



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday ♦ March 1, 2021 ♦ 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

Brandon Brown, Stafford County

Jason Towery, Stafford County

Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County

Rodney White, Spotsylvania County

Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg

Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Stephen Haynes, VDOT

Bob Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)

Joe Stainsby, PRTC

Craig Pennington, Caroline County

Nick Minor, King George County

Kimberly Wilson, King George County

Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect

Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect

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

Richard Duran, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Sonali Soneji, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

Jamie Jackson, FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)

Aidan Quirke, FRED

Others Present:

Doug Fawcett, City of Fredericksburg

Linda LaSut, VDOT

Susan Gardner, VDOT

Katherine Youngbluth, DRPT

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

Speaker: Summary of speaking points

1. Call to Order

Chairman Owsiak called the FAMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting to Order at **9:32 am.**

2. Determination of a Quorum

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

3. Approval of the March 1, 2021 TAC Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Paul Agnello proposed amending the agenda order to discuss item 7.d. before 7.c.

The March 1, 2021 TAC Agenda was approved with amended sequence by unanimous consent.

4. Approval of February 1, 2021 TAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

The February 1, 2021 TAC minutes were approved without changes, by unanimous consent.

5. Review of the February 22, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting and February 25, 2021 FAMPO Executive Committee Meeting – Ian Ollis

Mr. Ollis reviewed Policy Committee meetings:

- Quorum present at two meetings of the new year
- Executive Committee meeting approved for February 25, 2021
 - Approval of amendment to staffing in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

6. Public Comment

Chair Owsiak asked if there was anyone online who wished to comment. There was not.

Δ Approved amended order of agenda

7. Discussion/Action Items

a. Transportation Planning Board (TPB)-FAMPO Memorandum of Understanding (ACTION ITEM) – Ian Ollis

Mr. Ollis gave a brief update of the MOU.

Mr. Jason Towery noted Stafford concern for Item B to keep the statement referring to the CMP.

Mr. Ollis responded that the TPB edited it out to avoid repetition; the first statement in the section addressed north Stafford benefits.

Motion was made to approve the TPB-FAMPO MOU as presented.

Motion: Mr. Paul Agnello; Second: Chair Alex Owsiak

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

b. GWRideConnect Funding Update – Kate Gibson

Ms. Gibson presented updated information on GWRideConnect:

- Follow-up from Policy Committee member Mr. Matthew Kelly's request
- Off the top CMAQ funding of \$125k-\$225k allocated to GWRideConnect in past years
- \$0 CMAQ funds in current budget; \$65k decrease from FY20 (typical year comparison)
- Requested FAMPO staff assistance and inclusion in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) under Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- Decision needed on amount approved in spring for FY22

Mr. Paul Agnello noted:

- Some amounts on Slide 4 would not count as they were non-staff items
- FY22 should include FY21 CMAQ rollover
- 5307 had been suggested for allocation for strategic planning
- Spotsylvania County would like to discuss bringing funds back to full amount for

FY27 leased spaces at the Field House

Ms. Gibson responded:

- She thought PRTC had not viewed strategic planning as eligible for 5307 funding
- She would flag leased spaces for further discussion.

Ms. Jamie Jackson made several comments:

- Inquired if the Policy Committee would revisit allocating CMAQ funds to GWRideConnect
- Recommended use of CMAQ funds for multi-modal use for GWRideConnect
- As a budget document, the CMAQ rollover could not be shown or accessed until the period closed

Ms. Gibson responded that she had this on the agenda at the request of Mr. Kelly; she did not know if Policy Committee would address it again; current need was for strategic planning.

Chairman Owsiak asked if there was FAMPO staff capacity to work on strategic planning.

Mr. Ollis answered that the document tasked FAMPO staff with activities such as, mapping and StreetLight data collection, which staff could complete.

c. 5307 Discussion – Chairman Owsiak

Chairman Owsiak noted \$2.79M Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) for consideration to replace with 5307 funding for the VRE project at Leeland and Brooke stations.

Mr. Paul Agnello stated there was relative abundance of 5307 funds (\$5.5M through FY22) to CMAQ scarcity; and requested that this be placed on the April agenda.

- 5307 funds should be allocated in near term to meet federal requirements
- Transferring funds source to 5307 from CMAQ, thereby freeing CMAQ funds, had several potential advantages:
 - Increased funds for local transportation projects
 - Decreased near term project deficits
 - Created contingencies for CMAQ projects
 - Assisted funding to GWRideConnect
- Would require FAMPO and GWRC approval

Ms. Jamie Jackson noted that VRE might have a timeline on the process in order to release the CMAQ funds which would need GWRC board approval.

Ms. Michelle Shropshire stated that DRPT would need to approve transfer of funds for VRE projects and agreed that changes would require approval from GWRC and FAMPO.

Mr. Ian Ollis noted that CMAQ funding had been taken from FAMPO staff budget, causing staffing constraints.

Ms. Sonali Soneji, Ms. Ciara Williams and Ms. Kate Gibson said they would consult with and/or notify respective agencies on the matter.

d. FY22-27 CMAQ/Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Process – Adam Hager

Mr. Hager presented on CMAQ/STBG funds:

- There were two documents of approved methodology at the Policy Committee meeting and updated project lists for allocations
 - There were no balance entries for CMAQ/STBG funds
 - Call for projects:
 - No limit to project quantity per applicant; however, staff requested no more than three each
 - Began March 1 through March 22, 2021
 - Draft allocations would be released for TAC review April 7, 2021
 - The application was a Google form; he would notify the group if it was possible to save work then resume at a later point
 - All TAC members would be eligible applicants
 - Route 1/Market Street funding update:
 - Policy Committee had approved fully funding the project in September 2020
 - FY25-26 project funds' transfer to the Market Street project was an option
 - May approach step by step to fully fund the project
 - FAMPO needed the FY27 budget from VDOT for allocations
- e. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update – Ian Ollis

Mr. Ollis noted the LRTP update approach in stages, the roadway projects was the first one; transit prioritization would follow; continued work with Cambridge Systematics for modeling.

Mr. Hager then presented on:

- Roadway project prioritization methodology
 - Proof of concept utilized existing projects and Round 4 System for the Management and Allocation of Resources for Transportation (SMART SCALE) projects in FAMPO
 - Would update prioritization methodology for each project type for the LRTP
 - Once completely updated, they would reissue 2050 LRTP call for projects
 - This would take an estimated 14 months
 - The update would be used for CMAQ/STBG
 - Evaluation metrics:
 - SMART SCALE: total 60%
 - Statewide coordination measure: 10%
 - Project benefit measure (more qualitative): 30%
 - Virtual workshop to discuss hurdles and scoring details on March 19, 2021 at 9:30am
 - Would seek Policy Committee approval in April 2021
- 2050 revenue forecasts for FY2021-2050 for the (Fiscally) Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) provided estimates as requested by Mr. Paul Agnello

Mr. Agnello thanked Mr. Hager for the work and noted the concern was for FY 2021, FY2024 and FY2025 which projected significant decreases; however, from FY2026 forward, forecasts showed consistent increases which would allow for transportation planning projects.

- f. 2045 CLRP Amendment – Adam Hager

Mr. Hager stated that VDOT requested preparation of this amendment:

- Comments and feedback were requested prior to presenting to the Policy Committee later in the month
 - PE Studies had a couple larger projects for Spotsylvania County to initiate; VDOT recommended beginning them in the category to prevent the need for air quality conformity analysis
 - The Lafayette Blvd SMART SCALE project would be distinct and separate from the current Lafayette Blvd multi-modal, widening project; its size and scope would not require air quality conformity in the CLRP
- g. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Equity Analysis Update – Jordan Chandler
- Ms. Chandler gave an update on the TIP Equity Analysis:
- Examined traditionally underserved populations:
 - Minorities
 - Low Income
 - Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
 - Goal was to ensure transportation planning would not create a disproportionate burden
 - Completed draft by mid-March
 - Finalized document in April 2021
- h. Request for Proposal (RFP) for On-Call Consultants Update – Ian Ollis
- Mr. Ollis noted draft stage of new RFPs as contracts had expired and would be reviewed by all committees in order for FAMPO staff to complete future work.
- i. Transportation Alternatives (TA) Funding – Chairman Owsiak
- Chairman Owsiak stated FAMPO had certain TA funds allotted for the north Stafford, Transportation Management Area (TMA):
- competing resolutions were drawn up for the same funding on separate projects:
 - Onville sidewalk
 - Flatford sidewalk
 - Stafford County would resolve funding and allocate to the Flatford sidewalk project
 - Further update would be presented in April 2021

8. Correspondence

Mr. Ollis noted that Ms. Vigil had been communicating with various members for updated documents; he asked that members respond as requested confirming and/or clarifying appointments.

9. Staff Reports

Mr. Ollis noted the updated meeting calendar finalized by Ms. Vigil with FAMPO committee schedules.

10. Member Reports

- Stafford County Chairman Owsiak noted Mr. Brandon Brown would be a primary voting member on TAC.
- DRPT Ciara Williams updated members:
 - The application period for the Merit Grant closed February 3, 2021

- Review of applications for FY22 Transit Capital, Operating and Special Programs had begun
- SMART SCALE scoring was completed
- The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA), established by the General Assembly, would meet
 - Next on March 22, 2021
 - <http://drpt.virginia.gov/vpra/board-meetings/> for more information

11. Adjourn Technical Advisory Committee Meeting / Next Meeting Monday, April 12, 2021 at 9:30 am

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Owsiak adjourned the Technical Advisory Committee meeting at **11:07 am**.

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