



**Fredericksburg Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
TPB-FAMPO MOU and RSTP Funds Subcommittee
March 2, 2020**

406 Princess Anne St, Fredericksburg VA 22401
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/>

Subcommittee Members Present

Mr. Matthew Kelly, City of Fredericksburg
Ms. Cindy Shelton, Stafford County
Mr. Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County

GWRC Legal Counsel

Mr. Eric Gregory

Others Present

Mr. Jason Towery, Stafford County
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, VDOT
Ms. Susan Gardner, VDOT

Staff Present

Dr. Linda Millsaps, GWRC Executive Director
Ms. Kate Gibson, GWRC Deputy Director
Mr. Adam Hager, FAMPO Transportation Planner

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

All discussions were held in open session.

Mr. Kelly proposed the following three discussion topics:

1. Transportation Planning Board (TPB)-FAMPO draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) review
2. Status of regional SMART SCALE projects after the March 2, 2020 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting
3. Distribution of and prioritizing Regional Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (RSTBG, formerly Regional Surface Transportation Program [RSTP]) funding

TPB-FAMPO MOU review

Mr. Agnello asked about a deadline for an updated MOU.

Dr. Millsaps indicated that she has heard June is ideal per Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Dr. Millsaps provided an overview of a recent call with staff counterparts at TPB which covered high-level considerations on the draft working document. She indicated that TPB wants to err on

the side of providing more context in MOUs whereas FAMPO has a preference for more direct, to-the-point language.

Mr. Gregory reviewed his comments on the draft MOU.

His initial read was that it appears, in some sections, that TPB is imposing their view on FAMPO as to what federal requirements are for MPOs, that the draft as it stands reflects TPB's interpretation of transportation planning regulations.

Mr. Gregory mentioned that the background of needing to update the MOU is from a TPB certification review; the onus is on TPB to carry out this task, FAMPO is a part of the process.

Mr. Gregory mentioned that recitals (whereas statements) can color the rest of the document in a certain way and the committee should consider these.

Mr. Kelly stated that he believes the document should only include what is required and necessary.

Ms. Shelton asked if it is detrimental to include language that provides context.

The subcommittee had a discussion regarding which agencies and bodies have reviewed the draft document to date.

Members reviewed language specific to the Congestion Management Process.

Mr. Towery referenced the current CMAQ/RSTP funding prioritization methodology and said the overall process is not clear to Stafford County.

Mr. Kelly said a discussion needs to take place at a future meeting regarding allocation of future CMAQ/RSTP funds, but this TPB-FAMPO MOU is not the place for it.

Mr. Towery conveyed Stafford's preference to determine strategies for the allocation of these funds before the TPB-FAMPO MOU is signed.

Mr. Gregory indicated to the subcommittee he would incorporate their comments into a new marked up version of the draft MOU and distribute it to the subcommittee.

Mr. Towery indicated he would supply language for the MOU to get it to a state with which Stafford County agrees.

Status of regional SMART SCALE projects after the March 2, 2020 Technical Advisory Committee meeting

Mr. Hager provided an update on the TAC conversation regarding SMART SCALE:

TAC proposed a prioritized list of four potential projects to fill two remaining slots.

Two GWRC projects and possible adjustments were also discussed (GWRC #1 and #3).

Mr. Kelly asked Mr. Agnello and Ms. Shropshire a few technical questions related to SMART SCALE project eligibility.

Ms. Shelton asked Mr. Towery about the eligibility of the GWRC #3 project which includes pedestrian improvements at US 1 and Foreston Woods.

Mr. Hager indicated a memo will be sent from TAC to the Policy Committee with a summary of the discussion and prioritized list for consideration in filling remaining slots.

Distribution of and prioritizing STBG funding

Mr. Kelly asked for Mr. Towery's input regarding his analysis around RSTP (RSTBG) funds.

Ms. Gardner reviewed the current FAMPO CMAQ/RSTP funding allocations for FY21-26.

Mr. Towery provided input on CMAQ funding allocations on a per capita basis and noticed a disproportionate share going to the City of Fredericksburg when viewing the issue.

Mr. Kelly proposed having a discussion with TAC members at the Policy Committee meeting regarding project-based funding allocation and what elements would need to be in place to satisfy Stafford County. Part of the discussion is needing to better define what "benefit to the Transportation Management Area (TMA)" means.

Mr. Agnello suggested possibly separating the CMAQ and RSTP project prioritization methodologies and funding allocation strategies.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.