FAIRFAX COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AND
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

PRESENT: Walter C. Clarke, Mount Vernon District, Chairman
Jeremy Hancock, Providence District, Vice Chairman
Mary Cortina, Braddock District
Alis Wang, Mason District
Candice Bennett, Commissioner At-Large
Timothy J. Sargeant, Commissioner At-Large (Alternate)

ABSENT: John Carter, Hunter Mill District (Alternate)

OTHERS: Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner, Commissioner, At-Large
Eric Thiel, Springfield District, Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)
Christie Garton, Vice Chairman, Commissioner, At-Large, TAC
Michael Champness, Dranesville District, Chairman, TAC
Sonya Breehey, Providence District, TAC
Kevin Morse, Braddock District, TAC
Karen Campblin, Sully District, TAC
Adwoa Rey, Commissioner, At-Large, TAC
Robert Pikora, Transportation Planning Division,
Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT)
Jeffrey Herman, Site Analysis and Transportation Planning Division, FCDOT
Calvin Lam, FCDOT
Samantha Lawrence, Senior Deputy Clerk, Planning Commission,
Department of Clerk Services

ATTACHMENTS:

A. POLICY PLAN AMENDMENT (2022-CW-2CP) – TRANSPORTATION

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Chairman Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in Conference Room 11 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

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Chairman Clarke announced that the purpose of the meeting was to receive a presentation from staff on the Policy Plan Amendment (2022-CW-2CP) related to Transportation. Additionally, he announced plans for a joint meeting with the Transportation Advisory Commission in the fall of 2024 to discuss Active Fairfax.

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Chairman Clarke requested that Committee members, staff, and members of the Transportation Advisory Commission introduced themselves to the audience.

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Chairman Clarke outlined the Transportation Committee's operational procedures and stated that meetings were held with staff to receive updates on the Policy Plan related to transportation. He noted that the Committee convened several times annually, with the Planning Commission holding public hearings on Wednesday nights.

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Vice Chairman Hancock expressed gratitude to the Transportation Advisory Commission members for attending the meeting, acknowledged their shared interest in transportation planning, and the opportunities for discussion on Policy Plan developments presented to the Planning Commission.

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Michael Champness, Chairman, Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) provided an overview of the Commission's purpose, goals, structure, responsibilities, ongoing issues, and operational procedures.

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Vice Chairman Hancock and Mr. Champness discussed the annual TAC Transportation Achievement Award and recognized countywide projects. He highlighted the Mosaic District Shuttle as one of the award recipients. Mr. Champness added that other recipients included groups that partnered with Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) employees. He emphasized that all recipients collaborated with individual members of the community, private sector entities, and interest groups across the County.

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There was a discussion between Mr. Champness and multiple Committee members that covered the following:

- Whether TAC provided financial recommendations regarding FCDOT's budget;
- Whether TAC offered recommendation on FCDOT's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects;
- Concerns regarding the effectiveness of staff presentations on transportation issues during the CIP workshop, the community's understanding of the dimensions of transportation programs within the CIP, and how TAC could contribute in addressing these concerns;
- The changing nature of transportation and the potential impact of emerging technology in the future; and

- FCDOT staff and the County's long-term vision on transportation infrastructure priorities.

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Robert Pikora, Transportation Planning Division, Fairfax County Department of Transportation, introduced himself and presented on the Policy Plan Amendment related to Transportation. A copy of the staff's presentation is located in the date file.

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There was a discussion between Mr. Pikora; Jeffrey Herman, Site Analysis and Transportation Planning Division, FCDOT; several members of the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC); and multiple Committee members that covered the following:

- The role of transportation studies prior to implementing new programs, the timeline for implementation of those programs, and methods to streamline that process;

- The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system's role in intercommunity connections;

- The impact of BRT stations on the surrounding community business centers along the Richmond Highway corridor;

- Staff provided updates on community outreach methods, feedback received from the community, and prioritization of transportation planning;

- Staff disclosed that Phase II of the transportation outreach plan that targeted specific groups would be conducted in the summer of 2024;

- The transportation element of the proposed plan identified over 60 transportation focus groups;

- Staff confirmed that a scheduled presentation of the transportation outreach plan would be heard before the Planning Commission's Policy Plan Committee on September 26, 2024;

- An effort by staff to consolidate over 250 special topic groups within the County;

- Confirmation of a meeting requested by the McLean Citizens Association to discuss specific transportation needs in their area, would be held in August;

- A consideration of trends in modes of multimodal transportation;

- An examination of transportation travel trends from the 1990s to the 2020s and future projections;

- Confirmation that the Department of Planning and Development were in the final phase of their community outreach plan for the Transportation Policy Plan Amendment;

- Staff considered adding additional virtual and in-person community meetings in July and August 2024 due to low turnout in the initial transportation information outreach phase;

- Staff confirmed that an equity team within FCDOT focused on integrating equity into new transportation policies;

- Public engagement was identified as a major challenge in the Policy Plan;

- Barriers in the Policy Plan that hindered the County's vision for community development;

- Efforts to shift the community's mindset toward future multimodal transportation;

- An overview of the County's available tools for multimodal transportation studies;

- Discussion on the various types of multimodal transportation accessible to the public;

- An assessment of the different street types needed across the County, which included variations in speed limits, road diet, and design considerations;

- A discussion on the current decisions that impacted the future flexibility and accessibility of transportation connections;

- Inclusion of specific transportation planning language in the Policy Plan concerning technology, micromobility, pedestrian right-of-way, landscape integration, and visual or active public art;

- An overview of the mission and operations of the Planning Commission;

- TAC's willingness to collaborate with the Planning Commission;

- The percentage of Planning Commission recommendations accepted by the Board of Supervisors;

- Discussions between Planning Commission members, applicants, and their represented agents, and how those discussions impacted policy decisions related to land use applications;

- Prioritization of the County's top land use priorities;

- Creation of a transportation policy planning map that identified objectives that required modifications, outdated policies, and in some cases, removal of appendices based on Zoning Ordinance overlap;

- A discussion on the expectations and evolution of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) policies, their role in the future of policy planning, and the impact on equity in the community;
- Utilization of TDM policies to reduce traffic congestion;
- A suggestion that remote work was beneficial and reduced traffic congestion;
- Staff disclosed that the proposed community outreach plan included focused topic phases, research, community meetings, and a goal of reaching 200,000 County residents;
- Staff disclosed that plans to extend BRT from the Lorton area to the Occoquan were suspended and the renewal of that project was uncertain;
- How feedback received from the Engage Fairfax County effort would be incorporated into the transportation plan;
- Considerations for additional outreach at pop-up areas, transit hubs, farmers markets, and similar events in addition scheduled meetings;
- The trends in mass transportation ridership since the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Potential impact on the County's Policy Plan that resulted from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's joint initiative on public transit;
- Strategies to avoid duplicated transportation efforts between TAC and the Planning Commission;
- A recommendation that the Planning Commission's transportation liaisons attend TAC's monthly meetings;
- Examination of the three key factors that influenced the County's Policy Plan;
- A recommendation that representatives from marginalized communities be included in the outreach process;
- A discussion on TAC's priority areas of transportation;
- TAC agreed to provide the Planning Commission with a copy of their transportation work plan.;
- Implementation of fundamental placemaking principles across the County;
- The objectives of the Urban Development and Placemaking Workshop was an effort to identify an agenda for the next 18 months;

- Incorporation of trees and other integrated solutions into the active transportation network;

- Discussion on the planning implications of autonomous vehicles and their impact on the transportation network;

- Concern from the Braddock Land Use Committee about loss of mature trees on the Braddock Multimodal project and Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) objection to replanting trees along the right-of-way;

- Strategies for engaging with the VDOT to advocate for community interests;

- Confirmation that VDOT was not part of TAC's monthly meetings however engagement on matters concerning transportation occurred through other platforms; and

- A summary of discussions from the joint Planning Commission's Transportation Committee and TAC meeting held on June 13, 2024, would be part of TAC's July 18, 2024 agenda.

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Chairman Clarke expressed appreciation to staff and TAC members for their participation and adjourned the meeting.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.
Walter C. Clarke, Chairman

An audio recording of this meeting is available in the Planning Commission Office, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 552, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

Minutes by: Samantha Lawrence
Approved: October 10, 2024

Jacob Caporaletti

Jacob Caporaletti, Clerk
Fairfax County Planning Commission

County of Fairfax
Commonwealth of Virginia
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 16 day of October 2024 by Jacob Caporaletti

Signature of Notary

Notary registration number: 7114113

Commission expiration: January 31, 2028

Notary Seal

Attachment A

Policy Plan Amendment (2022-CW-2CP) Transportation

Joint Meeting

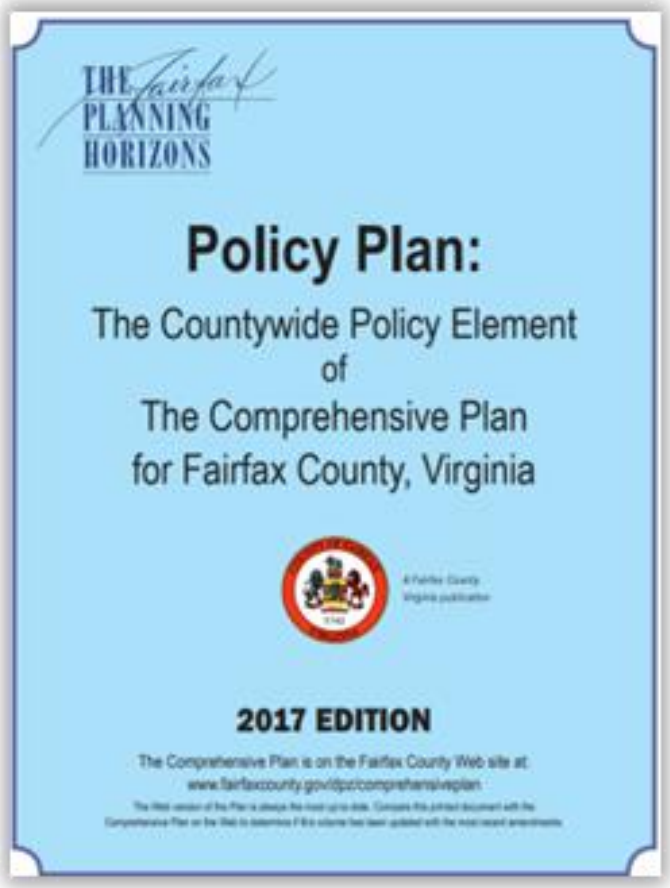
Planning Commission Transportation Committee

Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)

June 13, 2024

Agenda

1. Purpose and Background
2. Board Authorization
3. Topical Areas
4. Initial Findings and Themes
5. Policy Plan Update Timeline



Purpose of Comprehensive Plan & Relation to Regulatory Documents

- Comprehensive Plan Policy Plan: Provides countywide guidance on land use, transportation, environment and other elements with goals, objectives, and policies which county staff and the public can use in the planning process.

- Comprehensive Plan Area Plan Volumes: Provide specific guidance and considerations to ensure compatible development within an identified area.

- Zoning Ordinance: Regulates land use and implements Comprehensive Plan for the orderly and controlled development of the County.

- Public Facilities Manual (PFM): Provides guidelines governing the design of new development.

Background

Policy Plan Element	Created
Preface	1990
Land Use	1990
Transportation	1990
Housing	1990
Environment	1990
Economic Development	1997
Heritage Resources	1990
Public Facilities	1990
Human Services	1990
Parks & Recreation	1990
Revitalization	2002
Visual & Performing Arts	2010

- Established in 1990
- Updated on Ad-Hoc Basis
- Appendices Added Over Time
- Need for Holistic Review

Board Authorization

- Board of Supervisors (BOS) Authorized – Dec. 6, 2022
- Comp Plan Amendment – 2022-CW-2CP

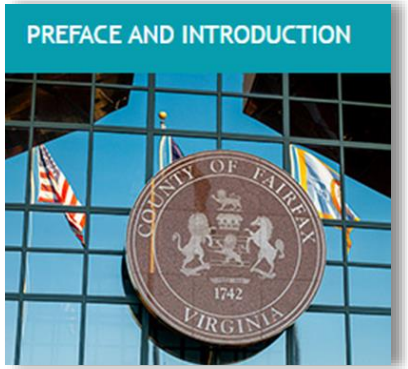
  Plan Amendment 2022-CW-2CP | Planning Development (fairfaxcounty.gov)

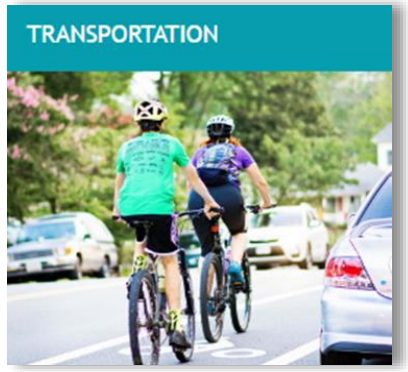
Update and Streamline

Align with Strategic Plan and One Fairfax

Add New Policies

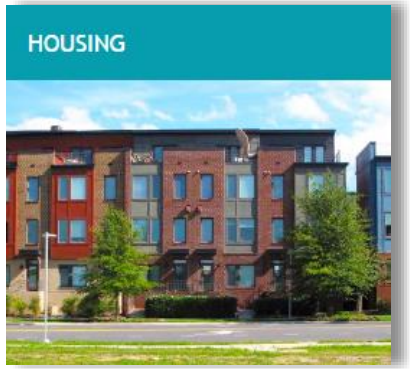
Phase I – Policy Plan Elements Overview





- Preface
- Land Use
- Transportation
- Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Human Services
- New: Community Health, Equity

Phase II – Policy Plan Elements Overview



- Housing
- Economic Development
- Heritage Resources
- Revitalization
- Visual & Performing Arts
- Chesapeake Bay Supplement*

* May Overlap with Environment Policy Update in Phase I.

Total Objectives, Policies, and Appendices in Policy Plan
(excluding Pub. Facilities Element)

- 103 Objectives
  - 63 Objectives Need Modification/New Policies to Address Board Documents
  - May Need New Objectives to Address New Policies
  - 40 Objectives Need Minor Editorial Changes to Bring into Present/Future
- 474 Policies (675 Total Including Public Facilities Element)
  - Almost All Need Updates in Some Capacity (Refined, Modernized, Edited, Removed)
- 25 Appendices
  - Some Can Be Removed Based on Zoning Ordinance Overlap
  - Five Transportation Appendices

Transportation Policy Plan & Other Plans*

- Countywide Strategic Plan
- One Fairfax
- Resilient Fairfax
- Community-Wide Energy & Climate Action Plan (CECAP)
- Zero Waste Plan
- Economic Success Plan

- ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan
- Safe Streets for All Program
- SHAPE the Future of Aging
- Community Health Improvement Plan
- Operational Energy Strategies
- Zoning Ordinance
- Public Facilities Manual

*Transportation Recommendations and Policies are noted in these more recent plans & documents.

Transportation Policy Plan Themes

Multimodal Transportation that:

- Ensures Safety for Users of Facilities, Services
- Provides Choices for Getting Around
- Balances Efficiency for All Modes
- Increases Public Transportation, Active Transportation
- Continues to Provide Quality Facilities, Services
- Reduces Single Occupant Vehicle Use
- Expand Pedestrian, Bike Facilities
- Accounts for Increased Development and Travel Demand
- Includes New County Plans, Policies, Strategies
- Identify Funding Needs, Potential Funding Sources

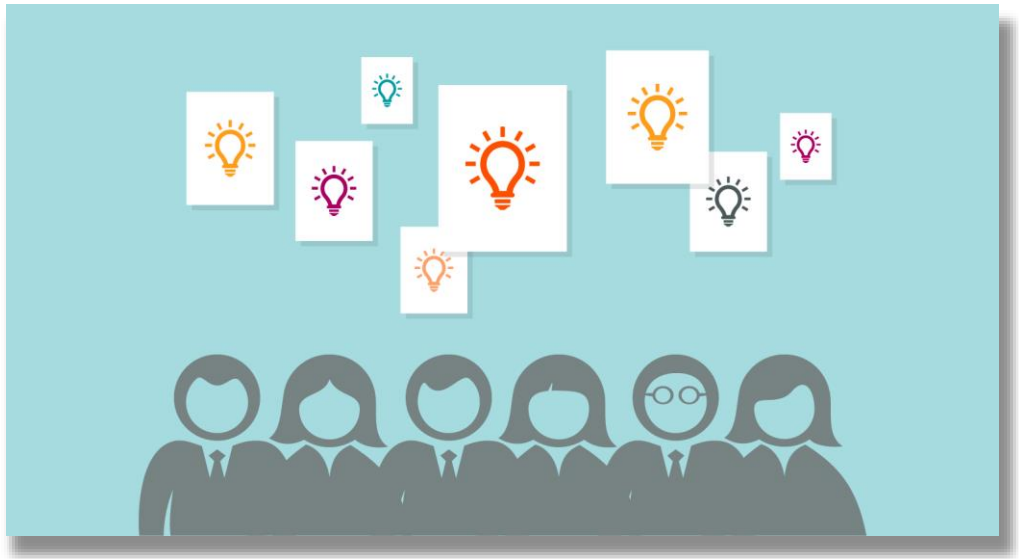
PC Transportation & TAC – Your Input

1 – Which trends in Transportation should be considered for this update?

2 – What do you see as near- and long-term goals and recommendations for the County's transportation system?

3 – Which parts of the Transportation Policy Plan element do you like/need to be updated?

4 – Other topics and ideas?



Timeline

December 2022 - 2023
BOS Authorization; PC Policy Plan Committee Established; Phase I Topics Identified; Internal Research; Internal Policy Audit Completion

January - April 2024
Internal Research; Outreach Plan Finalization; PC Policy Plan Committee Mtgs

We Are Here

May - June 2024
BOS LUPC Meeting; Joint TAC/PC Committee Coordination and Mtgs.; Informational Outreach Phase

June - December 2024
Focused Topic Outreach Phase; PC Policy Plan Committee Mtgs, BOS Updates & Committee Mtgs; Staff Research; Policy Development Begins

January - May 2025
Community Check-In Phase; Community Feedback Report/Draft Plan Guidance Published; Policy Development/Outreach Continues; BOS and PC Committee Mtgs

June - Fall 2025
Policy Refinement; Phase I Staff Report Development and Publication; PC/BOS Public Hearings; Commencement of Phase II

Contact Info

- To learn more about the project, visit our project webpage: Plan Amendment 2022-CW-2CP | Planning Development (fairfaxcounty.gov)
- To review the current Policy Plan, please visit: Policy Plan (encodeplus.com)
- To provide comments or potential policy considerations please contact: PlanForwardFFX@PublicInput.com
- For questions related to the Transportation element, please contact: Robert.Pikora@fairfaxcounty.gov

Policy Plan Amendment (2022-CW-2CP) Transportation

Joint Meeting

Planning Commission Transportation Committee

Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)

June 13, 2024