



**FAMPO Technical Committee (FTC) Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2018**

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Members Present:

Joey Hess, Chairman, Stafford County
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg
Dan Cole, Spotsylvania County
Doug Morgan, Spotsylvania County
Todd Horsley, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Rodney White, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Stephen Haynes, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express (VRE) (On-Line Call-In)

Others Present:

Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Rupert Farley, Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Dave McLaughlin, Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)

Staff Members Present:

Paul Agnello, FAMPO
Marti Donley, FAMPO
Kari Barber, FAMPO
John Bentley, FAMPO
Colin Cate, FAMPO
Leigh Anderson, GWRC
JoAnna Roberson, GWRC (In at 9:45 a.m.)

CALL TO ORDER

The FAMPO Technical Committee meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Chair, Mr. Joey Hess.

APPROVAL OF FAMPO TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

The February 5th FAMPO Technical Committee agenda was approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF FAMPO TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF
JANUARY 8TH, 2018**

Upon unanimous consent, the January 8th FAMPO Technical Committee minutes were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF JANUARY 22, 2018

Mr. Agnello advised that Ms. Parker from VDOT gave an I-95 Express Lanes Fredericksburg Extension (Fred Ex) Update. Mr. Agnello relayed that Ms. Parker advised the northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project has now been approved and fully funded per a release from the governor earlier in the month.

Mr. Agnello relayed Ms. Parker stated the project is fully funded using resources from Transurban, Atlantic Gateway and \$2m contributed from FAMPO from RSTP funding allocations. Mr. Agnello advised the money contributed by FAMPO is going to be discussed in greater detail later in today's agenda.

Mr. Agnello relayed that VDOT is currently working on the interchange modification (IMR) report and anticipates a spring of 2019 request for proposals (RFP) will trail the southbound River Crossing project by approximately one year.

Mr. Agnello advised that Resolution No. 18-16, Authorizing Staff to Transfer \$2 Million in Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funding from the northbound Rappahannock River Crossing Project to the Regionally Significant Projects UPC.

Mr. Agnello advised Resolution No. 18-16 is included in today's agenda packet for action by the Technical Committee and will be discussed in greater detail later in today's meeting.

Mr. Agnello advised the Policy Committee tasked staff with compiling two letters to be submitted to the State. One letter is a request that an I-95 Corridor Integrated Management (ICM) study be completed from I-495 to Massaponax. The second letter is a request for the State to consider developing a new state transportation revenue system that is not based on gas taxes. Mr. Agnello advised that both letters are listed under the Correspondence category in today's agenda packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- a.) Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) /Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Update – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised to date, there are three projects to be submitted for consideration that are eligible to receive CMAQ/RSTP funding. These projects are as follows:

- City of Fredericksburg – Gateway Boulevard extension (Plank Road to Cowan Blvd)
- County of Spotsylvania – Mine Road widening project (Spotsylvania Avenue/Falcon Drive to Hardwood Lane/Campbell Drive)
- County of Stafford – New FRED route from Garrisonville to Quantico

Mr. Agnello advised the schedule for the CMAQ/RSTP process is as follows:

February – projects scored

March – receive budgets from State on draft allocations

April – seek FAMPO committee approval for submitted allocations

Mr. Agnello advised that FAMPO passed a resolution that allocated CMAQ/RSTP funds in the amount of \$2m to be applied to the northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project from the FY2018-2023 SYIP.

Mr. Agnello stated that as the northbound river crossing project is now fully funded, per the governor's release in January, FAMPO is asking that the \$2m applied to the project be re-allocated to funding Regionally Significant projects.

b.) Resolution No. 18-16, Authorizing Staff to Transfer \$2m in Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funding from the Northbound Rappahannock River Crossing Project to the Regionally Significant Projects UPC – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that per the release from the governor, that the northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project will be approved and fully funded, it has been recommended to staff from members from the Policy Committee and CTB, to request the \$2m allocated by FAMPO be re-allocated to go towards other regionally significant projects.

Mr. Agnello stated this was presented to the FAMPO Policy Committee at the January meeting and there was considerable discussion by the members. It was requested that Resolution No. 18-16 be deferred for endorsement at the upcoming February meeting. The request was made to allow staff to obtain additional information from both the State and the Governor's office.

Ms. Gardner stated she was at the January Policy Committee meeting and it was her understanding the Resolution was not deferred but in fact tabled. Ms. Gardner relayed the \$132m northbound river crossing project was approved and fully funded; however, the funding previously allocated from Transurban, Atlantic Gateway, & FAMPO are still included in the total \$132m project cost.

Mr. Agnello confirmed the Resolution was in fact deferred until February. Mr. Agnello stated that there are still many unknown questions the region needs to receive answers on. However, as project cost estimations have been coming in at lesser amounts estimated and combined with the fact the State will have a \$362m surplus from the Fred Ex project that it is likely the total cost of the project will come in at a much lesser cost than \$132m.

Mr. Agnello stated that even though any surplus received to the State from the Fred Ex project is given to the Fredericksburg District, there is no guarantee surplus funding will be re-allocated to the FAMPO region; however, the region is likely to receive some of the additional funding. Mr. Agnello stated that staff has been tasked with being pro-active in requesting funding reimbursements now should they in fact become available and to submit this request prior to other entities doing the same thing.

Mr. Nelson asked when the funding would become available and Mr. Agnello relayed it would be FY2021 funding. Chair, Mr. Hess, asked for motion/second on Resolution No. 18-16. Mr. White asked that if action by the Policy Committee was deferred until February, should the Technical Committee follow the same protocol. Mr. Agnello advised the Resolution in today's Technical Committee agenda packet is informational only and is not an action item at this time.

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

Mr. Agnello advised the following changes have occurred in regard to the LRTP update process. Mr. Agnello stated additional funding was obligated by the Governor to fully fund the I-95 northbound Rappahannock River Crossing project. Mr. Agnello stated the project had been submitted for consideration in both rounds 1 & 2 of the Smart Scale application processes; however, was not selected in either round. Now that the project has been approved and fully funded, it will be submitted as a new project in Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process. Mr. Agnello stated that major projects have been identified for the Phase 2 analysis designating I-95 corridor projects in the Draft CLRP.

Mr. Agnello advised a larger presentation will be made to the FAMPO committees in March; however, staff has developed a draft of the top five I-95 corridor need projects for the region and will be reviewed later in today's meeting.

Mr. Agnello relayed the LRTP schedule is as follows:

February – Draft CLRP project list available; I-95 Phase 2 Highway analysis will be finalized with draft documentation to be available for review/comments by the end of February

March – Additional I-95 Phase 2 Highway Analysis available for Smart Scale application process submissions with draft documentation to be available for review/comment

April – Documentation revisions to be implemented based on comments received with final documentation for MPO action at the April 16th Policy Committee meeting

Mr. Agnello advised the LRTP Public Involvement schedule is as follows:

FAMPO endorsed resolution authorizing public involvement to begin on March 13th; Public Comment period to run from March 8th to April 6th; public meeting to be held at GWRC on March 15th; & Public Hearing to be held at GWRC on April 16th, prior to the scheduled Policy Committee meeting

Mr. Agnello relayed the 2045 LRTP Draft project list includes a total number of projects, not including studies, at 271 with a total estimated project cost of \$6.9b. Mr. Agnello stated there are 113 projects included in the Constrained Plan that also includes 8 pe/studies and includes projects from the City of Fredericksburg and the Counties of Spotsylvania & Stafford with an estimated project

cost of \$2b. Mr. Agnello advised the number of unfunded projects that does not include studies is 210, with an estimated project cost of \$5.6b.

Mr. Agnello advised the top five I-95 corridor needs are as follows:

I-95 sb widening from 3 to 4 lanes from Mpt 128. to Exit 126 – south of Courthouse Road (this project will replace Harrison Road Bridge as a new 4-lane bridge with shared bike/ped use & a 5th auxiliary off-ramp)

I-95 nb Rappahanock River Crossing project (this includes necessary elements that do not appear to be included in the \$132m project cost estimate) – Rt. 17 interchange improvements; off-ramp improvement to Rt. 3 east; northern tail segment for general purpose widening from 3 to 4 lanes from Exit 133 to Exit 136

I-95 nb widening from 3 to 4 lanes from Exit 126 to Exit 130 – Exit 126 to Rt. 1 on-ramp improvements (VDOT STARS)

I-95 sb – new access point at Mpt 131 for Central Park

Park & Ride lot improvements – Mine Road Expansion in Stafford County at existing lot for an additional 400 new spaces; construction of a new lot at Rt. 17 east in Stafford County; & construction of a new surface lot in Central Park in the City of Fredericksburg

- i. Draft 2045 LRTP Project List – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the list of draft projects for inclusion into the Draft 2045 LRTP is included in today's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello asked that each locality representative review the list of projects included and to provide feedback/comments/revisions, etc. to FAMPO staff by the end of this week.

- ii. Resolution No. 18-18, Directing that a Public Comment Period & Public Hearing be held prior to the Adoption of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello relayed Resolution No. 18-18 is an action item that will be presented to the FAMPO Policy Committee at their upcoming February meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Cole, with all Technical Committee members concurring, Resolution No. 18-18 was endorsed with a recommendation that it be adopted by the FAMPO Policy Committee at the upcoming February meeting.

d.) Smart Scale Update & Project Discussion – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the application period for Round 3 of the Smart Scale process begins on March 1st. Mr. Agnello relayed that State Smart Scale training is scheduled for organization administrators & number 1 users at the VDOT District office on February 13th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Mr. Haynes relayed there is a web-option available; however, VDOT staff is requesting that physical attendance from primary users occur.

Mr. Agnello relayed that also on February 27th a State Smart Scale training opportunity will be available for everyone. Training location site and training hours will be forthcoming and once staff is in receipt of them they will be forwarded to all technical committee members.

Mr. Agnello advised one change for Round 3 of the Smart Scale process is that all district grant application requests from individual localities/jurisdictions will now require MPO endorsement from either GWRC or FAMPO.

Mr. Agnello advised the following schedule is in effect for Round 3 of the Smart Scale application process:

February – April – continued discussion & development of regional candidate projects – to include coordination on applications between FAMPO/GWRC & localities

May 14th – regional forum to discuss smart scale projects (this will be the same meeting format that was held by VDOT for both Round 1 & 2 of the Smart Scale process)

May, 2018 – Review/approval of regional candidate projects asked for MPO action/endorsement on May 21st

June, 2018 – FAMPO/GWRC Approval of Local District Grant projects

Mr. Agnello advised March 1, 2018 is the date that the Smart Scale Round 3 Application period begins. June 1, 2018 is the deadline date to initiate new project applications and this project date is unlimited as far as the number of applications that could be submitted. However, August 1, 2018 is the application deadline date and at this time only four applications per entity/organization/locality can be actually submitted. Mr. Haynes advised that VDOT staff is available to provide any help/assistance on project applications and the sooner the better for VDOT staff is preferred.

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

Mr. Agnello advised a matrix of all regional projects is included in today's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello asked that locality representatives review the list of projects and provide any feedback, comments, revisions, etc. to FAMPO staff by week-end.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Agnello advised that copies of both letters the Policy Committee tasked staff to complete from the January Policy Committee meeting are included for informational purposes in today's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello also relayed that information regarding the website presentation on the Harry Nice Memorial Bridge is included in today's agenda packet for informational purposes.

Mr. Agnello stated that in regard to the Harry Nice bridge project, that all toll money that is received will be re-invested back into the system. Mr. Agnello advised a public comment period is on-going and will end on February 20th.

Mr. Agnello stated the new bridge construction will run parallel to the existing bridge and will not result in significant closures. Mr. Agnello stated the new bridge design is expected to accommodate traffic and populations for 100+ years.

Mr. Agnello relayed a spring forum is scheduled in 2018 with an advertisement for construction to occur in the fall of 2018. Groundbreaking is scheduled to occur in 2022 and full service re-opening date in 2023.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Agnello re-introduced Mr. Colin Cate. Mr. Agnello stated Mr. Cate was previously a FAMPO intern and left for several months to pursue other alternatives and is now back at FAMPO as an intern. Mr. Agnello advised Mr. Cate will be working on GIS data and will be reporting to Mr. Quint.

MEMBER REPORTS

VDOT: Mr. Haynes advised that the VDOT study for Route 301/207 is nearing completion; however, there will still be one more opportunity for public involvement. Mr. Haynes advised meetings have been held with localities and stakeholders. Mr. Haynes relayed the Route 301/207 corridors are essentially the east/west Washington by-pass corridor option.