Fredericksburg City
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County

Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Meg Bohmke
Chair

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org

Committee Members Present: *(V) indicates voting member*
Ms. Meg Bohmke, Chair, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Lori Hayes, First Vice-Chair Spotsylvania County (V) (online)
Mr. Jason Graham, Second Vice-Chair, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Monica Gary, Stafford County (V)
Dr. Pamela Yeung, alternate Stafford County (V) (online)
Ms. Crystal Vanuch, Stafford County (V)
Mr. Chris Yakabouski, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Drew Mullins, Spotsylvania County (V) (online)
Ms. Jannan Holmes, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Dr. Will Mackintosh, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Gerald Childress, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Cathie Coffey, alternate Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)(V)
Ms. Casandra Lord, alternate Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Jamie Jackson, Fredericksburg Go! (FXBGO!) (online)
Ms. Melody Fowler, alternate Fredericksburg Go! (FXBGO!)
Mr. Chris Clarke, Vice Chair BPAC (online)
Mr. Timothy Welsh, Vice Chair CTAC
Ms. Amy Garbarini, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) (online)
Mr. David "Sully" Sullins, alternate King George County

Committee Members Absent:
Mr. Jacob Lane, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Deuntay Diggs, alternate Stafford County (V)
Ms. Cathy Binder, King George County
Mr. David Brown, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Laura Sellers, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)
Ms. Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, alternate PRTC (V)
Mr. Steven Minor, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Ivan Rucker, alternate Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Daniel Koenig, Federal Highway Administration (FTA)
Ms. Chelsea Beytas, alternate Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Mr. Todd Horsley, alternate Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Ms. Nancy Long, Caroline County
Mr. Jeffrey Black, alternate Caroline County
Mr. Nicolas Kwatnoski, Chair CTAC
Mr. Matthew Lehane, Chair BPAC

Others Present:
Mr. Paul Agnello (online)
Ms. Jamie Jackson (online)
Mr. Allen Watkins
Mr. Gavin Gardon
Mr. Nick Ruiz, VRE
Ms. Christine Hoeffner, VRE
Mr. Jacob DeCourcey

Staff Present:
Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator
Dr. John Ridout, Transportation Planner II
Mr. Becky Golden, Transportation Planning Manager
Ms. Kari Eaves, Transportation Planner III (online)
Mr. Connor Anderson, Transportation Planner/GIS Technician

1. **Call Policy Committee Meeting to Order**
   Chair Bohmke called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   Chair Bohmke led the pledge of allegiance.

3. **Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**
   Mr. Anderson conducted roll call and determined a quorum present. Chair Bohmke welcomed Gerald Childress, alternate Spotsylvania County, and introduced him to Policy Committee members.

4. **Approval of the June 17, 2024, Policy Committee Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   Chair Bohmke introduced item 4 and invited Ms. Parker to explain an item requested to be added to the agenda as Action Item 9.f: Resolution 24-49 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC 123887 #SMART24 – Route 1 SB Widening with Pedestrian Accommodations.

   Motion was made to approve the June 17, 2024, Policy Committee agenda as amended.
   Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Ms. Hayes
   Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. **Public Hearings**

   Ms. Golden read aloud three general comments on the three public hearings:

   a. Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC FRT0018 FXBGO!'s Security & Fiber Project
   b. Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC 124309 Transforming Rail in Virginia / VPRA
   c. Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC 109474 #HB2.FY17 – New Commuter Parking Lot Route 1 at Commonwealth Drive

Larry Juul supported the proposed amendments, considering all of them to be worthy projects. Dr. Michael Meier did not support any of the proposed amendments and stated that the region should not fund FXBGO! transit, construction of commuter lots, nor any rail projects.

6. **Public Involvement**

Mr. Watkins thanked the CTAC outgoing Chair, Nicholas Kwatnoski, and outgoing Policy Committee Chair Meg Bohmke for their service and wished the incoming leadership the very best. He also provided facts obtained from Stafford County Planning Commission minutes documenting that Celebrate Virginia Parkway is constructed to handle 66,500 vehicles per day.

Mr. Jacob DeCourcey of the Chatham Heights neighborhood in Stafford County provided the following: His home is on the east side of Chatham Heights Road and he and his family walk from his home across the bridge to enjoy activities in Fredericksburg. He pointed out the following safety issues: 1) vehicles are using the median as a northbound to eastbound right turn lane at Kings Highway; 2) Chatham Heights Road is wide and in need of traffic calming; and 3) pedestrian crossings are needed, particularly at the intersection.

Ms. Jane Leeds provided written comments stating that safe access to public transit does not appear to have priority in FAMPO's planning process. She gave examples of other cities and pointed out concern for veterans and upcoming holidays commemorating their service to emphasize sympathy for vulnerable road users.

Mr. Abraham Wordofa requested sidewalks along Mine Road in Spotsylvania County.

7. **Consent Agenda**

a. Approval of May 20, 2024, Policy Committee Meeting Minutes **(ACTION ITEM)**

b. Resolution 24-41 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC FRT0018 FXBGO!'s Security & Fiber Project **(ACTION ITEM)**

c. Resolution 24-42 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC 124309 Transforming Rail in Virginia / VPRA **(ACTION ITEM)**

d. Resolution 24-43 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for UPC 109474 #HB2.FY17 – New Commuter Parking Lot Route 1 at Commonwealth Drive **(ACTION ITEM)**

e. Ratifying the MBI task order for the Harrison Road model runs.

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda.
Motion: Ms. Vanuch; Second: Mr. Graham
Motion passed with one abstention.

8. **FAMPO Administrator Report**

Mr. Ollis advised attendees of progress made to simplify future prioritization of CMAQ/CR and STBG funding having received confirmation from FHWA on a formula driven process. FAMPO staff assisted with an analysis of I-95 historical crash data. Mr. Anderson explained the results of the analysis to attendees. Crash rate by year was requested to be presented at the August Policy Committee meeting. Staff also provided maps and data showing crashes by jurisdiction on I-95, I-81 and I-64; I-95 crashes by milepost; and Travel Time index maps for I-95 and the region.

Mr. Ollis closed with reminders that there is no Policy Committee meeting in July with the next meeting scheduled for August 19th.

9. **Action/Discussion Items**

a. VRE System Plan 2050 Draft Plan Review

Mr. Ruiz and Ms. Hoeffner of VRE presented their System Plan 2050, highlighting short term and long-range ridership and frequencies for trains including weekends, reverse peak, and express trains. Infrastructure requirements and capital costs for the fleet necessary to provide the improved service were explained with estimated costs. Ridership estimates were provided: 2024 ridership of 7,755 is estimated to increase to 21,570 by 2030. This increase was questioned by Policy Committee members and VRE staff provided the data used to validate their estimates.

b. **SMART SCALE Round 6 Presentation**

Mr. Anderson presented the following:

1. Resolution 24-44 Authorizing Support for the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) SMART SCALE Project Applications (**ACTION ITEM**)

2. Resolution 24-45 Approving Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (FAMPO) Regional SMART SCALE Round 6 Project Applications (**ACTION ITEM**)

3. Resolution 24-46 Authorizing Support for Locality Round 6 SMART SCALE Project Applications (**ACTION ITEM**)

Motion was made to approve Resolution 24-44, Resolution 24-45 and Resolution 24-46.
Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Ms. Gary
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

c. **RTA Subcommittee Update**

1. Approval of May 30, 2024, FAMPO Policy Committee RTA Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (**ACTION ITEM**)

Discussion was held and language to clarify action was provided by Mr. Graham as follows: *A straw poll was taken on the above options for funding splits and various tax sources and amounts. Input in the straw poll from member jurisdictions that do not wish to be part of the RTA in no way indicates their support for their jurisdiction to be part of the RTA.* This language will be added to the bottom of the minutes.

Motion was made to approve May 30, 2024, Policy Committee RTA Subcommittee Meeting Minutes as amended.
Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Ms. Gary
Motion passed.

2. **Summary of RTA Subcommittee discussions May 30, 2024**

Discussion was held regarding the summary and the following language was provided for a resubmitted memorandum: *This memorandum represents the findings of the RTA Subcommittee as a report back to FAMPO/GWRC jurisdictions for discussion and does not represent the view of the jurisdictions.*

In addition to the revised language, it was agreed that the Resolution passed by the Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors in opposition to be part of the RTA, and the correspondence received from King George County with the same position, be made part of the revised summary.

d. **Resolution 24-47 Approving the Slate of Officers to Serve in the Fiscal Year 2025 (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to nominate Ms. Hayes as Policy Committee Chair.
Motion: Mr. Childress; Second: Ms. Vanuch
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion was made to nominate Mr. Mackintosh as 1st Vice Chair.
Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Mr. Yakabouski
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion was made to nominate Ms. Vanuch as 2nd Vice Chair.
Motion: Ms. Hayes; Second: Mr. Childress
Motion passed.

e. **Resolution 24-48 Recognizing the Dedicated Service of Meg Bohmke** – (**ACTION ITEM**)

Ms. Hayes read the Resolution and presented a Certificate of Achievement to Ms. Bohmke.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 24-48.
Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Ms. Hayes
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

f. **Resolution 24-49 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust Funding for UPC 123887 #SMART24 – Route 1 SB Widening with Pedestrian Accommodations**

Motion was made to approve Resolution 24-49.
Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Ms. Hayes
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

10. **Correspondence**

- Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger Letter of Support for GWRC FY24 SS4A Supplemental Planning and Implementation Grant application
- Delegate Robert D. "Bobby" Orrock Letter of Support for GWRC FY24 SS4A Supplemental Planning and Implementation Grant application
- VDOT Letter of Support for GWRC FY24 SS4A Supplemental Planning and Implementation Grant application

11. **Staff and Agency Reports / Board Member and Chair Comments**

Mr. Ollis announced that effective July 1st, Mr. Graham will serve as an alternate for the City of Fredericksburg with Councilman Gerlach to become a voting member of the Policy Committee.

Mr. Ollis announced the news that Mr. Anderson has accepted a position working in Northern Virginia closer to his home, and that his position has been filled by Ms. Hinkle who has served in an Intern capacity during the spring semester. Policy Committee members applauded Mr. Anderson's position with VHB, with the possibility of working with FAMPO in the future.

12. Chair Bohmke adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.