



**Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting Minutes  
October 9, 2014**

<http://www.fampo.gvregion.org/transportation-advisory-group/>

**Committee Members Present:**

Vanessa Griffin, Chair, Stafford County  
Bill Milligan, Spotsylvania County  
Michele Trampe, Spotsylvania County (in at 6:25 p.m.)  
Allen Ludwig, City of Fredericksburg

**Others Present:**

None

**Staff Present:**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Transportation Advisory Group agenda for the October 9, 2014 meeting was approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF TAG MEETING SUMMARY OF JULY 16, 2014**

The minutes were unanimously accepted as presented.

**REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF JULY 21, 2014 AND  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2014**

Mr. Reese advised that both of the minutes from the July 21, 2014 and September 15, 2014 FAMPO Policy Committee meetings are included in tonight's agenda packet. The recap is as follows:

**July 22, 2014 Meeting:**

Mr. Reese advised that the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Policy Committee at the July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting:



**Resolution No. 14-19 – Amending the FY2012-15 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Update the FY2015 Federal Funding**

**Resolution No. 14-20 – Amending the FY2012-15 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Close Out & Transfer Funds From Completed Projects & to Transfer Funding to be Awarded to the Construction of the Onville Road Project (UPC #93225)**

**Resolution No. 14-21 – Endorsement of the Rodney Thompson Middle School Sidewalk Project for FY2015 Transportation Alternative Funds**

Mr. Reese advised that **Resolution No. 14-22, Acknowledging the Service Recognition of Mr. Matthew Kelly for his service as the FAMPO Chairman** was Adopted, with Mr. Kelly abstaining, and the remainder of the committee being in consensus.

Mr. Reese relayed that the following Discussion Items were held in regard to the following topics: House Bill 2, VTrans 2040, & MAP 21 Metropolitan Planning Rule changes. Mr. Reese stated that documentation of these items is included for member review within tonight's agenda packet materials.

**September 15, 2014 Meeting:**

Mr. Reese advised that **Resolution No. 14-23, Requesting that the Governor Restore Full Funding for the I-95/Route 630 Interchange Project (UPC #13558) in Stafford County** was adopted with a majority vote, with Ms. Parker abstaining and all others in consensus. Mr. Reese relayed that there was member discussion on this item prior to the vote being taken and the conversation that was generated is included with the minutes that are a part of tonight's agenda packet.

Mr. Reese relayed that **Resolution No. 14-24, Amending the FY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Include Funding for Project UPC # 105832 for Installation of a Traffic Signal at US1/Massaponax Church Road** was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Reese relayed that the following Discussion Items were held in regard to the following topics: VRE System Plan (Mr. Tom Hickey, VRE) & House Bill 2 update.

It was requested by Ms. Griffin and unanimously endorsed by the members in attendance that staff request that Mr. Hickey with VRE come to an upcoming TAG meeting to provide the same information and presentation to them that was given to both the Policy & Technical Committees. Ms. Griffin stated that the VRE system and its 2040 plans would have an impact on everyone, whether you utilize the trains or not, and having the VRE representative at a meeting would allow for questions and answers to be asked accordingly. Mr. Reese advised that he would forward this request to FAMPO staff.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS (if any)**

None

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **a.) Resolution No. 14-25, Appointing Staff as a Member and Alternate to the Virginia Association of MPOS (VAMPO) Board – Daniel Reese**

Mr. Reese advised that previously Mr. Robinson was the appointed staff member to serve on the VAMPO Board and Mr. Waple was the alternate. Resolution No. 14-25 is asking that Mr. Waple be appointed as the staff member and Mr. Tim Ware to serve as the alternate.

Upon motion by Mr. Ludwig & seconded by Mr. Milligan with all in consensus, Resolution No. 14-25 was endorsed by TAG with a request that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming October meeting.

### **b.) Resolution No. 14-26, Amending the FY15-18 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 Funding Between the US-1 Signal Project and the Route 610/Onville Road Intersection Project – Daniel Reese**

Mr. Reese advised that Resolution No. 14-26 is a request from VDOT whereby they are just swapping funding years out on two projects. Mr. Reese relayed that both projects are CMAQ projects and if the funding allocated is not used accordingly it will lapse. The reason for the request to transfer the funding is that the signal optimization project in the City is ready to move forward; however, the Onville Road project in Stafford County is not.

Upon motion by Mr. Milligan and seconded by Mr. Ludwig, with all in consensus, Resolution No. 14-26 was endorsed by TAG with a request that the Policy Committee adopt it at the upcoming October meeting.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **a.) House Bill (HB) 2 Update – Daniel Reese**

Mr. Reese advised that the draft FY15-20 SYIP was released for public comment in September and that the public comment period is open until October 31st. The draft reflects the revised revenue estimates and also shows the projects that will become defunded and subject to the prioritization process. Mr. Reese stated that the CTB is scheduled to vote on the revised draft at the meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Reese stated that there are five interstate projects within the FAMPO region that are now affected by the HB2 prioritization project process. Mr. Reese stated that the five projects affected are included in the handout within tonight's agenda packet. Mr. Reese stated that the handout also shows the previous FY15-20 SYIP allocations as well as the newly revised SYIP reduced allocations. Mr. Reese advised that

the Fredericksburg region experienced the greatest percentage of decreased funding for any other region within the State.

TAG asked if there were any reasons given as to why Fredericksburg was the hardest hit financially. Ms. Donley stated that she & Mr. Waple attended the state-wide regional meeting and Secretary Layne stated that funding state-wide was reduced as a result of the lower gas prices.

Both Mr. Ludwig and Ms. Trampe stated that this significant decrease looks politically based. Mr. Ludwig stated that this region was losing 24% of its allocated funding and the next closest region was Bristol who was losing 13%. Mr. Ludwig stated that the amount of funding being re-allocated and the discrepancies for need across the State varies.

There was a motion made by Mr. Ludwig and seconded by Ms. Trampe with all concurring, that it go on record that TAG officially was requesting reasoning, methodology, documents, etc. from the State to explain and justify how the percentages were generated; what the weighing factors involved were; etc. Ms. Donley advised that there will be meetings held around the state and that there is an on-line option for citizens to comment up until October 31<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Donley stated that she would forward this information to each of the members so they could have the web address for on-line comments and questions.

**b.) Southeastern Institute of Research (SIR) Telephone Research Survey– Daniel Reese**

Mr. Reese relayed that there is a handout included in tonight's agenda packet that refers to telephone surveys that were conducted in 2009 and an on-line survey that was conducted in 2010.

Mr. Reese stated that a telephone survey was going to be conducted again to determine the public's perceptions on the following: FAMPO awareness; regional & important transportation needs; understanding of the transportation services and how projects are funded; determine from residents if they are willing to pay higher taxes, etc. in order to have a better regional transportation system; gather feedback on the following projects: Rappahannock Parkway, Berea Parkway, Jackson Gateway, & the Rappahannock River Crossing project; to gauge comments on the I-95 Express Lanes & HOT lane projects; etc.

Mr. Reese stated that 900 actual telephone surveys will be conducted with 200 calls being made to residents of the City of Fredericksburg and 350 each made to the counties of Spotsylvania & Stafford. Mr. Reese stated that hang-up calls, answering machine calls, etc. will not be included in the 900 total. Mr. Reese relayed that the surveys will take approximately 12 minutes for each caller to complete. Mr. Reese relayed that the surveys will be random calls and target 75% of landlines & 25% of cell lines.

Mr. Reese relayed that this will be presented to the Policy Committee at the upcoming October meeting for their review and will be adopted at the November meeting. Mr. Reese stated that once approval has been received, the survey will begin immediately and will take approximately 14 weeks to complete. Mr. Reese stated that the survey expenses will not exceed \$38,135.

**c.) 2014 Federal Certification Review – Daniel Reese & Marti Donley**

Mr. Reese advised that as the northern most portion of Stafford County is part of the Northern Virginia TPD that every four years it needs to be in compliance of the Federal Certification Review.

Mr. Reese stated that included in tonight's packet, are the dates for the upcoming meetings and the questions asked in 2010. Mr. Reese stated that even though we did not fail the certification review in 2010, there were specific recommendations made. Mr. Reese stated that those recommendations are now implemented so it is consensus that FAMPO will fare quite well with the 2014 review.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Donley advised that staff is experimenting in different types of advertising to include the Chamber's monthly publications; home owner's association newsletters; the Farmer's Market; etc. Ms. Donley relayed that the interest & internet responses has been quite successful.

Ms. Donley provided a handout that reflects the public involvement that FAMPO has undertaken over the last 2 years for the members to review. Ms. Donley also relayed that HOT lanes project is ahead of schedule and is expected to open in December. Lastly, Ms. Donley advised that Mr. Travis Bird who was the Chancellor Representative to TAG has resigned as a result of conflicts with other meetings.

Regarding the November TAG meeting date, November 13<sup>th</sup> staff will be in Roanoke attending the CTB meeting so a request was made to have the November meeting held on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. There was consensus from TAG to make this adjustment accordingly.

Mr. Reese advised that staff is still working on the Phase II of the Scenario Planning update process and that there was some modeling issues in Caroline County which has caused a delay in the process.

### **MEMBER REPORTS**

City of Fredericksburg - Mr. Ludwig advised that VRE trail is open and the Fall Hill Avenue bridge project is opening by month-end. Mr. Ludwig stated that the Phase III project of the VRE trail to Idlewild is expected to be completed in 2015.

County of Spotsylvania - Mr. Milligan stated that he has some concerns about TAG, its function, its mission, etc. He stated that he feels that there is a lot of positive collective brain power displayed at the TAG meetings but feels TAG is really not fulfilling its role. Mr. Milligan stated that his board member, Mr. Ross, relayed that the Policy Committee does not get any indication, feedback, etc. on what the TAG is doing; what their issues are; how they vote on Resolutions, etc.

Ms. Donley stated that at each Policy Committee meeting they are advised on how both the Technical Committee and TAG vote on each respective Resolution and that the minutes from both committees are always included within the Policy Committee's agenda packets.

Ms. Trampe stated that as this has been brought up before, that again when more members are present, that maybe it is time that TAG have a representative attend each Policy Committee meeting and give a brief update on TAG's concerns, etc. during the public comment time slot on the monthly agendas. Ms. Griffin stated that as this was not something that TAG was unanimous on, that she did not feel it should be pursued until TAG had consensus among its own committee.

Mr. Ludwig concurred and stated that TAG is supposed to be an “advisory” group but who are they “advising”. Mr. Ludwig stated that as TAG meets to gather information that maybe it is time for the name of the organization to change.

Ms. Donley stated that the purpose of TAG is for the citizens that have been elected by the respective Boards of Supervisors & City Council to represent their district and to relay information, materials, etc. to residents within their community; their home owner’s; etc.

Ms. Griffin stated that she too felt this was an issue that needed to be re-evaluated by TAG. Ms. Griffin stated that she would like discussion of this item to occur at an upcoming meeting where there are more TAG members in attendance. Ms. Griffin asked if staff would forward copies of the current Mission Statement, the current By-Laws, etc. to each TAG member so these can be reviewed and comments gathered. Ms. Griffin stated that probably not until after the first of the year would they be addressed, but at least it gives the members something to review in the meantime.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Reese advised that there is correspondence included in tonight’s agenda packet and it is self-explanatory.

### **ADJOURN**

The October 9th meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. The next meeting will be held on November 06, 2014.

*Meeting Minutes completed by JoAnna Roberson*