



Useful Acronyms

ARB: Air Resources Board. (Also referred to as “CARB,” CA Air Resources Board). SB 375 charged the ARB with setting the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for specified California regions.

FTIP: Federal Transportation Improvement Program. A prioritized list of all transportation projects are proposed for federal, state, and local funding in the next four years. Prepared by the MPO and updated every 2 years. Must be consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.

GHG: Greenhouse gas. California is focused on reducing the emissions of five GHGs.

MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organizations. 18 have been created pursuant to federal law in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000. Designated to prepare the Regional Transportation Plan and Federal Transportation Improvement Program in those areas.

RTAC: Regional Targets Advisory Committee. Charged, under SB 375, with making a recommendation to the Air Resources Board about a methodology for setting each region’s greenhouse gas reduction target.

RTP: Regional Transportation Plan. (Also referred to as “Metropolitan Transportation Plan” or MTP) Its purpose is to achieve a coordinated and balanced regional transportation system, including mass transit, highways, rail, boats, bikes, pedestrians, and other forms of transport. Covers approximately 20 years and includes four elements: Policy, Action, Financial, and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies prepare the RTP. It must be updated every 4 years or 5 years, based on the region’s air quality

RTPA: Regional Transportation Planning Agency. 28 have been created pursuant to state law in areas without a Metropolitan Planning Organization to prepare the Regional Transportation Plan.

SAFETEA-LU: Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users. The latest federal surface transportation reauthorization bill, signed into law in 2005. Congress is debating legislation to reauthorize the act.

SCS: Sustainable Communities Strategy, an element of the Regional Transportation Plan. Required for areas with a Metropolitan Planning Organization.

TEA-21: Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. The prior surface transportation reauthorization bill.

For more information on Regional Transportation Plans, see the 2010 RTP Guidelines:

http://www.catc.ca.gov/programs/rtp/2010Final_Draft_RTPGuidelines.pdf and Government Code Section 65080.