

## **Appendix B Glossary of Terms**

Unless otherwise stated, acronyms, words and phrases used herein shall have the following meanings:

**AASHTO** American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials

**AASHTO Green Book** *A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets.*

**Access** Access means to enter, exit, or reach a lot, parcel, building or structure.

**Access Improvement** Any roadway improvement which is required at the intersection(s) created by the road approach(es) of the development to a County arterial classified road, or along a County local classified road between the road approach(es) of the development and the first local road/arterial road intersection(s), including said road intersection(s), including but not limited to entering sight distance requirements.

**Access Plan** A site plan that identifies the location of a proposed driveway approach(s) or road intersection(s) connecting to the existing public or private road system. Access plans shall be prepared at a scale of 1" = 20', 30', 40' or 50'. Access plans shall be prepared by a licensed surveyor or licensed engineer and shall show edge of pavement, right-of-way locations, all legal access easements that serve or run through the property and their associated easement recording numbers, above ground utility conflicts with any proposed driveway or roadway, existing and proposed utility easements, and any existing road and driveway intersections on each side of the existing road for a distance of at least 250 feet in each direction from the proposed access. Access plans are intended to provide the necessary data such that an informed decision can be made on the best access location(s).

**ADT** Average Daily Traffic

**Alley** An alley is a privately owned vehicle driving surface not designated for general travel that is primarily used as a means of access to the rear of residences.

**Applicant** The person, party, firm, corporation, or other legal entity that proposes to develop property in unincorporated Pierce County by submitting an application for any of the activities covered by these regulations.

**APWA** American Public Works Association

**As-Built Drawings** See "Record Drawings".

**Auxiliary Lane** The portion of the roadway adjoining the traveled way for parking, turning or other purposes supplementary to through-traffic movement.

**Average Daily Traffic (ADT)** The general unit of measure for traffic defined as the total volume during a given time period (in whole days), greater than one day and less than one year, divided by the number of days in that time period.

**Border** The portion of a road between the edge of pavement or shoulder and the right-of-way line. This area is used for curbing, planting areas, sidewalks, utilities, etc.

**Breakaway Design** A structure or installation that has been crash tested in accordance with National Cooperative Highway Research Program procedures. (NCHRP 230).

**Buffer** The space between the edge of the pavement or the back of the curb and the sidewalk.

**Capacity** The maximum number of vehicles that have a reasonable expectation of passing over a given roadway or section of roadway during a given time period under prevailing roadway and traffic conditions.

**Center Line** The line, marked or unmarked, parallel to and equidistant from the sides of a two-way traffic roadway except where otherwise indicated by painted lines or markers.

**Channelization** The separation or regulation of conflicting traffic movements into definite paths of travel by the use of pavement markings, raised islands or other suitable means to facilitate the safe and orderly movement of both vehicles and pedestrians.

**Clear Area** The clear area is that area starting at the edge of the traveled lane that is available for safe use by errant vehicles. The available clear area is the distance, measured normal to the roadway beginning at the edge of the traveled lane to the closest part of any fixed object or non-traversable obstacles.

**Connectivity** The density of connections in path or road network and the directness of links and includes a system of streets with multiple routes and connections serving the same origins and destinations. Connectivity can apply both internally (streets within that area) and externally (connections with arterials and other neighborhoods).

**County** The jurisdictional boundaries of Pierce County, and the Pierce County Executive or authorized representative.

**County Engineer** The Pierce County Engineer or authorized representative, having authorities specified in RCW 36.75.050 and 36.80.

**County Executive** The Pierce County Executive or authorized representative.

**County Road** Every county-maintained roadway or part thereof, outside the limits of incorporated cities and towns and which has not been designated as a state highway.

**Cul-de-sac** Road having one end open to traffic and ending with a vehicle turnaround, either permanent or temporary.

**Department** Pierce County Public Works and Utilities, Office of the County Engineer.

**Design Hourly Volume (DHV)** The DHV is generally the 30th highest hourly volume (30 DHV) of the future year chosen for design. On the average rural road or arterial, DHV is about 15 percent of ADT. For urban areas, DHV is usually between 8 to 12 percent of the ADT.

**Design Speed** A speed determined for design and correlation of the physical features of a roadway that influence vehicle operation; the maximum safe speed maintainable over a specified section of road when conditions permit design features to govern.

**Developer** Any person, firm, partnership, association, joint venture or corporation or any other entity who undertakes to improve residential, commercial, or industrial property or to subdivide for the purpose of resale and profit.

**Development** Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real property including, but not limited to, construction of buildings or other structures, placement of manufactured home/mobile home, mining, dredging, logging, clearing, filling, grading, paving, excavation, drilling operations, or the subdivision, short plat, and large lot division of property.

**DHV** Design Hourly Volume

**Director** The Director of the Pierce County Public Works and Utilities Department or authorized representative.

**Driveway** A driveway is a vehicle driving surface within a single lot or parcel that connects a building or structure with a road, shared-access facility, alley, or vehicle driving surface within an ingress/egress easement (or tract). A driveway begins at the right-of-way line, private road easement (or tract) line, shared-access easement (or tract) line, alley easement (or tract) line, or ingress/egress easement (or tract) line, and extends to the building or structure.

**Driving Surface** That portion of the shared-access facility, alley, driveway, or driveway approach that is used for the movement of vehicles.

**Driveway Approach** A driveway approach is a privately-maintained vehicle driving surface that provides a transition between: a road and a driveway, a road and a shared-access facility, or a road and an alley.

**Easement** The legal right to use a described piece of land for a particular purpose. It does not include fee ownership, but may restrict the property owner's use of the land. All easements granted pursuant to the requirements of this manual shall be legally recorded with the County Auditor.

**Engineer** A professional civil engineer licensed by the State of Washington.

**Entering Sight Distance** The sight distance required for a vehicle at a stopped position on the minor road to view an oncoming vehicle traveling at the speed limit on the major road and appearing after the movement has begun, and safely enter or cross the major road.

**FHWA** Federal Highway Administration

**Geometrics** The arrangement of visible elements of a road such as alignment, grade, site distance, widths, and slope.

**Grade** Rate or percent of slope, either ascending or descending from or along the roadway. It is measured along the centerline of the roadway.

**Island** A defined area between traffic lanes for control of vehicle movements and/or for pedestrian refuge.

**ITE** Institute of Transportation Engineers

**L & I** Washington State Department of Labor and Industries

**LAG** *Local Agency Guidelines*

**Landing** A road or driveway approach area to any public or private road.

**Low Volume Road** A collector arterial or lower classified road with an ADT of less than 400.

**Manual** *Manual on Design Guidelines and Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction in Pierce County.*

**Median** That portion of a divided roadway separating the traveled ways for traffic in opposite directions.

**MUTCD** *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*

**New Construction** Construction of a new roadway or structure on substantially new alignment, or the upgrading of an existing roadway or structure by the addition of one or more through traffic lanes, excluding auxiliary lanes.

**Passing Sight Distance** The minimum sight distance required for the driver of one vehicle to pass another vehicle in accordance with the AASHTO Green Book.

**PCC** Pierce County Code

**Peak-Hour** The specific 60-minute period in the day within which the highest traffic volumes occur.

**Peak-Hour Trip** A vehicle trip end generated by the development during a peak-hour period.

**Posted Speed** The speed limit actually signed along the roadway.

**Private Road** A roadway facility in private ownership providing private access and used for travel of vehicles by the owner(s) or those having express or implied permission from the owner(s), but not by other persons.

**Proponent** Any person, firm, partnership, association, joint venture or corporation or any other entity who undertakes or proposes to undertake the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or other improvement of a public road, private road, shared-access facility, or alley.

**RCW** Revised Code of Washington

**Reconstruction** A reconstruction project that involves major construction activity in excess of resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation of existing roadways. Reconstruction includes significant changes in cross-section, vertical or horizontal alignment, and/or the addition of an auxiliary lane. Reconstruction may require acquisition of additional right-of-way, and may include all items or work usually associated with new construction.

**Record Drawings** The plan set that is certified to contain a true and accurate representation of the actual field conditions for the project during construction or upon completion of construction. Also known as “As-Built Drawings”.

**Rehabilitation** Similar to “Restoration” except the work may include reworking or strengthening the base or subbase, recycling or reworking existing materials to improve their structural integrity, adding underdrains, improving or widening shoulders. Rehabilitation may include acquisition of additional right-of-way.

**Restoration** Work performed on pavement or bridge decks to render them suitable for resurfacing. This may include supplementing the existing roadway by increasing surfacing and paving courses to provide structural capability and widening up to a total of 10 feet. Restoration will generally be performed within the existing right-of-way.

**Resurfacing** The addition of a layer or layers of paving material to provide additional structural integrity, improved serviceability, and rideability.

**Right-of-Way (R/W, ROW)** All property in which the County has any form of ownership or title and that is held for public road purposes, regardless of whether or not any road exists thereon or whether or not it is used, improved, or maintained for public travel.

**Road/Roadway** “Road” or “roadway” means an open private or public way for the passage of motor vehicles, that where appropriate, may include pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle facilities. Elements of a road/roadway typically include, but are not limited to; traveled way, sidewalks, curbing, paths, walkways, shoulders, ditches, culverts, conveyance piping, retaining walls, and slopes necessary for structural stability.

**Road Plans** A set of construction drawings and related documents that completely describe the work to be accomplished, along with all needed supporting documents, maps, calculations, graphs, etc., prepared by a professional civil engineer licensed in the State of Washington.

**RR** Railroad

**Rural** Those areas not included within an urban growth area.

**SEPA** (Washington) State Environmental Policy Act

**Single Family Dwelling Unit** A structure used to house one family, including appurtenant structures such as a garage, storage shed, or other structure not used for living purposes, all for the private, non-commercial use of the property owner or renter.

**Special Provisions** Specifications, specific to a particular project, that supplement the Standard Specifications.

**Standard Specifications** The most current edition of the “Standard Specifications for Road, Bridge, and Municipal Construction” published by the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Washington State Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

**Stopping Sight Distance** The length of roadway ahead visible to the driver that would enable the vehicle traveling at the design speed to stop before reaching a stationary object in its path.

**Surveyor** A professional land surveyor licensed by the State of Washington.

**Traveled Way** That portion of the roadway used for the movement of vehicles exclusive of the portion of the roadway width which is used, or available for parking of vehicles.

**TRB** Transportation Research Board

**TWLT** Two-Way Left-turn Lane

**Two-Family Dwelling Unit** A structure used to house two families, including appurtenant structures such as a garage, storage shed, or other structure not used for living purposes, all for the private, non-commercial use of the property owner or renter.

**Unopened Right-of-Way** A County right-of-way that exists by dedication or deed-but which no road has been constructed for the purpose of public use, or with which any constructed road is not maintained by the County.

**Urban** All areas identified within urban growth areas as defined by the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan adopted in Pierce County Code Title 19A, meeting the statutory requirements of urban as defined by the Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW.

**Utility** (1) A privately- publicly- or cooperatively-owned line, facility, or system for producing, transmitting, or distributing communications, cable television, power, electricity, light, heat, gas,

oil, crude products, water, steam, waste, sanitary sewer, storm drainage, surface water drainage or any other similar commodity which directly or indirectly serves the public. (2) The privately- publicly- or cooperatively-owned company that owns the line, facility, or system.

**VPD** Vehicles Per Day

**VPH** Vehicles Per Hour

**WSDOT** Washington State Department of Transportation

**WUTC** Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission