

Fredericksburg City
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
Caroline County
King George County



Matthew Rowe
Chairman

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8th, 2023 - 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/X5skJ8z628o>

Committee Members Present:

Matthew Rowe, City of Fredericksburg – Chair
Nicolas Kwatnoski, Stafford County – Vice Chair
TaMara Banks, At-Large
Joe Brito, Stafford County
Jennifer Combs, City of Fredericksburg
Larry Gross, At-Large
Jeron Hayes, King George County (remote)
David McLaughlin, City of Fredericksburg
Rodney Thomas, At-Large (remote)

Committee Members Absent:

Brett Bearce, City of Fredericksburg
John Castellarin, City of Fredericksburg
Justin Chenault, Caroline
Jacob Clay, Spotsylvania County
Micah Cunningham, Spotsylvania
Tara Durant, Stafford County
Patricia Encarnacion, City of Fredericksburg
Rupert Farley, At-Large
Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County
Michael Hoyt, Caroline
Ken Pogue, Caroline
Dustin Savage, At-Large

Others Present:

Kim Jacoby
Peggy Mathias
Tammy Holt
Roslyn Reeder (remote)

Staff Present:

Ian Ollis, Director of Transportation Planning/FAMPO Administrator

John Ridout, Transportation Planner II

Connor Anderson, GIS Technician and Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

John Ridout conducted roll call and a quorum was present.

3. Approval of the February 8th, 2023 Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion: Larry Gross; Second: Joe Brito

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Approval of January 11, 2023 CTAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the minutes as with correction of the date.

Motion: David McLaughlin; Second: Joe Brito

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. Public Comment

Kim Jacoby read and summarized a statement from the Celebrate Transportation Connection Team about concerned impact on their community in the East-West Mobility study. Concerns include an unclear survey, potential private development, increased traffic, increased commercial vehicles/trucks, noise, safety, and declining property values. They request that the Policy Committee delay action or withdraw the Route 17 corridor proposal from the Phase II report.

Peggy Mathias with the Celebrate Transportation Connection Team raised a concern about Streetlight Data used by FAMPO was from 2019 and that the pandemic could have changed human travel habits.

John Ridout read a public comment from Jane Leeds about a presentation done by a Texas firm Polara for Leader Dogs for the Blind. John read a public comment submitted by Fran Larkins from a group of residents from Celebrate Transportation Connection Team about the concerned impact on their community in the East-West Mobility study. They wish that the Policy Committee do not act on the Phase II report until additional study is done. Concerns include an unclear survey, lack of reference to potential development, increased traffic, increased commercial vehicles trucks, noise, safety, and declining property values.

6. New Business and Action Items

a. East/West Mobility Roadway Report (**ACTION ITEM**)

Ian Ollis provided an update to the CTAC members about the recent changes to the most recent East/West Phase II Roadway Report. This included more specific recommendations that were made available to the TAC on Monday February 6th. In addition, FAMPO staff also answered questions pertaining to the study.

Motion was made to recommend the Roadway Report to the Policy Committee with the document providing additional emphasis in the recommendation section to more clearly disclose that the River Crossing was not providing a proposed alignment. The language should mirror the text that was below the image on Page 20 – as a Result, the CTAC endorses the language that specifies “Any alignment shown in this report is representative for analysis only. It does not represent a recommended corridor. Environmental and alternative analysis would determine an appropriate corridor and what adjacent roadways should directly connect to the crossing.”
Motion: Nicolas Kwatnoski; Second: David McLaughlin
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

b. Business Route signage

Matt Rowe provided a presentation that outlined several errors within roadway signage in the region. In particular, the errors were noted more often when roadways either converged into one facility or diverged for local business routes. For example, the sign at the Falmouth Bridge directing southbound traffic includes errors such as directing traffic to a road that does not exist: Alt 1, an incorrect labeling of Business Route 1 and Route 17, a mislabeling of “to” Route 2. This problem is common at many junctions within the region. Matt and the CTAC members discussed the merits of either just correcting the problematic signs or considering a re-evaluation of the route labels to facilitate easier navigation in the Fredericksburg Area. The committee decided it would continue the conversation and asked staff if VDOT could be available to be a part of the discussion.

7. Staff Reports

a. TAC and Policy Committee Updates

John Ridout provided the following updates:

- The TAC recommended the East/West Mobility Transit Report for Policy Committee Adoption.
- The TAC and Policy Committee were updated on the CMAQ/STBG process.
- The Passenger Rail Authority Presentation to the Policy Committee.

b. New Urbanized Areas

John Ridout provided a brief update on the New Urbanized Areas because of the 2020 Census. John noted that while the methodology was different than with past updates, the urbanized areas for Fredericksburg still grew significantly and that the urbanized area in Spotsylvania now stretched to the border of Caroline County along Tidewater Trail. This could affect FAMPO jurisdictions in the future if growth occurs in Caroline County near this urbanized block

c. Freight Summit Report

John provided an update on the completed Freight Summit document highlighting that the

region has the most freight related congestion, the partners involved in the summit as well as potential changes to how the state considers freight activity.

d. SMARTSCALE Round 5 Review

John and Ian Ollis provided an update that the FAMPO/GWRC and member jurisdictions were very successful in being selected in the SMARTSCALE 5 round of project selection. This will fund several key corridors within the region. It was asked of staff to keep track of the progress of these projects into the future.

e. River Crossing Research Update

John Ridout and Ian Ollis provided a brief update on the River Crossing that was presented to the Policy Committee in January. John summarized the significant amount of trips generated on each side of the river that share a common destination of points west of I-95 along the Rappahannock River. Central Park, Route 17's Southern Gateway area, and the Spotsylvania Mall were the most common destinations. The behavior demands suggested high potential demand for a river crossing west of I-95 for local traffic. John outlined the next steps for the River Crossing Study.

8. Community Reports

a. VDOT Report a Problem and Progress Update

None

b. Members reports, topics of interest, partner information

Joe Brito provided comments on the Route 17 on/offramp interactions with the updated I-95 northbound section HOT lanes/traffic patterns. Joe noted a flaw that the travel direction starts at six lanes down to three lanes and it would heavily bottleneck depending on the flow direction of the HOT lanes. This flaw would require a need for a western river crossing. The 2013 plan for I-95 recommended a river crossing as phase two for I-95 expansion.

9. Final Public Comment

10. Future Agenda Items

c. None were proposed by staff or members.

11. Adjourn/Next CTAC Meeting: March 8th, 2023

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Motion: David McLaughlin, Seconded: Larry Gross

Motion passed by unanimous consent.