



FREDERICKSBURG AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING

Remote Format (No in-person attendance in light of COVID-19)
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/> ♦ 406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg VA 22401

Thursday, February 4, 2021 – 6:00 pm
MEETING MINUTES

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 Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee webpage:
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/bicycle-and-pedestrian-advisory-committee/>

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

Attendance:

Committee Members Present:

Chairman Craig Pennington, Caroline County
Vice Chair Brian Geouge, Stafford County
Ms. Yamina Jordan, Stafford County
Mr. Chris Clarke, King George County
Mr. Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Ms. Kristin Harding, Spotsylvania County Citizen Representative
Ms. Linda LaSut, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Ms. Kirsten Talken-Spaulding, National Park Service (NPS)
Mr. Adam Lynch, Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR)
Mr. Jim Lynch, Friends of the Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail (DRHT); Potomac Heritage Trail Association (PHTA)
Ms. Debra Fults, disAbility Resource Center
Mr. Rob Maple, Fredericksburg Trails Alliance (FredTrails)
Mr. Stan Huie, Fredericksburg Cyclist Club (FCC); Spotsylvania Greenways Initiative (SGI); Virginia Bicycle Federation (VBF)
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect

Others Present:

Ms. Joy Himes, Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
Mr. Brandon Brown, Stafford County
Ms. Sarah Sanford
Ms. Tammy Holt
Ms. Anna G
A Griffin

FAMPO/GWRC Staff Present:

Mr. Ian Ollis, Administrator/Director of Transportation Planning
Ms. Kari Barber, Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator/Regional Planner
Ms. Leah Vigil, FAMPO Administrative Assistant
Ms. Stacey Feindt, Public Involvement/Title VI Coordinator
Mr. Adam Hager, Transportation Planner

Speaker name: Summary of talking points, not direct quotes unless indicated with quotation marks.

1. Call BPAC Meeting to Order – Chairman Craig Pennington

Chairman Pennington called the February 4, 2021 BPAC meeting to order at **6:00 pm**

2. Roll Call – Ms. Leah Vigil

Ms. Vigil called the roll.

Chair Pennington welcomed Stafford members Yamina Jordan (staff alternate), Stephen Littlewood (citizen representative) and At-Large candidate John Lysner to the committee.

3. Approval of the February 4, 2021 BPAC Meeting Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the February 4, 2021 BPAC Meeting Agenda as amended:

- Chair Pennington: Item 7.b. was no longer needed since Stafford County approved pending members last night and submitted documentation; it should be removed from the agenda.

Motion: Mr. Chris Clarke; Second: Mr. Jacob Pastwik

Motion passed by unanimous consent

4. Approval of the December 3, 2020 BPAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the December 3, 2020 BPAC Meeting Minutes with amendments:

- Mr. Jim Lynch: Requested clarification of his statement regarding a community foundation-awarded grant
- Mr. Jacob Pastwik: Requested amendment to his locality update on page 5, to solicit collaboration and consideration by NPS with Spotsylvania County and its Master Plan regarding the Ni River Trail Corridor and connectivity.

Motion: Mr. Jim Lynch; Second: Ms. Leigh Anderson

Motion passed by unanimous consent

5. Public Comment – Chair Pennington asked if there was anyone online who wished to comment.

Ms. Leah Vigil read an email submitted by City of Fredericksburg resident, Elizabeth LeDoux:

Good evening,

I saw a Facebook post asking for thoughts on biking and walking trails in Fredericksburg. The Federal "Safe Routes to Schools" program has federal money for building walking and biking trails to schools.

I propose we use funds like these to build a bike trail that runs from Learning Lane, running north along Rt1, all the way to James Monroe High School, connecting all of our schools to the same new path, and connecting to the VCR trail, and the Canal Path, giving a huge percentage of our school age children access to a path route to every school in our district.

Also, the large number of people walking along Rt. 1 would have a safe path to get to their destination (which I'm guessing is to shopping.) Next we can address a safe path along Lafayette Boulevard for the same purpose.

Thanks for your consideration.

6. Review of January 25, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting – Ms. Kari Barber

a. Administrator Report – Mr. Ian Ollis

Mr. Ollis presented his report.

b. Public Comment Period – Ms. Stacey Feindt



Ms. Feindt noted the public comment period and a public hearing on the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) amendment to include non-citizen provisions for hiring FAMPO staff.

c. BPAC At-Large Vacancies – Ms. Kari Barber

Ms. Barber stated that this was brought to the Policy Committee and as noted, Stafford found a candidate for the Policy Committee to approve one of the of the two At-Large openings for BPAC membership.

Approved amended agenda

7. Discussion / Action Items

a. **Approve addition of Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) agency membership (ACTION ITEM)** - Mr. Craig Pennington

Motion made to approve addition of PRTC as a member agency to the BPAC.

Motion: Chair Pennington; Second: Ms. Leigh Anderson

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Chair Pennington welcomed Ms. Joy Himes as the appointment for the agency.

b. Welcome Pending Members – Mr. Craig Pennington

Removed

c. East Coast Greenway (ECG) Guest Presentation - Ms. Sarah Sanford, East Coast Greenway Alliance

Ms. Sanford presented on ECG, including:

- Routing information: <https://www.greenway.org/design-guide>
- Mapping tool and trip planner: <https://map.greenway.org/>
- Guidance and resources for feasibility study to be conducted due to an awarded grant
- Email: sarah@greenway.org

Mr. Jim Lynch inquired if ECG would meet with him to discuss PHTA for an off-road trail going east through Stafford County.

Ms. Sanford replied she was interested and had ongoing interaction with PHTA in Prince William.

d. Update on System for the Allocation of Management and Resources for Transportation (SMART SCALE) Round 4 - Ms. Kari Barber

Ms. Barber noted the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)-recommended 9 projects for bike-ped improvements (slide 5) with costs and details.

- Projects would be considered for the Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP)
- The final list of projects would be out in June

Mr. Jim Lynch: Would 2022 SMART SCALE applications be due around August this year?

Ms. Barber and Chair Pennington agreed it would be around that time [Ms. Barber misheard the question - it will be August 2022 for scoring in 2023].

Mr. Stan Huie: When would projects be completed?



Ms. Barber: Once adopted into the SYIP, ideally around 6 years.

Chair Pennington: Projects approved in 2020 were estimated to be completed by 2026; Round 4 would have final approval in 2021, estimated completion would be in 2027.

Mr. Jacob Pastwik: Gave an overview on Spotsylvania County SMART SCALE projects:

- Pedestrian crossing Route 208 at Four Mile Fork had not been forgotten
- Lafayette Blvd would get an extended north-sidewalk up to the Fredericksburg city-line
- Rtes 2 and 17 widening had recreation easements in the works, for estimated completion 2029-2030
- Alternative funding for intersection improvements and crosswalks at Harrison Road and Salem Church Road had been obtained. Those alternative funds include TAP and prior round of SMART SCALE.

e. Update on the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) Greenway Feasibility Study - Ms. Kari Barber

Ms. Barber noted that the first meeting would be in March; she might send out a survey on priorities.

Mr. Jim Lynch requested that the map be emailed to study participants.

Ms. Barber responded that she could send it out.

f. Calendar Update – Ms. Leah Vigil

Ms. Vigil presented the latest calendar draft of FAMPO meetings; the proposed BPAC meeting schedule was accepted.

8. Correspondence

Ms. Vigil thanked the committee for the positive response received after she contacted localities and agencies for member documentation and requested remaining member confirmations.

9. Staff Reports

Ms. Kari Barber reported:

- Locality due dates for applications:
 - Transportation Alternatives (TA) Funding
 - Portal would open mid-May 2021
 - Pre-applications would be due July 1, 2021
 - Applications would be due October 1, 2021
 - Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Funding
 - Portal would open August 1, 2021
 - Applications would be due November 1, 2021
- FAMPO recognition of BPAC members with certificates of appreciation for later delivery:
 - Mr. Erik Nelson (not in attendance) for his contribution upon his retirement
Ms. Talken-Spauldung expressed appreciation for Mr. Nelson and his work on the committee on behalf of the BPAC members.
 - Mr. Jacob Pastwik for his service as BPAC chairman
- Gratitude to volunteers on the Regional Micro-mobility Policy working group; she would be in contact:
 - Mr. Jacob Pastwik



- Ms. Debe Fults
- Chair Pennington
- Mr. Stan Huie
- Ms. Kari Barber
- FAMPO staff member Matthew Lehane was well received for his StreetLight Data presentation to the State Bike-Ped Committee at its recent meeting; he would update BPAC at the next meeting

10. Member & Chair Reports

- Stafford County – Mr. Brian Geouge:
 - Work on application for Virginia Statewide Transportation Plan (VTrans) multimodal grant for Route 17 corridor
 - Trail development near the 7-11 at Leeland and Deacon Rd; a shared-use path was negotiated
 - Rezoning for Mine Rd for a shared-use path
 - Progress on a downtown development; eventual mixed use
- Spotsylvania County – Ms. Kristin Harding noted the following community feedback:
 - Pandemic resulted in increased trail use
 - Not enough trails available nor ability to properly distance from others
 - Crosswalk and trail concern:
 - Safety – children; women requested blue light for emergency help
 - Adequate lighting
 - Bike and vehicle speed
 - Connectivity of residential areas to commerce
- Caroline County – Chair Pennington:
 - Expressed personal gratitude toward Mr. Nelson; he learned a lot from him over 5 years of acquaintance
 - Caroline would get a sizable store, Tractor Supply; hoped to connect to commercial development with bike-ped improvements in the Ladysmith area
- FOR – Mr. Adam Lynch found abundant litter on Virginia Central Railway (VCR) Trail and would be organizing a volunteer cleanup; he welcomed BPAC participation and/or cross promoting
- VBF – Mr. Stan Huie reported legislative consideration of a cycling safety bill:
 - House Bill 2262; Senate Bill 1263
 - Would require full lane change for motorized vehicles passing
 - Would allow cyclist “Idaho Stop,” rather than full stop
 - He would promote citizen feedback to legislators to support the bill
- PHTA – Mr. Jim Lynch noted new NPS acting manager, Anne O’Neill
 - Would have a 120-day detail
 - Slated to onboard February 20th
 - Would email her for introductions to Fredericksburg contacts and regional interaction of the trail
- DRHT – Mr. Jim Lynch stated the organization would host one of the first off-road fun runs on the trail for Ainsley’s Angels of America this Saturday; there would be an article in the DRHT newsletter, he should be contacted for mailing list inclusion
- NPS – Ms. Kirsten Talken-SpaULDing clarified the new mask mandate:
 - For indoors
 - To implement when outdoors and unable to maintain 6ft separation from others



- VDOT – Ms. Linda LaSut thanked Ms. Kari Barber for her research, work and presentation on the SMART SCALE projects; she noted that Ms. Barber successfully covered far more projects than the two bike/ped projects that Ms. LaSut provided her
- GWRideConnect – Ms. Leigh Anderson expressed appreciation to:
 - Mr. Erik Nelson for help with GWRideConnect and personally through the years
 - Ms. Stacey Feindt for assistance in setting up a Healthy Generations Area Agency on Aging (HGAAA) Travel Training session for the GWRideConnect staff
- PRTC – Ms. Joy Himes noted 6 Omniride trips would be added to Stafford in May
- disAbility Resource Center – Ms. Debe Fults stated Ainsley’s Angels was a wonderful organization that allowed those in wheelchairs to participate in walks or runs; they were on the lookout for more wheelchair movers, research them if interested
- Chair Pennington thanked former Chair Pastwik for his role in running previous meetings; he hoped he could do as well.

11. Adjourn BPAC Meeting / Next Meeting: April 1, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Motion made to adjourn the February 4, 2021 BPAC meeting at **8:00 pm.**

Motion: Mr. Jim Lynch; Second: Ms. Linda LaSut

Motion passed by unanimous consent

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