



Matthew Lehane Chair
Ian Ollis Administrator



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

Thursday, March 7, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Committee Members Present:

Matthew Lehane, Chair, Stafford County
Chris Clarke, Vice Chair, King George County
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect
Lynn Faust, Fredericksburg Trails Alliance (FredTrails)
Linda LaSut, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Jim Lynch, Potomac Heritage Trail Association (PHTA) and Friends of the Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail (DRHT)
Paul Cariken, Fredericksburg Cyclist Club (FCC)
Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg
Aaron Frank, City of Fredericksburg Citizen Representative
Brian Ogle, Stafford Citizen Alternate
Craig Pennington, Caroline County

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

Kevin Brown, At-Large Citizen Representative
Deborah Lately, disability Resource Center (DRC)

Committee Members Not Present:

Greg Goldstein, Stafford Citizen Representative
Clay Murray, At-Large Citizen Representative
Joe Bonds, Fredericksburg Cyclist Club (FCC)
Chris Collins, Acting Superintendent, National Park Service (NPS)
Debra Fults, disAbility Resource Center (DRC)
Cassy Lord, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Rob Maple, Fredericksburg Trails Alliance (FredTrails)
Ben Matters, PRTC
John Summer, Fredericksburg Cyclist Club (FCC)
Kim Mitchell, GWRideConnect
Matthew Decatur, Spotsylvania Alternate?

Staff Present:

Kari Eaves, Transportation Planner/ Bike & Pedestrian Coordinator
Colie Touzel, Public Involvement & Title VI Coordinator
Becky Golden, Transportation Planning Manager

Others Present:

Elliot Caldwell, East Coast Greenway Alliance



1. **Call BPAC Meeting to Order**

Chair Lehane called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Mx. Touzel called the roll.

3. **Approval of March 7th, 2024, BPAC Meeting Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the March 7th, 2024, BPAC agenda.

Motion: Mr. Jim Lynch; Second; Mr. Chris Clark

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. **Approval of January 4th, 2024, BPAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the January 4th, 2024, BPAC meeting minutes.

Motion: Ms. Leigh Anderson; Second: Mr. Chris Clarke

Abstain: Mr. Jacob Pastwik

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. **Public Comment**

Mx. Touzel read aloud comments received from the following:

- Patrick Carl who advocated for more bicycle lanes and road marketings to help improve safety for bicycle riders.
- Joe Jarski who advocated for less congestion on Route 3 west and an outer bypass.
- Linda Thornton who had safety concerns regarding bicycle riders not following the rules of the road.

6. **Discussion/Action Items**

- a) East Coast Greenway Update- Elliott Caldwell, VA & DC Mgr, East Coast Greenway Alliance

Mr. Caldwell introduced himself and recent updates for the East Coast Greenway. He included that Fredericksburg would be showcased by the East Coast Greenway at an upcoming conference. He gave an overview of the East Coast Greenway and the status of current plans.

Mr. Pastwik described the process of constructing trails, speaking to the factors that slow down development and make it piece by piece.

- b) SS4A Action Plan- Rebecca Golden

- Directing a Public Comment Period for the Draft FAMPO / GWRC Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan

Ms. Golden summarized the timeline for jurisdictions' implementation grant applications and the requirement that those applications identify the roadway, safety counter measures, cost estimate, and local match. She clarified that road edge rumble strips are not well suited for curved roads. She announced that the Safety Action Plan is out for public comment at this time and outlined next steps.



She clarified for the committee that counter measures must be finished with construction by the end of FY25.

Additionally, she shared that there would only be 50 grants for the whole of the United States. She explained that jurisdictions can make their applications competitive by coordinating with VDOT's construction schedule. She discussed the viability of different counter measures on different roads, clarifying where rumble strips do and do not work. She also reviewed a supplemental grant application opportunity.

c) GWRC Greenway Network Update: Stafford- Chair Matthew Lehane

Ms. Eaves summarized the Greenway Plan and the current update process that will cycle through all of the GWRC jurisdictions over the next few months. Chair Lehane updated the committee on Stafford County's Greenways. He included Stafford's draft Transportation Master Plan, while clarifying that it has yet to be approved. He asserted the likelihood that most of the plan would remain unchanged upon approval, and maintained that the plan, in its unapproved state, would still be helpful for outlining initiatives bike/ped in Stafford. Chair Lehane identified focus areas in Stafford County, and the multimodal projects that have been prioritized based on the geography of these focus areas. He identified projects that fill in the gaps in the county's network. He also identified the Stafford Heritage Trail project planned for the county. He ended his presentation sharing that after Stafford's Transportation Master Plan is approved, its bike/ped projects can be pulled into a Greenway Plan update.

The committee discussed different projects within the county, including a discussion on network connections between the Dahlgren path and Stafford County. The next locality update will be in two months from Spotsylvania.

7. Correspondence

- FHWA Letter

Ms. Eaves shared correspondence from the FHWA where they supported a VCR Trail tunnel and encouraged application for a RAISE grant. The committee reviewed a map of the VCR Trail and the various stages of development across Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania and provided verbal updates on some sections. Ms. Eaves emphasized that connectivity is the foremost priority during a discussion of trail overlap with interchange development.

- Local trails

Staff shared a Potomac Local News article featuring Fredericksburg trails and comments from committee member Ms. Faust.



8. Staff Reports

- River Crossing Parkway Study public meeting scheduled for March 20th
- Public comment opportunity and survey for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)
- FAMPO Intern

9. Member reports

- Mr. Pastwik thanked the East Coast Greenway Alliance for their letter of support and shared that the Village at Crossroads projects was approved in Spotsylvania County.
- Mr. Clarke commented that three proposed SMART SCALE intersection projects along Route 301 are out for public comment.
- Mr. Lynch gave an update on the annual winter half marathon. He also updated the committee that the NPS's condition assessment of the Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail is completed and 99 maintenance items were identified. He concluded that this report will guide maintenance activities and grant applications. Finally, he announced the upcoming Sheetz-to-Sheetz trail run.
- Ms. Faust shared a fundraising event hosted by The Fairy Godmother Project that had volunteers from FredTrails, Fredericksburg Cycling, and the Fredericksburg Area Running Club. She complimented the event and the collaboration between different volunteer groups in the community. She also shared that the water treatment plant in Motts Reservoir in Spotsylvania is expanding and trails are closed in the area. Finally, she shared an Eagle Scout project that will add a boardwalk to a particularly swampy area of the Fall Hill Trail.
- Mr. Frank shared an update on the plan for a Canal Path bridge over Route 1 and the proposed detours and temporary bridge as alternatives during construction. He also shared an update on Bike to School Day and plans to repave some portions of the Canal Path.
- Chair Lehane shared that applications for recreational trails grants through DCR are opening soon for a month. He also shared the two projects Stafford has planned for application.
- Ms. Anderson reminded the committee of the dates for Bike to Work Week, Bike to Work Day, Bike to School Day, and the National Just Get Out and Bike Day.
- Mr. Cariken shared that this year would be the 40th year anniversary of the Fredericksburg Cyclist Club and shared membership figures.

10. Adjourn Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting

Chair Lehane adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Next meeting May 2, 2024, at 6:00 pm