



**FAMPO Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2014**

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Members Present:

Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Angeline Pitts, County of Caroline
Dan Cole, County of Spotsylvania
Doug Morgan, County of Spotsylvania
Brad Johnson, County of Stafford
Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Craig Van Dussen, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Wendy Kimball, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Chris Arabia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Nick Alexandrow, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)

Others Present:

Ed Keasler, County of Stafford
Rodney White, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Dan Grinnell, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Allison Richter, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Rupert Farley, Transportation Advisory Group (TAG)

Staff Members Present:

Lloyd Robinson, FAMPO
Andy Waple, FAMPO
Dan Reese, FAMPO
JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL TO ORDER

The FAMPO Technical Committee meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

The Technical Committee agenda for May 12, 2014 was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2014



The Technical Committee minutes from the March 10th meeting were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2014

Mr. Robinson advised that the minutes are included in today's packet. Mr. Robinson advised that the Chairman's Comments category noted that Mr. Kelly stated that he and Mr. Ross had met in a very productive meeting and there were two action items that staff was tasked with completing. These include:

- 1.) Compilation of a one-page document between staff and VDOT that lists all of the transportation projects within the region by category – i.e. 5307 projects, long-range projects, roadway projects, etc.
- 2.) Compilation of a document that lists all potential future projects the region could be facing which would also list where the funding comes from – i.e. local, state, federal, etc.

Mr. Robinson stated that the purpose of the above documents is to always have on-hand a readily available and updated information sheet that could be given to the public that would aid in educating them on the region's transportation system, the way it works, the restrictions and limitations that come with it, etc.

Mr. Robinson advised that the Policy Committee further asked that two separate types of "informational" sessions be established – one would be compilation of packets of information that would be given to new elected officials serving on FAMPO and the other would be one that would be distributed to the general public.

Mr. Robinson relayed that the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted that include the following:

- 1.) Resolution No. 14-06 – Amendment to FY2012-15 TIP to add Rolling Stock to the Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging's Fleet for replacement vehicles
- 2.) Resolution No. 14-07 – Amendment to FY2012-15 TIP to Transfer funds from VDOT project UPC numbers to a new VDOT project UPC number
- 3.) Resolution No. 14-08 – Directing that a Public Comment Period & Public Hearing be held prior to the adoption of FY2015 UPWP

Mr. Robinson advised that the following Discussion Items were addressed: FY2015-2020 CMAQ/RSTP funding allocations; Regional Scenario Planning Phase II; FAMPO Travel Demand Model; Completion of Jackson Gateway; & FY2015 RTW program

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

a.) Resolution No. 14-09, Adopting the Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program – Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-09 is asking for endorsement of the FY2015 UPWP which has been previously reviewed by this committee. Mr. Robinson stated this Resolution is supported by staff.

Mr. Van Dussen stated that regarding Item 4-C which is the Interchange Justification Report for the Jackson Gateway study that as this is completed why is it still included? Mr. Waple advised that it is still included as it is listed under the category of “Major Transportation Planning” studies within the region. Mr. Robinson stated that even though FAMPO’s work has been completed, that on-going work will be continuing on this project from efforts between VDOT & Spotsylvania County and that the UPWP includes everything that everyone is doing.

Mr. Van Dussen requested that staff amend the budget allocations to reflect that the \$512,000 RSTP allocations have been utilized. Mr. Waple advised that staff would amend both the budgeted dollars and the responsible entity to reflect the current status of the project.

Mr. Nelson asked for and received unanimous support from the Technical Committee to endorse, with revisions received at today’s meeting, with a recommendation that the Policy Committee adopt at the upcoming June 16th meeting.

b.) Resolution No. 14-10, Directing that a Public Comment Period and Public Hearing be Held Prior to the Adoption of the Fiscal Years 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson advised that staff has compiled a one page TIP summary document. The TIP narrative has been updated to reflect changes in Federal funding programs and all projects that have been completed or have no current movement occurring have been removed from the project list. Mr. Robinson stated that it is staff recommendation that Resolution No. 14-10 be approved.

Mr. Nelson asked for and received unanimous support from the Technical Committee to endorse Resolution No. 14-10 with a request that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming June meeting.

c.) Resolution No. 14-11, To Authorize Staff to Execute a Task Order with Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) to Assist with Scenario Planning Phase II – Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson stated that how a region goes about completing Scenario Planning is complex as there are no perfect models being utilized across the country. Mr. Robinson stated that staff is looking for a long range scenario planning process that is both cost effective and one that works. Mr. Robinson stated that the model that FAMPO uses is good but certainly not perfect. Mr. Robinson advised that

Scenario Planning is included in MAP 21 as a best practice and that the Commonwealth is interested in scenario planning on a state-wide basis.

Mr. Robinson relayed that the Commonwealth looked at the FAMPO model as guidance for adopting the model they in fact would use. Mr. Robinson stated that the CAO's have a big interest in finding out what has been improved since 2009 with the Community Viz Modeling concept. Mr. Robinson stated that the local CAO's have requested demographics that provide modeling data for individual school districts, etc. Mr. Waple stated that staff will be working with local planning departments to update the individual Community Viz Models. Mr. Nelson stated that this is a good learning process on how demographic data does in fact relate to the transportation improvement process.

Mr. Nelson asked for and received unanimous support from the Technical Committee to endorse Resolution No. 14-11 with a request that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming June meeting.

d.) Resolution No. 14-12, Finding that FAMPO Work on I-95 Exit 126/Jackson Gateway Project has been Valuable and Directing FMAPO Staff to Transmit All Results of this Work to Spotsylvania County and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Directing Staff to Undertake Certain Actions – Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-12 has been reviewed by the Technical Committee for several months and asks that the Policy Committee adopt this Resolution which then completes FAMPO's tasks in regard to the Jackson Gateway project.

Mr. Nelson asked for and received unanimous support from the Technical Committee to endorse Resolution No. 14-12 with a request that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming June meeting.

e.) Resolution No. 14-13, Allocating Fiscal Years 2015 Through 2020 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)/Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funding Allocations – Lloyd Robinson & Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that the project list has been reviewed for the last several months by the Technical Committee. Mr. Waple stated that the coding on the project list within the Resolution shows all projects in black will be completed and all in red as still requiring additional funding for completion. Mr. Waple stated that as a result of the State budget re-allocations that the region will receive \$30,000 less per year in RSTP funding and \$70,000 less per year in CMAQ funding and the Resolution depicts the new revenue shortfalls.

Mr. Nelson asked for and received unanimous support from the Technical Committee to endorse Resolution No. 14-13 with a request that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming June meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a.) FAMPO Highway Prioritization Methodology – Lloyd Robinson & Andy Waple

Mr. Robinson advised that the FAMPO Prioritization Methodology is based on the collective experience of other MPO's; the eight SAFETEA-LU federal planning factors; and the FAMPO Mission Statement. The factors considered included: congestion, economic opportunities, safety, security, public support, environmental impacts, funding, cost, regional connectivity, gap closure, freight mobility, emergency evacuations, improved mobility options for those disadvantaged, sustainability, local priorities, benefit and cost ratio, and life cycles and existing conditions.

Mr. Robinson advised that a letter was mailed to Mr. Aubrey Lane stating FAMPO's needs and concerns and asking that consideration be given by the State when funding allocations occur. Mr. Robinson stated that the prioritization methodology is a two-step process and is listed as follows:

- 1.) money is allocated to categories for each of the roadway functional classifications
- 2.) staff measures and scores each project based on the established criteria and those projects that score the highest are deemed to be the region's most critical needs

Mr. Robinson stated that a lot of changes are occurring and are on-going in regard to budgets, transportation modes, etc. so the committee will be kept apprised as new issues revolve on this topic.

b.) FAMPO Self-Certification – Lloyd Robinson & Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that a self-certification is required at least every four years by both FTA and FHWA when the State and MPO prepares new STIP/TIP documents.

Mr. Waple asked that the Technical Committee review the self-certification document included in today's agenda packet and to provide any comments, feedback, etc. within the next two weeks. Mr. Waple stated that it would be presented to the Policy Committee at their upcoming June meeting for adoption.

c.) Federal Transportation Reauthorization – Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson stated that discussions are still on-going in regard to approval of both this year's state and federal budgets. Mr. Robinson stated that the "Grow America" bill from the president would result in an increase from \$40 billion dollars to \$250 billion dollars with transit capacities doubling. Mr. Robinson stated that as there still to date has been no State budget approval for this year and that if everything is combined there would still be an approximate \$18 billion dollar shortfall. Mr. Robinson stated that the committee would be kept apprised as additional documentation is received.

STAFF REPORT

None

MEMBER REPORTS

George Washington Regional Commission:

Ms. Utz advised that GWRC has begun its advertising project teaming up with VDOT. Each month commuters will be encouraged to pursue a different commuting option. The first month encourages carpooling; next month will encourage van pooling; & the third month will encourage using buses. Ms. Utz stated that these ads are being run daily on several different radio stations. Ms. Utz relayed that GWRC now has a Facebook page so she asked that members take a look at it and comment accordingly.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Ms. Richter reminded the committee that tonight at 6:00 p.m. at Essex High School will be the annual meeting to provide comments in regard to VDOT's 6-Year Improvement Plan. Ms. Richter relayed that the region's newly elected CTB member, Mr. Hap Connors, will be in attendance at tonight's meeting. Ms. Richter encouraged the committee to attend if they were able to do so.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Robinson advised that correspondence is included in tonight's agenda packet and all are self-explanatory.

NEXT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, JUNE 9th, 2014/ADJOURN

The next Technical Committee meeting will be held on Monday, June 9th at 9:00. The Technical Committee meeting for May 12th was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.