



**FAMPO Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2014**

<http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/technicalcommittee.html>

Members Present:

Dan Cole, County of Spotsylvania
Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg
Doug Morgan, County of Spotsylvania
Brad Johnson, County of Stafford
Craig Van Dussen, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Dan Grinnell, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Allison Richter, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Craig Reed, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Chris Arabia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Others Present:

Jason Robinson, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Curry Roberts, Fredericksburg Regional Alliance (FRA)
Emily Stock, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Staff Members Present:

Andy Waple, FAMPO
Marti Donley, FAMPO
Daniel Reese, FAMPO
Lloyd Robinson, 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 Technical Committee agenda for October 6, 2014 was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

The Technical Committee minutes from the September 8th meeting were approved as submitted.

REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

Mr. Waple advised that the minutes are included in today's packet. Mr. Waple relayed that the following Resolutions were adopted:

Resolution No. 14-23, Requesting that the Governor restore full funding to the I-95/Route 630 Interchange Project (UPC # 13558) in Stafford County was approved with all in consensus except for Ms. Parker who abstained. Mr. Waple stated that there was discussion by the members regarding this Resolution and these are contained within the minutes included in today's agenda packet.

Resolution No. 14-24, Amending the Fiscal Year 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include funding for Project UPC #105832 for the installation of a traffic signal at US1/Massaponax Church Road (Rt. 608) was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

- a.) **Resolution No. 14-25, is requesting appointment of Andy Waple and Tim Ware as staff member and alternate respectively to serve on the Virginia Association of MPOS (VAMPO) Board – Andy Waple**

There was unanimous consensus from the Technical Committee to forward Resolution No. 14-25 to the Policy Committee for their endorsement.

- b.) **Resolution No. 14-26, Amending the FY12-15 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Authorize an Amendment to the Scope of Work for the Route 1 Signal Optimization Project (UPC #100451) in the City of Fredericksburg and also to Switch the Allocation Years of Funds Between the US-1 Signal Project and the Route 610/Onville Road Intersection Project – Andy Waple**

Mr. Waple stated that Resolution No. 14-26 is a request from both the City of Fredericksburg and VDOT to amend the current scope of work for the Route 1 Signal Optimization project and to switch the allocation years of funding between the Route 1 Signal Optimization project and the Route 610/Onville Road Intersection project.

Mr. Robinson with VDOT advised that all projects were reviewed and the Route 1 signal optimization project is the only one that would qualify with the request mentioned above in Resolution No. 14-26 and the overall funding and schedule for the Onville Rd. project would not be affected.

There was unanimous consensus from the Technical Committee to move forward Resolution No. 14-26 to the Policy Committee for their endorsement.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a.) DRPT Southeast High Speed Rail Richmond to Washington DC Corridor Tier II EIS Update

– Andy Waple & Emily Stock, DRPT Manager of Rail Planning

Ms. Emily Stock, DRPT Manager of Rail Planning gave an update on the TIER II EIS project that will develop high speed rail between Richmond and Washington. Ms. Stock stated that a TIER I EIS and a Record of Decision were completed in 2002 for the entire corridor from Washington, DC to Charlotte, NC that also included the area between Washington and Richmond.

Ms. Stock stated that the preferred alternatives from the TIER I EIS called for rail improvements that will generate higher speeds and minimization of impacts by using the existing rail infrastructures and railroad right-of-ways. Ms. Stock relayed that the TIER II EIS is on a fast track scheduled and DRPT hopes to accomplish this within three years.

Ms. Stock advised that construction of a third track for the entire corridor is planned and \$55 million dollars is already allocated to the project. Ms. Stock stated that the preliminary engineering phase is at 30% complete.

Mr. Johnson asked if this new project would include additional stops within the Fredericksburg region. Ms. Stock stated that final proposals are not available to date; however, an additional stop in Fredericksburg has been rated as a high component. Mr. Robinson asked how this project ties in to the recently awarded Tiger Grant. Ms. Stock stated that it is closely associated as the Tiger Grant award occurs at the far end of the region.

Ms. Stock stated that a website and surveys are going out later this week and that public scoping meetings are scheduled across the region. The meeting for the Fredericksburg region will be held on November 12th from 5-7:30 p.m. at the National Museum at Quantico. Ms. Stock encouraged anyone who was interested to attend a scoping meeting. Ms. Stock also stated that she would be back to present updates as they occur to the Technical Committee

b.) House Bill (HB) 2 Update – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that he was going to provide a brief update on the current HB2 status. Mr. Waple stated that the Draft 6-Year Plan will be voted on by the CTB at their upcoming November 12th meeting. Mr. Waple relayed that the Fredericksburg District experienced a 24% funding reduction. Mr. Waple also relayed that the VDOT public hearing was held last Thursday and there were both minimal attendance and participation. Mr. Waple stated that Mr. Donohue will be coming back before FAMPO in several months to update the Policy Committee on the current status of HB2 and will be seeking input on the weighting system for the FAMPO Region.

Mr. Waple advised that the Route 630 project in Stafford County is undergoing a re-scoping and consideration is being given to an updated ramp design and other cost saving aspects of the project. The Route 630 project is fully funded but will still go into the HB2 project prioritization process and review. Mr. Waple stated that he will be attending the upcoming infrastructure meeting conducted by VDOT.

c.) Southeastern Institute of Research (SIR) Telephone Research Survey Andy Waple & Lloyd Robinson

Mr. Waple stated that staff is working with SIR consultants to develop a telephone phone survey to be used as a follow-up to a similar telephone survey completed in 2009 and an on-line survey conducted in 2010. This new study will update findings from both of the earlier studies. Mr. Waple stated that this will be presented to the Policy Committee for their review at the upcoming October meeting. An endorsement of the scope of work will be voted on at the November Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Waple stated that the goals and objectives of the telephone survey will be the following:

- To assess the residents awareness & perceptions of FAMPO

- To understand residents opinions of the region's transportation issues

- To determine where transportation projects & funding rank as priorities to residents

- To determine the residents' support of having to pay more taxes, etc. in order to get more transportation projects completed

- To determine resident awareness, interest, or support for projects planned along the I95 corridor - specifically for the Rappahannock Parkway, the Berea Parkway, the Rappahannock River Crossing & Jackson Gateway

- To assess resident feedback on the I-95 Express Lanes & HOT lanes

Mr. Waple stated that 900 personal telephone surveys will be randomly conducted; with 200 going to Fredericksburg residents & 350 each going out to both the counties of Spotsylvania & Stafford. Mr. Waple stated that these would be actual person to person surveys and if there are hang-ups, etc. that these would not be included in the 900 total surveys received. Mr. Waple stated that the survey is anticipated to last approximately 12 minutes and will approach 75% landlines & 25% cell lines. Mr. Waple advised that if the Policy Committee endorses, the project will begin immediately and will be completed within 14 weeks and will not exceed \$38,135 in consultant fees.

d.) 2014 Federal Certification Review – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that as the North Stafford County UZA is part of the Washington, DC, MD, VA UZA and falls under the jurisdiction of the Transportation Planning Board (TPB). FAMPO has an agreement with the TPB to conduct all metropolitan planning activities for the North Stafford UZA and therefore, FAMPO is included in the TPB's federal certification review process. Mr. Waple stated that staff will be attending the upcoming certification review meeting that will be held on the 28th & 29th of October. The federal certification review will examine and review all of the TPB and FAMPO's federally required elements of each respective metropolitan planning program.

e.) FY2016 Transportation Alternative Projects – Andy Waple

Mr. Waple advised that transportation alternative project applications are due by November 1st. Mr. Waple relayed that these applications need FAMPO endorsement so he asked that these be forwarded to staff by the

end of this week. Mr. Waple stated that staff does not rank the applications but simply endorses that the projects meet the application criteria and that the application process is appropriately completed.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Waple advised that he & Ms. Donley attended VDOT's 6-year public transportation meeting last week and there were both minimal attendance and minimal public comments made at this meeting.

Mr. Waple stated that he will be participating in a town hall meeting at Lee's Park with Mr. Doug Barnes from Spotsylvania County to discuss regional transportation issues. Mr. Waple stated that the Certification Review meeting will be held from October 28th – 29th and the CTB meeting will be held in Roanoke on November 12th.

MEMBER REPORTS

City of Fredericksburg - Mr. Nelson advised that the Fall Hill Avenue bridge project is going to be opening the end of this month and it is opening a month ahead of schedule. Mr. Nelson stated that this is an overall good project and is going to be an asset once completed.

Fredericksburg Regional Transit - Mr. Reed stated that FRED is implementing a real-time transportation system data base. Mr. Reed relayed that data has been developed and reviewed and should be up and fully operational by 2015.

County of Spotsylvania - Mr. Cole advised that in regard to the upcoming bond referendums the Board of Supervisors is proposing that town hall type meetings are being held throughout the county and will be held within each district over the next several weeks. The first meeting is scheduled for November 8th at the Todds Tavern Community Center.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation - Mr. Arabia advised that the application grant process opens up in December and web seminars, informational meetings, etc. will be scheduled over the next several months for anyone interested in participating in these prior to a grant proposal being submitted.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

NEXT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, NOVEMBER 10th, 2014/ADJOURN

The next Technical Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 10th at 9:00. The Technical Committee meeting for October 6th was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.