

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 4, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

www.fampo.gwregion.org Video URL: <https://youtu.be/VXtk1RJrsfg?si=FSMj8Ezh382J8yxq>

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
Adam Derrick, Stafford County
Nick Ruiz, VRE
Susan Gardner, VDOT
Casandra Lord, VDOT
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect
Nick Minor, King George County

Committee Members Present (remotely):

Amy Garbarini, DRPT
Mohamed Benomar, Spotsylvania County
Paige DeBold, FHWA
Shannon Fennell, Spotsylvania County
Craig Pennington, Caroline County
Robert Schneider, PRTC

Committee Members Absent:

Khapel Akbari, Stafford County
Chelsea Beytas, FTA
Kimberly Cook, King George County
Bryon Counsell, Stafford County
Christine Hoeffner, VRE
Todd Horsley, DRPT
Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect
Leon Hughes, Caroline County
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Steven Minor, FHWA
Craig Reed, FXBGO!
Joe Stainsby, PRTC
Melody Fowler, FXBGO!
Daniel Koenig, FTA
Khapel Akbari, Stafford County
Mike Craig, City of Fredericksburg

Others Present

Will Montgomery, VRE Intern (online)
Sarah Romero

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

1. Call Technical Advisory Committee Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 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 March 4, 2024, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the March 4th Agenda.

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Adam Derrick

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Review of the February 26, 2024, Policy Committee Meeting

Ian Ollis reviewed the GWRC/FAMPO Memorandum of Understanding. He also announced that the public comment period for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan was approved. He identified the survey for obtaining public participation. Mr. Ollis explained that other items from the February Policy Committee meeting had already been shared with the Technical Advisory Committee or were on the agenda.

5. Public Comment

No public comments were received.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the February 5, 2024, TAC Meeting Minutes

b. Endorse Resolution 24-24 Adopt Amendments 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 (ACTION ITEM)

Motion to Approve the March 4, 2024, Consent Agenda.

Motion: Leigh Anderson; Second: Adam Derrick
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. TIP Amendments & Modifications

- a. Endorse Resolution 24-25 Approving Modifications to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for 2 Projects: FRT0002 Replacement Rolling Stock and FRT0009 Transit Preventative Maintenance Activities (ACTION ITEM)

Motion to Endorse Resolution 24-25.

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Adam Derrick

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

- b. MPO TIP Report

Mr. Ollis shared the TIP amendment request 124309 “Transforming Rail in Virginia / VPRA” with the committee.

Members discussed the origin and undisclosed details of the project and if it met the requirements to amend the TIP. Staff recommended determining whether the project is administered by VDOT or DRPT before bringing it to the Policy Committee.

8. Action / Discussion Items

- a. SS4A Supplemental Safety Action Plan ideas – Ms. Becky Golden

Becky Golden introduced Mr. Agnello’s idea to request more funding for additional roadways to be covered by the SS4A Safety Action Plan. She had suggested applying for a Supplemental grant and reviewed the three application opportunities within the year. Mr. Agnello advocated that GWRC or FAMPO jurisdictions apply for the grant. The committee deferred further discussion until the jurisdictions confirmed interest. Planning to have these decisions by the next committee meeting, Mr. Ollis clarified that committee members would also need to know the roads they wish to study and the scope items to include in the application. He also reminded the committee that a local match would need to be proportionate to the scope of the application.

- b. CMAQ / STBG Future SMART SCALE Studies – Chair Matthew Lehane

Chair Lehane commented on the amount of work required for navigating the SMART SCALE process and suggested using CMAQ / STBG funds for studies to support SMART SCALE applications. He specified that producing the cost estimates and sketches are significantly time-consuming activities. If funding is available, the region can have more resources for preparing SMART SCALE applications. The committee planned to have a month to think about the proposal and discuss it again at the next Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

c. Approval of SMART SCALE Pre-applications (ACTION ITEM) – Ms. Kari Eaves

Ms. Eaves reviewed the SMART SCALE timeline and the pre-application projects from GWRC and FAMPO. She relayed the upcoming SMART SCALE deadlines and asked for the committee’s approval for the list of projects.

Motion to approve the ten pre-application projects for FAMPO / GWRC

Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Bassam Amin

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

d. CLRP Update SMART SCALE Round 6 – Mr. Ian Ollis

Mr. Ollis reviewed what may be included in a CLRP update and raised the question of when the update should occur. He asked what other projects TAC members may be aware of that would need to be included in the update.

Mr. Agnello recommended that the CLRP be updated every year.

Mr. Ollis expressed his concern about the timeline of the CLRP update and the fiscal constraint given that funding has not increased proportionate to project cost.

Chair Lehane proposed that an update occur every fall, starting with the next fiscal year after the six-year plan is adopted. The committee planned to raise the discussion again in August and independently think about projects throughout the summer.

e. Regional Priority Areas for Future Pipeline Studies – Ms. Kari Eaves

Ms. Eaves reviewed VDOT’s call for input on jurisdictional priorities for future studies. She emphasized how these studies can influence SMART SCALE outcomes and inform the planning process. She shared the listed priorities from Stafford and Spotsylvania, noting the length of both lists, and recommended each jurisdiction rank their priorities in order of importance.

f. Vision 2075 Update – Mr. Ian Ollis & Mx. Colie Touzel

Mr. Ollis reviewed the Vision 2075 and previous feedback from the TAC from the October 2023 meeting. He shared the updated list of FAMPO goals and objectives, based on that feedback. Mr. Ollis expressed his thanks for the collaboration on the Vision effort and again requested the TAC’s feedback on the updated goals and objectives.

Mr. Ruiz recommended that economic sustainability of project funding be included. Chair Lehane also suggested that maintenance of transportation networks be included as a regional priority. Mr. Derrick raised the consideration for intelligent transportation technology innovation.

9. Correspondence

Staff shared the changed date for the termination of the air quality conformity process to January 23, 2026.

10. Staff Reports

- 5303 Allocations

Mr. Ollis reviewed changes to FAMPO's operation capital, summarizing that the MPO will receive less funding in FY25 and lower increases in FY26 and FY27. Evaluating the stagnant Rural Work Program Planning Grant, Mr. Ollis shared that fewer rural projects can be undertaken by FAMPO. Ultimately, Mr. Ollis reviewed that the decrease in internal funds may impact certain capacities of FAMPO. He implored members of the committee to encourage their jurisdictions to supply their own funds so that FAMPO is eligible for federal match funding and not further financially restricted.

- SS4A Policy Committee Presentation & NOFO

Ms. Golden reviewed current Safety Action Plan Priority Corridors and asked that if there are any extent changes, those be submitted on March 8th. She also reviewed the requirements for implementation of projects, counter measures, and next steps. She also encouraged the member jurisdictions to reach out to and coordinate with VDOT directly.

- FAMPO River Crossing Parkway NEPA Alternatives Study Public Meeting Information

Dr. Ridout summarized the results of the previous stakeholder meeting and reminded the committee of the upcoming public meeting on March 20 from 5pm-7pm held at the VDOT Auditorium in Southern Stafford.

- Input for Letter to OIPI regarding SMART SCALE Process

Ms. Eaves reviewed jurisdiction comments received thus far on the SMART SCALE process. Mr. Ollis asked the committee what they would like the tone of this letter to be. The committee decided to frame the letter as constructive feedback and plan to review a draft at the next committee meeting.

11. Member Reports

- a. 2050 Draft System Plan to be presented to VRE's Board of Operations
- b. Notification of changes to cost estimates on FAMPO projects – VDOT
- c. Nick Minor's resignation and last TAC meeting

12. Adjourn/Next TAC Meeting: April 1, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned 11:22 a.m.