



**Citizens Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG) Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2016**

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Committee Members Present:

Mr. Todd Rump, Chair, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Art Snyder, Spotsylvania County (In at 6:45 p.m.)
Ms. Dawn McGarrity, Stafford County
Mr. David Swan, Stafford County
Ms. Annie Cupka, King George County
Mr. Rupert Farley, At-Large Member (Spotsylvania County)
Mr. Larry Gross, At-Large Member (Spotsylvania County)

Staff Present:

Mr. Daniel Reese, FAMPO
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

Call to Order

Mr. Rump called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Rump welcomed Ms. Annie Cupka as a new CTAG member representing King George County.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The CTAG agenda for the September 14th meeting was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF CTAG MEETING SUMMARY OF JULY 13, 2016

Upon request from Mr. Rump to make a minor amendment to the minutes, upon motion made by Mr. Swan and seconded by Mr. Gross, with both Ms. Cupka and Mr. Farley abstaining, the minutes from the July 13th meeting were approved.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 18, 2016

Mr. Reese advised that the minutes are included in tonight's agenda packet and are self-explanatory. Mr. Reese stated that there was a discussion item for the proposed High Speed Rail projects that are currently being studied that could potentially affect the FAMPO region. Mr. Reese stated that this

item was listed on the Policy Committee agenda as a discussion item only. However, a Resolution of Opposition to the eastern by-pass alternative, which is one of several alternatives still being studied, was made and supported by FAMPO at the July meeting even though it was not designated as an action item on the July agenda.

Mr. Farley stated that he has attended a lot of FAMPO meetings over the years and he has never seen an item presented and voted on at the same meeting. Mr. Farley stated that he felt time should have been given for study data to be finalized before a vote either for or against was made.

Mr. Rump stated that there were three members from the Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors present at the meeting that endorsed the motion. Mr. Rump stated that he felt this action set a precedent that any locality can now at any time present an item for discussion and then also place a motion on the floor during the same meeting. Mr. Rump agreed with Mr. Farley in that it is felt that the discussion item in question was handled inappropriately.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- a.) Resolution of No. 17-06, Amending the 2040 Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) and the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to include projects from Spotsylvania and King George Counties – Mr. Daniel Reese**

Mr. Reese advised that Resolution No. 17-06 is to amend the current 2040 CLRP and the LRTP which will include ten new LRTP projects in King George County and one in Spotsylvania County. Mr. Reese stated that the requests for the projects to be added were given to FAMPO staff from each respective jurisdiction. Mr. Reese advised that the thirty-day public comment period has been held and no comments were submitted back to staff during the thirty-days.

Mr. Gross asked if there was any chance that Caroline/King George counties would become a voting member of FAMPO. Mr. Reese advised probably not as both of these localities are classified as urbanized areas and are rated differently than the localities within the FAMPO region due to the population densities.

Mr. Reese relayed that the projects included in Resolution No. 17-06 are fiscally constrained projects that are included within each locality's comp plans.

Mr. Farley stated that he would not support Resolution No. 17-06 because all of the new projects requested to be added will encourage more sprawl to the region. Upon motion by Ms. McGarrity and seconded by Mr. Swan, with Mr. Farley in opposition and all others members in consent, Resolution No. 17-06 was endorsed by CTAG with a recommendation that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming September meeting.

b.) Resolution No. 17-07, Amending the FY2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Provide Adjustments to Various DRPT Grants Affecting the FAMPO Region – Mr. Daniel Reese

Mr. Reese advised that Resolution No. 17-07 is a request to amend FAMPO's FY2015-2018 TIP that will be providing adjustments to the various DRPT grants that affect the Rappahannock Area on Aging and FRED.

Mr. Reese relayed that there were only adjustments only made to the grant for FRED so adjustments do not require a TIP amendment. However, there were amendments made to the grant for the Rappahannock Area on Aging which includes funding for the New Freedom act which provides medical transportation to mostly the senior and elderly population within the region. The grant amendment would be utilized for fleet and operational replacements.

Mr. Farley stated that he felt having grants that provide funding to the specific agencies is a need for the citizens in the region; however, he thinks providing vehicles to be used "as needed" and then you have days where vehicles are just stored somewhere not being used is not a positive utilization of transportation funds that are allocated to the region. Mr. Gross stated that utilizing a UBER transportation system may become more cost effective and is an alternative that should be looked at further in future years.

Upon motion by Ms. McGarrity and seconded by Mr. Swan, with all in concurrence, Resolution No. 17-07 was endorsed with a request that the Policy Committee adopt at the upcoming September meeting.

c.) Resolution No. 17-09, authorizing staff to work with the Foursquare Integrated Transportation Planning Consulting Team to execute a Study of Bike Share Feasibility and Bicycle Infrastructure improvements – Mr. Daniel Reese

Mr. Reese advised that Resolution No. 17-09 is authorizing staff to have a consultant provide data on whether bike sharing is feasible for the City of Fredericksburg and the FAMPO region. Mr. Farley stated that he felt the description of the study as a "bike share" project indicates that the program will be a free program to the citizens in the region.

Mr. Reese relayed that the grant will be a \$50,000 grant that will be funded with CMAQ/RSTP funds. Ms. McGarrity asked if the University of Mary Washington was on board as a potential private

partner. Mr. Reese stated that as of now the University is not on board but discussions will be ongoing later in the study to include their voice. Mr. Reese stated that the City of Fredericksburg has been discussing this issue for the last four years in establishing a bicycle/pedestrian trail connectivity access and has now expressed its desire in having a study completed to determine if in fact it is now feasible. Mr. Rump asked if the study would also focus on “hot spot” connective areas within the counties of Spotsylvania and Stafford. Mr. Reese concurred that the study requested will be a very thorough study that will encompass the FAMPO region.

Upon motion by Ms. McGarrity and seconded by Mr. Gross, with all concurring, Resolution No. 17-09 was endorsed by CTAG with a request that it be adopted by the Policy Committee at the upcoming September meeting.

d.) High Speed Rail Effort Update – Mr. Daniel Reese

Mr. Reese advised that included in tonight’s agenda packet is Resolution No. 17-05 which is the Resolution that was discussed and adopted at the July FAMPO meeting stating opposition to the eastern by-pass alternative which is a component of the EIS study being conducted by DRPT. The study by DRPT is to evaluate potential rail improvements between Richmond and Washington that could support the Southeast High Speed Rail projects.

Mr. Rump asked if any feedback has been received by staff to date from the discussion/action that occurred at the July Policy Committee meeting. Ms. McGarrity stated that she was under the impression that all of the FAMPO localities are in opposition to the eastern by-pass alternative. Mr. Reese advised that both Fairfax and Hanover counties are in support of the by-pass alternative; however, locally and the town of Ashland have expressed initial opposition.

Ms. Donley advised that the High Speed Rail alternative will be discussed at the upcoming CTB fall meeting to be held in Fredericksburg at the Marriott on September 20th and 21st. Ms. Donley stated that the meeting on the 20th is scheduled as a workshop meeting and she is unsure at this time if this meeting is open to the public. However, at 8:30 a.m. on September 21st, there is a public comment time scheduled. Ms. Donley stated that the public comment period is not specific for High Speed Rail comments; however, public comments will be accepted during this time period on the CTB’s agenda towards this topic or to any others.

Mr. Farley stated that the reason for the EIS process is to study various alternatives and make a recommendation based on the data received what alternatives should/could be pursued further. Mr. Farley stated that he feels a fourth track around Fredericksburg could be beneficial and is awaiting the study data results to be completed so the project could be discussed and reviewed to see if this alternative is worthwhile to move forward.

Mr. Swan asked if there is any data to date that depicts the passenger and freight usage. Mr. Rump stated that the initial information relayed indicates that an increased passenger usage is not going to be a factor.

Mr. Farley stated that if freight is transferred to 301 Corridor then this would automatically provide more passenger capacity and he realizes this alternative would require a new bridge being built. Mr. Farley stated that everyone is speaking out in opposition; however, no one has provided “why” the option would not work.

Mr. Swan referred to the CTAG meeting in July where citizens came and spoke out in opposition to the eastern by-pass alternative. Mr. Swan asked if staff was aware whether the citizens who spoke in opposition have consolidated their efforts as sometimes more voices results in more action. Both Mr. Rump and Ms. Donley stated that the homeowners do have a web-site and face book media in place.

e.) Updates Regarding Smart Scale process and FAMPO/GWRC Applications – Mr. Daniel Reese

i. FAMPO/GWRC Regional Projects

Mr. Reese advised that the project listing for Regional FAMPO/GWRC Smart Scale project list is included in tonight’s agenda packet and the list is updated as of September 12th. The project list is the same that has been presented previously to CTAG.

Mr. Snyder stated that the signage provided by VDOT on the Express Lanes is never accurate. Mr. Snyder stated that as VDOT has stated that they do not use google maps, cell phones, etc. when it determines how effective the HOT Lanes are. Instead, VDOT utilizes their own software which provides unrealistic and inaccurate travel times and travel delays. Mr. Snyder asked when VDOT would be providing the updated data. Mr. Reese stated that FAMPO has not been given any recent updates from VDOT but he will follow-up to see if any revised data has been submitted.

ii. Resolution No. 17-10, Authorizing support for GWRC/FAMPO projects

Mr. Reese advised that Resolution No. 17-10 is authorizing support for the GWRC/FAMPO projects that are included in tonight’s packet and previously discussed at earlier meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Snyder and seconded by Mr. Swan, with all in concurrence, Resolution No. 17-10 was endorsed with a request that the Policy Committee adopt at the upcoming September meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Included in packet and self-explanatory

STAFF REPORT

None

MEMBER REPORT

None

ADJOURN

The September 14th meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m. The next CTAG meeting will be held on October 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes completed by Joanna Roberson