9. Glossary

**Administrative Features**
Aspects or traits of each roadway in the State belonging to one of the following classes: roadway systems, functional classification, political and/or departmental boundaries and stationing identification, such as urban boundary, on or off the state highway system (SHS), national highway system (NHS), route numbers, and local name.

**Alignment**
The original construction configuration of a roadway.

**Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT)**
The total volume of traffic on a highway segment for one-year, divided by the number of days in the year. This volume is usually calculated by adjusting a short-term traffic count with seasonal weekly factors obtained from continuous monitoring sites. AADT is measured at continuous monitoring sites.

**City Street System**
Roads and streets owned by the cities and municipalities.

**Continuous Monitoring Site**
Traffic counters that are permanently placed at specific locations throughout the state to record the distribution and variation of traffic flow by hour of the day, day of the week, and month of the year from year to year and transmit the data to the TranStat via telephone lines. These sites record traffic volumes 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**County Highway System**
Roads owned by the counties, including some roads that pass through urban areas.

**County Section Number Key Sheet (Key Sheet)**
The key sheet serves as a referenced index for roadway IDs of roads on the SHS, located within a particular county.

**Data Sponsorship**
This concept allows a clear definition of RCI data expectations and management responsibilities. The following three offices: Office of Maintenance, Traffic Engineering & Operations Office, and TranStat sponsor the RCI data, which are unique to its area of responsibility. TranStat has the overall responsibility for maintaining the RCI database application, coordinating the Districts’ the general interest roadway data collection efforts, database storage, associated reporting activities, and to provide procedures, definitions of data expectations, and management responsibilities

**District**
Organizational subdivision of the State of Florida Department of Transportation, referred to as the Department that is the responsible office for collecting and storing roadway data in coordination with the Central Transportation Statistics Office. There are two forms of districts, a managing district and a geographic district. “District” means “managing district.”

**Edge of Pavement**
Where the travel way or paved shoulder meets the curb or unpaved shoulder.

**Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)**
The Federal agency that oversees federal highways and Federal Aid transportation projects.

**Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)**
The Florida Department of Transportation is responsible for providing a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods enhances economic prosperity and preserves the quality of our environment and communities

**Florida Intrastate Highway System (FIHS)**
A system of existing and future limited-access and controlled-access facilities that have the capacity to provide high-speed and high-volume traffic movements in an efficient and safe manner. Adopted by the Legislature, the system delineates an interconnected statewide highway system of limited access facilities and controlled access facilities developed and managed by FDOT to meet certain criteria and standards in a 20-year time period. The system is part of the total state highway system and is developed and managed by FDOT for high-speed and high-volume traffic movements.

**Functional Classification (FunClass)**
The assignment of roads into a system of categories according to the character of service they provide in relation to the total road network. A two-digit number represents each category.
General Interest Roadway Data (GIRD)
Descriptive roadway data of general interest including data needed by Planning Offices to produce legislatively and federally mandated reports, maintain the computer database, and to support the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS), preparation of Straight-line Diagrams (SLDs) and the Department’s Geographic Information System (GIS) basemap.

Geographic District
One of the seven Districts assigned to the 67 counties within the state. Used for reporting purposes, but does not imply management responsibility for the roads located therein. (See Managing District.)

Geographic Information System (GIS)
A computer system capable of assembling, storing, manipulating and displaying geographically referenced information, i.e., data identified according to their locations. Practitioners also regard GIS as including operating personnel and the data that go into the system.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Basemap
The Department’s official digital GIS route system that geographically represents the roadways maintained in RCI, which includes Florida’s SHS and major public roads off the SHS.

Handbooks
The Transportation Statistics RCI Planning Data Handbook and RCI Features & Characteristics Handbook, which describe the collection, verification, and database entry requirements of features and characteristics sponsored by TranStat.

Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)
A data collection system that has been developed for reporting traffic data to the FHWA. The HPMS has evolved into a combination of a universal count program that includes all NHS roadways (on-system and off-system), all principal arterials (State roadways), and a statistical sample for the remaining highway systems (off-system); all of which must be counted at least once every three years. In Florida, the principal arterials are counted every year. Volume data for off-system roads is very important to the local governments because it is used to apportion Federal-Aid funds.

Intermodal
Relating to the connection between any two or more modes of transportation.

Inventory
The process involving accurate verification of field and office data attributes, including updating and editing data in the RCI database. Various methods may be employed to maintain an up-to-date inventory that accurately reflects field conditions.

Jurisdiction
Authority and control over the operation of a road. Jurisdiction is generally the same as ownership.

Level of Service (LOS)
Indicates the capacity per unit of demand for each public facility. A qualitative assessment of each roadway’s operating conditions and the average typical driver’s perceptions on the quality of traffic flow are represented by the letters A thru F, with A describing the highest quality and representing the freest flow while F would be describing the lowest quantity and representing the least free flow. Planners and engineers electronically approximate the qualitative flow of traffic representations quantitatively using computerized programmed equations. Quantitative criteria for the different LOS is published in the Highway Capacity Manual as provided by the Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, Washington, D.C., and Rule 14-94 Florida Administrative Code, Level of Service Standards.

Linear Referencing System (LRS)
As defined by FHWA, the total set of procedures used for determining and retaining a record of specific points along a highway. Typical systems used are milepoint, such as RCI, reference point and link-node. The Department includes RCI, the GIS basemap, and the SLD as parts of our LRS for transportation related purposes.

Local Government
A city, county, or other non-State entity empowered by Florida Statutes (such as a Community Development District) to own and operate public roads.

Managing District
One of the eight entities that manage the state highways. Districts, one through seven, manage non-turnpike roads in their respective geographical areas. Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) manages certain toll facilities by agreement within the other districts’ geographical areas. (See Geographic District.)
**Metropolitan Planning Organization**
An organization made up of local elected and appointed officials responsible for developing, in cooperation with the state, transportation plans and programs in metropolitan areas containing 50,000 or more residents. MPOs are responsible for the development of transportation facilities that will function as an intermodal transportation system and the coordination of transportation planning and funding decisions.

**Milepoint (MP)**
Any point on a road segment, given a unique eight-digit roadway ID, identified by its distance in miles from the beginning point of the road segment. Milepoints increase in the direction of inventory and used to designate or record the position or location of features along that road segment or roadway ID. The milepoint recorded in the RCI database as a number to the third significant decimal places to the thousandth of a mile.

**Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)**
Public Law No. 112-141 that was signed on July 6, 2012, which authorizes a long-term highway authorization for funding surface transportation programs at over $105 billion for fiscal years (FY) 2013 and 2014. This law adds and clarifies federal highway system definitions and expands the National Highway System (NHS). MAP-21 also requires states and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to report on the performance of the federal system.

**National Highway System (NHS)**
Approximately 160,000 miles of public roadway, which Congress or the FHWA as nationally important to the nation’s economy, defense, and mobility has designated. In Florida, the NHS includes interstate highways and other major state highway system roadways, the Department of Defense’s (DOD) Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET), and major connectors to military installations and intermodal facilities. Connectors to defense installations or intermodal transportation facilities may be located on county highway system or city street system. NHS roadways are eligible for priority Federal Aid Funding under ISTEA.

**Non-Motorized**
Modes of transportation that does not include any vehicles or other motorized equipment capable of traveling over 20 mph.

**Operational Features**
Features that include restrictions, guidelines and informational messages imposed to more effectively manage, control and move traffic along the roadways in the state, such as speed limits, parking restrictions etc.

**Physical Features**
Physical traits of the roadway primarily grouped into the following classes: geometrics, roadway alignment, composition, structures with 20 feet or greater opening, and crossings, such as lane widths, bridges and bike lanes.

**Quality Assurance Review (QAR)**
A well-defined periodic (usually biennial) activity implemented by TranStat to evaluate District processes by which products are produced as defined by procedures, directives, guidelines, standards, and policies established at federal, state and/or Department levels.

**Quality Assurance (QA) Monitoring Plan**
A written plan documenting the method and processes of monitoring reasonable District conformance and consistency with established requirements and compliance indicators. Plans address schedules, notification, content, documentation, reporting, and follow-up of the QA program to share best practices with other districts and any needed recommendations for improvements.

**Quality Control (QC) Monitoring Plan**
A District plan for a comprehensive, well-defined, written set of procedures and activities designed to produce services and products at an established quality level. It identifies an organization and provides a specific approach to quality control as well as providing for accountability.

**Rail Line**
A system of connected railroad tracks owned and operated by various companies that transport goods, food, agricultural products, and people.

**RCI Characteristic**
A property, specific element, or component of a feature. For example, the characteristics of Feature 212 through lanes would be the number of lanes and the surface width.
RCI Database
This is the Department’s primary database used to store the inventory of roadway data.

RCI Feature
An instance of an object inventoried along a roadway. There are six types of features: 1) Administrative, 2) Maintenance, 3) Operational, 4) Physical, 5) Rail Line, and 6) Non-Motorized. A feature may be a designation, such as federal functional classification, i.e., Feature 121, or it may be a physical object, such as highway median, i.e., Feature 215.

Re-alignment
A roadway constructed on a new alignment different from the original (old) alignment.

Re-construction
A new construction of the same road alignment with added and/or new features such as increase number of thru lanes, added turn lanes, modified median, etc., but the function and traffic movement of the road remains the same.

Road
Public way open to vehicular traffic, including ramps, frontage roads, and related bridges and toll facilities, when applicable.

Roadway ID
A unique eight-digit identification number either assigned to a roadway or segment of a road, on or off the SHS maintained in the Department’s RCI database. This includes facilities classified as Active Exclusive, such as ramps or frontage roads. The first two digits represent the county code, the middle three digits represent the section number, and the last three digits represent the sub section number.

Roadway Characteristics Inventory (RCI)
FDOT’s central database that includes an inventory of many types of roadway data.

Roadway Inventory Tracking Application (RITA)
This application allows District Offices to manage, document, and plan their inventory cycles.

State Highway System (SHS)
A network of approximately 12,000 miles of highways owned and maintained by the State of Florida or state-created authorities. Major elements include Interstate highways, Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise and other toll facilities operated by transportation authorities and arterial highways.

Straight-line Diagram (SLD)
Linear graphic representation of select physical and descriptive roadway characteristics along the travel way of a road.

Strategic Intermodal System (SIS)
A transportation system comprised of facilities and services of statewide and interregional significance, including appropriate components of all modes. The highway component includes all designated SIS Highway Corridors, Emerging SIS Highway Corridors, SIS Intermodal Connectors, and Emerging SIS Highway Intermodal Connectors.

Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)
A network of highways which are important to U.S. strategic defense policy and which provide defense access, continuity and emergency capabilities for defense purposes.

Trails
A non-motorized system of paved paths for pedestrian and bicycle usage connecting to major cities along open natural space corridors such as railroads right of way converted to recreation use, scenic roads, other greenbelts, parks, nature reserves, historic sites, riverfronts, stream valleys, canals, etc.

TranStat
The Transportation Statistics Office in the FDOT Central Office in Tallahassee.

View/Update/Delete (V/U/D) Screen
A critical RCI roadway ID screen that provides a comprehensive summary of administrative data for the selected roadway, such as the RCI section established date, status, overall description, beginning and ending milepoints, net length, general compass direction, and date last updated.