



FAMPO Technical Committee (FTC) Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2018

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Members Present:

Mr. Joey Hess, Chairman, Stafford County
Mr. Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Craig Pennington, Caroline County
Mr. Dan Cole, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Doug Morgan, Spotsylvania County
Ms. Ciara Williams, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (PRTC)
Mr. Rodney White, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Ms. Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Mr. Chuck Steigerwald, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Stephen Haynes, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Others Present:

Ms. Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Staff Members Present:

Mr. Paul Agnello, FAMPO
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO
Mr. Nick Quint, FAMPO
Ms. Kari Barber, FAMPO
Mr. John Bentley, FAMPO
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRC
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL TO ORDER

The FAMPO Technical Committee meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Chair, Mr. Joey Hess.

APPROVAL OF FAMPO TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

The January 8th FAMPO Technical Committee agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF FAMPO TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2017

Upon unanimous consent, the December 11th FAMPO Technical Committee minutes were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 2017

Mr. Agnello advised that Mr. Adam Recchia with Foursquare gave a final presentation on the I-95 Phase 2 Transit/TDM study. Mr. Agnello relayed this would be re-capped for today's Technical Committee meeting.

Mr. Agnello relayed that updates were provided by Ms. Parker with VDOT on the I-95 Southbound Rappahannock River Crossing project and this item as well will be re-capped for the Technical Committee later in today's meeting.

Mr. Agnello stated that the chair position to the Policy Committee will be changing for the remainder of the year. Mr. Agnello stated the chair position was currently held by Mr. Paul Milde from Stafford County who came off of the Board of Supervisors in January. Mr. Agnello stated that to date, Stafford County has not provided staff with a representative replacement and that if they do not re-appoint someone then the chair position would rotate to Mr. McLaughlin from Spotsylvania County who currently serves as Vice-Chair. Mr. Agnello stated that the Stafford Board of Supervisors has several new members on the Board so new membership from Stafford County could also occur on the FAMPO Policy Committee and again to date, staff has not received any updates from Stafford County.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

a.) 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the LRTP schedule is as follows:

- January - CLRP project list compiled and submitted for review & the I-95 Phase 2 Highway Analysis is nearing completion (meeting #9 is scheduled to occur today after the conclusion of the Technical Committee meeting);
- February – LRTP Advisory Committee meeting for preparing projects for Smart Scale process consideration & draft documentation will be available for review;
- March – final LRTP Advisory Committee meeting & draft documentation available for review; and
- April – documentation revisions needed based on comments received & final documentation available

Mr. Agnello relayed that the LRTP public involvement schedule is as follows: FAMPO to authorize public involvement meeting at the upcoming February 26 Policy Committee meeting, Public Comment period will run from March 8 to April 6, Public Meeting on March 15, & Public Hearing on April 16.

Regarding the I-95 Transit/TDM and Highway studies, the following information is the latest:

- Transit/TDM – Study has been completed. Transit/TDM recommendations will be included in the LRTP and considered for Smart Scale application process
- Highway – Study is ongoing and major study recommendations will be included in the LRTP & additional analysis to be completed for Smart Scale Round 3 application process in early 2018

Mr. Nelson stated at one time it was discussed that FAMPO would not be re-submitting the I-95 northbound River Crossing project in Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process and would like to know the current status.

Mr. Agnello advised that it will be staff recommendation to keep the project in the CLRP and that it is likely the project will be submitted again in Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process. Mr. Nelson asked if feedback has been provided from the results of the TDM study. Mr. Agnello relayed that there were concerns from Policy Committee members. Mr. Agnello advised the Resolution to endorse the recommendations was approved with a majority vote but not a unanimous vote (Spotsylvania County representatives voiced three no votes & all other localities/entities voiced support).

i. Draft 2045 LRTP Project List – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint provided a draft of the 2045 Constrained Highway and Bike/Ped Project List. Mr. Quint asked for the committee members to review the list and advise him if projects need to be added or removed.

Ms. Shropshire asked how the Fred Ex project is being included in this project list. Mr. Quint stated that it is not currently shown on the list distributed today, however, it is included within the current CLRP so it can be added to the list after conclusion of today's meeting. Mr. Quint relayed that all projects currently in the SYIP would be included in the CLRP. Ms. Gardner stated then that today's project list is not a complete project list. Mr. Agnello stated that the list distributed today contains new projects or projects where partial funding has been allocated. Mr. Agnello stated that all projects included are currently in the SYIP. Ms. Gardner asked if staff would provide a complete project list once one is available. Mr. Quint stated that he could make the revisions to the project list as requested.

Mr. Quint also distributed the project list for FAMPO 2045 Constrained Transit/TDM projects, PE/Study projects and 2040 CLRP projects that are currently not moving forward. Mr. Quint asked that committee members review the list and provide any feedback accordingly should projects need

to be removed, edited or added. Mr. Quint asked for feedback to be submitted by the end of the month.

a.) I-95 Southbound Rappahannock River Crossing Project – Ms. Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Ms. Shropshire advised the I-95 Southbound River Crossing project design has now been amended as a result of comments received from the public. Ms. Shropshire relayed the estimated project costs are now \$145m (\$125m from Smart Scale & \$20m from State of Good Repair). The I-95 southbound project will include a direct connection from the express lanes. Ms. Shropshire stated the new design has been modified to include three thru lanes and three local lanes, and the weave consideration from the original design has now been removed.

There was committee discussion about the bridge projects within the Fredericksburg District and whether bridges are new construction or rehab projects. Ms. Gardner stated that she would forward FAMPO the list of all SGR bridge projects within Fredericksburg District.

Ms. Shropshire advised the project schedule is as follows:

- Request for Proposals (RFP) – Issued July 18, 2017
- Technical Proposals (3 received) – Received November 14, 2017
- Cost Proposals – Due December 19, 2017 and bids opened on December 21
- CTB Contract to be awarded in January of 2018
- Construction to begin summer of 2018
- Construction to be completed by summer of 2022

Regarding the status of the northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project, Ms. Shropshire advised this would be an application considered for Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process. Ms. Shropshire stated that combined funding from FAMPO & VDOT was secured for the IJR and that WRA is currently working on it with VDOT. Ms. Shropshire stated that study efforts that have been completed are not being repeated, and VDOT is utilizing data obtained from both the Fred Ex project and FAMPO's I-95 study. Ms. Shropshire relayed the kick-off meeting was held and the framework and document preparation is now underway.

b.) Chatham Bridge Presentation – Ms. Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Ms. Shropshire advised that when the Chatham Bridge project is ready to move to the construction phase, the road will be closed for approximately 18 months and detour routes will be available during this time.

Ms. Shropshire stated the Chatham Bridge was built in 1941 and is a joint ownership between VDOT and the City of Fredericksburg. Ms. Shropshire relayed this bridge is structurally deficient and will be improved to include four travel lanes and a 10' shared-use path on the downriver side of the

bridge. Ms. Shropshire advised the rehab project will maintain the ascetic detail, lighting, barriers and railings but all of these will be improved and enhanced. Ms. Shropshire stated the estimated project cost will be \$22,200,000 and that VDOT still needs to obtain easements from sensitive property owners, including the National Park Service.

i. Chatham Bridge Rehabilitation Design Public Hearing, January 25, 2018

Ms. Shropshire advised the public hearing is scheduled at the VDOT District Auditorium on January 25 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Ms. Shropshire stated that right-of-way acquisitions will begin in May of 2019 and construction advertisement to be submitted in October of 2020.

ii. Adopted FAMPO Resolution No. 18-13, Amending the FY2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Update the Chatham Bridge Rehabilitation Project – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised that Resolution No. 18-13, Amending the FY2018-2021 TIP to include the updates to the Chatham Bridge Rehabilitation project was unanimously approved by the FAMPO Policy Committee at the December 18 meeting. Mr. Quint stated the Resolution is included in today's agenda packet for informational purposes only and does not require an endorsement from the Technical Committee.

c.) I-95 Phase 2 Transit/TDM Study Final Presentation – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the study components include: summary of existing conditions and previous studies, the transit market analysis, recommended transit service improvements, & transportation demand management measures.

Mr. Agnello relayed the existing conditions analysis includes the following: literature review of previous studies relevant to I-95; transit service levels by operator & mode; transit ridership by operator & mode; & park & ride lot inventory. Mr. Agnello stated the analysis shows the peak demand at present between Caroline and Washington, DC, and the demand is shown to be smaller than demand crossing from Caroline to Spotsylvania.

Mr. Pennington asked when the cost estimates for Caroline County would be available for review. Mr. Agnello stated staff hoped to receive these by the weekend. In regard to the market analysis, Mr. Agnello stated the study determined from where to where a commuter bus service being implemented would be the most successful. Mr. Agnello relayed that the analysis focused on commuters and during peak period service times from the GWRC Region to Northern Virginia/DC.

Mr. Agnello stated the study recommended two transit service improvement scenarios:

Scenario 1 – Commuter Bus service being introduced. Mr. Agnello stated that currently there is some commuter bus service existing today but that this is a private service run by Martz. Scenario 1 will introduce new commuter bus service. Mr. Agnello stated that the expected population growth, and the excess transit demands that will be created by the region’s commuters, would be absorbed by commuter bus, VRE, and vanpools.

Mr. Agnello stated that Scenario 1 recommends 13 commuter bus routes being implemented by 2045. The bus service will provide for reverse peak transit and be supplemental to the VRE routes. The bus service would also provide feeder routes to the commuter lots and VRE stations. Also recommended were commuter lot & VRE expansion and introduction of new and enhanced TDM strategies.

Scenario 2 – Commuter Bus service not introduced. Mr. Agnello stated that Scenario 2 assumes no new introduction of a commuter bus system will be included and the commuting needs will continue to be absorbed by the services existing today. Also recommended with Scenario 2 would be the addition of feeder routes to the commuter lots and to the VRE stations, the commuter lot & VRE expansions, & enhanced TDM strategies.

Mr. Agnello stated the estimated costs for implementing Scenario 1 vs Scenario 2 are:

Operating Cost - \$39.6m annually (Scenario 1) versus \$35.3 m annually (Scenario 2)

Capital Cost - \$154.3m (Scenario 1) versus \$74.6 m (Scenario 2)

Mr. Agnello stated that even though introduction of commuter bus service could provide different transit options that are currently being provided by VRE and vanpools, due to the high cost needed initially for the capital expenses staff would not be recommending commuter bus service at this time.

Mr. Agnello advised the TDM Plan is the practice of providing services that will promote the use of transportation options other than driving in a single occupancy vehicle. Mr. Agnello stated the four components of the TDM plan are as follows: GWRideConnect’s I-95 multimodal target marketing plan, commuter bus marketing plan, an enhanced commuter program and services, & the first mile/last mile connection elements.

Mr. Agnello advised that additional study analysis was added to the original task order which included a transit study for Caroline County. Currently, Caroline County has two existing FRED bus service routes operating and because the ridership on these two routes has been low, it was requested by Mr. Hap Connors (CTB representative) to provide updated data for Caroline County as well.

Mr. Agnello stated both the FRED C1 & C2 bus routes are low performing and generate 15 of FRED revenue miles but only account for 2% of ridership totals. The market analysis for transit service in Caroline County looked at demographic factors and employment and made recommendations from where to where transit service would be the most successful.

Mr. Agnello stated the study recommendations for service improvement showed a need to serve areas with the highest demand from the market analysis and to increase the efficiency of the existing service. For Caroline County, the demand was for the peak areas beginning at Ladysmith & Carmel Church and going to the Massaponax corridor. Mr. Agnello stated the data did not at this time show a demand from Bowling Green to and from other market areas.

Mr. Agnello advised that in addition to the original study scope, a second study analysis was completed for King George County. Mr. Agnello relayed that currently there is no FRED bus service operating in King George County; however, there has been interest expressed in new service options being explored.

Mr. Agnello stated the primary focus for the King George analysis was to compile data from the GWRC area for commuters going to Dahlgren, which includes approximately 10,000 jobs in place at the naval base. Mr. Agnello stated the study recommendations for King George County resulted in a need for bus service options to Dahlgren, as well as a demand for service from King George into the City of Fredericksburg.

Lastly, Mr. Agnello advised the third portion of analysis study that was added was for a bus service from northern Stafford County to Quantico. The study recommended a bus service beginning at the Route 630 & Route 610 park & ride lots. The analysis also recommended a commuter bus system that would allow for transfers to the other Stafford FRED routes currently in place. The analysis showed that approximately 75,000 people would likely utilize a commuter bus service that goes to the Quantico Corporate Center, the Marshall & Davis buildings on Russell Road; & to the Quantico VRE station. Mr. Agnello stated these recommendations were in line with the future VRE projects planned in these areas in Stafford County. Mr. Agnello stated this study was requested to staff from the Stafford Board of Supervisors.

i. Adopted FAMPO Resolution No. 18-14, Approving the Recommendations for the I-95 Phase 2 Transit/TDM Study – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that Resolution No. 18-14, which approved the recommendations for the I-95 Phase 2 Transit/TDM study, was adopted by the FAMPO Policy Committee at the December 18th meeting. It is included in today's agenda packet for informational purposes only and does not require an endorsement from the Technical Committee.

d.) Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)/Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Call for Projects – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised that all FAMPO voting members are eligible to apply for CMAQ/RSTP funding, which includes: Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Stafford, PRTC & VDOT. Mr. Quint advised the deadline for submitting CMAQ/RSTP projects is January 26, and the project applications can be submitted directly to him.

i. FY2024 FAMPO/CMAQ Request Form – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised the CMAQ/RSTP project request form is included in today's agenda packet and is also available on the FAMPO website.

ii. FAMPO Resolution No. 18-15, Amending the CMAQ/RSTP Prioritization Methodology – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised that Resolution No. 18-15 is asking for endorsement to update the CMAQ/RSTP funding project application, selection & prioritization methodology. Mr. Quint stated the last update was in 2009. Mr. Quint relayed that as a result of recent changes in both state and federal policies as well as FAMPO's update to the 2040 LRTP, FAMPO staff has amended the prioritization methodology. Mr. Quint stated the amended changes involve CLRP language revisions, references to state/federal policy, and other minor changes.

Mr. Cole asked what the amount of CMAQ/RSTP funding that will be allocated. Mr. Mr. Quint relayed staff will be looking to allocate FY2024-2025 funding for Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process and the funding will be ~\$4m per year.

Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Steigerwald, and unanimously endorsed by the FAMPO Technical Committee, Resolution No. 18-15 was accepted with a recommendation that it be adopted by the FAMPO Policy Committee at the upcoming January meeting.

e.) Smart Scale Update and Project Discussion – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the draft Smart Scale technical guide was released to the public on November 13, and asked that committee members review it prior to submitting their projects for Round 3.

Mr. Agnello advised that a resolution of support is needed for all project applications. Previously if projects had a cost estimate of less than \$25m, a resolution of support was not needed. Mr. Agnello stated that FAMPO area projects need to be in the CLRP and projects from Caroline & King George need to be in the GWRC LRTP.

i. I-95 Phase 2 Update – Mr. Paul Agnello

- Major presentation scheduled to be presented to the FAMPO Policy Committee on January 22
- Further analysis to be compiled as to when the weekday I-95 southbound after the committed improvements I-95 southbound after the committed improvements p.m. and weekend congestion points will start for the. and weekend congestion points will start for the are completed in 2022

- Obtain additional data from study results for potential new access points at both Central Park & Harrison Road
- Obtain study results from a 4th auxiliary lane being constructed between the southbound river crossing terminus and Exit 126 at Massaponax
- Compile draft recommendations that will be incorporated into Round 3 of the Smart Scale application consideration process

ii. Updated Matrix of Regional Projects – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the matrix of draft candidate Smart Scale Round 3 projects is included in today's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello relayed that twelve projects are listed; however, only eight can be submitted. Mr. Agnello stated that staff is continuing to work with VDOT and localities to determine if projects can be bundled together and/or submitted from a FAMPO/GWRC locality. Mr. Agnello stated the matrix is a living document that is continually being updated. Mr. Agnello stated that staff will still be submitting the final list of projects in April for approval by the FAMPO Policy Committee. Mr. Agnello asked for committee members to provide any feedback on projects that can possibly be combined, removed, or submitted from an entity other than FAMPO/GWRC by the end of the month.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Agnello advised that included in today's agenda information is a revised calendar that designates FAMPO committee meeting dates for 2018. Mr. Agnello stated the only change to the calendar is regarding the April 2018 Technical Committee meeting. As the first Monday in April is Easter week, staff thought it was best to cancel this meeting and re-schedule it for the second Monday in April.

MEMBER REPORTS

DRPT: Ms. Williams advised the application process for technical assistance, operational assistance, etc. for grant submissions opened in December and staff is available to provide assistance to the localities, FRED& FAMPO if needed. Ms. Williams relayed the grant application process ends in February.

FRED: Mr. White advised that beginning today and going through mid-July, Ms. Wendy Kimball, current director at FRED, will be taking a leave of absence and Mr. White will be serving as the acting director during her absences.

VRE: Ms. Soneji advised that new parking counters are being installed at the VRE stations. Ms. Soneji stated the installation process began with the Spotsylvania VRE station and to date the data

and daily counts are going well. Ms. Soneji stated VRE hopes to get all stations setup over the next several months. Ms. Soneji advised VRE is also in the process of updating signage, etc. at existing stations and the Brooke Station is on-going and scheduled to be completed soon. Ms. Soneji stated that upgrades to the Fredericksburg Station are scheduled to begin later in the year.

Ms. Soneji relayed that the VRE Transit Development Plan update is being amended. Ms. Soneji stated the update will be a year process and there will be two upcoming stakeholder meetings/workshops being held in February and June. Staff and committee members are welcomed to participate in these workshops.

ADJOURN

The FAMPO Technical Committee on January 8th adjourned at 11:35 a.m. The next Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2018 beginning at 9:30 a.m.