

# APPENDIX

# Glossary

**Active recreation:** Structured activities that require the use of special facilities, courses, fields, or equipment, such as baseball, basketball, tennis, etc.

**Adaptation:** Adjustment in natural or human systems to a new or changing environment that exploits beneficial opportunities or moderates negative effects (ECPP 2020, p 25)

**Affordable housing** is housing that is affordable to households with low incomes, meaning that these households pay no more than 30% of their income for housing costs like rent, mortgage, and utilities. Standard is units for which a family would pay no more than 30% of their income for rent or 2.5 times their annual income to purchase.

**Area Median Income (AMI)** – many affordable housing programs are based on AMI. The Orange County AMI in 2021 was \$86,400.<sup>1</sup>

- Low-income households are considered low-income if they earn no more than 80% of AMI. In 2021, this was \$48,400 for one person and \$69,100 for a family of four
- Very low-income households are those that earn under 50% of AMI. In 2021 this was \$30,250 for one person and \$43,200 for a family of four
- Extremely low-income households are those that earn under 30% of AMI. In 2021 this was \$18,150 for one person and \$25,900 for a family of four

**Best Management Practices (BMPs):** Practices that can be implemented to prevent or reduce the amount of pollution generated in stormwater runoff, protect water quality, and promote soil conservation. Examples include: runoff diversions, silt fences, stream, buffers, groundcover vegetation, etc.<sup>2</sup>

**BIPOC:** An acronym for the term “Black, Indigenous, People of Color” which is used to highlight the unique relationship to whiteness that Indigenous and Black (African Americans) people have, which shapes the experiences of and relationship to white supremacy for all people of color within a U.S. context.<sup>3</sup>

**Bioengineering stormwater methods:** Include rain gardens, stormwater wetlands, permeable pavement, rainwater harvesting, disconnected impervious surfaces, and other green infrastructure, detention ponds, and rain gardens.

**Bioretention:** Use of plants and soils for removal of pollutants from stormwater runoff via adsorption, filtration, sedimentation, volatilization, ion exchange, and biological decomposition (NCDENR Stormwater SCM Manual)

**Carrboro Joint Development Review Area (CJDA)** – adopted in 1986 as part of the Orange County-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Joint Planning Area Land Use Map. The area includes Transition Area 1 and 2.

**Character:** Used in the context of community planning and design, this term is used to describe the collection of many features that help shape a place’s identity and the way that residents live, work, play, and travel. Community character can also define a “sense of place,” which is the sum of visual, cultural, and social characteristics that provide meaning to a location.<sup>4</sup>

**Climate Change:** Increasing quantity of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere is causing temperatures to rise and increasing the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, and that human activities are the primary cause (CCAP 2020, p 2).

**Conservations Areas:** An area of land that is protected or of special interest to be preserved (i.e. University Lake).

**Distributed renewable energy sources:** Energy coming from renewable sources (i.e. solar, wind, geothermal) and are generated near point of use (e.g., residential home, municipal building) rather than a centralized power plant.

**Evapotranspire:** How water transfers from land to the atmosphere through evaporation and transpiration (water going from soil and evaporating from plants).

**Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ):** Area outside of the Town’s municipal boundary that is still subject to the Town’s land development regulations and within the Joint Planning Area as part of an agreement between Orange County, Carrboro, and Chapel Hill.

**Greenways:** Unbroken chains of preserved open space surrounding stream and wildlife corridors, headwaters, water recharge areas, and significant ecosystems that also provide bicycle and pedestrian connections between neighborhoods and for the community.<sup>5</sup>

**Greenway Connections:** Paths or routes that provide bicycle and pedestrian connections to/from greenways and trails.

**Green space:** Land covered with grass, trees, shrubs, or other vegetation (e.g. parks, community gardens, and cemeteries).

**Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI):** Nature-based stormwater management methods that mitigate flooding, improve the ecosystem's health, and provide additional benefits to the community.

**Grey Stormwater Infrastructure:** Built stormwater management methods like pipes

**Geomorphic instability:** When the slopes of landscape, rivers or streams, and hills are less stable, often due to erosion.

**Community plan/actions:** Broader plan to address activities that: expands the focus to include energy saving activities across the jurisdiction (residential, commercial, industrial, transportation, and other sectors) of the broader community; recognizes that, while local government actions can greatly influence, energize, and leverage effective activities in the broader community, the government has less direct control over these activities in comparison to a government-only plan (CCAP 2020, p 6-7).

**Ecologically Sensitive:** Ecosystems that are sensitive to destruction due to direct or indirect human actions

**Economic Sustainability:** A sustainable economy provides long-term financial opportunities for local businesses.

**Equitable development** is attained when all individuals have an opportunity to prosper and outcomes are not predetermined based on one's race, gender, age, creed, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression or economic status.

**Energy efficiency:** Improvements to reduce building energy consumption.

**Energy Positive Building:** When a building creates more

energy than it uses.

**Feeder System:** Smaller bodies of water that join into a larger body water.

**Microgrid:** Generation of renewable energy paired with battery storage that are independent from the energy grid but can provide energy to grid during outages. (Advanced Energy)

**Micro-mobility:** Bike Share, E-Bike, E-Scooters, and other vehicles that cannot travel more than 15 miles per hour (Ch. 6 Motor Vehicles and Traffic)

**Mitigation:** Activities that avoid or decrease the release of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, or decrease atmospheric GHG concentrations, e.g., carbon storage in forests or soils (ECPP 2020, p 25).

**Multigenerational wellness:** The active process of pursuing a healthy lifestyle across all age groups.

**Municipal plan/actions:** A focus on government buildings, facilities, infrastructure, and transportation; concentrates on activities for which the government has direct influence – e.g., personnel, planning, and budgeting – which means tighter control over implementation (CCAP 2020, p 6).

**Natural Areas:** Land that is largely undeveloped/undisturbed and in its natural state (e.g. Carolina North Forest, nature reserves, prairies, etc.).

**Nature Play:** Any unstructured play in outdoor settings and with natural elements and features (i.e., trees, logs, rocks, water) as opposed to conventional manufactured playground equipment.

**Northern Study Area (NSA) and Northern Transition Area (NTA)** – The NSA is Carrboro's northern growth area and is the subject for the Facilitated Small Area Plan for Carrboro's Northern Study Area adopted in 1999. The Northern Transition Area Advisory Committee provides input on planning, growth and development issues for the NSA.

**Open Space:** Per the Carrboro Land Use Ordinance, Open Space refers to an area that: is not encumbered with any substantial structure; is not devoted to use as a roadway, parking area, or sidewalk; is not part of any privately owned lot that is used or intended for use for residential purposes; is legally and practicably accessible to the general public or to the residents of the development where the open space is located.

**Passive recreation:** Activities that do not require prepared facilities or special resources, such as walking, nature viewing, picnicking, etc.

**Points of Interest:** Groceries, restaurants, businesses, government buildings, etc.

**Present use value taxation:** A program enacted by the North Carolina Legislature that allows for reduced tax values of individually owned property involved in agricultural, horticultural or forestry management.<sup>6</sup>

**Productive Areas:** Environments that provide ecosystem services (like pollination, clean air, climate resiliency) that benefit living things, including humans.

**Racism, Structural/Systemic:** Systemic and structural racism are forms of racism that are pervasively and deeply embedded in systems, laws, written or unwritten policies, and entrenched practices and beliefs that produce, condone, and perpetuate widespread unfair treatment and oppression of people of color, with adverse health consequences. Examples include residential segregation, unfair lending practices and other barriers to home ownership and accumulating wealth, schools' dependence on local property taxes, environmental injustice, biased policing and sentencing of men and boys of color, and voter suppression policies.<sup>7</sup>

**Racial Equity Assessment Tools:** A Racial Equity Impact Analysis can be used to inform and shape transportation policy decisions and/or recommendations. Some criteria that may be included in an assessment include: assessing the benefits and impacts (burdens) of the project on certain racial groups, how the needs of racial minorities will be prioritized, and strategies to mitigate potential negative consequences around decision-making.

**Recreation providers:** Any department or organization dedicated to providing recreational facilities and programming for public use (e.g. Carrboro's Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Resources Department, Orange County Parks Department, YMCA, RENA, etc.).

**Renewable Energy Site:** Locations where renewable energy are zoned/allowed.

**Resilience:** Closely related to the concept of adaptation is climate resilience (ECP 2020, p 25). The capacity of a community, business, or natural environment to prevent, withstand, respond to, and recover from a disruption (U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit)

**Transportation Demand Management:** A set of strategies aimed at maximizing traveler choices. (US DOT Federal Highway Administration)

**Urban Heat Island Effect:** Where temperatures are higher in certain areas of a jurisdiction as a result of a loss of vegetation, removing shade and natural cooling, and an increase in heat-absorbing building materials, such as asphalt parking lots and building rooftops

**Walkability:** A measurement of how friendly an area is to walking; an environment which supports safe, convenient, and pleasant access to desired people, places, and amenities.

**Water conservation measures** reduce household water use.

**Weatherization:** building improvements that enhance occupant comfort during severe weather.

Note: See "On Language" section in Chapter 1: Introduction for a discussion regarding race and ethnicity used in the plan. Further information on usage of terms including African American, Black, Asian, American Indian, Native American, Hispanic, Latino or Latina, Latinx are described in Flanagan A., Frey, T., Christiansen, S, et al, "Updated Guidance on the Reporting of Race and Ethnicity in Medical and Science Journals, JAMA, 2021;326(7):621-627. doi:10.1001/jama.2021.13304 <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2783090>

1. Orange County "What is Affordable Housing?" <https://www.orangecountync.gov/1083/Affordable-Housing-101>

2. NC Forest Service "What are BMPs" [https://www.ncforestservice.gov/water\\_quality/what\\_are\\_bmps.htm](https://www.ncforestservice.gov/water_quality/what_are_bmps.htm)

3. The BIPOC Project "About Us." <https://www.thebipocproject.org/about-us>

4. Edward McMahon "The Distinctive City." <https://urbanland.uli.org/development-business/the-distinctive-city/> (2012)

5. <https://townofcarrboro.org/238/Greenways-Commission>

6. <https://www.co.orange.nc.us/1793/Present-Use-Value>

7. Braveman, Paula A., et al. "Systemic and Structural Racism: Definitions, Examples, Health Damages, and Approaches to Dismantling: Health Affairs Journal." Health Affairs, 1 Feb. 2022, <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2021.01394>