

Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission

Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting – 7:30 PM, August 15, 2017

Location: Fairfax County DOT, 4050 Legato Road, Suite 400, Conf. Rooms 400.06 & 400.08
Fairfax, Virginia 22033

Web Site: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/tac/>

Note Taker: Alan Young

TAC Members in Attendance: Roger Hoskin, Secretary (Mason), Mike Champness (Dranesville), Kevin Morse (Braddock), Alan Young (At Large) and Harry Zimmerman (Lee).

TAC Members Absent: Jeff Parnes, Chair (Sully), Jennifer Joy Madden, Vice Chair (Hunter Mill), Micah Himmel (Providence), Michael Shor (Mt. Vernon) and Eric Thiel (Springfield).

Others in Attendance: FCDOT staff: Calvin Lam, Efon Epanty, Ryan Jones and Michael Felshow.

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman/Secretary Roger Hoskin at 7:38 pm. He declared a quorum present. The meeting notes from July 18, 2017 were approved.

Agenda and Discussion Topics

Tom Bash, Fairfax Area Disabilities Board, asked for a few minutes to discuss the Metro Access service. He noted a Washington Post article, June 11, 2017, the third in a year, demonstrating 10 years of decline. The County is contributing an increasing funding stream each year but service for County residents are experiencing degrading service. Western County residents in some cases are without service. Tom Bash requested Commissioners speak with their Supervisors about the increasing problem. In response to Harry Zimmerman's question about what could improve the service, Tom Bash noted that right sizing the vehicles used has helped cut costs in some other cities. Mike Champness suggested looking at the pay scale to better compete for drivers and to consider using Lyft and Uber services. Roger Hoskin requested a new Disabilities Board representative be appointed to the TAC.

The topic of this month's meeting was the Demonstration of the Fairfax Connector Bus Information System by Efon Epanty and Ryan Jones (FCDOT).

The project began in 2013 and is entering Phase 2 to add Interactive Voice Response, Digital Message Signs, and Automatic Vehicle Monitoring.

Phase 1 improved dispatch and vehicle location. There is now one dispatch system replacing three locations. They can see real time traffic, control for incidents, and have better passenger information. Mike Champness asked about the number of bus breakdowns, but the briefing team did not have that data readily available.

There is a Bus Tracker that allows customers to know availability of coming buses. For the operators and planners, there is now data available to the bus stop level allowing for understanding of changing usage patterns. The real-time data enhances the user experience and encourages combining multiple transit modes. Transit App was demonstrated with Uber offered for the last mile. Information being

validated for Google Maps. They expect that their data will be available for Google integration soon.

Text only user option is available for text readers and ADA use and Commissioner Champness' flip phone.

Harry Zimmerman asked how a new user could determine possibilities. The response was 1) call the TIC information number, 2) use moovit web application 3) use Trip Planner by WMATA, 4) Transit app, 5) soon will be available through Google Maps.

Every County Bus Stop has been labeled with a bus stop number to help users.

The data allows for evacuation support to hospitals, shelters, assisted living facilities, etc.

The question was asked how ridership has been affected. It is premature to know yet.

Comment & Feedback on Last Meeting's Presentation: N/A

Other Business

Planning for the Future

Mike Champness summarized the current state of the Planning for the Future. August 18, 2017 was the inaugural meeting. Concept paper discussed and updated. See draft August 13, 2017. Commissioners can add in topics. TAC Working Meeting to be scheduled on August 29 or September 5, 2017. A Doodle poll will be used to set the next date.

The Awards Committee reported out their recommendation for this year's awardee. The number and caliber of the nominations this year were noted to be superior to previous years. The Committee voted and unanimously accepted the Awards Committee recommendation.

Planned Agenda for next meeting

- **September 19, 2017:** Dulles Metrorail Project Update – Mark Canale (FCDOT)
- **October 17, 2017:** Update on Virginia Railway Express (VRE) – Doug Allen (VRE) / Mike Lake (FCDOT) including plans for expansion in Fairfax County)
- **November 14 or 28, 2017:** Update on the TPP's Outreach Efforts – FCDOT Staff
- **December 19, 2017:** Transportation Demand Management's (TDM) Metrics for Key Performance Indicators
- **January 16, 2018:** Potomac River Crossings Data Development Study – VDOT
- **February 20, 2018:** Joint meeting date with the Planning Commission's Transportation Committee on what their vision is for future development and any changes in planning and zoning guidelines that may be needed to account for future work environment given the pace and impacts of technology advances
- **TBD:** Long-Range Plans/Future Transportation Plans - FCDOT

Closing and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM