



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 ♦ Remote-Only

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg VA 22401

<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/technical-advisory-committee/>

Due to the nature of the Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pursuant to Code § 2.2-3708.2 this meeting is to be held by electronic communications, via the web platform GoToMeeting. The catastrophic nature of this declared emergency makes it impracticable and unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and the purpose of this meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body.

A recording of this virtual meeting has been posted to the FAMPO Technical Advisory Committee webpage:
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/technical-advisory-committee/>

Members Present:

Remote connection by phone or internet for all attendants per Virginia COVID-19 legislation as noted above.

Chairman Alex Owsiak, Stafford County

Jason Towery, Stafford County

Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County

Rodney White, Spotsylvania County

Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg

Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg

Craig Pennington, Caroline County

Kimberly Wilson, King George County

Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Stephen Haynes, VDOT

Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)

Ciara Williams, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

Christine Hoeffner, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Jamie Jackson, FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)

Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect

Others Present:

Linda LaSut, VDOT

Susan Gardner, VDOT

Sarah Rhodes, VDOT

Katherine Youngbluth, DRPT

Brandon Brown, Stafford County

Chris Wichman, Office of Intermodal Planning & Investment

FAMPO Staff Members Present:

Adam Hager, Transportation Planner

Leah Vigil, Administrative Assistant

Jordan Chandler, Transportation Planner

Kari Barber, Transportation Planner

Matthew Lehane, Transportation Planner

Speaker: Summary of speaking points

1. Call to Order

Chairman Owsiak called the FAMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting to Order at **9:31 am**.

2. Determination of a Quorum

Ms. Vigil conducted roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

3. Approval of the September 8, 2020 TAC Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Agnello confirmed with FAMPO staff the availability of additional documents on TAC Bylaws for Agenda Item 7.h.

Mr. Owsiak declared the Agenda approved by unanimous consent; there were no objections.

4. Approval of July 6, 2020 TAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

The July 6, 2020 TAC meeting minutes were approved, with no edits, by unanimous consent.

5. Review of July 20, 2020 and August 10, 2020 FAMPO Policy Committee Meetings

Mr. Hager highlighted Policy Committee meetings:

- The FY21 Slate of Officers was approved; Ms. Cindy Shelton is the new Chair for the FAMPO Policy Committee
- CMAQ/STBG-RSTP scoring was concluded with the exception of the Telegraph Rd. project in Stafford County; Stafford is working with VDOT on this item
- 5307/CMAQ funding GWRC and FAMPO roles were discussed
 - TAC was directed by the Policy Committee to further refine parameters for a call for projects
- The 2045 LRTP Amendment and related AQCA Report were approved
- The Transportation Opportunities for Economic Growth Report was approved
- SMART SCALE projects and resolutions were approved

6. Public Comment - None

7. Discussion/Action Items

- a. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)-Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Prioritization Methodology Update – Mr. Owsiak

Mr. Owsiak noted efforts to update the CMAQ-STBG/RSTP prioritization methodology:

- A document has been drafted based on Richmond's and Hampton Roads' current process
- The FAMPO staff is not adequately staffed to take this on independently, Mr. Owsiak proposed creating a subcommittee of localities and agencies with a goal (in agreement with VDOT suggestion) to have less emphasis on air quality for STBG funds and a more objective scoring approach that includes a benefit for the north Stafford Transportation Management Area (TMA)

Ms. Jackson stated that Gail Stith of Hampton Roads would be a good resource for possible access to the existing prioritization tool used by that MPO

Mr. Agnello agreed with Mr. Owsiak in forming a sub-committee and proposed it be made up of the three localities (City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania and Stafford

Counties), VDOT, and PRTC for the transit portion.

Mr. Nelson proposed participation by interested parties who make up the TAC for comprehensive technical input.

Mr. Towery proposed keeping representation limited to FAMPO localities.

Mr. Owsiak said he would send an email to the members regarding participation and who would represent the subcommittee.

- The subcommittee, once formed, would update the prioritization methodology and present to TAC for review
- The same subcommittee would subsequently present to the Policy Committee for final approval

b. Spotsylvania Request for FAMPO to Fully Fund UPC 115614 – Rte 1/Market Street – Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello presented increased costs for the above project by FY23, proposing to cover the funding deficit with CMAQ rather than STBG/RSTP; Spotsylvania County would like to obtain approval from the Policy Committee in September or October. Mr. Agnello further indicated that some of the project funding is anticipated to come from a new development.

Ms. Shropshire clarified that the Chick-fil-A still needs approval and if it cannot move forward, the project maintains a higher deficit.

Mr. Agnello responded that the Chick-fil-A will likely be approved and if not, the County would make up the difference.

c. Update on Potential CMAQ Call for Projects – Mr. Hager

Mr. Hager updated TAC on this matter from the Policy Committee meeting on July 20, 2020, stating that they returned it to TAC to decide the call for project parameters.

- The transit component was removed based on action taken by the Policy Committee
- 5307 funds are decided by the GWRC board; each board has its own responsibilities
- It is now before TAC to determine the call for project parameters

Mr. Owsiak made a motion to recommend two SMART SCALE projects per locality (local or regional; NOT restricted to Round 4)

Mr. Agnello seconded

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes

Stafford County
Mr. Owsiak
Mr. Towery

Spotsylvania County
Mr. Agnello
Mr. White

Nays

Virginia Railway Express
Ms. Hoeffner

City of Fredericksburg

Mr. Nelson

Mr. Amin

Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation

Ms. Williams

FREdericksburg Regional Transit

Ms. Jackson

GWRideConnect

Ms. Gibson

Virginia Department of Transportation

Ms. Shropshire

Mr. Haynes

Motion passed by majority vote; 7 Ayes to 1 Nay

d. Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Update – Mr. Hager

Mr. Hager noted language with specific metrics relating to public transit required by FAST Act, to be completed by February 2021. The FY21-24 TIP will need to be amended with this language once implemented.

i. FY21-24 STIP/TIP Implementation

Mr. Hager highlighted the rollover process and reported pending listing of amendments and actions to be sent by VDOT.

e. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update – Mr. Hager

Mr. Hager presented section 3 of the LRTP work plan, which includes highlights of tasks completed through December 2019 and major staff tasks for FY21/next 15+ months:

- In-house staff tasks, such as Public Involvement efforts
- Consulting group Cambridge Systematics, task order for such tasks as travel demand modeling

Mr. Hager proposed an informal working group to meet monthly (in tandem with TAC) to develop the 2050 LRTP. He indicated that staff would reach out via email to gauge interest and set up the group.

f. Prioritization of the VTrans Mid-Term Needs – Chris Wichman, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment

Mr. Wichman presented the prioritization of mid-term needs.

- 7-10 years with analysis based on existing conditions
- Project identification: Virginia-wide for corridors and safety issues

g. System for the Management and Allocation of Resources for Transportation (SMART SCALE) Round 4 Update – Matthew Lehane

Mr. Lehane recapped the approval of resolutions for SMART SCALE projects by the Policy Committee, and submission of applications by the August deadline

i. Consideration of Draft Resolution 21-12: Endorsing Regional SMART SCALE Round 4 Projects Consistent with the FAMPO Constrained Long

Range Plan – Mr. Hager

Mr. Hager explained this resolution is an added measure of clarification for the CLRP; it is not a Smart Scale requirement.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to recommend the approval of Resolution 21-12 to the Policy Committee.

Mr. Agnello seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

h. TAC Bylaws: Voting and Membership – Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello summarized that this was briefly discussed in July and current TAC votes are not consistent Policy Committee bylaws and have not been updated for an extended period. He asked whether the TAC wants to consider amending the bylaws to represent the voting localities and agencies in closer alignment with the Policy Committee.

Ms. Shropshire observed newly amended bylaws would need to be reflected in the current UPWP.

Ms. Jackson said TAC may want to delay updates until policies and procedures have been finalized.

Mr. Agnello stated that this was for discussion and consideration, no action required at this time.

Mr. Owsiak agreed that policies and procedures need to be more finalized prior to any updates to the bylaws.

i. FAMPO Annual Report – Jordan Chandler and Kari Barber

Ms. Chandler reviewed the work tasks of the staff in FY20, Part I:

- Public involvement activities
- FY21-24 TIP update
- Interactive mapping

Ms. Barber presented Part II:

- SMART SCALE Round 4, four final project applications were submitted
- The Lafayette Blvd Transit Study for the City of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County recommended certain improvements in the corridor

See meeting material to view interactive elements of the report.

Ms. Gibson recognized the excellent work FAMPO staff completed.

8. Correspondence

None

9. Staff Reports

- Public Involvement Coordinator Stacey Feindt departed FAMPO in August, the vacancy will be filled soon.
- Jordan Chandler started out as an intern then part-time transportation planner; she completed her Master's degree and is now a full-time transportation planner.

- Within the next couple of weeks, two interns will be joining the FAMPO staff for the fall semester.
- The FAMPO Administrator job post, advertised as the Director of Transportation Planning, is ongoing.

10. Member Reports

Mr. Haynes thanked everyone for their hard work in submitting SMART SCALE applications:

- The validation process is underway
- Alerts will be sent for any issues/clarifications required
- VDOT will accept resolutions of support through October 31st

Ms. Williams noted that the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will meet September 15-16 to re-evaluate allocations based on revenue projections and action by the General Assembly for the bi-annual budget, for such items as:

- Transit Operating Assistance
- Commuter assistance
- Section 5310 Human Services Agency Capital Assistance

Ms. Hoeffner notified the group that the VRE has several videos on passenger safety and health measures found on the website and social media.

11. Adjourn Technical Advisory Committee Meeting / Next Meeting Monday, October 5, 2020 at 9:30 am

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Owsiak adjourned the Technical Advisory Committee meeting at **11:33 am**.