

## **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 5, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

[www.fampo.gwregion.org](http://www.fampo.gwregion.org) Video URL: <https://youtu.be/yUE1GJO-MFU>

### **Committee Members Present:**

Chair Matthew Lehane, Stafford County  
First Vice Chair Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County  
Second Vice Chair, Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg  
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg  
Catherine Coffey, VDOT  
Mike Craig, City of Fredericksburg  
Adam Derrick, Stafford County  
Melody Fowler, FXBGO!  
Amy Garbarini, DRPT  
Susan Gardner, VDOT  
Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect  
Casandra Lord, VDOT  
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County

### **Committee Members Present (remotely):**

Mohamed Benomar, Spotsylvania County  
Paige DeBold, FHWA  
Shannon Fennell, Spotsylvania County  
Daniel Koenig, FTA  
Nick Minor, King George County  
Craig Pennington, Caroline County  
Nick Ruiz, VRE  
Robert Schneider, PRTC

### **Committee Members Absent:**

Khapel Akbari, Stafford County  
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect  
Chelsea Beytas, FTA  
Kimberly Cook, King George County  
Bryon Counsell, Stafford County  
Christine Hoeffner, VRE  
Todd Horsley, DRPT  
Leon Hughes, Caroline County  
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County  
Steven Minor, FHWA  
Craig Reed, FXBGO!  
Joe Stainsby, PRTC

## **Others Present**

Will Montgomery, VRE Intern (online)

Eric Tang, VHB (online)

Sammy Snider, VHB (online)

## **Staff Present:**

Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator

Connor Anderson, GIS Technician and Transportation Planner

Kari Eaves, Transportation Planner III and Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator

Colie Touzel, Public Involvement and Title VI Coordinator

Becky Golden, Transportation Planning Manager

John S. Ridout, Transportation Planner II

Leda Hinkle, Transportation Planning Intern

### **1. Call Technical Advisory Committee Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am by Chair Lehane.

### **2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

Connor Anderson conducted roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

### **3. Approval of the February 5, 2024, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the February 5<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Adam Derrick

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

### **4. Review of the January Policy Committee Meeting**

Ian Ollis summarized that the January Policy Committee Meeting Agenda exclusively contained items that had already been, or were on the agenda to be, presented to the TAC.

### **5. Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

### **6. Consent Agenda**

a. Approval of the January 8, 2023, TAC Meeting Minutes

b. Endorse Resolution 24-21 Adopt an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to add UPC FRT0002 FXBGO! Rolling Stock Replacement

Motion to Approve the February 5, 2024, Consent Agenda.

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Rodney White

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

## **7. TIP Amendments & Modifications**

- a. Endorse Resolution 24-23 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust Funding Allocations for 2 Projects: UPC 117026 #SMART22 – Rt 648 Shelton Shop Road Improvements; UPC 103085 #HB2.FY17 Rt 1/630 Area Corridor Improvements

Motion to Endorse Resolution 24-23.

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Adam Derrick

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

## **8. Action / Discussion Items**

- a. SMART SCALE Technical Guide Review & Regional Project Selection

Kari Eaves presented the requirements for High Priority Project (HPP) eligibility and clarified the qualifications for a regionally significant project. She presented an overview of three new readiness gates for SMART SCALE project applications and highlighted new pre-application portal warnings for various feature types. Ms. Eaves also reviewed the new factor weights for accessibility and safety, summarizing how these scoring changes may affect the region's success in Round 6.

Ms. Eaves also reviewed the changed land-use metric, now a multiplier applied to the project benefit score rather than its own weight. She presented the formula incorporating land-use in the calculation of final project benefit. Chair Lehane shared that the new multiplier did not change a project's scoring too drastically in his calculations for the Garrisonville Roadway Widening. The committee discussed the new multiplier, agreeing that bicycle/pedestrian projects will not benefit from the metric and should be grouped with roadway projects. Ms. Eaves also shared the new silent metric added to SMART SCALE scoring: past project performances can impact CTB funding decisions.

Ms. Eaves also reviewed new data sources for economic development and introduced the new NEPA Analysis section of the application. Finally, Ms. Eaves presented a list of regional projects that were considered most likely to meet readiness requirements. The committee discussed this list, finalized, and approved a list of 10 regional pre-application projects. Changes to the list included adding a STARS pipeline study on Route 3/Route 639 in place of a Route 3 widening project, with the plan to use the original project if needed. The committee also decided that the I-95 widening project would be limited to southbound.

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Adam Derrick

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

b. FAMPO River Crossing Parkway NEPA Alternative Study Update

Dr. Ridout presented the project scope, environmental scope, traffic volume and data collection, and modeling for the River Crossing Parkway study. He also announced the first public meeting which will take place March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 5pm-7pm at VDOT District Auditorium. A second public meeting will be planned for the late summer/early fall. Alternatives developed and studied by the consultant will be presented to the public at this first meeting in an “open house” style with a drop-in format.

c. CMAQ / STBG Update

Dr. Ridout presented the CMAQ and CR scores for roadway, transit, and active projects. He also reviewed scoring for STBG projects and studies. The committee discussed possible funding amounts, and Dr. Ridout shared the project scoring timeline to be shared with the Policy Committee in April for their approval in May.

d. Endorse Resolution 24-22 Directing a Public Comment Period for the Draft GWRC Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Adam Derrick

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

## 9. Correspondence

Staff shared a Policy Committee correspondence on a senate bill proposing King George County leave Planning District 16. Mr. Ollis noted that there is no longer any live legislation for King George to leave the Planning District. There was a letter of support from Richmond County and Culpeper County to make Route 3 a Corridor of Statewide Significance. The committee also discussed an email from VDOT Commissioner about SMART SCALE Round 6.

## 10. Staff Reports

- Potential Needs for Pipeline Studies

Ms. Eaves requested all localities list their priority locations for a presentation on the region’s priorities at the next TAC meeting. Chair Lehane proposed the committee draft a letter to provide to the Policy Committee after compiling a list of regional priorities. Chair Lehane noted that study processes will be on the next meeting’s agenda.

- 2024 Safety Performance Target Letter
- MPO Transportation Planning Process Self Certification Statement

## 11. Member Reports

a. Notification of changes to cost estimates on FAMPO projects – VDOT

Kate Gibson shared that DRPT grants will no longer fund GWRideConnect’s Park and Ride counts or Traffic counts and noted that if these counts are needed, it will need to be done by FAMPO staff. CMAQ in FY 27 will provide funding to reinstate the counts.

b. Notification of new transportation projects by localities

The committee agreed to provide comments to FAMPO staff on SMART SCALE and VTrans needs.

- c. Chair Lehane announced Stafford County's new Transportation Master Plan will be presented to the county's board in the next month or so.

**12. Adjourn/Next TAC Meeting: March 4, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.**

Meeting Adjourned 11:32 a.m.