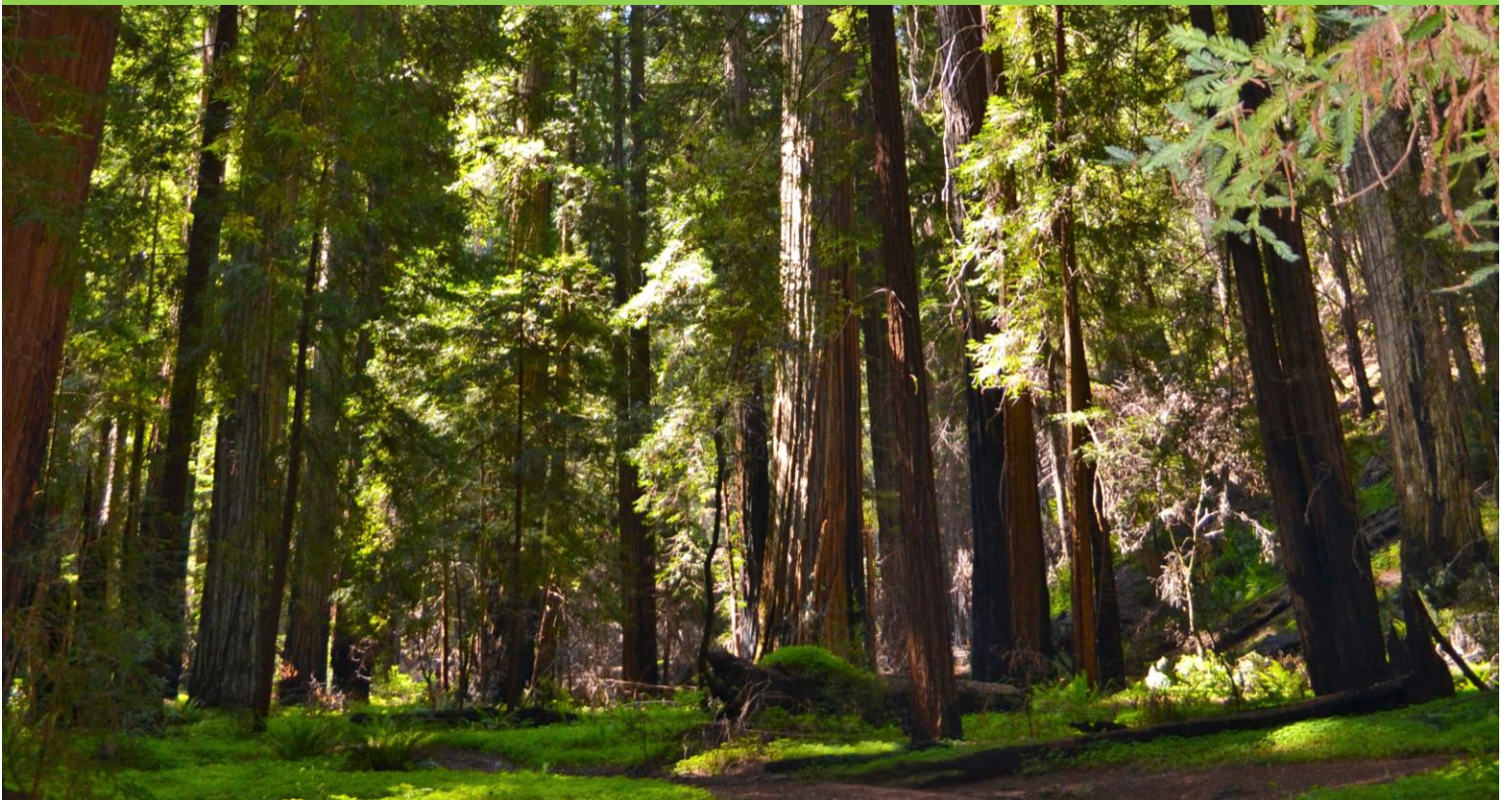


# 10 Glossary



# Glossary

## #

**100-Year Flood Event.** A flood event that would occur on average every 100 years, or that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year.

**500-Year Flood Event.** A flood event that would occur on average every 500 years, or that has a 0.2 percent chance of occurring in any given year.

## A

**Accessory Dwelling Unit.** An accessory dwelling unit is a detached or attached dwelling unit. It shall include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation and is generally smaller and located on the same parcel as a proposed or existing primary dwelling. An accessory dwelling unit also includes efficiency units and manufactured homes.

**Adaptation.** Adaptation is preparing for climate change impacts that are expected to occur by making adjustments in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects that are aimed at minimizing harm or taking advantage of beneficial opportunities.

**Added Value.** The practice of processing a resource through additional steps in order to generate additional wealth/jobs within the community before the resource is sent outside the community.

**Agricultural Lands.** Lands devoted toward the commercial growing of food and fiber.

**Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).** A commission authorized under the provisions of California Public Utilities Code, Section 21670 et seq., for the purposes of promoting compatibility between airports and the land uses surrounding them and are established, with limited exceptions, in each county where a public-use airport is located.

**Aircraft.** Means jets, planes, helicopters, hang-gliders, motorized gliders, and any form of aircraft whether or not it is regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**Airport.** An area used for the landing and takeoff of aircraft.

**Annexation.** The legal steps and actions taken to attach a territory of land to an incorporated city or special district.

**Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT).** The annual average number of motor vehicles traversing a given roadway over a 24-hour period.

**Archaeology.** The scientific study of material remains of past cultures or human life and activities.

**Area Plan.** A component of the General Plan that provides more precise planning information for an identified territory.

**Arterial Boulevards.** High visibility access and mobility routes, that provide direct multi-modal access to key commercial sites, and serve transit service.

**Arterial Streets.** Arterials provide the principal network for citywide travel by all modes of travel, including walking, bicycling, motor vehicle and transit, and serve as regional connections.

**Average Daily Traffic (ADT).** The average number of motor vehicles traversing a given roadway over a 24-hour period.

**A-Weighted Sound Level.** All sound levels referred to in this policy document are in A-weighted decibels. A weighting de-emphasizes the very low and very high frequencies of sound in a manner like the human ear. Most community noise standards utilize A-weighting, as it provides a high degree of correlation with human annoyance and health effects.

## B

**Bicycle Lanes (Class II Bikeways).** A portion of a roadway that has been set aside by striping and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. Bicycle lanes are intended to

promote an orderly flow of bicycle and vehicle traffic. This type of bikeway is established by using the appropriate striping, legends, and signs.

**Bicycle Routes (Class III Bikeways).** Class III bicycle routes are facilities where bicyclists share travel lanes with vehicle traffic. Bike routes must be of benefit to the bicyclist and offer a higher degree of service than adjacent streets. They provide for specific bicycle demand and may be used to connect discontinuous segments of bicycle lane streets. They are often located on local residential streets.

**Bicycle Boulevard.** Bicycle Boulevards are generally installed on relatively low-volume streets and often include elements to facilitate bicycle travel, such as reorienting stop signs to reduce delays to cyclists, and/or discouraging use by motorists making through trips, such as through inclusion of traffic calming measures.

**Biological.** This term refers to the life or processes of living organisms.

**Building Coverage.** The amount of a lot that is covered by buildings, which is expressed as a percentage.

## C

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).** State law that requires state and local agencies to evaluate and disclose the significant environmental impacts of discretionary actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible.

**Channelization.** Stream bank engineering strategies that include concrete waterways, piling rocks, and creating berms used to redirect water from flood plains or to protect the edges of a waterway from erosion.

**City limits.** The boundary that includes all land that has been incorporated into a city. (*Source: New*)

**Climate.** Climate, in a narrow sense, is usually defined as the "average weather," or more rigorously, as the statistical description in terms of the mean and

variability of relevant quantities over a period of time ranging from months to thousands of years. The classical period is three decades, as defined by the World Meteorological Organization. These quantities are most often surface variables such as temperature, precipitation, and wind. Climate in a wider sense is the state, including a statistical description, of the climate system.

**Climate Change.** Climate change refers to any significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation, or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer). Climate change may result from: natural factors, such as changes in the sun's intensity or slow changes in the earth's orbit around the sun; natural processes within the climate system (e.g., changes in ocean circulation); human activities that change the atmosphere's composition (e.g., through burning fossil fuels); and the land surface (e.g., deforestation, reforestation, urbanization, desertification, etc.).

**Collector Streets.** Collector streets provide connections between neighborhoods and activity centers, and convenient access to land uses, via all modes of travel including walking, bicycling, vehicle and transit. Collectors also provide connections between arterial and local streets.

**Community Policing.** According to the U.S. Department of Justice's publication on community policing, titled "Community Policing Defined", which can be found online at: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/>, the term "community policing" refers to a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

**Community Noise Equivalent Levels CNEL.** The average A-weighted noise level during a 24-hour day, obtained after addition of five decibels to noise levels occurring in the evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the addition of 10 decibels to sound levels measured in the night between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

**Complete Streets.** Refers to a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of streets - including pedestrians, bicyclists, children, seniors, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, and public transit.

**Conservation.** The management of resources, including natural resources, cultural resources (includes archaeological and historic resources), and man-made resources in a manner that avoids waste, destruction, or neglect.

**Critical Habitat.** A term defined and used in the Endangered Species Act. It is a specific geographic area(s) that contains features essential for the conservation of a threatened or endangered species and that may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may include an area that is not currently occupied by the species but that will be needed for its recovery.

**Cultural Resources.** Any prehistoric or historic remains or indicators of past human activities, including artifacts, sites, structures, landscapes, and objects of importance to a culture or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons.

## D

**Day/Night Average Sound Level (Ldn).** The average A-weighted noise level equivalent sound level during a 24-hour day, obtained after the addition of ten decibels to sound levels in the night after 10:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m.

**Decibel (db).** A physical unit commonly used to describe noise. It is a unit for describing the amplitude of sound as heard by the human ear.

**Defensible Space.** An area around a building in which vegetation, debris, and other types of combustible fuels have been treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of fire to and from the building.

**Density.** Residential developments are regulated by an allowed density range (minimum and maximum) measured in "dwelling units per acre." Residential density is calculated by dividing the number of housings units on the site (excluding accessory

dwelling units) by the gross acreage of the site. State planning law requires general plans to include standards for measuring population density.

Population density is determined by multiplying the maximum number of units allowed within a land use designation by the average number of persons per household (as determined by the California Department of Finance).

**Development.** Means the improvement of land for the purposes of accomodating land uses.

**Disadvantaged Community.** An area identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) pursuant to Section 39711 of the California Health and Safety Code or a predominately low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.

**Discharge.** A rate of water flow, typically expressed as a unit volume of water per unit of time [e.g., cubic feet per second (cfs)].

**Dwelling Unit.** A room or group of rooms (including sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation facilities, but not more than one kitchen) that constitutes an independent housekeeping unit, occupied, or intended for occupancy by one household on a long-term basis.

## E

**Ecosystem.** The interacting system of a biological community and its non-living environmental surroundings. In the context of in-stream beneficial use assessment application, a complex system composed of a community of fauna and flora, and considering the chemical and physical environment with which the system is interrelated.

**Ecologically Sensitive Areas.** Areas that can support special-status species, such as wetlands, riparian areas, waterways, and non-disturbed vegetated areas.

**Environmental Justice.** According to California Code Section 65040.12, environmental justice is the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and

incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

**Equivalent Noise Level (Leq).** The average A-weighted noise level during the measurement period.

## F

**Fault.** A fracture in the earth's crust along which rocks on one side have moved relative to those on the other side. Most faults are the result of repeated displacements over a long period of time. A fault trace is the line of the earth's surface defining the fault. An active fault is one that has ruptured in the past 11,000 years.

**Fire Hazard Severity Zones.** Areas identified by California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE) that describe fire hazard severity. based on three factors: fuel, slope, and weather.

**Floodplain.** The area adjacent to a watercourse or other body of water that is subject to recurring floods.

**Floodway.** See Regulatory Floodway.

**Floor Area Ratio (FAR).** The intensity of non-residential development, which can be regulated by total building size and lot coverage, is measured by Floor Area Ratio (FAR). FAR means the gross floor area of a building or buildings on a parcel divided by the area of the parcel.

**Freeways.** A freeway is a limited-access State highway with multiple lanes in each direction separated by a barrier or median. Intersections are grade-separated.

## G

**Goal.** A broad statement that provides a blueprint for the future.

**Greenhouse Gases (GHGs).** Gases that contribute to the greenhouse effect of the planet by absorbing infrared radiation. Common greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases, among others.

**Gross Acres.** An acre is a measurement of land area equal to 43,560 square feet. The gross acreage of a lot includes all land within the boundaries of the lot and is defined as the total area, measured on a horizontal plane, and is the measure used for determination of density and intensity calculations.

**Groundwater.** Water present beneath Earth's surface in soil pore spaces and in rock formation fractures.

## H

**Historic Resources.** A district, site, building, structure, or object that is significant in the history, architecture, engineering, archaeology, or culture and is typically 50+ years old.

## I

**Indundation.** Means to cover by flooding either by river, creek, or stream, or by collapse of a dam.

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

**Intensity.** Intensity is a measure of the extent to which a land parcel is developed in conformity with the zoning ordinance.

## J

**None.**

## K

**None.**

## L

**Landslide.** The sliding movement of masses of loosened rock and soil down a hillside or slope. Fundamentally, slope failures occur when the strength of the soils forming the slope exceeds the pressure, such as weight or saturation, acting upon them.



**Land Use Designation.** A specific geographic designation with associated land use or management policies and regulations.

**Level of Service (LOS).** A quantitative measure used to rate a roadway segment’s traffic flow characteristics during peak hours. LOS acts as an indicator of roadway performance relative to locally established standards for quality of service based on measures of speed, density, and congestion that are designated using letters from “A” (good) to “F” (poor). LOS can assist in determining when roadway capacity improvements are needed.

**Liquefaction.** Liquefaction occurs when soil grains consolidate during groundshaking, pushing water towards the surface and causing a loss of strength in the soil. The soil surface may sink or spread laterally. The three conditions necessary for liquefaction to occur include: a high-water table; layers of loose sand; and moderate or greater earthquake groundshaking.

**Local Streets.** Local streets provide direct access to abutting properties by all modes of travel and are designed for trips within neighborhoods, and to connect to collectors and arterial streets.

**Local Agency Formation Commission.** Means the Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) appointed pursuant to the Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act.

**Lot coverage.** Lot coverage is the percentage of a lot that is covered by all buildings compared to the total area of the lot.

**M**

**Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD).** Mendocino County Air Quality Management District; the public agency responsible for regulating stationary air pollution sources in Mendocino County.

**Missing Middle Housing.** Missing middle housing is a term used to describe multiple units on a single parcel (whether attached or detached) that are compatible in scale and form with detached single-

family homes. Common housing types include duplexes; triplexes; fourplexes; courtyard apartments; cottage courts; townhomes; triplex stacked (vertical); and live-work spaces.

**Multi-modal.** This term refers to transportation planning that considers various modes (i.e., vehicles, bicycles, walking, public transit) and the connections between these modes.

**Multi-Family Residential.** Residential buildings containing units built one on top of another and those built side-by-side which do not have a ground-to-roof wall and/or have common facilities (i.e., attic, basement, heating plant, plumbing, etc.). Accessory dwelling units (ADUs) are not considered multi-family residential.

**Multi-Use Paths (Class I Bikeways).** A path physically separated from vehicle traffic by an open space or barrier, and either: within a highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way used by bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, skater, and other non-motorized travelers.

**N**

**Non-point Source Pollution.** A pollution source that cannot be defined at a discrete location; a dispersed source area.

**O**

**Open Space.** Land in a predominantly natural state or altered for natural resources-based uses (i.e., farming) and may include, but is not limited to, riparian habitat, agricultural lands, grassland and upland habitat, wetlands, and agricultural buffers.

**P**

**Park.** An open area that offers recreational and green space for residential and visitor use. May also be called an urban or municipal park if within jurisdictional limits or a public park if publicly owned.

**Particulate Matter.** Particulate matter is fine metal, smoke, soot, and dust particles suspended in the air. Particulate matter is measured by two sizes: course

particles (PM10), or particles between 2.5 and 10 micrometers in diameter; and fine particles (PM2.5), or particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter.

**Planning Area.** A general plan, pursuant to State law, must address all areas within the jurisdiction's Planning Area. The Planning Area encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a physical relationship to the long-term planning of the city.

**Precipitation.** Precipitation is moisture in the form of rain, snow, hail, etc., that has fallen at a given place within a given period, usually expressed in inches or centimeters.

**Policy.** A policy is a statement that guides a specific course of action for decision-makers to achieve a desired goal.

**Public Transportation.** Travel by bus, rail, or other vehicle, either publicly- or privately-owned, which provides general or specialized service on a regular or continuing basis.

## Q

**None.**

## R

**Recycled Water.** Wastewater that has been treated for beneficial purposes such as agricultural and landscape irrigation, industrial processes, and replenishing ground water basins.

**Regulatory Floodway.** The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height. Communities must regulate development in these floodways to ensure that there are no increases in upstream flood elevations.

**Renewable Energy.** Energy produced from natural resources, including solar, wind, rain, tides, geothermal, and biomass.

**Renewable Resources.** Self-perpetuating types of resources; living or biotic resources and resources that are finite in quantity but can be reused, such as air and water. Other renewable natural resources include solar, wind, biomass, and water resources.

**Riparian Area.** A zone of transitional habitat between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, dependent on the existence of perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral surface or subsurface water, such as the bank of stream, river, or lake.

**Runoff.** Precipitation (rain or snowmelt) that is not used by plants, evaporated or infiltrated to soils, and flows across land surfaces to streams or other surface water bodies.

## S

**Seismic.** Geologic movement or vibrations of the earth and its crust.

**Sensitive Species.** Wildlife species or their habitat that have small or declining populations or are at-risk for decline or extinction.

**Separated Bikeway (Class IV Bikeways).** A Class IV Bikeway is for the exclusive use of bicycles and includes a separation between the bikeway and adjacent vehicle traffic.

**Setback.** The minimum distance required by zoning to be maintained between two structures or between a structure and a property line.

**Shall, must.** Terms used to signify a mandatory requirement that the City will follow.

**Should, could, can.** Terms used to define the intentions of the City relative to these components.

**Single-Family Residential.** Single-family residential includes fully detached, semidetached (semi-attached, side-by-side), row houses, and townhouses. In the case of attached units, each must be separated from the adjacent unit by a ground-to-roof wall in order to be classified as a single-family structure. Also, these units must not share heating/air-conditioning systems or utilities.

**Sphere of Influence (SOI).** Includes both incorporated and unincorporated areas within which the City will have primary responsibility for the provision of public facilities and services, and established by Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo).

**Stormwater.** Large surface water quantity resulting from heavy rain or snow falls.

**Structure.** A topographical feature that conveys water over the land perennially, intermittently, or ephemerally through a bed or channel with banks. This term also applies to water courses having a surface or subsurface flow that support or have supported riparian or alluvial vegetation.

**Structure.** A shelter, building, dwelling unit, or other physical development upon the land to house, protect, store, or cover persons or things.

**Surface Rupture.** Fault movement that breaks through to the surface.

**Sustainability.** The physical development and operating practices that meet the needs of present users without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, particularly with regard to use and waste of natural resources. Sustainability presumes that resources are finite, and therefore should be used conservatively and wisely with a view to the long-term priorities and consequences.

## T

**Transportation Demand Management (TDM).** TDM strategies are used to reduce vehicle travel, with an emphasis on reducing travel during peak periods. TDM is intended to reduce congestion and improve traffic flow without having to increase the capacity or physical size of a section of transportation infrastructure. TDM strategies and programs could include, but are not limited to, measures such as alternative work schedules, bicycle parking, showers, and route maps for employees, subsidized transit passes, and future measures as programs and technologies evolve.

**Tribal Cultural Resources.** A Tribal Cultural Resource as defined in AB 52 are sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe(s).

## U

**Unincorporated Areas.** Lands under the jurisdiction of the County of Mendocino.

## V

**Vacant/Underutilized Sites.** VMT measures the total amount of vehicular travel by the population of a specific area and is used to analyze potential air quality and greenhouse gas impacts. VMT is also the required method used for the evaluation of environmental impacts as required under CEQA.

**Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).** Vacant/underutilized sites includes undeveloped and underdeveloped parcels. A majority of a parcel must be undeveloped for a parcel to be considered underutilized.

## W

**Wastewater.** Water (either treated or untreated) that has been affected by human use, including household, commercial, industrial, and agricultural activities.

**Water Quality.** The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water, usually in respect to its suitability for a particular purpose.

**Wetlands.** Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

**Wildland.** Land in an uncultivated natural state that is covered by vegetation.

## X



**None.**

Y

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**None.**

Z

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**Zoning Ordinance.** The legislative code enacted by the City or County to regulate the physical development and use of land.



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