

## **Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

**April 21, 2014**

<http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/committees/policy-committee/>

### **Members Present:**

Mr. Matt Kelly, City of Fredericksburg, Chair  
Mr. Bev Cameron, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Fred Howe, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Doug Barnes, Spotsylvania County  
Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Spotsylvania County  
Mr. David Ross, Spotsylvania County  
Mr. Paul Milde, Stafford County  
Mr. Keith Dayton, Stafford County  
Mr. Gary Snellings, Stafford County  
Mr. Cord Sterling, Stafford County  
Mr. Alfred Harf, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)  
Ms. Allison Richter, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

### **Others Present:**

Mr. Chris Arabia, DRPT  
Mr. Jason Robinson, VDOT  
Mr. Craig Van Dussen, VDOT  
Mr. Dale Hendon, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber  
Mr. Scott Shenk, Free Lance Star

### **Citizens:**

Ms. Maxine Devilliers, Citizen  
Mr. Rupert Farley, Citizen – TAG Representative – Spotsylvania County  
Ms. Pamela Thorpe, MWHC

### **Staff Members Present:**

Mr. Lloyd Robinson, FAMPO Administrator  
Mr. Tim Ware, GWRC Executive Director  
Mr. Andy Waple, FAMPO  
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO  
Mr. Danny Reese, FAMPO  
Ms. Diana Utz, GWRC  
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

## **CALL FAMPO MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Matt Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

## **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was present.

## **APPROVAL OF FAMPO AGENDA**

Upon motion by Mr. Howe and seconded by Mr. Cameron, with all concurring, the agenda was approved as submitted.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT** - None

## **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Kelly advised that he and Mr. Ross had met and had a very productive meeting. Results of this meeting focused on two items of action to pursue. The first request is for staff and VDOT to compile a one-page document for each category of transportation projects for the region – i.e. 5307 projects, long-range planning projects, road-way projects, etc. The second request is for staff and VDOT to compile a brainstorming sheet that will list potential projects the region could be facing. Mr. Kelly stated that the list needs to reflect the amount of funding associated to the projects and where the funding comes from (i.e. local, state, federal, etc.). Mr. Kelly stated that the purpose of this type of data sheet is to have it readily available and continually updated so that it can be handed out to the public as a resource document. Mr. Kelly stated that in the past we have not done a very good job of educating the public and that something that is concise, current, & brief would help in allowing everyone to understand the transportation system, the way it works, its restrictions & limitations, etc.

Mr. Sterling reiterated the importance of a document being created and stated that the Policy Committee needs to continually discuss how to approach the CTB. Mr. Sterling stated that regardless of a region's priorities, that the structure of the CTB will be what drives the State to make decisions over at least the next two years. Mr. Sterling stated that the MPO needs to play an active and vital role in presenting what its hopes are that the region will accomplish. Mr. Sterling stated that he did not know if the MPO wanted to create a sub-committee who would be engaged with the governor to ensure discussion of the region's transportation projects are on-going or not but he felt this would be a positive approach for the region. Mr. Kelly stated that unless there was committee dissension, (& none was voiced) that he was requesting that staff compile a letter to the governor stating that the MPO would like to have a partnership role with the CTB.

Mr. Robinson advised that he has spoken with Mr. Aubrey Lane and they are aware that the region has a prioritization process in place within our UPWP. Mr. Kelly stated that he thought it would be beneficial that House Bill #2 occur as a regular monthly agenda item. Ms. Richter also reminded the committee of the VDOT Public Hearing scheduled on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Essex High School which is also a time whereby the region can request support for its project priorities.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **a.) Approval of Minutes of the FAMPO Meeting of February 10, 2014 – Mr. Lloyd Robinson**

Upon motion by Mr. Howe and seconded by Mr. Cameron, the minutes from the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

### **b.) Approval of FAMPO Resolution No. 14-06, to Amend the FY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add Rolling Stock to the Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging (RAAA) Fleet Based on a Grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities – Mr. Lloyd Robinson**

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-06 is the annual grant request from RAAA to add rolling stock for replacement vehicles for elderly persons and persons with disabilities. Mr. Robinson advised that this Resolution has been endorsed by the Technical Committee, by TAG, & by staff.

Upon motion by Mr. Cameron and seconded by Mr. Snellings, Resolution No. 14-06 was unanimously approved.

### **c.) Approval of FAMPO Resolution No. 14-07, to Amend the FY2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Transfer Funds from Project UPC Numbers 100438, 100451, 77061, 102987, 100448, and 56934 to Project UPC Number 93136 – Mr. Lloyd Robinson**

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-07 is a request from VDOT to transfer previously allocated funding from other projects to fully fund the Mudd Road Tavern project in Spotsylvania County. Ms. Richter stated that the funding that will be re-allocated to Mudd Road Tavern comes from allocations previously assigned to other projects; however, to date, no progress is occurring on those projects previously allocated.

Upon motion by Mr. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Ross, Resolution No. 14-07 was unanimously approved.

### **d.) Approval of Resolution No. 14-08, directing that a Public Comment Period and Public Hearing be Held Prior to the Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Mr. Lloyd Robinson**

Mr. Robinson advised that Resolution No. 14-08 is requesting authorization for a public comment period and public hearing to be held prior to the adoption of the FY2015 UPWP.

Upon motion by Mr. Harf and seconded by Mr. Snellings, Resolution No. 14-08 was unanimously approved.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **a.) Fiscal Years 2015-2020 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)/Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Funding Allocations - Mr. Lloyd Robinson & Mr. Andy Waple**

Mr. Robinson stated that the sheet included in tonight's agenda packet is the result of work by staff, VDOT, and both the Technical & TAG committees. Mr. Robinson advised that this is being presented tonight as a discussion item and a request for it to be adopted will at the May meeting.

Mr. Waple advised that the allocations that are shown are reflective of those within the Six-Year Plan and that projections are assessed to projects as the plan is completed in six-year increments. Mr. Sterling asked if the sheet presented tonight includes the region's funding reductions.

Mr. Jason Robinson with VDOT relayed that there was no drastic funding increase for any of the projects and only one project was hampered. Mr. Robinson stated that the project in question is the Kenmore Avenue/Lafayette Boulevard project and this project did in fact lose some previously allocated funding. Mr. Robinson also stated that the Harrison Road project is only showing funding through FY2019 as it could not be carried out beyond FY2020.

Mr. Harf inquired as to what the contrast is between last year and this year and are the consequences significant from the State allocations over the next six years. Ms. Richter stated that the funding losses are strictly from the State allocation category. Mr. Harf stated that he felt this was important information that needed to be relayed to the public to make them aware that the funding is in great flux for the localities, the State, and the Federal government.

### **b.) Regional Scenario Planning Phase II Scope of Work - Mr. Lloyd Robinson & Mr. Chris Gay, Parsons Brinckerhoff**

Mr. Gay advised that the Phase II efforts will build on the work completed under Phase I and will now examine the transportation and land use effects of three future transportation scenarios that will include:

- All-in-Transit Growth
- Telecommuters Growth
- Thinking Cars Growth

Mr. Gay stated that Phase II will update and enhance the Community Viz model; it will provide model results for the interim horizon years; updates will be made to the 2045 socioeconomic data and the CLRP; and a transportation scenario summary report will be submitted. Mr. Gay advised that Phase II should be finalized and completed within a year's time frame.

### **c.) FAMPO Travel Demand Model – Mr. Lloyd Robinson & Mr. Daniel Reese**

Mr. Reese advised that in December of 2013 staff was asked to quantify time savings for the network segments in regard to improvements within the model. Staff was also asked to make a comparison in the 2040 CLRP horizon year to the scenario models that were a result from that

network. Mr. Reese stated that staff worked with staff from VDOT's central office modeling group. It was VDOT's recommendation that staff model the vehicle hours traveled to observe changes that are based on loaded network outputs. Mr. Reese relayed that as VHT modeling produces are broad indicators of a system's performance so FAMPO calculated the VHT savings with caution.

Mr. Reese advised that staff used the 2010 base year and modeled out to 2040. The modeling depicted the three traffic alternatives which include:

- Alternative 1 – Berea Parkway, Rappahannock Parkway, & Rappahannock River Crossing
- Alternative 2 – Outer Connector & Rappahannock River Crossing
- Alternative 3 – Berea Parkway, Outer Connector, Rappahannock Parkway & Rappahannock River Crossing

Mr. Reese stated that the modeling results were completed for the p.m. peak hours and showed the following time savings should any of the three alternatives listed above to include the following:

- Alternative 1 – 32.50 time savings per vehicle
- Alternative 2 – 18.26 time savings per vehicle
- Alternative 3 – 19.45 time savings per vehicle

**d.) Options for Completing Jackson Gateway – Mr. Lloyd Robinson**

Mr. Robinson stated that FAMPO is looking for closure on the work assigned in regard to the Jackson Gateway project. Mr. Robinson advised that FAMPO was tasked with completing an interchange study at Exit 126 in Spotsylvania County and to recommend and determine feasibility of alternate solutions. Mr. Robinson stated that FAMPO staff and the consultants were asked to complete an Interchange Modification Report (IMR) that would meet both the State and FHWA requirements.

Mr. Robinson relayed that in January of 2014, Spotsylvania County and VDOT explored a new alternative than what was tasked to FAMPO at the on-set. FAMPO's original task order has been completed and the funding expended. The new VDOT alternative will need further study being completed before FHWA accepts the new proposal.

Mr. Robinson stated that as the first task has been completed, that the following two options remain and require determination from the MPO. These options are as follows:

Complete the original study – this would involve packaging the preferred phased alternatives and presenting this to VDOT & FHWA as an IMR. The new VDOT alternative would be included in the Appendix and could be completed within the existing budget. However, if both VDOT and the County no longer desire to endorse the IMR, any additional work completed would not be very worthwhile or productive.

The IMR could be finalized and used as a resource document and this would involve completing the report, depicting the committee's preferred option, and including the new VDOT alternative in the appendix. This option then allows both the County & VDOT to utilize the report and data as they proceed accordingly. Mr. Robinson stated that this option is the staff recommendation.

Mr. Barnes asked what is the actual purpose for seeking closure and do we actually need a report in order for the closure to occur. Mr. Barnes stated that he did not think it was financially responsible for the committee to expend funds for a completed report when the report was not going to be utilized at this time.

Mr. Robinson stated that staff needed endorsement from the MPO to discontinue any future work and that there would be no additional costs incurred in finalizing the current report. This would just involve the consultant packaging the document as it is and submitting it to staff. Staff would then have the document readily available for future reference and assistance to both the County and to VDOT as some of the data included would still be relevant to the next process. The consultant indicated that it would require less than a half day's work from them and Mr. Robinson stated that it would require a minimal amount of staff time as well.

As there was no dissension expressed, Mr. Robinson stated that this would be coming before the MPO in resolution format at the upcoming May meeting with a request that they endorse the second option discussed above.

**e.) Fiscal Year 2015 Rural Transportation Work (RTW) Program – Mr. Lloyd Robinson &**

Mr. Andy Waple advised that this is the annual FY2015 Rural Transportation Work program that staff completes and there have been no changes being submitted from the FY2014 plan. This was originally scheduled to be presented as a discussion item for the March Policy Committee meeting and to be submitted for endorsement at the April meeting. However, as a result of the March meeting being cancelled due to inclement weather, the request is being made tonight that the FY2015 Rural Transportation Work Program (RTW) be endorsed so that staff can remain in compliance with date deadlines.

There was unanimous committee consensus to adopt the FY2015 Rural Transportation Work Program (RTW).

## **STAFF REPORT**

Mr. Robinson advised that effective July 1<sup>st</sup> he would be going to a part-time employment status with FAMPO and that he will no longer be serving as the FAMPO Administrator. Mr. Robinson stated that the FAMPO By-Laws state that the Policy Committee is the one charged with filling this position. Mr. Robinson relayed that it is his recommendation that the next FAMPO Administrator be Mr. Andy Waple.

Mr. Kelly stated that this item needs to be included on the May Policy agenda for discussion and action by the Policy Committee.

**MEMBER REPORTS - None**

**FAMPO CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Robinson advised that correspondence is included in tonight's agenda packet and all are self-explanatory.

**FAMPO COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Robinson stated that both the FAMPO Technical Committee (FTC) and the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) meeting minutes were included in tonight's agenda packet.

**ADJOURN FAMPO MEETING/NEXT MEETING, JUNE 16, 2014**

The FAMPO meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next meeting will occur on June 16, 2014 at 7:15 p.m.