



THE I-84 HARTFORD PROJECT

Glossary and Acronyms

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
ACP	Agency Coordination Plan	A written plan that outlines how the lead agency will manage agency participation for the project's environmental review process.
	Alignment	The road's path through a specific geographic location.
	Alternatives Development	The process of developing and analyzing alternatives against a set a criteria.
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA): prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for people with disabilities. ADA regulations require transportation agencies to make certain improvements to infrastructure when completing a project, to accommodate those with disabilities.
	Appurtenances, roadway	Roadway fixtures such as barriers, guardrails, glare screens, and pavement marking.
	Appurtenances, roadside	Roadside fixtures such as signs, lighting, delineators, sound walls and fences
ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers	A branch of the U. S. Army with responsibility for all military and many civil engineering projects. The ACOE is a Cooperating Agency on the I-84 Hartford Project.
	Attainment Areas	An area considered to have air quality that meets or exceeds the health standards found in the Clean Air Act. An area may be in attainment for one or more pollutants, and in nonattainment for others.
ADT	Average Daily Traffic	The average number of vehicles passing a specific point in a 24-hour period, often measured throughout a year, it is a standard measurement for vehicle traffic load on a section of road and is used when making transportation planning decisions.
AADT	Average Annual Daily Traffic	The total number of vehicles on a road or highway for a year, divided by 365 days.
	Bridge	A structure over a depression or an obstruction, such as water, highway, or railway.
	Bypass	A road that goes around a city center in order to provide an alternative route for through traffic.
CRCOG	Capitol Region Council of Governments	An association of 38 Metro Hartford municipalities that work together on projects and share resources. CRCOG also recommends transportation projects to be funded by

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
		Federal funds.
CE	Categorical Exclusion	A category of actions which do not individually have a significant effect on the human environment, is non-controversial and for which neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required. In addition, it is clear at the outset of such a project, that there will be no cumulative impact.
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments	The Clean Air Act and its amendments (CAAA) were enacted to reduce air pollution in the United States. The CAAA sets national standards for six criteria pollutants, including particulate matter, ozone, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and lead.
CWA	Clean Water Act	The Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted to reduce water pollution and preserve wetlands in the United States.
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program	A Federal-aid funding program for projects that help reduce air pollution and meet national air quality standards.
	Congestion Pricing (also known as value pricing)	A method used to reduce traffic by charging a fee to road users during rush hours. The user fee may vary by the time of day and day of the week, being highest during periods of peak demand and lower at less-popular hours. During low-demand hours, there may be no fee at all.
CTDOT	Connecticut Department of Transportation	The state agency responsible for transportation infrastructure in Connecticut. CTDOT is the Project Sponsor and Joint Lead Agency, along with the Federal Highway Administration for the I-84 Hartford Project.
CTDEEP	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) is responsible for overseeing the natural resources and environment of the state, as well as regulating public utilities and energy policy. CTDEEP is a participating agency on the I-84 Hartford Project.
CERC	Connecticut Economic Resource Center	The Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) is an organization that provides economic development data for businesses interested in locating to Connecticut
CEPA	Connecticut Environmental Policy Act	A process to identify and evaluate the impacts of state actions that may significantly affect the environment.
CSDC	Connecticut State Data Center	The state agency responsible for the U.S. Census Bureau's Data Center Program and providing U.S. Census data to the public.
	Cooperating Agency	Any agency, other than the Lead Agency, that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise, with respect to any environmental impact involved in a project or its alternatives.
	Corridor, Transportation	A linear tract of land that contains different modes of transportation like highways, railroads, or canals.
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	A division of the Executive Office of the President that coordinates federal environmental efforts in the United

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
		States and works closely with agencies and other White House offices in the development of environmental and energy policies and initiatives.
	Cumulative Impacts	Cumulative impacts are impacts on the environment that result from the accumulation of an action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. An action that does not appear to have significant direct impacts may have indirect or cumulative impacts that are significant.
	Deck, Bridge	A component of a bridge or roadway, that with or without a wearing surface, supports wheel loads or pedestrian loads directly, and is supported by other components.
ESA	Endangered Species Act	The Endangered Species Act (ESA) protects threatened and endangered species (e.g. plants and animals) by requiring that Federal agencies make sure that their actions do not risk the survival of these protected species.
EA	Environmental Assessment	A formal evaluation process used to determine if the environmental consequences (positive or negative) of a project prior are significant or not. If the impacts are not significant, then a Finding of No Significant Impact will be issued by the federal agency and the project can proceed.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a formal evaluation process used by federal agencies when the potential impacts are significant to the environment. A Draft EIS (DEIS) is released to the public and other agencies for review and comment. A Final EIS (FEIS) is issued after consideration of public comments. The final decision document selecting the alternative for the project is a Record of Decision.
EJ	Environmental Justice	The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.
	Environmental Review	The process of reviewing a project under NEPA and/or CEQA regulations and guidance.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	The federal regulatory agency responsible for administering and enforcing federal environmental laws, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and others. The EPA is a participating agency on the I-84 Hartford Project.
	Executive Orders	These are legally binding orders given by the President of the United States, acting as the head of the Executive Branch, to Federal Agencies. Executive Orders are generally used to direct federal agencies and officials in their execution of congressionally established laws or policies.
FHWA	Federal Highway	A branch of the US Department of Transportation that

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
	Administration	administers the federal-aid Highway Program, providing financial assistance to states to construct and improve highways, urban and rural roads, and bridges. FHWA is a joint Lead Agency for the I-84 Hartford Project.
FWS	U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service	The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is a federal government agency within the U. S. Department of the Interior dedicated to the management of fish, wildlife and natural habitats. They have been invited to become a Participating Agency for the reconstruction of the I-84 Hartford Project.
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration	An agency of the United States Department of Transportation. The purpose of the FRA is to educate and enforce rail safety regulations, administer railroad assistance programs, and conduct research and development in support of improved railroad safety. The FRA is a Cooperating Agency on the I-84 Hartford Project.
FTA	Federal Transit Administration	A branch of the US Department of Transportation that is the principal source of federal assistance to America's communities for planning, development, and improvement of public or mass transportation systems. The FTA is a Cooperating Agency on the I-84 Hartford Project.
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact	A document issued by a Federal Agency when, at the conclusion of an environmental assessment (EA) and interagency review process, a project is found to have no significant impacts on the quality of the environment. The FONSI document is the EA modified to reflect all applicable comments and responses and must include the project sponsor's selected alternative.
HUD	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development	The purpose of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is to promote non-discrimination and ensure fair and equal housing opportunities for all. For this project, HUD is identified as a Participating Agency and will identify any issues of concern; provide meaningful and early input on the Purpose and Need, the range of alternatives, and the methodologies and level of detail to be used for the alternatives analysis; and participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews. HUD is a participating agency on the I-84 Hartford Project.
	Highway	A general term for denoting a public roadway.
	Historic Resource	A historic resource is defined in the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) [16 U.S.C. 470w(5)] as any "prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register, including artifacts, records, and material remains related to such a property or resource."
	Historic Significance	The significance of a property refers to its ability to meet

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
		one of the four National Register criteria. Integrity is the ability of the property to convey this significance through physical features and context. Historic properties are significant because they do meet these criteria and have integrity.
	Hydrologic Resources	Any type of surface or ground water resource.
	Indirect impacts	Indirect impacts are caused by an action but occur later in time and/or occur farther away in distance.
	Interchange	A system of interconnecting roadways in conjunction with one or more grade separations, providing for the movement of traffic between two or more roadways on different levels.
	Lane Drop	A through lane that becomes a mandatory turn lane on a conventional roadway or a through lane that becomes a mandatory exit lane on a freeway or expressway.
	Lead Agency	The agency or agencies that have the primary responsibility for preparing the environmental document for a project.
LOS	Level of Service	An assessment of how congested a road is, with "F" being the most congested and "A" being the least congested.
LEP	Limited English Proficiency	Individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English are considered "LEP". These individuals may be entitled to language assistance, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other regulations prohibiting discrimination based on nation origin.
	Low Income Populations	Low-income populations are defined as residing in households with an income between the federal poverty guidelines and an amount two times greater than those guidelines.
MDC	Metropolitan District Commission	The Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) is a non-profit municipal corporation chartered by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1929 to provide potable water and sewerage services on a regional basis. The MDC provides quality water supply, water pollution control, mapping, and household hazardous waste collection to Hartford and seven other local municipalities; it also provides drinking water to portions of four other non-member towns in the region.
	Minority Populations	Minority populations are defined as Black (or African American, having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa); Hispanic (of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race); Asian American (having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); or American

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
		Indian and Alaskan Native.
	Mitigation	Mitigation measures are designed to counteract environmental impacts or to make such impacts less severe.
MAP-21	Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act	A funding and authorization bill that governed United States federal surface transportation spending. It replaced an earlier bill, known as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, or SAFETEA-LEU.
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards	These standards are used to measure air quality, expressed as concentrations of pollutants averaged over fixed time periods.
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	This federal legislation establishes environmental policy for the nation. It provides an interdisciplinary framework for federal agencies to prevent environmental damage and contains “action-forcing” procedures to ensure that federal agency decision-makers take environmental factors into account. NEPA also requires Federal agencies to use an interdisciplinary approach in planning and decision-making for any action that adversely impacts the environment. It ensures that final decisions are made in the best overall public interest, taking into consideration the need for fast, safe, and efficient transportation; public service; and the cost of eliminating or minimizing adverse environmental and economic impacts.
NHS	National Highway System	A network of national roadways important to the nation’s economy, defense, and mobility.
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places	The official list of sites, districts, buildings, structures, and objects significant in the nation’s history or whose artistic or architectural value is unique.
NHHS	New Haven-Hartford Springfield	The New Haven to Hartford to Springfield Rail Program (NHHS) is now called the Hartford Line. The goal of the NHHS, and now The Hartford Line program, is to provide those living, working or traveling between Hew Haven, Hartford and Springfield with high speed rail service equal to the nation’s best rail passenger service.
	No-build Alternative	This alternative is the condition expected to exist in the future if current policies, plans, and programs were to continue unchanged. It is the baseline alternative against which all other alternatives are measured.
	Nonattainment Area	Any geographic region of the US which has been designated as not meeting air quality standards for one or more criteria pollutants as identified in the CAAA.
NOI	Notice of Intent	An early step in the NEPA process that involves publication in the Federal Register by the lead Federal agency to signal the initiation of the EIS process.

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
	Participating Agencies	Any agency with an interest in the project that agrees to formally participate in the scoping and environmental evaluation process.
	Public Road	Any road or street owned and maintained by a public authority and open to public travel.
PAC	Public Advisory Committee	A representative group of key stakeholders who will provide guidance to the Project Team throughout the life of the project.
ROD	Record of Decision	A formal decision granted by the federal lead agency that provides a written record of the agency's decision on a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and reflects the agency's final decision, rationale behind that decision, and commitments to mitigation.
ROW	Right-of-Way	This term applies to land acquired by reservation, dedication, prescription, or condemnation and intended to be occupied by a road, crosswalk, railroad, electric transmission line, oil or gas pipeline, water line, sanitary or storm sewer, or other similar use.
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexile, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users	A funding and authorization bill that governed United States federal surface transportation spending from August 10, 2005 until it was replaced by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21 st Century Act in 2012, also known as MAP-21.
	Scoping	Scoping is an early step in the CEPA and NEPA processes that includes seeking agency and public input, in the definition of the issues and assistance in determining alternatives that will be examined in detail in the final environmental document. During scoping, the public and agencies help plan what will be and will not be examined during the environmental review through meetings, telephone conversations, and written correspondence.
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office	In Connecticut, it is CTSHPO. The CTSHPO is a Cooperating Agency on the I-84 Hartford Project. CTSHPO is responsible for overseeing the historic preservation in the State of Connecticut. The SHPO administers a wide range of Federal and State programs that identify, register and protect the buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects that comprise Connecticut's cultural identify.
SOVs	Single Occupancy Vehicles	A privately operated vehicle whose only occupant is the driver.
	Shoulders	The edges of the roadway to the outside of the travel lanes that provide space for stopped vehicles; emergency use; and additional space for safety maneuvers.
	Substructure, Bridge	Structural parts of a bridge that support the horizontal span.
	Superstructure, Bridge	Structural parts of a bridge that comprise the horizontal

Acronym	Word or Phrase	Definition (if needed)
		span.
	Termini	The endpoints on a transportation line.
TDM	Transportation Demand Management	The operation and coordination of various transportation system programs to provide the most efficient and effective use of existing transportation services and facilities. TDM is on category of TSM actions.
TSM	Transportation Systems Management	Low-cost measures that are implemented to change travel patterns to reduce the number of vehicles using highway facilities. Such measures might include new park & ride facilities, changes to toll facilities and pricing mechanism that encourage drivers to shift the time and frequency of on the road travel.
	Travel Modes	A particular form of travel, for example, walking, bicycling, traveling by automobile, or traveling by bus.
	Travel Way	The portion of the roadway for the movement of vehicles, exclusive of shoulders and bicycle lanes.
	Tribal Nation	Any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List of 1994, 25 USC 479a.
	Tunnel	Road tunnels are enclosed roadways with vehicle access that is restricted to portals regardless of type of the structure or method of construction. Road tunnels do not include enclosed roadway created by highway bridges, railroad bridges or other bridges. This definition applies to all types of tunnel structures and tunneling methods such as cut-and-cover tunnels, mined and bored tunnels in rock, soft ground, difficult ground, immersed tunnels and jacked box tunnels.
VPD	Vehicles per day	The total volume of vehicle traffic of a highway or roadway during a day.
	Viaducts	A long, bridge like structure, typically a series of arches, carrying a road or railroad across a valley or other low ground.
	Wetlands	Those lands having wetland hydrology, hydric soils, and hydrophytic vegetation as delineated by current editions of the <i>Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands</i> . These include wetlands subject to federal law regardless of whether they involve federal, state or private lands.