



**Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG) Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2017**

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Committee Members Present:

Mr. Todd Rump, Chair, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Guy Gormley, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Robert Ek, Caroline County
Mr. Rupert Farley, Spotsylvania County (At-Large)
Mr. Larry Gross, Spotsylvania County (At-Large)
Ms. Adela Bertoldi, Stafford County
Ms. Dawn McGarrity, Stafford County (In at 6:22 p.m.)

Others in Attendance:

None

George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) Staff:

Mr. Paul Agnello, FAMPO
Mr. Nick Quint, FAMPO
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRC
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rump called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Mr. Farley and seconded by Mr. Gormley, with all concurring, the CTAG agenda for the May 10th meeting was accepted as presented.

APPROVAL OF CTAG MEETING SUMMARY OF MARCH 8, 2017

Upon motion by Mr. Farley and seconded by Mr. Gormley, and all others concurring, the minutes from the April 12th meeting were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 17, 2017

Mr. Agnello advised that as a result of the findings from Round 2 of the Smart Scale process an advisory committee was formed. The purpose of the advisory committee was to provide feedback to the State of comments and recommendations on points that could be considered being implemented for Round 3. Mr. Agnello stated the committee also was tasked with providing alternative funding options that could be

considered. Mr. Agnello stated that one option is for the region to consider forming its own transportation authority. Mr. Agnello stated that both Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia have a taxing authority in place and it has proven to be successful in those regions. Mr. Agnello advised this item is going to be discussed with the elected officials at the upcoming May meeting. Mr. Gross asked if a regional taxing authority has majority support to pursue. Mr. Agnello stated that two of the three FAMPO localities have expressed support. Mr. Gross asked if this would require a unanimous vote or a majority vote for approval. Mr. Agnello concurred that a majority vote would be needed. Mr. Agnello stated that a regional taxing authority is only one source where additional funds could be generated from and other options as well will be presented at the upcoming May Policy Committee meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- a.) Resolution No. 17-31, Recommending the Adoption of the Public Participation Plan (PPP) – Mr. Nick Quint

Mr. Quint advised that Resolution no. 17-31 is requesting adoption of the Public Participation Plan. Mr. Quint relayed that the 45-day public hearing/public comment period has been completed and there were no adverse comments made to the plan. Mr. Quint stated there were some minor revisions and “housekeeping” revisions that were submitted from VDOT, staff, and the public and the revisions made were included in the new plan.

Upon motion by Mr. Gormley and seconded by Ms. Bertoldi, with all concurring, Resolution No. 17-31 was endorsed by CTAG with a request that it be adopted by the Policy Committee at the upcoming May meeting.

- b.) Approval of Resolution No. 17-29, Directing that a Public Comment Period and Public Hearing be Held Prior to the Adoption of the Fiscal Years 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Mr. Nick Quint

Due to time constraints from VDOT, Mr. Quint advised that Resolution No. 17-29 was adopted by the Policy Committee at the April meeting and is in tonight’s packet for informational purposes only.

Mr. Quint advised that included with the TIP this year will be a comprehensive map that shows all projects within the plan that has federal monies attached to them. Mr. Quint stated that some of the projects listed are completed and have remaining excess funding still allocated. Mr. Quint advised that some of the projects listed have federal dollars allocated; however, the project is not completed to date.

Ms. Bertoldi asked what happens with the money allocated for projects that now show a surplus. Mr. Quint stated that the money is re-allocated elsewhere. For RSTP/CMAQ projects, FAMPO will re-allocate; for state projects, VDOT would re-allocate; etc.

Ms. Bertoldi stated she thought the comprehensive map is a great tool and asked if this is a document that is available to the public. Ms. Donley stated the map has been posted on twitter and facebook. Mr. Quint relayed that the map is available under the FAMPO website to a link to public comments icon.

Both Ms. Bertoldi and Mr. Farley stated they felt the map would be more beneficial if all projects, whether federal, state, or local, were displayed on the map and a footnote could be added where the project costs will be allocated from.

Mr. Rump stated that he did not know if the other localities have a comprehensive project map in place or not but stated that Spotsylvania County does have one that lists the current and upcoming projects.

c.) Resolution No. 17-33, Directing that a Public Comment Period and Public Hearing be Held Prior to the Adoption of the FY2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello stated that FAMPO has been working with VDOT, DRPT, the Technical Committee and CTAG in the development of the UPWP budget and task descriptions. The UPWP will be submitted to the Policy Committee for their endorsement at the June 2017 meeting. Mr. Agnello relayed that Resolution No. 17-33 is directing a 30-day public comment period be held prior to the plan being adopted in June.

Upon motion by Mr. Farley and seconded by Mr. Gormley, with all concurring, Resolution No. 17-33 was endorsed by CTAG with a request that it be adopted by the FAMPO Policy Committee at the upcoming May meeting.

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

i. Summary of 2045 LRTP Advisory Committee Meeting of April 20, 2017

Mr. Agnello advised that the meeting summary from the LRTP Advisory Committee are included in tonight's agenda packet.

ii. NTP for Task Order for Technical Support for I-95 Phase 2 Study – April 18, 2017

Mr. Agnello advised that the Notice to Proceed Task Order is included in tonight's agenda packet.

iii. Final OIPI Study Presentation

Mr. Agnello stated that the State has completed a major study that utilized Street-Light data. Mr. Agnello stated that the study is designed to understand trip-making within a region. Mr. Agnello relayed that VDOT completed the first study in Northern Virginia for the purpose of compiling data of SOV person trips that could be converted to alternate transit modes. Mr. Agnello stated this study provides access to destinations through means by other than utilizing major highway and transit investments.

Mr. Agnello stated the study provides GPS data that gives precise location information. The study method scans gps data for short trips, circuitous trips and common origin-destination trips. Mr. Agnello stated the data will identify case studies and show unique issues and alternative opportunities and will evaluation potential costs and benefits.

Mr. Agnello advised that the study results to date have narrowed down eleven locations regionally as a starting point. Mr. Agnello stated the eleven locations are in the GWRC region and go as far east as Dahlgren; as far north as Garrisonville and as far south at Cosner's Corner.

Mr. Agnello stated the eleven initial case studies have been further studied and now the following top five are being advanced for further study. These locations include:

Downtown Fredericksburg
Central Park
Cosner's Corner
Garrisonville
Dahlgren

The CTAG members expressed pros and cons on the locations and made recommendations accordingly. Mr. Agnello stated these comments would be reviewed by both FAMPO staff and the consultant.

e.) VRE Gas Tax Floor – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello stated the VRE Gas Tax Floor issue is a big issue for this region as well as for the Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia areas. Mr. Agnello stated the VRE Gas Tax Floor goes back to legislation that was passed by the State in 2013.

Mr. Agnello stated that the gas tax revenues are much lower than what was anticipated and this has resulted in a 30% to 50% loss of revenues. Mr. Agnello stated that the localities still continue to receive revenues from the gas tax in place; however, as a tax floor was not implemented by the General Assembly, the lower the gas price per gallon drops the less revenues that will be received. Mr. Agnello stated that this need is a sustainable source for transportation funding state-wide, and the funding need has never been greater, so support from the localities, business partners, etc. are being pursued. Mr. Agnello stated that a similar letter to the one included in tonight's packet will be created and re-submitted again to the General Assembly with the hope that a gas tax floor will be implemented.

Mr. Agnello stated that just for the FAMPO region, (which includes the City of Fredericksburg and the Counties of Spotsylvania and Stafford), there has been an \$11 m revenue loss in the two-year period of FY2015-2017.

f.) Community Conversation: Our Transportation Crisis (June 1, 2017) – Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello advised that the Chamber of Commerce is hosting a seminar on Thursday, June 1st. The seminar will run from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The seminar topic is "Community Conversation – Our Transportation Crisis."

Mr. Agnello stated that the Chamber is working with elected officials and the CTB to create a regional taxing authority that will coincide with the one established in Northern Virginia. Mr. Agnello stated this is an important seminar and FAMPO has spots reserved for two CTAG members to attend. Ms. Bertoldi, Ms. McGarrity and Mr. Rump expressed interest at tonight's meeting. All were going to check schedules and let Mr. Agnello know by Monday, May 15th if they would be able to participate. Mr. Agnello stated that as only two free slots are available, that they would be assigned on a first-come-first serve basis.

Mr. Agnello advised that speakers for the forum will be himself, Mr. Hap Connors, CTB representative, and local elected officials representing the City of Fredericksburg and the Counties of: Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania and Stafford.

CORRESPONDENCE

Included in packet and self-explanatory

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Agnello stated that Marti Donley continues to improve from her foot surgery and now has her cast removed. Mr. Agnello stated that Ms. Donley is awaiting physical therapy and her release to be allowed to drive again and hopes to be back in the office by the June meetings.

MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Gormley did not have an actual report to present; however, did remind the CTAG members that Chair and Vice-Chair elections for the CTAG committee will occur as an agenda item for the upcoming June meeting.

Both Ms. Bertoldi and Ms. McGarrity advised that they would be participating in the upcoming VDOT meeting to be held at Colonial Forge High School on May 17th. This meeting is for discussion of the I-95 re-construction project at Exit 140 and the Route 630 Courthouse Road widening project. CTAG was asked to forward any questions, comments, concerns, etc. to either Ms. Bertoldi or Ms. McGarrity and they would be presented on CTAG's behalf.

ADJOURN

The May 10th meeting concluded at 8:05 p.m. The next CTAG meeting will be held on June 14, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes completed by Joanna Roberson