

<b>A-weighting</b>	The system of modifying measured sound pressure levels to simulate the actual response of the human ear to different sound frequencies.
<b>Accessibility</b>	A measure of the ability or ease of all people to travel among various origins and destinations.
<b>ACM</b>	Asbestos-containing material.
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act.
<b>ADA compliant passage-way</b>	Pedestrian corridor constructed to comply with design standards established in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
<b>Advisory Council on Historic Preservation</b>	An independent Federal agency established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) to advise the President and Congress on historic preservation matters. It reviews policies and programs of Federal agencies to improve their consistency with NHPA purposes, and administers and participates in the preservation review process established by Section 106 of the NHPA. Under Section 106, federal agencies must seek the Council's comments prior to carrying out, approving financial assistance to, or issuing a permit for a project that may affect properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
<b>Air pollution</b>	The presence of unwanted material in the air in sufficient amount and under such circumstances as to interfere significantly with human comfort, health, or welfare, or with full use and enjoyment of property. National and state ambient air quality standards identify pollutant concentrations not to be exceeded over a specified time.
<b>Alignment</b>	See "Tunnel Alignment."
<b>AM peak period</b>	Peak morning travel period (usually from 6 AM to 10 AM).
<b>Ambient air quality</b>	A physical and chemical measure of the concentration of various pollutants in the outside air, usually determined over a specified time period (e.g., 1 hour, 8 hours).
<b>Ambient Noise Level</b>	The total noise level in the acoustical environment, excluding the proposed project.

<b>Amtrak</b>	Amtrak offers national rail service from Penn Station. Amtrak's Northeast Corridor line runs from Washington, D.C. to Boston, and a number of its riders are daily commuters from Philadelphia to New York City. Amtrak uses the Harold Interlocking en route to its New England destinations and Sunnyside Yard for train maintenance and storage.
<b>Area of Potential Effect (APE)</b>	The geographic area within which a project may have a direct or indirect effect on historic or archaeological resources, if any are present.
<b>Arterial</b>	Streets that serve primarily through traffic and provide access to abutting properties as a secondary function.
<b>As-of-right</b>	Development that could occur on a parcel of land under existing zoning and without the granting of additional approvals.
<b>AST</b>	Above ground storage tank.
<b>At-grade crossing</b>	The point of intersection between a rail line and roadway, road, or pedestrian crossing that occurs along the same surface plane.
<b>Bathtub</b>	An enclosed excavation that extends down to the rockline, below the water table allowing de-watering to take place within its walls without causing a draw-down of the water table into the excavation or movement of the groundwater outside its walls.
<b>Bellmouth</b>	The area of a railroad tunnel where the end widens to allow tracks to diverge.
<b>Bi-level Coaches</b>	Passenger-carrying rail cars which allow seating on upper and lower levels.
<b>BID</b>	Business Improvement District.
<b>Blissville Yard</b>	<i>Unused, former railyard located approximately 1 mile southwest of Sunnyside Yard, in Blissville, Queens, lying east of Dutch Kills and north of Newtown Creek, at the point where the Montauk cutoff originating from Sunnyside Yard meets the Montauk Branch. Blissville Yard is proposed as a re-activated railyard for storage of rail freight cars by NYAR.</i>
<b>BTEX</b>	Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene - VOC's common constituents of gasoline.
<b>Build year</b>	Typically the first year of operation of the project used to assess impacts; 2010 is the Build year for this project.
<b>CAAA</b>	Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (see below).

<b>CAL3QHC model</b>	Mathematical dispersion model for simulation of carbon monoxide concentrations near roadway intersections.
<b>Capacity</b>	The physical ability of a transportation system, or any of its elements, to carry travelers from one point to another.
<b>Capital costs</b>	The cost of designing, constructing, purchasing equipment (e.g., vehicles), and implementing a transit system.
<b>Catenary power system</b>	An electric power system and overhead contact wire that is supported from one or more longitudinal wires or cables used to provide a power source for vehicles via a pantograph (contact mechanism) on the roof of the vehicle.
<b>CBD</b>	Central business district (see below).
<b>CCCP</b>	Comprehensive Communications and Coordination Plan; the plan developed to guide East Side Access's public participation program.
<b>Center island platform</b>	A subway or train platform surrounded by track on both sides.
<b>Central Business District (CBD)</b>	A primary downtown area of a city, or an area of concentrated retail activity. Also characterized by high land valuation and traffic flow.
<b>CEQR</b>	City Environmental Quality Review, the local New York City law set forth by Executive Order No. 91 of 1977, governing environmental review for actions undertaken by New York City agencies.
<b>Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC)</b>	Representatives from a number of elected officials' offices and other interested parties that serve as a reviewing body of project issues and primary liaison between organizations interested in the project and the project team.
<b>Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990</b>	A federal law enacted in 1990 that places new federal controls on all sources of air pollution and places new emphasis on regional transportation planning. The CAAA includes an implementation strategy and establishes air quality improvement requirements.
<b>CMS</b>	Congestion Management System.
<b>CO</b>	Carbon monoxide.
<b>Coastal Zone</b>	A geographic area of New York State's coastal waters and adjacent shorelines, generally including islands, tidal wetlands, beaches, dunes, barrier islands, cliffs, bluffs, estuaries, flooding- and erosion-prone areas, port facilities, and other coastal locations.

<b>COE</b>	United States Army Corps of Engineers.
<b>Contra-flow lanes</b>	Highway lanes carrying traffic in the opposite direction of other traffic on the same side of the highway.
<b>Controlled Blasting</b>	A specialized construction technique used to excavate rock. Numerous small holes are drilled into the rock and small explosive charges are placed into the holes. The charges are detonated in a delayed sequence which precisely breaks the rock and minimizes unwanted vibration and noise effects.
<b>CPC</b>	New York City's City Planning Commission.
<b>Cut-and-cover</b>	A method of excavation whereby the construction takes place from the ground surface. Once the excavation reaches a certain depth, the open cut can be covered with a steel or concrete plate to enable traffic or pedestrians to traverse the excavation.
<b>CZMA</b>	Federal Coastal Zone Management Act.
<b>dB</b>	Decibel, a unit of sound level.
<b>dBA</b>	A-weighted decibel. A sound pressure level that incorporates the human ear's sensitivity to pitch.
<b>DCP</b>	New York City Department of City Planning.
<b>Dead head trips</b>	Reverse trips without customers.
<b>De minimis criteria</b>	The minimum incremental increase in 8-hour average carbon monoxide levels that constitutes a significant adverse air quality impact as defined by New York City.
<b>DEC</b>	New York City Department of Environmental Conservation.
<b>Decibel</b>	The unit for measuring noise, which is 10 times the logarithm of the ratio of the sound pressure squared to a standard reference pressure squared.
<b>DEIS</b>	Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
<b>DEP</b>	New York City Department of Environmental Protection.
<b>Determination of Eligibility</b>	The decision of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on whether properties or resources are eligible for the State and/or National Register of Historic Places.
<b>Dewatering</b>	The removal of groundwater by pumping so as to artificially depress the water table and avoid the difficulties associated with construction below the water table.
<b>DOI</b>	United States Department of the Interior.

<b>Dual-mode locomotives</b>	Locomotives that can be powered using either diesel fuel or electricity from the third rail.
<b>Dwell time</b>	The time when a train is fully stopped in a station.
<b>East Side Access (ESA)</b>	The proposed project is the locally preferred alternative to provide direct access for LIRR riders to Grand Central Terminal.
<b>EIS</b>	Environmental Impact Statement.
<b>Federal Transit Administration (FTA)</b>	The Federal department of mass transportation. Administratively, it is under United States Department of Transportation (USDOT).
<b>Feeder Bus Service</b>	NYCT and Long Island Bus routes that bring commuters to rail stations for transfer to rail transit.
<b>FEIS</b>	Final Environmental Impact Statement.
<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency.
<b>FIRE</b>	Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.
<b>Flexibility</b>	The adaptability of a transportation system to accommodate the travel demands within the system if one component of the system fails, and its ability to accommodate future growth.
<b>Floating Slab</b>	The addition of a second floor slab that is isolated from the first slab by resilient elements which can be used to attenuate the transfer of vibration from a tunnel to the building above.
<b>Floodplain</b>	The lowlands adjoining the channel of a river, stream, or watercourse, or ocean, lake, or other body of water, which have been or may be inundated by floodwater (as established by the National Flood Insurance Act).
<b>Fresh Pond Yard</b>	Rail yard located in Glendale, Queens, at the junction of the LIRR Montauk Branch and the Conrail Connector to the LIRR Bay Ridge Branch. The yard consists of two smaller yards—a West Yard and an East Yard separated by the NYCT “M” subway line. <i>Fresh Pond Yard is proposed as the location for NYAR’s maintenance shop.</i>
<b>FWS</b>	United States Fish and Wildlife Service.
<b>GCT</b>	Grand Central Terminal.
<b>Groundwater</b>	The water contained beneath the surface in soils and rock.

<b>Harold Interlocking</b>	The 1.5-mile stretch of track, and its associated switches and crossovers, providing access to and from the East River Tunnels for LIRR's Main Line and Port Washington Branch and Amtrak's Northeast Corridor trains heading north to and from New York City.
<b>HASP</b>	Health and Safety Plan.
<b>Hazardous waste</b>	A substance, as defined under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, that is chemically reactive, ignitable, corrosive, or toxic.
<b>Highbridge Yard</b>	Rail yard located in the Highbridge section of the Bronx, between the Harlem River and the Major Deegan Expressway. It consists of a rail yard used by Metro-North Railroad and two sets of tracks used by Metro-North's Hudson Line. <i>Highbridge Yard is proposed as a new rail storage and maintenance yard for MNR.</i>
<b>High Density Interlocking System</b>	An area where a number of separate rail tracks connect via switches, turnouts, and integrated signaling systems, allowing trains to switch from one route or track, to another.
<b>HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle)</b>	A vehicle carrying two or more passengers (for example, a bus, vanpool, or carpool). HOVs are encouraged as a means of decreasing vehicle miles traveled (VMTs). May also be referred to as Multi-occupancy Vehicle (MOV).
<b>Infrastructure</b>	The physical support network—such as roads, railroads, and utilities—of a given geographical area.
<b>Interlocking</b>	The segment of track which consists of a series of switches and signals which enable trains to access different routes or platforms.
<b>Intermodal transfer</b>	A transfer from one mode of transportation (such as auto, taxi, bus, and walking) to another.
<b>ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act)</b>	Legislation enacted by Congress in 1991 that makes funds available to aid metropolitan areas throughout the United States in the development of transportation systems that are not harmful to the environment and will bring metropolitan areas into compliance with the Clean Air Act.
<b>ITS</b>	Intelligent Transportation Systems.

<b>Jet grout</b>	Jet grouting for soil stabilization involves drilling pilot holes, and then injecting under pressure a mixture of cement, water and air into the soil via injection rods inserted into the pilot holes. As the rods are withdrawn, they are rotated, resulting in a series of columns consisting of a soil and cement grout mixture hardened to a strength suitable to stabilize the soil, thereby allowing construction to occur underneath.
<b>John F. Kennedy International Airport Light Rail System (JFK LRS)</b>	The system currently under construction at John F. Kennedy International Airport that will consist of electrically powered vehicles that will operate on elevated tracks in a 2-mile loop around the airport.
<b>Kiss-and-ride facilities</b>	Pick-up and drop-off areas <i>for rail commuters</i> .
$L_{dn}$	An average sound level over the entire day where the nighttime hours are weighted more than those during the daytime.
$L_{eq}$	Equivalent sound level, or an energy average sound level, usually specified over a period of time. This is the constant sound level that, in a given period, conveys the same sound energy as the actual time-varying sound.
<b>Level of service (LOS)</b>	A set of descriptive characteristics used to indicate the quality of transportation service provided, including characteristics that are quantifiable (e.g., frequency, travel time, vehicle delay). Levels of service are usually qualified with letter designations, ranging from “A” (LOS A) with the least amount of congestion to “F” (LOS F) with the greatest amount.
<b>Lexington Avenue line</b>	The numbers 4, 5, and 6 subway routes that provide full north-south rapid transit service to Manhattan’s East Side, Brooklyn, and the Bronx.
<b>LIE</b>	Long Island Expressway.
<b>Line haul capacity</b>	The number of trains and their passenger capacity that can pass through a given point in the system.
<b>LIRR</b>	Long Island Rail Road.
<b>Long Island Transportation Corridor (LITC)</b>	The area stretching for approximately 122 miles from the Hudson River to the tip of Montauk Point <i>and consisting of Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn, and Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The LITC encompasses the majority of origins, destinations, and routes of those traveling between Long Island and New York City.</i>
$L_{max}$	Maximum instantaneous sound level.

<b>LPC (or NYC LPC)</b>	Landmarks Preservation Commission of New York City.
<b>LUST</b>	Leaking underground storage tank.
<b>M-1, M-3, and M-7 cars</b>	Electric-powered multiple unit cars used in Metro-North Railroad and Long Island Rail Road service. Multiple unit cars are electric cars that have their own propulsion systems and can be controlled from an engineer's cab in a train. The M-7 will be LIRR's new generation car.
<b>Madison Yard</b>	The western side of the lower level of GCT, used by Metro-North Railroad for maintenance and storage.
<b>Maspeth Yard</b>	Rail yard located in Maspeth, Queens, near the intersection of Rust Street and Maspeth Avenue, used by NYAR and two active LIRR Montauk Branch mainline tracks. <i>Maspeth Yard is proposed as an alternative location for storage of rail freight cars by NYAR.</i>
<b>MAS</b>	Maximum Authorized Speed which is analogous to a speed limit on a rail right-of-way.
<b>MCTA</b>	Metropolitan Commuter Transportation Authority.
<b>Mined excavation</b>	A method of constructing tunnels or other underground spaces from below the surface. Unlike cut-and-cover construction, the ground surface is not disturbed with this technique. The mining may be accomplished in a number of ways including drilling with controlled blasting, tunnel boring machines or other methods of rock/soil excavation.
<b>MIS</b>	Major Investment Study. The LITC MIS, completed in 1998, identified East Side Access as the locally preferred alternative.
<b>Mitigation</b>	Measures designed to lessen or eliminate the adverse impacts resulting from a proposed project or action.
<b>MNR</b>	MTA Metro-North Railroad.
<b>Mobile source</b>	Vehicular sources of air pollution, such as automobiles, trucks, and buses.
<b>MOBILE5B</b>	Vehicle emissions simulation model developed by the Environmental Protection Agency.
<b>Mode</b>	The form of travel (e.g., walking, automobile, bus, train).
<b>MTA</b>	Metropolitan Transportation Authority.
<b>Muck</b>	Material that is excavated following the tunnel boring process.



<b>NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards)</b>	Standards established by Congress under the Clean Air Act for six major air pollutants (carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, photochemical oxidants or ozone, inhalable particulates, sulfur dioxide, and lead). These are also New York State's air quality standards.
<b>National Register of Historic Places</b>	The federal list of buildings and sites determined to have historic significance, established by the National Historic Preservation Act.
<b>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966</b>	Statute enacted by Congress establishing a nationwide policy to support and encourage the preservation of prehistoric and historic resources and to direct Federal agencies to assume responsibility for considering such resources in their activities. Section 106 does not mandate preservation of such resources but requires Federal agencies to consider the impact of actions on historic properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Policy Act; federal legislation enacted to require federal agencies to evaluate the environmental consequences of proposed actions and their alternatives, to identify measures to mitigate any significant adverse impacts, and to conduct the entire process in coordination with other agencies and the public.
<b>New Jersey Transit</b>	NJ Transit provides commuter service from points west by both bus and rail to New York City. Its bus operations terminate at Port Authority Bus Terminal, and its rail operations at Penn Station. NJ Transit also operates rail service for MNR on the New York portion of the Pascock and Port Jervis lines. NJ Transit uses Sunnyside Yard for midday storage of trains.
<b>NFPA</b>	National Fire Protection Association.
<b>NHL</b>	National Historic Landmark.
<b>No Action Alternative</b>	Those improvements in the city's transportation system after 1999 (the base year of the MTA/LIRR ESA study) that would be in place by the year 2010 or 2020 without implementation of any of the options identified by MTA/LIRR ESA.
<b>NO<sub>2</sub></b>	Nitrogen dioxide; an air pollutant and precursor to ozone.
<b>NOAA</b>	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
<b>Non-attainment area</b>	The United States Environmental Protection Agency's classification for an area or region where federal ambient air quality standards are not being met.
<b>NO<sub>x</sub></b>	Nitrogen oxides; a group of air pollutants that contribute to the formation of ozone.

<b>NR</b>	National Register of Historic Places (see above).
<b>National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)</b>	Established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to generate information about the characteristics, extent and status of the Nation's wetlands and deepwater habitats. NWI maps show the location and classification of wetlands throughout New York State.
<b>NWP</b>	United States Army Corp of Engineers nationwide permit program.
<b>NYAR</b>	New York & Atlantic Railway, the rail freight service <i>that operates on LIRR's rail system and currently uses LIRR's Yard A for storage.</i>
<b>NYCDEP</b>	New York City Department of Environmental Protection.
<b>NYCDOT</b>	New York City Department of Transportation.
<b>NYCRR</b>	New York Codes, Rules and Regulations.
<b>NYCT</b>	MTA New York City Transit.
<b>NYMTC</b>	New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (the MPO).
<b>NYSDEC</b>	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
<b>NYSDOS</b>	New York State Department of State.
<b>NYSDOT</b>	New York State Department of Transportation.
<b>NYSM</b>	New York State Museum.
<b>Off-peak period</b>	The periods of the day that are not during the peak travel periods.
<b>OPRHP</b>	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.
<b>Option 1</b>	Engineering Option 1 of the Preferred Alternative, which would bring new LIRR service into Grand Central Terminal via the existing 63rd Street Tunnel and a new tunnel beneath Park Avenue. At GCT, new tracks and platforms and passenger facilities would be located in the western portion of GCT's existing lower level.
<b>Option 2</b>	Engineering Option 2 of the Preferred Alternative, which would bring new LIRR service into GCT via the same route as in Option 1 (see above). At GCT, new tracks and platforms would be created beneath the existing lower level of GCT, with a passenger <i>concourse</i> in the western portion of GCT's existing lower level.

<b>Ozone</b>	An unstable form of oxygen formed by a photochemical reaction of atmospheric gases with solar ultraviolet radiation. While a valuable component of the upper atmosphere, it is a harmful air pollutant in the lower atmosphere and contributes to the formation of smog.
<b>Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)</b>	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are a class of Semivolatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs) associated with combustion (e.g., coal, ash, petroleum) and have historically been used as fill throughout New York City. Exposure to PAHs can pose long-term risks to human health.
<b>PANYNJ</b>	Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.
<b>Particulate matter</b>	Airborne particles consisting of a variety of materials such as dust, soot, and aerosols.
<b>PATF</b>	Public Affairs Task Force.
<b>PATH</b>	Port Authority Trans Hudson.
<b>Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB)</b>	A class of Semivolatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs), which were commonly used in (train-mounted or other) electrical equipment, especially transformers. Exposure to PCBs can pose long-term risks to wildlife and human health.
<b>PCE</b>	Passenger Car Equivalent.
<b>Peak period</b>	The period during which the maximum amount of travel occurs. It may be specified as the morning (AM), afternoon/evening (PM) peak, or hourly. It is the period when demand for transportation services is the highest.
<b>PM peak period</b>	The afternoon rush hours, approximately 4 to 7 PM.
<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	Particulate matter of 10 microns or less. Particulates of this size are small enough to be respirable.
<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>	Particulate matter of 2.5 microns or less. Particulates of this size show consistent and coherent associations with severe health effects.
<b>ppm</b>	Parts per million.
<b>Preferred Alternative</b>	Also known as East Side Access (ESA), which would provide direct access for LIRR riders to Grand Central Terminal.
<b>PSRC</b>	Pennsylvania Station Redevelopment Corporation.

<b>Receptor site</b>	Location to which the public has access on a more or less continuous basis used for air quality predictions; or a defined area where human activity may be adversely affected when noise levels exceed predefined thresholds of acceptability or when levels increase by predefined thresholds of change, used for noise analyses.
<b>Resilient Fasteners</b>	Special fasteners which are used to connect the steel rail to the railroad tie which helps to attenuate the vibration effects of the train into the surrounding ground surface.
<b>Ridership volume</b>	Total number of passengers riding trains regardless of the seated capacities of the trains.
<b>Right-of-way</b>	A corridor of land acquired by reservation, dedication, prescription, or condemnation, and intended to be utilized as a road, rail line, utility service, buffer, or similar use.
<b>RTP</b>	Regional Transportation Plan.
<b>S/NR</b>	State and National Registers of Historic Places.
<b>Scoping</b>	The process of defining the studies to be undertaken for an Environmental Impact Statement.
<b>SEQRA</b>	New York State Environmental Quality Act. State legislation similar to NEPA, requiring state agencies to examine the environmental effects of their discretionary actions.
<b>Seated capacity</b>	The maximum number of passengers that can be accommodated on trains without exceeding the number of seats.
<b>SEL</b>	Sound Exposure Level.
<b>SHPO</b>	State Historic Preservation Office (see below).
<b>SIP (State Implementation Plan)</b>	The Clean Air Act requires each state to demonstrate in a SIP the manner in which it will attain compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for a given air pollutant.
<b>Slurry</b>	A clay-like semi-solid pumped into a cavity to form a slurry wall. It permits only minimal transmission of water and is used to isolate an area from the surrounding groundwater regime and reduce the rate of pumping required during dewatering.
<b>SO<sub>2</sub></b>	Sulfur dioxide; an air pollutant mainly associated with the combustion of sulfur-containing fuels such as oil.

<b>Soil borings</b>	<i>Deep, cylindrical soil samples taken to ascertain geological conditions and often used to determine if archaeological resources or hazardous materials are found on the site.</i>
<b>State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)</b>	The state administrative agency responsible for compliance with historic preservation rules, laws, and regulations.
<b>State Register of Historic Places</b>	The state list of buildings and sites determined to have historic significance, established by the New York State Historic Preservation Act.
<b>Stub-ended</b>	Tracks that terminate in the station, requiring a train to reverse direction to exit the station.
<b>SVOC</b>	Semi-volatile organic compound; organic compounds which exhibit some evaporation under normal circumstances.
<b>TCLP</b>	Toxicity Characteristics Leaching Procedure. A laboratory test used to determine the hazardous characteristics of a solid waste or soil.
<b>TDM</b>	Travel Demand Management.
<b>TEA-21</b>	Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, adopted in May 1998. This federal legislation re-authorizes and amends ISTEA, which was adopted in 1991.
<b>Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)</b>	Representatives on the federal, state, and local level that serve as liaisons to their respective organizations on technical matters relating to the evolution of the project.
<b>Third rail</b>	An electric conductor rail located alongside the running rail from which power is collected by means of a sliding contact shoe attached to the truck of electric equipment.
<b>Third rail shoe</b>	An insulated metallic sliding contact, mounted on the truck of an electric locomotive or car, for collecting current from the third rail. Positive contact between shoe and rail is maintained by spring tension.
<b>Throat track</b>	The convergence area of several tracks in a multi-track sequence, where the majority of the tracks merge to form a single track.
<b>TIP</b>	Transportation Improvement Program (see below).
<b>TRACKS System Safety Program</b>	The Long Island Rail Road's program designed to address potential increases in accidents near at-grade crossings—"Together Railroads and Communities Keeping Safe."
<b>Trainset</b>	A group of train cars joined together (as opposed to a single train car).

<b>Transfer mobility</b>	The measure of the efficiency of vibration transmission through the ground, offering a means of predicting train and construction-induced vibration levels in buildings prior to project construction.
<b>Transportation Systems Management (TSM) Alternative</b>	Transportation improvements that seek to maximize the utility of the current transportation investments without a major investment in new facilities. For MTA/LIRR ESA (East Side Access), this includes increasing the number of rail cars on LIRR trains, increasing LIRR service to the Hunterspoint Avenue and Long Island City stations, and extending the existing westbound morning contra-flow lane on the Long Island Expressway.
<b>Transportation Improvement Program</b>	As set forth by ISTEA, a document prepared by the Metropolitan Planning Organizations citing projects to be funded under federal transportation programs for a full-year period.
<b>Travel time</b>	The time it takes to travel from one point to another.
<b>Trip</b>	A single or one-way movement to or from a location.
<b>Tunnel alignment</b>	A route of a railroad, highway, or fixed guideway transit through a tunnel passageway.
<b>Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM)</b>	A large diameter drill that excavates a circular tunnel section, custom designed and built for project-specific geology and for the specific requirements of the project being constructed.
<b>Underpinning</b>	A construction technique which involves placing new foundations under an existing building to allow construction to occur in the area of the original foundations.
<b>USEPA</b>	United States Environmental Protection Agency.
<b>UST</b>	Underground storage tank.
<b>v/c</b>	Volume-to-capacity ratio (see below).
<b>VdB</b>	A unit of measure of vibration in decibels which are distinct from noise decibels.
<b>VMT (Vehicle miles traveled)</b>	The total number of miles traveled by motor vehicles for a given area and time period.
<b>VOCs (Volatile organic compounds)</b>	A family of highly evaporative organic materials used in a variety of industrial applications, such as paints and solvents.
<b>Volume</b>	The number of passengers or vehicles that can be accommodated by a train, train platform, train tracks and tunnels, stairwell, mezzanine, bus, sidewalk, or street's traffic lanes (or combination of any of the previous).

<b>Volume-to-capacity (v/c) ratio</b>	To determine the severity of crowding in a transportation system, volumes (the amount of passengers or vehicles) are compared with capacities (the ability of such a system to carry travelers from one point to another during a specified time frame).
<b>vph</b>	Vehicles per hour.
<b>WRP</b>	Waterfront Revitalization Program, serving as New York City's coastal zone management program.
<b>Yard A</b>	LIRR rail yard, located adjacent to LIRR's Sunnyside rail yard in Queens. Yard A is currently used for storage and maintenance by the New York & Atlantic Railway.
<b>Yard lead</b>	The track that connects a mainline route to a given yard.

