

CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 - 6:00pm

Remote-only

(No in-person attendance in light of COVID-19)

<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 video recording of the meeting will be posted to the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) web page: <https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/citizens-transportation-advisory-committee/>

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

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Dave McLaughlin, Chair, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Joshua Brock, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. John Castellarin, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Matthew Rowe, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Al Durante, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Neil Holloran, Spotsylvania County
Mr. David Swan, Stafford County
Ms. Ethylean Crenshaw, Stafford County
Mr. Wade Suddreth, Stafford County
Ms. Tara Durant, Stafford County
Dr. Robert Gates, King George County
Mr. Larry Gross, At-Large
Mr. Rupert Farley, At-Large
Mr. Dustin Savage, At-Large

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Ken Pogue, Caroline County
Mr. Michael Hoyt, Caroline County
Mr. Justin Chenault, Caroline County
Mr. Melvin Allen, Sr., Stafford County
Mr. Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County

Others Present:

Mr. Brandon Brown
Ms. Karina Romero
Mr. Daniel M.
Mr. Vivek Hariharan

Staff Present:

Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator
Ms. Kari Barber, Transportation Planner & Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator
Ms. Stacey Feindt, Public Involvement/Title VI Coordinator
Mr. Matthew Lehane, Transportation Planner
Ms. Jordan Chandler, Transportation Planner
Mr. Adam Hager, Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order – Chairman Dave McLaughlin
The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.
2. Roll Call – Stacey Feindt
Ms. Feindt called the roll.
3. **Approval of the May 12, 2021 Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**
Motion was made to approve the May 12, 2021 CTAC agenda.
Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Swan.
Motion passed with unanimous consent.
4. **Approval of April 7, 2021 CTAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**
Chair McLaughlin suggested clarifying what a “mode” meant during the StreetLight discussion. He also suggested adding Ms. Feindt’s response to Mr. Farley’s comment under Member Reports.

Motion was made to approve the April 7, 2021 CTAC meeting minutes, as amended.
Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Durante.
Abstentions: Dr. Gates, Mr. Swan, and Mr. Savage.
Motion passed with unanimous consent.
5. Old Business – Chair McLaughlin
Chair McLaughlin did not present Old Business.
6. Review of April 19, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting
Ms. Feindt reviewed the April 19 Policy Committee meeting which included: an update on the project prioritization methodology for the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, a funding transfer for a Transportation Alternatives project in Stafford County, no action on a request for a letter from FAMPO in support of Spotsylvania transportation projects to be considered for federal funding, and a different meeting date for the May Policy Committee meeting.
7. Public Comment
No public comments were made.
8. Member Discussion and Action
 - a. New Community Engagement and Equity Plan – Stacey Feindt
Ms. Feindt noted this document would go before the Policy Committee for approval in June. She differentiated equality and equity and described why equity is important in providing opportunities for members of the public to play a role in transportation planning. Ms. Feindt went over the requirement for MPOs to have a Title VI and Public Participation Plan and described how this new document fulfills requirements on both fronts. The plan itself is a guide for staff to ensure meaningful public participation in the planning process. Ms. Feindt went over the schedule for this document’s review and approval.

b. Rural Transportation Work Plan – Kari Barber

Ms. Barber reviewed the Rural Transportation Work Plan for FY22, stating that the program outlines GWRC’s transportation planning work in King George and Caroline Counties. She detailed the projects staff will undertake in the coming year and the process staff went through with the localities to develop the plan.

Chair McLaughlin asked about the “SPR” acronym in the document. Mr. Hager explained this was a funding bucket for the program which means State Planning and Research.

c. King George Transportation Planning Update – Matthew Lehane

Mr. Lehane presented an update on a feasibility study to reinstate FREDericksburg Regional Transit service in King George County. He noted that service has not operated recently in the County and that staff is analyzing more recent data to identify whether service could or should be reinstated. He highlighted an analysis of commuters within the county and potential bus stop locations near the Dahlgren area in light of where population growth is expected to occur.

Dr. Gates asked whether conversations had taken place with NSWC Dahlgren regarding the method in which transit users would be able to access other places within the base once arriving at the front gate. Mr. Lehane reported that no conversations had yet taken place with the base.

Chair McLaughlin asked about potential success stories from the 2018 FAMPO study. Mr. Lehane was not with staff at the time, but did not recall any implemented improvements.

Mr. Savage asked if this study effort was relying on base activity for justification to reinstate the service. Mr. Lehane said that no, it is not relying on the base. He mentioned that the highest amount trips take place in the Dahlgren area, but there are transit-dependent riders in other places in the County.

Mr. Durante asked what kind of service would be implemented. Mr. Lehane mentioned the current FRED schedule, which operates from the morning commute to the evening commute.

d. Update on Lafayette Blvd Multimodal Study Phase Two – Ian Ollis

Mr. Ollis provided an update on the ongoing Lafayette Blvd Multimodal Study, Phase Two. He mentioned that an internal stakeholder meeting has recently taken place and the consultant is working on updated recommendations. A public meeting will be held in the near future and staff will report on the effort’s progress.

e. CTAC’s Advisory Role – Stacey Feindt

Ms. Feindt followed up on a discussion from the last CTAC meeting related to the committee’s role to provide a citizen’s perspective on transportation issues to the FAMPO Policy Committee. She solicited ideas for the CTAC to explore.

Mr. Brock noted that the ideas presented by staff look good and wanted to reiterate that the Policy Committee should always be able to ask the CTAC for guidance. He noted that the most important topic presented was the link between land use and transportation.

Chair McLaughlin concurred with Mr. Brock’s comments and asked if the Long Range Transportation Plan could address this linkage.

Mr. Durante and Mr. Ollis discussed some of the practical implications of addressing the land use-transportation issue.

Mr. Swan introduced the idea of discussing zoning and how it fits into the transportation network.

Mr. Ollis inquired of the group where development should take place given that most discussions are around where it should not take place. Mr. Farley said that development should take place where there are transit options. He noted that FAMPO has been reactionary, rather than being proactive in planning.

Chair McLaughlin wrapped up the conversation by stating that the committee would continue to explore the topic of land use and also members should experience the FRED bus, or utilize the offer by Healthy Generations to do a travel training session then discuss their experiences.

f. Endorsement of Documents out for Public Comment – Stacey Feindt

Ms. Feindt solicited action from the committee on three FAMPO documents: the FY22 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment, and FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment. Mr. Hager provided an overview of the UPWP.

Ms. Feindt noted that CTAC endorsement is not required, but the committee could act as they wish.

Chair McLaughlin noted that the documents had become rather technical. Mr. Swan agreed and stated that CTAC should trust the FAMPO Technical Advisory Committee’s review of the UPWP.

Chair McLaughlin made a motion to endorse the 2045 LRTP Amendment and FY21-24 TIP Amendment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swan and passed unanimously.

g. Nominations for CTAC Officers

The committee discussed the process for nominations and the election of officers that will take place next month. Chair McLaughlin indicated he would reach out to Stafford membership to inquire about potential chairs for the next year.

9. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

10. Correspondence

Ms. Feindt shared information related to the Draft Six-Year Improvement Program. Mr. Swan thanked the staff for making such information highly accessible in the agenda.

11. Staff Reports

Ms. Feindt mentioned an upcoming virtual transportation equity discussion panel and encouraged CTAC members to tune in via Facebook or YouTube livestream.

Ms. Feindt also mentioned that Mr. Stan Huie has resigned from CTAC.

12. Member Reports

Ms. Crenshaw asked when CTAC might return to in-person meetings. Ms. Feindt described the legal framework that allows for virtual meetings and noted that depending on the governor’s actions, it may

be necessary to return to in-person meetings this summer.

Mr. Swan discussed the potential forthcoming infrastructure plan at the federal level, noting it may provide funding for transportation in our region. He said it would be beneficial for the Fredericksburg Commonwealth Transportation Board representative to keep our region apprised of the next steps.

Mr. Farley reminded the committee of the correct pronunciation of “Dahlgren”.

13. Adjourn Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting/Next Meeting June 16, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:41pm. Motion was made by Mr. Farley and seconded by Mr. Swan. Motion passed unanimously.