



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes May 19, 2014

<http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/committees/policy-committee/>

Members Present:

Mr. Matt Kelly, City of Fredericksburg, Chair
Mr. Mark Whitley, City of Fredericksburg (Alternate)
Mr. Fred Howe, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Doug Barnes, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Paul Trampe, Spotsylvania County (Alternate)
Mr. Chris Yakabouski, Spotsylvania County (Alternate)
Mr. Keith Dayton, Stafford County (Alternate)
Mr. Paul Milde, Stafford County
Mr. Cord Sterling, Stafford County
Mr. Alfred Harf, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Others Present:

Mr. Hap Connors, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)
Mr. Chris Arabia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Ms. Allison Richter, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Jason Robinson, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Scott Shenk, Free Lance Star

Citizens:

Mr. Rupert Farley, Citizen – TAG Representative – Spotsylvania County
Ms. Fran Larkins, Citizen – TAG Representative – Stafford County

Staff Members Present:

Mr. Lloyd Robinson, FAMPO Administrator
Mr. Tim Ware, GWRC Executive Director
Mr. Andy Waple, FAMPO
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO
Mr. Danny Reese, FAMPO
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL FAMPO MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Matt Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Mr. Robinson advised that a quorum was present and all eleven voting members were present.

APPROVAL OF FAMPO AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Howe and seconded by Mr. Milde, with all concurring, the agenda was approved as submitted.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

None

PUBLIC HEARING – DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2015 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

None

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Kelly stated that there were two items from the April meeting and one new item from tonight's meeting which will be addressed. At the last meeting, discussion occurred in regard to conducting a briefing to elected officials regarding the transportation planning process and a meeting to be held of the Board to brainstorm regarding transportation issues within the region.

Mr. Kelly asked that Mr. Robinson update the committee accordingly. Regarding the first issue, Mr. Robinson stated that staff has met internally and work is underway. Staff has looked at models across the country for comparison purposes. Staff feels that FAMPO has some good data to move forward on in regard to developing a packet of information to be presented to the elected officials.

Secondly, staff is working to identify all funding sources – i.e. state, federal, & local; how these sources come into play; and what a locality is eligible to receive. Mr. Robinson stated that this is a complex process. Staff has been working internally on this task as well as working with VDOT. Mr. Robinson stated that as a result of last month's meeting that FAMPO has also been approached by the Chamber of Commerce in regard to providing a public transportation forum as well. Mr. Robinson advised the Chamber that FAMPO staff would be more than willing to work with them as well. Mr. Robinson stated that hopefully at the upcoming June meeting a draft will be presented to the Committee for review and then it will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

Regarding the second item, which was the brainstorming session, staff has sent out a survey to the Policy Committee members inquiring as to availability of the members to meet regarding

brainstorming ideas. It was requested that this meeting be held separately and apart from a regularly scheduled FAMPO meeting. To date, Mr. Robinson advised that staff has received feedback from three members; one of which was Mr. Gary Snellings who now will no longer be serving on FAMPO and will be replaced by Mr. Cord Sterling.

Mr. Robinson advised that staff will send out the survey again after the conclusion of tonight's meeting to determine the best day and time for conducting a brain storming meeting session. Mr. Robinson asked that the Policy Committee members respond back so the set-up of the session can proceed and materialize.

Mr. Kelly stated that in order for a brainstorming session to be successful and effective that it definitely needs to be conducted at some other time and not become a part of a regular FAMPO meeting night agenda. Mr. Kelly also concurred with Mr. Robinson and asked that the Policy Committee members respond back to the FAMPO staff regarding alternate meeting availability.

Regarding the new discussion item, Mr. Kelly advised that everyone should have received a draft copy of a letter dated May 20th. This letter is being sent to Secretary of Transportation, Mr. Aubrey Layne and is regarding the 6-Year Transportation Plan.

Mr. Kelly advised that there were some issues within the Plan whereby it was in conflict with this region's Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Kelly stated that the letter from May 20th is asking that the conflicted issues be addressed in the final State Six-Year Plan. The conflicts were regarding the Route 630 interchange project in Stafford County and the Rappahannock Parkway project in the City and Spotsylvania County.

Mr. Kelly stated that to date, no comments have been submitted to FAMPO staff regarding the contents of the May 20th letter. Mr. Robinson confirmed that no comments have been submitted. Mr. Kelly stated that as there have not been any adverse comments received that the letter will be signed and mailed after the conclusion of tonight's meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

a.) Approval of Minutes of the FAMPO Meeting of April 21, 2014 – Mr. Lloyd Robinson

Upon motion by Mr. Milde and seconded by Mr. Harf, the minutes from the April 21st meeting were approved as submitted with two abstentions from Mr. Trampe and Mr. Yakabouski.

b.) Approval of Resolution No. 14-09, Adopting the Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Mr. Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-09 is requesting adoption of the FY2015 UPWP. Mr. Robinson stated that this has been under development for several months and is an annual process. Mr. Robinson stated that the draft has been presented to the Policy Committee and has also been reviewed by both the Technical Committee and TAG. Mr. Robinson stated that per recommendation

of staff, the Technical Committee and TAG that it is requested that the Policy Committee adopt Resolution No. 14-09.

Ms. Parker stated that there was a correction needed in that the last “whereas” lists the end date before the begin date begins. Mr. Robinson stated that the end date should be May 2014 and not May 2013 and that this typo will be corrected by staff after the conclusion of tonight’s meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Harf and seconded by Mr. Milde, Resolution No. 14-09 was unanimously approved.

c.) Approval of FAMPO 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) – Mr. Lloyd Robinson & Mr. Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that Resolution No. 14-10 is directing that a Public Hearing and Public Comment Period be held prior to the adoption of the FY2015-2018 TIP. Mr. Waple stated that a public hearing will occur at the June 16th Policy Committee meeting. The public comment period will begin on May 22nd and conclude on June 20th, and providing that there are no adverse public comments received, the Policy Committee will be asked to adopt the Resolution as presented a few days prior to the actual conclusion of the public comment period time frame.

Mr. Waple relayed that the TIP highlights are included in tonight’s agenda packet and are listed on the sheet in front of the TIP. Mr. Waple stated that the sheet outlines the number of projects; the projects by category; and the amount of funding that is allocated and obligated within the TIP. Mr. Waple stated that the project descriptions and funding allocations within the table are as of January 1st. This was done to ensure that all TIPS statewide and the STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program) all match. Mr. Waple stated that this will be remedied in July when the TIP is amended as it would just have been adopted in June. The July amendment will then include all of the funding allocations from the FY2015-2020 Plan.

Mr. Waple stated that staff has re-vamped all funding categories to have them match those within MAP-21. Also, staff has worked with VDOT’s Central and District offices to update projects that were listed in the TIP and are now either completed and/or idle; however, were still being shown in the TIP. These specific projects have now been removed and the TIP is current.

Mr. Trampe requested that on the page that lists the projects, Project # UPC101595, it is requested that the word “toll” be removed from that project description. Mr. Trampe stated that the project description should read “Rest Area Access & Road project from I-95 to Gordon Road.”

Mr. Kelly stated that he had spoken to staff prior to the onset of tonight’s meeting as this item had been brought to his attention. Mr. Waple stated that the project was listed as it was previously as again it goes back to having the TIP & STIP match from the January 1st update. As it would have to be amended in both plans, Mr. Waple stated that he did not feel that it could be amended at this time; however, could be made after the STIP has been adopted.

Mr. Sterling stated that legally he does not think there is anything that prohibits staff from making the change before it is actually adopted. Mr. Kelly asked for VDOT's opinion. Ms. Richter stated that she thinks it could be removed tonight if this is the request of the committee.

Mr. Sterling stated that he thinks it is important to make the correction now because with it being in the TIP incorrectly that it gives the wrong perception and impression to the public. Mr. Sterling stated that he recommends it be amended here tonight and then forwarded to the State for updates on their end as well.

Mr. Trampe stated that he is going to vote to adopt Resolution No. 14-10 as he feels there are a lot of worthwhile projects included in it. However, he does want to go on public record stating that he is still opposed to the I-95 to Gordon Road project in Spotsylvania County. Mr. Trampe stated that he did not want to vote against an entire package when he is only opposed to one component within it.

Upon motion by Mr. Milde and seconded by Mr. Trampe, Resolution No. 14-10 was unanimously approved.

d.) Approval of Resolution No. 14-11, Authorizing Staff to Execute a Task Order with Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) to Assist with Scenario Planning Phase II – Mr. Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-11 is requesting authorization for staff to execute a task order with PB to assist FAMPO in the Scenario Planning Phase II process. Mr. Robinson stated that the committee was briefed at the April meeting and is before you for action tonight. Mr. Robinson stated that the Scenario Planning process is an extensive process and will take approximately a year to complete. Mr. Robinson stated that this has been reviewed by both the Technical Committee and TAG. It is the recommendation from both committees as well as from staff that Resolution No. 14-11 be adopted.

Upon motion by Mr. Howe and seconded by Mr. Sterling, Resolution No. 14-11 was unanimously approved.

e.) Approval of Resolution No. 14-12, Finding that FAMPO Work on I-95 Exit 126/Jackson Gateway Project has Been Valuable and Directing FAMPO 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 – Mr. Lloyd Robinson

This item has been discussed at several previous meetings and there was no additional or new information relayed regarding Resolution No. 14-12.

Upon motion by Mr. Milde and seconded by Mr. Howe, Resolution No. 14-12 was unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Waple advised that the list before the Committee tonight is the recommended allocations for FY2015-2020 CMAQ/RSTP projects. Mr. Waple stated this project list was submitted last month and there were three changes required as a result of the recent TIP amendments. Mr. Waple stated that all the changes have been made and the attachment included in tonight's agenda packet reflects those changes.

Upon motion by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Howe, Resolution No. 14-13 was unanimously approved.

g.) Approval of Resolution No. 14-14, Honoring Cord Sterling for Eight Years of Service on the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) – Mr. Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Kelly stated that he would like to welcome Mr. Hap Connors who is in attendance at tonight's meeting. Mr. Kelly stated that Mr. Connors has been appointed as the new CTB member for the region. Mr. Kelly stated that Mr. Connors has been a previous member of FAMPO and has worked closely with the committee in the past and he looks forward to a continued working relationship with him.

Mr. Kelly stated that with that being said, he would like to publically thank Mr. Sterling for his efforts in serving for the last eight years as the region's CTB representative. Mr. Kelly stated that Mr. Sterling's past efforts have truly been a plus for the region. Mr. Kelly stated that Mr. Sterling has been an asset and he appreciates the service that he provided.

Mr. Sterling thanked the members for their support and stated that as Mr. Connors is already familiar with FAMPO and the region's transportation issues that he feels he will be a positive force and represent the region well. Mr. Sterling recommended that Mr. Connors be appointed by FAMPO to serve as a non-voting member to the committee. Mr. Kelly stated that this would be listed as an agenda item for the June meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Milde and seconded by Mr. Trampe, with Mr. Sterling abstaining, Resolution No. 14-14 was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

Mr. Robinson stated this item was asked to be brought before the Policy Committee as a discussion item. Mr. Robinson stated that this item is being discussed at MPO's & PDC's on a state-wide level. Mr. Robinson relayed that discussion is occurring on this item as a result of HB#2 within the General Assembly.

Mr. Sterling commented that the prioritization methodology efforts will be critical in moving forward as they are dependent on funding allocations and until the Bill is passed, the funding allocations are unknown. Mr. Sterling encouraged staff and committee members to stay involved and to be aware of on-going criteria.

Mr. Kelly stated that growth patterns for FAMPO have not been taken into account so potentially the region could get ahead of the game and not look at them realistically. Mr. Kelly stated that the focus should be less on politics and more on the reality for the region.

Mr. Robinson stated that this MPO is one of the first MPO's state-wide who have provided a prioritization methodology.

Mr. Sterling stated that the chances for re-authorizations are slim now and will probably continue into the next election process. Mr. Sterling stated that the immediate concern should be focusing on fixing the highway trust fund as an immediate goal.

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

Mr. Waple advised that a Self-Certification process is going to become a requirement for each MPO state-wide. Mr. Waple stated that this process will occur every four years when a TIP is passed. Mr. Waple relayed that this is an informational item now and a Resolution including the Self-Certification statement will be submitted to the Policy Committee for their endorsement at the upcoming June meeting.

c.) Federal Transportation Reauthorization – Mr. Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson stated that this item has been brought before the Policy Committee for the last several months. Mr. Robinson relayed that included in tonight's agenda packet is email correspondence generated by him. Mr. Robinson stated that the correspondence is in regard to the draft AMPO reauthorization recommendations that were discussed at the AMPO Policy meeting in March. Mr. Robinson stated that he is a member of AMPO and participated in the discussions included in the email. Mr. Robinson stated that his recommendations and comments are included within the email included. Mr. Robinson stated that he advised AMPO that he would appreciate his comments being circulated to VAMPO and to be discussed in further detail at an upcoming Board conference call.

d.) FAMPO Administrator – Mr. Matt Kelly

Mr. Kelly relayed that effective July 1st there will be no FAMPO Administrator and he is asking for direction from the Board on how to proceed. Options include hiring in-house; hiring from the outside; etc. Mr. Robinson stated that per the FAMPO By-laws, it does state that the FAMPO Administrator is to be a GWRC employee. Mr. Kelly stated that he felt there should be a subcommittee formed, with a representative from each jurisdiction serving on the committee, to review and discuss all options. Mr. Kelly stated that he felt it would be beneficial if both Mr. Ware and Mr. Robinson also serve on this subcommittee. Mr. Kelly asked that this be taken back to each respective locality and a subcommittee member selected accordingly. Mr. Kelly asked that each

locality get back with him by month end with the name of the representative who will be serving in this capacity.

STAFF REPORT

None

MEMBER REPORTS

None

FAMPO CORRESPONDENCE

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

FAMPO COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Robinson stated that both the FAMPO Technical Committee (FTC) and the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) meeting minutes were included in tonight's agenda packet.

ADJOURN FAMPO MEETING/NEXT MEETING, JUNE 16, 2014

The FAMPO meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will occur on June 16, 2014 at 7:15 p.m.