

7.1 CONTACT INFORMATION

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## 7.1 CONTACT INFORMATION

**El Dorado County**

Agriculture Department	(530) 621-5520	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/ag/">http://www.edcgov.us/ag/</a>
Air Pollution Control District	(530) 621-6662	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/emd/apcd/index.html">http://www.edcgov.us/emd/apcd/index.html</a>
Board of Supervisors	(530) 621-5390	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/bos/index.html">http://www.edcgov.us/bos/index.html</a>
County Counsel	(530) 621-5770	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/counsel.html">http://www.edcgov.us/counsel.html</a>
Department of Transportation (DOT)	(530) 621-5900	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/DOT/index.html">http://www.edcgov.us/DOT/index.html</a>
Development Services Department (DSD), Building	(530) 621-5775	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/building/index.asp">http://www.edcgov.us/building/index.asp</a>
Development Services Department (DSD), Planning	(530) 621-5355	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/index.asp">http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/index.asp</a>
Economic Development	(530) 621-5595	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/economic/">http://www.edcgov.us/economic/</a>
Environmental Management Department (EMD)	(530) 621-5300	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/emd/">http://www.edcgov.us/emd/</a>
Planning Commission – Contact Planning Services	(530) 621-5355	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/PC.html">http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/PC.html</a>
Surveyor's Office	(530) 621-5440	<a href="http://www.edcgov.us/surveyor/">http://www.edcgov.us/surveyor/</a>

**Fire Protection Districts**

California Department of Forestry and Protection (CAL FIRE)	(530) 644-2345	<a href="http://www.fire.ca.gov">www.fire.ca.gov</a>
Cameron Park	(530) 672-7336	<a href="http://www.cameronpark.org/fire.html">www.cameronpark.org/fire.html</a>
Diamond Springs-El Dorado	(530) 626-3190	<a href="http://www.diamondfire.org/">www.diamondfire.org/</a>
El Dorado County	(530) 644-9630	
El Dorado Hills	(916) 933-6623	<a href="http://www.edhfire.com">www.edhfire.com</a>
Garden Valley	(530) 333-1240	
Georgetown	(530) 333-4111	<a href="http://www.georgetownfiredepartment.com">www.georgetownfiredepartment.com</a>
Latrobe	(530) 677-6366	<a href="mailto:lfpd@zetabb.com">lfpd@zetabb.com</a>
Lake Valley	(530)577-3737	
Meeks Bay	(530)525-7548	<a href="http://www.meeksbayfire.com">www.meeksbayfire.com</a>
Mosquito	(530)626-9017	
Pioneer	(530)620-4444	
Rescue	(530)677-1868	<a href="http://www.rescuefiredepartment.org">www.rescuefiredepartment.org</a>

**Other Agencies, Companies**

AT&T	(530) 888-2031	
California Department of Public Health, Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management	(916) 449-5600	<a href="http://ww2.cdph.ca.gov/">http://ww2.cdph.ca.gov/</a>
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	(916) 654-5266	<a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov">www.dot.ca.gov</a>
California Department of Fish and Game		<a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/">http://www.dfg.ca.gov/</a>
California Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley	(916) 464-3291	<a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/business_help">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/business_help</a>
Cameron Park Community Services District (CSD)	(530) 677-2231	<a href="http://www.cameronpark.org/">http://www.cameronpark.org/</a>
City of Placerville	(530) 642-5200	<a href="http://www.ci.placerville.ca.us">www.ci.placerville.ca.us</a>
City of South Lake Tahoe	(530) 542-6000	<a href="http://www.ci.south.lake.tahoe.ca.us">www.ci.south.lake.tahoe.ca.us</a>
Comcast		
El Dorado Hills Community Services District (CSD)	(916) 933-6624	<a href="http://www.edhcsd.org">www.edhcsd.org</a>
El Dorado Irrigation District (EID)	(530) 622-4513	<a href="http://www.eid.org">www.eid.org</a>
EDC Resource Conservation District	(530) 295-5630	<a href="http://www.eldoradorcd.org/">http://www.eldoradorcd.org/</a>
El Dorado LAFCO	(530) 295-2707	<a href="http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/lafco/">http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/lafco/</a>
Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District	(530) 333-4356	<a href="http://www.gd-pud.org">www.gd-pud.org</a>
Georgetown RCD	(530) 295-5630	<a href="http://www.eldoradorcd.org/">http://www.eldoradorcd.org/</a>
Office of Planning and Research (OPR)		<a href="http://www.opr.ca.gov/">http://www.opr.ca.gov/</a>
Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)	(530) 621-7265	<a href="http://www.pge.com/index.html">http://www.pge.com/index.html</a>
SAGE: Surveyors, Architects, Geologists, and Engineers		<a href="http://www.sagesite.org/">http://www.sagesite.org/</a>
Sierra Pacific	(800) 824-8856	<a href="http://www.sierrapacific.com/">http://www.sierrapacific.com/</a>
South Tahoe PUD	(530) 544-6474	<a href="http://www.stpud.us">www.stpud.us</a>
Tahoe RCD	(530) 543-1501	<a href="http://www.tahoercd.org">www.tahoercd.org</a>
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)	(775) 588-4547	<a href="http://www.trpa.org/">http://www.trpa.org/</a>
US Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE)		<a href="http://www.usace.army.mil/">http://www.usace.army.mil/</a>

## 7.2 GLOSSARY

### PURPOSE

This glossary provides definitions of terms and phrases used in this manual that are technical or specialized, or that may not reflect common usage.

**Abandonment** (of an easement) See "Vacation".

**Access** A way or means of approach to provide physical entrance and exit to a property.

**Accessory Building** Any building described in the "2007 California Building Code" as a "U" occupancy.

**Adjacent** Physically touching or bordering upon; sharing a common property line.

**Adverse Geotechnical Conditions** Unstable soils as determined by a design professional, including, but not limited to, landslides, thick colluvium soil layers, expansive soils, soil creep, low bearing pressure, unsupported planes of weakness, or potentially saturated soils.

**Agency** The governmental entity, department, office, or administrative unit responsible for carrying out regulations.

**Agricultural Operation** An activity involving the use of land for farming, dairying, pasturage agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, silviculture (outside of the practices contained in a Timber Harvest Plan), viticulture, animal and poultry husbandry.

**Agricultural Preserve** Land designated for agriculture or conservation. (See also "Williamson Act")

**American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)** A membership society that is recognized as the foremost United States source of information on the specifications and testing of materials.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** Federal law which outlines requirements for creating new, and retrofitting existing, development to provide those with disabilities access to public and private amenities.

**Applicant** An owner, or owner's authorized representative.

**Approving Authority** The agency, board, group, or other legally designated individual or authority which has been charged with review and approval of project plans and permit development applications. "Approving authority" refers to the body designated by ordinance as the body to give original approval to any application.

**Archaeological** Relating to the material remains of past human life, culture, or activities.

**Architect** An individual holding a current license to practice architecture in the State of California.

**Architecture** The planning of sites and the design, in whole or in part, of buildings or groups of buildings and structures.

**Asbestos** Asbestos is the name for a group of naturally occurring silicate minerals, and may be found in serpentinite rock, the California State rock, other ultramafic rock, and volcanic rock. When rock containing NOA is broken or

crushed, asbestos may be released from the rock and may become airborne, potentially causing a health hazard.

**Back Structural Element** The rearmost component of a retaining wall where it contacts the ground underneath, which would be the back of the footing at its interface with soil for a gravity or cantilevered wall, or the back of the geogrid reinforcing at the footing plane elevation for a mechanically stabilized earth wall.

**Bedrock** The rock, usually solid, that underlies soil or other unconsolidated surface material. The solid undisturbed rock in place either exposed at the ground surface or beneath superficial deposits of unconsolidated sediment, soil, landslide debris, or decomposed or weathered material derived from the underlying undisturbed rock. It also refers to all consolidated rock in its place of formation, including volcanic cap rock.

**Bench** A nearly level step excavated into sloping natural ground upon which engineered fill or embankment fill is to be placed. In reference to grading, “benches” are located under a fill and “terraces” are located on the face of a constructed slope.

**Best Management Practices** (BMPs) Refers to schedule of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance and operating procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the undesirable affects associated with certain activities, for example, erosion and pollution associated with construction activities.

**Bikeways** A term that encompasses bicycle lanes, bike paths, and bicycle routes.

**Borrow** Earth material acquired from an off-site location for use in grading on a site.

**Boundary Line Adjustment** (BLA) Also know as “lot line adjustments”. Used for the purpose of taking land from one parcel and adding it to another parcel. In no case are any new parcels created. In El Dorado County, BLAs can be applied to two to four adjacent parcels. They can also be used to merge contiguous parcels into one parcel.

**Bridge** A structure for carrying traffic over a watercourse, depression, or other obstacle.

**Building** Defined in the “2007 California Building Code” as “Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.” Also see the exceptions as listed in the Building Code.

**California Building Code** The building code adopted by the State of California, as modified by County Ordinance, which is in effect at the time of permit application.

**California Code of Regulations (CCR)** A compilation of administrative regulations that implement, interpret, make specific or otherwise carry out the provisions of certain statutes that are consistent with and not in conflict with the statute and reasonably necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** California Public Resources Code sections 21000, et seq., requires government agencies to consider the environmental impacts of their actions before approving policies and plans, or committing to a course of action on a project. The State's CEQA Guidelines are found in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq.

**California Fire Code** The State's adopted code of regulations pertaining to fire prevention. The latest version was adopted by the State in 2007 and the amended versions adopted by the El Dorado County Fire Protection Districts were adopted by the County's Board on February 26, 2008. See also "California Fire Safe Regulations".

**California Fire Safe Regulations** Beginning at "§1270" of the "California Government Code", this law contains the basic wildland fire protection standards of the California Board of Forestry and pertain to the State Responsibility Area. Along with the "California Fire Code", these regulations set specific requirements for new discretionary development as well as for building permits.

**Caltrans** State of California's Department of Transportation. See <http://www.dot.ca.gov>.

**Capital Improvement Program (CIP)** A program, administered by a government entity, which schedules permanent improvements, usually for a minimum of five years into the future, to fit the projected fiscal capability of the local jurisdiction. The program generally is reviewed annually for conformance to and consistency with the entity's general plan.

**Character** Physical features, attributes, or characteristics of a structure or area that distinguish it from its surroundings and contribute to its individuality.

**Checkset** Also referred to as "checkprint". An already approved, detailed drawing of improvement plans that have been marked up to show proposed changes.

**Circulation** The movement of people and goods by such means as streets, highways, railways, waterways and airways.

**Circulation Element** One of the seven State mandated elements of a General Plan, it contains adopted goals, policies and implementation programs for the planning and management of existing and proposed thoroughfares, transportation routes and terminals, as well as local public utilities and facilities, all correlated with the Land Use Element of the General Plan.

**Civil Engineer** An individual currently registered as a Civil Engineer by the State of California.

**Civil Engineering** means the application of the knowledge of the forces of nature, principles of mechanics and the properties of materials to the evaluation, design, and construction of civil works for the beneficial uses of mankind.

**Commercial** A land use classification that permits facilities for the buying and selling of commodities and services.

**Community Region** As defined in the County's *General Plan*, refers to those areas which are appropriate for the highest intensity of self-sustaining compact urban-type development or suburban-type development, based on the municipal spheres of influence, availability of infrastructure, public services, major transportation corridors and travel patterns, etc. Communities within this

designation include: Camino/Pollock Pines, El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, El Dorado, Diamond Springs, Shingle Springs, and the City of Placerville and immediate surroundings. More information on the boundaries for Community Regions and Rural Centers can be found at <http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/index.asp>

**Community Services District** A limited purpose district created pursuant to California Government Code section 61000 et seq., or its predecessors.

**Compaction** The increase of density of a soil or rock by mechanical means.

**Complex Configuration or Construction** Terraced or tiered retaining walls (closer than twice the retained height of the lower wall), retaining walls with multiple tiers or anchors, slopes greater than two to one at toe of wall, or as otherwise determined by the design professional or the County.

**Concurrent** The availability of new or expanded public facilities and services to meet the demands of new development at the time that such demand is created.

**Contiguous** Next to, abutting, or touching and having a boundary, or portion thereof, which is coterminous.

**County Engineer** DOT's Director, or his/her designee.

**Criteria** Standards upon which a judgment or decision may be based.

**Cut** A land surface resulting from mechanical land shaping. See also "Excavation".

**Dam** A structure used to store or detain water that is either more than six feet high, as measured from its lowest point (toe) to the spillway elevation, or has the capacity to impound more than fifteen acre-feet of water.

**Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&R's)** Where appropriately created, a declaration of restrictions on property that creates equitable servitudes.

**Dedication of Land** An appropriation of land by its owner for use by or on behalf of the public for any general and public uses.

**Defensible Space** The area within the perimeter of a parcel, development, neighborhood and community where basic wildland fire protection practices and measures are implemented, providing the key point of the defense against encroaching wildfires or escaping structural fires.

**Depth of cut** The vertical dimension from the exposed cut surface to the original ground surface at the cut's deepest point, generally at the hinge point.

**Depth of Fill** The vertical dimension from the exposed fill surface to the original ground surface at the fill's deepest point, generally at the hinge point.

**Design Manual** The County design manuals as adopted by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

**Design Professional** As used in Chapter 5 of this manual, refers to a California registered Civil Engineer or Land Surveyor, or a California licensed Architect, Landscape Architect, Geologist, or Engineering Geologist; whose license is current and who practices under the authorization provided in the "Practice Act" of their particular profession as set forth in the "California Business and Professions Code".

**Design Professional in Responsible Charge** As used in Chapter 5 of this manual, refers to the individual engaged by the owner to act as the design

professional in responsible charge. When required by the County Building Official, that individual shall be designated on the permit application.

**Design Review; Design Control** The comprehensive evaluation of a development and its impact on neighboring properties and the community from the standpoint of site and landscape design, architecture, materials, colors, lighting and signage, in accordance with a set of adopted criteria and standards. "Design Control" requires that certain specific things be done and that other things not be done. "Design Review" usually refers to a system set up outside of the County's Zoning Ordinance, whereby projects are reviewed against certain standards and criteria by a specially established design review board or committee.

**Design Waiver** An exception to a design or improvement requirement granted by an approving authority. Design waivers are to be granted only when, because of special circumstances applicable to the property, including size, shape, topography, location or surroundings, the strict application of the standard(s) deprives such property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the vicinity under identical zoning. Design waivers are limited to those situations where the peculiar physical characteristics of a site make it difficult to develop under standard regulations. A waiver is granted in order to bring the disadvantaged property up to the level of use enjoyed by nearby properties in the same zone.

**Developer** The legal or beneficial owner or owners of a lot or of any land included in a proposed development including the holder of an option or contract to purchase, or other persons having enforceable proprietary interests in such land.

**Development** The division of land into two or more parcels; the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration; relocation, or enlargement of any structure; any mining, excavation, landfill, or land disturbance; and any use or extension of the use of land, excepting agriculture.

**Development Plan** means the requirements for development of a Planned Development, including but not limited to a plat of subdivision, all covenants relating to use, location and bulk of buildings and other structures, intensity of use or density of development, streets, walkways and parking facilities. "Requirements of the plan," when used in these provisions, means the written and graphic materials referred to in this definition.

**Discretionary Project** A project which requires the exercise of judgment or deliberation when the public agency or body decides to approve or disapprove a particular activity, as distinguished from situations where the public agency or body merely has to determine whether there has been conformity with applicable statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

**Division, Division of Land, and Divided** Any separation of land into two or more parts or parcels accomplished by deed, including gift deed, contract of sale, lease, conveyance of right-of-way, court decree, intestate or testamentary disposition, excepting any such conveyance made for the purpose of locating or adjusting boundary lines between two parcels which does not result in the elimination or creation of new building sites.

**Drainage** (1) Surface water runoff; (2) The removal of surface water or

groundwater from land by drains, grading or other means which include runoff controls to minimize erosion and sedimentation during and after construction or development, the means for preserving the water supply and the prevention or alleviation of flooding.

**Drainage Manual** Refers to the current edition of the “County of El Dorado Drainage Manual”.

**Drainage Way** Those natural depressions in the earth’s surface, such as swales, ravines, draws and hollows, in which surface waters tend to collect, but which do not constitute a watercourse in the defined sense.

**Drains** A pipe, ditch, or channel for collecting and conveying water. Sometimes used in “storm drains” when describing an urban storm drainage system to carry the initial runoff.

**Driveway** A vehicular access that serves no more than one parcel, with no more than three dwelling units on a single parcel, and any number of accessory buildings.

**Dwelling** Any structure or building or any portion thereof, which is used, intended, or designed to be occupied for human living purposes including, but not limited to, houses, manufactured homes, houseboats, boathouses, mobile homes, travel trailers, hotels, motels, and apartments.

**Dwelling Unit** See “Dwelling”.

**Earth Material** Any rock, natural soil or fill and/or any combination thereof.

**Easement** An intangible property right in the land of another that gives its owner the right to use the land of the other person or to prevent the other property owner from using the land. There are many different types of easements.

**Embankment** (fill) A deposit of soil, rock or other materials placed by man.

**Encroachment** California Streets and Highways Code section 1480 and surrounding provides that encroachment includes any structure or object of any kind or character placed, without the authority of law, either in, under or over any County highway. Under County Code section 12.08.030, encroachment means any thing or action with respect to a county highway for which a permit is required by the provisions of that Chapter.

**Encroachment Permit** A permit pursuant to County Code section 12.08.

**Engineered Fill** Any fill designed by a design professional for its intended use and placed with appropriate inspection and documentation.

**Engineering Geologist** A licensed Professional Geologist certified as an Engineering Geologist by the state of California.

**Engineering Geology** The application of geologic knowledge in the investigation and evaluation of naturally occurring rock and soil for use in the design of civil engineering works.

**Enhance** To improve existing conditions by increasing the quantity or quality of uses or features identified as desirable.

**Environment** The physical conditions which exist within the area which may be affected by a proposed project, including land, air, water, mineral, flora, fauna, noise and objects of historic or aesthetic significance.

**Environmental Health Specialist** A person registered as an Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) by the State of California.

**Erosion** The wearing away of earth material as a result of the movement of wind, water, or ice.

**Erosion Control** Methods designed to prevent erosion.

**Excavation** (cut) The removal of earth materials by mechanical means. This term may also refer to the topographic depression or other change in the topography of the land resulting from the removal of material.

**Excessive Settlement** An amount of settlement after construction which could cause damage to future structures built behind a retaining wall.

**Existing grade** The elevation of the ground surface at a given point prior to any proposed or unpermitted excavating or filling.

**Expansive Soil** Soils that undergo substantial volume changes (shrink or swell) in response to changes in moisture content.

**Exposed wall face** The vertical distance measured from the finish grade (consolidated soil or rock) at the toe of a retaining wall to the top of the wall.

**Fault** A fracture in the earth's crust forming a boundary between rock masses that have shifted.

**Feasible** Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors.

**Fill** See "Embankment", "Engineered Fill", and "Landscape Fill".

**Final Map** refers to a map prepared in accordance with the provisions of California's "Subdivision Map Act" and this manual and for which the map is to be filed in the office of the County Recorder.

**Findings** The result of the deliberations of the agency. A decision upon a question of fact reached as a result of agency examination or investigation by the agency. It may also include a ruling as a matter of law.

**Finished Grade** The topography of the site after the excavation or placement of fill in conformance with the approved final grading plan. The finished grade is also the grade at the top of a paved surface (final grade).

**Fire Apparatus Access Road** This term comes from the "2007 California Fire Code": A road that provides fire apparatus access from a fire station to a facility, building or portion thereof. This is a general term inclusive of all other terms such as fire lane, public street, private street, parking lot lane and access roadway.

**Fire Code** See "California Fire Code".

**Fire Flow** The flow rate of a water supply available for firefighting. In new construction, fire flow requirements are defined by the local fire protection district.

**Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps** Maps created by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to show fire hazards within State Responsibility Areas (SRA), based on relevant factors such as fuels, terrain, and weather. These zones, referred to as Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ), provide the basis for application of various mitigation strategies to reduce risks to buildings associated with wildland fires. Specifically, the zone determines the requirements for unique building codes designed to reduce the ignition potential to buildings. The maps were created by using data and models describing

development patterns, potential fuels over a 30-50 year time horizon, terrain, and expected burn probabilities to quantify the risks of developing in areas throughout California.

**Fire Lane** A road or other passageway developed to allow the passage of fire apparatus. A fire lane is not necessarily intended for vehicular traffic other than fire apparatus.

**Fire Protection District (FPD)** Refers to geographic areas that are served by a specific fire protection agency. Fire Protection Districts provide emergency services to the residents of a specific geographic area. Proposed developments must adhere to the specific requirements of the Fire Protection District that has jurisdiction for the geographic area in which the proposed development resides.

**Fire Protection Plan** See “Fire Safe Plan”.

**Fire Safe Plan** A written document prepared by a Fire Safe Plan Preparer (acceptable to El Dorado County’s Fire Prevention Officers’ Association and CAL FIRE), for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with buildings, construction and development in State Responsibility Areas (SRA) and Local Responsibility Areas (LRA) when required by the authority having jurisdiction.

**Fire Safe Regulations** See “California Fire Safe Regulations”.

**Flood** A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland or tidal waters; the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

**Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** For each community, the official map on which FEMA has delineated areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to that community.

**Flood Plain** The relatively level land area on either side of the banks of a stream or river which is regularly subject to flooding. That part of the flood plain subject to a one percent chance of flooding in any given year is designated as an “area of special flood hazard” by FEMA.

**Freeway** A high-speed, high-capacity, limited-access transportation facility serving regional and county-wide travel.

**Fuel Modification** Refers to the selective clearing and thinning of brush, trees, and undergrowth, so as to reduce the likelihood of wildland fires.

**General Plan** A compendium of policies regarding long-term development, in the form of maps and accompanying text. It is the legal document required of each local agency by the State of California “Government Code, Section 65301” and adopted by the applicable City Council or Board of Supervisors. In California, the General Plan has seven mandatory elements (Circulation, Conservation, Housing, Land Use, Noise, Open Space, Safety, and Seismic Safety) and may include any number of optional elements (e.g., Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Public Services and Utilities, Tahoe Basin).

**Geologic Hazard** Any condition in naturally occurring earth materials which may endanger life, health or property.

**Geologist** A person licensed by the State of California as a Professional Geologist.

**Geotechnical Engineer** A Civil Engineer who holds a valid authorization to use the title “Geotechnical Engineer,” as provided in the “State of California Business and Professions Code”. The terms “Geotechnical Engineer”, “Soils Engineer” and “Soil Engineer” are deemed to be synonymous.

**Geotechnical Engineering** The investigation and engineering evaluation of earth materials including soil, rock, groundwater and man-made materials and their interaction with earth retention systems, structural foundations and other civil engineering works. The practice involves application of the principles of soil mechanics and the earth sciences, and requires knowledge of engineering principles, formulas, construction techniques and performance evaluation of civil engineering works influenced by earth materials. The terms “Geotechnical Engineering”, “Soils Engineering” and “Soil Engineering” are deemed to be synonymous.

**Geotechnical Report** The documentation of a study or investigation made by a Geotechnical Engineer or Civil Engineer of the earth materials (See “Geotechnical Engineering”) at the proposed development site. This documentation shall include an engineering evaluation of the properties of the encountered earth materials and recommendations for their disturbance, removal, modification, or replacement to prepare the project site for its proposed use. The terms “Geotechnical Report”, “Soils Report” and “Soil Report” are deemed to be synonymous. For more information see Chapter 5 of this manual, “Submittal Requirements”, “Technical Reports”.

**Grade** (1) The inclination or slope of a channel, canal, conduit, or natural ground surface, usually expressed in terms of the percentage of number of units of vertical rise (or fall) per unit of horizontal distance. (2) The elevation of the invert of the bottom of a conduit, canal, culvert, sewer, etc. (3) The finished surface of a canal bed, road bed, top of an embankment, or bottom of an excavation. (4) Ground level at the foundation of a building or structure. (5) The vertical location (elevation) of the ground surface, either natural or man-made.

**Grade, Rough** The stage at which the grade approximately conforms to the approved plan.

**Gradient** Degree of increase or decrease in the elevation of a surface.

**Grading** refers to any land excavation or filling, or combination thereof, or the installation of required drainage and erosion control facilities.

**Grading, General** Grading that is unrelated to the construction of any structure or associated vehicular way. Typical general grading would include dams, ponds, level areas for horse arenas, additional parking areas and access roads. “General grading” does not include the construction of a building pad or driveway for a future structure.

**Grading Ordinance** Refers to the “El Dorado County Grading, Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance, Chapter 15.14 of” the County Ordinance Code.

**Grading Plan** A plan prepared in accordance with this manual showing grading and related work.

**Ground Failure** Ground movement or rupture caused by strong shaking during an earthquake. Includes landslide, lateral spreading, liquefaction, and subsidence.

**Groundwater** Water under the Earth's surface, often confined to aquifers capable of supplying wells and springs.

**Habitat** The physical location or type of environment in which an organism or biological population lives or can be found.

**Hearing Body** An individual or group, either elected or appointed (e.g., Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator), that makes decisions in public hearings regarding discretionary land use applications. A Hearing Body also may hear appeals of decisions made by a lower-level hearing body.

**Height of Cut** The difference in elevation from the toe (hinge point) of the cut slope to the top (hinge point) of the cut slope.

**Height of Fill** The difference in elevation from the toe (hinge point) of the fill slope to the top (hinge point) of the fill slope.

**Highway** High-speed, high-capacity, limited-access transportation facility serving regional and county-wide travel. Highways may cross at a different grade level by means of overpasses or underpasses.

**Homeowner's Association** A nonprofit corporation or unincorporated association created for the purpose of managing a common interest development as defined in California Civil Code section 1351.

**Impact** The effect of any direct human-made actions or indirect repercussions of human-made actions on existing physical, social, or economic conditions.

**Improvement** The addition of one or more structures, roads or utilities on a parcel of land. "Improvement" refers to the streets, utilities and facilities to be installed, or agreed to be installed, by a subdivider on the land to be used for public or private streets, highways, ways and easements (as are necessary for the general use of the lot owners in the subdivision and local neighborhood traffic), and drainage needs, as a condition precedent to the approval and acceptance of the Final Map thereof. "Improvement" also refers to the other specific improvements or types of improvements the installation of which either by the subdivider, by public agencies, by private utilities, by any other entity approved by the local agency or by a combination thereof, is necessary or convenient to ensure conformity to, or implementation of, the General Plan as required by "Article 5 (commencing with Section 65300) of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of the Government Code" or any Specific Plan adopted pursuant to "Article 8 (commencing with Section 65450) of Chapter 3 of Division 1" of the "Government Code".

**Improvement Agreement** A contract between a party and the County for construction of improvements. Includes Subdivision Improvement Agreement (SIA), Road Improvement Agreement (RIA), Parcel Map Improvement Agreement (PMIA).

**Industrial** The manufacture, production, and processing of consumer goods. Industrial is often divided into "heavy industrial" uses, such as construction yards, quarrying, and factories; and "light industrial" uses, such as research and development and less intensive warehousing and manufacturing.

**Infrastructure** Public services and facilities, such as sewage-disposal systems, water-supply systems, other utility systems and roads.

**Inspection** The evaluation, by County staff or a County-authorized agent, of the conformity of construction with established standards of materials and workmanship, applicable ordinances and policies of the *General Plan*, and the conditions of approval of all applicable permits.

**Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan** The County program for effective habitat preservation and management. See “*General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8*”.

**International Code Council (ICC)** A membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention. The Council develops the International Building Code, which is the model for the California Building Code.

**Inundation** Covered by floodwaters.

**Keyway or Key** A special backfilled excavation which is constructed beneath the toe area of a planned fill slope on sloping ground to improve the stability of the slope.

**Lake** Any natural or manmade body that impounds water year round under normal conditions. In identifying the high water mark on manmade lakes controlled by dams, the maximum spillway elevation will be used.

**Landscape Architect** An individual holding a current license to practice landscape architecture in the State of California under the authority of the “Landscape Architects Practice Act” of the “California Business and Professions Code”.

**Landscape Architecture** Providing services for the purpose of landscape preservation, development, and enhancement for human use and enjoyment.

**Landscape Fill** A non-structural fill intended solely to support plant growth.

**Landscaping** Planting; including trees, shrubs, and ground covers; suitably designed, selected, installed, and maintained as to enhance a site or roadway permanently.

**Landslide** Downslope movement of soil and/or rock, which may occur during an earthquake or following heavy rainfall.

**Land Surveyor** A Professional Land Surveyor licensed by the State of California.

**Land Use** The occupation or utilization of a land or water area for any human activity or any purpose defined in the *General Plan*.

**Land Use Designation** A system for classifying and designating the appropriate use of properties via the *General Plan*.

**Lanes** Also referred to as “Travel Lanes” or “Travel Ways”. Typically refers to the number of lanes of vehicular traffic that can be accommodated on a street, road, highway, freeway, etc. For example, a two lane highway is signed and striped for one vehicle width of traffic traveling in each direction, for a total of two lanes.

**Level of Service (LOS)** To assess the quality of existing traffic conditions, levels of service were calculated for the State highways and major County roads throughout the County. Level of Service is a general measure of traffic operating conditions whereby a letter grade, A through F, is assigned to a facility. Level of Service A corresponds to the best free-flow conditions, and the levels progress toward increased traffic congestion to Level of Service F.

**Licensed Professional** For purposes of this manual, an individual is considered

a licensed professional if the individual meets the definition of such in the current “California Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Architects and Landscape Architects Act”.

**Lighting and Landscaping Districts (LLDs)** An entity formed to collect funds from residents in a specific community in order to maintain street lighting and landscaping.

**Liquefaction** A process by which water-saturated granular soils transform from a solid to a liquid state during strong ground shaking events.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)** A commission formed pursuant to the Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act of 1985, California Government Code section 56000.

**Local Responsibility Area (LRA)** Incorporated cities which have assumed fire protection within what otherwise would be a SRA. The cities of Placerville and South Lake Tahoe are LRAs.

**Lot** A platted parcel of land intended to be separately owned, developed, and otherwise used as a unit.

**Lot Lines** The lines which delineate one parcel or lot from another.

**Lot Line Adjustment** See “Boundary Line Adjustment”.

**Mass Pad Grading** Also referred to as Mass Lot Grading. Typically done in conjunction with a subdivision where building pads and adequate drainage are created for each lot. Often results in removal of most/all vegetation in the subdivision to make adequate room for buildings and drainage. For more information, see Chapter 5 of this manual.

**Ministerial Action** An action taken by a governmental agency that follows established procedures and rules and does not call for the exercise of judgment in whether or not to approve a project.

**Mitigation Measures** Include: (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (c) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impacted environment; (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**Mylar** Trademark name for a polyester film.

**Native Trees** Trees that are naturally occurring, rather than transplanted to, a given area, such as El Dorado County. Several varieties of oak trees are native to El Dorado County.

**Natural Resource Conservation Service** Refers to an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture acting as staff for the Resource Conservation District (RCD).

**Noise** Any sound that is undesirable because it interferes with speech and hearing, or is intense enough to damage hearing, or is otherwise annoying. Noise, simply, is “unwanted sound.”

- dB: Decibel; a unit used to express the relative intensity of a sound as it is heard by the human ear; degree of loudness.
- dBA: The “A-weighted” scale for measuring sound in decibels; weighs or

reduces the effects of low and high frequencies in order to stimulate human hearing. Every increase of 10 dBA doubles the perceived loudness though the noise is actually ten times more intense.

- **Leq:** The energy equivalent level, defined as the average sound level on the basis of sound energy (or sound pressure squared). The  $L_{eq}$  is a “dosage” type measure and is the basis for the descriptions used in current standards, such as the 24-hour CNEL used by the State of California.
- **Ldn:** Day-Night Average Sound Level. The A-weighted average sound level for a given area (measured in decibels) during a 24-hour period with a 10 dB weighting applied to night-time sound levels. The Ldn is approximately numerically equal to the CNEL for most environmental settings.
- **CNEL:** The Community Noise Equivalent Level, or CNEL, is based on the weighted average hourly Leq over a 24-hour day as in Ldn except that an additional +4.77 decibel weight is applied to the nighttime Leq values. The CNEL was developed for the “California Airport Noise Regulations” and is used specifically for airport/aircraft noise assessment.

**Obstruction** means any tower, pole, pole line, pipe, pipeline, fill, fence, billboard, sign, stand or building, or any structure or object of any kind or character not particularly mentioned in the foregoing, which is placed in, under or over any portion of the right-of-way of any street, road, or highway.

**Open Space Land** Any parcel or area of land or water that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space for the purposes of:

- (1) the preservation of natural resources;
- (2) the managed production of resources;
- (3) outdoor recreation; and/or
- (4) public health and safety.

**Ordinance** A rule established by authority; the enactments of a legislative body of an agency authorized to do so.

**Owner** Any person who alone, or jointly, or severally with others:

- (1) Has legal title to any single lot, dwelling, dwelling unit, or commercial facility.
- (2) Has care, charge, or control of any real property as agent, executor, executive administrator, administrative trustee, commercial lessee, or guardian of the estate of the holder of legal title; or the owner's authorized representative.

**Parcel** See “Lot”.

**Parcel Map** Refers to a map prepared in accordance with the Subdivision Map Act and the County’s “Title 16 Subdivisions” Ordinance, and which is designed to be filed in the office of the County Recorder after review by the County Surveyor to determine that all conditions on the Tentative Map have been satisfied.

**Pedestrian Path** A paved route not on a street or roadway and expressly reserved for pedestrians (and other non motorized traffic) traversing an otherwise unpaved area. Pedestrian paths may parallel roads but typically are separated from them by drainage ditches or landscaping.

**Permit** A written license or document issued by an agency empowering the permittee to do the specified act not forbidden by law but not otherwise allowable without such authority.

**Permittee** The person to whom a permit is issued.

**Phased Development** A development project that is constructed in stages, each stage being capable of existing independently of the others.

**Planned Development (PD)** Land under unified control to be planned and developed as a whole in a single development operation or a programmed series of development operations or phases. A Planned Development includes principal and accessory structures and uses substantially related to the character and purposes of the Planned Development. A Planned Development is built according to general and detailed plans that include not only streets, utilities, lots and building locations, and the like, but also site plans for all buildings as are intended to be located, constructed, used, and related to each other, and plans for other uses and improvements on the land as related to the buildings. A Planned Development includes a program for the provisions, operations, and maintenances of such areas, facilities, and improvements as will be for common use by some or all of the occupants of the Planned Development district, but which will not be provided, operated, or maintained at general public expense. PDs are subject to the same standards and requirements that apply to all discretionary projects and building permits.

**Planning and Research, California State Office of (OPR)** A governmental division of the State of California that has among its responsibilities the preparation of a set of guidelines for use by local jurisdictions in drafting General Plans.

**Planning Commission** The Body established pursuant to Chapter 3, Title 7 of the California Government Code. See also County Code section 2.27.

**Policy** The general principles by which government is guided in the management of public affairs; the general purpose of a law or ordinance.

**Precipitation** Any moisture that falls from the atmosphere, including snow, sleet, rain, and hail.

**Public Water Supply** A water supply provided by a public utility, local agency or publicly owned corporation.

**Punch List** The few remaining items that need to be completed before the County can finalize a discretionary project such as a subdivision.

**Rainy Season** The period of the year during which there is a substantial risk of rainfall. For the purpose of this manual, the rainy season is defined as beginning on October 15th and ending on May 1<sup>st</sup>, inclusive.

**Rare or Endangered Species** A species of plant or animal listed in:

- (1) "Sections 670.2 or 670.5", "Title 14 of the California Administrative Code"; or
- (2) "Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations", "Section 17.11" or "Section 17.2", pursuant to the "Federal Endangered Species Act" designating species as rare, threatened or endangered.

**Research and Development Use** A land use engaged in the study, testing, design, analysis, and experimental development of products, processes, or services.

**Residential** Land designated in the County's *General Plan* and "Title 17 Zoning Ordinance" for buildings consisting only of dwelling units. Residential land may be improved, vacant or unimproved.

**Residential Land Use Designations** Includes the following: Multi-family

Residential (MFR), High-Density Residential (HDR), Medium-Density Residential (MDR), Low-Density Residential (LDR), and Rural Residential (RR).

**Resource Conservation District (RCD)** A District formed pursuant to Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code. For more information see <http://www.eldoradorcd.org/nodes/aboutus/index.htm>.

**Retaining Wall** Walls constructed to withstand lateral earth and/or fluid pressures, including any live and dead load surcharge, the self weight of the wall, and earthquake loads in accordance with accepted engineering practice. This definition also applies to free standing swimming pool walls.

**Rezoning** An amendment to the zoning map and/or text of a zoning ordinance to effect a change in the nature, density, or intensity of uses allowed in a zoning district and/or on a designated parcel or land area.

**Riparian Areas/Lands** Riparian lands are comprised of the vegetative and wildlife areas adjacent to water bodies (e.g., lakes, rivers, ponds, perennial and intermittent streams, etc.). Riparian areas are delineated by the existence of plant species normally found near freshwater.

**Road** See "Street".

**Route** See "Street".

**Runoff** That portion of rain or snow that does not percolate into the ground and is discharged into streams, drains, sewers, etc. instead, directly or indirectly.

**Rural Center** Those places that are centers within the Rural Regions which provide a focus of activity and provide goods and services to the surrounding areas. More information on Community Regions and Rural Centers can be found at <http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/index.asp>.

**Rural Region** All lands not contained within the boundaries of a Community Region or a Rural Center are classified as Rural Regions. More information on the boundaries for Community Regions and Rural Centers can be found at <http://www.edcgov.us/Planning/index.asp>.

**Secondary Access** An alternate way or means of approach to provide physical entrance and exit to a property or neighborhood. Required in certain instances to ensure that residents of a specific area or subdivision can safely exit at the same time emergency vehicles are entering.

**Sediment** Any material transported or deposited by water, including soil debris or other foreign matter.

**Seismic** Caused by or subject to earthquakes or earth vibrations.

**Setback** The horizontal distance between the property line and any structure.

**Sign** Any representation (written or pictorial) used to convey information or to identify, announce, or otherwise direct attention to a business, profession, commodity, service or entertainment, and which is placed on, suspended from, or in any way attached to any structure, vehicle, or feature of the natural or human-made landscape.

**Significant Surcharges** Any one of the following lateral forces or moments acting on a retaining wall from live, dead, or earth loads defined as follows:

- (1) Backfill sloped greater than two horizontal to one vertical.
- (2) Lateral pressure exerted by structures founded within a horizontal distance equal to one and one-half times the retained height, measured

from the back structural element of the wall to the closest element of the adjacent structure.

- (3) Vertical loads (traffic, pedestrian, snow, other live and dead) greater than 250 pounds per square foot (psf) applied within a horizontal distance equal to the retained height, measured back from the back structural element of the wall.
- (4) Lateral loads imposed by vehicular guardrails and solid fences greater than six feet in height within a distance equal to one and one-half times the height of the wall, measured from the back of the wall.

**Site** Any lot or parcel of land or combination of contiguous lots or parcels of land, whether held separately or joined together in common ownership or occupancy, where grading is to be performed or has been performed, except within County rights-of-way. A "site" can also be a portion of a lot or parcel defined by permit limitations.

**Slope** An inclined ground surface. The inclination of this surface may be described as the ratio of horizontal distance to the corresponding vertical distance. The ratio may be expressed by integers (Example: 3H:1V) or by percentage (Example: 33%). See also "grade".

**Soil** The unconsolidated material on the immediate surface of the Earth created by natural forces that serves as the natural medium for growing land plants and that overlies bedrock. Soil may include the decomposed zone of bedrock which can be excavated readily by mechanical equipment.

**Soil Capability Report** A report on the potential agricultural capability of topsoil that utilizes the classification system presented in the Natural Resources Conservation Service soils survey of El Dorado County.

**Soil Engineer** See Geotechnical Engineer.

**Soil Engineering** See Geotechnical Engineering.

**Soil Report** See Geotechnical Report.

**Soil Scientist** A professional Soil Scientist certified by the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops and Soils (ARCPACS).

**Solar Design** Methods for lay out and design of lots and buildings to take advantage of the sun's light or heat. For example, in passive solar design, orienting lots and buildings in an east-west alignment for southern exposure in the winter and to take advantage of shade and prevailing breezes in the summer. Active solar design includes the use of various devices for the absorption of solar radiation for the heating of water or buildings or the production of electricity.

**Special Use** A use permitted in a particular zoning district only upon showing that such use in a specified location will comply with all the conditions and standards for the location or operation of such use as specified in a zoning ordinance and authorized by the approving authority.

**Specific Plan** Under "Article 8" of California "Government Code (65450 et seq.)", a legal tool for detailed design and implementation of a defined portion of an area covered by a General Plan. A Specific Plan may include all detailed regulations, conditions, programs and/or proposed legislation that may be necessary or convenient for the systematic implementation of any General Plan element(s).

**State Responsibility Area (SRA)** is the area within the County where the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has primary financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing wildland fires. This does not necessarily include structural fire protection but CAL FIRE may provide such protection under "automatic aid agreements". The prevention and suppression of fires in all areas not classified as SRA are the primary responsibility of the local or Federal fire agency.

**Standard** (1) A rule or measure establishing a level of quality or quantity that must be complied with or satisfied. (2) Requirements in a zoning ordinance that govern buildings and development, as distinguished from use restrictions. Examples might be such site-design regulations as lot area, height limit, frontage requirements, landscaping, and/or floor area ratio requirements.

**Stockpile** A temporary accumulation of soil, whether compacted or uncompacted.

**Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP)** A program to reduce the discharge of pollutants associated with the storm water drainage systems. It identifies how the County will comply with the provisions of the "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)" permit proposed by the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The SWMP addresses the primary program elements of all County activities, including:

- How the County manages the planning, design and construction of projects carried out directly by the County and under permits issued by the County; and
- How the County maintains facilities owned and operated by the County and activities carried out by others on properties owned by the County.

The SWMP also addresses its responsibilities for implementing the applicable storm water management practices as well as training, public education & outreach, monitoring, program evaluation, and reporting activities. (For more information, see <http://www.edcgov.us/emd/>.)

**Stream** A body of water flowing in a natural surface channel.

**Street** Land devoted primarily to vehicular traffic uses extending to the boundaries of the right-of-way of the adjoining owner whether designated as a highway, freeway, throughway, thoroughfare, avenue, boulevard, road, parkway, lane, alley, place, circle, drive, way or other similar terms.

**Structure** Anything constructed or erected that requires location on the ground.

**Subdivider** A person, firm, corporation, partnership or association who causes land to be divided into a subdivision for himself or for others.

**Subdivision** The division of a tract of land into defined lots, either improved or unimproved, which can be separately conveyed by sale or lease, and which can be altered or developed. "Subdivision" includes a condominium project as defined in "Section 1350" of the "California Civil Code" and a community apartment project as defined in "Section 11004" of the "Business and Professions Code".

**Subdivision Map Act** First passed by the State in 1907, regulates the subdivision of land. See California Government Code, Sections 66410 - 66499.58.

**Surcharge or Surcharge Load** For the purpose of this manual, surcharge refers to an additional weight added to soil that can influence the stability of a soil mass or retaining wall. Examples of surcharge loads include structures, vehicles, snow, above ground swimming pools, stacks of material such as firewood and building products, large trees, the additional weight of earth due to an ascending backslope behind a wall, etc.

**Surety** In general, one who undertakes to pay money or to perform or do any other act upon his principal's failure to do so. See California Civil Code section 2787, et seq.

**Tahoe Basin** The area of the County which is tributary to Lake Tahoe and subject to the regulations and policies administered by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA).

**Tentative Map** A map made for the purpose of showing the design of a proposed subdivision and the existing conditions in and around it.

**Terrace** A relatively level step constructed on the face of a graded cut or fill slope surface for drainage, maintenance or other purposes. (Note: For purposes of this manual, "benches" are located under a fill and "terraces" are located on the face of a constructed slope.)

**Terrace Rounding** The minor excavation of the edges of a cut slope to provide a more contoured transition with the adjacent natural slope.

**Tiered Wall(s)** A condition where the upper and lower walls are close enough that a 1.5 horizontal to 1 vertical (i.e., 1.5H:1V) plane projected from the closest structural element of the upper wall intersects any portion of the lower wall. In the case of reinforced or mechanically stabilized earth walls, the walls are considered tiered if a 1.5H:1V plane projected from the closest structural element of the upper wall intersects any portion of the lower wall, including the reinforced zone behind the lower wall.

**Timber Harvest Plan (THP)** A plan for harvesting timber prepared by a Registered Professional Forester (RFP) which conforms to "California Government Code 11152".

**TITLE 14 of the Natural Resources Division** The fire protection requirements contained in the State of California's "TITLE 14, NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION 1.5 – DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, CHAPTER 7 – FIRE PROTECTION, Subchapter 2 SRA Fire Safe Regulations, Articles 1 – 5 (CDFSRA)".

**Traffic Impacts Analysis** See "Traffic Study".

**Traffic Impacts Study** See "Traffic Study".

**Travel Lanes** See "Lane".

**Traffic Study** A set of protocols and procedures used to analyze the impacts of proposed development projects on existing levels of service on roadways that would potentially be affected by the proposed projects.

**Tree Survey** Typically an inventory on a site map plan that identifies all trees of interest (e.g., native oaks) on a proposed project site. In conjunction with proposed development, tree surveys are typically done as part of a tree protection plan.

**Trench** An excavation made for installing pipes, masonry walls, and other

purposes. A trench is distinguished from a ditch in that the opening is temporary and is eventually backfilled.

**Underground Service Alert (USA)** USA is an organization with the sole purpose to make people aware of the locations of USA's members' underground facilities to prevent accidents, such as digging into an electrical line, water line or a gas pipeline. USA can be found online at <http://www.usanorth.org/> and toll free at [1-800-227-2600](tel:1-800-227-2600).

**Unstable Slope** A slope that does not meet the established standards of stability described in the current edition of "Special Publication 117" of the Department of Conservation, State of California.

**Use** The purpose for which a lot or structure is, or may be, leased, occupied, maintained, arranged, designed, intended, constructed, erected, moved, altered, and/or enlarged in accordance with the County's "Title 17 Zoning Ordinance" and *General Plan's* land use designations.

**Use Permit** The discretionary and conditional review and permitting of an activity, function, or operation on a site, or in a building or facility.

**Vacation** Defined by "Section 8309" of the California "Streets & Highway Code" as "the complete or partial abandonment or termination of the public right to use a street, highway, or public service easement."

**Variance** A departure from any provision of the zoning requirements for a specific parcel, except use, without changing the zoning ordinance or the underlying zoning of the parcel. A variance usually is granted only upon demonstration of hardship based on the peculiarity of the property in relation to other properties in the same zone district.

**Vehicular way** Any public or private roadway or driveway designed for or used by vehicles (as defined by the "California Vehicle Code").

**Watercourse** For purposes of this manual, any natural or human-made channel in which water flows on a continuous or intermittent basis. Also called "Waterway." The term watercourse also includes facilities used to hold or delay the release of storm water runoff. (Note: It is recognized that the definition of a "watercourse" in the *General Plan* excludes human-made channels, ditches, and underground drainage and sewer systems. These facilities are not subject to the stream and creek setback policies of the *General Plan* that are intended to protect natural resources. This manual addresses the adequacy of drainage facilities to convey estimated runoff volumes.)

**Watershed** The total area above a given point on a watercourse that collects water to its flow; the entire region drained by a waterway or watercourse that drains into a lake, reservoir or to the sea.

**Wetlands** Land that qualifies as wetlands by State and/or Federal agencies having jurisdiction.

**Williamson Act** Known formally as the "California Land Conservation Act of 1965", it was designed as an incentive to retain prime agricultural land and open space in agricultural use, thereby slowing its conversion to urban and suburban development. The program entails a 10 year contract between a city or county and an owner of land, whereby the land is taxed on the basis of its agricultural use rather than its market value. The land becomes subject to certain

enforceable restrictions, and certain conditions need to be met prior to approval of an agreement. Once land is placed in a Williamson Act contract, there is a ten year rollout period should the landowner decide they no longer wish to continue its agricultural use.

**Zone of Benefit (ZOB)** A specified area established within a County Service Area with rates, services fees and charges, and benefit assessments varying with the extent of benefit to the zone derived from the services provided to the property within the zone. See California Government Code sections 25211, et seq., and its predecessor Section 25210 et seq.

**Zoning** The division of a city or county by legislative regulations into areas, or zones, that specify allowable uses for real property and size restrictions for buildings within these areas; a program that implements policies of the General Plan.

**Zoning District** A designated section of a city or county for which prescribed land use requirements and building and development standards are uniform.

**Zoning Lot** See "Lot".

### 7.3 ABBREVIATIONS

AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ADT/AADT	Average Daily Traffic, also called Average Annual Daily Traffic
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act (Federal)
AHJ	Agency Having Jurisdiction (California Fire Code)
AOE	Summary Abandonment of Easements
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
APWA	American Public Works Association
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
BLA	Boundary Line Adjustment
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (also "CDF")
Cal/OSHA	California Department of Industrial Relations
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
Catx	Categorically or statutorily exempt, also known as "cat. ex."
CBC	California Building Code
CC&Rs	Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CD	Compact Disc
CDF	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (also "CAL FIRE")
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFC	California Fire Code
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIP	Capital Improvement Program
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CSD	Community Services District
CTC	California Transportation Commission
dB	Decibel
dBA	The "A-weighted" scale for measuring sound in decibels
DSD	Development Services Department
DSOD	California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams
DOT	El Dorado County Department of Transportation
EDC	El Dorado County
EDCCWPP	El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
EDCTA	El Dorado County Transit Authority
EDCTC	El Dorado County Transportation Commission
EFFHR	Emergency Fuel Fire Hazard Reduction
EID	El Dorado Irrigation District
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMD	Environmental Management Department
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FD	Fire Department; often a Fire Protection District
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency

FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zone
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIL	Facilities Improvement Letter
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Maps (Federal)
FPD	Fire Protection District
GDPUD	Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
GPS	Global Positioning System
HDM	Highway Design Manual
HOA	Homeowner's Association
IBC	International Building Code
ICBO/ICC	International Conference of Building Officials/International Code Council
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
L <sub>dn</sub>	Equivalent Day/Night Sound Level
L <sub>eq</sub>	Equivalent Sound Level
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission
LDM	Land Development Manual
LLD	Lighting and Landscaping District
LOS	Level of Service
LRA	Local Responsibility Area (regarding Fire Protection)
MPH	Miles Per Hour
MUTCD	Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (State)
ND	Negative Declaration or Neg Dec
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NHS	National Highway System (Federal)
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NST	National Standard Thread
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory map
OES	El Dorado County Office of Emergency Services
OPR	Office of Planning and Research (State of California)
PD	Planned Development
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PL	Platted Lands
PMIA	Parcel Map Improvement Agreement
PSF	Pounds per Square Foot
PSI	Pounds per Square Inch
PUC	Public Utilities Commission (State)
RCD	Resource Conservation District
RIA	Road Improvement Agreement
RPF	Registered Professional Forester
ROW	Right of Way
R/W	Right of Way
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board (State)
SACOG	Sacramento Area Council of Governments
SD	Structure Design

SIA	Subdivision Improvement Agreement
SP	El Dorado County Standard Plans
SPE	Same Practical Effect
SRA	State Responsibility Area (regarding Fire Protection)
SWMP	Storm Water Management Plan
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TI	Traffic Index
TIA	Traffic Impact Analysis
TIFF	Tagged Image File Format (a format for storage of electronic files)
TIM	Traffic Impact Mitigation
TRPA	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
UPC	Uniform Plumbing Code
USA	Underground Service Alert
USFS	United States Forest Service - In El Dorado County this refers either to the El-Dorado National Forest or to the Lake Tahoe Management Unit
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WUI	Wildland Urban Interface
ZA	Zoning Administrator