1% for Art: A program administered by the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs that sets aside one percent of City capital improvement project funds for the commission, purchase, and installation of artworks.

2000 Parks Levy ("Neighborhood Parks, Green Spaces, Trails, and Zoo Levy"): A $198.2 million, eight-year levy lid lift passed by Seattle voters in November 2000. The levy is designed to fund more than 100 park, open space, and recreation projects throughout the city.

2008 Parks Levy ("Parks and Green Spaces Levy"): A $145.5 million, six-year levy lid lift passed by Seattle voters in November 2008. The levy is designed to fund park and green space acquisition, capital expansion and renovation of parks, and park facilities throughout the city.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): A comprehensive civil rights law for people with disabilities, passed by the federal government in 1990.

Allocation: The expenditure amount planned for a particular project or service that requires additional legislative action or "appropriation" before expenditures are authorized.

Appropriation: A legal authorization granted by the City's legislative authority (the City Council) to make expenditures and incur obligations for specific purposes.

Asset Preservation (also known as Major Maintenance): Capital improvement projects that involve major repairs or rehabilitation of existing City facilities.

Bridging the Gap (BTG): A nine-year transportation funding initiative to repair and improve Seattle's streets, bike trails, sidewalks, and bridges. The program raises approximately $545 million between 2007-2015 from a commercial parking tax, an employee hours tax, and a $365 million 9-year levy lid lift approved by voters in November 2006 for transportation maintenance and improvement. The employee hours tax was repealed at the beginning of 2010.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP): Annual appropriations from specific funding sources are shown in the City's budget for certain capital purposes such as street improvements, building construction, and some types of facility maintenance. The CIP is a six-year allocation plan, presented as a document separate from the Budget, that details all projects, fund sources, and expenditure amounts, including many multi-year projects that require funding beyond the one-year period of the annual Budget.

Capital Projects Funds: Funds with resources set aside to acquire or construct major capital facilities that allow the monitoring of revenues and expenditures of authorized voter approved, and Councilmanic, bonds and levies.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): A U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development annual grant to Seattle and other local governments to support economic development projects, low-income housing, and services in low-income neighborhoods.

Comprehensive Drainage Plan: A Citywide drainage management program for capital improvements and ongoing maintenance. It establishes a monitoring program and identifies measures to control flooding and pollution such as regulatory controls and public education.

Cumulative Reserve Subfund (CRS): A significant source of ongoing local funding to support capital projects in general government departments. The CRS consists of two accounts: the Capital Projects Account and the Revenue Stabilization Account. The Capital Projects Account has six subaccounts:

REET I, REET II, Unrestricted, South Lake Union Property Proceeds, Street Vacation, and Asset Preservation. The Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) is levied on all sales of real estate with the first .25% of the locally imposed tax going to REET I and the second .25% for REET II.

Design Build Operate (DBO): A non-conventional approach to implementation of major capital projects wherein a single vendor is responsible for design, construction, and long-term operation of a facility.

Debt Service: Annual principal and interest payments that local government owes on money that it has borrowed.

Endangered Species Act (ESA): Legislation passed by the federal government in 1973 to conserve the ecosystems upon which endangered species depend upon, and to conserve and recover listed species.

Fire Facilities and Emergency Response Levy: A $167 million, eight-year levy lid lift, approved by voters on November 4, 2003. The Levy includes funds for more than 40 projects to upgrade, renovate, or replace most of the City's fire stations; construct new support facilities for the Fire Department; construct a new Emergency Operations Center and Fire Alarm Center; and procure two new fireboats and rehabilitate an existing one.

Fund Balance: The difference between the assets and liabilities of a particular fund. This incorporates the difference between the revenues and expenditures each year.

General Subfund (also known as General Fund): A central fund into which most of the City's general tax revenues and discretionary resources are pooled, which is allocated to support many of the operations of City government. General Subfund dollars appear in the CIP in two places: the General Subfund contribution to the Cumulative Reserve Subfund (if any), and appropriations to capital projects from a department's operating budget.

Geographic Information System (GIS): A tool that enables users to analyze and understand the spatial relationships among things that exist and occur in a given location. The results of geographic analysis can be communicated with maps, reports, or both.

Growth Management Act (GMA): Passed by the legislature in 1990, the Growth Management Act encourages strategic land use planning and provides protection for environmentally sensitive areas.

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP): A 50-year commitment by the City and its Seattle Public Utilities to protect and restore the Cedar River Watershed.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED): A green building rating system for new and existing commercial, institutional, and multi-family residential buildings that evaluates environmental performance from a "whole building" perspective. There are four rating levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum.

Levy Lid Lift: An increase in regular property taxes for a general or designated purpose. (See 2008 Parks Levy and Bridging the Gap for examples)

Limited Tax General Obligation ("LTGO," or "Councilmanic") Bonds: Bonds that are issued by the City Council without voter approval. The debt service on these bonds is typically repaid from existing general government revenues or from revenues generated by the project(s) financed with the bonds.

Major Maintenance: See "Asset Preservation" above.

Municipal Art Plan: A plan prepared by the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs that establishes budgets for new 1% for Art program projects and describes the status of existing projects.

Neighborhood Matching Subfund (NMF): A fund administered by the Department of Neighborhoods to provide money to Seattle neighborhood groups and organizations for neighborhood-initiated improvement, organizing, or planning projects. The community's contribution of volunteer labor, materials, professional services or cash is "matched" by cash from the fund.

Operating Budget: That portion of a budget that deals with recurring expenditures such as salaries, electric bills, postage, printing, paper supplies, and gasoline.

Public Works Trust Fund: A low-interest state revolving loan fund designed to help local governments with the repair, replacement, and rehabilitation of public works infrastructure.

REET I and REET II: The Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) is levied on all sales of real estate with the first .25% of the locally imposed tax going to REET I and the second .25% for REET II.

Unlimited Tax General Obligation ("UTGO" or "voted") Bonds: Bonds issued after receiving approval by 60% of the voters in an election with at least a 40% turn-out. The debt service on these bonds is repaid from additional ("excess") property tax revenues that voters approve as part of the bond measure.