



**Policy Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2014**

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**Members Present:**

Mr. Paul Milde, Chairman, County of Stafford  
Mr. Bev Cameron, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Matt Kelly, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Billy Withers, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Doug Barnes, Spotsylvania County  
Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Spotsylvania County  
Mr. David Ross, Spotsylvania County  
Mr. Anthony Romanello, Stafford County  
Ms. Laura Sellers, Stafford County (Alternate)  
Mr. Alfred Harf, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)  
Ms. Marcie Parker, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

**Others Present:**

Mr. Chris Arabia, Department of Rail & Public Transportation (DRPT)  
Ms. Michelle Holland, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)  
Mr. Jason Robinson, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)  
Ms. Allison Richter, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)  
Mr. Craig Van Dussen, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)  
Mr. Christian Deschauer, Transurban  
Mr. Mike McGurk, Transurban  
Mr. Scott Shenk, Free Lance Star  
Mr. Rupert Farley, Citizen

**Staff Members Present:**

Mr. Andy Waple, FAMPO Administrator  
Ms. Marti Donley, FAMPO  
Mr. Daniel Reese, FAMPO  
Ms. Diana Utz, GWRC  
Ms. JoAnna Roberson, GWRC

**CALL FAMPO MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Mr. Milde called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and received acknowledgement that a quorum was present.

## **APPROVAL OF FAMPO AGENDA**

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Ross, with all in consensus, the agenda was approved as submitted.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Mr. Farley stated that he was speaking personally as a citizen and was not representing TAG but he had the following comments to make in regard to the HB2 factor prioritization document (Agenda Item 6c). Mr. Farley stated that HB2 is looking at opportunities to get some transportation prioritization in place for the State. Mr. Farley stated that the original document is asking for more of the same which is to buy our way out of congestion. Mr. Farley stated that he felt that the HB2 bill is in support for UDA's and public transportation.

Mr. Farley stated that as it has been proven that attempting to buy a region out of congestion has not proved successful in this region for the last decade. Mr. Farley stated that he is asking that the Policy Committee review the HB2 and that it consider supporting more transit based projects thus having the State to provide for more transit operational funds in lieu of funding being allocated for roadway improvements.

## **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Milde welcomed Mr. Christian Deschuer with Transurban and Ms. Michele Holland with VDOT who were in attendance at tonight's meeting.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **a.) Approval of FAMPO Minutes of October 20, 2014 – Mr. Andy Waple**

Upon motion by Mr. Harf and seconded by Mr. Kelly, with Mr. McLaughlin abstaining, and everyone else in consensus, the minutes from the October 20th meeting were approved as submitted.

### **b.) Approval of Resolution No. 14-28, Amending the FY15-18 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to Add Funding for the Preliminary Engineering Phase of the Chatham Bridge Replacement Project \*UPC #105535) – Mr. Andy Waple**

Mr. Waple advised that Resolution No.14-28 is asking for endorsement of a FY2015-2018 TIP amendment that would add funding for the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase of the Chatham Bridge replacement project (UPC # 105535).

Mr. Waple stated that this resolution request was submitted to FAMPO from VDOT and as the Chatham Bridge is a structurally deficient 4-lane bridge that connects the City of Fredericksburg into Stafford County via the Virginia Route 3 business access that VDOT is requesting that funding be allocated to initiate the Preliminary Engineering phase (PE) of the project.

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Romanello, and all others in consensus, Resolution No. 14-28 was adopted.

**c.) HB-2 Factor Relative Weightings for FAMPO Region – Mr. Andy Waple**

Mr. Waple advised included in tonight’s agenda packet is a letter to Mr. Nick Donohue, Deputy Secretary of Transportation, in regard to the request for the MPO’s input into the relative weighting of the HB2 factors. Mr. Waple stated that the previous questions already submitted by the Policy Committee members are also included within the letter from FAMPO.

Mr. Waple advised that the letter to Mr. Donohue also addresses the following points:

- Summary of HB2 legislation
- Summary of the adopted FAMPO project prioritization methodology
- Comparison of the methodology to the HB2 factors
- Relative weighting of the 6 HB2 factors, ranking & importance to FAMPO

Mr. Waple stated that it is also noted that FAMPO’s ranking and relative weighting of the six factors could be amended as more detailed information regarding the HB2 prioritization process becomes available. Mr. Waple advised that FAMPO has requested to be kept informed as to the progress in the implementation of the HB2 process and that it be given opportunities to provide additional input as critical elements of the process are developed.

Mr. Waple relayed that FAMPO’s methodology weighted the following categories accordingly and these factors were developed by FAMPO staff, locality representatives, & VDOT staff and are as follows:

- |                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Congestion Relief -          | 30 points |
| Safety & Security -          | 30 points |
| Environmental Impacts -      | 16 points |
| Public & Community Support - | 8 points  |
| Funding & Implementation -   | 8 points  |
| Smart Growth -               | 8 points  |

Mr. Ross inquired as to what a definition of smart growth includes. Mr. Waple stated that this was assigned to areas of low impact growth that contains mixed usage developments & bicycles/pedestrian accessibility.

Mr. Ross also stated that he felt the region needed to re-define what the economic development involves. Mr. McLaughlin stated that in regard to economic development, you cannot pave your way out of congestion and if jobs are going to the local hub there is no thinking “outside of the box”. Mr. McLaughlin stated that he felt that moving a government agency into a reverse commute mindset was not addressed.

Mr. Milde asked that staff re-evaluate both the smart growth and economic developments categories to address the concerns expressed by the committee members. Mr. Milde stated that possibly both of

these categories could be re-defined which would address some of the concerns expressed by the committee.

The Policy Committee also asked staff to look at the following topics and to revise them accordingly:

- Economic Development classification – change from a medium ranking to low
- Language re-definition of terms
- Address the re-location of businesses to the region with a reverse commute option
- Land Use Transportation classification – change from a low ranking to medium
- Highlight I-95 transit & expand & re-define the east/west corridors
- Broaden accessibility
- Broaden economic development category
- Re-define Smart Growth

Mr. Milde asked that staff make any revisions & changes and that the revised copy be circulated to each committee member for their review & comments. Mr. Milde stated that after sufficient time has been given for member feedback that the changes requested be made to the document; the revised document re-sent; & then it would be forwarded to him for his signature indicating that FAMPO is in concurrence.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **a.) 95 Express Lanes – Mr. Andy Waple & Mr. Christian Deschauer, Transurban**

Mr. Deschauer with Transurban provided an updated to the Policy Committee of the 95 Express Lanes project. Mr. Deschauer stated that this project will encompass managed lanes of network of more than 40 miles from Tysons to Stafford.

Mr. Deschauer stated that the project is nearing completion and mid-December 2014 is the opening target date. Mr. Deschauer distributed a hand-out at tonight's meeting which was self-explanatory and there were no additional questions raised from the Policy Committee.

### **b.) Southeastern Institute of Research (SIR) Telephone Research Survey – Mr. Andy Waple**

Mr. Waple advised per the request from the Policy Committee from the October meeting, that staff circulate the results of the previous 2 surveys completed by FAMPO to the committee members so they could review the data; the number of responses; the types of questions asked; etc.

There was committee discussion and consensus that at this time the Policy Committee did not feel that completing another telephone research survey was worthwhile. As the survey is not federally required, it was the recommendation from the Policy Committee that this item be brought up again for review in a year's time frame for re-evaluation.

**c.) 2014 Federal Certification Review – Mr. Andy Waple**

Mr. Waple advised that the federal certification reviews are done every four years. The last review completed in 2010 resulted in 4 corrective actions and a number of recommendations for FAMPO to be in compliance with.

Mr. Waple stated that even though an official report will not be submitted for ninety days, that it was overall consensus by all of FAMPO staff in attendance as well as verbal acknowledgement from the federal review team that this time FAMPO will do quite well.

Mr. Waple advised that FAMPO is not expecting to receive any necessary corrective actions and the list of recommendations for consideration should be limited to none

**STAFF REPORT**

None

**MEMBER REPORTS**

None

**FAMPO CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence is included in tonight's agenda packet and is self-explanatory.

**FAMPO COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Both the FAMPO Technical Committee (FTC) and the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) meeting minutes are included in tonight's agenda packet.

**ADJOURN FAMPO MEETING/NEXT MEETING, JANUARY 26, 2015**

The FAMPO meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next meeting will occur on January 26, 2015 at 7:15 p.m.