Welcome!

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
AmpUp!
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Kindly **SIGN IN** and **JOIN US.**

Arlington Draft Plan Comment Form

TODAY'S AGENDA

01 Brief Presentation @ 6PM

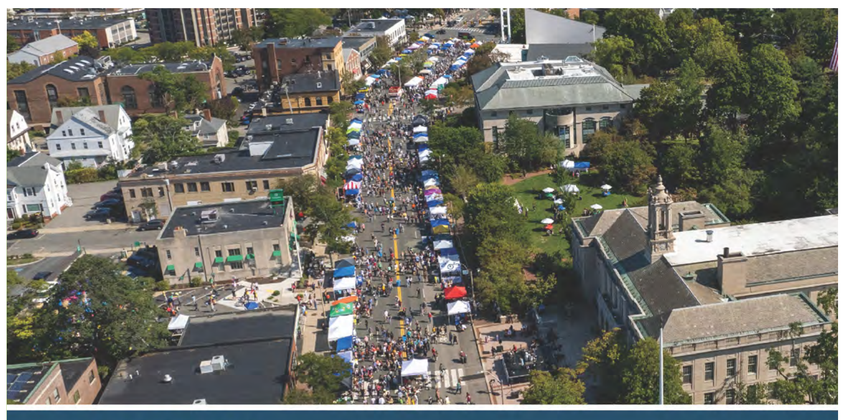
The presentation provides an overview of the draft plan. It will scroll continuously if you arrive later.

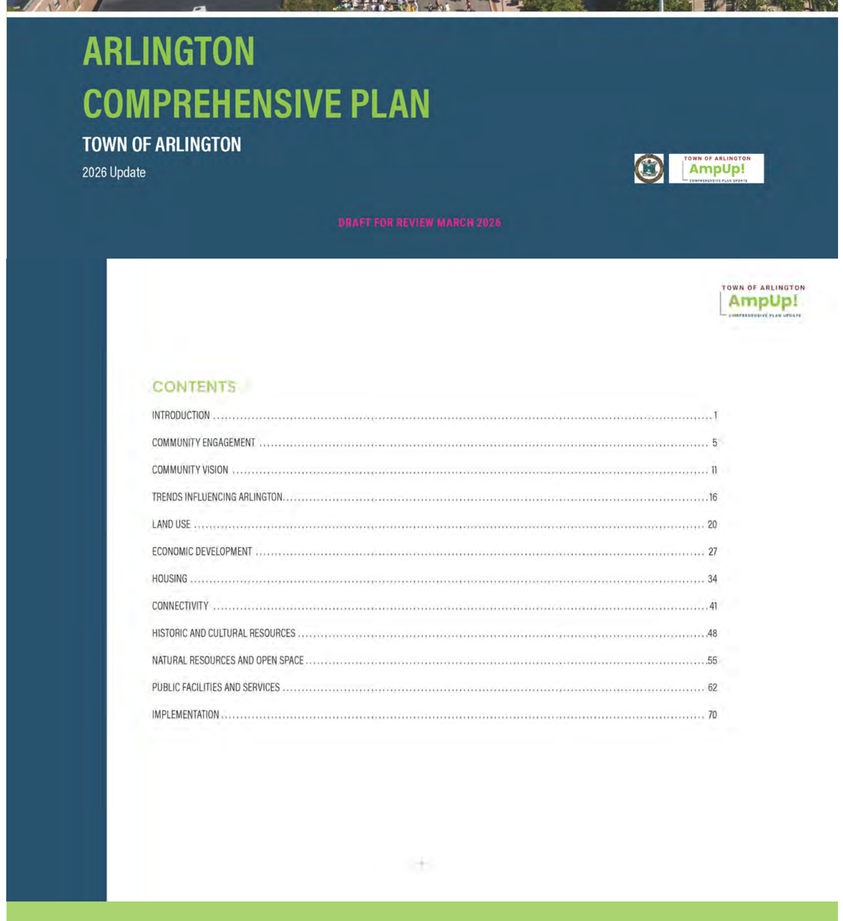
02 Poster Gallery Session

A poster gallery presents the strategies in the draft plan, organized by chapter/topic. Your review is appreciated.

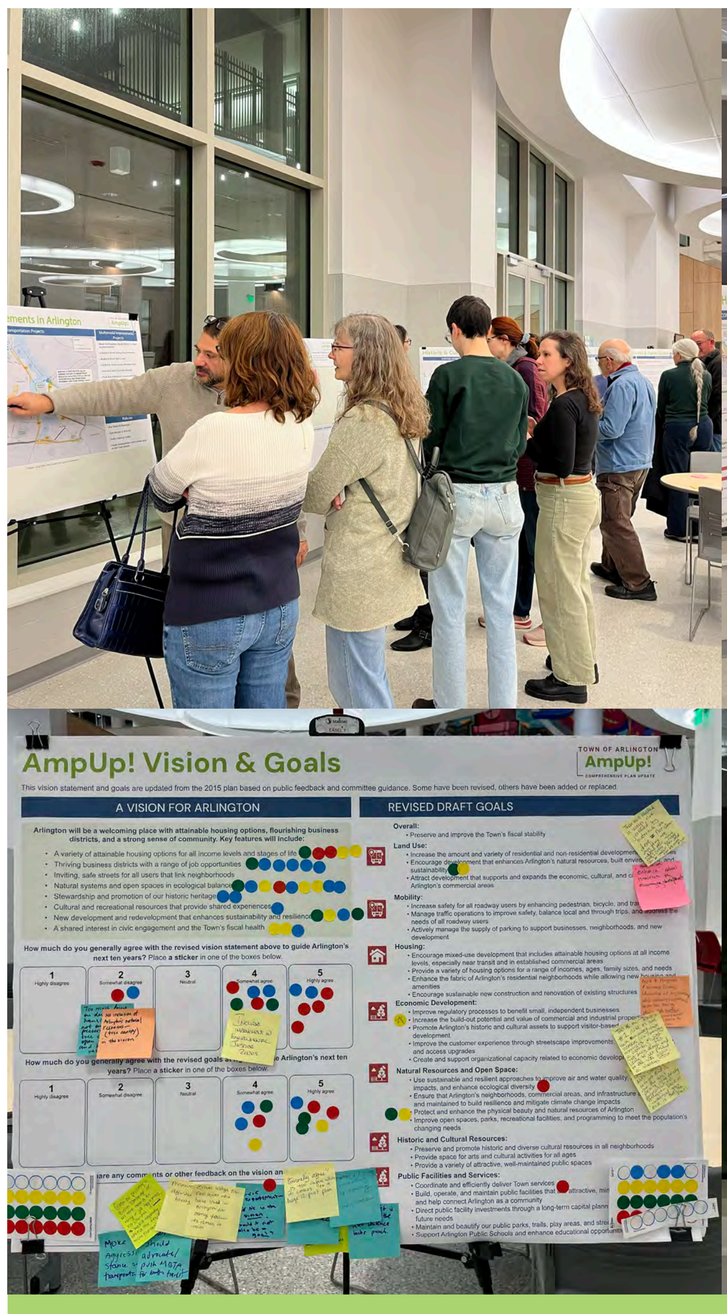
03 Feedback Session

Share your feedback! Fill out a comment card, talk to the project team, or use the online survey form.





Draft Report





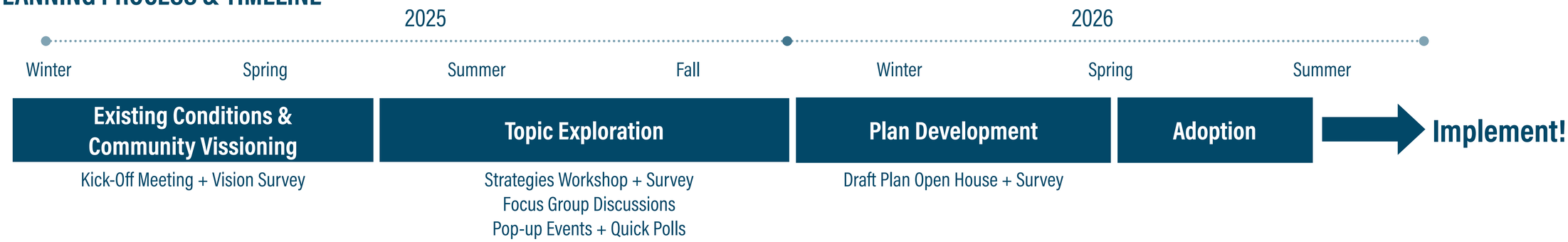
Strategy Development Workshop Highlights

The full draft plan is available on the project website: **arlingtonma.gov/CompPlan**

Community Engagement

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PLANNING PROCESS & TIMELINE



IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENT

- 2 public workshops
- 1 draft plan open house
- 160+ attendees at in-person events
- 5 focus groups with 85+ attendees
- 20+ Advisory Committee pop-up events
- 100+ paper surveys collected at pop-up events
- 15 interviews with 30 staff across more than 20 Town departments

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

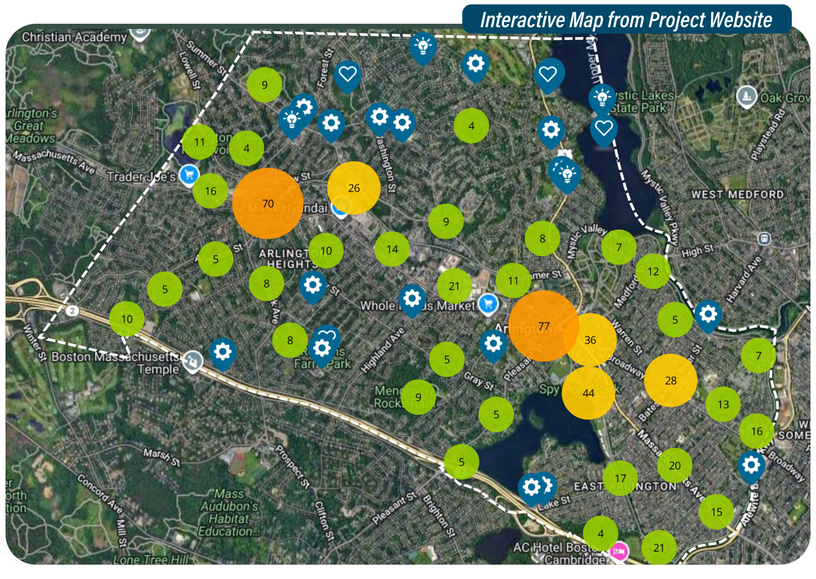
- 4,000 project website visitors
- 957 online contributors
- 3,435 votes and 624 comments on interactive map
- 533 vision survey responses
- 496 responses to 2 quick polls

HOW IS THIS PUBLIC INPUT BEING USED?

Public input, together with existing conditions analysis and input from Town staff, is used to:

- Capture community perspectives across a variety of topic areas
- Revise the plan's vision and goals
- Consider potential strategies
- Inform prioritization and implementation of the plan

Interactive Map from Project Website



SHARED COMMUNITY PRIORITIES - KEY THEMES FROM PUBLIC INPUT

- **Increasing Housing and Addressing Affordability:** Expand housing options affordable to families, seniors, and young adults across income levels.
- **Prioritizing Mixed-use Development:** Encourage mixed-use development in business and industrial areas to support housing equity and preserve town character.
- **Improving Walking, Biking, and Accessibility:** Improve pedestrian, biking, and transit infrastructure to create safer, more accessible streets and connections.
- **Enhancing Natural and Open Spaces:** Protect and enhance green spaces while expanding access and education on sustainability.
- **Strengthening the Economy and Businesses:** Reduce vacancies, support local businesses, and attract new economic activity.
- **Fostering a Strong Community, Culture, and Quality of Life:** Foster inclusive community identity and vibrancy through public gathering spaces and celebrating cultural and historic assets.

Visioning Forum, April 2025



Town Day Pop Up Event, August 2025



Housing focus group, September 2025



Plan Development Workshop, October 2025



Vision and Goals

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OVERVIEW

Community feedback shaped an updated vision for Arlington's Comprehensive Plan, outlining 10–20-year aspirations and guiding planning, policy, and investment. Topic-based goals and strategies, updated from the 2015 Master Plan, provide the framework for implementation.

VISION STATEMENT

" Arlington strives to be a welcoming town that supports a diverse population in a variety of housing options, fosters thriving business districts and vibrant neighborhoods, protects the natural environment, and encourages a strong shared sense of community and civic involvement. "

OVERARCHING PLAN THEMES

Two overarching themes emerged from public feedback and advisory committee discussions and are woven throughout the plan's goals and strategies.

01 | SUPPORTING EQUITY AND DIVERSITY:

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are essential to a welcoming community and quality of life. It includes inclusive access to resources, services, public spaces, and community facilities for all residents—especially historically underserved communities. This includes physical, language, and programmatic access that strengthens connections, expands opportunity, and supports long-term community resilience.

02 | INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE:

Sustainability and resilience address current needs while preparing for the future. It includes sustainable building practices, environmental stewardship, economic adaptability, and social connectedness. Proactive planning will help Arlington better withstand and recover from future disruptions.

GOALS

LAND USE
- Increase the number and variety of residential and non-residential development opportunities
- Prioritize the redevelopment and productive use of underutilized parcels to advance community goals
- Encourage development that enhances Arlington's natural resources, built environment, and sustainability
- Attract development that supports and expands the economic, cultural, and civic vibrancy of Arlington's commercial areas

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- Improve regulatory processes to benefit local businesses
- Increase the build-out potential and value of commercial and industrial properties
- Promote Arlington's historic and cultural assets to support economic development
- Improve the customer experience through streetscape improvements, wayfinding, parking, and access upgrades
- Create and support organizational capacity related to economic development

HOUSING
- Continue to support implementation of the Arlington Housing Production Plan (2022) and the Fair Housing Action Plan (2021)
- Encourage mixed-use development that includes attainable housing options at all income levels, especially near transit and in established commercial areas
- Provide a variety of housing options for a range of incomes, ages, family sizes, and needs
- Allow multi-family housing compatible with the scale of existing residential neighborhoods
- Encourage sustainable new construction and renovation of existing structures

CONNECTIVITY
- Increase safety for all roadway users by enhancing pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access
- Manage traffic operations to improve safety, balance local and through trips, and address the needs of all roadway users
- Actively manage the supply of parking to support businesses, neighborhoods, and new development

HISTORIC & CULTURAL RESOURCES
- Preserve and promote Arlington's historic heritage and its diverse arts and cultural resources
- Enhance and support historic business districts and neighborhoods with compatible redevelopment
- Provide well-maintained public spaces for year-round arts and cultural activities for all ages

NATURAL RESOURCES & OPEN SPACE
- Use sustainable and resilient approaches to improve air and water quality, mitigate flooding impacts, and restore ecological integrity
- Ensure that Arlington's neighborhoods, commercial areas, and infrastructure are developed and maintained to build resilience and mitigate climate change impacts
- Increase the town's tree canopy on public and private property
- Protect and enhance the physical beauty and natural resources of public and private lands in Arlington

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES
- Coordinate and efficiently deliver Town services
- Build, operate, and maintain public facilities that are attractive, cost-efficient, minimize environmental impact, and help connect Arlington as a community
- Direct public facility investments through a long-term capital planning process that anticipates future needs
- Maintain, beautify, improve our public parks, trails, play areas, and programming to meet the population's changing needs
- Support Arlington Public Schools and enhance educational opportunities for all

Land Use

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

STRATEGY	LEAD	PARTNER(S)*	TIME-FRAME	TM**
Goals: » Increase the number and variety of residential and non-residential development opportunities. » Prioritize the redevelopment and productive use of underutilized parcels to advance community goals. » Encourage development that enhances Arlington's natural resources, built environment, and sustainability. » Attract development that supports and expands the economic, cultural, and civic vibrancy of Arlington's commercial areas.				
LU-1. Conduct a strategic assessment of commercial corridors to encourage more redevelopment that can increase the amount of housing and commercial space. Assessment should include: • Identify opportunity and/or catalytic sites (i.e., sites with a small building and large parking area, one-story non-historic commercial buildings, parcels with low tax value per acre, etc.). • Evaluate development economics/project feasibility to identify potential financing gaps. • Develop strategies to encourage private owners to intensify underused sites up to the permitted heights allowed by zoning. • Engage with property owners, developers, residents, and other stakeholders as part of the planning process. • Priority corridors to assess: Massachusetts Avenue and Broadway. Secondary corridors: Summer Street and lower Mystic Street, others as identified by DPCD staff.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Mid	N
LU-2. Encourage more connections and trail-oriented development along the Minuteman Bikeway to leverage this asset in support of housing and businesses. a. Trail as economic amenity: Focus on attracting compatible commercial and industrial-type uses. b. Trail as housing amenity: Consider rezoning residential parcels that directly abut the Minuteman Bikeway to higher density residential zoning.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Mid	Y (LU-2b)
LU-3. Leverage Town-owned properties for redevelopment that adds housing and commercial uses responsive to community needs and interests. a. Build on the Fox Library Housing Study (MAPC, 2025) to continue exploration of combining housing above a new library in East Arlington. b. Study development options for the Russell Common Lot in Arlington Center. The study should identify community goals for the space and consider options for commercial and housing development, public parking, and the farmer's market.	DPCD	ARB, Town Manager, Dept. of Libraries, Facilities Dept.	Short/Mid	N
LU-4. Promote redevelopment opportunities across Arlington that help to add a variety of housing types and price points, support a variety of commercial uses, and grow the property tax base.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Ongoing	N
LU-5. Streamline the development review timeline for proposed projects. a. Review the pre-application meeting process to address common issues early. b. Track length of project review by project type from application to final decision.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Short	N
LU-6. Conduct an audit of the Zoning Bylaw to align with modern uses and allow greater flexibility, especially in the Business and Industrial districts.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Short	Y
LU-7. Monitor new construction in the multi-family housing overlay districts to evaluate the diversity of housing types and levels of affordability achieved. If needed, consider zoning modifications to better promote the desired types of development.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Short	N
LU-8. Further incentivize projects to implement net zero energy and climate adaptive strategies that accelerate progress towards the Town's climate goals. a. Enhance and/or extend incentives related to clean energy technologies, net zero energy construction, and low-embodied carbon materials. b. Introduce incentives for development that exceeds requirements for stormwater management, reduces the heat island effect, and otherwise strengthens community climate resilience.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA, CEFC	Mid	N
LU-9. Continue to consolidate zoning districts to make the Town's Zoning Bylaw more user-friendly while still addressing community needs and desires.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Mid	Y
LU-10. Explore allowing small, low-impact light commercial uses (corner store, coffee shop, professional services, etc) in residential zoning districts to add local-serving retail amenities in neighborhoods. Develop appropriate regulations to mitigate impacts (e.g. parking, noise, lighting) and increase benefits for the surrounding neighborhood.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Mid	Y

* Not an exhaustive list of partners
** Town Meeting Action Required

COMMENTS

Economic Development

STRATEGY	LEAD	PARTNER(S)*	TIME-FRAME	TM**
Goals: » Improve regulatory processes to benefit local businesses. » Increase the build-out potential and value of commercial and industrial properties. » Promote Arlington's historic and cultural assets to support economic development. » Improve the customer experience through streetscape improvements, wayfinding, parking, and access upgrades. » Create and support organizational capacity related to economic development.				
ED-1. Develop a Strategic Economic Development Plan to increase commercial and industrial-type development. Key considerations should include: • Providing consistent, predictable funding to promote economic development initiatives including small business recruitment, tenant support, tourism, and visitor marketing. • Evaluating organizational models to advance local economic development. Consider options to assemble and control parcels for commercial and industrial development, to establish development partnerships, and to encourage new commercial and light industrial development with appropriate incentives. • Identifying ways to tap into the economic opportunities in the regional economy. • Developing an approach to encourage renovation and leasing of vacant storefronts and buildings.	DPCD	Town Manager, A-TED	Short	N
ED-2. Complete further revisions to regulatory and permitting processes to clarify requirements and reduce unanticipated costs.	DPCD	Inspectional Services, ARB, ZBA	Short	N
ED-3. Promote the Business Resource Guide in conjunction with Town-wide effort to integrate all licenses into an online permitting platform. a. Review and update the guide on an annual basis in response to user feedback and changes in regulatory processes.	DPCD	Select Board, Town Manager, ARB,	Ongoing	N
ED-4. Develop and implement a cohesive marketing and communications strategy to increase awareness of Arlington as a competitive business location. a. Grow Arlington's visitor economy to drive consumer spending. b. Develop and promote evening and nightlife activities for all ages throughout the year.	DPCD	A-TED, Town Manager	Mid	N
ED-5. Create a Placemaking Plan for Arlington's distinct business districts that considers streetscape, public spaces, vacant storefronts, wayfinding, programming, art, history, and culture. Other considerations should include: • Explore regulatory options such as commercial property maintenance codes and vacant storefront registries to encourage good repair and active marketing of available commercial spaces. • Develop and implement comprehensive signage, wayfinding, and branding strategies for each business district and across Arlington. • Enhance the appeal of existing business districts by adding plantings, shade trees, seating, and other amenities that support beautification and create inviting public spaces. • Create a "Store-Back of Business Improvement Program" to improve business orientation to the Bikeway (façade treatments, outdoor seating, etc.).	DPCD	Town Manager, A-TED, DPW	Mid	N
ED-6. Evaluate support among property and business owners in business districts to create a formal Main Street Association(s) or Business Improvement District(s) that would provide additional private sector-directed resources to support beautification, signage and wayfinding, and clean/safe programs in Arlington's business districts.	DPCD	Town Manager	Long	N
ED-7. Expand the A-TED Committee's focus on broad economic development initiatives to complement tourism-related efforts. a. Promote and develop business and industry for the purpose of strengthening the local economy, providing jobs, and expanding the tax base. b. Evaluate options to move from a "volunteer"-led model to a staff position for promotion, programming, and communications to maintain momentum and create consistency.	DPCD	A-TED	Short	N
ED-8. Create centralized town-wide communications and marketing of businesses and events to increase awareness and engagement with existing businesses across the community	DPCD	A-TED	Short	N

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COMMENTS

Housing

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

STRATEGY	LEAD	PARTNER(S)*	TIME-FRAME	TM**
Goals: » Continue to support implementation of the Arlington Housing Production Plan (2022) and the Fair Housing Action Plan (2021). » Encourage mixed-use development that includes attainable housing options at all income levels, especially near transit and in established commercial areas. » Provide a variety of housing options for a range of incomes, ages, family sizes, and needs. » Allow multi-family housing compatible with the scale of existing residential neighborhoods. » Encourage sustainable new construction and renovation of existing structures.				
H-1. Amend the Zoning Bylaw to allow for a greater range of housing types in a variety of locations throughout town to increase the housing supply. Examples of "missing middle" housing to encourage in more areas: • Allow two-family and duplex dwellings by-right in the R0 and R1 districts. Update the residential design guidelines to illustrate examples. • Allow three-family and townhouse dwellings by-right in the R2, R3, and R4 districts. Update the residential design guidelines to illustrate examples.	DPCD	ARB	Short	Y
H-2. Update the 2022-2027 Affordable Housing Trust Action Plan.	DPCD	AHT, ARB	Short	N
H-3. Maintain Arlington's designation as a Housing Choice Community through housing production and implementation of best practices that promote sustainable housing development.	DPCD	ARB	Ongoing	N
H-4. Continue to evaluate the features of Affordable Housing Overlay (AHO) to expand the range of attainable housing options throughout Arlington.	DPCD	ARB, AHT	Short	Y
H-5. Extend features of the multi-family overlay districts to business districts to encourage mixed-income multi-family development. Zoning aspects to consider extending to other districts: • Additional floor if higher percentage of units set-aside as affordable housing. • No minimum lot size, frontage, or open space requirements.	DPCD	ARB	Mid	Y
H-6. Study the economics of the Town's affordable housing requirement for projects over six units to determine whether the percentage required (15% currently) or the affordability level (up to 60% AMI) should be changed to create more housing and/or increase range of affordability.	DPCD	ARB, AHT	Mid	N
H-7. Create a framework for tiered affordability that encourages projects to include housing at multiple affordability levels, including "missing middle" workforce incomes (typically 80-120% AMI).	DPCD	ARB, AHT	Mid	N
H-8. Identify stable, recurring funding source(s) to support housing development with units at a range of affordability levels. Explore options such as: • Affordable Housing Trust – identify stable annual funding stream. • Community Preservation Act – dedicate share of funds to Affordable Housing Trust. • Other fees – evaluate economics of new development linkage or impact fee, real estate transfer fee, etc.	DPCD	Town Manager, Finance Committee, CPA, AHT	Mid	N
H-9. Revise Zoning Bylaw regulations to encourage creativity with infill development conditions and allow flexibility regarding irregular lots, minimum lot size, minimum lot frontage, and other dimensional regulations.	DPCD	ARB, ZBA	Mid	Y
H-10. Ensure housing policy fully supports net zero development and renovation, energy efficiency, energy affordability, and climate adaptation and resilience, as outlined in the Net Zero Action Plan and other related plans. a. Ensure economically and socially disadvantaged residents are connected with the resources to take advantage of the benefits (lower energy costs, etc.).	DPCD	CEFC	Short	N
H-11. Expand efforts to promote and share funding resources that help offset the cost of sustainable construction practices, including housing renovations.	DPCD	CEFC, Inspectional Services	Ongoing	N
H-12. Explore opportunities to increase the development of accessory dwelling units (ADU) including options that reduce costs and permitting timelines for ADU projects.	DPCD	Inspectional Services, ARB, ZBA	Short	N

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COMMENTS

Connectivity

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

STRATEGY	LEAD	PARTNER(S)*	TIME-FRAME	TM**
Goals: » Increase safety for all roadway users by enhancing pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access. » Manage traffic operations to improve safety, balance local and through trips, and address the needs of all roadway users. » Actively manage the supply of parking to support businesses, neighborhoods, and new development.				
C-1. Adopt a townwide Vision Zero policy to identify and implement strategies to eliminate pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities. a. Develop neighborhood traffic calming toolkit to support Vision Zero policy. b. Address complex intersection conditions such as five-way stops, wide pedestrian crossings with difficult topography, and high-volume pedestrian and bicycle crossings (e.g., Park Avenue intersections at Lowell Street, Paul Revere Road, and Appleton Street).	DPCD	Select Board, Town Manager, DPW	Short	N
C-2. Formalize multimodal networks and close gaps to connect neighborhoods, activity centers, and regional connections. a. Establish multimodal priorities for key corridors to guide planning and design efforts, balancing pedestrian, bicycle, freight, transit, and parking needs. b. Develop a unified design approach for Massachusetts Avenue and for Broadway.	DPCD	Select Board, Town Manager, DPW	Mid	N
C-3. Implement recommendations in local transportation plans to prioritize multimodal, equitable, and safe transportation investments. a. Continue implementing *Connect Arlington* and Complete Streets priority recommendations, prioritizing safety improvements to eliminate fatalities. i. Conduct a five-year progress review (2027). ii. Conduct ten-year update of Connect Arlington (2032). b. Provide regular design and construction updates on ongoing transportation improvements.	DPW	Select Board, DPCD, TAC, ABAC	Ongoing	N
C-4. Create and maintain a five-year roadway construction project list to plan for multimodal improvements, traffic calming, and green infrastructure along with roadway surface and utility improvements. a. Establish a design budget within the DPCD to design transportation improvements in-house and implement them with DPW.	DPW	DPCD, Capital Planning Committee	Mid	N
C-5. Study existing north-south roadways between Summer Street and Massachusetts Avenue (Mill Street, Grove Street, Brattle Street, Forest Street) and explore potential new connections to increase pedestrian and bicycle access to the Minuteman Bikeway and to distribute vehicles across more intersections.	DPCD	DPW, ABAC, TAC	Long	N
C-6. Complete a comprehensive review of the overnight parking ban and recently adopted Overnight Parking Permit Program for Residents so on-street supply can support housing and businesses while reducing the need for on-site parking areas.	Town Manager	Select Board, DPCD, DPW, Police	Short	N
C-7. Develop Parking Benefits Districts in Arlington Heights and East Arlington to use parking revenue for local transportation and public realm improvements, using Arlington Center's Parking Benefits District as a model.	DPCD	Select Board, Town Manager, Police, DPW	Short	N
C-8. Update the Town's aging business district parking studies to better understand current usage, opportunities, and issues within a broad context.	DPCD	DPW	Mid	N
C-9. Increase number of electric vehicle charging locations in and near business districts to support Arlington's goal of 100% carbon neutrality by 2050.	DPCD	DPW, CEFC, Facilities	Mid	N
C-10. Collaborate with neighboring communities and state leads to advocate with the MBTA to improve local service, such as: • More frequent service on high-ridership routes. • Implement bus priority where congestion impacts buses, in the form of transit-signal priority, queue jumps, and bus lanes as necessary. • Create connections from Arlington Center and Arlington Heights to Alewife, Harvard Square, and the Green Line at Tufts. • Improve bus connections to nearby communities, including Boston, Cambridge, Watertown, and Waltham. • Improve mobility connections for residents, commuters, and visitors through the future redevelopment of Alewife MBTA station. • Study Red Line Extension feasibility.	Town Manager	Select Board, DPW, DPCD, TAC	Ongoing	N

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COMMENTS

Historic and Cultural Resources

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

STRATEGY	LEAD	PARTNER(S)*	TIME-FRAME	TM**
Goals: » Preserve and promote Arlington's historic heritage and its diverse arts and cultural resources. » Enhance and support historic business districts and neighborhoods with compatible redevelopment. » Provide well-maintained public spaces for year-round arts and cultural activities for all ages.				
HC-1. Update the Arlington Arts and Culture Plan. Key considerations should include: • Integrate considerations for physical and programmatic accessibility and inclusion. • Consider how arts and culture can be further integrated into the business districts to enrich the visitor experience. • Explore the potential for developing new arts spaces like performance spaces and multipurpose indoor facilities.	ACAC	DPCD	Mid	N
HC-2. Continue to seek funding to preserve, conserve, and enhance Town-owned historic resources and materials, including Town Hall and Robbins Library.	Historical Commission, DPCD	Facilities, Town Manager	Ongoing	N
HC-3. Expand on existing self-guided tour programs in the Cultural District and in other parts of Arlington to share local resources with the community and visitors.	ACAC	Historical Commission, Historic Districts Commission	Short	N
HC-4. Increase signage to educate the public and increase awareness of Arlington's Indigenous history, ice harvesting, and other aspects.	Historical Commission	DPCD, ACAC	Mid	N
HC-5. Consult existing historic surveys and inventories to guide preservation and adaptation of identified historic residences, commercial structures, and neighborhood and business districts. a. Increase knowledge about historic surveys, inventories, and other resources among board members and staff. b. Increase administrative support to maintain and update historical databases.	Historical Commission	Historic Districts Commission, DPCD	Ongoing	N
HC-6. Promote awareness of best historical preservation practices and educational resources for homeowners and business owners of identified properties.	Historical Commission	Historic Districts Commission, DPCD	Ongoing	N
HC-7. Create a single, coordinated marketing and communications strategy to promote local assets and cultural events and programming.	ACAC	A-TED, Chamber of Commerce	Mid	N
HC-8. Identify and pursue additional funding sources to create a staff position to lead local arts and culture efforts and strengthen the Town's position as a leader in the cultural community.	ACAC	Town Manager, DPCD	Long	N
HC-9. Increase diversity of people involved in event planning processes for public arts and cultural programming and participation.	ACAC	DPCD, DEI	Ongoing	N
HC-10. Promote the artist live-work program to increase the supply of creative maker spaces and attainable housing for artists.	ACAC	DPCD	Ongoing	N
HC-11. Identify collaborative opportunities for public art and culture installations in public and private spaces throughout Arlington. a. Integrate temporary or permanent public art into transportation infrastructure. b. Include community-use public spaces in renovated and new municipal buildings that can be used for rehearsals, performances, and/or arts instruction. c. Collaborate with property owners and the arts and culture community to install more public art on private property.	ACAC	Recreation Department, DPW, Town Manager, Schools, DPCD	Short	N
HC-12. Continue implementing ADA self-evaluation recommendations to remove barriers to accessing and enjoying historic resources and arts and cultural facilities.	DPW	Town Manager, Facilities	Ongoing	N
HC-13. Pilot a block party and cultural festival program to promote free public events throughout Arlington.	DPCD	Town Manager, Police, DPW	Mid	N

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Natural Resources and Open Space

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

STRATEGY	LEAD	PARTNER(S)*	TIME-FRAME	TM**
Goals: » Use sustainable and resilient approaches to improve air and water quality, mitigate flooding impacts, and restore ecological integrity. » Ensure that Arlington's neighborhoods, commercial areas, and infrastructure are developed and maintained to build resilience and mitigate climate change impacts. » Increase the town's tree canopy on public and private property. » Protect and enhance the physical beauty and natural resources of public and private lands in Arlington.				
NR-1. Continue to be a leader in sustainability and resiliency issues to preserve and enhance natural resources, reduce energy usage, and improve quality of life.	Town Manager	DPCD, DPW, Facilities, Recreation, CEFC	Ongoing	N
NR-2. Continue to implement recommendations in the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). Complete an update in 2032 to maintain eligibility for funding programs.	DPCD	Recreation, DPW, OSC, Con Comm	Ongoing	N
NR-3. Require the use of low impact development and climate adaptive strategies in municipal and private development projects. a. Provide definitions and examples of these strategies to relevant Town departments and the general public.	DPCD	DPCD, ARB, ZBA, CEFC	Short	N
NR-4. Prioritize projects that mitigate the urban heat island effect especially in neighborhoods with the highest impacts. a. Increase the tree canopy using appropriate native and climate adaptive species. b. Limit new and reduce existing impervious surfaces using green infrastructure strategies such as rain gardens, to the extent feasible. c. Integrate water play elements and other creative cooling solutions into new public playground and recreation areas.	DPCD	DPCD, DPW Recreation	Short	N
NR-5. Continue to address flooding hazards especially along Mill Brook and Alewife Brook using a combination of natural and built strategies and policy measures.	DPCD	DPW, ARB	Ongoing	N
NR-6. Improve water quality issues by implementing structural and non-structural stormwater management solutions. a. Focus on Mill Brook, Spy Pond, and Hills Pond within Arlington. b. Work with neighboring communities to address shared water bodies such as Alewife Brook and Arlington Reservoir.	DPCD	DPW, Con Comm	Ongoing	N
NR-7. Install native and/or climate adaptive plantings on public properties. • Implement maintenance standards for public lands.	DPCD	Select Board, Con Comm, Recreation	Short	N
NR-8. Protect, enhance, and diversify the urban tree canopy, including street trees and trees on public lands. a. Plant and maintain a variety of native, drought- and salt-tolerant street tree species. b. Focus on neighborhoods and streets with less existing tree canopy.	DPW	Tree Committee, Con Comm, DPCD	Mid	N
NR-9. Regularly update street tree maintenance plans and policies to reflect best practices. a. Align funding and staff capacity with maintenance needs. b. Gradually replace invasive Norway maple and Callery/Bradford pear trees with more appropriate street trees. c. Consider sidewalk design and material options to mitigate surface displacement and promote stormwater infiltration.	DPW	Tree Committee, DPCD	Long	N
NR-10. Expand educational resources about sustainability and resiliency measures to share with residents and developers. a. Provide education and programming to encourage greater adoption of the recommendations of the Sustainable Landscape Handbook and related landscape practices. b. Provide information about creating rain gardens and other stormwater management practices. c. Enhance education for developers and homeowners on the requirements of the Fossil Fuel Free Bylaw and Specialized Stretch Code. d. Explore additional funding sources, including Town operating funds, to sustain a part-time Energy Advocate position.	DPCD	OSC, CEFC	Long	N
NR-11. Explore both Town-sponsored and homeowner/neighborhood-based approaches to invasive species management.	DPCD	DPW, Recreation, OSC, PRC	Mid	N
NR-12. Incorporate local environmental topics into the Arlington Public Schools curriculum to introduce important ecological and climate adaptation ideas and resources to Arlington's youngest residents.	School Department	Young Arlington Collaborative, School Committee	Long	N

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COMMENTS

Facilities and Services

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Goals: » Coordinate and efficiently deliver Town services. » Build, operate, and maintain public facilities that are attractive, cost-efficient, minimize environmental impact, and help connect Arlington as a community. » Direct public facility investments through a long-term capital planning process that anticipates future needs. » Maintain, beautify, and improve our public parks, trails, play areas, and programming to meet the population's changing needs. » Support Arlington Public Schools and enhance educational opportunities for all.				
FS-1. Continue to facilitate and improve regular interdepartmental meetings to discuss projects and issues that involve multiple departments.	Town Manager	All Departments	Ongoing	N
FS-2. Leverage technology to provide more efficient governance. Integrate systems to create a one-stop shop for public services including dog licensing, bill pay, tax collections, parking meters, parking tickets, report a concern, etc.	IT Department	Town Manager	Short	N
FS-3. Account for the life-cycle costs of projects during the design phase. a. Balance initial construction, ongoing maintenance, and replacement timeline costs. b. Align funding and staff capacity with maintenance responsibilities. c. Implement maintenance standards for public lands.	DPW	Recreation Dept., Facilities	Ongoing	N
FS-4. Continue progress toward eliminating building-related emissions to meet Arlington's net zero goals and reduce operating costs.	Facilities	Town Manager, CEFC, DPCD	Ongoing	N
FS-5. Continue a regular building and facility inspection process to proactively identify future repairs and upgrades.	Facilities		Short	N
FS-6. Develop project metrics such as improving service delivery and reducing emergency repairs.	Facilities	DPW	Mid	N
FS-7. Consider making the curbside composting program a Town-provided service for all residents.	DPW	Town Manager, Zero Waste Arlington Committee	Long	N
FS-8. Evaluate options to increase public works staffing to provide more regular and proactive maintenance.	Town Manager	DPW	Long	N
FS-9. Increase programming to support vulnerable populations and provide social services to enhance social resilience in the face of climate change and other impacts.	HHS	DPCD	Long	N
FS-10. Complete the Master Field Study and consider priority recommendations for athletic field uses.	Recreation Dept.	DPCD, DPW, PRC	Short	N
FS-11. Consider increasing program and field fees to help offset rising costs to maintain parks and recreation facilities.	Recreation Dept.	PRC, DEI	Short	N
FS-12. Complete a five-year update to the Net Zero Action Plan to identify the next phase of progress toward the Town's climate goals.	DPCD			
FS-13. Implement the Climate Leaders Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap to help meet goals of the Net Zero Action Plan in public schools.	Facilities	School Dept., CEFC, DPCD	Ongoing	N
FS-14. Continue implementation of APS Five-Year Strategic Plan (2023-2028) and update when needed.	School Dept.	Town Manager	Ongoing	N
FS-15. Reconstruct Ottoson Middle School.	School Dept.	Town Manager	Long	N
FS-16. Invest in the redevelopment of the Edith Fox Library in East Arlington.	Library	Facilities, Town Manager	Mid	N
FS-17. Maximize occupancy and utility of underused Town-owned spaces. • Reevaluate Town and School rental programs and policies. • Modernize the Town Hall auditorium's acoustics and A/V.	Town Manager	DPCD, Facilities, School Department	Ongoing	N
FS-18. Prepare a Facilities Master Plan for all Town-owned buildings.	Facilities	Town Manager	Mid	N
FS-19. Develop a Zero Waste Master Plan to help Arlington meet statewide goals to reduce waste by 90% by 2050.	DPW	DPCD	Mid	N

* Not an exhaustive list of partners
** Town Meeting Action Required

COMMENTS