

Glossary and Acronyms

TERM	DEFINITION
adaptive reuse	Use of a building for a purpose not originally intended while retaining historic features.
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
adjudicated property	Property offered for sale by the City or Parish to satisfy a tax lien, but which did not sell at the auction. Adjudicated properties can be redeemed by the original owners within three years if they pay the outstanding taxes. Adjudicated properties do not become the property of the City or Parish unless they act to acquire them.
affordable housing	Housing whose total cost (including insurance and similar expenses) accounts for no more than 30 percent of household income.
AMI	Area Median Income for a metropolitan area, defined annually by HUD.
aquifer	An underground layer or bed of permeable rock that contains water.
Area Plan	A plan for a defined geographic area smaller than the planning districts defined in the Master Plan. Area Plans must be consistent with the Master Plan and the Framework Plans for planning districts and can be created for neighborhoods, commercial areas, or similar locations. See Framework Plan.
assisted housing	Housing that is made affordable through a subsidy. The subsidy can be attached to the housing unit itself, affecting rental or sales price, or the subsidy can be given to the household, in order to add resources for rent or for purchase costs.
average	An average is the mean, or the sum of numbers in a series divided by the number of items in the series. Contrast with median.
best practice	A technique or method that is generally agreed upon by a community of experts to be the most effective means of delivering a particular outcome.
BFE	base flood elevation (established by FEMA)
bicycle boulevard	Bicycle routes on shared roadways with light motorized vehicle traffic that are designed to optimize bicycle travel with safety and traffic calming elements.
blight	Dilapidated property due to insufficient maintenance or other destructive forces. A blighted property often presents a health and/or safety hazard and is generally considered a public nuisance.

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block grant	See CDBG.
blueway	A waterway route, typically with landscaped banks and used as a recreational or aesthetic amenity.
brownfield	A building or property that contains real or perceived contamination which inhibits its redevelopment or use.
BRT	Bus rapid transit
bus rapid transit	A system of public transportation that uses buses to provide higher-speed service than ordinary bus lines, often with reserved traffic lanes, or specialized traffic signals, and stations.
CAG	See Community Advisory Group
capital budget	A plan for how a specific pool of money will be allocated for future investments or expenditures.
capital improvement program	A 5-year or longer plan for investment in assets with a long service life, such as buildings and machinery, typically including a list of projects, priorities, estimated costs, identification of resources, and a time schedule for completion.
Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer	Drinking water source for rural wells in 25% of Caddo Parish, this aquifer recharges relatively slowly by rainwater and is sensitive to potential pollution threats.
CBD	Central Business District
CDBG	See: Community Development Block Grant.
census block group	A geographic unit consisting of a group of Census blocks that is used by the U.S. Census to tabulate Census data.
census tract	A geographic unit used by the U.S. Census to tabulate Census data, which consists of multiple Census block groups.
Central Business District	For the purposes of the Master Plan, the Central Business District subarea of downtown is bounded by Spring Street, Cotton Street, McNeill Street and the railroad tracks in Cross Bayou.
CERT	Consortium of Education, Research and Technology of North Louisiana
CIP	Capital improvement plan
CIP	See capital improvement program.
Class A office space	A category of commercial office space that includes the highest quality office space that is locally available.
CNG	Compressed natural gas
community-supported agriculture (CSA)	A membership marketing system in which a group of households agree to fund farm operations through a subscription process and receive regular deliveries of farm produce in return. This system shares the risk of farming between the farm operator and the consumers, allowing more focus on quality foods, less food waste, and greater financial stability.

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Community Advisory Group	Broadly representative citizen group that oversaw the preparation of the 2030 Master Plan and will continue to serve as an advisory group to monitor and advocate for implementation of the master plan.
Community Development Block Grant	Federal funds allocated by formula (based on measures such as population, median income, age of housing stock) every year through the Department of Housing and Development to state and local governments for the purpose of developing viable communities. CDBG funds must be expended to benefit low- and moderate income households (below 80% of Area Median Income) or census tracts where 51% of households are income eligible.
community gardens/ community gardening	In community gardening, a single parcel of land is gardened by a group of people, typically, but not always, in individual lots. The land is usually owned by a government agency or a nonprofit which assists in providing water. Gardeners often pay a low annual fee to cover the cost of water
community land trust (CLT)	Property trust in which a nonprofit organization acquires permanent ownership of the land for specific community purposes. Typically used to provide affordable housing as individual households own homes on the land, but do not have to pay the cost of the land.
Complete Streets	Roadways designed and operated to enable safe, attractive, and comfortable access and travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and public transport users of all ages and abilities.
conservation servitude	A conservation servitude (also called a conservation easement) is a legally-enforceable agreement that runs with the land under which a property owner permanently gives up development rights (as detailed in the agreement) on a piece of land in order to conserve it in a natural state or for agricultural or timber uses. The easement does not make the property public; the property remains private, but the easement is recorded with the deed. Property owners typically receive tax advantages because the elimination of development rights affects the value of the portion of land covered by the conservation servitude.
context-sensitive solutions (CSS)	Context-sensitive solutions is a term used in transportation planning to describe an approach that involves all stakeholders and considers the total context of a transportation facility so that it includes the physical setting and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic and environmental resources while preserving safety and mobility.
CSA	community-supported agriculture
Cultural Products District	State-designated districts with special historic rehabilitation tax credits and sales tax exemptions for original artwork.
DDA	Downtown Development Authority
demographics	Statistical characteristics of a specified population, typically including age, sex, race, income, household composition, educational status, and employment status.
density of land use	Typically expressed as the number of dwelling units per acre.
Department of Housing and Urban Development/ HUD	A federal agency that supports housing and community development through programs and funding to cities and states.

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disinvestment	Withdrawal of investment and lack of maintenance of properties by private owners that over time can result in blight.
DOS	Shreveport Department of Operational Services
DSDC	Downtown Shreveport Development Corporation
DSU	Downtown Shreveport Unlimited
EDC	Economic Development Corporation
e-government	Electronic or digital government, meaning the use of the technology and the Internet to make government more user-friendly to residents, businesses and others. Examples include the ability to conduct government business online and the provision of government documents and data online.
entitlement community	A city or urban community over 50,000 population that receives Community Development Block Grant funds directly from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
exurban	Developed areas farther away from the central city than suburbs that have a scattered mix of land uses, including very-low-density housing, new subdivisions, mobile homes, and industrial or commercial development interspersed with agriculture or timber lands or other typically rural enterprises.
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Administration
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FMR	Fair Market Rents, established annually by HUD.
fracking	See hydraulic fracturing.
Framework Plan	Framework Plans, as used in Chapter 6 of the Master Plan, are plans for the proposed planning districts that will set overall land use principles and policies consistent with the Master Plan for each of the planning districts. See Area Plans.
future land use map	A map in a community master plan or comprehensive plan that shows the distribution of generalized land uses by category (residential, commercial, industrial, mixed) desired in the future.
GIS	Geographic Information Systems—digital maps.
green building	Green buildings are designed, built and operated to reduce the overall impact of the built environment on human health and the natural environment by maximizing resource efficiency (energy, water, and other resources) and minimizing waste, pollution and adverse environmental impacts.
green energy	Energy derived from any source that is considered to be environmentally-friendly and cause less pollution. See also: renewable energy.
green infrastructure	An integrated network and system of parks, open spaces, tree canopy, recreational areas, and natural land.

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green streets	The term “green streets” is used in several different ways, but all are related to promoting environmental sustainability: use of transportation alternatives to the car; street-tree planting; and vegetated facilities installed along streets to treat stormwater at the source. In the Master Plan, “green streets” refers to streets with vegetation, whether street trees or stormwater facilities.
greenfield	A previously-undeveloped area of land.
greenway	Greenways are typically linear parks that include a multipurpose pathway for pedestrian and bicycle travel. They are often located along waterways or on unused railroad corridors. Greenways can also be linear vegetated areas without paths that function as natural corridors for habitat, stormwater management, or similar environmental purposes.
Haynesville Shale Play	The Haynesville Shale is a geologic formation under northwest Louisiana that is believed to contain 168 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, making it the fourth-largest producing field in the world as of 2010.
hazard mitigation	Any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.
HCV	Housing Choice Vouchers (“Section 8”) for assisted housing. Voucher holders go into the private market to rent housing. They must pay up to 30% of household income in housing costs, and the federal government pays the remainder up to the established Fair Market Rent for that size housing unit and metropolitan area.
heritage tourism	Tourism that focuses on historic sites, locations, and traditions.
Historic Preservation Advisory Committee	Recommended citizens’ committee to advise the Shreveport City Council and the MPC on historic resources and to raise public awareness about historic resources. If a local historic district were to be established, the Historic Preservation District Commission established for that district would supercede the advisory committee.
homeless	The condition of being without fixed, regular, and adequate housing due to financial or other hardship.
HOPE	Homeless Organizations Providing Empowerment (HOPE) is the organization in northwest Louisiana that serves homeless persons, provides shelter and case management, and assists homeless persons in making the transition to permanent housing. HOPE functions as the region’s Continuum of Care organization to coordinate services and grants from federal and state sources.
Housing Policy Advisory Council	A group made up of representatives of government, neighborhood organizations, for-profit and nonprofit housing developers, realtors, and representatives of economic development organizations to advise the City and MPC on the location, appearance and management of assisted housing in the MPC Master Plan Area.
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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hydraulic fracturing	Hydraulic fracturing is a method of introducing water through a wellbore into rock formations in order to create fractures that allow for the release of natural gas. The water is combined with proppants (such as sand), to keep the fractures open, and small amounts of chemicals.
hydrology	Movement, distribution and quality of water.
impact fee	Impact fees are one-time fees imposed on new development to reflect the new development's fair share of providing additional facilities such as roads, water and sewer infrastructure, public safety, solid waste, and parks. They are regulatory measures to ensure orderly growth, not taxes. Impact fees must meet three requirements: the demand for new capital facilities is from new development; the new development pays its proportional share of the cost; the fees are managed and expended in such a way that the new development receives a substantial benefit.
incentive	Something that promotes action. In development, incentives can include financial grants as well as special permissions, such as faster approval for a permit or permission to construct a bigger building.
infill development	Introduction of new housing or buildings within or adjacent to existing neighborhoods.
inside the loop	The Master Plan is based on a smart growth approach to promote development and redevelopment "inside the loop," an area bounded by the Red River; a line from where I-220 crosses the river west to the Shreveport-Blanchard highway (Rt 173); Rt 173 to I-220 to Rt 3132; then to Bert Kounds and Flournoy Lucas and back to the river. See the maps in the Master Plan (for example, Map 6.1).
institution	Organizations devoted to a particular cause or program that is public, educational or charitable. In land use typically used as a category referring to schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, churches and similar organizations.
intensity of land use	Typically, a measure of non-residential or mixed-use density expresses as floor area ratio. FAR is the total building floor area (on all floors) divided by the area of the lot.
ITS	intelligent transportation systems
LA DOTD	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
LABI	Laboratory for Advanced Biomedical Informatics (LSUS)
land use	Purpose for which land is developed or zoned expressed as a category of use, such as residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, park and open space, mixed-use, and so on.
LDEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

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leapfrog development	Leapfrog development is new residential development that bypasses vacant parcels to locate farther away from an existing urban area. Because of the need for infrastructure and creation of more traffic and commuting time, it entails additional costs to serve the development, even if the land is less expensive than land closer to the existing urbanized area. Developers and residents of leapfrog locations who do not pay for these additional infrastructure costs end up shifting the burden to existing taxpayers and ratepayers.
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (US Green Building Council)—a system for scoring the environmental sustainability of buildings and developments.
level of service	Level of service (LOS) standards are measures of the amount and/or quality of a public facility needed to meet the basic needs and expectations of a community current and future population.
LHFA	Louisiana Housing Finance Agency
LIHTC	Low-Income Housing Tax Credits
local historic preservation district	A district designated by local government under the state historic preservation laws in which properties are subject to mandatory and binding review of external changes before property owners can obtain a building permit to make changes. The review is performed by an appointed Historic Preservation District Commission, which must issue a Certificate of Appropriateness based on written criteria before a building permit can be issued.
Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)	A federal tax credit allowed for private investment in qualified low-income housing. LIHTC allocations are made through state governments, which assign the tax credits to qualified projects. The developer typically sells the tax credits in order to raise capital to build the affordable housing development.
LSU Health	LSU Health Sciences Center
LSUHSC	LSU Health Sciences Center
LSUS	Louisiana State University—Shreveport
Main Street Program	The Main Street program, administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, provides training and technical assistance to help revitalize historic commercial centers.
Master Plan Area	The Master Plan Area is the geographic area under the land use jurisdiction of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Commission of Caddo Parish.
median	In a series of numbers, the median is the numeric value that separates the top 50% from the bottom 50%. For example, half of the households in an area have a higher income than the median income, and half of the households have a lower income. Contrast with average.
metropolitan area/ metropolitan statistical area	A geographic area used for federal data tabulation encompassing a core area with a large population nucleus (e.g., a city), plus adjacent areas that are considered economically and socially integrated with that core area.

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Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	A geographic region defined by the US Office of Management and Budget for statistical purposes that includes a core with higher population density and strong economic ties in the region. The Shreveport-Bossier MSA as of 2010 includes Caddo, Bossier and DeSoto parishes.
MGD	Million gallons per day
mixed use	Combination of two or more land uses, such as residential and commercial, in one building, in one project, or within a defined district.
MPC	Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Commission of Caddo Parish
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization—the federally designated organization for planning transportation improvements funded by federal dollars. The Shreveport-Bossier MPO covers Caddo and Bossier parishes and is administered by the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments.
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
National Register of Historic Places; National Register District	The nation's official list of historic and cultural resources worth preserving is kept by the Department of the Interior. A National Register District is a geographical grouping of important resources. Federal projects must prepare impact statements and avoid adverse impacts on listed resources, but there is no other protection for listed resources, which may be modified or demolished by their owners
neighborhood conservation district	Districts where new building or modifications to existing buildings are reviewed for compatibility with a previously established set of criteria chosen as essential to preservation of the basic character of the neighborhood. Administration varies depending on the jurisdiction and review can range from advisory to mandatory. Criteria are less stringent than in local historic districts.
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NLCOG	Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments
NRPA	National Recreation and Park Association
opportunity sites	Underutilized or vacant sites that can be redeveloped into vibrant mixed-use places.
ozone nonattainment area	Under the Clean Air Act, the EPA is required to set protective health-based standards for ozone in the air we breathe. Most ground-level ozone (a primary ingredient of smog) results from vehicle use. When areas do not meet EPA standards, they are designated nonattainment areas. Once nonattainment designations take effect, the state and local governments have three years to develop implementation plans outlining how areas will attain and maintain the standards by reducing air pollutant emissions contributing to ground-level ozone concentrations. This usually involves efforts to provide more transportation choices and reduce travel in single-occupancy vehicles (SOV).
paratransit	Transit that is not fixed to a particular schedule or route. Typically used to serve people with special needs, such as people with disabilities, that prevent them from utilizing regular public transit.
pedestrian	A person traveling on foot.

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permanent supportive housing	Housing for formerly-homeless people that is not time-limited and is associated with supportive services.
Phase I Environmental Assessment	A report on existing and potential environmental contamination of a property based on examination of the site and research into previous uses. It does not involve actual physical sampling of materials on the site or underground.
placemaking	Planning and design that seeks to preserve, enhance or create physical spaces and environments that have meaning and provide livable experiences to the people who live, work, shop, play and otherwise use the spaces.
poverty	The U.S. government defines poverty according to income thresholds that vary by family size and composition.
public housing	Housing units owned, rented, maintained and/or administered by a Housing Authority to income-qualified households.
public realm	Areas that are publicly-accessible, including streets and sidewalks, parks and open space, public plazas, etc. - both publicly- and privately-owned.
renewable energy	Energy that is derived from a renewable source - such as sunlight, wind, rain, the flow of tides and rivers, and geothermal heat - as opposed to non-renewable (finite) energy sources, such as oil, coal, and natural gas.
resilience	Capacity to anticipate significant multi-hazard threats, to reduce overall the community's vulnerability to hazard events, to respond to and recover from specific hazard events when they occur, and to adapt to changing risks and hazards.
RFP	request for proposals
risk	A state of uncertainty where some of the possibilities involve a loss, catastrophe, or other undesirable outcome and the level of risk is related to both the probability of an event and the level of likely undesirable consequences from the event.
RRWMI	Red River Watershed Management Institute (LSUS)
Salvinia molesta	Invasive nonnative aquatic fern that grows on the water surface to form a mat that blocks sunlight, uses up oxygen, and results in the death of other aquatic plants and animals. It is established in Cross Lake and is very difficult to eliminate or contain.
SBDC	Small Business Development Center
screw pump	A device used to pump water that uses a screw-shaped mechanism inside a hollow pipe.
servitude	See conservation servitude.
SFD	Shreveport Fire Department
single-family housing	Housing that contains one housing unit per structure.
Smart Growth	Compact development patterns characterized by walkability and transportation choice, a range of housing choices, preservation of open space, and associated features that reduce sprawl and encourage a unique sense of community and place.
SOV	Single-occupancy vehicle

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SPAR	Shreveport Public Assembly and Recreation
SPD	Shreveport Police Department
SporTran	Shreveport public transportation system.
sprawl	Expansive, low-density and auto-dependent development, often accompanied by disinvestment in city core areas.
SPRINT	Single Paramedic Intervention program (emergency medical services)
SRAC	Shreveport Regional Arts Council
SSO	Sanitary Sewer Overflow
stormwater management	Mechanism for controlling stormwater runoff for the purposes of reducing flooding, water quality degradation, and downstream erosion and mitigating the adverse effects of changes in land use on the aquatic environment.
stormwater parks	Public parks that include features that retain rain and runoff during storm events and allow the water to slowly percolate into the ground. This reduces the need for hard drainage infrastructure while simultaneously creating a public amenity.
subdivision	Division of a large plot of land owned by a single owner into smaller plots for sale to multiple owners.
subsidized housing	See assisted housing.
subsidy	A grant or gift in the form of money or other contributions, offered publicly by a government entity to encourage a particular type of development or other activity. In housing: financial assistance to owners or developers of housing in exchange for providing housing at a cost that is lower than market rate, or provided to residents to lower the cost of housing.
supportive housing	See: permanent supportive housing.
TACA	Texas Avenue Community Association
TIF	Tax-increment financing. A strategy for paying for infrastructure and other improvements that involves issuing bonds to cover capital costs and repaying those bonds with the incremental increase in property tax revenue in the area benefiting from the improvements.
TND	traditional neighborhood development (see below)
traditional neighborhood development	Planned new development that includes a variety of housing options, mixture of uses, interconnected and walkable streets, and public spaces and parks to serve all areas in the development.
traffic calming	Strategies and facilities to slow and reduce motor vehicle traffic to a modest but continuous speed in order to make streets safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. Includes facilities such as small traffic circles, speed bumps and tables, bump-outs, etc.
tree canopy	Shade coverage provided by trees in public and private locations that provides aesthetic and environmental benefits.
UDC	Unified Development Code

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underutilized	Not used to the fullest potential. Typically, land or buildings that have significant vacancy or little development relative to what is permitted.
Unified Development Code	An ordinance to regulate development that includes zoning, subdivision regulations, street and thoroughfare regulations, development standards, environmental regulations, sign regulations, historic preservation regulations, and permitting and annexation rules.
universal design	Architectural, industrial and urban design that is equally accessible for able-bodied and disabled persons—an approach that goes beyond handicap-accessibility.
urban agriculture	The practice of cultivating, processing and distributing food in urbanized areas. It can include community gardens as well as enterprises producing food for the market.
urban forestry	Management of trees as a collective resource in urban areas, including planting, care, and protection.
urban village	Urban villages as described in the Master Plan are locations suitable for mixed-use development with walkable precincts of compact, higher density housing and retail and services for surrounding residential areas
watershed	A geographic area in which all the water drains to the same place, typically a stream or lake.
West Edge	The West Edge subdistrict of downtown in the Master Plan is bounded approximately by Cotton Street, McNeill Street, Caddo Street, Douglas Street, and the 800 block of Texas Avenue.
WIB	Workforce Investment Board
workforce	All members of a given population who are employed typically measured starting at age 16.
workforce development	Education or training for members of the workforce to facilitate increased skill, knowledge, and expertise (and, typically, increased earning power).
WRCNL	Water Resources Committee of Northwest Louisiana
WTP	Water treatment plant
zoning	Regulations that establish the allowable uses in defined geographic areas (zones) and sets standards for the characteristics of development in those areas. Zoning regulations also define the process for gaining approval to develop a specific area of land to or change its use.