

## **CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 9th, 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://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8tHxjqP40>

### **Committee Members Present:**

Nicolas Kwatnoski, Stafford County – Chair  
Tim Welsh, Spotsylvania County – Vice Chair  
David McLaughlin, City of Fredericksburg  
Al Watkins, Stafford County  
Larry Gross, At-Large  
Brett Bearce, City of Fredericksburg  
TaMara Banks, At Large  
Rupert Farley, At-Large  
Kevin Wilkinson, Spotsylvania County  
Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County (Remote)

### **Committee Members Absent:**

Jeron Hayes, King George County  
Justin Chenault, Caroline County  
Patricia Encarnacion, City of Fredericksburg  
Michael Hoyt, Caroline County  
Ken Pogue, Caroline County  
Morgan Burch, Spotsylvania County  
Rodney Thomas, At-Large  
Joe Brito, Stafford County

### **Others Present**

Linda LaSut (beginning of meeting)

### **Staff Present:**

Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator  
Colie Touzel, Public Involvement and Title VI Coordinator  
John Ridout, Transportation Planner II

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kwatnoski at 6:05 p.m.

## **2. Roll Call**

John Ridout conducted roll call and a quorum was present.

## **3. Approval of the November 8, 2023, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the agenda.

Motion: Tim Welsh; Second: Rupert Farley

Discussion: None.

Motion passed with Kevin Wilkinson Absenting (later noted this abstention was meant for the September Minutes).

## **4. Approval September 23, 2023, CTAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the June minutes.

Motion: Tim Welsh; Second: Al Watkins.

Motion passed with Kevin Wilkinson Absenting.

## **5. Public Comment: None.**

## **6. Action/Discussion Items**

- a. FAMPO Staff presented the 2024 meeting calendar. Nicolas Kwatnoski asked the committee if the schedule worked or if there was any need to amend the schedule to improve attendance. The committee discussed if there were any additional conflict, but comment was to ensure the meeting was before the Policy Committee

Motion was made to approve the 2024 Calendar.

Motion: Tim Welsh; Second: Larry Gross.

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

- b. Colie Touzel provided a synopsis of changes to the Community Equity and Engagement Plan (CEEP) regarding limiting written comments to an attachment to the agenda package and no longer read aloud during the policy meeting. John Ridout provided that the changes to the TIP public comment would align with the Policy Committee schedule so that the TIP amendment public hearing will align with the TIP amendment as an action item on the PC agenda.

The committee discussed the changes at

Motion was made to endorse CEEP changes

Motion: Rupert Farley; Second: Tim Welsh.

Discussion: The committee had an in-depth discussion that focused on the capacity of citizens with either work or mobility restrictions to have their comments read aloud as this has a great

impact for the public to have their view heard. CTAC understands the need for a policy change to reduce redundancy, but the proposed change and the summary may be a better solution without limited public comment or having public comment misinterpreted. Some members reflected that FAMPO does significant public outreach already.

Al Watkins motioned to amend the motion for the two CEEP changes to be voted on separately. Kevin Wilkinson seconded. Motion to amend the motion passed.

Amended Motion to endorse changes to the CEEP titled 6B1 to changes to remove having emails read out loud and summarized and added to agenda packets.  
The motion failed.

Amended Motion to endorse changes to the CEEP titled 6B2, the change to the public comment prior for TIP amendments.  
Motion passed.

- c. John Ridout presented a simple summary about adding RTA research to FAMPO's UPWP. It empowers staff to conduct work related to RTA exploratory work. It is not an endorsement of an RTA just enables works to be done by FAMPO staff.

Motion was made to endorse changes to the UPWP  
Motion: David McLaughlin; Second: Tim Welsh.  
Motion passed.

- d. Ian Ollis provided an overview and summary of Transportation Authorities in the Commonwealth as well as general trends of increasing financial constraints for transportation projects and congestion issues. Ian provided various points to consider such as naming, representation, voting requirements and weighted representation, prioritization process, revenue sources, funding distribution as part of the process to leverage resources to other funding opportunities. The CTAC asked if funds could be applied to operating expenses and Ian clarified that the funds could be used for transit operating expenses if it is designated by the RTA. Other questions included how the taxation of other regions worked and how the recordation tax is sent to Hampton Roads. Ian explained that the Virginia legislature is the only mechanism for taxing for this organization and the RTA is one of the only mechanisms for raising and expending transportation funds. The CTAC asked if there was a sunset for the recordation tax to Hampton Roads. Ian responded that those funds are directed towards Hampton Roads indefinitely without an identified sunset. The CTAC asked if the RTA would increase the odds that the fund would return to the region. The draft framework includes provisions for returning some funding back to the FAMPO area. Nicolas Kwatnoski proposed that the CTAC endorsed the draft legislation to the Policy Committee. Glenn Goldsmith Seconded. One objection during the discussion

was that the money from the RTA would encourage more roads to be build and continued increasing congestion. The objection was that we could pursue pedestrian oriented development. The CTAC asked if funds could go to Transit or other modes. Ian responded yes, as it is defined in the legislation. The CTAC had further discussion over the revenue/taxation sources and economic impacts as well as endorsing the concept of the RTA or the specifics in the draft legislature.

Motion to endorse the concept of an RTA

Motion: Tim Welsh; Second: Glenn Goldsmith.

Motion passed.

The CTAC then continued to discuss the additional details of the responsibility of the RTA including the potential projects as well as the language of the sample legislation, composition, powers, staff, and financials. Ian and CTAC did a review of the document on the projected screen as well as the timeline of the Virginia legislature and how to communicate to the representatives and the PC.

Motion was made to endorse the draft legislation to the PC

Motion: Al Watkins, second: TaMara Banks.

Motion passed.

- e. John Ridout provided a synopsis of FAMPO activity to define Virginia State Route 3 as a corridor of statewide significance (CoSS). The motivator for this designation would enable the Region to tap into recent changes in SmartScale funding criteria. Without the designation, Route 3 would not be eligible for these funds. Preliminary research suggests that Route 3 activity, both for access and freight volumes, may warrant the CoSS designation. FAMPO staff received the CTAC comments and opinions about this designation change consideration.
- f. Nicolas Kwatnoski proposed to revisit the CTAC bylaws in order to facilitate quorum. Two items, enabling limited online participation to count towards quorum in non-consecutive meetings or with a twice a year limit. The other is to consider at-large member's home residence as being representative of a jurisdiction for quorum purposes only. Nicolas proposed that the chair and staff develop the language of the amendments. John will share the word file with Nicolas will develop the menu of options to bring back before CTAC in January.

## **7. Staff Reports**

John Ridout provided a very brief summary of both the November TAC and October PC committee meetings. The River Crossing Parkway Study research with the consultants has begun. Ian provided that the Policy Committee has begun the vision process.

## **8. Community Report: None**

## **9. Future Agenda Items: Bylaw Changes**

**10. Adjourn/Next CTAC Meeting January 10, 2024**

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Motion: Rupert Farley, Seconded: Tim Welsh

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

DRAFT