Fredericksburg City
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County

Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Lori Hayes
Chair

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 19, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org

Committee Members Present: *(V) indicates voting member*
Ms. Lori Hayes, Chair Spotsylvania County (V)
Dr. Will Mackintosh, First Vice-City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Crystal Vanuch, Second Vice-Chair Stafford County (V)
Mr. Jonathan Gerlach, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Jannan Holmes, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Drew Mullins, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Chris Yakabouski, Spotsylvania County (V)
Dr. Pamela Yeung, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Meg Bohmke, Stafford County (V)
Mr. David "Sully" Sullins, alternate King George County (remote attendance)
Mr. Chris Clarke, Chair BPAC (remote attendance)
Ms. Cathie Coffey, alternate Representative from the Secretary of Transportation
Ms. Marcie Parker, Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Melody Fowler, alternate Fredericksburg Go! (FXBGO!)
Ms. Cathy Binder, King George County (remote attendance)
Ms. Linda LaSut, VDOT
Ms. Donna Cloniger, alternate VDOT
Mr. Timothy Welsh, Chair CTAC

Committee Members Absent:
Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)(V)
Mr. David Brown, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Jacob Lane, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Gerald Childress, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Jason Graham, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Deuntay Diggs, alternate Stafford County (V)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, alternate PRTC (V)
Ms. Jamie Jackson, Fredericksburg Go! (FXBGO!)
Ms. Laura Sellers, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)
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)
Ms. Amy Garbarini, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Mr. Todd Horsley, alternate Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Ms. Nancy Long, Caroline County
Mr. Jeffrey Black, alternate Caroline County

Others Present:
Ms. Yolanda Hipski, CTAC Vice-Chair
Mr. Allen Watkins, CTAC Representative
Mr. Joe Brito, Stafford County Resident, CTAC Member
Ms. Mitzi Brown, Fredericksburg EDA

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

1. **Call Policy Committee Meeting to Order**
   Chair Lori Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

3. **Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**
   Mr. Hlaing conducted roll call and determined a quorum present.

4. **Approval of the May 19, 2025, Policy Committee Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   Motion to approve the agenda amending the order for Board Member and Chair Comments to precede the Administrator Report.

   Motion: Lori Hayes; Second: Pamela Yeung
   Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. **Public Hearing**

   The public hearings to consider the Draft Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program, an Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025 Unified Planning Work Program to Approve Deprogramming of FY25 FHWA PL funds for Utilization in FY26, and an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for UPC FRT003 Bike Racks, ITS or Miscellaneous Equipment were held and no comments were received.

6. **Public Involvement**

Mr. Hlaing read aloud comments. One comment was the transcription of a video of Danielle Pighini stating that a bus shelter would be beneficial for riders waiting in the rain or heat. Written comments from the Great Train Race asked for more sidewalks and paths to walk, bike, and scooter. One comment also requested confetti cannons at the finish line for the Great Train Race. Of the two comments received by email, one was sent by Sue Lurch asking the committee to reconsider the use of Celebrate Virginia Parkway for a river crossing. The other emailed comment was sent by Donald Lauer supporting the river crossing, bike racks and multiple modes of transportation, and renewables. He also thanked Biden and the Democrats for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

Allen Watkins, Stafford County resident and member of the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee, presented on the viability of a river crossing that connects to Route 3 and the challenges development poses to a river crossing. He submitted a handout shared with the policy committee. Dr. Mackintosh requested that FAMPO scan the handout and share the digital copy with all the Policy Committee members.

7. **Consent Agenda**
   a. Approval of May 19, 2025, Policy Committee Meeting Minutes **(ACTION ITEM)**

   b. Resolution 25-36 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for UPC FRT003 Bike Racks, ITS or Miscellaneous Equipment **(ACTION ITEM)**

   c. Resolution 25-37 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for UPC FRT0001 Public Transportation Projects **(ACTION ITEM)**

   d. Resolution 25-41 Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Remove UPC FRT0023 Driving Simulator **(ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the May 19, 2025, Consent Agenda

Motion: Meg Bohmke; Second: Will Mackintosh
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

8. **Board Member and Chair Comments**

Lori Hayes reminded the committee that it was Marcie Parker's last meeting before she moves into her new role at VDOT central office. Ms. Hayes thanked Ms. Parker for her service to FAMPO, and a cake was presented to Ms. Parker and the committee. Committee members shared their compliments and appreciation for Ms. Parker and asked her to share any final sentiments. Ms. Parker commented on the respectful and cooperative nature of the committee at that time. She encouraged committee members to continue to work together to solve regional transportation issues.

9. **FAMPO Administrator Report**

Mr. Ian Ollis presented regional transit ridership trends to the committee. He covered VRE ridership, FXBGO! ridership, and Omniride ridership from January 2024 to present. He also specifically compared transit ridership January through March of 2024 and 2025. He presented the total transit ridership for Stafford County since 2012. Dr. Yeung asked Mr. Ollis to add an explanation or legend to accompany data on Stafford Transit ridership, and Ms. Bohmke asked for the "so what factor."

The committee discussed various impacts to transit ridership broadly and the implications of varying ridership volumes. The committee discussed supplemental data for slugging, teleworking, etc. Mr. Ollis also alerted the committee that a VDOT counter on I-95 had stopped working, resulting in missing volume data for regional northbound traffic on I-95.

Mr. Ollis also presented modified river crossing options that FAMPO staff had determined were the most viable. The staff recommended modified versions of option A and option C. Mr. Ollis explained the modifications as they related to the proximity to residential areas, new developments, and wetland areas. The committee discussed the river crossing options, environmental constraints, and traffic impacts at length. Ms. Bohmke asked the city for their preference in a river crossing. Board members representing Fredericksburg remarked on the original origin-destination streetlight analysis that indicated Central Park as a high-volume destination. That analysis supports their interest in a connection from south Stafford to Central Park. Stafford board members discussed the impact of a river crossing on traffic and business along the route 17 corridor.

Mr. Yakabouski shared his thoughts that an option further west would help Spotsylvania residents bypass congestion to the east when traveling north. He noted the impacts of a river crossing in an area already experiencing abundant traffic. Mr. Ollis highlighted that Central Park is a top destination for individuals crossing the river. A river crossing option that connects to Central Park would best serve this population.

The committee continued discussion of the river crossing and other transportation projects in the area near Central Park and the Spotsylvania Towne Center.

Mr. Ollis finished his administrator's report thanking the committee members who attended the Spring CTB public meeting. Ms. Lori Hayes also shared the Secretary's comment that local elected officials have a lot of indirect influence over traffic through the developments they approve. Mr. Ollis also reminded the committee of future agenda items.

10. Action/Discussion Items

a. River Crossing Alternatives

Joe Brito, Stafford County resident and member of FAMPO's Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee, presented previous studies of a river crossing, the consideration of a western connector/interconnector in Stafford County, and the traffic impacts, cost estimates, and environmental impacts of crossing options. He also discussed historic resources near the proposed river crossing. In addition to discussing the river crossing, Mr. Brito spoke at length about possible network improvements in Spotsylvania County, including a direct connection from I-95 southbound to the Spotsylvania Towne Center and a connection to Harrison Road. The committee discussed Mr. Brito's presentation and thanked him for his efforts to improve traffic in the region.

b. FY26 TAP Locality Candidate Projects

Ms. Leda Hinkle reviewed the Transportation Alternatives Program and the locality candidate projects. She clarified that a letter of support from FAMPO was required for locality projects to illustrate compliance with the region's LRTP. Before the application deadline in September, the Policy Committee would need to formally support the projects. The committee had no further questions or discussion.

c. Resolution 25-44 Directing a Public Comment Period for the Allocation of Fiscal Year 2026-2031 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), and Carbon Reduction Program (CR) Funds **(ACTION ITEM)**

Dr. John Ridout reviewed adjustments to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, Carbon Reduction, and Surface Transportation Block Grant FY26-31 award summary. The Policy Committee had to approve one of three funding scenarios for scenario planning and updating the CLRP. After discussion, the Policy Committee voted to approve option C with $0 for scenario planning in FY26 and $150,000 for LRTP support in FY26/27.

Motion: Drew Mullins; Second: Pamela Yeung
The motion passed with unanimous consent.

11. Correspondence

Mr. Ollis reviewed a memorandum from the US Secretary of Transportation, Sean Duffy, emphasizing that Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs are ineligible for federal funding. Mr. Ollis also reviewed the correspondence received from Charles Payne, associated with developments planned at Celebrate Virginia North, stating opposition to the CTAC option C as it impacts the property and planned investment for the site.

12. Staff and Agency Reports

Mr. Eugene Hlaing presented the FAMPO website update to the policy committee and requested feedback. He noted that the update would be published after the June Committee meeting. Committee members were complimentary of the updates made.

Dr. Ridout reviewed the breakdown of river crossing survey responses by zip code, a request from the committee the previous month.

13. Motion to Adjourn the May 19, 2025 Policy Committee meeting

Motion: Chris Yakabouski; Second: Jonathan Gerlach
The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 pm.