

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
www.fampo.gwregion.org

Committee Members Present:

Chairman Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Rodney White, Spotsylvania County
Vice Chair Jamie Jackson, City of Fredericksburg (arrived 9:37)
Mr. Bassam Amin, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Mike Craig, City of Fredericksburg
Second Vice Chair Alex Owsiak, Stafford County
Mr. Nick Minor, King George County
Ms. Michelle Shropshire, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
Mr. Stephen Haynes, VDOT
Ms. Ciara Williams, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
(arrived 9:25)
Mr. Joe Stainsby, Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC)
(Remote attendance – personal reason)
Ms. Christine Hoeffner, Virginia Railway Express (VRE)
Ms. Kate Gibson, GWRideConnect

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

Mr. Mohamed Benomar, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Aidan Quirke, FREDericksburg Regional Transit (FRED) (arrived 9:15)

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Jacob Pastwik, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Brandon Brown, Stafford County
Mr. Bryon Counsell, Stafford County
Ms. Kimberly Wilson, King George County
Mr. Mike Finchum, Caroline County
Mr. Craig Pennington, Caroline County
Mr. Ivan Rucker, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Jim Ponticello, VDOT
Mr. Dan Grinnell, VDOT
Mr. Todd Horsley, DRPT
Dr. Bob Schneider, PRTC
Mr. Nick Ruiz, VRE
Mr. R. Craig Reed, FRED
Ms. Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect

Staff Present:

Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator
Ms. Jordan Chandler, Transportation Planner

Mr. Matthew Lehane, Transportation Planner
Ms. Lana Bizeau, Transportation Planning Intern

1. Call Technical Advisory Committee Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

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

3. Approval of the December 7, 2021 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Chairman Agnello suggested switching agenda items 6a and 6c.

Motion was made to approve the December 7, 2021 TAC agenda, as amended.

Motion: Chairman Agnello Second: Mr. Owsiak

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Approval of the November 3, 2021 TAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the November 3, 2021 TAC meeting minutes.

Motion: Chairman Agnello Second: Mr. Owsiak

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

6. Action/Discussion Items

a. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)/Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) Project Selection Process Update

1. Comments Received

2. Schedule for Updating CMAQ and STBG Methodologies and FY23-28 Call for Projects/Allocations & Available CMAQ and STBG Funding

3. CMAQ Project Selection Process – Working Draft – November 22, 2021

4. STBG Project Selection Process – Working Draft – November 22, 2021

Ms. Hoeffner explained that VRE opposes any limit on transit projects or limits of funding projects by mode for CMAQ since it is meant to address air quality. She added that the STBG proposal should include 25% of funding for transit projects.

Ms. Chandler outlined two scheduling options for CMAQ & STBG Call for Projects through January 2022. She noted a third option as discussed in previous CMAQ & STBG Subcommittee meetings. Mr. Ollis noted that the third option will combining option A and

B but limiting option A to one new project from any locality or agency.

Ms. Chandler then described previous and leftover funding from STBG and CMAQ.

Ms. Gibson explained that funds from PRTC are still pending. Mr. Ollis added that the federal infrastructure bill may provide new funds which could be significant. The discussion was tabled until next meeting.

Ms. Gibson inquired about policies determining who could apply for this funding if a special call for projects were implemented. Mr. Ollis and Mr. Agnello agreed that there should be a section in the documents. Ms. Hoeffner reminded committee members to have proper estimates, schedules, and documentation before applying.

Mr. Agnello mentioned the SMART SCALE pre-scoping webinar mentioned the use of the SMART Portal for CMAQ and STBG applications for MPO's. Mr. Lehane and Ms. Chandler confirmed that they attended the pre-scoping model meeting and are still investigating the usage details.

Mr. Agnello proposed that FAMPO led studies be barred from competitive STBG scoring and that a specific amount be set aside for them so as to avoid FAMPO staff scoring studies that will allocate themselves funding. Mr. Ollis added that this practice has existed in previous years. Ms. Gibson added that even if the study is a FAMPO staff effort, it must be included in the UPWP. After a discussion of possible funding sources for FAMPO led studies, Mr. Agnello summarized that \$100,000 be set-aside each year for federally required MPO planning efforts and ten percent be reserved for studies that will be split evenly between FAMPO and localities/agencies beginning in FY24.

b. Funding Phase II of the FAMPO Intraregional Multimodal East-West Mobility Study

Mr. Ollis presented the cost estimates from two consultants for Phase II of the East-West Mobility Study. He noted that he is awaiting further confirmation from the consultants as the existing estimates are not precise. He will be meeting with Mr. Owsiak, Ms. Jackson, and Chairman Agnello to select one consultant for the study in January.

Mr. Agnello inquired about Phase II's funding and timeline. Mr. Ollis explained that it will likely be included in FY22 and FY23 as the goal is to prepare SMART SCALE funding for future funding rounds.

Mr. Agnello asked if CMAQ or STBG funding will be needed for Phase II of the East-West Mobility Study. Mr. Ollis responded that leftover and previous funds from other studies can be rolled over to Phase II and that the necessity of CMAQ or STBG funding for this study is still to be determined.

c. FY21-24 Transportation Improvement Program Update

1. **Resolution 22-14: Approving Amendments 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 115124 Administrative Modification

Mr. Ollis introduced the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) updates and then turned over the presentation to Ms. Chandler. Ms. Chandler briefly reviewed Resolution 22-14 noting that the FAMPO Policy Committee transferred approval of these amendments to the TAC. She noted that both projects had schedules that were advancing faster than initially proposed at the request of VDOT. Lastly, she noted that a public comment period was held, and no adverse comments were received, and the projects were currently undergoing Air Quality Conformity review in the 2050 LRTP process.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-14.

Motion: Mr. Ruiz; Second: Mr. Agnello

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. Correspondence

Ms. Chandler notified the committee of a letter from Spotsylvania's new TAC committee member, Mr. Mohamed Benomar.

8. Staff Reports

Mr. Lehane discussed updates regarding the 2050 LRTP, CMP Performance Monitoring Program, FY22 Safety Targets, and a Transit Equity and Modernization Study conducted by DRPT.

Mr. Ollis informed the committee that the 2050 LRTP will be ready for review at the January 2022 TAC meeting.

9. Member Reports

Ms. Williams updated the committee on the DRPT cycle and TDP schedules.

10. Adjourn/Next TAC Meeting: January 10, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Motion: Mr. Agnello Second: Mr. Minor

Abstentions: None

Motion passed with unanimous consent.