Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission Meeting Notes

REGULAR MEETING – July 19, 2022, at 7:30 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

Web Site: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings

Note-Taker: Roger Hoskin

TAC Members in Attendance: Chair Mike Champness (Dranesville), Secretary Roger Hoskin (Mason), Linda Sperling (At-Large), Kevin Morse (Braddock), Hunter Mill District (Vacant) Pete Sitnik (Mount Vernon), Lee District (Vacant), Jeremy Hancock (Providence), Eric Thiel (Springfield), Alexis Glenn (Lee), and

TAC Members Absent: M. David Skiles (Sully) and Christy Garton (Fairfax Area Disabilities Services Board.

Others in Attendance: FCDOT staff: Michael Guarino, Capital Projects Section Chief; Marcus Moore, and Calvin Lam, Staff Liaison to the TAC.

Special Guests/Observers/Public: N/A

Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Chair Champness at 7:44 pm. The Chair then proceeded with the protocol necessary to justify a virtual meeting.

To fulfill procedural obligations of virtual meetings, Chair Champness and Acting Vice Chair Hoskin performed the opening procedures for a virtual meeting via WebEx. Meeting recording and materials will be posted online at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings

The location of each member was announced by voice since they are participating remotely.

- Linda Sperling (At-Large) Clifton
- Kevin Morse (Braddock) Burke
- Secretary Roger Hoskin (Mason) Falls Church
- Pete Sitnik (Mount Vernon) Mount Vernon
- Jeremy Hancock (Providence) Falls Church
- Eric Thiel (Springfield) Fairfax Station

The Chair made a first motion to "determine that each member's voice can be adequately heard by each other member of this Commission." It was seconded by Commissioner Thiel and unanimously approved.

The Chair made a second motion that "the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for this Commission to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting. I further move that this Commission may conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated audio-conferencing line, and that the public may access this meeting by Microsoft Teams online platform or by calling: 1-571-429-5982, phone conference ID: 692 790 810. The phone number for ADA is 711. Access information is also available at the TAC website at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/tac/meetings". It was seconded by Commissioner Morse and unanimously approved by the Commission.

The Chair made a third motion that "all of the matters on the agenda previously furnished and posted on the TAC website are necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of this Commission's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities". It was seconded by Commissioner Thiel and unanimously approved by the Commission.

Minutes

A motion to accept the June meeting notes was made by Commissioner Morse and seconded by Commissioner Sitnik. The minutes of the June meeting, as amended were approved unanimously with one abstention from Chair Champness who was absent from the June meeting.

Proposed Active Transportation Capital Project Prioritization Methodology

The Capital Projects Section presented a new methodology for evaluating active transportation projects. The County currently has over 2800 proposed active transportation projects. The Board is seeking \$100 million for active transportation projects. Since not all can be funded, a methodology for prioritization needs to be developed. An initial methodology was presented to the Board in 2021; a revised methodology was presented to the Board in March 2022. The 2,800 projects come from requests, FCDOT identified needs and other ongoing studies.

The Capital Projects Section is looking for a way to evaluate a large number of projects simultaneously. High risk corridors, areas with high density of pedestrian trip generators, areas with need for access, vulnerable areas of disadvantaged, priority public health locations, regional connectivity. Using GIS data, the selection process begins with the list of 2,800. After pruning the list to a manageable number. Another round with stakeholders (which could include the TAC) prioritizes the number of projects further. The final step is to consider construction feasibility, environmental impacts and costs.

The analytical tools use were based on Active Transportation Plan Update. As part of that, an Active Transportation Demand Analysis and an Active Transportation Needs Analysis were developed. This analysis was used to determine a score for each project proposal. Projects that score highly on both the Transportation Demand scale and the Active Transportation Needs Analysis would receive high consideration. In addition to these factors, Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Corridors are used to additionally tailor project scores.

An example from the Mount Vernon District was presented. The example showed a demand analysis, a needs analysis and safety corridors. Commissioners' discussion covered questions on source of data, definitions some of the choice factors (e.g., priority health zones). The overall goal is to identify immediate needs. While the final selection should be informed by this analysis it is unlikely to be definitive.

Public Comment Period

Since there were no members of the public present, there were no comments.

Officers Election Announcement

According to TAC bylaws, candidate(s) for Chair are to be nominated. The incumbent was nominated, and nominations were close by acclimation. The Chair signified his intent to nominated Pete Sitnik as Vice-Chair and the incumbent Secretary, Roger Hoskin, for another term. Elections will take place at the August meeting according to the bylaws.

Remote Meeting Policy

The change in remote meeting policies were reviewed; the policies were adopted by TAC unanimously.

Other business and announcements.

Future TAC meeting topics were discussed. The need to appoint a sub-committee for select the TAC achievement award for 2022 was discussed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Hoskin moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 pm. It was seconded by Commissioner Morse and unanimously approved by the Commission.