



APPENDIX B - GLOSSARY

This Glossary of Terms includes common definitions of terms used in the Comprehensive Plan and is intended as a convenience to help readers better understand some of the terms used in the Plan. Definitions for terms used in this Comprehensive Plan that are defined in the Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance or in state statutes or administrative rules are found in those documents and those definitions control in the case of any conflict between those definitions and any statement in this Comprehensive Plan.

TERM	DEFINITION
Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)	Generally, a second dwelling unit created on a lot, parcel or tract with an existing detached single-family house or manufactured home. The second unit is auxiliary to, and is typically smaller than, the main dwelling.
Adjacent use	Generally, a use located on a lot, parcel or tract that abuts the subject property.
Aggregation/disaggregation	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Agri-tourism	To be defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Commercial Forest Use (CFU)	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Channel migration	Lateral movement of rivers in response to normal sedimentation (gradual) or flooding events (abrupt)
Community facilities	See public facilities.
Conditional use	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.



TERM	DEFINITION
Cultural resource	Generally, aspects of cultural systems that contain significant information about a culture. These resources include, but are not limited to, districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are associated with people, cultures, and human activities and events, either in the present or in the past.
Dark sky outdoor lighting	Generally, lighting that is used only when needed, lights only the area that is needed, is no brighter than necessary, minimizes blue light emissions and is fully shielded (pointed downward).
Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)	The state agency in Oregon that serves as the administrative arm of the Land Conservation and Development Commission.
Development	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Ecosystem services	The contribution of ecosystem conditions and processes to human well-being including the production of goods and processes that control variability, support life, health, and safety, enrich cultural life, and preserve options. Examples include pollination of trees and plants, climate regulation, flood mitigation, stormwater management, clean air and water, recreational opportunities, and satisfaction of aesthetic and spiritual needs.
Exclusive Farm Use (EFU)	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Economic, Social, Environmental and Energy (ESEE)	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.



TERM	DEFINITION
Exception lands	Generally, rural lands that have been designated for a non-farm or non-forest use as an exception to the statewide goals and policies to conserve rural areas for agricultural and forestry uses. Exception lands in Multnomah County include areas designated for rural residential, rural center and multiple use agriculture. See definition of "Goal Exception" for additional information.
Farm stand	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Farmworker housing	Housing limited to occupancy by farmworkers and their immediate families, no dwelling unit of which is occupied by a relative of the owner or operator of the farmworker housing.
Floodplain	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Forest Practice	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Forested Area	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Forest Practices Act	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Goal	A broad statement of an intended outcome. A goal provides a foundation and general direction for policies.
Goal 5	Under the Oregon State Planning Program, the statewide planning goal that addresses Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Spaces.
Goal exception	Defined in Oregon Statewide Planning Goals.
Hardship dwelling	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes and Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.



TERM	DEFINITION
Home occupation	Generally, a limited business activity that is accessory to a residential use. Home occupations are conducted primarily within a residence or a building normally associated with uses permitted in the zone in which the property is located and are operated by a resident or employee of a resident of the property on which the business is located. Specifically, as defined in the Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Important natural landscape features	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC)	The seven-person volunteer commission appointed by the Governor to develop and administer Oregon's statewide planning goals.
Land use	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA)	The independent, three-person board appointed by the Governor to hear and rule on appeals of land use decisions made by local governments and special districts. LUBA is the only forum that can hear appeals of local land use decisions.
Liquefaction	A process where loose, wet sediments lose strength during an earthquake and behave similarly to a liquid. Once a soil liquefies, it will tend to settle vertically and/or spread laterally.
Listed species (Threatened or endangered species)	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Lot of record	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.



TERM	DEFINITION
Low impact development	Generally, strategies to reduce the environmental impact of development on natural systems, including hydrology and vegetation. These strategies include using paving and roofing materials that reduce impervious area; clustered or small lot development that reduces disturbance area; vegetated stormwater management that mimics pre-development site hydrology; alternative road layout and narrower streets; natural area protection; and landscaping with native plants.
Mass gathering	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes; Local jurisdictions are authorized to re-define.
Metro	The Metropolitan Services District of the Portland metropolitan area, a municipal corporation established and existing pursuant to Section 14 of Article XI of the Oregon constitution, ORS Chapter 268 and the Metro Charter.
Metro regional framework plan	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Metro Title 13	Section 13.07.1310 -13.07.1370 of the Metro Urban Growth Management Functional Plan, also titled "Nature in the Neighborhoods" which is intended to conserve, protect and restore a continuous ecologically viable streamside corridor system integrated with upland wildlife habitat and the urban landscape. Local jurisdictions within the Portland metropolitan urban growth boundary are required to meet requirements of Title 13.
Metro urban growth management functional plan	The rules and regulations adopted in Metro Code that implement regional goals and objectives adopted by the Metro Council as the Regional Urban Growth Goals and Objectives (RUGGO), including the Metro 2040 Growth Concept and the Regional Framework Plan.



TERM	DEFINITION
Minimize	Generally, to reduce to the extent reasonably possible or feasible.
Mitigate	Generally, to moderate or alleviate in force or intensity; to make less severe, less painful or less of a loss.
Natural resource	Generally, a functioning natural system, such as a wetland or a stream, wildlife habitat or material in the environment used or capable of being used for some purpose, also including minerals and fuels, agricultural resources and forests
Non-conforming use	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Non-farm use (non-agricultural)	Generally, a use of land in a farm zone which is not a use defined at state or local law or rule as a "farm use."
Non-forest use (non-forestry)	Generally, a use of land in a forestry zone which is not defined at state or local law or rule as a "commercial forestry use."
Non-forested "Cleared" Area	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Off-site impact	Generally, an impact related to development or a change in land use that is experienced by a property, land use or public facility that is located beyond the site where the development or change of use occurs.
Oregon Administrative Rules	Defined in Oregon Revised Statutes.
Oregon Revised Statutes	The laws passed by the Oregon Legislature (also referred to as "ORS" and "statutes").
Parcel	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.



TERM	DEFINITION
Parcelization	The process of dividing a unit of land into multiple, separate lots, parcels, or other unit of land for the purpose of development.
Permeable surface	Generally, a range of paving materials and techniques that allow the movement of stormwater through the surface. In addition to reducing runoff, this effectively traps suspended solids and filters pollutants from the water.
Policy	A commitment to a general course of action designed to guide decisions. By adopting a land use policy, the County obliges itself to render decisions consistent with that policy.
Policy 21 streams	Streams deemed significant in the 1997 East of Sandy River Rural Area Plan (Policy 21) by way of the East of Sandy River ESEE Report.
Public facilities	Facilities developed and maintained by public agencies or private entities to serve the needs of area residents and business owners, including facilities for the conveyance or treatment of water, wastewater and stormwater, as well as those for schools, parks, recreation, fire protection, emergency response, law enforcement, utilities, and communication.
Regional trail	A trail that is typically separated from roadways with curbs, plantings or other barriers; crosses neighborhood lines to connect cities, parks and other trails; can be a destination itself; and is part of the Metro Regional Trail system.
Reported violation (code compliance policies)	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.



TERM	DEFINITION
Resiliency	Generally, the capacity for a socio-ecological system to absorb stresses and maintain function in the face of external stresses imposed upon it by climate change; and to adapt, reorganize, and evolve into more desirable configurations that improve the sustainability of the system, leaving it better prepared for future climate change impacts.
Rural center	Areas within rural Multnomah County that have been acknowledged by DLCD to be unincorporated communities with limited commercial, community service, industrial and residential uses. Support services in these areas are usually limited and the intensities and types of uses located within them must be appropriate to the character of the rural area. The size of commercial and industrial uses in rural centers is limited by state law and local zoning standards in order to be compatible with the rural character. Multnomah County's designated rural centers are Bonneville, Burlington, Orient, Pleasant Home, Sauvie Island, and Springdale.
Rural character or rural nature (see Chapter 1 for a detailed definition)	A pattern of relatively low densities of development, the presence of farm and forest uses and operations, compact "non-urban" roads and other public facilities, and an abundance of natural and scenic resources.
Rural community values	Generally, those characteristics of a rural community that are valued and cherished and which the community does not want to see diminished by new development.
Rural reserve	Defined in Oregon Administrative Rules.



TERM	DEFINITION
Safe harbor	A special state provision that ensures compliance with Statewide Planning Goal 5 (natural, historic and cultural resources). For riparian areas, wetlands, and wildlife habitats, a city or county can choose the safe harbor or follow the five-step process. The standard process gives a local government more flexibility, but also takes more work and heightens the risk of litigation.
Scenic views	A view of natural and/or manmade structures and activities that are found to have significant scenic qualities. A scenic view may be from a stationary viewpoint or be seen as one travels along a roadway, waterway, or path. A view may be a panorama of a distant object, such as a mountain or wooded hillside, or of a nearby object, such as a bridge.
Scenic waterways	A river or stream designated as a state scenic waterway by ORS 390.826 which includes the Sandy River in Multnomah County.
Significant Environmental Concern (SEC)	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Statewide Planning Goals	The State of Oregon's adopted 19 planning goals, 14 of which are applicable to every jurisdiction in the state. The remaining five goals cover the Willamette Greenway (Goal 15) and the coastal area (Goals 16-19).
Strategy	A specific course of action for implementing a particular policy. The County is not obligated to implement an adopted strategy and the ability and timeframe for implementing any given strategy is subject to constraints on funding, changes in federal, state or regional laws, and other limitations.



TERM	DEFINITION
Sustainable	Generally, the use of land or resources in a way that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Template dwelling	Defined in Multnomah County Zoning Ordinance.
Urban growth boundary (UGB)	The urban growth boundary as adopted and amended by the Metro Council, consistent with state law. Also referred to as “UGB”. (Metro Code 3.07.1010(kk))
Urban reserve	Defined in Oregon Administrative Rules.
Urban service boundary	The boundary within which a local jurisdiction is authorized by state law or intergovernmental agreement with other service providers to provide urban services such as water, wastewater and stormwater management, treatment or conveyance. The urban service boundary typically coincides with the urban growth boundary on the edge of the Portland metropolitan region.
Viewshed	Generally, the geographical area that is visible from a location. It includes all surrounding points that are in line-of-sight with that location and excludes points that are beyond the horizon or obstructed by terrain and other features (e.g., buildings, trees).
Wildlife corridor	Generally, an area currently used by wildlife on a regular basis for daily travel, seasonal migration, or general dispersal or an area planned and designed for such wildlife travel in the future.



TERM	DEFINITION
Wildlife crossing	Generally, a structure or improvement that allows animals to safely cross human-made barriers. Wildlife crossings may include underpass tunnels, viaducts, overpasses or signage, combined with other measures to improve the safety of wildlife.
Wildlife Habitat Tax Deferral	A program created by the Oregon Legislature that provides a tax incentive to private landowners who want to provide wildlife habitat on their properties instead of, or in addition to, farming, growing timber or other land uses. Under this program, land subject to an approved wildlife habitat conservation and management plan receives a wildlife habitat special assessment, where property taxes are assessed at the relatively low value that would apply if the land were being farmed or used for commercial forestry.