Appendix A: Shared-Use Mobility Definitions

The following definitions are derived from the Shared-Use Mobility Center's Shared-Use Mobility Reference Guide¹.

Shared-use mobility is a term used to describe transportation services that are shared among users, including public transit; taxis and limos; bikesharing; carsharing (round-trip, one-way, and personal vehicle sharing); ridesharing (carpooling, vanpooling); ridesourcing/ride-splitting; scooter sharing; shuttle services; neighborhood jitneys; and more.

Ridesourcing providers such as Uber and Lyft - codified in California law as Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) - use online platforms to connect passengers with drivers who use personal, non-commercial, vehicles.

Ridesharing involves adding additional passengers to a pre-existing trip. Such an arrangement provides additional transportation options for riders while allowing drivers to fill otherwise empty seats in their vehicles. Unlike ridesourcing, ridesharing drivers are not "for-hire," but may be compensated for their time and mileage. Traditional forms of ridesharing include carpool, vanpool, and real-time or dynamic ridesharing.

Carsharing is a service that provides members with access to an automobile for short-term-use, usually hourly.

Microtransit providers are typically IT-enabled private shuttle services that serve passengers using dynamically generated routes.

¹ http://sharedusemobilitycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Reference-Guide-Editsweb-version-10.24.2016.pdf