



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday ♦ October 21, 2020 ♦ 9:30 am

Remote-Only📞

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg VA 22401

<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/>

Approved as amended: November 9, 2020

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/>

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

Members Present:

Chairman Alex Owskiak, Stafford County

Jason Towery, Stafford County

Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County

Rodney White, Spotsylvania County

Erik Nelson, City of Fredericksburg

Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg

Stephen Haynes, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Bob Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)

Kimberly Wilson, King George County

Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect

Christine Hoeffner, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Jamie Jackson, FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)

Aidan Quirke, FRED

Others Present:

Susan Gardner, VDOT

Katherine Youngbluth, DRPT

FAMPO Staff Members Present:

Adam Hager, Transportation Planner

Stacey Feindt, Public Involvement/Title VI Coordinator

Leah Vigil, Administrative Assistant

Kari Barber, Transportation Planner/Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator

Matthew Lehane, Transportation Planner

Jordan Chandler, Transportation Planner

Mohammad Khan, Transportation Planning Intern

Speaker: Summary of speaking points

1. Call to Order

Chairman Owskiak called the FAMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting to order at **9:30 am**.

2. Determination of a Quorum

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

3. Approval of the October 21, 2020 TAC Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

4. Approval of October 5, 2020 TAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the October 5, 2020 TAC meeting minutes as submitted.

Motion: Mr. Nelson; Second: Mr. Agnello

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

5. Review of October 19, 2020 FAMPO Policy Committee Meeting

Mr. Hager highlighted the meeting:

No quorum was established which was later confirmed by the FAMPO chair by email.

Agenda items will have to be brought back for Policy Committee consideration at a later date.

Mr. Agnello asked if the October 26, 2020 at 6:30pm Policy Committee virtual meeting would still take place, and if so, would October 19 agenda items be included?

Mr. Hager responded that the follow-up Policy Committee meeting will take place; as to the agenda, he thought it would likely be a continuation of the current TAC recommendations from this meeting rather than revisiting all items from October 19.

Mr. Towery updated the committee on conversations with FAMPO Chair Cindy Shelton and VDOT Fredericksburg District Engineer Marcie Parker that resulted in the understanding that it would be difficult to allocate CMAQ and STBG funds due to inaccessibility of 5307 funds which were not released at the 10/19 George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) board meeting.

Mr. Agnello stated that he thought that FY27 CMAQ and STBG funds were available to allocate.

Ms. Gardner thought that documentation was required for such an occurrence and would place a call to Central Office to confirm whether this would be feasible.

6. Public Comment – No comments were received.

7. Discussion/Action Items

a. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Allocation Recommendation (ACTION ITEM) – Chair Owsiak

Mr. Agnello requested that the UPC for Project 29 on the spreadsheet be corrected; he further stated that local funds were available for this project so as to avoid a timing issue with Smart Scale funding.

Mr. Nelson noted there were not Fredericksburg local funds for the Idlewild VCR Trail Connector.

Mr. Owsiak relayed that Stafford County reassessed Project #28 for Onville Rd improvements with local funds made available and proposed a dollar for dollar swap for FY22-24 with FY26 funds.

Mr. Agnello noted that if FY27 funds were authorized, they could be used and the extra Onville Rd funds would be able to fill deficits as needed.

Mr. Owsiak responded that VDOT may not be able to give a firm answer on whether FY27 funds are available during this meeting.

Mr. Towery queried if a vote should be taken on FY27 funds, contingent on VDOT confirmation, in order to make recommendations to the Policy

Committee on Monday.

Mr. Nelson stated it would be better to not extend past FY26 funds.

Ms. Jackson cautioned against using FY27 funds as they are not yet accessible.

Ms. Gardner relayed FY27 funds could be allocated as long as local funds in FY27 were guaranteed. Once the Policy Committee approved them after next July, the local funds would be swapped out with CMAQ and/or RSTP funds.

Mr. Towery requested something in writing to this end from VDOT's Central Office.

Ms. Gardner said this is in consideration of the SMART SCALE October deadline; she would get something in writing today.

Chair Owsiak suggested switching current FY21-26 funds to meet timing constraints.

Ms. Hoeffner agreed with Ms. Jackson, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Owsiak in decision-making within the traditional process which would allocate FY27 funds in spring 2021.

Mr. Towery echoed Ms. Hoeffner's concern; could Ms. Gardner get VDOT authority for changing out locally committed funds later on?

Ms. Gardner responded that future swap-outs are possible except for Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)-approved funds; RSTP are not, CMAQ are. She noted she would send out a list of CTB-approved funds to the committee for documentation per Mr. Towery's request.

Mr. Agnello noted that the Policy Committee approved fully funding (approx. \$1.12M) the Spotsylvania County Route 1/Market Street project which is higher priority than SMART SCALE projects currently under consideration.

Ms. Jackson recommended that Spotsylvania use available funds, such as swapping with other jurisdictions or using earlier project funds from the list.

Mr. Nelson pointed out time constraints of the SMART SCALE deadline.

Ms. Gardner indicated that there would be no extension given and any project approved past October would not be considered funded by VDOT.

Motion was made to recommend to the Policy Committee transfer of CMAQ and STBG/RSTP funds from FY22-24 on Idlewild VCR Trail Connector, Project #27 to US 1 & Enon Rd, Project #23 to be replaced with CMAQ FY25 funds from US 1 & Enon Rd, Project #23 back to Idlewild VCR Trail Connector, Project #27.

Motion: Mr. Agnello; Second: Mr. Nelson

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Mr. Hager asked if Policy Committee deferred action on funding Telegraph Rd should be voted on Monday night with the other recommendations; he thought another TAC vote is not needed as this has been on hold a few months. He inquired of the group whether it should it be addressed or postponed.

Chair Owsiak agreed with Mr. Towery in addressing this issue as a follow-up item for which the TAC approval remained.

Dr. Schneider suggested that the technical contacts update and relay to FAMPO members for informed decisions at the Policy Committee meetings.

Mr. Owsiak, Mr. Agnello and Mr. Nelson confirmed they regularly update and communicate with their Policy Committee counterparts.

Mr. Hager requested that members review the spreadsheet for edits.

Mr. Agnello said projects from #24 and earlier need dates in the different phases; VDOT would have the latest data for an update on #22.

Chair Owsiak asked Mr. Hager to send the spreadsheet out to the TAC members for review and feedback by tomorrow when the Policy Committee agenda link would be sent.

b. Leveraged Funding for SMART SCALE Round 4 Projects – Adam Hager

Chair Owsiak ruled that lack of Policy Committee action at the October 19, 2020 meeting prevented discussion on this item.

8. Correspondence - None

9. Staff Reports

- Mr. Hager announced that a new FAMPO Administrator will be hired and should be starting in the next few weeks; a press release will be going out soon.
- Ms. Feindt reminded TAC members to participate in the Title VI audit survey originally sent October 12, 2020, by the end of the week.

10. Member Reports

- Ms. Jackson requested equity analysis background data as she did not receive it yet.
 - Mr. Hager indicated that he would resend the information.
- Mr. Haynes thanked locality leads, Mr. Owsiak, Mr. Agnello and Mr. Nelson for their cooperation and responsiveness throughout the SMART SCALE process.

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

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Owsiak adjourned the Technical Advisory Committee meeting at **10:50 am** with unanimous consent.

Leah Vigil
FAMPO Administrative Assistant