Fredericksburg City
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County

Lori Hayes
Chair

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org

Committee Members Present: *(V) indicates voting member*
Dr. Will Mackintosh, Chair Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Crystal Vanuch, First Vice-Chair Stafford County (V) (online)
Mr. Chris Yakabouski, Second Vice-Chair Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Drew Mullins, Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Lori Hayes, Chair Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Jonathan Gerlach, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Jannan Holmes, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Dr. Pamela Yeung, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Meg Bohmke, Stafford County (V)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, alternate (PRTC) (V) (online)
Mr. Greg Henion, PE, Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Catherine C Coffey, PE, alternate Representative from the Secretary of Transportation
Ms. Cassy Lord, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Donna Cloniger, alternate VDOT
Ms. Jamie Jackson, Chair TAC, Chair BPAC
Ms. Yolanda Hipski, Chair CTAC
Mr. David "Sully" Sullins, alternate King George County (online)
Ms. Cathy Binder, King George County (online)

Committee Members Absent:
Ms. Amy Garbarini, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Mr. David Brown, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Jacob Lane, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Deuntay Diggs, alternate Stafford County (V)
Mr. Gerald Childress, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Jason Graham, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Melody Fowler, alternate Fredericksburg Go! (FXBGO!)
Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)(V)
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. Nancy Long, Caroline County
Mr. Jeffrey Black, alternate Caroline County

Others Present:
Mr. Allen Watkins, CTAC Member, Stafford County Resident
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County (online)
Hector Royes (online)

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

1. **Call Policy Committee Meeting to Order**
   Chair Mackintosh called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

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

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

4. **Approval of the September 15, 2025, Policy Committee Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

   Motion to approve the agenda.

   Motion: Lori Hayes; Second: Jannan Holmes
   Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. **Public Hearings**

   Public comment was provided by Michael Meier, requesting the termination of funding for Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Virginia Railway Express, and FXBGO! buses. He also demanded third-party verification for ridership data.

6. **Public Involvement**

   Allen Watkins, a Stafford County resident and the vice chair of FAMPO's Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC), spoke to river crossing option C's impact on intersection delay. He maintained that the impact was no more significant than a no-build option, and he opined that an additional connection from the river crossing further west into Spotsylvania County would improve travel delay. Finally, he spoke to the various modifications and cost implications of river crossing option C that have developed over the course of the study.

   Dr. John Ridout read aloud 12 other public comments received prior to the meeting. Abraham Wordofa, Spotsylvania County resident, asked for a sidewalk on Mine Rd. Katie Zimmermann from Locust Grove asked for collaboration to expand opportunities for transportation. Deysi Colorado from Spotsylvania County spoke to the dangerous crossing conditions in the city at Princess Anne St and Lafayette Blvd. She also advocated for bike lanes, pedestrian walkways, and more ride options like the trolley. Erika Shithil from Fredericksburg identified the need for crosswalks at the intersection of Lafayette Blvd and Kenmore Ave. An anonymous comment from the zip code 22401 identified new sidewalk curb ramps at intersections as dangerous tripping hazards. Two other anonymous comments advocated for (1) walkability and (2) bypass roads and off and on ramps on existing bridges, respectively. Kenneth Mosely, a Spotsylvania County resident, commented that more public transit would help locals and alleviate afternoon

congestion on Plank Rd. Laurel from Stafford County wishes for a crosswalk to 7-11. William from Fredericksburg shared that he loves to go places and his preferred transportation is walking. Adrian shared that he rides to school in a car and that he likes it. Finally, an anonymous commenter remarked that there should be more 2-way roads and fewer 1-way roads. With exception to Abraham Wordofa's comment, which was received via the FAMPO email, the eleven written comments were received during an outreach event at the Fredericksburg Farmers Market Community Day event.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the September 15th, 2025, Consent Agenda

Motion: Jonathan Gerlach; Second: Chris Yakabouski
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

8. FAMPO Administrator Report

Mr. Ian Ollis began his report presenting VRE and Amtrak ridership data. He emphasized the growth of the VRE in the past year and Amtrak's record ridership for Virginia in 2024. The committee discussed Amtrak and VRE service and ridership at length. Mr. Joe Stainsby contributed when the discussion shifted to OmniRide service and its relationship with the other transportation agencies serving commuters in the region. The committee requested that Mr. Ollis provide a per person breakdown of state subsidies for Virginia Amtrak service and local contributions for OmniRide at the October Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Ollis also shared photographs from the region highlighting inadequate screen display at the Fredericksburg train station and bicycle use of the Rt 1 bridge. He also updated the committee on the newest Weldon Cooper population projections for the region. Finally, he shared upcoming topics including the final river crossing study deliverables, further work on I-95 crash data, prep work for the 2055 LRTP update, and the call for projects for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality / Surface Transportation Block Grant / Carbon Reduction (CMAQ/STBG/CR) funds.

9. Action/Discussion Items

a. CTAC Outreach for Policy Committee Input

CTAC Chair Yolanda Hipski stood before the Policy Committee to request their guidance for CTAC's activities. She had identified CTAC's purpose to "provide citizen input to the Policy Committee" and "disseminate information on FAMPO projects, programs and policies to residents in the region." Several Policy Committee members identified the need to solve connectivity issues in the region across all modes of transportation. Supervisor Bohmke requested that CTAC investigate better connections between land-use planning/zoning and transportation planning. Councilor Holmes and Supervisor Hayes suggested that CTAC could help to identify the regional need for medical transportation and assess the capacity of existing services. Chair Mackintosh reaffirmed the importance of the CTAC deriving their direction from the will and interest of citizens in the region and sharing citizen input to the Policy Committee.

b. I-95 Southbound Crashes Highest Crash Rate Segment FAMPO Staff Analysis

Ms. Becky Golden presented an analysis of I-95 crashes between Warrenton Road and Plank Road. The analysis found that crash rates and severity increased after the new through lanes opened in November 2021. The analysis showed that rear-end collisions contributed to this increase. Staff identified traffic backups as a major cause of crashes, particularly during afternoon rush hours between 3-7 PM on weekdays. Exit 126 was identified as a major hot spot, and future analysis will consider the safety impacts of recently completed improvements to US Route 1 / US Route 17 at exit 126. VDOT has requested a copy of the report to review.

c. FAMPO Complete Streets Plan

Ms. Leda Hinkle introduced the FAMPO Complete Streets plan, which aims to create a safer and more accessible transportation network for all users. She presented two interactive maps. The first map presents regional crashes involving cyclists and pedestrians. The second map depicts existing multimodal infrastructure in the region. These tools identify and define regional safety needs and existing network gaps. Ms. Hinkle shared other plan elements to develop including street typologies for context-sensitive planning, choosing priority corridors to build an effective connected network, prioritization guidelines, and a project list. The plan will also identify funding sources and support funding applications. Next steps involve presenting the plan to various regional stakeholders, incorporating planned projects into the maps, and seeking public input.

d. Purchase of Additional Bicycle / Pedestrian Counters

Mr. Ollis shared the itemized quote for four additional bicycle and pedestrian counters. The committee discussed which funds may be used to purchase the counters and how more counters might be used. The committee will return to the October meeting after discussing additional counters with their respective boards and jurisdiction staff.

e. Resolution 26-24 Adoption of the Updated CMAQ / CR / STBG Methodology **(ACTION ITEM)**

Motion: Meg Bohmke; Second: Chris Yakabouski
Discussion: The committee had a respectful discussion on the intended use of congestion mitigation funds. City representatives argued that regionalism was not upheld as a priority in the new methodology and that congestion is not appropriately accounted for.

The motion passed with a vote of 6 to 3, with representatives for the Secretary of Transportation and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission abstaining.

10. Correspondence

- August 14, 2025 Letter to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation from VAMPO – Involvement in VTrans & SMART SCALE

Mr. Ollis shared the contents of the letter expressing concern with the Round 6 SMART SCALE process: delayed project cost estimates created unreasonable difficulties with jurisdictions' local match commitments, and the exclusion of MPOs (but not PDCs) from a SMART SCALE feedback meeting with the Secretary's office prevented other concerns from being identified proactively.

11. Staff and Agency Reports

Mr. Hlaing identified upcoming information and outreach tables. He also announced that the updated FAMPO website is live.

12. Board Member and Chair Comments

Supervisor Hayes thanked all who were involved in and supportive of the new traffic light on Rt 2 at Glenda's Way to address pedestrian safety needs.

13. Chair Mackintosh adjourned the meeting at 8:58pm.