecting environmental features and recommendations for amending local development-related ordinances in a manner that helps achieve its objectives. It must also explain how the jurisdiction will provide water for development and address the handling of sewage treatment plant discharges. Municipal comprehensive plans must explain how anticipated growth will impact community facilities and the environment and identify areas where growth will occur. The plan has legal significance in that zoning, provision of water and sewer, and other local actions and other actions must be consistent with its recommendations. Comprehensive plans capture how people want their communities to function and grow. Local jurisdictions must review their comprehensive plans every five years and update them every ten.

Connectivity: The measurement of a system of streets with multiple routes and connections serving the same origins and destinations. An inter-connected roadway network can accommodate more multimodal travel demands than a roadway network with limited connectivity.

Cost of Living: The cost of maintaining a certain standard of living measured by the average cost of the basic necessities of life (e.g., food, shelter, clothing). A rise in the cost of living reflects the rate of inflation.

Critical Area Buffer – measured 100 feet inland from mean high water, the landward extent of tidal wetlands, and the edge of tributary streams. The term Buffer also includes areas where the Buffer has been expanded beyond 100 feet to include contiguous steep slopes or hydric soils.

Critical Workforce: Individuals employed in the City as teachers (full-time); law enforcement officers (full-time), including correctional officers; emergency medical technicians (full-time); active members of a volunteer fire company for the past 12 months, including both firefighters and emergency medical technicians, who are certified by the president of the County Volunteer Chief's Association; and emergency dispatchers.

Development: Division of a parcel of land into two or more parcels; the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of structures; any use or change in use of structures or land; extension of use of land; or clearing, grading, or other movement of land for which permission may be required pursuant.

Active Adult: Developments with age-restricted occupancy, where at least one occupant must be over the age of 55.

Infill: Development that takes place on vacant or underutilized parcels within an already-developed area.

Development Density: The number of dwelling units allowed per acre based on zoning, after deducting environmentally sensitive lands.

Development Intensity: The carrying capacity or degree to which an area of land can be physically developed, to the fullest extent possible. The development intensity of a land area is determined by the degree of suitability it has after deducting conservation measures. A development intensity factor may be assigned based on land suitability, sensitive water resources, and infrastructure. Development intensity can be controlled by density for residential development as well as through floor area ratio on the parcel level for commercial, mixed use, and industrial developments.

Dwelling: A building or portion of a building that is designated or used for residential purposes.

Multi-Family: A planned residential development consisting of more than one dwelling unit (such as duplexes, townhouses, cottage homes, apartments or multiplex).

Single-Family: A dwelling designed for single-family residential use and occupied by not more than one family and having no roof, wall, or floor in common with any other dwelling unit, including site-built homes, modular homes, and double-wide manufactured homes.

Duplex (Two-Family): A two-family dwelling, either stacked or sharing a common wall, designed for and occupied exclusively as the residence of not more than two families, whether as renters or owners, each living as an independent housekeeping unit.

Unit: A principal building, room, or group of rooms providing, or intended to provide, living quarters for not more than one family.

Easement: The authorization by a property owner for the use by another and for a specified purpose of any designated part of the property.

Agricultural: A nonpossessory interest in land that restricts the conversion of use of the land, preventing nonagricultural uses.

Conservation: A nonpossessory interest in land that restricts the manner that the land may be developed in an effort to conserve natural resources for future use.

Economic Center: An area of the City where economic development has recently or traditionally occurred and where a significant percentage of residents and commuters work located in or near the City.

Economic Development: The process of improving a community's well-being through job creation, business growth, and income growth, as well as through improvements to the wider social and natural environment that strengthen the economy.

Employed Persons: All persons who, during the reference week (the week including the 12th day of the month), did any work as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of their family; or were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor management dispute job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs. Each employed person is counted only once, even if he or she holds more than one job.

Endangered Species: Any species of fish, wildlife, or plants that have been designated by the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. Designation occurs when the continued existence of these species as viable components of the State's resources are determined to be in jeopardy, including any species determined to be endangered pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq., as amended.

Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR): The use of technologies that allow wastewater treatment plants to provide an advanced level of treatment, dramatically reducing nitrogen and phosphorus discharge in effluent. Its goal is to achieve effluent nutrient concentrations of a maximum of 3.0 milligrams per liter (mg/l) total nitrogen and 0.3 mg/l total phosphorus.

Equity: A condition of equality achieved by being intentional about improving quality of life for underserved, under-resourced, and vulnerable populations.

Erosion: The process where wind, water, ice, or gravity wear away the land surface.

Erosion and Sediment Control: The practice of preventing or controlling wind or water erosion, including containing eroded soil so that it does not wash off and cause water pollution to a nearby waterbody. Can also refer to an individual practice or device designed to prevent, control, or contain erosion and sediment. The State has a statewide erosion and sediment control program that establishes regulatory criteria and procedures to control sediment-laden runoff from land disturbing activities.

Fair Housing: The purpose of creating laws to prevent discriminatory housing practices; adding specific prohibitions relating to discrimination in housing; or providing remedies for discrimination in housing.

First-time Homebuyer: A homebuyer who has not owned a home as their primary residence in the three years prior to closing on the new home (some exceptions apply).

Flood: A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland or tidal waters or the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM): An official map on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has delineated special flood hazard areas (SFHA) to indicate the magnitude and nature of flood hazards, to designate applicable flood zones, and to delineate floodways, if applicable. FIRMs that have been prepared in digital format or converted to digital format are referred to as "Digital FIRMs (DFIRM)."

Flood Zone: A designation for areas that are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs):

Zone A: Special flood hazard areas (SFHA) subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance (100-year) flood; base flood elevations (BFEs) are not determined.

Zone AE & Zone A1-30: Special flood hazard areas (SFHA) subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance (100-year) flood; base flood elevations (BFEs) are determined; floodways may or may not be determined. In areas subject to tidal flooding, the limit of moderate wave action (LiMWA) may or may not be delineated.

Zone AH & Zone AO: Areas of shallow flooding, with flood depths of one to three feet (usually areas of ponding or sheet flow on sloping terrain), with or without BFEs or designated flood depths.

Zone B & Zone X (shaded): Areas subject to inundation by the 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood; areas subject to the 1% annual chance (100-year) flood with average depths of less than one foot or with contributing drainage area less than one square mile; and areas protected from the base flood by levees.

Zone C & Zone X (unshaded): Areas outside of zones designated A, AE, A1-30, AO, VE, V1-30, B, and X (shaded).

Zone VE & Zone V1-30: Special flood hazard areas (SFHA) subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance (100-year) flood and subject to high-velocity wave action.

Floodplain: Any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source.

Forest: a biological community dominated by trees and other woody plants covering a land area of 10,000 square feet or greater. A forest includes areas that have at least 100 live trees per acre, with at least 50% of those trees having a two-inch or greater diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground. A forest also includes areas that have been cut but not cleared. A forest does not include orchards.

Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS): Species of birds that require relatively large, forested tracts in order to breed successfully (e.g., flycatchers, warblers, vireos, woodpeckers).

Forest Management: The protection, manipulation, and utilization of the forest to provide multiple benefits (e.g., timber harvesting, wildlife habitat).

Functional Classification: A classification used to describe a roadway's purpose or the degree to which its primary function is to provide access to adjacent land uses or mobility for longer-distance travel.

Geographic Information System (GIS): A computer system for capturing, storing, checking, and displaying data related to positions on Earth's surface.

Goal: A general, overall, and ultimate purpose, aim, or end toward which the City will direct effort.

Growth Area: Those lands designated and identified as most appropriate for future growth and residential density.

Historic Preservation: The act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property.

Historic Property: A district, site, building, structure, or object significant in history, architecture, engineering, archeology, or culture at the national, state, or local level.

Historic Structure: Any structure or cultural resource, including but not limited to residential, agricultural, and commercial buildings, that is at least 50 years of age or otherwise deemed to be of exceptional historical significance to the City due to its association with historic events or activities; association with persons who are important to the community or to specific developments of history; embodiment of distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction, or the work of a master; or potential to provide important information about history or prehistory.

HOMELESS: The characterization of an individual living in a place not meant for human habitation, unsheltered, or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing.

HOUSEHOLD: One or more people who occupy a housing unit.

FAMILY: Includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder count as members of that family. A family household may include people not related to the householder.

NON-FAMILY: Consists of a householder living alone (i.e. a one-person household) or where the householder shares the home only with people sharing no relations (e.g., a roommate).

HOUSING:

Affordable: Housing for which the household is paying no more than 30% of their annual income for gross housing costs, including utilities.

Age-Restricted: A residential complex containing multifamily or apartment dwellings designed for and occupied by persons 55 years or older, which may include a congregate meals program in a common dining area.

Cost: Rent for a rental housing unit or mortgage principal and interest, real property taxes, and insurance for a housing unit that is for sale.

COST BURDEN: Paying more than 30% of household income toward rent or for mortgage principal and interest, real estate taxes, and insurance.

Fair: The purpose of creating laws to prevent discriminatory housing practices; adding specific prohibitions relating to discrimination in housing; or providing remedies for discrimination in housing.

Low-Income: Housing that is affordable for a household with an aggregate annual income that is less than 60% of the area median income.

Stock: The total number of dwelling units (e.g., houses, apartments) in an area.

SUPPORTIVE: Collectively refers to housing for persons who may be considered disabled, handicapped, or in recovery from chemical dependency, under federal or State law, and includes developmental disability facilities (i.e. group home, neighborhood home, rest (family care) home); mental health facilities (i.e. group home); licensed sober house; and self-governed sober house.

TRANSITIONAL: A type of supportive housing for homeless or at-risk homeless but is not housing specifically targeted to serve persons who are considered disabled, handicapped, or in recovery from chemical dependency.

Unit: A single unit of a structure providing or intended to provide complete living and sleeping facilities for one or more persons.

Workforce: Housing that is affordable to households earning incomes within the range of 60% to 120% of the area's median household income and includes single-family homes, townhouses, condominiums, starter homes, and apartments affordable to area workers.

Impervious Surface: Any man-made surface that is resistant to the penetration of water, including areas of stored lumber, outdoor storage or display, and junkyards.

INCOME:

AREA MEDIAN (AMI): The midpoint of a region's income distribution—half earn more than the median and half earn less; published and annually updated by HUD.

EXTREMELY LOW: Income at or below the greater of 30% of area median income or the federal poverty level.

VERY LOW: Income at or below 50% of area median income.

LOW: Income at or below 80% of area median income.

MODERATE: Income 50%-80% of area median income.

Land Use: A description of how land is occupied or used.

Existing: A description of how land is currently being used, which establishes a reference point for identifying areas suitable for change and redevelopment or areas appropriate for preservation.

Future: How the City and its residents envision the future use of lands.

Level of Service (LOS): Quantitative standards established to determine how well a facility is operating.

Level of Traffic Stress (LTS): An approach that quantifies the amount of discomfort that people feel when they bicycle close to traffic. The LTS methodology assigns a numeric stress level to streets and trails based on attributes such as traffic speed, traffic volume, number of lanes, frequency of parking turnover, ease of intersection crossings and others.

Multimodal: A term referring to facilities designed for and used by more than one mode of transportation (e.g., walking, cycling, automobile, public transit).

Multimodal Transportation Network: The physical network of connections among various modes of transportation (e.g., walking, cycling, automobile, public transit).

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI): An inventory of wetlands as identified by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, typically including wetlands that are 5 acres or larger in size; additional wetlands may exist.

Nutrient Load: The quantity of nutrients (e.g., nitrogen, phosphorus) entering an ecosystem during a given period.

Parcel: An area of land with defined boundaries under unique ownership.

Planning Commission: An appointed body that advises the governing body on all matters related to the planning of growth and development, including the comprehensive plan, zoning, subdivision, and other issues (e.g., proposed rezoning, variances, special exceptions, development-related ordinances), generally with the authority to approve subdivision plats and other development plans.

Policy: A specific statement of principle or intent that implies clear commitment by the City or agency.

Population Growth: An increase in the number of people that live in a country, state, county, or municipality.

Preserved Lands: All lands subject to legal instruments or restrictions that prohibit development including, but not limited to, conservation easements, covenants, and deed restrictions made pursuant to the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) or private nonprofit land trust; the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF); a TDR transfer instrument; a noncontiguous development; or a planned residential development.

Priority Funding Area (PFA): Existing communities and places where local governments want State investment to support future growth. In accordance with the 1997 Priority Funding Areas Act, the State directed funding for projects that support growth in PFAs, which are areas identified by the County and designated by the State where the state, county, and municipalities want to target their efforts to encourage and support economic development and new growth.

Quality of Life: The degree to which a community or an individual perceives the ability to function physically, emotionally, and socially, which includes all aspects of community life that have a direct influence on the physical and mental health of its members.

Redevelopment: New construction on a site that has pre-existing uses or renovation of existing uses on a site.

Residential Use: Any use approved by the City or a municipality for existing or proposed dwelling units, including but not limited to single-family residential dwellings, single-wide manufactured homes, single-family clusters, manufactured home communities, commercial apartments, multifamily units, and first floor apartments.

Safe: Free from danger and hazards that may cause accidents or disease.

Sensitive areas – areas including a stream or wetland and its buffers, a 100-year floodplain, a habitat of a threatened or endangered species, a steep slope, agricultural or forest land intended for resource protection or conservation, and any other area in need of special protection as determined in a plan.

Sensitive Species Project Review Areas (SSPRA): The general locations of documented rare, threatened, and endangered species as created and updated by staff of the Wildlife and Heritage Service.

Steep Slopes – areas with slopes greater than 25%. The slope gradient of a site is expressed as a relationship of vertical feet of elevation over horizontal feet of distance (rise over run).

Streams – a body of water that flows across the Earth's surface via a current and is contained within a narrow channel and banks.

Stream buffers – a stream buffer or riparian buffer is a vegetated area near a stream, usually forested, which helps shade and partially protect the stream from the impact of adjacent land uses. It plays a key role in increasing water quality in associated streams, rivers, and lakes, thus providing environmental benefits.

Streetscape: The environment of the street right-of-way as defined by adjacent private and public buildings, pavement, street lighting, and furniture and the use of the right-of-way.

Targeted Ecological Areas: Areas of lands and watersheds with high ecological value, identified as conservation priorities by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) using a variety of methods developed by agency ecologists. These lands include large blocks of forests and wetlands, rare species habitats, aquatic biodiversity hotspots, and areas important for protecting water quality. (Also known as Greenprint Area.)

Topography – the arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL): A regulatory term in the U.S. Clean Water Act, describing a plan for restoring impaired waters that establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards (WQS). TMDLs are a tool for implementing State water quality standards, based on the relationship between pollution sources and in-stream water quality conditions. A TMDL addresses a single-pollutant or stressor for each waterbody and is the sum of the individual waste load allocations (WLAs) for point sources, load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and natural background, and a margin of safety (MOS), which can be expressed in terms of mass per time, toxicity, or other appropriate measures that relate to a State’s water quality standard.

Traffic: Pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, streetcars, buses, and other conveyances, either singly or together, that use roads for purposes of travel.

Traffic Congestion: A condition involving slower speeds and longer trip times.

Unemployed Persons: All persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work (except for temporary illness), and had made specific efforts to find employment some time during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Unemployment Rate: The ratio of unemployed to the civilian labor force expressed as a percent.

Walkable: A measure of how safe and attractive an area is to people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, and incomes to walk for transportation, wellness, and fun. Walkable areas typically provide pedestrian connectivity between neighborhoods, shopping centers, schools, and other local destinations.

Waste Management: The activities and actions required to manage solid waste from its inception to its final disposal, including the collection, transport, treatment, and disposal of waste, together with monitoring and regulation of the waste management process.

Wastewater: Water that has been used for washing, flushing, manufacturing, etc. and so contains waste products (i.e. sewage).

Water Antidegradation Policy: Maryland’s antidegradation policy ensures that water quality supports designated uses. U.S. EPA regulations provide for three tiers of protection:

Tier 1 Waters: Tier 1 mandates that water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect the uses designated by the Clean Water Act are maintained and protected. Tier 1 specifies minimum standards (i.e. support of balanced indigenous populations and contact recreation), often referred to as "fishable-swimmable."

Tier 2 Waters: Tier 2 specifies existing high-quality water that is better than the minimum needed to support fishable-swimmable uses. While water quality can be slightly impacted, the State Antidegradation Policy identifies procedures that must be followed before an impact to Tier 2

water quality can be allowed. Tier 2 protects water that is better than the minimum specified for that designated use.

Tier 3 Waters: Tier 3 governs high-quality waters considered outstanding national resources (e.g., waters of national and state parks and wildlife refuges) or waters of exceptional recreational or ecological significance. Tier 3 guidelines prevent any action that would threaten the quality of these waters, with the possible exception of short-term activities (e.g., road construction, park improvements) that would have no lasting impacts. Maryland is developing Tier 3 protection for these Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW).

Water Quality: The physical, biological, chemical, and aesthetic characteristics of water.

Watershed: The area within a topographic divide above a specified point on a stream that drains into that stream.

Wetlands – a wetland is an ecosystem that depends on constant or recurrent, shallow inundation or saturation at or near the surface of the substrate. The minimum essential characteristics of a wetland are recurrent, sustained inundation or saturation at or near the surface and the presence of physical, chemical, and biological features reflective of recurrent, sustained inundation or saturation.

Zoning: The reservation of an individual property, section, or areas of a jurisdiction for a specific land use or particular type of residential, commercial, or industrial structure, enterprise, or activity. The areas reserved for specific land uses or building types are known as zones. The zoning of a municipality or county is addressed in a zoning ordinance that lists the zones and the types of development allowed in each, plus the conditions under which they are allowed.