

Fredericksburg City
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
Caroline County
King George County



Henry Scharpenberg
Chairman

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 8, 2022 - 6:00pm
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/>

A video recording of the meeting is posted on the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) web page: <https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/citizens-transportation-advisory-committee/> and on youtube at: <https://youtu.be/Y6RPtjcJrWQ>

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Henry “Hank” Scharpenberg, Stafford County – Chair
Mr. Matthew Rowe, City of Fredericksburg – Vice Chair
Ms. TaMara Banks, At-Large
Mr. John Castellarin, City of Fredericksburg
Ms. Tara Durant, Stafford County
Mr. Rupert Farley, At-Large
Mr. Larry Gross, At-Large
Mr. Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County (remote attendance)
Ms. Jeron Hayes, King George County (remote attendance)
Mr. Neil Holloran, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Nicolas Kwatnoski, Stafford County
Mr. David McLaughlin, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. James Powell, Stafford County
Mr. Dustin Savage, At-Large
Mr. Rodney Thomas, At-Large (remote attendance)

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Morgan Burch, Stafford County
Mr. Joshua Brock, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Justin Chenault, Caroline
Mr. Jacob Clay, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Micah Cunningham, Spotsylvania
Ms. Patricia Encarnacion, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Michael Hoyt, Caroline
Mr. Ken Pogue, Caroline
Mr. David Swan, Stafford County

Others Present:

Ms. Jane Leeds, Interested Party (remote attendance)
Ms. Kelly Schindele, Remote Captioner
Jennifer Falknor, Healthy Generations Area Agency on Aging
Meg Bohmke (remote attendance)

Staff Present:

Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator

Ms. Becky Golden, Transportation Manager

Mx. Colie Touzel, Public Involvement & Title VI Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Scharpenberg at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Golden conducted roll call and a quorum was present. Ms. Golden advised CTAC that Mr. Brock is stepping down to devote time to other pursuits, wishing CTAC members well, and that he has learned a great deal from his time with the committee.

3. Approval of the June 8, 2022 Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Holloran

Motion passed.

4. Approval of April 13, 2022 CTAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Holloran

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. Review of May 16, 2022 Policy Committee Meeting

Ms. Golden provided highlights of the meeting that include a presentation made by the Greater Washington Partnership, the SMART SCALE Round 5 projects, funding allocations to active projects from Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP). Ms. Golden credited FAMPO staff, Jordan Chandler, and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for their hard work on funding allocations, and to Kari Barber and VDOT for their work on SMART SCALE applications. The FY 23 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was approved by the Executive Committee on May 23rd.

6. Public Comment

Ms. Golden advised attendees that staff will send links to transit sites in San Diego, CA, related to a letter received by Jane Leeds.

7. Old Business

a. November 15, 2021 Letter to Caroline County About Public Transportation Services

Ms. Golden advised attendees that staff reviewed the letter sent to Caroline, and comments that were enclosed from Caroline residents. Research was conducted that was provided to the Transportation Equity Coalition, whose goal is to find out what transportation options are currently available, and identify where the gaps are for people with disabilities, seniors, and other vulnerable populations. Ms. Banks explained that Caroline residents have voiced a need for transportation services to get to work, to shop for food and get to doctor's appointments.

Chair Scharpenberg suggested that CTAC can assist as public advocates to facilitate communication and conduct fact finding inquiries of Caroline County staff, as well as ask Fredericksburg Regional Transit to attend a future CTAC meeting regarding their analysis of transit routes in Caroline County.

Ms. Durant suggested contacting the elected officials of Caroline, both local and state legislators, to examine the issues and help with potential solutions.

b. Status update: Stafford County NE Quadrant Connector and western New River Crossing

Chair Scharpenberg advised attendees that he has met with Orange County and Culpeper County staff regarding the western New River Crossing. The Culpeper County contacts were John Egerston, County Administrator, and Sam McLearen, Director of Planning. Culpeper County's primary concern is their US 15 / US 29 corridor, but they are going to start looking at the proposal through their Public Works committees. Orange County's Keri Ragland, Senior Planner, and the entire planning staff were enthusiastic about the proposal. Orange County staff will reach out to the Rappahannock – Rapidan Regional Commission, and advised Chair Scharpenberg of a rezoning application for a 3,400 mixed use development, just north of Rt 20 / Rt 3 in Orange County, through which the western New River Crossing is proposed. While meeting with both localities, Chair Scharpenberg shared Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunities.

Regarding the NE Quadrant Connector, Chair Scharpenberg is scheduled to speak to the Stafford County Planning Commission in July.

c. FAMPO Vision Survey

Mx. Touzel provided attendees results of FAMPO's Vision Survey. This survey was sent to 97 people: 6 FAMPO Staff and 91 members of each FAMPO Committee. This survey will help FAMPO create a Future Vision statement. The findings of the survey are as follows:

Key phrases for *Why FAMPO Exists* include Regional Collaboration, Transportation Planning and Information Dissemination; *What Would the Future of FAMPO include?* Multimodal, Transit Oriented Development, Sustainable and Equitable, and Fewer Vehicles. Thirty-eight percent of respondents replied that Transportation is the most important solution that FAMPO should be working on. Key replies for *Alternatives to Congestion* include freight improvements, local and regional mobility (not I-95), and congestion pricing. Key replies to *Alternative Funding Options to Gas Taxes* include vehicle miles traveled / tax the weight of vehicles, stop funding unnecessary projects / find federal and state funding, and a different sales tax. Ideas were received to integrate land use with transportation infrastructure.

The survey asked participants to rank which, to them, is most important for transportation planning, of which the top choices picked by participants include: 1) multimodal transportation options 2) transportation safety 3) congestion mitigation 4) transportation for all 5) accessibility 6) addressing environmental concerns. Also ranked were replies for the question *What would you like to see more of in 50 years?* The top four were: 1) transit-oriented development 2) reduced congestion 3) safer roads and sidewalks 4) faster transit.

d. VDOT Report a Problem

Ms. Golden asked if members had outstanding work order requests through VDOT's Report a Problem website, and there were none.

8. Member Discussion / Action

a. FY 23 Election of CTAC Chair and Vice Chair (Action Item)

Chair Scharpenberg, Mr. Ollis and Mr. McLaughlin explained the history of the current CTAC bylaws Article III – Officers.

Motion was made to nominate Mr. Scharpenberg for CTAC Chair.

Motion: Ms. Durant; Second: Mr. Powell

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion was made by Mr. Castellarin to nominate Mr. Rowe for CTAC Vice Chair.

Motion was made by Chair Scharpenberg to nominate Mr. Clay for CTAC Vice Chair.

Mr. Rowe stated his qualifications and Ms. Golden read a portion of Mr. Clay's biographical information. Questions were asked regarding the two Vice Chair candidates' years of service on CTAC and how long they have lived in the Fredericksburg area.

A ballot vote was cast, with Mr. Rowe receiving the majority votes for CTAC Vice Chair.

b. Stafford County Plantation Drive Extension / Comprehensive Plan Concept Roads

Mr. Rowe presented a more refined alignment for a proposed concept road in Stafford County that is an alternative to concept roads currently in their comprehensive plan. The current concept road that extends Enon Road north to Centreport Parkway impacts a cemetery at the corner of Hulls Chapel Road, and the current concept road that extends Berea Church Road north and east to Centreport Parkway impacts existing occupied residences south of Able Lake. The alternative proposal from Mr. Rowe of Plantation Drive Extension avoids occupied residences and cemeteries, and improves mobility between Warrenton Road (US 17) and Centreport Parkway independent of I-95.

Mr. Farley voiced concern for the proposal's impact on sprawl. Mr. Ollis pointed out the impacts of the western New River Crossing and the NE Quadrant Connector provide greater incentives for people to "sprawl," i.e., move further away from the city, more so than Mr. Rowe's Plantation Drive Extension.

Motion was made for Mr. Rowe to present the Plantation Drive Extension to Centreport Parkway at the Stafford County July Planning Commission meeting, as an alternative for consideration to include in their Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Farley made a friendly amendment to the motion which was accepted by the motion maker, to inform attendees of presentations that there was not unanimous support of CTAC.

Motion: Mr. Kwatnoski; Second: Ms. Banks

Motion passed.

9. Public Comment

Chair Scharpenberg asked attendees if there are public comments and there were none.

10. Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

11. Staff Reports

There were no Staff reports.

12. Member Reports

a. Traffic Mitigation

No member reports were provided

b. Mass Transit Advocacy

Mr. Kwatnoski asked attendees for help with Stafford County High School Student Government Day, with the subject of Mass Transit in Stafford County. Mr. Ollis explained the current status of the following regional initiatives: East-West mobility study's new Transit Center to be located in the Stafford new downtown at the Courthouse area, VRE improvements at Brooke and Leland stations, Amtrak and VRE additional trains that are dependent on an agreement with CSX and completion of projects underway within and outside the region for third track segments and bridges, FRED Transit Strategic Plan process that will examine existing and proposed new routes and service, and Omni Ride services to potentially expand south from its current service area in northern Stafford.

c. Safety to include Pedestrians and Bicycles

No member reports were provided.

13. Adjourn Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting/Next Meeting August 10, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Rowe; Second: Mr. Thomas.

Motion passes by unanimous consent.