

# 2017 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



September 2017

City of Arlington

“A city is not an accident but the result of coherent visions and aims.”  
— Leon Krier, *The Architecture of Community*

SEPTEMBER 2017

# **2017 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

City of Arlington, Washington

Adopted by the Arlington City Council  
September 18, 2017  
Ordinance No. 2017-011

Prepared in accordance with the Washington Growth Management Act – RCW 36.70A – and the State Environmental Policy Act – RCW 43.21C. The Plan was also prepared with Washington Department Guidelines for updating comprehensive Plan. See Appendix D.

SEPTEMBER 2017

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## Acknowledgements

### Elected Officials

#### Mayor

Barbara Tolbert

#### City Council

Jesica Stickles

Chris Raezer

Debora Nelson

Sue Weiss

Marilyn Oertle

Mike Hopson

Jan Schuette

#### Planning Commission

Bruce Angell, Commission Chair

Mike Thomas, Vice Chair

Ken Levesque

Vernon Beach

Aaron MacDonald

#### Parks, Art & Recreation Commission

Brittany Kleinman, Chair

Tiffany McAuslan, Vice Chair

Bob Leonard

Steve Maisch

Jessica Ronhaar

Christopher St John

Jennifer Egger

### City Staff

#### Administration

Paul Ellis, Administrator

#### Administrative Services

Heather Logan, Director

#### Community & Economic Development

Marc Hayes, Director

Amy Rusko, Associate Planner

#### Public Works

James Kelley, Director

Sarah Lopez, Recreation Manager

#### Airport

David Ryan, Manager

#### Fire

Bruce Stedman, Fire Chief

#### **Police**

**Jonathan Ventura, Police Chief**

#### Finance

Kristin Garcia, Director

## Vision Statement

The principal theme of the Vision Statement is that the City of Arlington would like to maintain its character and identity - the "small town" atmosphere. The overall goals listed in Chapter 3 are essential for maintaining a satisfactory quality of life for Arlington. These goals will endure as the Comprehensive Plan is implemented. As the Comprehensive Plan is updated to account for changing conditions the goals in the Vision Statement will provide direction for such revisions.

The City of Arlington will meet its challenge to accommodate regional growth by preserving the best a small city has to offer and by extending this "best" into new development and growth plans. The City will strive to balance growth by safeguarding our standards and values as we encourage economic growth to safeguard our future.

Even as the City evolves into a stronger commercial center, it will continue to retain the feel of its small town rural heritage. To this end, our vision focuses on the City's setting, its economy, social fabric, mobility and housing.

**The Setting:** Arlington is located where the north and south forks of the Stillaguamish River join. The City's northern/northwestern edge overlooks the Stillaguamish River Valley; its eastern side looks toward the Cascade foothills; and we border I-5 on the west and Marysville on the south.

**The Economy:** Arlington's future depends on its economic base keeping pace with other development. Citizens thrive when jobs are available and the necessary amenities are in place to improve their quality of life. To pay for this quality of life, our retail base must be secure and growing. It must also be able to pay for the infrastructure needed to fuel industrial growth.

**The Social Fabric:** Citizens establish the City's values, sense of place, and quality of life. In return they need cultural opportunities, recreational activities, educational resources, and entertainment for a full life.

**Mobility:** Our goal must be to provide mobility within the City and access to our county, state and federal transportation systems.

**Housing:** Arlington values its neighborhoods and hopes to pass on these values as new developments are built. We recognize the need to provide housing for all income ranges.

**Summary:** Because of Arlington's proximity to population centers and the freeway, growth is inevitable, but not necessarily as a bedroom community. Arlington will strive to maintain a small city identity, a high jobs-to-housing ratio, thriving commercial districts, safe neighborhoods, an expanding airport, a healthy hospital, a beautiful environment, great services, ample recreational opportunities, and a pride that most cities seldom experience. We want our citizens to continue to see Arlington as a caring community.