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Note: Project cost estimates contained in this publication represent the planning estimates of the total costs of a project. These include: preliminary engineering, right-of-way, utilities, construction, and construction engineering. These estimates are derived from analyses of current prices and are adjusted for inflation.

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Abbreviations and Definitions

Road building, like every other occupation, has its own vocabulary, its “shorthand” and its abbreviations. The following are those most commonly used in this booklet:

Armor Coat - A thin covering of gravel placed after the roadway surface has been sprayed with asphalt.

Br. (Bridge) - Structure over stream or roadway. May include new construction, reconstruction, widening or rehabilitation of existing structure. May include reconstruction of approaches.

Conc. (Concrete)

Crack Seal - The sealing of random and reflective cracks in concrete and bituminous pavements with a hot-pour type sealer.

Culv. (Culverts) - Pipes or concrete boxes necessary to carry water under the roadway.

Dowel Bar Retrofit - Placement of steel bars into existing concrete pavement to distribute the loads more uniformly.

Fog Seal - A thin coat of bituminous material sprayed on the surfacing to prevent the intrusion of water.

Gr. (Grading) - The movement of earth needed to construct the project as designed.

Grinding - Diamond grinding to smooth the surface of a concrete pavement.

Interchange - Construction of a new interchange or revision of existing interchange and connecting roads.

Joint Seal - The replacement of the seal at the transverse and longitudinal joints in concrete pavements with a hot-pour type sealer.

Microsurfacing - A thin layer of asphalt slurry material spread to remove rutting and surface irregularities in asphalt pavements.

Mill, Inlay - The milling of a certain thickness of asphalt surfacing from the driving lanes and replacement with a like thickness of new asphalt surfacing.

Prel. Eng. (Preliminary Engineering) - The process preceding actual construction of a project. May include corridor study, project planning or design.

Pvmt. (Pavement)

RR (Railroad)

Resurf. (Resurfacing) - Additional layer of surfacing material placed on top of existing hard-surfaced road to improve rideability and strength of roadway. May include minor widening of roadway and structures.

R.O.W. (Right-of-Way) - Early acquisition of right-of-way as separate project.

S. Shld. (Surfaced Shoulders) - Hard surfacing the shoulders of an existing or new hard-surfaced road. May include minor grading and structure widening.

Str. (Structures) - Culverts, bridges and/or viaducts, either new or reconstructed.

Surf. (Surfacing) - Hard surfacing, either concrete or bituminous.

Underpass - Structure on roadway passing under railroad tracks.

Urban - Construction of divided or undivided curbed roadway in an urban area. May include grading, structure and incidental work.

Viaduct - Structure over a railroad or other roadway.