

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

January 24, 2022 – 7:30 p.m.

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

www.fampo.gwregion.org

Committee Members Present: *(V) indicates voting member*

Mr. David Ross, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Chris Yakabouski, Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Lori Hayes, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Meg Bohmke, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Monica Gary, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Crystal Vanuch, Stafford County (V)
Mr. Jason Graham, First Vice-Chair, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Matthew Kelly, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Timothy Baroody, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) (V)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, alternate Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Cathy Binder, alternate King George County
Ms. Susan Gardner, VDOT
Mr. Stephen Haynes, alternate Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Jamie Jackson, FRED
Mr. Todd Horsley, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Mr. Hank Scharpenberg, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)

Committee Members Present (remotely, without virtual participation request):

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Chair, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Kevin Marshall, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Deborah Frazier, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Gary Skinner, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Mark Whitley, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Pamela Yeung, alternate Stafford County (V)
Mr. Darrell English, alternate Stafford County (V)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, alternate PRTC (V)
Mr. Ivan Rucker, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Jeffery Sili, Caroline County
Mr. Jeffrey Black, alternate Caroline County
Mr. Aidan Quirke, alternate FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Ms. Ciara Williams, alternate DRPT
Ms. Tonya Holland, Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Mr. Cedric Rucker, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)
Mr. Matthew Rowe, alternate CTAC

Others Present (remotely):

Mr. Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Chip Boyles, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Ms. Linda LaSut, VDOT
Mr. Rodney White, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Drew Morrison, VHB

Staff Present:

Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator
Ms. Kari Barber, Transportation Planner/ Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator (remotely)
Mr. Matthew Lehane, Transportation Planner
Ms. Jordan Chandler, Transportation Planner
Ms. Becky Golden, Transportation Planning Manager

1. Call Policy Committee Meeting to Order

Vice-Chair Jason Graham called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Graham led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Recognition of New Committee Members

Mr. Graham recognized new committee members; Ms. Lori Hayes alternate Spotsylvania County, Ms. Meg Bohmke Stafford County, and Ms. Monica Gary Stafford County.

4. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Ms. Chandler conducted roll call and determined a quorum present.

5. Approval of the January 24th, 2022 Policy Committee Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the November 15, 2021 Policy Committee agenda.

Motion: Mr. Kelly; Second: Ms. Bohmke
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

6. Public Involvement

No additional comments from members of the public were made.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of November 15th, 2021 Policy Committee Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion: Ms. Vanuch; Second: Mr. Kelly
Abstained: Ms. Bohmke, Ms. Gary, Ms. Hayes
Motion passes with 3 abstentions

b. Approval of the FAMPO Highway Safety Target Setting Letter (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Mr. Kelly; Second: Ms. Bohmke
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

8. **FAMPO Administrator Report**

Mr. Ollis provided an update on recently introduced early bus service at FREDericksburg Regional Transit. Further, he provided an update on FAMPO activities where he discussed the FAMPO vision, future transportation trends, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, I-95 Through and Local traffic data between Exits 130 and 133, updates on construction at Fredericksburg area train stations, legislative priorities of the Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce with an RTA, and further updates on FAMPO activities.

9. **Action/Discussion Items**

a. Variable Speed Limits Update

Ms. Parker gave an update on an ongoing project to add variable speed limits to I-95 between milepost 115 in Caroline County to Exit 130 in the City of Fredericksburg. She discussed that the speed limit sites are currently under construction and algorithm testing and data collection is ongoing. A soft launch will begin sometime in February where the signs will be illuminated by speed limits will not change until a week after the soft launch. She further discussed the public communications plan and future development of the variable speed limit program with near term and longer-term priorities.

Mr. Kelly asked a question in regards to the amount of tractor trailer traffic northbound and southbound and the issues that they cause when driving in the left lane. Ms. Parker said that she wrote to the trucking association in regards to this issue, requested that the first sergeant enforce more, and would have the overhead display boards repost about no trucks being allowed in the left lane. She continued that they are further pursuing additional signage and looking into their messaging.

Mr. Ross asked if it was northbound only. Ms. Parker said that yes, it was only going northbound. Mr. Ross followed-up and asked if the purpose was for data collection. Ms. Parker said that while data collection is a part of this project and there will be presentations to the CTB, the main purpose is to reduce congestion and accidents. Mr. Ross also asked the time-frame for those presentations. Ms. Parker said that she believed it would be looked at over a 3-month, 6-month, and 1-year time frame.

b. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)/Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Project Selection Process

1. Resolution 22-15 Approving the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program Project Selection Process (ACTION ITEM)
2. Resolution 22-16 Approving the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Project Selection Process (ACTION ITEM)
3. FY23-28 Modified Call for Projects (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Ollis presented on the CMAQ project selection process and STBG project selection process where he discussed the progress to date, outstanding items, and next steps, including the modified call for projects, wherein jurisdictions would submit one active transportation project each. Mr. Ollis mentioned that the TAC did not come to an understanding regarding section 3.1.2 in both documents, which discusses the application intake limits for jurisdictions and eligible agencies. Option

one for application limits was: jurisdictions receive five applications (they can choose respective mode as long as they are eligible); other eligible agencies receive three applications (they can choose respective mode as long as they are eligible). Option two for application limits was: number of applications are broken down by mode – two/three applications for roadways based on jurisdiction population size, two applications for active transportation, one application for transit/TDM, one application for studies (STBG funds only).

Mr. Ollis said that in regards to 3.1.2, there is no urgent need to approve it; however, there is an urgent need to approve the rest of the CMAQ and STBG documents to allow for a modified call for projects.

Further discussion was had among committee members and Mr. Ollis in regards to options one and two.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve resolutions 22-15 and 22-16 with option 1. Mr. Yakabouski seconded the motion. Mr. Graham made a friendly amendment to the motion to approve the modified call for projects.

The vote was done by roll call:

Nay Mr. David Ross
Aye Mr. Chris Yakabouski,
Nay Ms. Lori Hayes,
Nay Ms. Meg Bohmke,
Aye Ms. Monica Gary
Nay Ms. Crystal Vanuch
Aye Mr. Jason Graham
Aye Mr. Matthew Kelly
Aye Mr. Timothy Baroody
Aye Dr. Robert Schneider
Aye Ms. Marcie Parker

The vote passed 7-4

c. FAMPO Regional Studies

1. Resolution 22-17 Approving Additional Funding Allocations for the FAMPO Intraregional Multimodal East-West Mobility Study and Preliminary Engineering for the Virginia Central Railway Trail Tunnel/Bridge Crossing Study (ACTION ITEM)
2. Resolution 22-18 Directing a Public Comment Period for an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (ACTION ITEM)
3. Resolution 22-19 Authorizing Staff to Execute a Contract with VHB for the FAMPO Intraregional Multimodal East-West Mobility Study – Phase II (ACTION ITEM)
4. Resolution 22-20 Authorizing Staff to Execute a Contract with Michael Baker International for the Preliminary Engineering for the Virginia Central Railway Trail Tunnel/Bridge Crossing Study (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Ollis presented on two FAMPO Regional Studies; FAMPO East-West Mobility Study and the VCR Trail Crossing Study. He said that these studies would prepare projects for the next rounds of funding programs. The total cost of the East-West Study Phase II was \$301,250.00 and the total cost of the VCR Trail Crossing Study was \$107,850.06. Whereas small amounts of funding were already available, staff was requesting \$136,250.00 for East-West Phase II and 32,850.06 for the VCR Trail Crossing Study. Both of these would be funded with HIP funding.

With this agenda item, Mr. Ollis said that there were 4 resolutions to approve the funding, UPWP changes, and execute contracts with the consultants.

Ms. Vanuch asked if the East-West study would look at Route 610 and I-95 overpass. Mr. Ollis and Mr. Lehane responded that this is an item within the study.

Ms. Bohmke asked how the VCR Trail Crossing Study came about. Mr. Ollis mentioned that a part of this project was a possible SMART SCALE application where VDOT said further study was required.

Ms. Parker asked why the East-West study was looking at some of these roads, such as Courthouse Road in Stafford County which was just rebuilt. Mr. Ollis stated that some of these decisions came from jurisdictions and were workshopped with the stakeholder group. The FAMPO Travel Demand Model, is managed by VDOT, and had also indicated that these particular roadways would be under severe congestion by 2050. Ms. Gary also added that in some of these locations, even as work has been completed recently, high growth rates of new residential construction may create future congestion.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve Resolutions 22-17, 22-18, 22-19, and 22-20. Mr. Yakabouski seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

d. Draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

1. Resolution 22-21 Directing a Public Comment Period for the Draft 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Ollis discussed the draft 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. He mentioned that everything was complete except for Appendix H: Congestion Management Process which should be coming next month.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve Resolution 22-21. Ms. Bohmke seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

e. FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program Update

1. Resolution 22-XX Directing a Public Comment Period for an amendment to the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add UPC T-26254, FAMPO Intraregional Multimodal East-West Mobility Study – Phase II, UPC 111682, Preliminary Engineering of the Virginia Central Railway Trial Tunnel/Bridge Crossing Study, and Seven FREDericksburg Regional Transit Projects (ACTION ITEM)

Ms. Chandler discussed the TIP amendments for previously discussed studies and seven FREDericksburg Regional Transit projects.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve Resolution 22-22. Ms. Bohmke seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

f. Elect Stafford Representative to fill Second Vice-Chair Position (ACTION ITEM)

Ms. Vanuch made a motion for Meg Bohmke to fill the Second Vice-Chair position. Mr. Yakabouski seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

g. FAMPO Bylaws

Mr. Ollis discussed potential changes to the FAMPO bylaws as requested by the Policy Committee. Staff had met with county administrative officers to discuss potential changes. Key items to address were related to the determination and breaking of quorum and adding agenda items for action on the day of the committee meeting without prior notice.

Further discussion was had among committee members in regards to these potential changes.

Mr. Graham requested that if committee members had particular changes they would like to see, they should be sent to staff. He also asked that the proposed changes be reviewed by the attorney general's office and be sent to other elected officials to achieve a quicker response. Mr. Ollis was instructed to send a request for an opinion to the Attorney General's office.

10. Correspondence

Mr. Ollis discussed a letter from FHWA and FTA on FAMPO's Conformity Finding in regards to the LRTP and TIP and found that the region demonstrates conformity and that the EPA confirmed this conformity.

Mr. Ollis also presented letters for localities on their new committee members.

11. Staff Reports

Mr. Ollis mentioned that the committee meeting currently scheduled for November 2022 is on the week of Thanksgiving, he asked that the committee may wish to change this meeting date. After discussion the meeting was moved to the 28th of November.

12. Member Comments

Mr. Scharpenberg of CTAC mentioned that the committee is transitioning into doing more advocacy work.

13. Adjourn/Next Policy Committee Meeting: February 28, 2022 at 7:30pm