

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Draft

August 16, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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Committee Members Present: *(V) indicates voting member*

Mr. Tim McLaughlin, Chair, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Jason Graham, First Vice-Chair, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Matthew Kelly, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Timothy Baroody, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Cindy Lamb, Second Vice-Chair, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Crystal Vanuch, Stafford County (V)
Mr. Mark Dudenhefer, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Meg Bohmke, alternate Stafford County (V)
Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) (V)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Annie Cupka, King George County
Ms. Cathy Binder, alternate King George County (Attended virtually from home, personal reason)
Ms. Jamie Jackson, FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Mr. Aidan Quirke, alternate FRED (Attended virtually from home, personal reason)
Ms. Susan Gardner, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Todd Horsley, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) (Attended virtually from home, personal reason)
Mr. David McLaughlin, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)

Committee Members Present (remotely, without virtual participation request):

Mr. Chris Yakabouski, Spotsylvania County (V) (Virtual attendance from home)
Mr. Tom Coen, alternate Stafford County (V) (Virtual attendance from home)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, alternate PRTC (V) (Virtual attendance from home)

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Mark Whitley, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Kevin Marshall, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Gary Skinner, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Deborah Frazier, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Jeffery Sili, Caroline County
Mr. Jeffrey Black, alternate Caroline County
Mr. Stephen Haynes, alternate VDOT
Ms. Ciara Williams, alternate DRPT
Mr. Ivan Rucker, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Ms. Tonya Holland, Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Mr. Cedric Rucker, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)

Others Present:

Mr. Joe Brito
Mr. Eric Harpootian (remote attendance)
Ms. Kate Gibson, GWRC (remote attendance)
Ms. Michele Dooling, GWRC (remote attendance)
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect (remote attendance)
Ms. Linda LaSut, VDOT (remote attendance)
Mr. Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County (remote attendance)
Mr. Paul Prideaux (remote attendance)
Mr. Brandon Brown, Stafford County (remote attendance)

Staff Present:

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

1. Call Policy Committee Meeting to Order

Chair McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Ms. Feindt conducted roll call and determined a quorum present.

3. Approval of the August 16, 2021 Policy Committee Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the August 16, 2021 Policy Committee agenda.

Motion: Mr. Graham; Second: Ms. Lamb

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Public Involvement

Staff read two comments. The first from Ms. Jane Leeds who wrote concerning the fair distribution of expected federal infrastructure funding for those with mobility challenges. The second comment was from Jannec Horning, the owner of the Alpine Chef restaurant who conveyed that because the train station lacked restroom facilities, travelers were using his restroom and increasing his water bill. Chair McLaughlin asked Mr. Ollis to formally transmit this comment to the City of Fredericksburg.

5. Public Hearing

Staff read three comments that expressed concerns with the FRED Transit parking lot project. Comments were received from Ms. Jane Leeds, Mr. Rupert Farley, and Mr. David McLaughlin.

In summary, comments expressed concerns that there is not enough public information on the project for the public to submit meaningful comments; that there is not a true need for more parking; that GWRideConnect showed that it was cheaper to lease parking spaces than to build and own them; that parking spaces encourage automobile dependency; that the project doesn't serve those who are solely dependent of public transportation; and that the money would be

better spent on service improvements, and supplementing fare for community members who are senior citizens, have a disability that limits transportation options, or who are designated as low-income.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of June 21, 2021, Policy Committee Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Ms. Vanuch; Second: Mr. Graham

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. FAMPO Administrator Report

Mr. Ollis provided a report focused on the anticipated federal infrastructure bill, old business including presentations at the last Policy Committee meeting, preliminary 2020 U.S. Census data, and work to be completed by staff on the CMAQ/STBG prioritization methodology. He also encouraged members to convey work they would like to see staff complete and bring up topics of discussion for future meetings with the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) and the Virginia secretary of transportation meetings.

8. Action/Discussion Items

a. FAMPO Transportation Improvements Survey

Mr. Ollis presented the findings from the Transportation Improvements Survey. The results show that the public has more interest in transit than expected and also allowed staff to map areas where people have a desire for more transit service. The survey data captures why people do not take transit and what would entice them to take it. Roadway concerns were also collected. Staff have passed on more targeted findings to FAMPO localities and transit agencies. The survey findings will help inform the development of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and also the East – West Mobility Study.

b. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update

Mr. Hager showed a presentation on progress staff are making on the 2050 LRTP . 149 new projects were submitted by localities and agencies for consideration on the draft list of fiscally constrained projects. Mr. Hager showed the breakdown of projects by locality and agency. He stated that committees and the public will review the draft list through September and committees will consider the adoption of the list during September meetings.

Mr. Graham asked if modeling was used to develop the draft project list.

Mr. Hager responded that it was not in a direct way but that modeling will be part of the larger 2050 LRTP development process.

c. SMART SCALE Round 5 Update

Mr. Lehane presented the timeline for SMART SCALE Round 5. Staff are now reviewing the localities' submitted projects. He showed a list of projects by locality and transit agency. Regional projects that are submitted by the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) and FAMPO will be evaluated based on the 2050 LRTP project prioritization process.

d. **Resolution 22-01: Approving an Amendment to the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add Park n' Ride and Parking Lot Purchase for FREDericksburg Regional Transit (ACTION ITEM)**

Ms. Chandler explained that FRED Transit was requesting that a parking and park n' ride lot project be added to the FY21-24 TIP. She reminded committee members that they had heard public comments received during the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Mr. Ollis clarified that the action was not to allocate funding but rather include the project into the FAMPO TIP.

Chair McLaughlin asked for confirmation that the projected cost of the parking lot was \$1.7 million. Ms. Jackson responded that that figure was correct but no funding is being allocated at this time. Ms. Jackson continued that the project is in FRED's transit development plan (TDP) and adding it to the TIP starts the process of evaluating options.

Ms. Jackson stated that FRED has identified additional parking needs for staff, cyclists, and commuters. The parking lot would serve as a multi-modal hub.

Mr. Graham asked if parking was expanded, would there be a possibility that OmniRide commuter buses would travel further down from north Stafford into the city. Dr. Schneider responded that that was a possibility.

Mr. Graham asked Ms. Jackson to explain a word she had used, "multi-modal hub". Ms. Jackson replied that multi-modal hub means that Uber, Lyft, Greyhound, and cyclists all could use the lot.

Chair McLaughlin asked what the project would compete against in terms of funding. Ms. Jackson replied that for FRED, funding the project would not result in forgoing, for example, a bus. Regarding completion of funding on a regional scale, the project may use 5307 funds, local funding, or a mix of regional and local funds. Mr. McLaughlin stated that if the project used 5307 funding, then FAMPO would need to discuss funding allocations further. Dr. Schneider mentioned that funding could come from a variety of sources that had yet to be determined and that tonight's action was only to add the project to the TIP.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-01.

Motion: Mr. Kelly; Second: Ms. Vanuch
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

e. **Resolution 22-02: Appointing Rodney Thomas to the FAMPO Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) (ACTION ITEM)**

Ms. Feindt presented a resolution to appoint Stafford resident, Mr. Rodney Thomas, to CTAC as an at-large member.

Chair McLaughlin asked that staff send Policy Committee members information on open CTAC seats.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-02.

Motion: Ms. Lamb; Second: Mr. Kelly
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

9. Closed Session

a. **Resolution 22-03: Allowing the Policy Committee to Go into Closed Session (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-03.

Motion: Mr. Kelly; Second: Ms. Vanuch
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

10. Return to Open Session

a. **Resolution 22-04: Allowing the Policy Committee to Return to Open Session (ACTION ITEM)**

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-04.

Motion: Ms. Lamb; Second: Mr. Kelly

A roll call vote was conducted with results as follows:

Mr. McLaughlin, aye;
Mr. Graham, aye;
Mr. Kelly, aye;
Mr. Baroody, aye;
Ms. Lamb, aye;
Mr. Dudenhefer, aye;
Ms. Vanuch, aye;
Dr. Schneider, aye;
Ms. Parker, aye.

11. Action Items

a. **Resolution 22-05: Authorizing Staff to Issue Notices of Intent to Award On-Call Professional Transportation Planning Services Contracts (ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Ollis clarified that the resolution allows FAMPO staff to award consultant contracts to three on-call consultants: Michael Baker, Cambridge Systematics, and VHB.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-05.

Motion: Ms. Lamb; Second: Mr. Kelly
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

12. Correspondence

Mr. Ollis shared correspondence included in the meeting materials that relate to the quarterly report and approval by the FHWA/FTA of the FAMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

13. Staff and Agency Reports

Mr. Ollis stated that he was going to hire a temporary planning intern as he worked to hire a full-time planner.

Ms. Parker told the committee that the Chatham Bridge would reopen sometime in October. She also invited members to attend the opening ceremony for a new park n' ride lot off of Commonwealth Drive. Ms. Parker reminded the committee of the October 1, 2021, revenue sharing and transportation alternatives (TAP) deadline and noted that FAMPO would need to take action on any related resolutions of support prior to that deadline.

14. Board Member and Chair Comments

Chair McLaughlin told committee members that they are expected to be in-person for meetings. If they cannot attend in-person, then they must convey a valid reason for attending virtually prior to the meeting. He stated that Mr. Ollis would send out information on attendance policies. Mr. Quirke asked if the in-person attendance policy applied to non-voting members. Mr. McLaughlin stated that it did.

15. Adjourn/Next Policy Committee Meeting: September 20, 2021 at 6:00pm

Chair McLaughlin adjourned the meeting at 7:27 pm.