



**FAMPO Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2015**

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Members Present:

Joey Hess, Chair, County of Stafford (In at 9:10 a.m.)
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg
Brad Johnson, County of Stafford
Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Craig Van Dussen, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Chris Arabia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
Rodney White, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Cynthia Porter-Johnson, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Others Present:

Dan Grinnell, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Allison Richter, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Rupert Farley, Citizen

Staff Members Present:

Andy Waple, FAMPO
Daniel Reese, FAMPO
Lloyd Robinson, FAMPO
JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL TO ORDER

The FAMPO Technical Committee meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

The Technical Committee agenda for January 12, 2015 was approved as submitted with the following amendment requested by Mr. Waple. Action Item – 6B – regarding Resolution No. 15-02, reprogramming surplus Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) from Brooke and Leeland Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Parking Expansion Projects was moved to Discussion Item 7D.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2014

The Technical Committee minutes from the November 10, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted with an amendment requested to be made and a question to be re-clarified. Mr. Van Dussen stated that in regard to the 2014 Federal Certification Review meeting that was held in Washington, DC on the 28th and 29th of October, that VDOT staff was also in attendance at that meeting.

Regarding SIR Telephone Research Survey, Mr. Van Dussen stated that he thought the Technical Committee had not endorsed this item to move forward. Mr. Waple advised that it was discussed at the

Technical Committee meeting and there were some member comments noted within the minutes; however, it was endorsed to move forward to the Policy Committee for action. Mr. Waple stated that the Policy Committee voted to not proceed at this time with the telephone survey and the item would be re-addressed in a year.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2014

Mr. Waple advised that the minutes are included in today's packet. Mr. Waple relayed that Mr. Farley spoke during the public comment period, personally as a citizen & not representing TAG, in regard to HB2 factor prioritization document and that his comments are included within today's agenda packet information.

Mr. Waple advised that the following Resolution was unanimously adopted: Resolution No. 14-28, amending the FY15-18 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add Funding for the Preliminary Engineering Phase of the Chatham Bridge Replacement Project UPC #105535.

In regard to HB2 relative weighting factors for the FAMPO region, Mr. Waple advised that the Policy Committee asked staff to address the following topics and to revise the previous document. Mr. Waple relayed that the changes requested have been made by staff and are included in today's agenda packet.

Mr. Waple stated that the Policy Committee requested the following amendments:

- Economic Development classification – change from a medium ranking to low
- Re-clarification of terms & language for the Economic Development classification
- Address the re-location of businesses to the region that offers reverse commute options
- Land Use Transportation classification – change from a low ranking to medium
- Highlight I-95 transit and to expand and re-define the east/west corridors
- To Broaden Accessibility
- To Broaden the Economic Development category
- To re-define the Smart Growth concept

Mr. Waple relayed that the following discussion items were addressed: 95 Express Lanes; SIR Telephone Research Survey; and 2014 Federal Certification Review update.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Farley relayed that he was speaking personally and not representing the FAMPO Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) but he would like it noted in regard to HB2, that the congestion pricing concern is again being overlooked and has been for a number of years. Mr. Farley stated that congestion pricing is not making the cut into the plan and this is the only way for the region to overcome its transportation issues. Mr. Farley asked that the Technical Committee consider enforcing this proponent to the Policy Committee with a request that it in fact be included for discussion, review, and comments.

ACTION ITEMS

a.) Resolution No. 15-01, Authorizing a Call for Applications for Unallocated FY2015-2016 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) TMA Funds – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that Resolution No. 15-01 is Authorizing a Call for Applications for Unallocated FY2015-2016 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects for TMA funding. Mr. Waple advised that northern Stafford County is the only locality that receives a portion of this funding and they had one project that was eligible.

There was unanimous consensus from the Technical Committee to forward Resolution No. 15-01 to the Policy Committee for their endorsement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a.) HB2 Update – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that correspondence from FAMPO Chair, Mr. Milde, to Mr. Donohue; reply from Mr. Donohue to FAMPO; and copy of the HB2 presentation that was viewed at the January 8, 2015 Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) meeting are included in today's agenda packet. Mr. Waple relayed that in several months, after there is more information that has come forth, Mr. Donohue will be asked to come back to the FAMPO Policy Committee to provide updates, status, etc. of the progress of HB2.

b.) FY2016-2021 Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ/Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funding Allocations – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that 2016 CMAQ/RSTP projects are due from each locality by close of business today. Mr. Waple stated that he has received information from the City that they have none to submit for this year. Mr. Waple did advise that staff needs to receive the project description re-scoping sheet from the city's VRE trail project. Mr. Waple relayed that Stafford County has submitted a project request for VRE project expansions to the VRE lots located in Stafford.

Mr. Waple relayed that staff has worked with VDOT staff and it is VDOT's request that no new projects be added this year; that evaluation occur on the existing projects to ensure the project is still sustainable and still a priority; and to review unfunded project expenses to see if other funding options are available and/or whether original project cost is still realistic.

c.) Germanna-Wilderness Area Plan (GWAP) Potential Impacts to Route 3 – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that the Orange County Board of Supervisors will be voting on a small area plan that has been developed that would encompass the borders west of the Spotsylvania County boundary line. Mr. Waple stated that currently the plan is a high-level plan that has no zoning in place; no numbers attached to it; no population projections; etc. so right now it is not anything that FAMPO staff can actually do with the plan. However, Mr. Waple stated that staff has met with VDOT staff and planning directors in both the Counties of Culpeper and Orange; as well as with VDOT staff here even though at this time the plan is preliminary in nature.

Mr. Van Dussen advised that currently VDOT also has two pilot studies being undertaken – one is the Route 3 corridor overview from Andora Drive in Spotsylvania County to the Orange County line and the other is occurring at the Short Pump area towards Richmond. Mr. Van Dussen advised that VDOT’s focus of study is not necessarily what is happening on the respective corridors; however, instead what is occurring on both ends of the corridors.

Mr. Waple advised that staff will be at a joint meeting next Wednesday with local VDOT staff, VDOT staff from the Culpeper district, as well as locality staff from both the Culpeper & Orange planning departments to see what progress has been made to the initial plan. Mr. Waple relayed that the Technical Committee would be kept apprised as more information is received.

d.) Resolution No. 15-02, Reprogramming Surplus CMAQ from the Brooke & Leeland VRE Parking Expansion Projects – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that Resolution No. 15-02 is a request to re-allocate \$21,500 of funded surplus monies remaining from the Brooke Road & Leeland VRE station expansions. Mr. Waple stated that FAMPO’s CMAQ funds have already been flexed and need to be re-allocated. Mr. Waple relayed that the recommendations for utilization of the surplus funds is to have them re-assigned to FRED. Mr. White stated that FRED would then use the funding for the construction of 1 shelter with benches and the addition of 3 benches at other VRE stops within the region. Mr. Waple advised that he would be presenting this to the Policy Committee members at their upcoming January meeting with a request that it be adopted at the February meeting.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Reese advised that he should soon be receiving the updated development plan modeling data for the 2040 plan from the County of Spotsylvania. Once this documentation has been obtained, the model revisions will be incorporated and a preliminary report should be available for review by the FAMPO committees by later this month or the first of February.

MEMBER REPORTS

City of Fredericksburg:

Mr. Nelson advised that the City is finishing up its work on the Comprehensive Plan review and revisions and there are no surprises forth coming.

GWRC:

Ms. Utz stated that GWRC just completed a series of new target marketing areas and that this approach brought in a lot of the younger commuting class. Ms. Utz stated that this was the first time this region has tested target marketing and the overall data and numbers were quite high. Ms. Utz also advised that for the first time we have initiated a face book marketing approach and for the first six months we have received over 4,000 contacts. Ms. Utz stated that some of the social medias that proved successful will be continued even though the initial test funding & grants have expired that were available from DRPT, PRTC, etc.

County of Stafford:

Mr. Johnson advised that the county will be participating in a retail planning focus meeting that is a meeting coordinated with planning department personnel, economic development staff, etc. to discuss potential new retail opportunities for the county.

DRPT:

Mr. Arabia advised that the High Speed Rail Richmond to Washington public meetings have been held and DRPT received over 2,000 citizen comments. Mr. Arabia relayed that the web site for this project is now up and running & the address is: dc2rvarail.com. Mr. Arabia stated that the project is moving forward and currently the property owners who will be affected in Richmond have received letters advising them upcoming field work will begin to be underway.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Waple advised that correspondence is included in today's agenda packet and is self-explanatory.

NEXT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, FEBRUARY 9th, 2015/ADJOURN

The next Technical Committee meeting will be held on Monday, February 9, 2015 at 9:00. The Technical Committee meeting for January 12, 2015 was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.