



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2018

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Members Present:

Ms. Meg Bohmke, Interim Chair, Stafford County
Mr. Tim Baroody, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Matt Kelly, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Billy Withers, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Kevin Marshall, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Spotsylvania County
Mr. David Ross, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Mark Dudenhefer, Stafford County
Ms. Cindy Shelton, Stafford County
Mr. Chuck Steigerwald, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Todd Horsley, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (PRTC) (Non-Voting)
Ms. Nancy Long, Caroline County (Non-Voting)
Ms. Ruby Brabo, King George County (Non-Voting)
Mr. John Jenkins, King George County (Non-Voting)
Mr. Hap Connors, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) (Non-Voting)
Mr. David Swan, Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG) (Non-Voting)

Others Present:

Mr. Paul Milde, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Representative
Ms. Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Stephen Haynes, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Michael Smith, Stafford County
Mr. Rupert Farley, Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Mr. Dave McLaughlin, Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Mr. Randy Comer, Thrasher Group
Mr. Scott Shenk, Free Lance Star

Staff Present:

Mr. Paul Agnello, FAMPO
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO
Mr. Tim Ware, GWRC
Ms. Diana Utz, GWRC
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRC
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL FAMPO MEETING TO ORDER

Interim Chair, Ms. Bohmke called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. and received acknowledgement that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF FAMPO AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Withers and seconded by Mr. Dudenhefer, with all concurring, the FAMPO Policy agenda for the January 22nd meeting was accepted as submitted.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Mr. Milde advised that he has been appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to serve on its transportation committee and he is attending tonight's meeting on the Chamber's behalf and not on local government's behalf.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a.) **Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2017 – Mr. Paul Agnello (ACTION ITEM)**
- b.) **Resolution No. 18-15, Amending the CMAQ/RSTP Prioritization Methodology - Mr. Paul Agnello (ACTION ITEM)**

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Steigerwald, with Mr. Dudenhefer and Ms. Shelton abstaining on Consent Item a; and all others concurring, items a & b from the consent agenda were approved by the FAMPO Policy Committee at the January 22nd meeting.

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a.) **95 Express Lanes Fredericksburg Extension (Fred Ex) Update – Mr. Paul Agnello and Ms. Marcie Parker, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)**

Ms. Parker advised that the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project has now been approved per a governor press release earlier in the month. Ms. Parker stated the project is fully funded with the utilization of \$45m from Transurban, \$85m from Atlantic Gateway funding, and \$2m contributed by FAMPO. Ms. Parker stated VDOT is working on the interchange modification report (IMR) and expects to have a spring 2019 request for proposals (RFP) date. Ms. Parker relayed that the Northbound

Rappahannock River Crossing project will trail the Southbound Rappahannock River Crossing project by approximately a year.

Ms. Parker relayed the original Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project in Round 1 of Smart Scale was estimated to cost \$152m. This project included a fly-over over I-95 to northbound US 17. As the project application was not accepted in Round 1, the project scope was redesigned at a lesser cost for submission to Round 2 of the Smart Scale process with improvements still being made but the flyover removed from the project scope.

As the project was again not accepted by Smart Scale in Round 2, the project was then moved for consideration in Round 3. Mr. Ross asked Ms. Parker what impacts the southbound project will have on the northbound project. Ms. Parker advised the projects were separate and the southbound project has no impact on the northbound project. Ms. Parker relayed the southbound project design remains as already submitted.

Ms. Bohmke asked Ms. Parker if the new re-design for US 17 has been completed. Ms. Parker relayed VDOT has completed about 50% of the IMR tasks, and once this is finalized the best configuration for these improvements can move forward.

Mr. Agnello asked both Mr. Connors and Ms. Parker what the timeframe is for FAMPO to submit projects. Mr. Connors stated the time is now. Ms. Parker stated that projects must benefit those who utilize the express lanes.

Mr. Connors relayed that even though the project has received funding, a lot of detail still needs to be sorted out. Mr. Connors stated the next CTB meeting is in February, and if there are still comments, concerns, and questions then these requests need to be made known before that meeting.

Mr. Kelly thanked Mr. Connors and the CTB for moving the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project forward. Mr. Kelly stated that the express lanes still will not be completely functional until they extend to Massaponax, and he thinks this is an issue the region should be pursuing now.

Mr. Dudenhefer stated that when the terminus was moved further south from Prince William County, traffic in that area improved drastically; however, traffic in Stafford County worsened. Mr. Dudenhefer stated he sees the same thing happening when the conditions are improved in Stafford – then they will go further south into Spotsylvania County.

Ms. Parker stated that projects submitted need to be of regional benefit. Mr. McLaughlin asked when letters of support/recommendation need to be submitted and do they need to identify specific projects at this time.

Mr. Agnello advised that on February 20 at the Long Range Transportation Plan Advisory Committee meeting, and on the 26th at the Policy Committee meeting, updates and more specific details will be provided to each committee.

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, with all concurring, it was requested that FAMPO draft a letter to the State asking for more information on the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project. The letter will also ask for state consideration of the \$2 million FAMPO was going to allocate to the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project but is planning to reallocated to other projects now that it is fully funded using Fred Ex funding. It was requested the letter be drafted and forwarded to committee members prior to the February meeting for review and then adoption on the 26th.

b.) Approval of Resolution No. 18-16, Authorizing Staff to Transfer \$2 Million in Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funding from the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing Project to the Regionally Significant Projects UPC – Mr. Paul Agnello (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Dudenhefer asked if it would be detrimental if Resolution No. 18-16 was deferred for vote by one month. There was discussion from members about when the appropriate time would be to request the \$2 million from FAMPO be reallocated to other projects. Both Ms. Brabo and Mr. Marshall stated that it did not hurt to ask for the reallocation; however, it appears to what was said from Ms. Parker that the full funding for the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project still includes the \$2 million from FAMPO. Mr. Kelly stated that as there are no hard/real numbers in place for project costs at this time, and the bidding process of late has resulted in projects coming in below the estimated cost, he thinks the region needs to request a reallocation now before other entities submit requests for the Fred Ex funding.

Upon motion by Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. Dudenhefer Resolution No. 18-16 was deferred for action by the FAMPO Policy Committee until the February 26th meeting.

c.) 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the draft CLRP project list is included in tonight's agenda packet and staff is requesting feedback from the committee within the next three weeks so the draft list can be presented for endorsement at the February Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Agnello relayed that also by the end of February, the I-95 Phase 2 Highway analysis and draft documentation will be available for review and comments. In March, a public comment period will be initiated for the LRTP with final revisions made for endorsement by the Policy Committee in April.

Mr. Agnello advised the LRTP public involvement schedule is as follows:

- Authorization by Policy Committee for Public Comment period to begin on March 13 and conclude on April 11
- Public meeting to be held on March 15
- Public Hearing to be held at the April 16 FAMPO meeting

Mr. Agnello advised the Draft 2045 LRTP project list includes projects that have been partially funded or projects that currently are not included in the Six Year Improvement Plan (SYIP). Ms. Parker stated

that as part of the new agreement with Transurban, restrictions (which are currently unknown) could still be in force from the original agreement. Mr. Agnello asked Ms. Parker if the limits are on I-95. Ms. Parker relayed the second agreement covers an additional ten-mile extension the original agreement did not include.

i. Draft 2045 LRTP Project List – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello asked that feedback be forwarded to staff on the draft 2045 LRTP project list by the 2nd week in February.

d.) Smart Scale Update & Project Discussion – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the critical dates for Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process are:

- Application Intake date – March 1
- Creation of new application date – June 1
- Application submission deadline – August 1

Mr. Agnello advised that no new projects can be added for consideration after May, as this will be the date the Policy Committee will be asked to endorse the project list submitted. Mr. Agnello stated the application processing time is extended to five months for Round 3 (in the previous two Rounds, it was a 2-month time frame).

Mr. Agnello advised that as FAMPO, GWRC, GWRC localities & FRED are limited to four applications per entity; coordination needs to occur with staff and VDOT to ensure submitted projects are not duplicated so each entity can maximize its options.

Ms. Brabo asked if King George County can submit up to four applications and their Board of Supervisors has already endorsed submitting only two for consideration, can a locality's extra and uncommitted projects be transferred to another locality, FAMPO, GWRC, etc. Both Mr. Connors and Ms. Parker stated “no,” that unused maximum applications cannot be transferred.

Mr. Agnello advised that because of the good news that the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project is fully funded, some additional I-95 improvement projects needed to complement the Rappahannock River Crossing projects may be added.

Mr. Agnello relayed that study results from ongoing studies in the region (Route 301/207 Study; Route 1/208 Study; Route 2/17 Business Study; I-95 Phase 2 Highway Study, etc.) will be reviewed and potential projects included for consideration.

Mr. Agnello stated that previously regional transportation forums have been held, and FAMPO is considering hosting another web-capability format in May. Mr. Agnello requested feedback from the Committee as to whether these previous forums have been useful.

Ms. Brabo stated that she personally did not attend the previous forum; however, staff from King George County did and their comments to the Board of Supervisors were that the forums were very helpful. Ms. Bohmke stated she too feels the forums are helpful and asked if just the minimum presentations can be streamed this time. Ms. Parker stated she would need to check with VDOT's IT staff to see if this option is available at the District Office.

Ms. Parker reiterated that since the new agreement with Transurban has not been finalized to date, projects within the stipulated express lane boundaries may need to be removed from consideration.

i. Updated Matrix of Regional Projects – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the draft matrix of regional projects is included in tonight's agenda packet and he asked committee members to provide feedback by the 2nd week in February. Mr. Agnello relayed the project listing is not in any priority order.

Mr. Agnello stated that Project B (I-95 northbound widening from 3 to 4 lanes between Exit 133 & Exit 136) could be a project that may not be eligible due to express lane restriction agreements.

Mr. Agnello advised that most of the projects in the matrix are improvement projects as opposed to widening projects. Mr. Agnello also relayed that most of the projects are commuter lot expansions, improvements or new constructions and projects of this nature have scored very well in both Round 1 & Round 2 of Smart Scale.

Mr. Ross stated that Project D (new access point to Central Park from I-95) is a project that was not supported by Spotsylvania County in the past. After lengthy discussion, Spotsylvania County was advised in 2012 this project would not proceed. However, it is listed in the matrix tonight. Mr. Ross stated that if this project is recommended for consideration that it will be a project he will not support due to the negative impacts it would have on River Road.

Ms. Brabo stated that King George County has already endorsed the two projects it will be submitting; however, it appears that inconsistencies occur between FAMPO's project list and the county's list. Ms. Brabo stated that the list of projects that tentatively will be submitted from King George County are not projects the Board of Supervisors even considered so she was confused on how the discrepancy occurred.

e.) Draft FAMPO Letters – Mr. Paul Agnello

i. I-95 Corridor Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) Study – Mr. Paul Agnello (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Agnello advised that FAMPO is requesting endorsement to forward a letter to the Secretary of Transportation's office to request the State conduct an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)/Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) study for the I-95 corridor from I-495 to Massaponax. The request for this study is to best manage scarce corridor capacity for the future.

Ms. Brabo asked if the study would cover autonomous vehicles. Mr. Agnello advised this could be a component of a future study but not with the request tonight.

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Dudenhefer, with all concurring, staff was instructed by the Policy Committee to forward the letter included in tonight's agenda packet.

ii. State Transportation Funding Study – Mr. Paul Agnello (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Agnello advised that if endorsed by the Policy Committee, FAMPO would be forwarding a letter to the State asking for a study to develop new state transportation revenue systems not based on gas taxes.

Mr. Agnello relayed the letter is asking that the State conduct a study of potential ways to shift from a transportation revenue system based on gas taxes to a new alternative transportation revenue system. This will provide for more sustainable measures to fund transportation in the 21st century.

There was Policy Committee consensus to forward the request accordingly.

f.) Approval of Resolution No. 18-17, Approving the Amended Slate of Officers to Serve in Fiscal Year 2018 – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that Resolution No. 18-17 is asking for endorsement to an amendment in the Slate of Officers serving FAMPO for FY2018. Mr. Agnello relayed the FAMPO chair position is delegated to Stafford County and this position is currently vacant.

Ms. Bohmke advised that as Mr. Dudenhefer has much more transportation-related experience than she, she is requesting that he be appointed to serve the remainder of FY2018 as Chair to the FAMPO Policy Committee.

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Ross, with all concurring, Resolution No. 18-17 was adopted by the FAMPO Policy Committee.

g.) FAMPO Bylaws – Ms. Meg Bohmke

Ms. Bohmke advised that the bylaws for FAMPO's Policy Committee have not been reviewed, amended, or updated in some time. A copy of existing bylaws was distributed to committee members at tonight's meeting. Ms. Bohmke asked that these be reviewed, and comments forwarded to FAMPO staff within the next two weeks.

Mr. Agnello advised the revisions/amendments received will be forwarded to committee members with approval to be obtained at the upcoming February Policy Committee meeting. Mr. Agnello stated the approved revisions would then go out for public comment and review as a draft and be adopted at the March Policy Committee meeting.

STAFF AND AGENCY REPORTS

Mr. Agnello advised that FAMPO & GWRC will be conducting a joint orientation session for all new committee members (or seasoned members if they wish to attend). The orientation session will be held at GWRC on February 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Agnello relayed the Chamber of Commerce will be holding a transportation forum in a late March timeframe, and more information on this session will be relayed at the February meeting.

MEMBER REPORTS

VDOT: Ms. Parker advised that VDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the Chatham Bridge on Thursday, January 25 at the VDOT District Auditorium from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Ms. Parker relayed that on January 18 MDTA held a public presentation on their website regarding the Harry Nice Bridge improvement project. Ms. Parker relayed that public comments are open and will close on February 20.

CORRESPONDENCE

In packet and self-explanatory

FAMPO COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the Technical Committee and CTAG are included in tonight's agenda packet.

ADJOURN FAMPO MEETING/NEXT MEETING, JANUARY 22, 2018

The January 22 meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. & the next meeting date will be on February 26 at 7:15 p.m.