Fredericksburg City
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
Caroline County
King George County

Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Tim Welsh
Chair

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Wednesday, March 12th, 2025 - 6:00pm
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg
https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/

A video recording of the meeting is linked on the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) webpage:
https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/citizens-transportation-advisory-committee/

Committee Members Present:
Tim Welsh, Spotsylvania County, Chair
Yolanda Hipski, City of Fredericksburg Vice Chair
Jason Braaten, Stafford County
Joe Brito, Stafford County
Rupert Farley, At-Large
Denise Flatley, King George
Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County (Remote Attendance)
Larry Gross, At-Large (Remote Attendance)
Rebekah Herrin, City of Fredericksburg
David McLaughlin, City of Fredericksburg
Tolanda Parker, Stafford County
Allen Watkins, Stafford County
Clinton Wells, Spotsylvania County
Kevin Wilkinson, Spotsylvania County

Committee Members Absent:
TaMara Banks, At-Large
Ruby Brabo, Stafford County
Justin Chenault, Caroline County
David Fauth, City of Fredericksburg
Robert Fogg, Spotsylvania County
Michael Hoyt, Caroline County
Cassandra Jagroop, City of Fredericksburg
Ken Pogue, Caroline County
James Powell, Stafford County
Matthew Rowe, City of Fredericksburg
Rodney Thomas, At-Large

Others Present
Rachel Inman, VDOT
Al Wilson (Remote Attendance)

Staff Present:
John Ridout, Senior Transportation Planner
Leda Hinkle, Transportation Planner/GIS Technician

1. **Call to Order**

   At 6:00 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Chair Tim Welsh

2. **Roll Call**

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

3. **Approval of the March 12th, 2025, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   Motion was made to approve the agenda.
   Motion: David McLaughlin; Second: Jason Braaten
   Discussion: None.
   Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Approval of the February 12th, 2024, Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**

   Motion was made to approve with correction.
   Motion: David McLaughlin; Second: Kevin Wilkinson
   Discussion: None
   Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Public Comment:** None

6. **VDOT/Transit Report-a-Problem**

   Chair Welsh reported the following:

   - Lansdowne Road in front of Parkwood Subdivision (Teton Drive), Deep Run is undercutting the road causing severe erosion. Overhead telephone lines are hanging to the ground in two locations and guardrail posts are weakened by erosion.
   - Guinea Station Road about 1 mile west of the KOA campground, east of River Crest Court, there is a 12-inch pavement drop off on the eastbound side of the road causing concern with frequent recreational vehicles utilizing this portion of State Route 607 to access the campground.
   - A pavement drop-off condition at the intersection of Benchmark Road and Mine Road at the southeast radius between the railroad tracks and Benchmark Road.
   - Inquiry whether VDOT recovers surplus sand and salt that accumulates from winter applications in roadway gutter pans.
   - Complaint about the excessive roadside litter, particularly along I-95.

DRAFT

Mr. Watkins advised attendees that during a recent temporary road closure of US 17 from a downed power line, two detours were deployed: one that operated north of US 17 and the other that routed traffic along Sanford Drive which is south of US 17. The Sanford Drive traffic volumes during the detour reminded local residents of past traffic volumes prior to US Rt 17 / I-95 project completions where evening Geico traffic utilized Sanford Drive to queue more quickly to US 17 than through the US 17 traffic.

Mr. Braaten reported that Greenspring Road between Mine Road and Vine Place has numerous deep potholes.

7. Action/Discussion Items

a. **Presentation to Policy Committee (River Crossing) Discussion**

Discussion opened with Chair Welsh advising attendees that CTAC has been approved to make a presentation of their preferred River Crossing option to the Policy Committee during their April meeting and shared how the allotted time would best be utilized. The CTAC priorities for their preferred option: the need to lessen the environmental impact, utilize existing infrastructure, recognize high traffic volume utilization, and consider expressed concerns by all jurisdictions.

Modified Option C, the CTAC preferred option, utilizes Celebrate Virginia Parkway including the proposed new connector road to Commerce Drive. From the current terminus of Celebrate Virginia Parkway, the current Option C includes a slight curve to the south running approximately 0.75 mile to a southeast curve to cross the Rappahannock River, connecting with Haven Terrace at Gordon W Shelton Blvd. Option C Modified proposes a southwest curve at the end of Celebrate Virginia Parkway to tie to State Route 656, an unnamed unpaved road. From this connection to SR 656, Option C Modified follows the Option D River Crossing Option. The Option C Modified connection to SR 656 is about .82 mile south of the intersection of Greenbank Road and Scotts Ford Road and proposes to leave SR 656 unimproved north of the connection point.

The new road corridor generally follows SR 656 to the road's southern terminus for about .90 mile, then curves in a southeasterly direction, crossing the Rappahannock River, continuing east / southeast to tie to Carl D Silver Parkway about 750 feet west of Fall Hill Avenue at the existing median crossover that serves Sheetz.

CTAC members were shown an idea for a new road to branch from SR 656 in a southwest direction toward Spotsylvania County with a long bridge structure that crosses both the Rappahannock River and River Road. The new road would continue south to Frye Lane at Primary Route 3.

Ms. Hipski asked about the existing Virginia Outdoor Foundation environmental easements and whether those deed restrictions allow for any future river crossing. Dr. Ridout replied that one river crossing is permitted in the current easement language.

DRAFT

Dr. Ridout informed committee members that the Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution opposing the crossing of the Rappahannock River west of I-95, and staff have deep reservations with the CTAC presentation to the Policy Committee including this corridor between SR 656 and Frye Lane / Route 3. Chair Welsh shared his frustration that CTAC's choices have been limited to those proposed by the River Crossing Study without allowing ideas to be explored that may better serve regional traffic outside the study's parameters.

Dr. Ridout provided historical context of the 2011 organized opposition by Spotsylvania County against the Rappahannock Toll Road that impacted land and property owners along the course of the CTAC presentation's route to Frye Lane / Route 3. He further explained that FAMPO staff have been directed by the Policy Committee to explore a connection between the City of Fredericksburg and Stafford County, and to honor the Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors' Resolution of opposition.

Merits of a future connection between SR 656 in Stafford to Route 3 in Spotsylvania were discussed, respecting the direction given to FAMPO staff by the Policy Committee. Option C provides no potential for a future connection since it does not intersect SR 656. One of the important benefits of Modified Option C is this opportunity for a future connection further south and members agreed this point is an important one to make to the Policy Committee during their presentation in some way.

Dr. Ridout explained that Option C Modified would need to be analyzed by the River Crossing engineering consultant for it to be considered by the Policy Committee, and such analysis is outside the current scope of services.

Motion was made for CTAC to support the No Build Option.
Motion: Rupert Farley; Second: None. Motion failed.

b. **Open Comment Period for a Modification to the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**

Dr. Ridout summarized the proposed modifications that are proposed by Resolution 25-28 currently advertised for public comment.
Motion was made to Endorse Resolution 25-28 Adopting a Modification to the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan.
Motion: Yolanda Hipski; Second: Allen Watkins
Discussion: None
Motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT

8. Staff Reports

Dr. Ridout reviewed the action and discussion items from the TAC and Policy Committee. Chair Welsh explained that the Route 3 Operational Improvements to remove intersection curb "bump outs" will result in an additional through lane by eliminating the continuous right turn lane, and the concern for safety as a result.

Dr. Ridout informed members that the Policy Committee endorsed a methodology for funding allocations that assure a percentage to member jurisdictions each round instead of the competitive scoring process currently utilized.

9. Member Reports

Chair Welsh welcomed the Stafford County new representative, Ms. Tolanda Parker.

10. Public Comment

None

11. Future Agenda Items

Chair Welsh requested an explanation from VDOT about the permit process and installation requirements for telecommunication cables along roadways.

Mr. Brito and Chair Welsh asked for a status report from VDOT on active projects, including funding.

Vice Chair Yolanda Hipski requested to give a presentation on micro transit for healthcare access.

12. Adjourn/Next CTAC Meeting April 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Motion: Yolanda Hipski; Second: Jason Braaten
Motion passed by unanimous consent.

DRAFT