

Chapter 14. Acronyms and Glossary

Acronyms

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
All Terrain Vehicles (ATV)
American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
Coast Transit Authority (CTA)
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs)
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
Economic Development Administration (EDA)
Emergency Management System (EMS)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI)
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
Gulf Coast Area Transportation Study (GCATS)
Gulf Regional Planning Commission (GRPC)
Harrison County Development Commission (HCDC)
Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain (LTMCP)
Leadership for Energy Efficient Design (LEED)
Leadership for Energy Efficient Design – Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND)
Low Impact Development (LID)
Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC)
Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR)
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau (MGCCVB)
Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC)

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
Ohio State University (OSU)
Recreational Vehicle (RV)
Right of Way (ROW)
Safe Routes to School (SRTS)
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)
Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP)
Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District (SMPDD)
Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
University of Southern Mississippi (USM)
Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF)
Women with Infants and Children (WIC)

Glossary

AQUIFER: A layer of permeable rock, sand, or gravel through which ground water flows, containing enough water to supply wells and springs.

BIORETENTION: Management and treatment of stormwater runoff by creating a shallow depression in the ground and using an engineered soil bed and planting materials to reduce and filter runoff from a site.

BIOSWALES: Landscaping elements that are utilized to remove pollution from surface water runoff before it enters groundwater or surface water supplies.

BLUEWAYS: Dedicated areas of flat water paddling along rivers, streams and lakes that allows recreational non-motorized boats and watercraft to travel through a natural setting.

BRIDLE TRAILS: Natural or landscaped trails used strictly for equestrian riding and activities.

BROWNFIELD: Vacant, abandoned, or underutilized commercial and industrial properties, where real or perceived environmental contamination is an obstacle to redevelopment or utilization.

BUFFER: The area of open land which serves to mitigate potential conflicts between different types of land uses. Buffer zones are most commonly employed between different types of uses but, in certain circumstances, it may be appropriate to provide a buffer between a natural resource and development.

BUFFER YARD: An area of open land between industrial development buildings. The buffer yard is a landscaped area free of structures, manufacturing, or processing activity, materials, or vehicular parking. No driveways or streets shall be permitted in the buffer yards except at points of ingress or egress.

CENSUS TRACT: A small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county or statistically equivalent entity, delineated for data presentation purposes by a local group of census data users or the geographic staff of

a regional census center in accordance with U.S. Census Bureau guidelines. Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions at the time they are established, census tracts generally contain between 1,000 and 8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people.

COMPLETE STREETS: Streets that are designed to allow safe access for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders.

COLLECTOR STREET: A street that provides direct service to and from local areas, routing traffic to the arterial street system. A Collector street provides the primary means of circulation between adjacent neighborhoods and can serve as a local bus route. The street provides for the dual purpose of land access and local traffic movement. Generally, these roadways are not used for through trips.

CONIFERS: Cone-bearing trees where the seeds are present in cones or catkins.

CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT: Development in which individual lots may be smaller than the average lot authorized by the zoning ordinance. Buildable lots are located on a portion of rather than the entire site so that the remaining area may be preserved for recreation or environmental protection.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT: A legal mechanism whereby a landowner retains ownership of his/her land, but grants some right(s) to the land to a “holder” that is defined as a charitable organization declared exempt from taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C.A. § 501 (c) (3).

CORRIDOR: Property along major roads and thoroughfares.

COUNTY FARM: The County Farm was a 640 acre property given to Harrison County. The county farm was originally used primarily for agricultural purposes, but today it is home to the Harrison County Fairgrounds, Harrison County Roadway Management Substation, the Department of Parks and Recreation office, a Juvenile Detention Center, the Lyman Senior Center, 16 soccer fields, a remote control airplane field, and the remnants of the County Farm.

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN: The proper design and effective use of the built environment which may lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement of the quality of life.

CURB CUTS: A space within a curb or along a roadway that provides an access point to businesses or homes for cars, bikes, strollers, wheelchairs, and/or pedestrians.

DENSITY: The number of persons or dwelling units per acre.

DESIGN STANDARDS: Pre and Post construction requirements that incorporate specific structural and aesthetic requirements into each building project. Design standards are typically used for retail, commercial, and business type development.

DRY WELL: A small excavated pit, backfilled with aggregate, functioning as an infiltration system to control runoff from building rooftops.

ECONOMIC GARDENING: Building local economic actions around the local businesses in the community and supporting them by providing tactical and strategic information they need to be successful.

ECOTOURISM: Environmentally responsible travel to natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature (and accompanying cultural features, both past and present) that promote conservation, have a low visitor impact, and provide for beneficially active socio-economic involvement of local people.

FIREWISE: A national effort that seeks to reduce wildfire risk to structures and people through involving homeowners, developers, planners, community leaders and others.

FLOODPLAIN: Those land areas in and adjacent to streams and watercourses subject to periodic inundation from flood events. For instance, the 100 year flood frequency event has a 1 percent chance of occurrence in any given year.

FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION: A system for classifying the transportation system in terms of the character of service that individual facilities are providing or are intended to provide, ranging from travel mobility to land access. Roadway system functional classification elements include Freeways or Expressways, Other Principal (or Major) Arterials, Minor Arterials, Collector Streets, and Local Streets. Transit system elements include line haul, collection and distribution, and specialized or community oriented transit services.

GATEWAY: Entrance into a community or specific areas of a community typically along major transportation corridors.

GREENWAY: Linear stretches of open space that are used as public or private spaces, usually in the form of parks or trails.

HARRISON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COORDINATOR: The grant coordinator is responsible for supervising the expenditure of Community Development Block Grant funds for housing and community development in the unincorporated areas of Harrison County.

HISTORIC TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE: A tree protection ordinance ensures that historic trees, such as the live oak, can not be cut down except under specific conditions.

HYDRIC SOILS: Soil that is saturated, flooded, or ponded during the growing season.

INFILL: Development on vacant or underused sites within an established development pattern.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICING GROWTH AREAS: Designated geographic areas for urban service delivery such as sewer and water infrastructure, drainage systems, sidewalks and safety delivery improvements.

LAND BANK: The practice of using tax delinquent land for redevelopment or resell and returning it to productive use for public purposes.

LOCAL STREET: A street which is primarily intended to provide direct access to properties abutting the roadway and within the immediate vicinity. A Local Street offers the lowest level of mobility and usually does not serve a bus route. Overall operating speeds are low in order to permit frequent stops or turning movements to be made with maximum safety. Service to through traffic movement is deliberately discouraged.

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT: An ecologically friendly approach to site development and stormwater management that aims to mitigate development impacts to land, water, and air.

MINOR ARTERIAL: A roadway that carries a mix of local and through traffic. It links Collectors, and sometimes Local Streets, with Principal Arterials. Minor arterials may carry local bus routes, and are designed with greater emphasis on traffic movement than on providing access to abutting land.

MIXED-USE AREA: A specified area which includes two or more different types of uses within its boundaries.

MULTIFAMILY HOUSING: Structures designed to accommodate several unrelated households. Multifamily residences include duplexes, garden apartments, mid rise apartment buildings, and residential condominiums.

MULTI-MODAL EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM: A connected system of emergency notifications that is broadcast through many different types of communication systems like radio, TV, the internet, email and other methods that includes emergency information, preparedness tips and evacuation routes

NATURE-BASED ACTIVITIES: Tourism related activities whose main focus is on being in a natural undeveloped habitat.

OPEN SPACE: Land which is provided or preserved for park or recreation purposes, conservation of land or other natural resources, historic or scenic purposes, or wetlands.

PERVIOUS SURFACES: A surface that allows natural waterflow to enter the ground for the purpose of storm-water reduction and runoff pollutant reduction.

PRESERVATION AREAS: A protected natural area free of physical development that remains in its unimproved condition.

PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL: A highway that serves main travel corridors. Significant intra area travel and important intra urban and intercity bus services are served by this class of street. Some access is provided to abutting land, but the primary function of a Principal Arterial roadway is to carry through traffic.

RAIN GARDENS: The use of plants and flowers to absorb rainwater runoff from roofs, driveways, and walkways. These gardens allow the natural absorption and cleansing of rainwater and reduce the amount of runoff pollutants.

RESILIENT DEVELOPMENTS: Conservation development design principles that mitigate against natural hazards.

RIPARIAN: Situated or taking place along or near the bank of a river, stream, or other waterway.

SANITARY SEWER: A wastewater collection system that relies on gravity or pumps for the movement of the waste from its source to a treatment facility.

SCENIC BYWAY: A scenic byway designation includes resource protection, community recognition, economic development, community visioning and partnering. This designation may allow additional funding designated from the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Scenic Byway Program and the National Scenic Byways Discretionary Grants Program.

SCENIC STREAMS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM: A program organized by the Mississippi Wildlife Fisheries and Parks to promote voluntary, private conservation efforts along Mississippi's unique and outstanding rivers and streams.

SETBACK: A legally enforceable buffer zone between properties that requires a minimum space remain between the property line and any building construction.

SHARED PARKING LOT: A parking lot that is utilized by more than one business. This technique is used so that the area needed for parking lots is minimized by the sharing of parking areas by many businesses.

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL: Units designed to house one family per unit. Includes detached single family homes.

ST. LOUIS BAY: Commonly called Bay of St. Louis or the Bay.

STEERING COMMITTEE: A group of citizens that serves as a liaison between the citizens and the planning team. They provided input throughout the planning process and made sure the planning team for Western Harrison County addressed citizen's concerns and incorporated community goals into The Community Plan.

TRAILS: A pathway constructed of various materials such as asphalt, stone dust, or natural surface that is used for recreation, or as an alternative mode of non-motorized transportation, or both.

VEGETATED BUFFER: A strip of vegetation, either natural or planted, that protects sensitive areas, such as water bodies, wetlands, woodlands, or highly erodible soils, and reduces stormwater runoff impacts by trapping sediment, providing some infiltration, and dispersing stormwater over a wide area.

WEYERHAEUSER: An international forest products company producing softwood lumber, pulp, paper and packaging product.

WOLF RIVER CONSERVATION SOCIETY: A non-profit organization with the goal of conserving, managing, and protecting the Wolf River from its headwaters in Lamar County to its termination at the Bay of St. Louis.