



**Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2018**

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Members Present:

Joey Hess, Chairman, Stafford County
Bassam Amin, City of Frederickburg
Erik Nelson, City of Frederickburg
Annie Cupka, King George County
Dan Cole, Spotsylvania County
Doug Morgan, Spotsylvania County (In at 9:45)
Ciara Williams, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Rodney White, Frederickburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Stephen Haynes, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Staff Members Present:

Paul Agnello, FAMPO
Marti Donley, FAMPO
Nick Quint, FAMPO
Kari Barber, FAMPO
John Bentley, FAMPO
Colin Cate, FAMPO
Leigh Anderson, GWRC
JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL TO ORDER

The Technical Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Chairman, Joey Hess.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

The April 9th Technical Advisory Committee agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 5TH, 2018 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Upon unanimous consent, the March 5th minutes were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF MARCH 19, 2018 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Agnello advised there was Policy Committee discussion on both the final presentation to the FY2045 LRTP and the I-95 Phase 2 Study modeling assumptions, both of which will be discussed later in today's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a.) Resolution No. 18-21, Endorsing a City of Fredericksburg Grant Application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Funding – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised the City of Fredericksburg is submitting a TAP application to VDOT for \$1,000,000 with a \$250,000 local match. Mr. Quint stated the grant application has been endorsed by the Fredericksburg City Council. Mr. Quint relayed the grant would be for the Downtown Pedestrian Enhancement project that includes street light installation, sidewalk reconstruction, crosswalk upgrades, and curb bump-outs at various sites.

Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Morgan, with all concurring, Resolution No. 18-21 was endorsed with a request that it be adopted by the Policy Committee.

b.) Resolution No. 18-22, Authorizing Regional Support for the Transportation Improvements Needed to Support the Planned US Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in the FAMPO Region – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised Resolution No. 18-22, is asking for support of a Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic that is scheduled to be built within the FAMPO region. Mr. Agnello stated that at this time the exact site has not been determined; however, sites are being considered in either the City of Fredericksburg or the Counties of Spotsylvania or Stafford.

Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Cole, with all concurring, Resolution No. 18-22 was endorsed with a request that it be adopted by the Policy Committee.

c.) 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Summary of Draft Presentation – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the 2045 LRTP is the five-year update that is federally mandated and is a plan that is multimodal in nature. Mr. Agnello stated the Plan is comprised of two parts: Needs (plan not constrained by revenues) and a Constrained (plan that conforms to forecasted revenues).

Mr. Nelson stated that with the Region expecting to incur an additional 300,000 people by 2045, this presents many challenges. Mr. Nelson stated some additional content needs to be included into the plan as the future growth is likely to be low density and largely suburban that notes locality revenues

will increase to support the additional schools, buses, etc. Mr. Nelson stated the point needs to be re-addressed that the projected growth and its resulting demands then become more than that a VDOT issue and is one that is going to be a coordinated regional effort.

Mr. Agnello relayed that the public comment period ends on April 11, and if any member still would like to submit comments, please forward these to staff.

i. Resolution No. 18-23, Adoption of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the George Washington Region – Mr. Paul Agnello

With the requested revisions to the Plan contents that were discussed at today's meeting being included, upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Cole, with all concurring, Resolution No. 18-23 was endorsed with a recommendation that it be adopted by the Policy Committee.

d.) Resolution No. 18-24, Directing a Public Comment Period and Public Hearing Be Held Prior to the Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the 30-day public comment period and public hearing for adoption of the FY2019 UPWP will be held from April 19 to May 18. Mr. Agnello stated that the federal performance measures being implemented regarding air quality conformity could impact this region, and it is likely the UPWP will need to be updated again in FY2019. Mr. Agnello stated these impacts would affect Richmond, Hampton Roads, and the FAMPO Region, and the new performance measures may be implemented by June of 2018.

Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Cole, with all concurring, Resolution No. 18-24 was endorsed with a request that it be adopted by the Policy Committee.

e.) Update on Federal Performance based Planning and Programming (PBPP) and Air Quality Conformity Requirements – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the air quality conformity issue and new requirements were discussed above, so nothing additional is needed for discussion at this time.

f.) Fiscal Years 2019-2025 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funds – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised the final budget allocations were received on March 14. Mr. Quint relayed there was a minimal increase in the CMAQ budget. Mr. Quint stated the increase in the RSTP budget was larger.

i. Resolution No. 18-25, Allocating Fiscal Years 2019-2025 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funds

Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Cole, with all concurring, Resolution No. 18-25 was endorsed with a request that it be adopted by the Policy Committee.

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

Mr. Agnello advised that per concerns from Spotsylvania County officials at the March Policy Committee meeting regarding a potential new access point at Central Park, a request was made to staff to provide data on the technical study approach utilized in the ongoing I-95 Phase 2 Study.

Mr. Agnello relayed that two types of models were used in the Phase 2 study and these included the following: regional travel forecasting model that was used to predict future travel demands based on land use and changes to the transportation network; & corridor-specific VISSIM traffic operations model that was used to analyze performances of traffic flows that is based on demand volumes.

Mr. Agnello stated the study included data for three categories which were the a.m. peak hour time periods; the p.m. peak hour time periods; & the weekend peak hour time periods. Data was compared in all three time periods for both the FY2030 & FY2045 no-build condition alternatives; for the FY2030 & 2045 alternative analysis & technical documentation will be an end result to the study task order. Mr. Agnello advised the study recommended low-cost interchange improvements and interstate roadway geometrical improvements that will either improve/eliminate the traffic hotspots in the no-build scenario. Mr. Agnello relayed the study also simulated alternatives for the forecasted traffic volumes and documented the traffic performances and challenges.

Ms. Soneji asked if the plan included VRE data. Mr. Agnello relayed that Michael Baker International did include VRE data within the plan. Ms. Soneji advised the VRE plan was recently updated and she will forward a copy of the revised plan to FAMPO staff to ensure the most recent data is incorporated into the study.

h.) VDOT Draft Six-Year Improvement Program Public Meeting – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program Public Meeting for the Fredericksburg District is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8 at 4:00 p.m. and will be held at the Fredericksburg Germanna Community College campus in Spotsylvania County.

Ms. Gardner stated that to date, the local VDOT office has not received any guidelines on the meeting structure; however, she did encourage everyone to attend the meeting. Ms. Gardner stated as there are both a new State Commissioner and Transportation Secretary that this meeting will be a good opportunity for Technical Advisory Committee members to become acquainted with the new representatives.

i.) Technical Advisory Committee Bylaws – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised that an edited copy of revisions to the existing Technical Committee bylaws are included in today's agenda packet.

Mr. Quint stated that to be consistent across all FAMPO committees, staff decided to remove "FAMPO" from the committee's name and change it to Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Mr. Quint relayed that under Section 4 – Vacancies, this was a section that still needed to be completed.

Mr. Quint stated staff is recommending this committee follow the Policy Committee procedures for vacancies. This would mean that if a vacancy occurs in the Chair position before the term has expired, a new representative from the same jurisdiction shall be appointed to fill this position at the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Quint stated that there were only minor adjustments made to the bylaws and no content changes. Mr. Hess asked if this is an action item at today's meeting. Mr. Quint advised it could be if the committee was ready to move towards adoption.

Upon motion by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Morgan, with all concurring, the revised Technical Advisory Committee Bylaws were adopted.

j.) Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Transit Development Plan (TDP) Update – Ms. Sonali Soneji, VRE

Ms. Soneji advised that VRE is a joint project of two transportation commissions – NVTC and PRTC. Ms. Soneji stated there are nine member jurisdictions, three host railroads, and two lines (one in Fredericksburg and one in Manassas) that include 90 route miles. Ms. Soneji stated there are 4.7 million annual riders between Virginia & DC that encompass 19,000 daily trips. Ms. Soneji stated there are metro connections at five of the VRE stations.

Ms. Soneji relayed L'Enfant Plaza is the busiest destination station, and the next three busiest destinations are: Union Station, Crystal City & Alexandria. Ms. Soneji stated VRE has recently begun its TDP update. Ms. Soneji relayed that a TDP is an actionable resource that coordinates near term actions and initiatives that achieve VRE's long-range vision. Ms. Soneji stated VRE identifies needs, service changes, funding, & local priorities designed to meet near- and long-term opportunities and challenges. Ms. Soneji advised VRE's TDP was last updated in FY2012.

The proposed VRE TDP goals are:

1. Service Delivery (to deliver safe, secure, high quality & convenient transit service options that are responsive to user needs);
2. Business Practices (to employ industry leading business practices that will drive operating efficiency, project delivery, regulatory compliance; & partnerships); and
3. Service Enhancement (to expand VRE ridership in an efficient and economical manner through operational enhancements, physical improvements that coordinates intermodal integration within the region).

Ms. Soneji advised VRE utilizes five performance measure guidelines to demonstrate VRE's progress and to ensure the service is heading in the right direction. Ms. Soneji stated the five measures are: on-time performance data; average daily ridership counts; parking utilization; operating procedures; and system capacity. Ms. Soneji stated a workshop has already been held and included presentations to the stakeholders. Ms. Soneji stated a second workshop will be held in late May.

Ms. Soneji stated that VRE does not own any of the railroads, so at times they are limited to restrictions implemented by other entities. However, VRE has made significant progress and improvements to the system, the VRE lots, the addition of new routes, installing better user technology for phone apps, etc. Ms. Soneji stated that for the Fredericksburg Region, a Smart Scale

application was approved in Round 2 that expands and improves the Brooke & Leeland Road VRE stations. Ms. Soneji advised these improvements should begin to occur over the summer.

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

Mr. Agnello stated that changes to the Smart Scale candidate project list that have occurred since the last Technical Committee meeting are:

- A project to widen northbound I-95 between Exit 126 and Exit 130
- Per request from the Caroline County Board of Supervisors, a potential Park & Ride lot to be constructed at Ladysmith has been pulled and is not being pursued at this time
- Several studies are ongoing and near completion, so it is foreseeable that additional recommendations for new/amended projects could be discussed at the May committee meetings (US301/207; Route 1; Route 2/17; & Route 1/208)

Mr. Agnello stated that based on word received from VDOT Central Office on March 14, the funding the region will receive is slightly higher than anticipated. Even though funding estimates are still subject to change, the current estimates are:

- \$940 million statewide
 - \$470 million for the Statewide High Priority Program
 - \$470 million for the District Grant Program

Mr. Agnello relayed that the funding allocation to the Fredericksburg District for last round was \$26 million, and this year the funding for the Fredericksburg District is estimated to be between \$32 and \$34 million.

i. Updated Matrix of Regional Projects

Mr. Agnello advised that a matrix of current regional projects is included in today's agenda packet. Mr. Agnello stated some project cost estimates are still being developed.

Mr. Agnello stated the final project list will be submitted to the Policy Committee at the May meeting for endorsement. Mr. Agnello stated the smaller details of project cost estimates; scope, etc. will be finalized in the July/August time frame. However, the list of regional projects that will be submitted for Smart Scale consideration will be finalized before the June 1st application deadline.

Mr. Agnello also advised that for locality projects and/or transit projects, these will need to be finalized and submitted to the Policy Committee for approval in the June/July timeframe. Mr. Agnello asked if there is any additional committee feedback on any of the projects previously reviewed, to please forward these comments to him by the end of the week.

CORRESPONDENCE

In packet & self-explanatory

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Agnello advised there will not be a Technical Committee meeting in either July or August. The committee will meet in June and then again in September. Mr. Agnello advised the Policy Committee would be meeting for a brief meeting/action item in July and will not be meeting in the month of August.

MEMBER REPORTS

VDOT: Ms. Gardner advised that this is VDOT's Work Zone Safety week and Wednesday is "wear orange" day. For the month of April, VDOT will have safety messages displayed on VDOT signs.

VRE: Ms. Soneji stated the annual VRE customer survey will occur on the first Wednesday in May. The other three Wednesdays during this month are "meet the management" day where management will be at VRE stations to interact with VRE riders.

ADJOURN

The April 9th Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 11:37 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.