



**FAMPO Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2015**

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Members Present:

Joey Hess, Chair, County of Stafford
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg
Angeline Crowder, County of Caroline
Dan Cole, County of Spotsylvania
Doug Morgan, County of Spotsylvania
Brad Johnson, County of Stafford
Chris Arabia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) (in at 9:15)
Wendy Kimball, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Cynthia Porter Johnson, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Craig Van Dussen, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Others Present:

Kasey Nabal, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce (FRCC)
Bill Freehling, City of Fredericksburg
Cory Roberts, Fredericksburg Regional Alliance (FRA)
Tim Barody, Stafford County
Ed Keasler, Stafford County
Mike Zuraf, Stafford County
Dan Grinnell, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Chris Chap, Michael Baker Associates
Scudder Wagg, Baker Associates
Kelli Nash, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI)

Staff Members Present:

Lloyd Robinson, FAMPO
Marti Donley, FAMPO
Daniel Reese, FAMPO
JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

CALL TO ORDER

The FAMPO Technical Committee meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

The FAMPO Technical Committee agenda for May 4, 2015 was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2015

The FAMPO Technical Committee minutes from the April 13, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2015

Mr. Robinson advised that the minutes are included in today's packet. Mr. Robinson relayed that Resolution No. 15-08 (public comment period for adoption of FY2016 UPWP) and Resolution No. 15-09 (allocation of FY2016-2021 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program/Regional Surface Transportation Program funding) were both unanimously adopted.

Mr. Robinson relayed that discussion occurred on the following items: HB2 update and Transportation Problems Workshop. Mr. Robinson advised that the Transportation Workshop forum has been scheduled for Monday, May 11th beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the VDOT District Auditorium. Mr. Robinson stated that there was considerable discussion in regard to the HB2 update, and these comments are included in today's agenda packet information.

Mr. Robinson advised that as a result of the HB2 concerns that two additional Resolutions were endorsed with a majority vote from the Policy Committee. Resolution No. 15-10, was requesting that the State re-classify the FAMPO region into Category A from Category B in regard to the weighting framework for the project ratings. With abstentions from Mr. Harf & Ms. Parker and everyone else in consensus, Resolution No. 15-10 was adopted.

Mr. Robinson relayed that Resolution No. 15-11, was asking that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) re-consider the forty-five minutes as a standard commute time when evaluating HB2 projects in the Congestion Mitigation category. Mr. Robinson stated that the Policy Committee and the Secretary of Transportation's office had different interpretations on what the commute time meant. Mr. Robinson stated that Mr. Harf requested that the State test several different commute times, other than just a flat forty-five minutes in order to demonstrate the effects of the alternatives on the different project ratings state-wide.

Mr. Robinson stated that Resolution No. 15-11 was to be amended accordingly and was adopted with a majority vote; Ms. Sellers voted no and Ms. Parker abstained.

Mr. Robinson also relayed that two other items of concern for the region arose from the presentation from Mr. Donohue. These concerns are for the counties of Spotsylvania and Stafford. The concern involved the reduction in funding the localities have previously been receiving from the Revenue Sharing allocations. The second concern involved how an actual project cost will be assessed. Mr. Robinson stated that some of the larger regions who have

taxing authorities in place feel that if a project will cost \$100,000 and a locality has \$50,000 allocated to the project then the total weighting on the project cost should be based on the total \$100,000. However, Mr. Robinson stated that for less populated and more rural areas across the State that this cost assessment would hurt these areas because they would not be in a position to have local funds allocated to a project and would ultimately receive less funding because the total cost of a project's rating would be going to larger areas.

Mr. Robinson advised that the Policy Committee asked that staff compile a letter to accompany the two new Resolutions (No. 15-10 and 15-11) and that the letter also reference the two bulleted items mentioned above. Mr. Robinson was going to forward the letter to the Policy Committee members for their endorsement; forward the finalized copy of the letter to Mr. Milde for his signature; and then forward the letter to both the CTB and the Secretary of Transportation Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEM

- a.) Resolution No. 15-12, Adopting the Fiscal year 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Lloyd Robinson**

There was unanimous consensus from the FAMPO Technical Committee to forward Resolution No. 15-12 to the Policy Committee for adoption at the upcoming May meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a.) VTrans Multimodal Transportation Plan (VMTP) Regional Network Needs Analysis – Scudder Wagg, Baker Associates & Kelli Nash, OIPI**

Mr. Wagg with Baker advised that they, in conjunction with the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, are conducting a comprehensive review of the state's transportation needs. Mr. Wagg stated that the statewide transportation plan being set forth is an assessment of capacity needs on corridors that will have statewide significance. Mr. Wagg stated that this will include all regional networks and improvements that will promote the urban development areas and the assessment will include data for all modes of transportation.

Mr. Wagg stated that the VTrans 2040 will be developed in three steps: the Vision and Framework which will be trend analysis data; the Multimodal Transportation Plan which will review the needs assessment; and the HB2 Prioritization Process which will include project screening, evaluation, and weighting.

Mr. Wagg stated that a statewide multimodal transportation system will be good for business and good for the communities. The VTrans 2040 goals and objectives are to include the initial data

input, incorporate stakeholder input and to ultimately receive Secretary of Transportation and CTB input.

Mr. Wagg advised that the economic development models are changing. This new model has four steps: create a great place; people will then come; jobs will follow; and the community will thrive. Data has shown that successful places incorporate four key qualities: accessibility; people become engaged in local activities; living and working space becomes comfortable and presents a good image; and lastly the community becomes a sociable place.

Mr. Wagg stated that the trends are changing and a recent survey reveals that 80% of Americans prefer being in a community that offers sidewalks, walkable accesses and a mixed-use community of both residential and commercial attractions. Mr. Wagg relayed that the millennials desire to live in urban rather than suburban environments and they no longer rely on a car as their only means of transportation to and from. The recent survey reflects that 82% of respondents would rather commute to work by foot, bicycle, or use of public transportation instead of driving a personal vehicle.

Mr. Wagg also stated that the new economy focuses on key strategies that attract talent and not companies. The talented knowledge workforce creates jobs in two ways: employers follow where the talent is and talented entrepreneurs will ultimately create new businesses. Many companies have been successful in shunning isolated corporate campuses in lieu of moving to dense urban spaces to enhance talented workers and new and innovative ideas.

Mr. Wagg stated that in planning for tomorrow, instead of focusing on making a region appealing to companies you need to know focus on appealing to the population. A key factor in what makes one place more desirable than another is the transportation infrastructure that is available and the ease of getting from one locality to the next.

Mr. Wagg advised that the VTrans VMTP planning process will study and review data on the following issues: the current economic conditions versus the desire future economic conditions in conjunction with the current transportation situation versus what type of transportation system is needed to support the desired future economic conditions.

Mr. Wagg stated that the VMTP planning process will review state-wide the current state of good repair; safety concerns; and the capacity and operational system currently in place. In working on the capacity and operational needs areas, VTrans staff will be working closely with the UDA's, the CoSS, and the regional networks.

Mr. Wagg stated that VTrans has a very aggressive schedule and intend to have the last workshops held in late August or early September. Mr. Wagg advised that two regional forums that will include both the FAMPO region and the Northern Virginia region will be held for both localities on May 27th in Fairfax. The second meeting will be held in late July and this meeting will also include a public hearing to be held in the evening after the conclusion of the earlier meeting. Mr. Wagg stated that two additional MPO workshops will be scheduled with this region as well as to the other state-wide regional MPO's and planning districts. Mr. Robinson suggested

that the PRTC corporate office headquarters at Exit 152 at Potomac Mills would be a much closer geographic meeting site for both this region & Northern Virginia. Mr. Wagg stated that his staff would pursue this option.

Ms. Nash with OIPI advised that if UDA's are not included within a region's local comprehensive plans that they will not be included and/or considered for project consideration and funding allocations. Mr. Robinson stated that he thought what Mr. Donohue had stated at the last meeting was opposite of this statement. Ms. Nash advised that information has been sent out to agencies regarding this change and she will forward it accordingly to the FAMPO staff so that it can be distributed to the local representatives.

b.) FAMPO Self Certification Process – Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Robinson advised that the 2014 FAMPO Self Certification document is included in today's agenda packet. Technical Committee members were asked to review the document and if any changes or revisions are needed to forward these back to staff. Mr. Robinson relayed that the Self Certification Process will be forwarded to the FAMPO Policy Committee for approval at the June 2015 meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Robinson advised that the sub-committee of the FAMPO Policy Committee will be interviewing three applicants; two of which are from Arizona and one from Richmond, who are being considered to fill the position as the FAMPO Administrator.

In regard to the Regional Transportation Planner's position, twenty-three applications were received and six will be interviewed internally by staff. Mr. Robinson advised that these interviews begin today & will commence on Wednesday.

Mr. Robinson advised that six bid proposals were received for selection of FAMPO's on-call consultant(s). Mr. Robinson stated that the packets have been delivered to all of the members serving on the sub-committee and the first meeting will be held here on Tuesday, May 12th at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Robinson advised that after review and evaluation from the Technical sub-committee that recommendations will be forwarded to the Policy Committee for their endorsement at the upcoming July meeting.

MEMBER REPORTS

City of Fredericksburg: Mr. Nelson advised that the necessary equipment needed for the City's VCR trail is now in and the project should be completed in either May/June.

County of Spotsylvania: Mr. Cole advised that the VRE project in Spotsylvania is still underway. Mr. Cole also relayed that next Thursday a presentation will be given to the Planning Department from Kimley-Horn regarding the RMR interchange at Exit 126.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT): Mr. Arabia advised that the draft improvement program is now on the website for review. Mr. Arabia stated a presentation and update will be given to both GWRC and the Policy Committee on the status of the higher speed rail project from Richmond to DC at the upcoming May meeting. Mr. Arabia also relayed that the 5303 grant applications are already included within the SYIP.

Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC): Ms. Porter Johnson advised that effective May 15th that Mr. Eric Marx will become the interim director for PRTC and that Mr. Harf's last day will be July 6th.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT): Mr. Van Dussen advised that VDOT's SYIP meeting was held last Thursday and public participation was minimal. Mr. Van Dussen stated that three citizens spoke during the meeting.

NEXT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, JUNE 8th, 2015/ADJOURN

The next FAMPO Technical Committee meeting will be held on Monday, June 8th at 9:00. The FAMPO Technical Committee meeting for May 4th was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.