TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 2, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org

Committee Members Present:
Chair Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County
First Vice Chair, Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg
Second Vice Chair Matthew Lehane, Stafford County
Amy Garbarini, DRPT (online)
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Catherine Coffey, PE, VDOT
Chris Clarke, King George
Daniel Koenig, FTA
Josh Crump, City of Fredericksburg
Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect
Leon Hughes, Caroline County (online)
Linda LaSut, VDOT
Melody Fowler, FXBGO!
Philip Parella, Jr., PRTC
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County
Will Montgomery, VRE

Committee Members Absent:
Adam Derrick, Stafford County
Bryon Counsell, Stafford County
Chelsea Beytas, FTA
Christine Hoeffner, VRE
Craig Pennington, Caroline County
Craig Reed, FXBGO!
Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Joe Stainsby, PRTC
Khapel Akbari, Stafford County
Kimberly Cook, King George County
Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect
Mike Craig, City of Fredericksburg
Mohamed Benomar, Spotsylvania County
Nick Ruiz, VRE
Robert Schneider, PRTC
Shannon Fennell, Spotsylvania County
Steven Minor, FHWA
Todd Horsley, DRPT

Others Present:
Al Watkins, CTAC, Stafford County Citizen
Donna Cloninger, VDOT

Staff Present:
Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator
Becky Golden, Transportation Planning Manager
John Ridout, Senior Transportation Planner
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 Paul Agnello. The committee introduced themselves.

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

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

3. **Approval of the June 2, 2025, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   An administrative change was made to page 48 of the FY26 UPWP on Resolution 25-39 to separate the rollover funds from new funds.

   Chair Agnello pulled items 5c and 5e from the consent agenda and moved them under item 7. Action/Discussion Items.

   Motion was made to approve the June 2, 2025 Agenda with the removal of items 5c and 5e as an action item.
   Motion: Matthew Lehane; Second: Bassam Amin
   Abstentions: Philip Parella

4. **Public Comment**

   Mr. Al Watkins inquired about the impact of the planned storage unit in Stafford County on the Stafford County Comprehensive Plan and the river crossing options.

5. **Consent Agenda**

   a) Approval of the May 5, 2025, TAC Meeting Minutes **(ACTION ITEM)**

   b) Endorse Resolution 25-39 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for UPC FRT0001 Public Transportation Projects **(ACTION ITEM)**

   c) Endorse Resolution 25-42 Adopting an Amendment to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Remove UPC FRT0023 Driving Simulator **(ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve the June 2, 2025 consent agenda without items 5C and 5E.
Motion: Matthew Lehane ; Second: Melody Fowler
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

6. TIP Amendments & Modifications

a) Endorse Resolution 25-43 Approving a Modification to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust the Funding for UPC FRT0009 Transit Preventative Maintenance Activities **(ACTION ITEM)**

b) Endorse Resolution 25-46 Approving Modifications to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust Funding for 3 Healthy Generations Area Agency on Aging Projects: UPC RAAA0001 Operating Assistance, UPC RAAA002 Mobility Management, and UPC RAAA003 Paratransit Vehicles; and the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board Project UPC RAC001 Paratransit Vehicles **(ACTION ITEM)**

c) Endorse Resolution 25-47 Approving a Modification to the FY24-27 Transportation Improvement Program to Adjust Funding for UPC FRT0003 Bike Racks, ITS, or Misc Equipment **(ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to Endorse Resolution 25-43, 25-46, and 25-47.
Motion: Matthew Lehane; Second: Melody Fowler
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. Action/Discussion Items

a) FAMPO Regional SMART SCALE Discussion Synopsis – Ms. Kari Eaves

Ms. Kari Eaves provided a synopsis of the ongoing SMART SCALE discussions with an emphasis on improving applications and TAC's role in the process. Mr. Ian Ollis and Ms. Eaves highlighted that cost estimation for projects over $15 million must be thorough and up to VDOT standards to minimize surprise costs. Chair Agnello noted that the TAC should have the information regarding the STARS and Pipeline studies before the pre-application process starts, but that may not be realistic. This puts the localities in a difficult position where the information needed for project selection prior to the application process is not available, but pushing back the process is also risky.

Ms. Catherine Coffey noted that the public involvement process for STARS and Pipeline projects are ongoing and VDOT needs stakeholder feedback to better allocate work to the projects and studies that are needed most. Localities must be their own advocates and push for conversations about what study recommendations will make for the best applications. Ms. Eaves noted that improving applications is also about consultant management and better streamlining the timeline.

During the special SMART SCALE meetings, FAMPO recommended to TAC members that jurisdictions submit their cost estimates to VDOT for projects over $15 million by June 15, 2026. For projects below $15 million, cost estimates should be submitted by the end of June 2026. The project decisions can be made prior to the cost estimate being validated by VDOT central office. The projects must be chosen by March 2026 and cannot be substantially changed after the submission of the pre-application.

Ms. Eaves reviewed the resources available to regional staff and next steps for the TAC, including the development of a TAC subcommittee focused on SMART SCALE. **Chair Agnello suggested meeting after the TAC each month starting in September**. Ms. Kate Gibson noted that if subcommittee meetings are conducted in person after the TAC meeting, the Rural TAC members may not be present, although a virtual option may be a sufficient alternative.

FAMPO staff will email the TAC the RTAC meeting details.

Ms. Eaves reviewed the concerns to be sent to the CTB and noted that they will not consider region-specific issues but may be more likely to consider system-wide issues. Ms. Eaves reviewed points brought up in the last meeting and noted that only one or two points should be sent to the CTB. Mr. Matthew Lehane agreed and reviewed how each point could be supported with additional data. Mr. Ollis inquired of which two points the TAC felt were the most significant. Mr. Lehane, representing Stafford County, noted that the point about pipeline studies is better suited for OIPI than CTB, and that his top two choices are extending the leverage funding commitment deadline and improving economic development to capture growth and revitalization. Representing Spotsylvania County, Chair Agnello's top two choices were restoring land use as a factor and improving economic development. He noted that the timeline of the Technical Guide's release and leverage funding would have statewide support. The City of Fredericksburg did not make a comment.

Ms. Eaves noted that the comments on the Technical Guide's timeline is a valid complaint, but is not actionable. The committee discussed Northern Virginia's perspectives and concerns regarding SMART SCALE. The Virginia Association of MPOs (VAMPO) is writing a letter concerning the Technical Guide. Chair Agnello requested that Mr. Ollis ask VAMPO to include concerns about the leverage funding commitment deadline to the VAMPO letter.
Ms. Eaves will draft a letter for approval for the August TAC and will send it to the TAC prior to the meeting. Mr. Ollis will contact Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia to assess their perspectives on the FAMPO letter to the CTB. If the Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia MPOs will not support FAMPO, FAMPO will not send the letter.

b) SS4A FY25 Implementation and Demonstration Grant Projects – Ms. Becky Golden
   i) Summary Presentation
   ii) Endorse FAMPO Letter of Support **(ACTION ITEM)**

Ms. Becky Golden presented the implementation and demonstration of Grant Projects to be submitted by GWRC subject to locality support and commitment of 20% match. Ms. Golden reviewed the Tidewater Trail Multimodal & Safety Improvements implementation and Massaponax High School demonstration. Mr. Lehane confirmed that the shoulder hardening of Garrisonville

Road and Poplar Road will be recommended for approval at the next day's Stafford County Board of Supervisors meeting. Ms. Golden requested that Mr. Lehane provide her with the limits of the two projects. Ms. Golden reviewed the next steps for the grant projects. The FY25 SS4A Grant Application Deadline is June 26th. Spotsylvania and VDOT are working together on final cost estimates for their projects. The resolutions from Stafford County and Spotsylvania are forthcoming.

Motion was made to Endorse Letter of Approval.
Motion: Jamie Jackson; Second: Melody Fowler
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

c) Endorse Resolution 25-35 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Unified Planning Work Program **(ACTION ITEM)** – Ms. Becky Golden
   i) Summary Presentation
   ii) Strikethrough FY26 UPWP – Clean Version

The TAC added item 5c. Endorse Resolution 25-40 Adopting an Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025 Unified Planning Work Program to Approve Deprogramming of FY25 FHWA PL funds for Utilization in FY26 to item 7c.

Mr. Ollis noted that item 5C is an amendment to the FY25 UPWP to shift the remainder leftover funds at the end of the year to FY26. Chair Agnello confirmed that the STBG adds $50,000 of funding and Resolution 25-40 also adds $50,000, adding to an additional $100,000 allocated to FY26. Mr. Ollis noted that the funding would be used to pay staff salaries and building rent, and that the process occurs each year, but this is the first year that FAMPO has been asked to amend the UPWP of a current year to reflect the deprogramming request. 5303 funding did not decrease, but the annual increase for 5303 went up by just over 1%, and because the increase is so small, the additional rollover funds are necessary for funding FAMPO administration costs.

Ms. Golden presented the summary presentation for Resolution 25-35 Adopting the FY25 UPWP and reviewed edits made from input. The committee reviewed the UPWP Summary of Financials with the deprogrammed amounts. At DRPT's request, the deprogrammed funds have been separated.

Motion was made to Endorse Resolution 25-35 and 25-40.
Motion: Matthew Lehane; Second: Melody Fowler
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

d) FAMPO Travel Demand Model Population & Employment Projections Concerns Raised by VDOT's Transportation and Mobility Planning Division **(Discussion Item)** – Dr. John Ridout and Mr. Ian Ollis

Dr. Ridout presented the population estimates from the Transportation Demand Model (TDM) and compared them to the estimates from Weldon Cooper. By 2040, the estimated population falls

outside of the 10% range of Weldon Cooper's estimates, meaning that staff would have to readjust the model in the future.

Dr. Ridout reviewed the estimated total employment per person and the adjustments made to employment. Mr. Ollis commented that the TDM is used for scoring SMART SCALE projects, and if estimates exceed Weldon Cooper's estimates by over 10%, the SMART SCALE projects that rely on the TDM for scoring will be rejected. FAMPO is the only MPO in the state that is exceeding the Weldon Cooper estimates; VDOT is concerned that if FAMPO continues to exceed them the MPO will need to amend its TDM. The committee discussed how amendments may be made, and what shifts may happen in employment and household numbers. Mr. Ollis noted that FAMPO staff would like to amend the growth rates to avoid future conflict between jurisdictions and OIPI. Chair Agnello suggested that TAC members continue to research population projections and discuss their concerns with Weldon Cooper. The process of updating the demographics for the 2055 LRTP will begin in calendar year 2026 and the numbers will likely be updated by FY27. The localities must review their population projections and methodology for determining the population growth numbers. Mr. Ollis will invite Weldon Cooper to the TAC meeting in August.

e) Endorse Resolution 25-45 Approving 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)**

Item 5e was added to the discussion above item 7e. FAMPO estimated that they will have 8.5 million to allocate in March of FY26.

Motion was made to endorse Resolution 25-45.
Motion: Jamie Jackson ; Second: Matthew Lehane
Abstentions: None

f) Adopt Updated CMAQ / CR / STBG Methodology – Dr. John Ridout
   1. Strikethrough CMAQ / CR / STBG Methodology – Clean Version **(Discussion Item)**

John Ridout provided an overview of the methodology document as presented at previous TAC meetings. Chair Agnello clarified that while Spotsylvania is not against swapping funding, several years ago CMAQ/CR funding was turned into STBG funding, which was used to fund the river crossing project that Spotsylvania opposes.
FAMPO will host a special meeting on June 30 at 9:30am to discuss the CMAQ / CR/ STBG Methodology and TAC recommended changes.

Motion was made to endorse the special TAC meeting.
Motion: Matthew Lehane ; Second: Melody Fowler
Oppositions: Philip Parella, Jr.
Abstentions: None
Motion passed.

g) Election of Officers **(ACTION ITEM)** – Chair Paul Agnello

Nomination was made to endorse Jamie Jackson as FAMPO TAC Chair.
Nominated by: Bassam Amin

Nomination was made to endorse Matthew Lehane as FAMPO First Vice Chair.
Nominated by: Paul Agnello

Nomination was made to endorse Paul Agnello as FAMPO Second Vice Chair.
Nominated by: Matthew Lehane

Motion was made to approve the election of officers
Motion: Bassam Amin; Second: Melody Fowler
Abstentions: None
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

h) Vote of Thanks Recognizing Outgoing Chair – **(ACTION ITEM)**

8. Correspondence

- May 15, 2025, message from the Office of Congressman Vindman requesting our stakeholder input on the new Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill

The TAC members will send individual recommendations as the TAC is no longer able to send a recommendation as a whole.

- Commonwealth Transportation Board's Adoption of SMART SCALE Recommendations for Preparation of the Final FY 2026-2031 Six-Year Improvement Program

9. Staff Reports

- SMART SCALE Round 6 Consensus Scenario Update – Ms. Kari Eaves

Ms. Kari Eaves reviewed the Consensus Scenario Summary, detail of DGP changes for Richmond, and other district changes. There are no changes from the January staff scenario for the Fredericksburg District.

10. Agency Reports

Adjourned 11:43 a.m.

11. Adjourn/Next TAC Meeting: June 30, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.