



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2018

<http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/committees/policy-committee/>

Members Present:

Mr. Mark Dudenhefer, Chair, Stafford County
Mr. Tim Baroody, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Matt Kelly, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Billy Withers, City of Fredericksburg
Ms. Nancy Long, Caroline County (Non-Voting Member)
Ms. Ruby Brabo, King George County (Non-Voting Member)
Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Kevin Marshall, Spotsylvania County
Mr. David Ross, Spotsylvania County
Ms. Meg Bohmke, Stafford County
Ms. Cindy Shelton, Stafford County
Mr. Chuck Steigerwald, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Mr. Todd Horsley, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Hap Connors, CTB Representative (Non-Voting Member)

Others Present:

Ms. Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Stephen Haynes, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Michael Smith, Stafford County
Mr. Dave Swan, Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Mr. Paul Milde, Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Scott Shenk, Free Lance Star
Mr. Todd Rump, Citizen

Staff Members Present:

Mr. Paul Agnello, FAMPO
Mr. Nick Quint, FAMPO
Ms. Diana Utz, GWRC
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL FAMPO MEETING TO ORDER

Chair, Mr. Dudenhefer called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and received acknowledgement that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF FAMPO AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Bohmke, with all concurring, the FAMPO Policy agenda was accepted as submitted.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

None

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a.) Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2018 – Mr. Paul Agnello

Upon motion by Ms. Bohmke and seconded by Mr. Kelly, and all others concurring, the Consent Agenda was approved as submitted.

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a.) Transportation Management Plan (TMP) Update – Mr. Paul Agnello & Ms. Marcie Parker, VDOT

Mr. Agnello stated that with over \$1 billion of transportation improvements upcoming on the I-95 corridor, this will result in major projects being coordinated during the construction periods.

Ms. Parker stated that beginning with the Fred Ex project, VDOT will need to develop a TMP. This will be done to determine how the project will work; how the project will coincide with other projects within the region; what transportation demand management and transit needs will occur; etc. Ms. Parker stated the consultant is expected to be on board in the fall of 2018, and one task will be to formulate and finalize a TMP. Ms. Parker stated VDOT is just underway with this task and as more information is available, it will be presented to the FAMPO committees.

- b.) 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan Executive Summary Presentation – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the 2045 LRTP addresses the region's future transportation system for all modes of transit that will include: highways, bicycles/pedestrians, transit/TDM, freight and aviation. Mr. Agnello relayed the plan is comprised of two parts: needs (not constrained by revenues) and constrained (conforms to forecasted revenues). Mr. Agnello relayed the Region currently has a total population of more than \$350,000 and it is the fastest-growing region in Virginia. Mr. Agnello stated that by 2045, the Region is expected to grow by 86% and have 652,000 in population.

Mr. Agnello stated the future growth is likely to be low density and largely suburban in nature with pockets of density that have been identified within the local comprehensive plans. Mr. Agnello stated the challenges will become acute and result in the following: limited public transportation choices; increased transportation funding challenges; increased congestion and decreased mobility; and increased auto-orientation.

Regarding land use, Mr. Agnello stated a regional land use scenario planning study was initiated in 2009 and continued into 2014-2015. The purpose of this plan was to explore and debate local and regional growth visions, trade-offs and alternatives.

Mr. Agnello advised five growth scenarios were examined and ultimately it was decided to use the comprehensive plans' land use data. Mr. Agnello advised that even if all of the Region's funded projects are built, by 2045 the following scenario will occur:

- Major routes/facilities will struggle to meet traveling demands (I-95, Rt. 1, US17/301/207, Rt. 2, Rt. 3, Rt. 208 & Rt. 610)
- Many bridges in the region will need rehabilitation or replacement

The I-95 Phase 2 Highway Study showed the top highway needs for the region are:

- I-95 SB 4th lane from southern terminus of sb Rappahannock River Crossing project to Exit 126 with a Harrison Road bridge replacement
- Exit 126 ramp improvements from US1 to I-95 NB
- Interchange improvements at Exit 130 & 133

In conjunction with the highway needs, bicycle/pedestrian needs would be needed to make biking and walking safer and more accessible. These would close gaps within the existing network and create a complete sidewalks, bikeway and trail system.

Mr. Agnello relayed local and commuter transit needs would also be required to include: new commuter bus services; new local bus service; and to provide increased mobility options for non-drivers.

Mr. Agnello advised the TDM needs focus on the I-95 corridor's commuter market and result in increased commuter services; increased park & ride lot capacities; construction of new Park & Ride lots; and increased vanpool, carpool and ridesharing options.

Mr. Agnello stated the total transportation needs will have a cost of \$5.5 billion. The transportation revenues the region can expect to receive will be \$1.9 billion, which leads to a funding shortfall of \$3.6 billion in 2018 dollars.

Mr. Agnello advised the public comment period began on March 13 and will end on April 11. Mr. Agnello relayed public comment can be made via email, website, facebook, twitter, in person at public meetings, mail, phone or fax. Mr. Agnello encouraged everyone in attendance to respond and to utilize the format that best suits their needs.

c.) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)/Regional Surface Transportation Plan (RSTP) Update – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised the three submitted CMAQ/RSTP projects were scored by staff accordingly:

- New FRED route from Garrisonville to Quantico (County of Stafford) - 70 points
- Gateway Boulevard extension (City of Fredericksburg) – 50 points
- Mine Road widening (County of Spotsylvania) – 46 points

Mr. Quint relayed the region received budgets on March 14. The final allocations are scheduled for action on April 16.

d.) I-95 Phase 2 Study Modeling Assumptions – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised staff was tasked with providing more detailed and specific information regarding the modeling assumptions for the I-95 Corridor Phase 2 Study. Mr. Agnello stated he hoped to answer these questions tonight.

Mr. Agnello stated the study approach is a data driven effort that utilized the latest modeling and GIS tools. Mr. Agnello stated the latest available/data was obtained from the following sources:

- Land Use (Census Data)
- Employment (VEC)
- Traffic Counts (VDOT)
- Highway Network Assumptions (Existing & Committed)
- Travel Survey Data (VDOT, VRE)

Mr. Agnello stated the study area is from Quantico to Thornburg, with a focus between Exit 136 and Exit 126. Mr. Agnello relayed two types of models were used: Regional Travel Forecasting model (Macroscopic) used to predict future travel demand needs based on land use and changes within the transportation network (used for GWRC area but not road specific); and a corridor-specific VISSIM operations model (microscopic) that is used by VDOT/FHWA to analyze performances of traffic flows based on demand volume established by the regional travel forecasting model. Mr. Agnello advised that Mr. Paul Prideaux is running new data on four potential new/modified interchanges and a presentation on the results will be provided at the April Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Connors stated there is still an issue the CTB will be pursuing with VDOT/the Secretary of Transportation's office. Mr. Connors stated the Commonwealth included weekend travel data within the VISSIM model; however, excludes this data for Smart Scale requirements/processes. Mr. Connors asked Ms. Parker if there was any additional information available from VDOT on this concern. Ms. Parker stated as of now, no new information has been forwarded.

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

Mr. Agnello advised there will be a cooperative meeting between FAMPO/GWRC/VDOT on March 26 to review potential regional projects for Smart Scale Round 3. Mr. Agnello advised the pre-application period ends on June 1, and with the pre-application process there is no limit on the number of projects that can be submitted. However, between June 1 and August 1, each entity needs to submit no more than four applications each. Mr. Agnello stated it will be important to be strategic with the pre-application process and ensure that duplicate projects are not being submitted.

Mr. Agnello advised that recent/upcoming changes to the Smart Scale candidate project list have resulted in the following projects being amended and/or removed:

- Central Park access point removed due to new requirements for a new IJR study (Mr. Agnello stated there is not sufficient time to complete an IJR before August 1)
- Park & ride lot candidate projects removed include the Leeland Road VRE lot and Commonwealth Drive lot. Mr. Agnello stated that both of these were removed because there are existing projects which need to be completed before further expansions can be considered.

- As several studies will be completed over the next few months across the region, several updates are likely. These could involve updates to US 301/Rte 207; US 1; Rte 2/US 17 Bus.; & US 1/Rte 208)

Regarding the preliminary funding the region is expected to receive, Mr. Agnello stated that new estimates from VDOT anticipate \$940 million total for Round 3 of Smart Scale. These allocations will be split evenly between the Statewide High Priority and District Grant programs (\$470 million each). Mr. Agnello stated the Fredericksburg District Grant Program allocation is expected to be \$32-34 million, assuming the Fredericksburg District receives 6.86% of the statewide total. Mr. Agnello stated there is potentially \$2 million in additional District Grant funding that was not utilized in Round 2. Mr. Agnello stated the estimates are subject to change.

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

Mr. Agnello advised the Draft Candidate Smart Scale Round 3 project list is included in tonight's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello stated that it is conceivable that some cost estimates listed now for specific projects could come in lower. Mr. Agnello stated the project list is a continual work-in-progress. Mr. Agnello stated that staff hopes to submit a final project list for approval by the FAMPO Policy Committee in the May/June timeframe.

Mr. Agnello stated that Michael Baker International is completing data and testing on the four potential new/improved I-95 access points, and a presentation of these results will be provided to the Policy Committee in April.

f.) Bylaws Discussion – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the FAMPO Policy Committee is in the process of reviewing, amending, and updating its bylaws. Mr. Agnello stated the FAMPO Technical Committee & Citizens Transportation Advisory Group are also updating their bylaws so that updates can all be consistent.

Mr. Agnello relayed amendments have been submitted to staff, and these edits are included in tonight's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello stated there is no deadline on when the bylaws need to be approved.

Mr. Ross stated that other than some typos and spacing issues, the current amendments submitted are sound. Mr. Ross stated under Article IV – Voting, Section 3 – Proxy Votes, he concurs that proxy votes should not be permitted. However, he also feels this section should be expanded by stating that only elected officials from the three localities should be listed as voting committee members.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that it was fine to have other representatives serving on the Policy Committee; however, these members should be listed as non-voting members as members from an organization/entity should not trump elected officials when votes on issues are cast.

This item will be discussed in greater detail at the April meeting, and will not be included in this amendment. Mr. Dudenhefer advised the revisions previously received and reviewed could be adopted tonight (and to meet the 30-day review, they would need to be approved after March 27); and additional revisions/amendments could occur at any other time throughout the year.

Upon motion by Mr. Ross and seconded by Mr. Steigerwald, with all concurring, the Policy Committee bylaws were amended as submitted, barring no additional comments by March 27.

g.) The President's Initiative for Rebuilding Infrastructure in America, February 2018 – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that on February 12, the president released a document on the nation's transportation infrastructure goals and challenges. Mr. Agnello relayed this document is included in tonight's agenda packet for informational purposes only.

STAFF AND AGENCY REPORTS

Mr. Agnello advised that effective June 30, Ms. Marti Donley will be resigning from her position at FAMPO. Mr. Agnello stated that Ms. Donley is an asset to FAMPO and prepares the agenda packets for all FAMPO meetings; does the public advertising for meetings, public hearings, etc. and is the Title VI coordinator. Mr. Agnello stated that Ms. Donley has been a valuable employee and will be missed by FAMPO.

MEMBER REPORTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

In packet and self-explanatory

FAMPO COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the Technical Committee and CTAG are included in tonight's agenda packet.

ADJOURN FAMPO MEETING/NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m., and the next meeting will be on April 16, 2018 at 7:15 p.m.