



**Transportation Advisory Group Meeting Minutes  
January 15, 2014**

[www.fampo.gwregion.org/transportation-advisory-group](http://www.fampo.gwregion.org/transportation-advisory-group)

**Committee Members Present:**

Art Snyder, Chairman, Spotsylvania County  
Rupert Farley, Spotsylvania County  
Larry Gross, Spotsylvania County  
Bill Milligan, Spotsylvania County  
Guy Gormley, City of Fredericksburg  
Allen Ludwig, City of Fredericksburg  
Tom Carlson, Stafford County  
Vanessa Griffin, Stafford County  
Fran Larkins, Stafford County

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Danny Reese, FAMPO  
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO  
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

**Others Present:**

Mr. John Bodolay, Citizen – Stafford County  
Mr. Kevin Crown, Citizen – Stafford County  
Mr. Harold Larson, Citizen – Stafford County  
Mr. Terrel Thornton, Citizen – Stafford County

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Snyder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Transportation Advisory Group agenda for January 15, 2014 was approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF TAG MEETING SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 6, 2013**

The minutes were unanimously accepted as presented.

**REVIEW OF FAMPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2013**

Mr. Reese advised that the minutes from the November 18th Policy Committee meeting are included in tonight's agenda packet. Mr. Reese relayed that the following two Resolutions were unanimously approved:

- Resolution No. – 13-33, Amending FY12-15 TIP to Transfer \$940,440 of Previous Funds from UPC #86081 (Relocation of Route F-160/Carmel Church Interchange Improvements) to UPC #101595 (Rappahannock River Crossing project)
- Resolution No. – 13-34, Recognizing the Distinguished Service of Ms. Kathy Beck for her eleven years of service with Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)

Mr. Reese advised that specific comments are included in the minutes that are a part of tonight's agenda packet in regard to the following Discussion Items that were addressed:

- Request for FAMPO to send a letter of support in asking for Endorsement of Mr. Charlie Kilpatrick's Consideration as the Next Commissioner of VDOT
- Congestion Management Process (CMP) – Scope of Work
- 2040 LRTP Amendment for Adding Funds from the new Governor's Transportation Bill (HB2313)
- FAMPO Legislative Agenda

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Bodolay, Mr. Larson & Mr. Thornton, all of whom are citizens of Stafford County, spoke against the proposed Berea Parkway project. All three citizens voiced their concern about the property owners not being notified by anyone that if the project does in fact materialize that it will greatly affect the properties in two separate subdivisions. There was concern expressed that there also appears to be three different maps and presentations that have been released – all of which show different alignments as to where the Parkway will actually be built.

There was concern expressed that if TAG is a citizen advisory group then essentially “why” have the citizens not been advised. Mr. Gross thanked everyone for attending and for voicing their concerns and asked how they found out about tonight's meeting.

The comment was made that they obtained the information regarding the TAG meeting through the FAMPO website. Mr. Farley stated that all FAMPO meetings are advertised in the Free Lance Star as well and all are open for public participation.

Ms. Larkins relayed that she is a TAG member appointed by the Stafford Board of Supervisors and that she and the other Stafford representatives constantly are out with the public trying to get more public involvement. Ms. Larkins relayed that TAG members were at one of the Farmer's Market events and had a booth and display available for citizen input. Ms. Larkins also stated that on the VDOT website that they also post their upcoming meetings as well. Ms. Larkins stated that for example, the last VDOT meeting held in the fall of 2013 at the Route 17 University of Mary Washington's satellite location. Ms. Larkins stated that it was an open-house atmosphere and there were presentations; displays; and representatives from VDOT, FAMPO, etc. on site. Ms. Larkins stated that during that meeting very few people spoke during the public comment time period.

Mr. Snyder stated that as part of a federally mandated requirement of FAMPO that public involvement and public participation are essential and encouraged at all times. Mr. Snyder also relayed that at this time he feels the region is still in the very early planning stages of “if”, “when”, or “where” the Berea Project will be. Mr. Reese concurred that on a map of 0 to 100, currently the region is at 5% of the planning stages completed.

Mr. Snyder did also relay that all projects within the region that are included into the Long Range Transportation Plans are in fact prioritized. Mr. Snyder stated that in order for a project to be included, that certain federal, state, or local mandates also need to be met.

There was citizen concern that the resolution itself was also confusing as to what it was actually trying to get accomplished. Mr. Snyder stated that he would ask that FAMPO staff review the resolution and see if any clarity could be obtained.

It was concurrence from all of the TAG members, that even though they appreciated hearing the citizen feedback and would encourage this to occur regularly at their meetings, but that the citizens also needed to meet with their local supervisor to express the same concerns they expressed at tonight's meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- a.) **Resolution No. 14-01, Requesting that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Immediately Move Forward to Construct a Project to Reduce I-95 and Other Traffic Congestion in the FAMPO Region and to Improve Regional Safety, Economic Vitality and Quality of Life and also to Amend the FY12-15 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Transfer \$250,000 of Previous Funds from UPC #13558 (Relocation of Interchange on I-95 at Route 630 Exit/140 in Stafford County) to UPC #104928 (I-95 Rest Area Access and Route 3 Connector Road)**

Mr. Snyder asked for clarification on actually what does the \$250,000 do. Are these funds that are new funds; are they funds being transferred from another project; are they excess funds from a completed project; are the funds to be utilized for more studies; etc.

Mr. Reese relayed that this Resolution was a request to FAMPO staff from VDOT and he would forward the questions raised by TAG to them for clarification. Mr. Snyder asked for a motion.

After discussion from the TAG members, it was decided unanimously that at this time their request to be forwarded to the Policy Committee is to deny the Resolution based on the fact that it lacks too much information for decisions to be made accordingly.

- b.) **Resolution No. 14-02, Directing Staff to Utilize Parsons Brinkerhoff, Inc. (PB) as On-Call Consultants to Update the Regional Congestion Management Process (CMP)**

It was unanimous recommendation from the TAG Committee to table Resolution No. 14-02 with no action being taken.

- c.) **Resolution No. 14-03, Amending the FY12-15 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Include Funding for Project UPC #s T14169 (Mudd Tavern Road Widening – West of I-95) and T14436 (Mudd Tavern Road Reconstruction – East of I-95)**

Mr. Reese relayed that Resolution No. 14-03 was also a request made of FAMPO staff from VDOT. Upon motion by Ms. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Gross, with Mr. Farley not being in support, this Resolution was endorsed with an 8-1 vote count to forward to the Policy Committee for their approval.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a.) **Scenario Planning II Scope of Work**

Mr. Reese reviewed the Scenario Planning II Task Order proposal that is being prepared by Parsons Brinckerhoff. Mr. Reese stated that this scope of work is going to compile data for the model on three alternative transportation scenarios for inclusion into the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. The three new scenarios are: All-In-Transit Growth; Telecommuters Growth; and Thinking Cars Growth.

The members of TAG had concerns and questions in regard to spending \$150,000 on items that may not be realistic. In regard to the All-In-Transit scenario, Mr. Snyder asked if the modeling would also include costs and service levels.

Mr. Farley stated that in order to compile accurate data that two baselines needed to be in play – one is that it is “business as usual” and the other focusing on the opposite end of the spectrum so a range in between needs to be obtained. Mr. Farley stated that unfortunately the first round of evaluation from Phase 1 was simply just the region’s “wish” list and nothing was really achieved.

Ms. Larkins inquired as to whether the localities are actually utilizing the modeling data. Mr. Reese stated that the models are available to each locality and he does know that King George County relied on it heavily when they compiled their most recent Long Range Transportation Plan. However, Mr. Reese stated that he does not know how effective or helpful it has been or will be to the other four localities within the FAMPO region.

Mr. Snyder asked if the Phase II round of modeling data would also include a Sensitivity Analysis modeling component. Mr. Snyder stated that as he does modeling each day and you can make models provide whatever type of data you want it too simply by the input generated into it, that without including the Sensitivity Analysis components you still will not receive accurate service levels versus the input.

Mr. Reese stated that he would forward the questions and concerns expressed by the TAG members to FAMPO staff who will in turn have the consultants respond back accordingly. Mr. Reese advised that as soon as staff receives the feedback from the consultants that the committee would be apprised.

#### **b.) Southern HOT Lanes in the 2040 Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP)**

Mr. Reese relayed that several years ago FAMPO received notification that the Southern HOT lanes project would be fully funded within the 2040 LRTP. However, some of the funding was to come from toll road revenue, which especially in this region as well as state-wide is no longer realistic. So now, the question is “where” will the fully funded allocations come from? Mr. Reese stated that this item is being discussed with the agencies involved and when FAMPO receives updates accordingly, these will be passed along to the TAG committee.

#### **c.) FAMPO Travel Demand Model**

Mr. Reese advised that the FAMPO Travel Demand Model is currently utilizing VDOT Model 3.0 in compiling the data in estimating travel time savings for road congestion and road improvements planned for the FAMPO region. Mr. Reese stated that Model 3.0 only factors in vehicular traffic data; however Model 4.0 will include multi-modal options.

Mr. Snyder asked if FAMPO has a time frame on when they expect to be in receipt of Model 4.0. Mr. Reese stated that this region is third on the list and that VDOT has provided the new model to Hampton Roads and are now working with the Richmond MPO so hopefully this region will be in receipt of the new model within the next several months.

Mr. Reese stated that just for explanation purposes only, he only compiled data for Route 17. Mr. Reese relayed that both the Land Use and Socioeconomic data comes directly from each individual locality. Mr. Reese advised that the data utilized for the initial review was taken from the p.m. peak hour period which is from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Mr. Reese stated though that data can be compiled for any or all of the time periods to include: a.m. peak; p.m. peak; off-peak; or 24-hours.

Mr. Snyder stated that this set of modeling data was informative; however, still overall disappointing. In the horizon year of 2040, if all alternatives for Route 17 are built, to include: Berea Parkway, Outer Connector, Rappahannock Parkway, and the Rappahannock River Crossing improvements that the total time that will be saved is 19.45 minutes.

#### **d.) Amendments to the FAMPO Bylaws**

Mr. Reese advised that amendments to the FAMPO Bylaws are included for informational purposes only and that this is an item that will be discussed in greater detail by the Policy Committee at their upcoming January meeting.

Mr. Gormley asked if the Policy Committee's Bylaws directly reflect and/or impose restrictions to TAG's Bylaws. Mr. Reese advised that all three committees, to include the Policy Committee, the Technical Committee and TAG make its own set of Bylaws that applies only to the respective committee.

Mr. Snyder stated that TAG just recently updated its Bylaws and should something occur that TAG wants re-visited then amendments would be made accordingly. Even though really not relevant to TAG, Mr. Farley asked for input from the committee members if they thought the items being considered as Bylaw revisions for the Policy were appropriate, out of line, etc. It was overall committee consensus by those who had reviewed the changes to be considered that no one felt they were inappropriate.

#### **STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Donley advised that she had a Sympathy card for the TAG members to sign in memory of Mr. Shawn Lawrence who recently passed away.

Ms. Donley also relayed that FAMPO has a case of the calendars that were given to each member tonight and they are available for any member to take and pass out to neighbors, residents, etc.

#### **MEMBER REPORTS**

Ms. Larkins stated that she did not have a report but did have a question for clarification in regard to the January meeting date for the Policy Committee meeting. Ms. Donley confirmed the meeting date will be on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> as a result of January 20<sup>th</sup> being a holiday and the office will be closed. Ms. Larkins stated that both she & Mr. Farley attend the Policy Committee meetings and she would encourage all TAG members to attend these meetings as their schedules allow.

Mr. Gormley advised that officially as of January 1<sup>st</sup> he is now retired so asked that TAG members no longer use his work e-mail address. Mr. Gormley stated that Ms. Donley does have his personal e-mail address if anyone is interested.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Reese advised that there are two letters included in tonight's agenda packet and both are self-explanatory.

#### **ADJOURN**

Upon motion and seconded, with all concurring, the January 15th meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. The next meeting will be held on February 12, 2014.

*Meeting Minutes completed by JoAnna Roberson*