

## **CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 - 6:00pm  
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg  
<https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/>

A video recording of the meeting is posted on the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) web page: <https://www.fampo.gwregion.org/citizens-transportation-advisory-committee/> and on youtube at: <https://youtu.be/FQq6L50ouFc>

### **Committee Members Present:**

Mr. Henry “Hank” Scharpenberg, Stafford County – Chair  
Mr. John Castellarin, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Jacob Clay, Spotsylvania County  
Ms. Tara Durant, Stafford County  
Mr. Rupert Farley, At-Large  
Mr. Glenn Goldsmith, Stafford County  
Mr. Larry Gross, At-Large  
Ms. Jeron Hayes, King George County  
Mr. Neil Holloran, Spotsylvania County (remote attendance)  
Mr. Nicolas Kwatnoski, Stafford County  
Mr. David McLaughlin, City of Fredericksburg (remote attendance)  
Mr. James Powell, Stafford County  
Mr. David Swan, Stafford County

### **Committee Members Present but Unable to Fully Participate as Members:**

N/A

### **Committee Members Absent:**

Mr. Matthew Rowe, City of Fredericksburg – Vice Chair  
Ms. TaMara Banks, At-Large  
Mr. Morgan Burch, Stafford County  
Mr. Joshua Brock, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Justin Chenault, Caroline  
Mr. Micah Cunningham, Spotsylvania (remote attendance)  
Ms. Patricia Encarnacion, City of Fredericksburg  
Mr. Michael Hoyt, Caroline  
Mr. Ken Pogue, Caroline  
Mr. Dustin Savage, At-Large  
Mr. Rodney Thomas, At-Large

### **Others Present:**

Ms. Jane Leeds, Interested Party (remote attendance)  
Ms. Abbi Forshier, Remote Captioner

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Ian Ollis, FAMPO Administrator

Ms. Becky Golden, Transportation Manager

Mx. Colie Touzel, Public Involvement & Title VI Coordinator

**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. Chair Scharpenberg advised attendees that Jane Leeds requested to transition from an at-large member to an interested party of the CTAC. Ms. Golden introduced Mx. Colie Touzel and advised that they would be a partner staff liaison for CTAC.

**3. Approval of the April 13, 2022 Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Agenda (ACTION ITEM)**

Chair Scharpenberg amended the agenda to table items 8.b, 8.c., and 8.d. to CTAC's May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Item 8.a.1. was modified as follows: Briefing to CTAC on Discussions with Planners and Review of Mapping to Develop Alternatives for Local Traffic to Cross the Rappahannock River without Utilization of I-95.

Motion was made to approve the agenda as amended

Motion: Mr. Swan; Second: Mr. Farley

Motion passed with unanimous consent.

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

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Clay

Abstained: Ms. Durant

Motion passed.

**5. Review of March 28, 2022 Policy Committee Meeting**

Ms. Golden provided highlights of the meeting that include announcement of the April 25<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Transportation Board's Public Meeting for input on the FY 23 – 28 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP), to be held at James Monroe High School. Two (2) Policy Committee members and Mr. Ollis will attend and speak.

During the Policy Committee meeting, staff explained the SMART SCALE Round 5 pre-application projects and process, as well as the scoring and draft allocations for three funding programs: Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP).

The major action item was adoption of the 2050 Long Range Transportation Program (LRTP).

Chair Scharpenberg advised attendees during Member Reports of the March 28<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting (video available: <https://youtu.be/9wqY1Zh0v7M>), that the CTAC declined to endorse the adoption of the LRTP for three reasons: the failure to address another crossing of the Rappahannock River, too many widening projects and new roads that contribute to congestion and sprawl, and that more attention needs to be given to accessibility for people with disabilities in the goals and project priorities.

Discussion among Policy Committee members resulted in support for CTAC to come up with ideas for local traffic to cross the Rappahannock River without utilizing I-95; and to identify projects on the 2050 LRTP's Constrained Long-Range Plan (CLRP) that can be eliminated to offset the cost.

## **6. Public Comment**

The first Public Comment period was accidentally passed over.

## **7. Old Business**

There was no Old Business discussed.

## **8. Member Discussion and Action**

### **a. 2050 Long-Range Transportation Program (LRTP) Potential Amendments**

- 1. Briefing to CTAC on Discussions with Planners and Review of Maps and Studies to Develop Alternatives for Local Traffic to Cross the Rappahannock River without Utilization of I-95**

Chair Scharpenberg explained the Policy Committee's direction given to CTAC: alternatives to I-95 for local traffic to cross the river, and list of CLRP projects for elimination to offset costs. After reviewing maps and past studies of the Outer Connector, Chair Scharpenberg sought CTAC's input on the supposition for options to I-95 as different ways to get across the river without constructing massive amounts of new roads; and by using existing roads. Further, ensure that any new roads and existing roads include accommodations for bicyclists, pedestrians and recreational purposes.

Presentation materials show the following for a Northeast Quadrant Connector: new two-lane road with paved shoulders starting at Rt. 1 / Centreport Pkwy in Stafford County, heading east / southeast along Potomac Creek, following an existing power line, and routing south around occupied residences to White Oak Road (Primary Route 218) at a location that is about 600 ft. west of Glebe Rd (SR 674). To cross the Rappahannock River, traffic can use White Oak Road (Stafford) that changes to Caledon Road (King George), head south along Bloomsbury Road (State Route 605) to Kings Hwy (PR 3), head east to Port Conway Road (SR 607) and southeast to James Madison Pkwy (US Route 301), then south into Port Royal in Caroline County.

Chair Scharpenberg noted the following for the Northeast Quadrant Connector: a similar concept road is currently in the Stafford County Comprehensive Plan from earlier Outer Connector alternatives, following White Oak Run south to Kings Hwy (PR 3) at the intersection of Appleton Hall Way / Layover Lane, and stopping at the Rappahannock River. This Outer Connector alignment crossed the Rappahannock River into Spotsylvania County and headed in a southwest direction along Belvedere Drive where it intersected Mills Drive (US Route 17).

Attendees discussed speed limits on existing rural roads, and whether increasing posted speed limits helps reduce congestion. This led to discussion of acknowledgement that as part of the mobility thought process, improving existing roads like White Oak Road / Caledon Road (PR 218) needs to be programmed, along with the New NE Quadrant Connector, including improved horizontal and vertical geometry and two wider lanes and paved shoulders.

Ms. Hayes and Mr. Powell shared that Caledon Road (PR 218) is precarious, and they often encounter aggressive drivers that tailgate. Caledon Road (PR 218) is a narrow two-lane road with no recovery area or shoulders when incidents occur. Ms. Hayes shared that Port Conway Road (SR 607) is a better condition road by comparison, and provides access to farms, a residential development and a solar farm.

A New River Crossing concept road was shown that generally follows the westernmost alternative in the Outer Connector study for its southern portion. This southern portion begins at Plank Road (Primary Route 3) in Orange County, heading north to Richards Ferry Road (Secondary Route 619) in Culpeper County. From Richards Ferry Road, the New River Crossing 2-lane road varies from the Outer Connector's westernmost alternative. This new northern portion begins at Richards Ferry Road (SR 619), heading north to cross the Rappahannock River into Stafford County to Warrenton Road (US 17), through undeveloped land along the western branch of Richards Run.

Attendees recalled the Berea Parkway history, and the proposal includes the existing alignment that is shown on Stafford's Comprehensive Plan. Battlefield and environmentally sensitive lands were pointed out by Mr. Swan, which will add challenges. Coordination with Orange and Culpeper Counties is an added challenge with the New River Crossing.

Mr. Swan brought forward the idea of better freight coordination and to consider the "wicked problems" to be addressed, such as improving the existing roads impacted by the proposals.

Mr. Farley advised attendees that any new river crossing west of Fredericksburg would adversely impact the most pristine portion of the Rappahannock River.

Motion was made for the CTAC Chair to present solutions to the Policy Committee to reverse decisions that increase the supply of new roads, and to instead reduce demand through methods like congestion pricing or increasing the price of gasoline.

Motion: Mr. Farley

Motion failed due to lack of a second

Motion was made for the CTAC Chair to provide an informational brief to the Policy Committee on the western New River Crossing and the NE Quadrant Connector concepts.

Motion: Mr. Swan; Second: Mr. Powell

Motion passed 9 yea votes; 4 nay votes

## 2. Amendments to Goals to Improve Accessibility Outcomes

During the LRTP 2050 update public comment period, input on the Goals were received to improve priorities for the disabled community and vulnerable road user groups.

Motion was made to request the Policy Committee amend the 2050 LRTP Goals to incorporate suggested edits that improve priorities for the disabled community and vulnerable road user groups, and for this to be done at the next Policy Committee meeting.

Motion: Mr. Holloran; Second: Mr. Swan  
Motion passes.

## 9. Public Comment

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

## 10. Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

## 11. Staff Reports

Ms. Golden introduced Mx. Colie Touzel, FAMPO's Public Involvement & Title VI Coordinator. They will be the partner liaison for CTAC and will disseminate documents and notices.

## 12. Member Reports

### a. Traffic Mitigation

No member reports were provided.

### b. Mass Transit Advocacy

No member reports were provided.

### c. Safety to include Pedestrians and Bicycles

No member reports were provided.

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

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Farley; Second: Mr. Clay.

Motion passes by unanimous consent.

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