



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

Thursday, July 7th – 6:00 p.m.

<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/> 406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg VA 22401

Committee Members Present:

Brian Geouge, Chair, Stafford County
Vice- Chair Adam Lynch, Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR)
Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg
Craig Pennington, Caroline County
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect
Linda LaSut, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Joe Bonds, Fredericksburg Cyclist Club (FCC)
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Aaron Frank, City of Fredericksburg Citizen Representative

Committee Members Present (remotely, with virtual participation request):

Chris Clarke, King George County
Kevin Brown, At-Large Citizen Representative

Committee Members Not Present:

Joy Himes, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Ben Matters, PRTC
Debe Fults, disAbility Resource Center (DRC)
Rob Maple, Fredericksburg Trails Alliance (FredTrails)
Jim Lynch, Potomac Heritage Trail Association (PHTA) and Friends of the Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail (DRHT)
Chris Collins, Acting Superintendent, National Park Service (NPS)
Stephen Littlewood, Stafford County Citizen Representative
Deborah Lately, disAbility Resource Center (DRC)

Others Present:

Matthew Lehane
Alex Owsiak (Remote)

Staff Present:

Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator (Remote)
Ms. Kari Eaves Barber, Transportation Planner/ Bike & Pedestrian Coordinator (Remote)
Ms. Becky Golden, Transportation Manager
Mx. Colie Touzel, Public Involvement & Title VI Coordinator



1. **Call BPAC Meeting to Order**

Chair Geouge called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Mx. Touzel called the roll.

3. **Approval of Sept 1, 2022, BPAC Meeting Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the Sept 1, 2022, BPAC agenda as amended.

Motion: Mr. Pastwik; Second: Ms. LaSut

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. **Approval of July 7th, 2022, BPAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the July 7th BPAC meeting minutes.

Motion: Mr. Bonds; Second: Ms. Anderson

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. **FAMPO Administrator Report-Mr. Ian Ollis**

Mr. Ollis summarized his recent presentation to the Policy Committee. He discussed updates to the FAMPO Travel model and stated that new data from jurisdictions and FAMPO records had been sent to VDOT. He also reported on two ongoing studies—the East-West Mobility Study and the VCR Trail Crossing Study. Mr. Ollis summarized concerns with potential delays affecting the upcoming fall Freight summit and gave an overview of new and recent developments for FAMPO, including the hire of Transportation Planner John Ridout.

6. **Public Comment**

Mx. Touzel read a letter received by Ms. Jennifer Little, who was concerned about the lack of pedestrian infrastructure in the southern part of Lafayette Blvd.

7. **Discussion/Action Items**

a. **VCR Crossing Study Introduction- Ms. Kari Eaves Barber**

Ms. Eaves Barber introduced the VCR Crossing Study being done by Michael Baker Int'l to find crossings for the VCR Trail at I-95, and improved crossings at US 1 and RT 3. She surveyed the preliminary alternatives and gave brief descriptions of each. Ms. Eaves Barber mentioned that Baker will present to the TAC and Policy Committee later in the month to get recommendations for preferred alternatives and will update BPAC at the next meeting.

b. **East-West Study Phase 1 Report- Mr. Ian Ollis**

Mr. Ollis briefly discussed the recently completed East-West study Phase 1 Report and told BPAC members that the full report was in their packet for review. The Phase 2 material would soon be released as well and would be available to them this fall.



c. Rural Work Program Suite of Projects

Ms. Eaves Barber gave a brief introduction to the Rural Work Program, projects and planning assistance being conducted for King George and Caroline Counties. She described the budget, nature of the work, and the specific tasks for FY 23.

d. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Bylaws Amendment (ACTION ITEM) – Chair Brian Geouge

Chair Geouge presented the bylaws as rewritten according to wording agreed upon at the last meeting pertaining to BPAC representation on the Policy Committee.

Motion: Mr. Clarke; Second: Mr. Frank
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

8. Correspondence

Ms. Golden drew attention to a letter stating that work will soon begin on the train station adjacent to the GWRC/FAMPO building.

9. Staff Reports

Mr. Ollis reported that FAMPO is working on hiring new staff.

10. Member reports

Ms. Anderson reported on the recent “slugging” count that GWRideConnect performed in early August. They surveyed Rt 3, 17, 630, and 610 on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 9th and 10th. Ms. Anderson reported that slugs and drivers were around 20% female-appearing and 80% male-appearing.

The slugs requested doughnuts next time.

Chair Geouge reported that Stafford County Planning Department had hired Matthew Lehane, former FAMPO planner. The committee and FAMPO staff welcomed Matthew, who was present at the meeting.

(Ms. Eaves Barber reported for Mr. Brown and Mr. Lynch, reading emails sent in their absence):

- Mr. Brown wished to comment that he was strongly in support of a tunnel or bridge to connect the VCR trail through I-95.
- Mr. Lynch wished to report that DCR is conducting a suitability study for the DRHT becoming part of Caledon. Folks from DCR have visited the trail several times and have contacted representatives from many organizations around the state to get their input. A couple of weeks ago, DCR conducted a "listening session" in KG. Representatives from a number of organizations that have an interest in the trail attended. The study is due



to be completed and given to the General Assembly by October 1st. Mr Lynch said that he wasn't there due to covid but Mr. Clarke was present. The King George Board of Supervisors passed a resolution of support for the DRHT becoming part of Caledon. The resolution was drafted and presented by Mr. Clarke. Our annual 50K ultra-marathon race was held on August 6th, the 14th running of this event. The start/finish was at the Dahlgren end for the first time, to try and highlight the Dahlgren community as a prospective trail town. We also hold a half-marathon simultaneously with the 50K. Finishers for both races totaled 194, by far our largest number to date. We still have some kinks to work out with the new start and finish, but we were generally pleased with it. Post-race comments by the participants were very positive.

The construction and installation of a new sign kiosk at the end of the railbed on Rt. 301 was completed this week. The kiosk features a new Dahlgren Junction Line history poster. The railroad history was researched by the Dahlgren Museum with a grant from the Community Foundation. The project was led by Will Tolley, the eagle scout candidate. The kiosk is on Sheetz property, so many thanks to the manager, Charlie Albarano, for his support. The Little Ark Baptist Church was awarded a nice grant (\$25K) to do several things with their property including rerouting the railroad from their cemetery and moving it onto adjacent property.

Mr. Pastwik reported in response to the public comment Spotsylvania has several SMART SCALE projects in Rounds 4 and 5 for the Lafayette Corridor that feature sidewalks. The Spotsylvania Comp Plan and Bike/Ped Plan for Lafayette Blvd corridor, call for bike and pedestrian infrastructure all along the corridor. He also noted interest in a shared-use path connection to the Fredericksburg trail headed up the west side of Lafayette as far as Hudgins Rd as well. Noted new developments on a piece-by-piece basis have required frontage improvements. Recent examples such as Sheetz gas and Spotswood Baptist Church resulted in frontage improvements. We look to close gaps when we have larger scale transportation funds request like SMART SCALE. Lafayette Blvd is a high priority for the county from the City line to Four Mile Fork with efforts underway.

11. Adjourn Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting / Next meeting
November 3rd, 2022, at 6:00 pm

Chair Geouge called for a motion to adjourn at 7:15

Motion: Chair Geouge; Second: Ms. Anderson

Motion passed with unanimous consent.