



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday ♦ November 9, 2020 ♦ 9:30 am

Remote-Only📞

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg VA 22401

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

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

Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Stephen Haynes, VDOT

Dan Grinnell, VDOT

Bob Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)

Craig Pennington, Caroline County

Kimberly Wilson, King George County

Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect

Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect

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

Christine Hoeffner, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Jamie Jackson, FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)

Aidan Quirke, FRED

Others Present:

Amy McElwain, VDOT

Candice Gibson, VDOT

Linda LaSut, VDOT

Ben Owen, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC)

Chris Wichman, Office of Intermodal Planning & Investment

Katherine Youngbluth, DRPT

Doug Fawcett, City of Fredericksburg

Samuel Hayes

Anna G.

FAMPO Staff Members Present:

Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator

Adam Hager, Transportation Planner

Stacey Feindt, Public Involvement/Title VI Coordinator

Leah Vigil, Administrative Assistant

Kari Barber, Transportation Planner/Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator

Jordan Chandler, Transportation Planner

Matthew Lehane, Transportation Planner

Maggie Campbell, 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 **9:31 am**.

2. Determination of a Quorum

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

3. Approval of the November 9, 2020 TAC Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

The November 9, 2020 TAC Agenda was approved by unanimous consent

4. Approval of October 21, 2020 TAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Agnello noted the amount for Spotsylvania County was \$1.12M and identified the project as Route 1/Market Street.

Motion was made to approve minutes as amended.

Motion: Mr. Nelson; Second: Mr. Agnello

Motion passed by unanimous consent

5. Review of October 26, 2020 FAMPO Policy Committee Meetings

Mr. Hager highlighted the Policy Committee meeting:

- The Policy Committee approved hiring the new FAMPO Administrator
- The 6-year layout for CMAQ/STBG TAC-approved spreadsheet was sent to VDOT, as advised by VDOT, to meet the System of Management for Allocation of Resources for Transportation (SMART SCALE) purposes; due to lack of quorum, this was not approved by the Policy Committee.

6. Public Comment – No comments were received.

Δ Approved amended order of agenda

7. Discussion/Action Items

- a. FAMPO Administrator/Director of Transportation Planning Introduction – Adam Hager

Mr. Hager introduced the new FAMPO Administrator, Mr. Ian Ollis.

Mr. Ollis indicated his enthusiasm in serving FAMPO and he looked forward to meeting, getting to know and working with everyone.

- b. Regional Multimodal Mobility Platform (RM3P) Overview – Amy McElwain and Candice Gibson, VDOT

Ms. McElwain and Ms. Gibson presented an overview of the RM3P program which has a mission to utilize real-time data to improve travel safety, reliability and mobility. The target timeline for completion is September 2022.

Ms. Gibson noted follow-up with Mr. Ollis to determine FAMPO representation.

Mr. Agnello inquired how much of Spotsylvania County is covered in the newly extended RM3P boundary and noted that population growth supports consideration of extension from current I-95 Exit 126 further south, to Exit 118, Thornburg.

Ms. McElwain replied that it is primarily the I-95 corridor and adaptive within program budget and scope; the program is open for comment and feedback.

Mr. Nelson asked what the plan is to provide infrastructure, such as improved parking, that is lacking.

Ms. McElwain responded that the goal is not to put parking lots everywhere, but

rather to look for a system that would not require infrastructure such as the use of sensors; this may include partnering with private vendors for primetime, infrastructure-free or light functionality, avoiding resource depletion.

Mr. Nelson wanted to know how TAC could remain updated and involved.

Ms. McElwain requested the TAC member list.

Mr. Hager stated that FAMPO staff would provide the TAC member list with newsletter updates.

Mr. Towery observed that there are opportunities for Smart Cities initiative partnerships, such as traffic sensors and smart parking.

c. I-95/395 Commuter Choice Program Update – Ben Owen, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

Mr. Owen presented the Commuter Choice Program which reinvests freeway tolls into commuter choices and multimodal improvements. It is a \$30M, 2-year program anticipated to receive maximum funding for eligible applicants of the Northern Virginia and Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commissions' jurisdictions.

d. VTrans Update – Chris Wichman, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment

Mr. Wichman updated the committee on VTrans needs assessment and role with SMART SCALE.

- Comments on the statewide process accepted through November 30
- Presentation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) in December
- November workshops
- Mr. Wichman is the primary contact for the FAMPO region

Mr. Wichman referred to the website for draft reviews and mid-term prioritization documents.

e. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update – David Jackson, Cambridge Systematics

Mr. Hager stated that he would provide an update in January on the modeling and timeline of the consultant.

f. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Prioritization Methodology Update – Chair Owsiak

Mr. Owsiak updated the group.

- Hampton Roads was contacted by Mr. Hager and they advised coordinating the CMAQ/STBG prioritization process the LRTP process. However, this takes a considerable amount of time.
- For the short term, the subcommittee will propose to utilize Streetlight data to show benefits to northern Stafford Transportation Management Area (TMA).
- He would discuss Streetlight data at the subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Nelson stated that something more substantial would be needed,

Mr. Agnello noted that TAC had previously discussed that the Hampton Roads budget and staff exceeded that of FAMPO. He suggested an incremental modification in order to meet short and long-term needs.

Ms. Shropshire stated that this had been under consideration for a while and currently,

there was ambiguity in the methodology that could use updating.

Mr. Towery noted that while the Policy Committee needed to approve it, was there a way to simplify and focus on the northern Stafford County benefits?

Mr. Nelson agreed with Mr. Towery and stated that a more targeted approach would be more realistic.

Mr. Hager suggested minor modifications to both the LRTP and CMAQ/STBG processes in order to meet spring 2021 timelines.

Mr. Nelson posed that finalization should be made in the next couple of months.

Ms. Gibson asked what the relationship is between the LRTP and CMAQ/STBG.

Mr. Hager answered that they were related and intertwined. LRTP needed updating to incorporate transit and bike-ped components.

Mr. Agnello inquired of Mr. Owsiak if he proposed a CMAQ-STBG subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Nelson suggested a map-out meeting in November prior to finalizing recommendations in December.

Mr. Agnello proposed scheduling before or after the LRTP working group meeting, November 20th.

Mr. Owsiak stated that he would coordinate a calendar invite with Mr. Hager for interest and attendance on Friday, November 20.

g. Funding UPC 115614 – US-1/Market Street – Chair Owsiak and Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello stated that the Policy Committee approved fully funding this project in September, which is short \$1.12M short and requested transferring CMAQ surplus funds from completed project for the FRED bus route to Quantico. As 5307 funds are worked out, he said that Spotsylvania anticipated working with FAMPO to fully fund this project by spring.

Ms. Jackson clarified that the Quantico bus project was discontinued rather than completed.

Mr. Owsiak agreed that the Policy Committee agreed to fund it and the proposal was reasonable.

Mr. Agnello asked that this be approved by the Policy Committee with other transfers proposed at the October meeting.

Mr. Nelson agreed with Mr. Agnello and stated that this item should be added to the Policy Committee November agenda.

Mr. Hager noted that he would contact VDOT for accurate numbers.

Mr. Agnello commented on adding dates for this project as well as for PE and Construction in time for the Policy Committee meeting, which VDOT had.

Ms. Shropshire responded that she could provide the information for projects specified. Some would be difficult to ascertain as original dates had passed.

Mr. Agnello stated they would be committed projects and those for SMART SCALE such as this Spotsylvania US1/Market Street and Rte 3 Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) Study.

h. UPC 109467 – US-1 & Telegraph Road/Woodstock Lane Project Update – Chair Owskiak

Mr. Owskiak noted that there had been additional increases of \$140k to the project, bringing the total to around \$9.8M. He stated that Stafford County awaited Policy Committee approval of the pending \$525k in STBG funds.

i. Performance Based Planning and Programming Update – Adam Hager

Mr. Hager provided a summary of items and timeline needed to implement and/or adopt statewide standards.

i. Public Transit Agency Safety Plan

Mr. Hager stated that language from DRPT would go directly into the FAMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document via administrative modification.

ii. Highway Safety Target Setting

iii. Bridge Condition Target Setting

Mr. Hager noted that staff's intention is for these letters from the FAMPO Policy Committee Chair would adopt the statewide targets.

j. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Updates – Jordan Chandler

i. Equity Analysis Methodology

Ms. Chandler reminded the group that this was federally mandated for inclusion in the TIP. Of three methodologies considered:

1. Richmond MPO
2. VDOT
3. Roanoke Valley MPO

Ms. Chandler stated that her analysis found Roanoke Valley's approach to be the most comprehensive and allowed for comparative indexing. It could evaluate populations both individually and comprehensively to determine how transportation projects impacted them.

ii. Rollover Amendment

Ms. Chandler noted that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the FY21-24 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in September and was implemented on October 1st, creating a rollover amendment for the FAMPO area which should come through by early next year.

k. Regional Study Ideas and Proposals Update – Adam Hager

Mr. Hager noted ideas from Spotsylvania County for study consideration and inquired of VDOT a timeline on submission.

Mr. Haynes responded that he was the contact, especially for STARS applications. They were previously due around April/May; he requested submission by March 2021.

Ms. Shropshire asked for clarification of corridor improvement at Route 17.

Mr. Agnello stated it was an idea for Route 17 corridor improvement near the VRE station where significant development and population growth was projected.

Ms. Shropshire noted that there was limited access to Route 17 down to New Post and

there is currently wide right of way (ROW).

Mr. Agnello stated that the freeway model with interchanges for Route 17 that was once proposed is no longer viable given fiscal limits. In addition, the current two-lane highway did not meet traffic volume and safety needs. He noted that VDOT might have alternate ideas such as, innovative intersections, to plan for corridor preservation.

Mr. Agnello asked VDOT how many studies can be funded by the state; and if studies are approved, can they be completed before the next round of SMART SCALE?

Mr. Haynes answered that the number was unknown due to the competitive process. Several study ideas had already been submitted for consideration. He estimated that most studies should start a year before deadline; the more intensive ones might require more time; he will look into the ideas and respond.

Mr. Nelson asked Ms. Shropshire the ROW width of Route 17.

She answered that it varied along the corridor. In many places she thought it was possibly wide enough for four lanes. VDOT would have to refer to plans for exact numbers.

Mr. Nelson responded that her response sufficiently answered his inquiry.

1. TAC Bylaws Update for Remote Participation – Stacey Feindt
 - i. Current Bylaws
 - ii. **Draft Amended Bylaws (ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Hager stepped in for Ms. Feindt, due to audio difficulties, and presented proposed changes for remote participation under regular circumstances, as well as a state of emergency.

Motion was made to adopt the TAC Bylaws with proposed amendments.

Motion: Mr. Nelson; Second: Mr. Agnello

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

8. Correspondence - None

9. Staff Reports

Mr. Hager noted the FAMPO Calendar to reference meetings through FY2021.

10. Member Reports

- DRPT Ms. Williams referenced the website for document review and upcoming workshops:
 - Draft FY21 STIP posted for public comment
 - December 1, 2020 – February 1, 2021: FY22 allocation cycle
 - Workshops to review
 - FY21 Work process
 - FY22 Application process
 - November 11: Human Service Transportation - 5310, State and Senior Programs
 - December 1: Public Transportation and Special Programs; Commuter Assistance Program
- Spotsylvania County Mr. Agnello asked if VDOT had meetings planned for the Route 1 Corridor study at Massaponax
 - Mr. Haynes responded that Ms. LaSut would respond with meeting information and status updates

- Ms. Shropshire noted virtual public meeting advertisements on the VDOT website back in spring

Mr. Agnello stated he was inquiring about alternative recommendations.

11. Adjourn Technical Advisory Committee Meeting / Next Meeting Monday, January 4, 2021 at 9:30 am

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Owsiak adjourned the Technical Advisory Committee meeting at **11:39 am**.

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