TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 7, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org Video URL: https://youtu.be/5Ri-NPDz3fE?si=xpn5bB0CpTLsU3vH

Committee Members Present:

Chair Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County
First Vice Chair, Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg
Second Vice Chair Matthew Lehane, Stafford County
Catherine Coffey, PE, VDOT
Adam Derrick, Stafford County
Melody Fowler, FXBGO!
Amy Garbarini, DRPT
Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect
Christine Hoeffner, VRE
Casandra Lord, VDOT
Steven Minor, FHWA (online)
Nick Ruiz, VRE
Robert Schneider, PRTC (online)
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect

Committee Members Absent:

Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Leon Hughes, Caroline County
Daniel Koenig, FTA
Khapel Akbari, Stafford County
Mohamed Benomar, Spotsylvania County
Chelsea Beytas, FTA
Mike Craig, City of Fredericksburg
Craig Pennington, Caroline County (online)
Kimberly Cook, King George County
Bryon Counsell, Stafford County
Shannon Fennell, Spotsylvania County
Todd Horsley, DRPT
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Craig Reed, FXBGO!
Joe Stainsby, PRTC
Chris Clarke, King George

Others Present:
Matt Bewley, DRPT (online)
Donna Cloniger, VDOT

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 9:31 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 October 7, 2024, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   Motion was made to approve the October 7th Agenda.
   Motion: Melody Fowler; Second: Matthew Lehane
   Abstentions: None
   Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Review of the September 16, 2024, Policy Committee Meeting – Mr. Ian Ollis

   Mr. Ian Ollis reviewed the previous Policy Committee meeting and noted that he does not review items already seen in previous TAC meetings.

   Dr. John Ridout's River Crossing Update reviewed the environmental screening and the date for the River Crossing Parkway Public Meeting. Ms. Leda Hinkle and Mr. Ian Ollis began on a new project based on the numbers seen in the TDM. The New Post river crossing discussion was led by Chair Lori Hayes and will likely be discussed again at the next meeting. Spotsylvania requested FAMPO to investigate the feasibility of a river crossing at New Post.

   Mr. Matthew Lehane asked if FAMPO has found funding for the study evaluating a New Post river crossing. Mr. Ollis stated that if the Policy Committee chooses to study a river crossing at New Post, it had been requested that FAMPO lead the discussion and study. FAMPO has not yet received guidance from the Policy Committee on whether or not to conduct a study or where to secure funding for a study. Mr. Ollis noted that FAMPO was awarded a partial grant for SS4A and has collated all responses received about the updates to the FFC. Chair Paul Agnello asked when the next steps for the SS4A study may begin. Ms. Becky Golden stated that FAMPO is working with GWRC and FHWA on the contract agreement this week, and that she and Mr. Ollis are working to complete the contract and choose a consultant as soon as possible. Ms. Golden noted that FHWA has approved the description of the project for their website. Mr. Ollis noted that the approved portion is for a Safety Action Plan study for three roads in

Spotsylvania and that while FAMPO did not receive an implementation grant, this is consistent with the lack of implementation grants approved by FHWA in 2024. Chair Agnello clarified with Mr. Ollis whether FHWA is placing more funds into studies and planning rather than implementation. Mr. Ollis confirmed this and expressed his hope that next year will see more implementation grants approved.

5. Public Comment

Ms. Leda Hinkle read out Jeanette Hernandez-Guilleaume's public comment expressing her desire for more transportation accessible to the disabled population of Stafford County.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the September 9, 2024, TAC Meeting Minutes **(ACTION ITEM)**

b. Endorse Resolution 25-13 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust funding for FRT0002 Fredericksburg Regional Transit Replacement Rolling Stock **(ACTION ITEM)**

c. Endorse Resolution 25-14 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Add 2 New Projects: UPC FRT0023 Fredericksburg Regional Transit Vehicle Support Equipment Driving Simulator and FRT0024 Fredericksburg Regional Transit Rehab Renovation of Admin Building (Davies Transit Center Roof) **(ACTION ITEM)**

d. Endorse Resolution 25-15 Adopting 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 Paratransit Vehicles **(ACTION ITEM)**

e. Endorse Resolution 25-16 Adopting 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)**

Ms. Katherine Gibson and Ms. Jamie Jackson discussed the 5307 funding that was not reflected in Resolution 25-13, despite there being a prior amendment approving 5307 funding for UPC NO FRT0002. Ms. Gibson and Ms. Jackson decided to discuss the issue further outside of the TAC. Ms. Jackson and Mr. Ollis request an amendment that if Ms. Gibson and Ms. Jackson decide to include the 5307 funding to Resolution 25-13, that the change may be made prior to the Policy Committee Meeting. Chair Agnello motioned to approve with the amendment by Mr. Ollis and Ms. Jackson.

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

7. TIP Amendments & Modifications

a. Endorse Resolution 25-12 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Add FRT0025 FXBGO! Central Facility Equipment – Maintenance (HVAC) **(ACTION ITEM)**

Dr. Ridout explained that the resolution will add $200,000 for maintenance of the HVAC system, and he and Mr. Ollis clarified that the project is a new addition to the TIP. Ms. Gibson asked if this project is different from FRT0019, and Dr. Ridout clarified that this project is for FXBGO's Fred Central and FRT0019 is for the maintenance facility.

Motion to Approve Item 7a.
Motion: Melody Fowler; Second; Nick Ruiz
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

8. Action / Discussion Items

a. SMART SCALE Round 6 Wrap Up / Response to the CTB – Ms. Kari Eaves
   i. VAMPO SMART SCALE Letter to the CTB

Ms. Kari Eaves confirmed that FAMPO had received the SMART SCALE Round 6 comments and that one consistent comment across FAMPO's locality partners regarded the mid-process changes introduced by the CTB. Ms. Eaves asked for additional comments and discussion on the topic. Mr. Ollis noted that VAMPO is waiting for results to come out before they send a letter. The TAC members discussed the problems and suggestions to improve the SMART SCALE process. Members agreed that the changes made this round were more frequent and last minute, that studies should begin sooner, that localities and organizations must improve their communication with each other, and that information regarding SMART SCALE must be received sooner. Mr. Nick Ruiz, Ms. Christine Hoeffner, and Ms. Catherine Coffey discussed why VRE did not submit projects during Round 6. Members then discussed the SMART SCALE policy changes that were made, and Chair Agnello further elaborated on the information on the "Policy Changes" slide. Mr. Ollis noted that the technical guide should be released sooner, and that late changes made by localities make it more difficult for regional projects to be submitted. The committee then discussed program implementation, the connection between VTRANS and SMART SCALE, and issues of the VTRANS data collection methodology.

The committee then discussed when FAMPO should send their letter to CTB. Mr. Lehane and Mr. Ollis explained the reasoning of their respective positions to not wait or wait to send the letter. Chair Agnello suggested that the letter be sent in March.

b. LRTP2050 FY25 Modifications – Ms. Becky Golden
   i. Review of 2050 CLRP & SMART SCALE Projects
   ii. FAMPO 2050 LRTP Modifications Items for FY25 & 2055 Update Items
   iii. Chapter 2 & Chapter 5 Recommended 2050 LRTP Modifications

Ms. Becky Golden explained the documents in item 8.b.i and noted that once scoring is received in 2025, FAMPO will review the modification items. Mr. Ollis explained FAMPO will amend the maps where necessary, work on non-CLRP projects and present them to the TAC, and then add and process the CLRP projects once a final decision is made regarding project funding.

Chair Agnello asked if the funding for projects that have already been approved is considered in the CLRP cost estimates for the projects. Mr. Ollis explained his understanding that the fiscal constraint covers the entire process and that FAMPO will further investigate the process. Mr. Ollis, Ms. Golden, and Chair Agnello discussed further how the CLRP may be modified in the coming months and the process of this modification.

c. TIP Amendment and Modification Process Policy **(ACTION ITEM)** – Dr. John Ridout

Dr. Ridout explained the necessity of the TIP Amendment and Modification Process Policy, the contents of the discussion document, the deadline to submit TIP amendments, and process of identifying a change as an amendment or a modification. Mr. Ollis and Dr. Ridout elaborated on the necessity of the document. Dr. Ridout and Ms. Golden noted that the TIP amendment submission deadline dates have been added to the FAMPO Meetings Calendar.

Chair Agnello asked about the flexibility of TIP amendments that must be made due to emergencies of the state. Dr. Ridout explained that FAMPO must comply with FHWA policy more than state policy. Chair Agnello requested that FAMPO include language into the document for emergencies and that the TAC discuss the document during the next meeting. Ms. Gibson noted that as TIP amendments must also be approved as STIP amendments, there must be a balance between efficiency and thorough review. Mr. Ollis and Dr. Ridout explained their reservations with including language for emergencies due to FAMPO's recent experiences regarding false emergencies leading to multiple changes to the Policy Committee agenda. Dr. Ridout noted that there are policies in place that allow for modifications to be made in emergencies, and Mr. Ollis noted that this document exists to ensure that necessary amendments be made earlier in the process.

d. Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program – Ms. Christine Hoeffner & Dr. John Ridout
   i. Presentation
   ii. Analysis of the Potential for EV Charging Stations at VRE Parking Facilities

Ms. Christine Hoeffner and Dr. John Ridout presented the objective and scope of the VRE 2024 Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Study. They reviewed the status of EV charging at MARC stations and in VRE Member Jurisdictions, the market for EV charging at VRE stations, cost considerations, and potential funding opportunities. They concluded that VRE must work with station owners to understand the level of interest in charging stations and must learn more about riders and their use of electric vehicles. They also noted that VRE may begin with a pilot program to gauge the success of adding charging stations, as opposed to full implementation of the program. The committee members discussed the cost of the program and the necessity of charging stations for those with charging stations in their home. Dr. Ridout and Ms. Hoeffner noted the importance of choosing locations that already have the electrical infrastructure necessary to build charging stations, their

interest in the opinions of member jurisdictions, and the role of charging stations in incentivizing VRE use.

As Ms. Jamie Jackson had a time conflict, she requested that the committee move immediately to action item 8f. The committee agreed, voting to endorse resolution 25-17 before returning to item 8e.

e. Slug Report / Presentation – Ms. Leigh Anderson

Ms. Leigh Anderson presented brief explanations of GWRideConnect's purpose, Transportation Demand Management, and slugging. Ms. Anderson then presented GWRideConnect's outreach efforts, and the slug count results taken 8/14/2024 at the 610 Staffordboro Commuter Lot and taken 8/13/2024 at the 610 Mine Road Lot. Ms. Leigh noted that the 2025 count will take place in September and reviewed the impact of slugging on I-95 based on the counts taken on 8/14/2024.

f. Endorse Resolution 25-17 Adopting the 2024 Update to the FAMPO Travel Demand Model **(ACTION ITEM)** – Ms. Becky Golden

Ms. Becky Golden and Mr. Ian Ollis noted the purpose of the resolution and that the TDM presentation was given at the prior TAC meeting. Mr. Matthew Lehane noted that while he is voting yes for the motion to approve, he does not personally wish to approve as the TDM maps have not been seen. Chair Agnello asked when the information would be available, and Mr. Ollis stated that Mr. Jonathan Avner will conduct a training on the model and likely provide maps which Mr. Ollis will then send to the committee.

Motion to Approve Item 8f.
Motion: Paul Agnello; Second; Nick Ruiz
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

The committee then returned to item 8e and continued down the agenda items from item 8g.

g. New Project: Future Integrated Network Analysis – Ms. Leda Hinkle & Dr. John Ridout

Ms. Hinkle presented the purpose of the FINA project and its use of the updated TDM outputs. Dr. Ridout noted that staff initially only compared the Fredericksburg region to other regions in Virginia before making comparisons to regions nationwide. Dr. Ridout reviewed these comparisons. Ms. Hinkle reviewed the initial TDM outputs showing an increase in Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) and a greater increase in the Vehicle Hours of Travel (VHT). Mr. Ollis elaborated on the data presented. The committee discussed the increase in VMT and VHT, reasons for the increase, and potential solutions to mitigate the growth. Ms. Hinkle noted that, in addition to evaluating congestion, FAMPO staff must evaluate the CLRP given the increase in VHT and infrastructure inflation. Ms. Hinkle presented the next steps FAMPO staff will take to produce congestion maps, identify and evaluate congestion, and perform a high-level analysis of the CLRP's affordability. Mr. Matt Bewley, Mr. Ollis, and Dr. Ridout discussed the level of detail being analyzed, the reasons for performing a high-level evaluation, the benefits reaped from the project, and the implications of the model.

9. Correspondence

- FAMPO Locality Input on Federal Functional Classification (FFC) Update

Ms. Becky Golden noted that FAMPO has sent locality input on FFC changes to VDOT. Ms. Cassandra Lord explained the process of review and feedback that must take place before FAMPO may send a formal letter detailing the requested changes to VDOT.

10. Staff Reports

- November 20th River Crossing Public Meeting Details – Dr. John Ridout

Dr. Ridout noted that the River Crossing Public Meeting will take place at 5pm-7pm as an open house.

- 2025 FAMPO Committee Meeting Schedule – Mr. Eugene Hlaing
    - 2024 TIP Dates to Remember October 25th (November '24 TAC) and December 27th (January '25 TAC) Due Dates

11. Member Reports

Notification of changes to cost estimates on FAMPO funded projects – VDOT

Notification of new transportation projects by localities

Mr. Lehane noted that Stafford will report on their additional projects in a future TAC meeting. Chair Agnello asked VRE when the Master Agreement survey results will be available, and Mr. Nick Ruiz answered that the results will be available in "a couple months." Mr. Ruiz, Mr. Ollis, and Ms. Hoeffner discussed who the survey is intended for and noted a separate survey and process for those who do not ride the VRE. Chair Agnello requested that the survey results be presented to the TAC in January. Mr. Ollis requested that the VRE provide an update on the station upgrades made to the stations in Stafford County. VRE agreed to the requests.

12. Adjourn/Next TAC Meeting: November 4, at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned 11:54 a.m.

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