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Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
Caroline County
King George County



Henry Scharpenberg
Chairman

Ian Ollis
FAMPO Administrator

CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 - 6:00pm
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/>

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/>

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Henry “Hank” Scharpenberg, Stafford County – Chair
Mr. Matthew Rowe, City of Fredericksburg – Vice Chair
Mr. James Powell, Stafford County
Mr. David Swan, Stafford County
Mr. Jacob Clay, Spotsylvania County
Mr. Neil Holloran Spotsylvania County (remote attendance)
Ms. Jeron Hayes, King George County
Mr. John Castellarin, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Micah Cunningham, Spotsylvania (remote attendance)
Mr. David McLaughlin, City of Fredericksburg
Ms. TaMara Banks, At-Large (remote attendance)
Mr. Rupert Farley, At-Large
Mr. Larry Gross, At-Large
Ms. Jane Leeds, At-Large (remote attendance)

Committee Members Present but Unable to Fully Participate as Members:

N/A

Committee Members Absent:

Mr. Morgan Burch, Stafford County
Mr. Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County
Ms. Tara Durant, Stafford County
Mr. Joshua Brock, City of Fredericksburg
Ms. Patricia Encarnacion, City of Fredericksburg
Mr. Justin Chenault, Caroline
Mr. Michael Hoyt, Caroline
Mr. Ken Pogue, Caroline
Mr. Dustin Savage, At-Large
Mr. Rodney Thomas, At-Large

Others Present:

Katy Joslin, Remote Captioner
Tammy Holt
Charles Roberts
David Abby

Staff Present:

Ms. Becky Golden, Transportation Manager
Ms. Lana Bizeau, Transportation Planning Intern

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Scharpenberg at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Golden conducted roll call and a quorum was present.

3. Approval of the March 9, 2022 Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)

Chair Scharpenberg amended the agenda to add item 8.c. CTAC By-laws Remote Attendance for Purposes of Quorum; and Mr. Castellarin and Mr. McLaughlin noted that item 8.b. is not an action item, since the Congestion Management Process (CMP) is currently in the public comment period. Item 7. Old Business was inadvertently omitted.

Motion was made to approve the agenda as amended
Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Castellarin
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

4. Approval of February 9, 2022 CTAC Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.
Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Rowe
Motion passed with unanimous consent.

5. Review of January 24, 2022 Policy Committee Meeting

Ms. Golden explained that the GWRC – FAMPO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is an annual renewal of the agreement between the two agencies with details of the administrative duties of each.

The letter the Policy Committee Chair sent to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation outlines critical projects contained in the LRTP.

Ms. Bizeau explained the SMART SCALE Round 5 Timeline that includes a transparent ranking system including scores based on cost, benefits, and project readiness. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will make final selection of projects to fund, and their choices are not based solely on scores.

Ms. Golden explained the Constrained Long-Range Plan (CLRP) project list that involves long-range projections of revenue. The CLRP project costs cannot exceed the revenue projections and the post-construction emissions impacts must meet air quality conformity targets.

Ms. Leeds asked if only State and Federal funding sources can be used on projects, or if private sources of funds can also be used. Ms. Golden responded that private funds are required to be appropriated through a local government, normally through a grant agreement. Mr. Swan explained the best example of privately funded projects are Public Private Partnerships like the I-95 Express Lanes.

6. Public Comment

Chair Scharpenberg asked if there were any public comments, and there were none.

7. Old Business

There was no Old Business discussed.

8. Member Discussion and Action

a. Endorse Resolution 22-29 Approving the 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (ACTION ITEM)

Chair Scharpenberg shared concerns that solutions to the region's transportation problems are not included in the LRTP, such as the Outer Connector. He advised that a way to raise awareness of CTAC's concerns is to vote against endorsement of the Resolution, and proposed a letter from CTAC be sent to the Policy Committee, supporting the addition of the Outer Connector project to the 2050 LRTP.

Mr. Farley advised attendees he intended to vote against endorsement of the Resolution with too many road widening projects or new roads in the 2050 LRTP and CLRP, similar to the Outer Connector, that add to congestion and sprawl.

Mr. Rowe voiced concern with the approach suggested by Chair Scharpenberg. Mr. McLaughlin reminded attendees that alternative alignments for an Outer Connector have been presented to the public and FAMPO committees over several decades. Mr. Swan shared his experiences as a motorist over decades, and asked the status of Joe Brito's petition for the Outer Connector.

Mr. Swan considered each CTAC member could discuss their personal views with their own Board of Supervisor representative as the better approach. Chair Scharpenberg shared that local residents' most serious concern is local traffic mobility separate from I-95 and Route 1.

Ms. Leeds shared the most common message she hears from citizens is that politicians don't listen, and citizens "give up" since they are not being heard. Chair Scharpenberg shared similar experiences. He proposed if the committee does not endorse Resolution 22-29, the reason be explained that there are substantial problems with the plan, and give a composite assessment of those issues to the Policy Committee.

Mr. McLaughlin pointed out the value added of the current Smart Scale projects for the region with additional through-lanes, including collector – distributor lanes for I-95, and the negative impacts of an additional river crossing connector when it ties to I-95 both north and south of the Rappahannock River.

Mr. Castellarin proposed the idea that the November 2021 letter from CTAC to the Policy Committee regarding the Outer Connector be added to the Public Comments appendix of the LRTP.

Motion was made to approve Resolution 22-29.

Motion: Mr. Farley; Second Mr. Gross

Motion fails 3 yea votes in person; 5 nay votes in person

- b. Resolution 22-26 Directing a Public Comment Period for the Draft 2022 Congestion Management Process (CMP)

The item raised no discussion.

- c. CTAC By-laws Remote Attendance for Purposes of Quorum

Mr. Scharpenberg clarified to the committee that the by-laws allow only 2 remote attendances for purposes of a quorum. This does not apply for those with accessibility issues.

7. Public Comment

The Chair asked if there were any public comments, and there were none.

8. Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

9. Staff Reports

Ms. Golden credited Ms. Bizeau's hard work on the CMP.

10. Member Reports

- a. Traffic Mitigation

Mr. Holloran reported progress including reviewing and complimenting the Standard Operating Procedures. He is looking for additional partners to join the group, and they have been reviewing the CMP, observing good information on crash data, congestion mapping, and congestion solutions.

- b. Mass Transit Advocacy

Ms. Leeds reported that she is not a transportation professional, but is an expert consumer. She has ridden every type of mass transit system that there is. She considers that laying asphalt is not the answer to congestion. She has observed that the transit systems in the LRTP are about the same as the earlier 2045 version.

Conversations with VRE staff reveal that more can be done with additional track, and slots on the CSX, including tourism, school tours and holiday shopping. The Veteran's Association facility is an example of job growth in the region and Ms. Leeds worries how people will get to the facility.

VRE trains are parked on the track for most of the day: northbound in the morning, and southbound in the afternoons. The taxicab rescue operation of the VRE is expensive when riders miss the last evening train if work emergencies arise, and there is support for weekend and reverse operations. Ms. Leeds encouraged attendees to check out San Diego's Big Red Trolley System.

Chair Scharpenberg complimented Ms. Leeds work, but forewarned that incremental improvements are the expectation due to cost.

c. Safety to include Pedestrians and Bicycles

Mr. Rowe will be presenting at the next meeting, focusing on vehicular safety.

Chair Scharpenberg encouraged attendees to attend stake holder group meetings of the East-West Mobility study.

Mr. Swan reported on VDOT's great work clearing fallen trees along I-95. He has observed in the Hartwood area of Stafford County, using Joshua Road as an example, fallen trees cut off very near the secondary road's edge of pavement.

Mr. Powell also noticed cut trees very close to roads where he lives. After the meeting, staff sent VDOT's *Report a Problem* link to the committee: <https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/>

11. Adjourn Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting/Next Meeting April 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Farley; Second Mr. Rowe.

Motion passes by unanimous consent.

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