TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 9, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org Video URL: https://youtu.be/fPpLA0NaSto?si=d7ZphppkIUvfoDfz

Committee Members Present:
Chair Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County
First Vice Chair, Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg
Second Vice Chair Matthew Lehane, Stafford County
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Catherine Coffey, PE, VDOT
Adam Derrick, Stafford County
Melody Fowler, FXBGO!
Amy Garbarini, DRPT
Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect
Casandra Lord, VDOT
Steven Minor, FHWA
Nick Ruiz, VRE
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County
Mike Craig, City of Fredericksburg
Craig Pennington, Caroline County (online)

Committee Members Absent:
Leon Hughes, Caroline County
Christine Hoeffner, VRE
Daniel Koenig, FTA
Khapel Akbari, Stafford County
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect
Mohamed Benomar, Spotsylvania County
Chelsea Beytas, FTA
Kimberly Cook, King George County
Bryon Counsell, Stafford County
Shannon Fennell, Spotsylvania County
Todd Horsley, DRPT
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Craig Reed, FXBGO!
Robert Schneider, PRTC
Joe Stainsby, PRTC
Chris Clarke, King George

Others Present:
Matt Bewley, DRPT (online)
Johnathan Avner, Whitman, Requardt and Associates, LLP
Donna Cloniger, VDOT
Michaela Collins, GWRC
Will Montgomery, VRE
Al Watkins, CTAC, Stafford County Citizen

Staff Present:
Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator
Becky Golden, Transportation Planning Manager
John Ridout, Senior Transportation Planner
Eugene Hlaing, Public Involvement/Title VI Coordinator
Kari Eaves, Transportation Program Manager
Leda Hinkle, GIS Technician/Transportation Planner

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

   The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Chair Agnello.

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

   Ms. Leda Hinkle conducted roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

3. **Approval of the September 9, 2024, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   Motion was made to approve the September 9th Agenda.
   Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Matthew Lehane
   Abstentions: None
   Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Review of the August 19, 2024, Policy Committee Meeting – Mr. Ian Ollis

   Mr. Ian Ollis reviewed the agenda for the August 19, 2024 Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Ollis and the committee scanned the Policy Committee items already reviewed in the prior TAC meeting. Mr. Ollis gave an overview of the VPRA Potomac Creek Third Track Project/ Leeland Road Bridge Reconstruction Public Outreach presentation and noted that there will be a public meeting on September 18th.

   Mr. Ollis gave an overview of the Crash Rates presentation by Ms. Becky Golden. Mr. Ollis noted that there are more crashes in the southbound lane, and that FAMPO is working with VDOT to understand the reason. Mr. Lehane asked if the crashes are in local lanes, and Mr. Ollis stated that FAMPO is unsure as the data puts all of the crashes in one lane, which may be because of the software.

   Mr. Ollis gave an overview of the legislation change regarding Remote Participation policies, which must now be reauthorized annually. Mr. Ollis informed the Policy Committee that the TAC bylaws were amended to allow for an online meeting in the case of emergencies, and he suggested that the Policy Committee amend their bylaws as well.

Following a question about a letter of support from VRE for the Spotsylvania County rail crossing elimination grant application from Mr. Ruiz, the committee confirmed that the letter has been requested and that the request was sent to VRE's Mr. Rich Dalton who is the correct contact.

5. Public Comment

Mr. Al Watkins introduced himself and noted that he would like the TAC to talk about the River Crossing Parkway Study, that the Del Webb community did not receive communication from the Policy Committee regarding details of recent land clearing on a parcel located on Celebrate Virginia Parkway, and the obstacles the project may impose for construction of the River Crossing Parkway.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the August 5, 2024, TAC Meeting Minutes **(ACTION ITEM)**

b. Endorse Resolution 25-07 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Add a New Project UPC 120943 Germanna Point Drive Extension **(ACTION ITEM)**

Motion to Approve the September 9, 2024, Consent Agenda.
Motion: Paul Agnello; Second: Rodney White
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. TIP Amendments & Modifications

a. Endorse Resolution 25-05 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Obligate Funding for 3 Projects: RAAA001 Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging Operating Assistance, RAAA002 Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging Mobility Management, and RACS001 Rappahannock Area Community Services Board **(ACTION ITEM)**

b. Endorse Resolution 25-06 Approving a Modification to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Obligate Funding for RAAA003 Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging Paratransit Vehicles **(ACTION ITEM)**

c. Endorse Resolution 25-08 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Add a New Project UPC T29881 Brooke Road Flood Mitigation and Resiliency Project **(ACTION ITEM)**

d. Endorse Resolution 25-09 Approving a Modification to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for UPC FRT0018 Fredericksburg Regional Transit Security & Fiber Project **(ACTION ITEM)**

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Mr. Agnello noted that two TIP amendments have been added, Resolution 25-10 and Resolution 25-11, both of which were included with the physical copies of the agendas provided during the meeting. Mr. Agnello opens the floor to questions.

Following a question from Mr. Lehane regarding the TIP sheet's exclusion of FY27 funding, the committee established that the funding had not been included as Stafford County had not yet signed the grant agreement.

Motion to Approve Items 7a and 7b.
Motion: Paul Agnello; Second; Melody Fowler
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

8. Action / Discussion Items

a. FAMPO Travel Demand Model Update – Mr. Jonathan Avner, Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP

Mr. Ollis explained that despite the FAMPO Travel Demand Model's name, VDOT owns the FAMPO TDM and introduced Mr. Johnathan Avner as the consultant working for VDOT.
Mr. Avner introduced himself and began the presentation. Mr. Avner is working with VDOT to update the TDM, which is a tool used to support the transportation planning process. Mr. Avner noted the consideration of emerging transportation modes in the TDM, locally developed zonal inputs, and how to establish confidence in the tool among stakeholders. Mr. Avner listed examples of how TDMs may be used and shared insights about the Fredericksburg region in 2050. Mr. Avner shared that the 2022 TDM can be accessed by contacting Ying Su, VDOT.
Through discussion among the committee, it was established that the TDM is a useful model for answering and developing general questions and solutions as opposed to specific questions/solutions, that the TDM uses data from validating VRE routes, that the use of the CUBE software is preferable in creating a TDM, that a congestion map of 2050 will be created, that the model could be used to procure solutions to decrease crashes, and that slugging is considered in the model.

b. LRTP2050 FY25 Modifications – Ms. Becky Golden

i. Presentation
ii. Summary and Recommendations

Ms. Becky Golden presented a table of items to modify in the 2050 LRTP and include in the 2055 LRTP update, as recommended by FAMPO staff. Mr. Ollis elaborated that staff are unsure whether or not the CLRP must be updated. Mr. Ollis stated that projects that have received funding but are not in the CLRP must be added, but this does not apply to projects that have already received funding. Mr. Ollis explained his reservations concerning updates to the CLRP, as the percentage used to calculate the constrained list of projects was based on the inflation rate of 2020/early 2021, and any updates made will require that the inflation rate is increased, thereby reducing the dollar amount and resulting in projects being removed from the CLRP. Mr. Ollis established that FAMPO is seeking guidance from the TAC regarding the addition of projects to the CLRP. Through discussion with the committee, Mr. Ollis established that FAMPO does not plan to update the

census population data as that would require re-running the models and that SMART SCALE Round 6 project funding will only be available in 2025.
At the next TAC meeting, the committee will review the CLRP and review submitted projects to find funded projects that are not on the CLRP. FAMPO Staff will review a list of recent SMART SCALE projects and check the list against the CLRP as well.

c. CMAQ, STBG, CR Prioritization Methodology – Dr. John Ridout

Dr. Ridout reviewed how CMAQ/STBG funding is allocated and noted the inconsistency in the allocation of funding for each locality. To explore different methods of allocating funds with the committee, Dr. Ridout reviewed the proportion of funds that would hypothetically be allocated based on several factors regarding demographics, travel, economic activity, and population density. Dr. Ridout noted that FAMPO & the TAC need to further discuss how funds will be allocated. Items for the TAC to discuss include agreement about which "off the top" items to cater for, how to approach transit funds for VRE, Fred, and Omniride, and agreement on a formula for balanced allocation of CMAQ/STBG/CR funds.

The committee asked questions regarding FHWA/VDOT approval of this change, NVTA's allocation process, and the source of STBG funding. Mr. Ollis referred to item nine of the prior TAC meeting, which stated that FHWA would approve the allocation model on the condition that FAMPO submit their proposal to FHWA for approval. Mr. Ollis noted that NVTA does not have a public facing or internal document that explains their process, and that each jurisdiction is guaranteed funding for one project by NVTA. Dr. Ridout stated that FAMPO can review how STBG funding is generated and by what counties.

Mr. Ruiz stated that it must be ensured that changes be made no sooner than every five years to ensure that the process is not constantly changing. Mr. Ruiz noted that the metrics should align with CMAQ/STBG and work to decrease congestion and mitigate the negative impacts of traveling; The allocation process must avoid choosing a metric that may lead to counties increasing congestion to ensure they will receive more funding. The committee discussed how they might avoid this issue as well as how census data may be taken if the gap between the Fredericksburg Area and the Washington Urban Metro Area is closed.

d. SMART SCALE Round 6 Discussion – Ms. Kari Eaves

Ms. Kari Eaves established that a letter to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation may be sent regarding the committee's comments/concerns about SMART SCALE Round 6. The TAC began a wrap up discussion to prepare for the letter. As the state will not likely call a fall meeting and solicit information from MPOs, a letter must be sent instead. Comments will be gathered, the Policy Committee will be informed of FAMPO's intentions to send a letter, TAC will review the letter, and then the letter will be sent to the Policy Committee to approve for submission to the Secretary. It is unknown what VAMPO's further intentions regarding SMART SCALE Round 6 feedback will be. Among comments made during the discussion, Mr. Lehane requested that MPOs be informed of the project scoring process so that they may submit better projects. Mr. Ollis and Mr. Mike Craig stated that the CTB's timeline regarding the technical guide/studies and the criteria are not properly aligned, which leads to edits to projects being rushed. Mr. Craig stated that technical guidance

should be provided prior to opening pre-pre-applications in November. Chair Agnello decided to continue the discussion at the next TAC meeting.

TAC members that work on SMART SCALE will send their comments by September 30th to Ms. Eaves, who will produce and present a summary of the comments during the October 7th TAC meeting.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10. Staff Reports

- Reminder VDOT's Statewide Update to the Federal Functional Classification (FFC)
    - Spotsylvania County's Requested Updates to the FFC

The committee was reminded to send FAMPO their requested FFC updates for their respective jurisdiction.

    - LRTP Update Scenario Planning Range of Cost

Mr. Ollis stated that if scenario planning will occur for the FY27 LRTP update, planning staff and transportation planning staff should schedule a workshop to review regional changes and needs. To ensure an objective third party scenario planning report, Mr. Ollis reached out to two consultants to ask for the cost of their assistance in writing a report, which will double as the scenario planning chapter in the LRTP. The cost of the service in 2012 was unknown at the time of the TAC meeting.

- FAMPO Urban Bicycle / Pedestrian Complete Streets Plan – Ms. Kari Eaves

Ms. Eaves stated that the FAMPO Urban Bicycle/Pedestrian Complete Streets Plan will enhance the work localities are doing to increase the safety of streets for all users. As all localities will benefit from additional funding opportunities, Ms. Eaves proposed that FAMPO staff collaborate with the localities, review the local plans from a regional perspective, and connect and contextualize the plans together. Ms. Eaves established that the plan is already in the UPWP but requires local partnership to advance. Answering a question from Mr. Lehane, Mr. Ollis established that this project will not require a consultant. The 2050 Active Transportation Plan, the 2020 Greenway Plan, and the 2025 Safe Streets Plan will all be listed in the 2055 LRTP and all serve distinct purposes. Ms. Eaves advised that she would be reaching out to locality planners to work on the plan in the coming weeks.

11. Member Reports

Ms. Cassy Lord stated that VDOT would like planners and administrators to be present at locality day, which will likely be scheduled for October or November at the District Auditorium.

Mr. Ollis stated that organizations that would like additional help in outreach should contact Mr. Hlaing.

Mr. Ruiz invited committee members to attend the October 5 VRE event, Tour de VRE.

12. Adjourn/Next TAC Meeting: October 7, at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned 11:30 a.m.

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