

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 15, 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. Chris Yakabouski, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. David Ross, Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Jason Graham, First Vice-Chair, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Matthew Kelly, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Mr. Timothy Barody, City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Crystal Vanuch, Stafford County (V)
Mr. Tom Coen, alternate Stafford County (V) (remote attendance, personal reason given)
Dr. Robert Schneider, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) (V)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, alternate PRTC (V) (remote attendance, personal reason given)
Ms. Marcie Parker, Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, alternate Representative from the Secretary of Transportation (V)
Mr. Aidan Quirke, alternate FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED)
Mr. Stephen Haynes, alternate Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Todd Horsley, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) (remote attendance, personal reason given)
Mr. Ivan Rucker, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Hank Scharpenberg, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)

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

Ms. Susan Gardner, VDOT
Ms. Ciara Williams, DRPT

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Kevin Marshall, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Ms. Deborah Frazier, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Gary Skinner, alternate Spotsylvania County (V)
Mr. Mark Whitley, alternate City of Fredericksburg (V)
Ms. Cindy Lamb, Second Vice-Chair, Stafford County (V)
Mr. Mark Dudenhefer, Stafford County (V)
Ms. Meg Bohmke, alternate Stafford County (V)
Ms. Annie Cupka, King George County
Ms. Cathy Binder, alternate King George County
Mr. Jeffery Sili, Caroline County
Mr. Jeffrey Black, alternate Caroline County
Ms. Jamie Jackson, FRED
Ms. Ciara Williams, alternate DRPT
Ms. Tonya Holland, Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Mr. Cedric Rucker, Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)

Mr. Matthew Rowe, alternate CTAC

Others Present (remotely):

Mr. Jim Ponticello, VDOT
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect
Mr. Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Zach Harris, Michael Baker International
Mr. Chip Boyles, George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC)
Mr. Rich Denbow, Cambridge Systematics
Mr. Feng Liu, Cambridge Systematics
Ms. Linda LaSut, VDOT
Mr. Brandon Brown, Stafford County

Staff Present:

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

1. Call Policy Committee Meeting to Order

Chair McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Ross led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

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

4. Approval of the November 15, 2021 Policy Committee Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the November 15, 2021 Policy Committee agenda.

Motion: Mr. Kelly; Second: Ms. Vanuch

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. Public Involvement

Previously submitted comments were included in the meeting packet.

No additional comments from members of the public were made.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of October 18, 2021 Policy Committee Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

b. Resolution 22-12: Approving the 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan and FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program Air Quality Conformity Report (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Mr. Kelly; Second: Mr. Ross
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. FAMPO Administrator Report

Mr. Ollis provided an update on recently introduced early bus service at FREDericksburg Regional Transit, continued the discussion from last month on the FAMPO Vision, a summary of the infrastructure bill, and a snapshot of key FAMPO work products. He noted that two staff team members are moving to new jobs and a review of salary scales and professional development is underway.

8. Action/Discussion Items

a. Endorsing the Recommendations of the Lafayette Boulevard Highway Study (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Harris provided an overview of the four short-term and two long-term recommendations from the study effort.

Mr. Kelly asked VDOT why some of the proposed improvements cannot be one SMART SCALE project. Ms. Shropshire pointed to the SMART SCALE Technical Guide which requires application elements to be proximate and contiguous.

Mr. Graham asked about whether transit alternatives were considered and what the scope of the study was. Mr. Harris said the scope called for looking at three scenarios that related to roadway safety and congestion. Mr. Kelly referenced ongoing transit improvements along the corridor and indicated that transit improvements should be systemwide.

Mr. Ollis clarified that there was a Phase I study effort that focused exclusively on transit. Mr. Graham asked what the vision for Lafayette Boulevard is and Mr. Kelly suggested it was a thru-way rather than a complete street. Mr. Yakabouski noted that there are existing projects on the books that will mitigate some of the issues that are being addressed with the recommendations presented.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

b. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Denbow and Mr. Liu provided an update on the Long-Range Transportation Plan's System Performance Report and travel demand modeling efforts.

c. A Letter of the Fredericksburg Area MPO to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Ollis noted the letter was included in the meeting packet. Chair McLaughlin proposed holding off on sending this letter until a new administration is in place and the committee was in agreement. The draft letter contents were accepted, but will only be sent when the new administration is in place. No action was taken.

d. Public Involvement Activity Summary

Ms. Feindt provided an overview of the public involvement work that staff has carried out in calendar year 2021. She summarized recent efforts and presented metrics on FAMPO's work.

- e. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Selection Process Update
 1. CMAQ Project Selection Process – Working Draft – November 8, 2021
 2. STBG Project Selection Process – Working Draft – November 8, 2021

Mr. Hager gave an update on staff and subcommittee efforts to update the project selection process for both funding programs. Mr. Ollis added that one option for this next allocation cycle is to not do a call for projects but instead allocate available funding to existing projects that are not fully funded. He noted that this option would be discussed with the CMAQ/STBG Project Selection Process Subcommittee later in the week and no action was required at the time.

- f. FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program Update
 1. **Resolution 22-13: Directing a Public Comment Period for an Amendment to the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program to Add UPC 119112, #SMART22 I-95 Exit 126 STARS Study Improvements and UPC 119108, #SMART22 – Rt. 208 Operational and Multimodal Improvements (ACTION ITEM)**
 2. UPC 113538 Administrative Modification
 3. DRPT Table C Administrative Modification
 4. UPC 110382 Administrative Modification

Ms. Chandler provided an update on the FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), noting there were three recent administrative modifications and one pending amendment that requires a public comment period since it is a new TIP project.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-13.

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

- g. Metropolitan Planning Areas and Adding MPO Members Discussion
Mr. Ollis gave a presentation on the federal and state requirements that govern metropolitan areas and what it takes to add MPO members. He summarized the required and voluntary paths for redesignation.

Chair McLaughlin noted this information may become pertinent once the new urban areas are released by the US Census Bureau.

- h. FAMPO Bylaws Discussion
Mr. Ollis provided an update to the committee on the FAMPO bylaws. He noted that the CAOs met and discussed potential changes.

Chair McLaughlin, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Ollis discussed how the proposals might deviate from Robert's Rules of Order.

The committee discussed the pros and cons of adding language around adding items to the agenda on the day of a meeting. Discussion was held regarding the definition of what might

constitute an emergency and who makes such a determination.

Chair McLaughlin suggested including language that indicates members cannot add items to the agenda on the day of the meeting; it must be requested at least seven days in advance. The committee directed staff to present options at a future meeting regarding the quorum requirement and make options available to members in advance for purposes of obtaining legal counsel.

9. Correspondence

Mr. Ollis noted that a new Title VI assurance had been signed. This was a routine action that was prompted by a leadership change at FAMPO's fiscal agent, the George Washington Regional Commission.

10. Staff Reports

No staff reports were made.

11. Member Comments

Chair McLaughlin noted that Mr. Ollis will require action regarding a visa. The committee directed staff by consensus to proceed with whatever may be necessary to obtain permanent residence visa as the next step in the visa process since it is in the approved UPWP and budget.

12. Chair McLaughlin adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm. Next meeting: January 24, 2021 at 7:30pm.