



**ARLINGTON 2024 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
UPDATE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND  
OUTREACH SUMMARY FOR 2021-2024**

**Appendix K**

# Memorandum

**To:** Marc Hayes, Amy Rusko, and Raelynn Jones, City of Arlington  
**From:** Brendan Wedderspoon, Cara Donovan, Mandi Roberts Otak, Inc.  
**Copies:** File  
**Date:** March 19, 2024  
**Subject:** Arlington 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update Public Engagement and Outreach Summary 2021-2024  
**Project No.:** 20695

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## Executive Summary

Public engagement and outreach for the Arlington 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update began has consisted of several efforts starting in 2021 through 2024: a project kick-off and visioning survey, an online subarea survey and in-person subarea workshop sessions, State Environmental Impact Statement (SEPA) scoping, a community survey, meetings of community-based focus group held regularly during the planning process, and various holiday and special event activities aimed at gathering meaningful input. In addition to these activities, the public will have opportunities to provide comments and input on the draft comprehensive plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2024 when these documents are published for public and agency review.

The public, tribes, adjacent jurisdictions, and various agencies and organizations have had multiple opportunities to be engaged and provide comments to help shape the direction for the Arlington 2024 Comprehensive Plan—Arlington 2044 and Beyond. Short summaries of each engagement effort are provided below with graphics that showcase public interaction. Additionally, the following appendices are provided for further information:

- Appendix A: April 2023 Open House Presentation
- Appendix B: July 2023 Street Fair Presentation
- Appendix C: Subarea In-Person Engagement Results
- Appendix D: SEPA Scoping Notice
- Appendix E: SEPA Scoping Presentation
- Appendix F: SEPA Scoping Engagement Results
- Appendix G: Zencity Community Survey Report

## Arlington Kick-off and Visioning Survey

A survey was conducted in the fall of 2022 through spring of 2023. The survey asked a series of questions to gather respondents' thoughts about Arlington and how the community could be strengthened through implementation of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan. The survey was comprised of five open-ended questions that were able to be accessed by QR code or weblink. The following flyer was prepared to promote the survey:

**We Are Updating Arlington's Comprehensive Plan and We Need Your Input!**

The City of Arlington's 2024 Comprehensive Plan is being updated to meet the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act, and to align with Puget Sound Regional Council Policy Vision 2050 and the Snohomish County Countywide Planning Policies. The City's vision statement consists of five foundational principles:

- Equity
- Neighborhoods & Connectivity
- Economic Stability & Vibrancy
- Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency
- Healthy Active Lifestyles

**CITY OF ARLINGTON**

The five foundational principles will be interwoven throughout the updated Comprehensive Plan. As we begin this planning process, we'd like to get the community's input—what people love and what they would like to see improved.

Go to [www.arlingtonwa.gov/784/Comprehensive-Plan-Update-2024](http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/784/Comprehensive-Plan-Update-2024) (or scan the QR code in top right corner) to answer five simple prompts:

1. **What I LOVE most about Arlington is:**
2. **My FAVORITE place in Arlington is:**
3. **One word to DESCRIBE Arlington is:**
4. **One thing I ENJOY about another city is:**
5. **One thing I would STRENGTHEN in Arlington is:**

The survey was distributed through and promoted at the following locations and events:

- Hometown Halloween on October 29, 2022
- Hometown Holiday Santa Parade on December 3, 2022
- Eagle Festival between February 3 and 4, 2023
- Joint City Council/Planning Commission Meeting on January 23, 2023
- Open House on April 27, 2023

Information on how and where to access the kick-off survey was located or posted at the following locations:

- City of Arlington All-Staff Bulletin emailed weekly to employees

- City of Arlington E-News posted on City website and emailed to all registered persons
- Comprehensive Plan Update (2024) webpage on City website
- City of Arlington Facebook posts
- Project postcards which were included with utility bills to all properties within City limits
- Project flyers distributed at various locations in Arlington, including at faith organizations
- Food banks

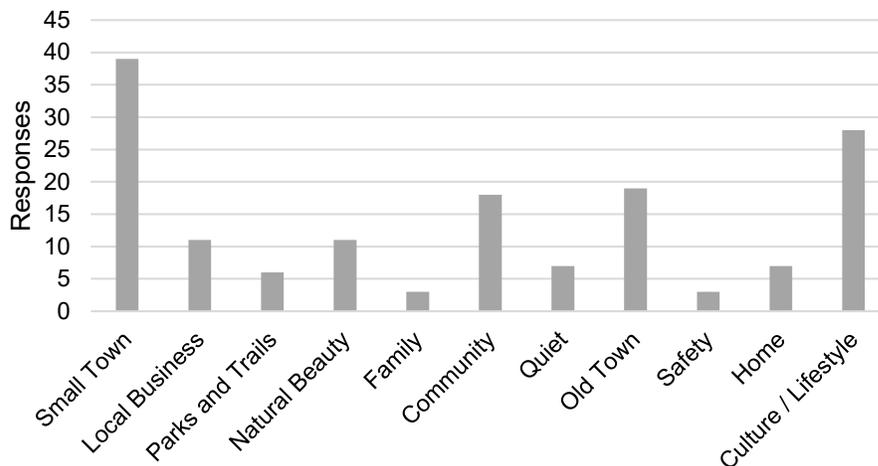
The City received responses from 96 respondents participating between October 2022 and May 2023. Brief narrative summaries of the most frequently observed themes and a graphic representation of the most common themes seen for each question are featured below.

**Question 1: What I LOVE most about Arlington is:**

Respondents noted that they loved the sense of community and hometown and small town feel of Arlington, Old Town, and the overall culture and lifestyle present within the community. Individuals also noted enjoying the parks and trails as well as the natural beauty of the City. Respondents also noted that family and safety were important. Several responses to Question 1 can be seen below along with a summary graph.

- “The small town feel and the amazing views pretty much everywhere you go. LOVE being surrounded by full, tall trees and the main reason we moved here.”
- “The hometown/ small-town feel of downtown and the welcoming feeling of getting to know people because Arlington is small enough to just run in to them often. “
- “A great place to raise a family! Beautiful nature, clean parks, outdoor recreation, community activities, safe area, and nice people.”
- “The small town feel but with all the services and shopping needed. We don’t have to go far to get what we might need or want.”
- “Community activities! These help us find out about the area, the local businesses, the history and even the future plans.”

What I love most about Arlington is:

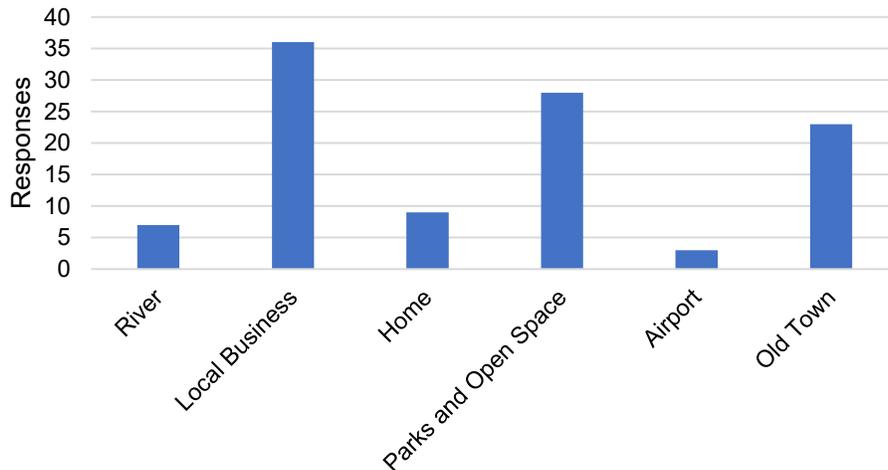


**Question 2: My favorite place in Arlington is:**

Responses about favorite places generally fell into three common themes: local businesses, parks and open spaces, and Old Town. Many respondents stated that their favorite place was a local business, be that the iconic Arlington Hardware, or a local restaurant or business. Additionally, the parks and open spaces were listed, as many respondents noted that they enjoyed being outdoors and close to the river. Furthermore, Old Town was mentioned as a popular place in Arlington. Many respondents also stated their enjoyment of the strong sense of community in Arlington. Several responses to Question 2 can be seen below along with a summary graph.

- “Olympic street! We love the Stilly Diner and Rocket Alley. We also enjoy other places on Olympic to shop, walk, or hang out.”
- “My favorite business is The Bistro. My favorite park is the Centennial Trail. It is a gift that the trail runs through town. Arlington did a nice job with the installed artwork.”
- “Locally owned shops.”
- “Two favorite places. View of Olympic Ave from the top of the hill. Another favorite place is the old high school on French Street.”
- “Legion Park on Farmers Market days tied with the airport! We love housing our private plane and flying out of the Arlington airport!”

My favorite place in Arlington is:

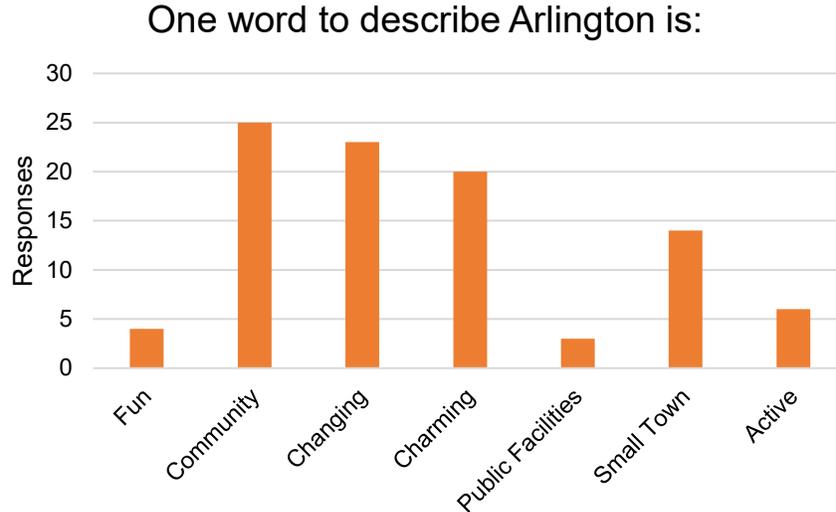


**Question 3: One word to describe Arlington is:**

“Community” was the most common response to Question 3 followed by “changing.” Many respondents had positive things to say about their community, which was condensed into the “charming” category. A list of common responses to Question 3 is provided below along with a summary graph.

- “Community”
- “Friendly”
- “Quaint”
- “Hometown”

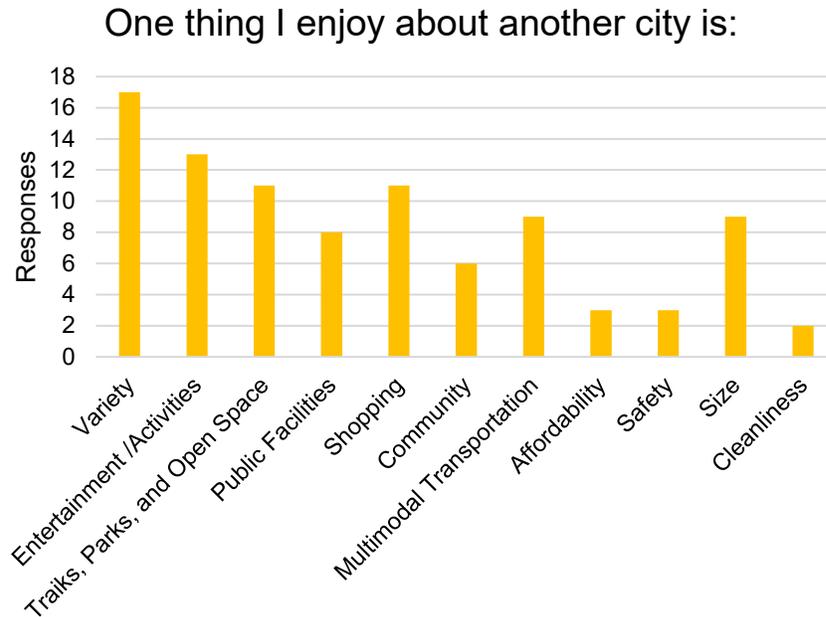
- “Growing”



**Question 4: One thing I enjoy about another city is:**

Respondents placed a high value on a variety of resources being available to the community. Additionally, respondents noted a need for more shopping, entertainment, and recreation options close to home. Many individuals noted having to leave Arlington to access these places. Some respondents also noted the affordability and safety of nearby municipalities as a value. Several responses to Question 4 are listed below along with a summary graph.

- “Access to more recreational activities like swimming and indoor recreational sports like basketball and volleyball. Think YMCA or a community recreational complex with indoor and outdoor opportunities.”
- “The grocery stores.”
- “Everett does their summer concerts on the waterfront every week.”
- “Things to do: shopping, variety of restaurants, activities, especially in the wintertime.”
- “Movie theater. Sidewalks for easy/safe walking – such as if we had them on Cemetery Road to walk to Kent Prairie.”

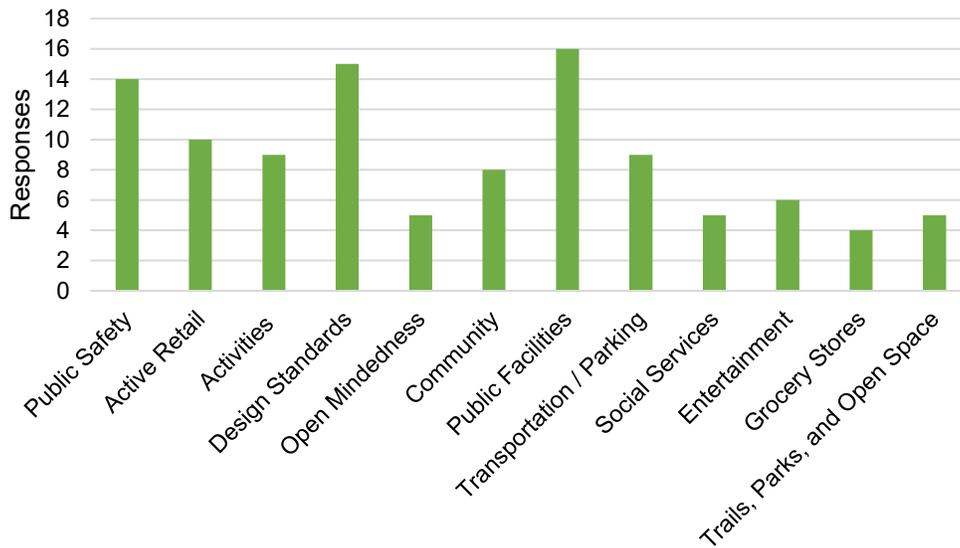


**Question 5: One thing I would strengthen in Arlington is:**

New and well-maintained public facilities represented a significant portion of what respondents would like to be strengthened in Arlington. Additionally, 15 respondents indicated a desire for more aesthetically pleasing designs for new developments, represented by the “Design Standards” category below. Concerns for public safety were also frequently mentioned along with a desire for infrastructure updates. Several responses to Question 5 are provided below along with a summary graph.

- “Traffic enforcement. (Speed limits, stopping for pedestrians, aggressive driving behavior, throwing car doors open while other vehicles are passing by, jaywalking, and parking in non-designated areas creating unsafe driving conditions.)
- “More public recreational opportunities. Also, more connectivity between areas. If one lives in the west side of the airport, there isn’t a safe walking or biking path to downtown.”
- “More bike trails connected by bike lanes; make the old high school into an active community center – use the theater for cultural events.”
- “Opportunities for kids to be involved (in government, in the community garden, in cleanups).”
- “More local businesses on Olympic that aren’t realtors, CPA’s, etc. More shops, restaurants, etc.!”

### One thing I would strengthen in Arlington is:



### Arlington Subareas Online Survey

In October of 2022, the City also launched the subareas survey as a start of community engagement efforts in support of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update. The survey ran for one full year from October 1st, 2022 to October 2nd, 2023. It should be noted that during the course of the survey the term “neighborhood” was changed to “subarea”. The 2024 Comprehensive Plan will discuss neighborhoods at a smaller scale than the subareas outlined in this survey. The survey link and associated QR code were distributed by City staff at the following events:

- The City’s Comprehensive Plan Update (2024) webpage
- Hometown Halloween on October 29, 2022
- Hometown Holiday Santa Parade on December 3, 2022
- Joint City Council/Planning Commission Meeting on January 23, 2023
- Open House Workshop Sessions on April 27, 2023
- Arlington Street Fair between July 7 and 9, 2023

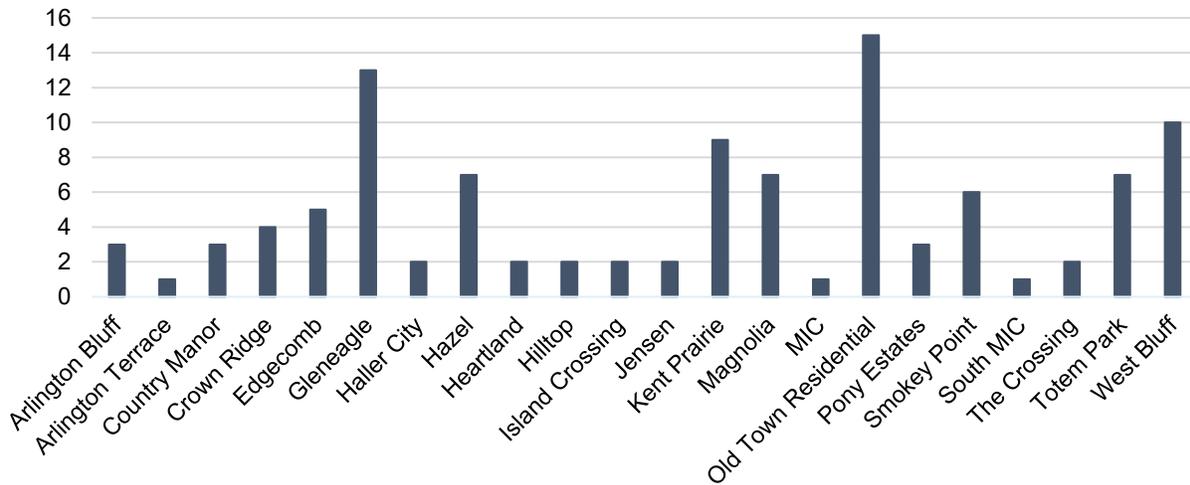
Information on how and where to access the subareas survey was located or posted at the following locations:

- City of Arlington All-Staff Bulletin emailed weekly to employees
- City of Arlington E-News posted on City website and emailed to all registered persons
- Comprehensive Plan Update webpage on City website
- City of Arlington Facebook posts
- Project postcards which were included with utility bills to all properties within City limits

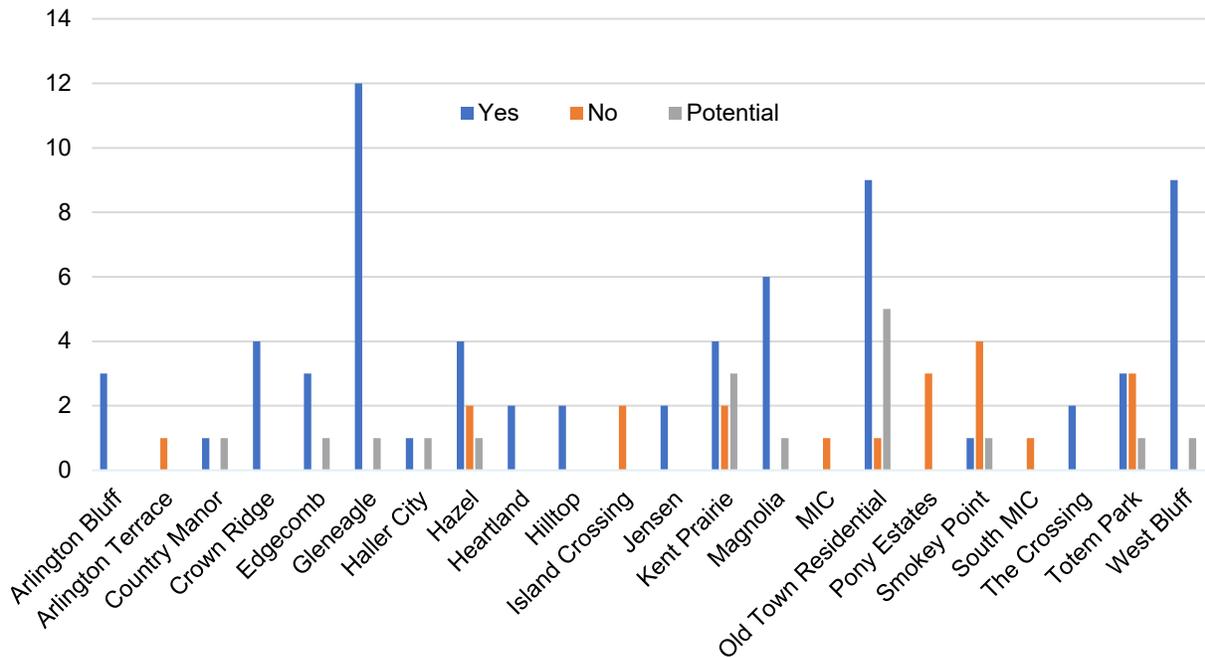
▪ Project flyers

The survey was made up of 17 yes/no questions with room for comments after each question. In total, 107 responses were recorded. Respondents were instructed to identify the subarea where they lived. The largest portion of respondents lived in Old Town, Gleneagle, and West Bluff. Responses to the survey questions are displayed in the graphs below. Topics where respondents agreed or shared similar thoughts are included for some questions below.

### Subareas Survey Responses by Neighborhood

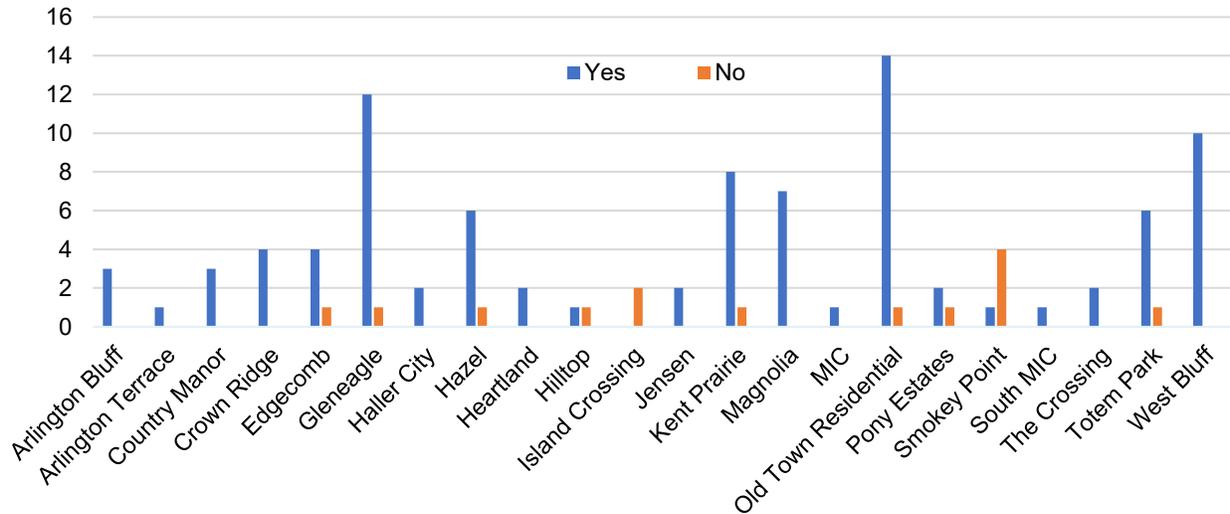


### Question 1: What is the appearance of your neighborhood?



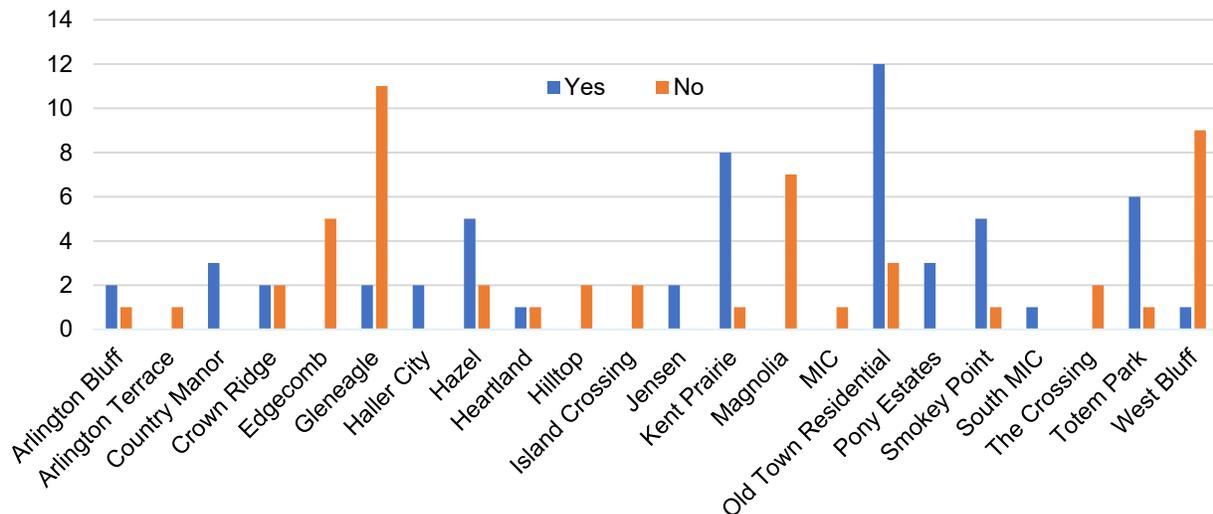
**Question 2: Is your neighborhood walkable?**

Most respondents found their subareas to be walkable. However, most Smokey Point respondents stated that their subarea was not walkable.



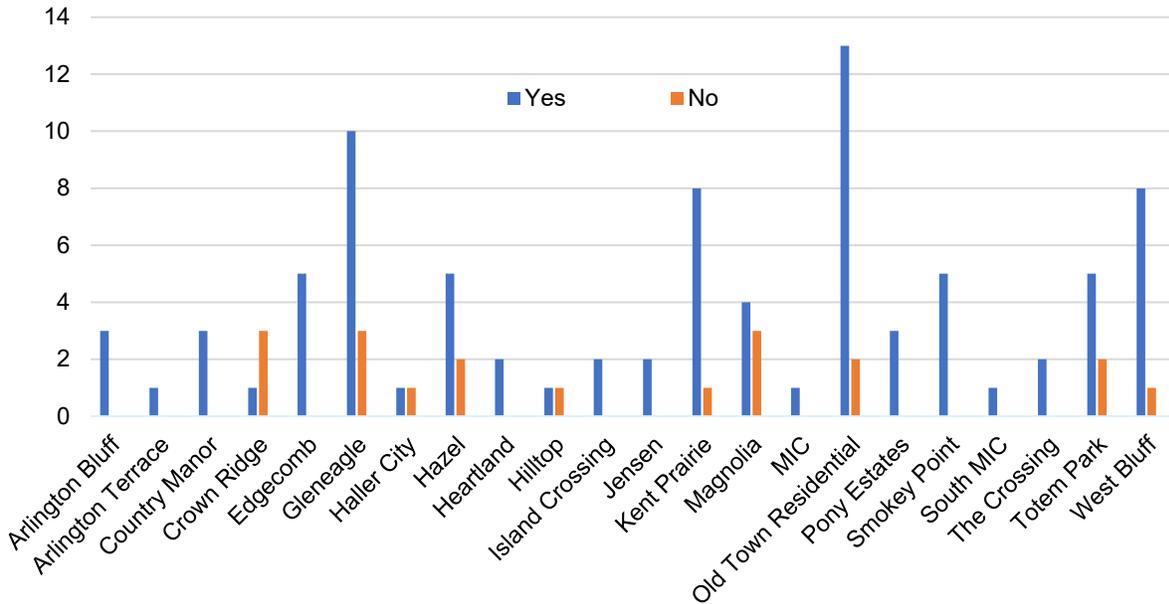
**Question 3: Are essentials nearby?**

Most respondents stated that essential services and utilities were not located near their subarea. Many noted that access to essentials was only possible through use of a car rather than walking.



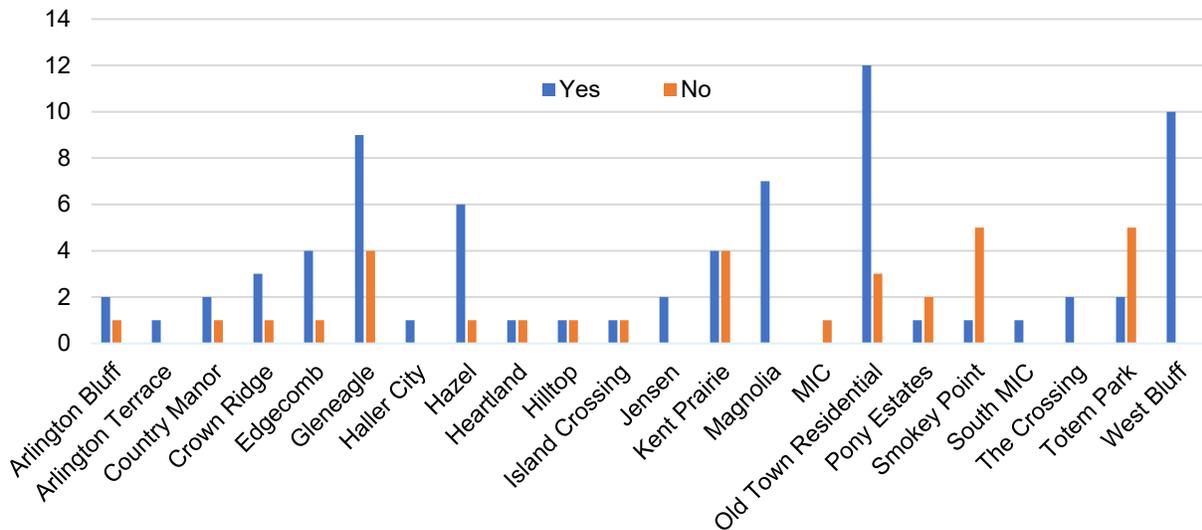
**Question 4: Is your neighborhood close to employment opportunities?**

Respondents overall believed that they lived in a subarea that was close to local employment opportunities. Ease of access to other subareas was noted by several respondents.



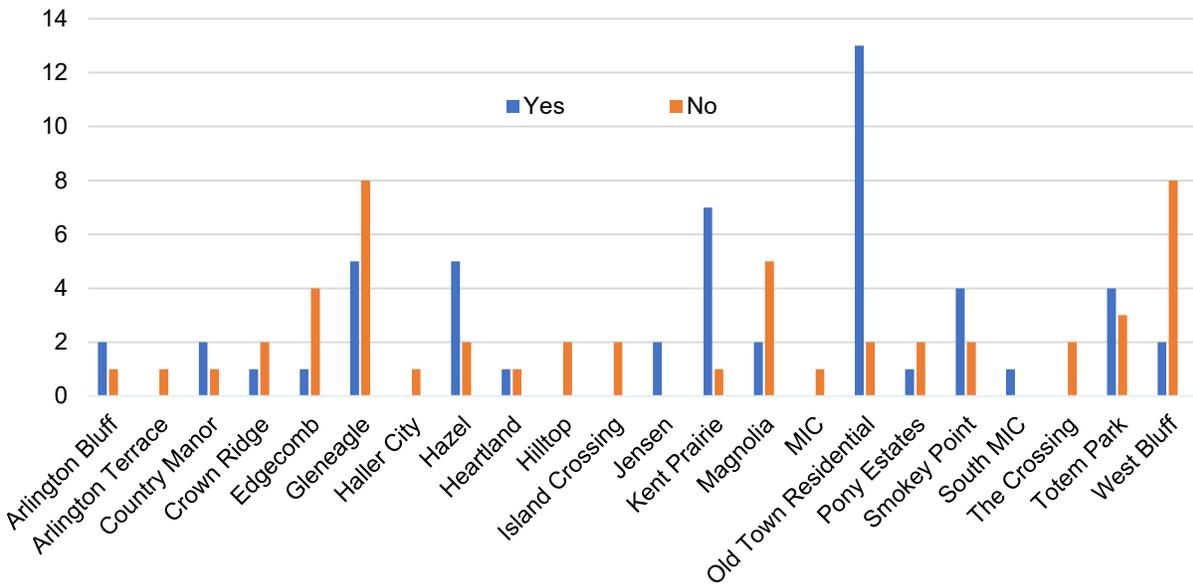
**Question 5: Is your neighborhood safe?**

Most respondents stated that they found their subareas to be safe, with Smokey Point, Totem Park, and Pony Estates being the locations where more respondents felt more unsafe than safe.



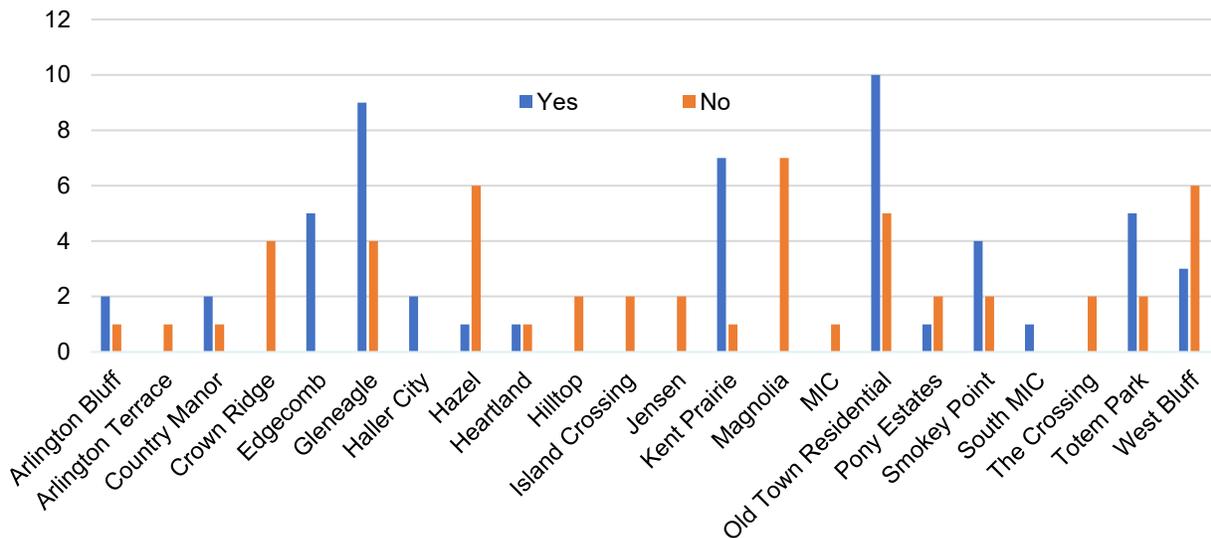
**Question 6: Does your neighborhood have easy access to medical services?**

Generally, respondents noted that most subareas were not located near or had easy access to medical services. Most respondents in Jensen, Old town Residential, Smokey Point, and Hazel responded that they have easy access to medical services.



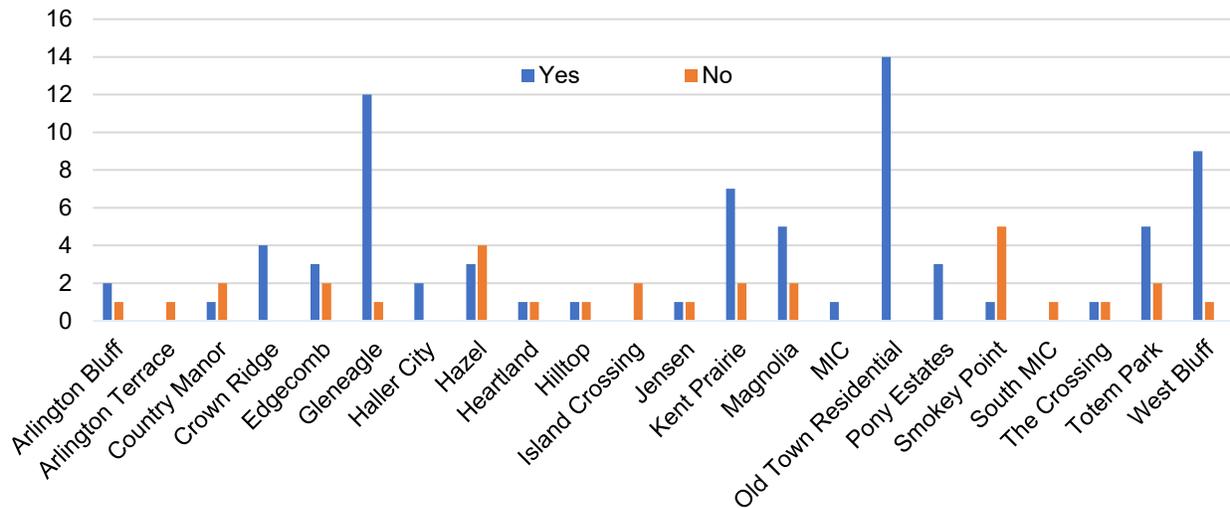
**Question 7: Does your neighborhood have a variety of housing types?**

Responses to this question were varied. Many respondents believed that the greatest variety of housing types existed in the Edgecomb, Gleneagle, Haller City, Kent Prairie, Old Town Residential, Smokey Point, and Totem Park subareas.



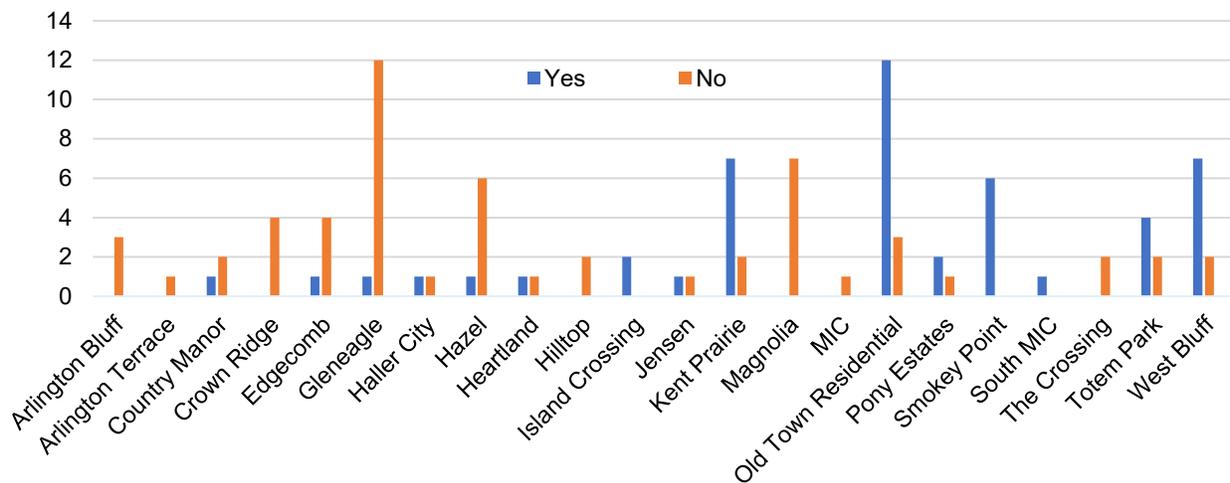
**Question 8: Does your neighborhood have public services?**

Respondents overwhelmingly believed that their subareas included public services. However, many respondents in Smokey Point, Island Crossing, and Hazel stated otherwise.



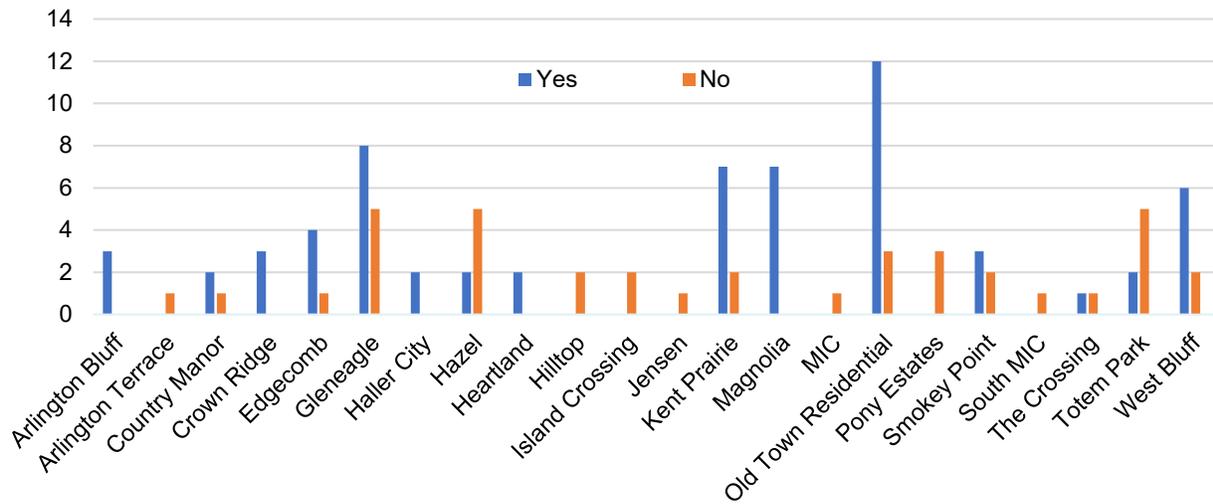
**Question 9: Does your neighborhood have bus stops?**

Most respondents located outside Kent Prairie, Old Town Residential, Smokey Point, Totem Parks, and West Bluff stated that their subareas lacked bus stops or public transit opportunities. Some respondents noted that they were uncertain about being able to rely on public transportation to reach their destinations.



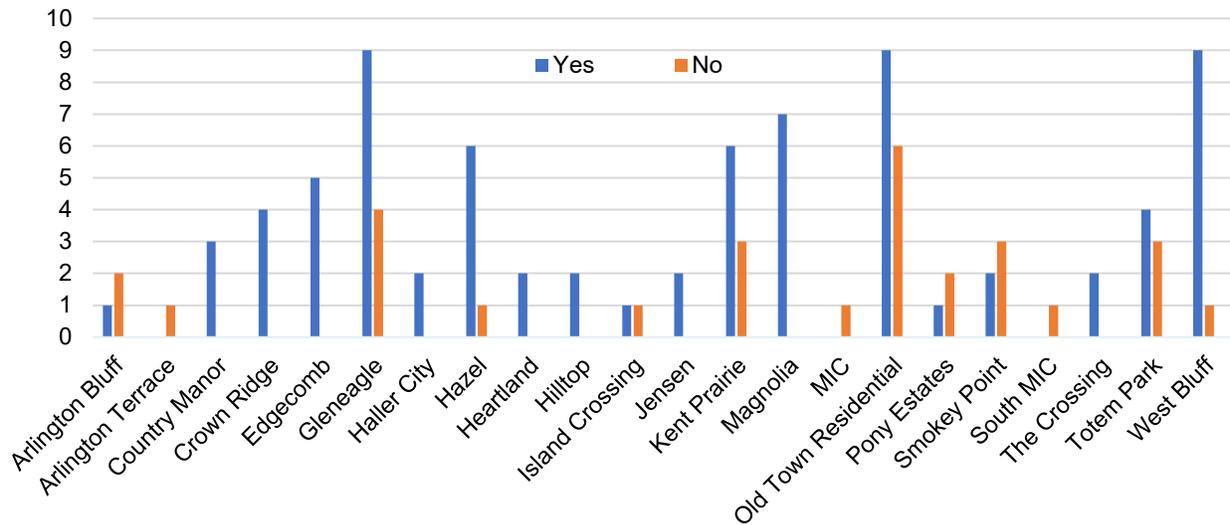
**Question 10: Does your neighborhood have fully improved streets?**

Most respondents felt that the quality of road infrastructure in their subarea was acceptable; however, several noted that there were insufficient sidewalks and trail connections.



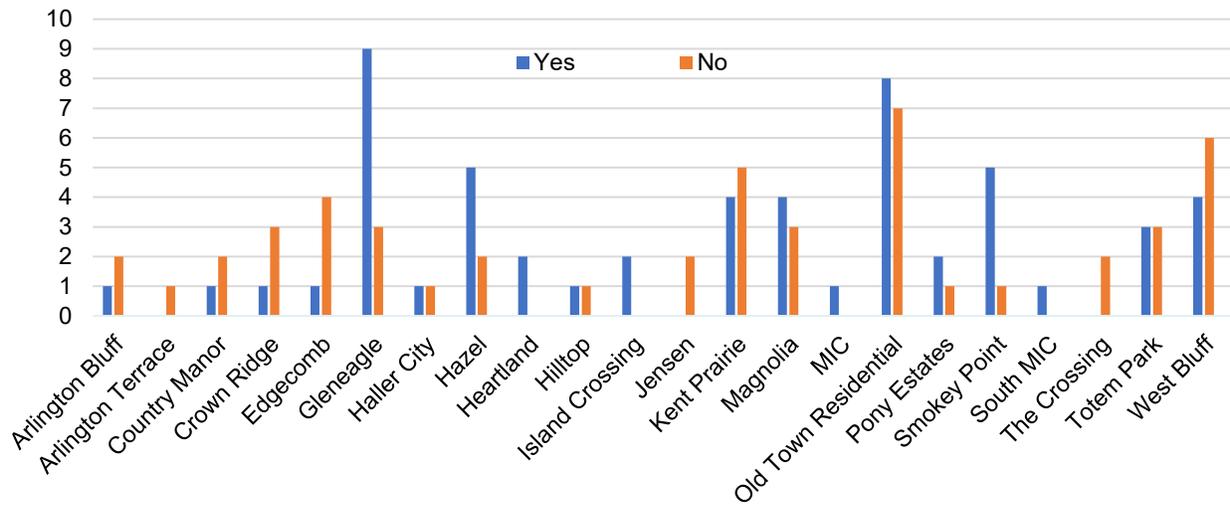
**Question 11: Does your neighborhood have adequate lighting?**

Many respondents stated that their subareas were generally well lit; however, some noted that there were several streets that would benefit from lighting improvements.



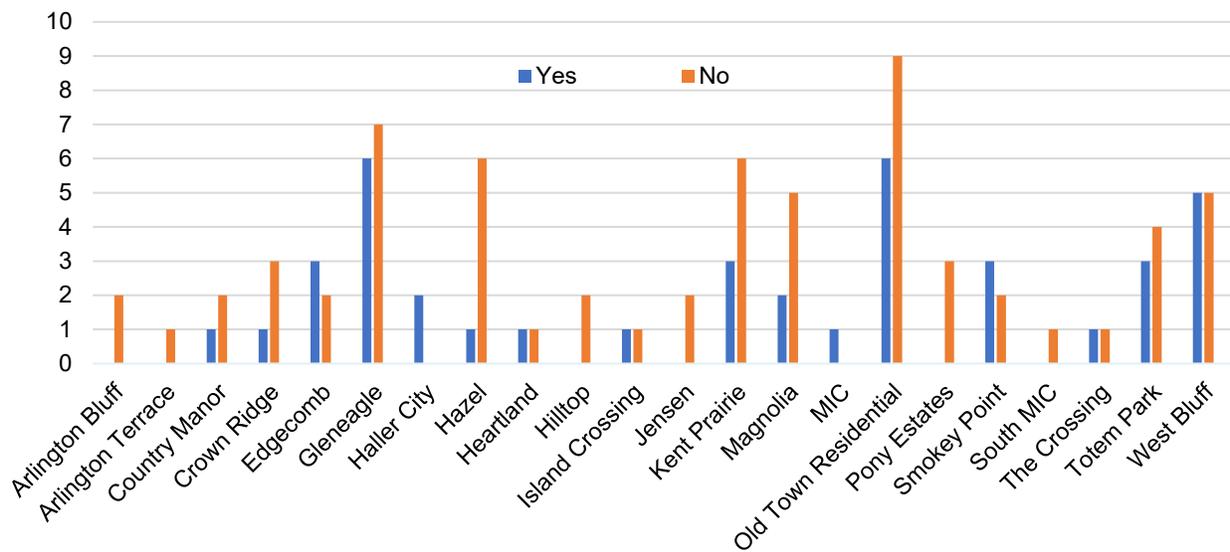
**Question 12: Does your neighborhood have obvious pedestrian safety concerns?**

Several notable issues with pedestrian safety were brought up by respondents throughout Arlington. Multiple respondents noted specific concerns about the high speed of traffic, lack of speed bumps, and missing sidewalks.



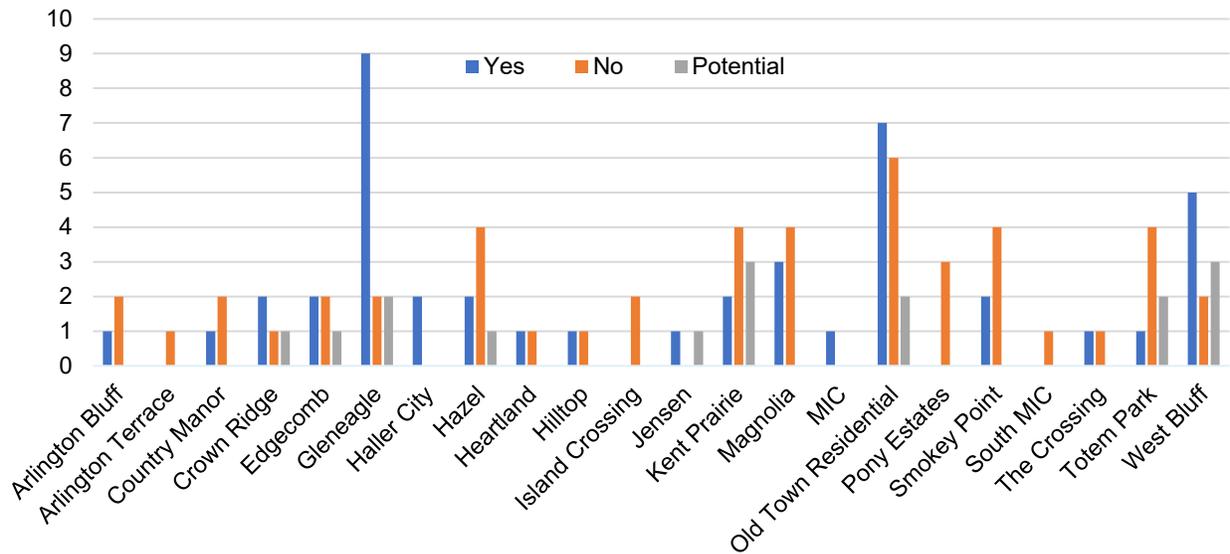
**Question 13: Is your neighborhood situated to be part of a trail network?**

Many respondents stated that they do not believe their subareas have access to existing trail networks. Several people also noted that while they may live near resources like the Centennial Trail, they would like to have more connections to existing trails.



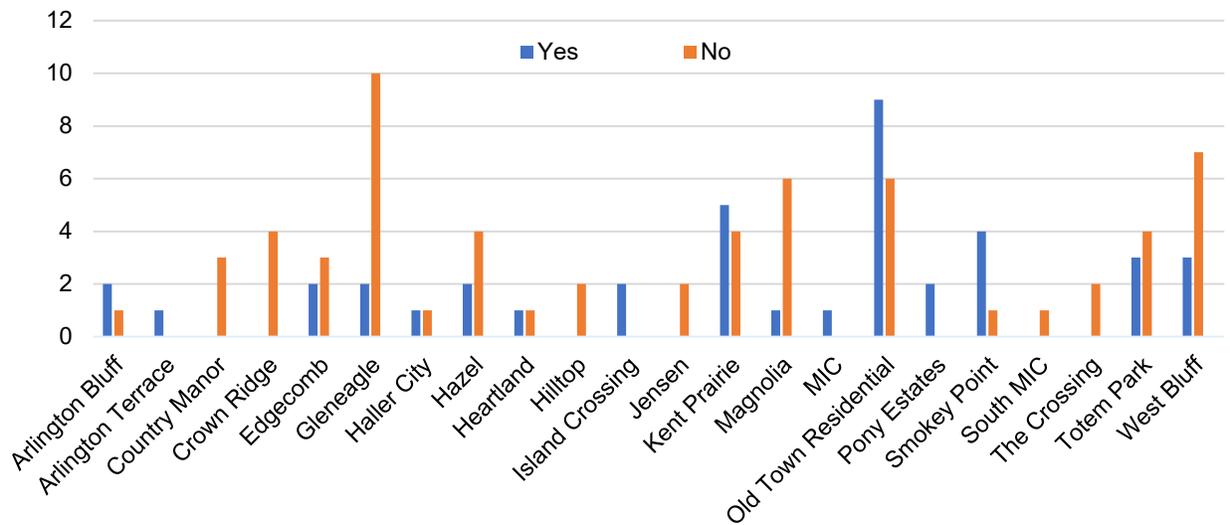
**Question 14: Does your neighborhood have a site for socialization?**

Collectively, most respondents found that their subareas lacked a site to socialize with Gleneagle being a notable exception. Many noted that there is potential for new public gathering sites to be created.



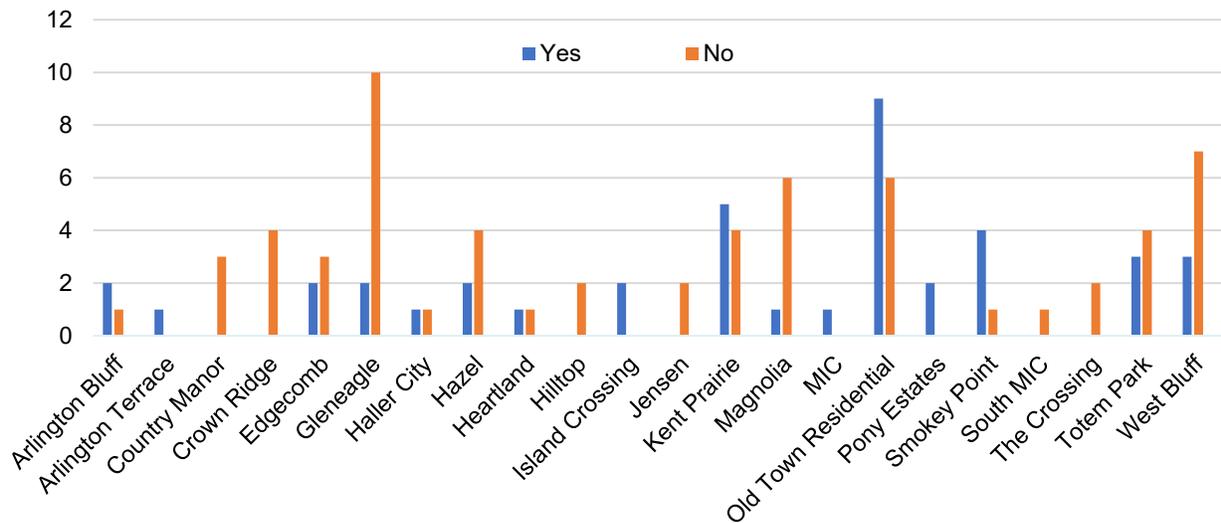
**Question 15: Does your neighborhood have obvious detractions?**

Overall, respondents did not think their subareas had detractions. The subareas of note that were thought to have detractions were Kent Prairie and Old Town Residential. Several individuals noted a small number of blighted properties in their vicinity.



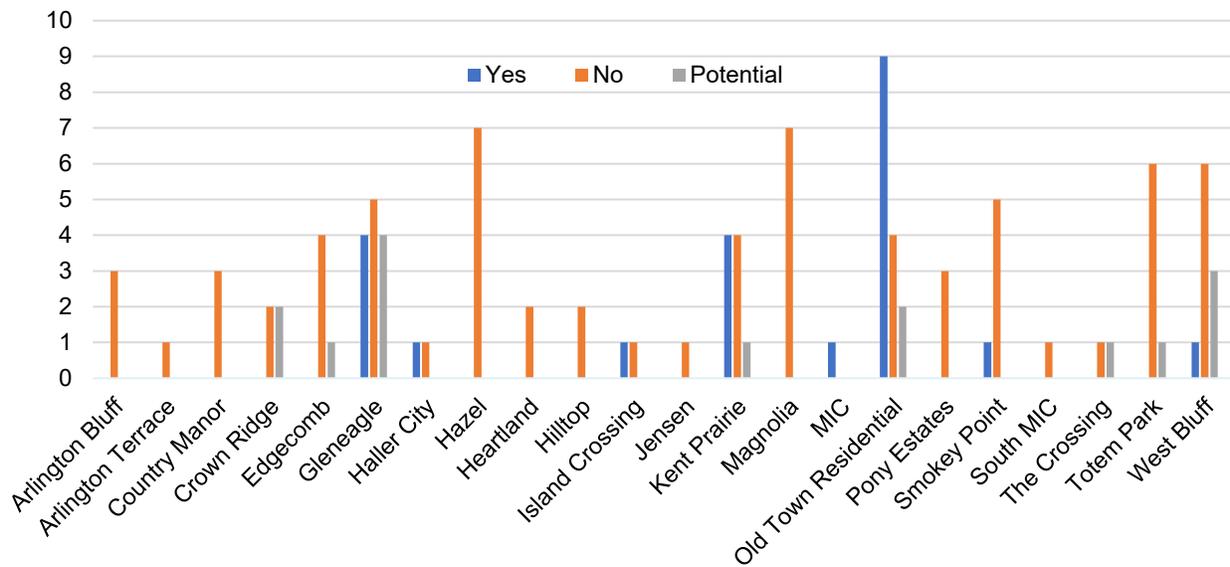
**Question 16: Does your neighborhood have obvious attractions?**

Respondents believed that many of their subareas lack obvious attractions. Parks and trails were mentioned in several responses as local attractions, along with the qualities of location and affordability.



**Question 17: Does your neighborhood have public art?**

Many respondents noted a lack of public art in nearly all subareas, aside from Old Town Residential. Many expressed concerns about funding potentially expensive art projects; however, others expressed a passion for public art already present within the community.



**Arlington Subareas In-Person Engagement**

In-person engagement for Arlington subareas was conducted at multiple workshops during two events. These events were advertised digitally and through notices on the City’s website and social media platforms. Additionally, events were promoted at events such as the Hometown Halloween Event, Hometown Holidays Santa Parade, and others.

The City's first open house was hosted on April 27, 2023. The second event, the Arlington Street Fair, took place from Friday July 7th, 2023, through Sunday July 9th, 2023 with the City present on both the 7th and the 8th. Two workshop sessions were held at the open house and one workshop session was held during the Arlington Street Fair. Presentations given at these events covered elements such as the overall Comprehensive Plan Update timeline, information about the community, growth allocations for population, housing, and employment, and went over the framework of the Comprehensive Plan goals. The presentation given on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 can be found under Appendix A. The presentation given at the Arlington Street Fair can be found under Appendix B.



The input gathered for Arlington's subareas during these events was prompted by slightly different questions than those asked in the online survey. Several boards were displayed at each event that combined adjacent subareas, such as Glendale, Edgcombe, and Hill Top as seen below. In addition, each subarea group had a map available for comment and a poster that asked the following questions:

- What is your favorite feature in your neighborhood?
- What improvements would benefit your neighborhood?

Attendees at the Open House event and correlating workshop sessions were encouraged to add their comments to the physical map or poster provided. Residents were also given a QR code to scan which would allow for them to indicate what subarea they lived or worked in and provide comments on the online subarea survey.

In total, nearly 80 comments were collected during these events. The majority of comments were related to the following subareas: Old Town, Haller City, Arlington Terrace, Kent Prairie, Crown Ridge, the Airport, and the Cascade Industrial Center. The most common favorite features listed were: trails, parks, and local business. Improvements requested were varied with common suggestions being lighting, public bathrooms, wheelchair accessibility, multi-transportation improvements, parking, maintenance, a recreation center, increased police presence, and an additional grocery store. The comments can be found in Appendix C.

### **Airport & CIC**

Accessibility was a big concern from individuals in these subareas. Providing bike-friendly and wheelchair accessible trails and paths were mentioned by several respondents. Concerns were raised about the facilities present on the Airport Trail with people noting a desire for an off-leash dog park in the area.

### **Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge**

Respondents raised concerns about motorist safety along 204<sup>th</sup> St with multiple individuals noting that speeding was common along this route. Additional amenities and recreational space were requested with respondents stating a desire for more childcare opportunities, off-leash dog parks, a recreation center, and an increase in public art.

### **Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top**

Interconnectivity along 172<sup>nd</sup> street was noted by many respondents who desired trail connections, sidewalks, and widening of the road. Several respondents had stated desires for a community public pool facility to be built in this area.

### **Island Crossing & Gateway**

Only two respondents gave comment on these subareas. One individual suggested implementing some form of conservation of farmland. The other comment given was a desire for a freeway on- and off-ramp near the rest stop area.

### **Old Town & Haller City**

Several respondents noted that their favorite features of these subareas were the parks and Centennial Trail. Additionally, multiple individuals stated that they enjoyed the pedestrian connectivity in the downtown area. Concerns were raised regarding public safety and police presence within downtown. Respondents stated a desire for another grocery store to be built in the downtown area due to the recent amount of population growth. Much like other subareas, there was interest from respondents in the construction of a new recreational facility with a community pool.

### **Smokey Point**

Respondents noted that public safety was a large concern with several individuals noting that the Park and Ride facilities alongside the parking lots at Safeway and Rite-Aid were not safe. Additionally, respondents noted a lack of accessible sidewalks and parks within the subarea and several individuals requested the presence of more streetlights along the main thoroughfares.

### **Arlington SEPA Scoping Meeting**

The City hosted a scoping meeting to gather input for the Comprehensive Plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is a recommended step under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The scoping meeting was held on November 7th, 2023 to gather additional community input for the Comprehensive Plan and to help guide topics analyzed in the EIS. The City had published a Scoping Notice and Determination of Significance for the Comprehensive Plan update, seen in Appendix D. As a result, the City hosted the scoping meeting to gather input from the public as part of the planning and environmental analysis process. The scoping meeting was advertised on the City's website and a post card was sent to every property owner within the city limits with the scoping meeting information and website.

Topic-specific boards were created for members of the community to post comments on. Context boards were also included to orient attendees to the purpose of scoping, topics to be addressed in the

Comprehensive Plan and EIS, and other information relevant to the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update. Two presentations were conducted at separate times during the scoping meetings.

The presentation included information about what a comprehensive plan is, why the plan is being updated, what the plan does, and how the plan will be developed (planning process). Additionally, information about SEPA scoping was presented, including details about the purpose of scoping for the EIS. The presentation can be found in Appendix E.



The land use board did not receive any comments. The remaining board topics and comments collected are below. Photos of the topic-specific boards can be found in Appendix F.

▪ **Economic Development**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** More financial incentive/breaks given to small businesses vs. big businesses.

▪ **Housing**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** More single-family housing, less multi-use especially in Old Town

▪ **Capital Facilities and Utilities**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** Athletic Facilities and Other “fun” facilities (i.e. indoor go karts, swimming, etc.)
- **Needs:** Hospital will need to be larger to accommodate growth and Larger or another hospital

▪ **Parks, Recreation, and Open Space**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** Would love to see a multi-use recreation center.

▪ **Environment**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** Ensuring old and new tree growth – minimize land clearing.

▪ **Transportation**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** Being able to bike or at least get across the city without a car and being able to bike safely to Smokey Point either on 172<sup>nd</sup> or 530.
- **Needs:** Commuting options

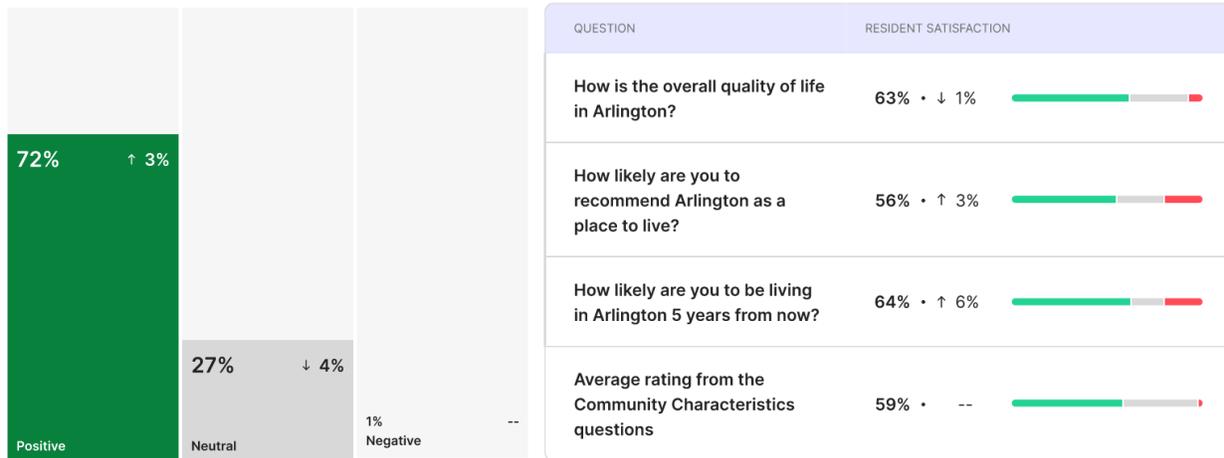
▪ **Public Safety**

- **Issues/Aspirations:** More street lighting
- **Needs:** Lighting at 530 roundabouts

In addition to the comments collected during the scoping meeting the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) reviewed and commented on the scope of the EIS. Their comments can be seen in Appendix F.

## Community Survey

A community survey was conducted online by Zencity October 1, 2023 to January 20, 2024. This survey measured how satisfied residents were with the community and with local government-provided services. The survey allows the City to compare scores over time and against a cohort of similar communities. This survey was a representative sample of 685 individuals, matching respondents with 2020 Census data. 72% of surveyed residents were overall satisfied with life in Arlington, based on general quality of life and satisfaction with different characteristics of life in Arlington. The report generated by Zen City is attached to this memo in Appendix G and outlines responses to the specific questions, comparisons to the City's cohort, word clouds, and more.

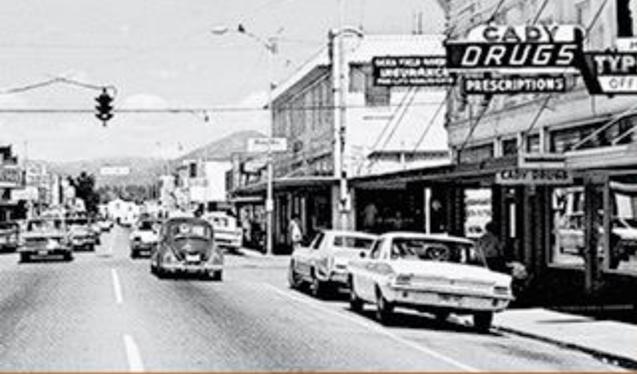


## Focus Group Meetings

The City of Arlington Community and Economic Development (CED) Department has ongoing focus group meetings every Tuesday from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the CED office located at 18204 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Arlington, WA 98223. These meetings are open to the public and a variety of land use topics are discussed to educate the community on the complex issues that revolve around land use and zoning. The meetings are noticed on the City's website under public notices.

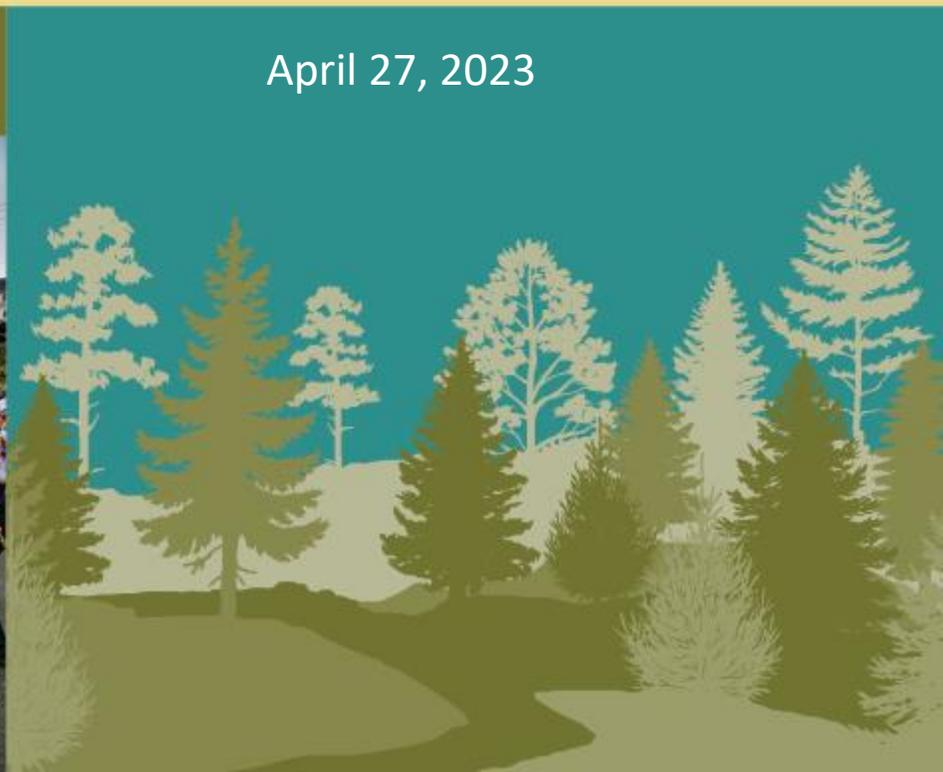
The focus group was organized in 2017 and is led by the CED Director, Marc Hayes. Regular attendees include one or two City Council members, one or two Planning Commission members, developers in the community, and occasional members of the public. Over the years the focus group has learned different land use techniques and strategies through trainings, example projects, research, and discussions. In preparation for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan periodic update the focus group started discussing the future of Arlington in 2021 and is currently reviewing sections of the Comprehensive Plan as they are drafted. The main portions of the Comprehensive Plan that have been reviewed by and discussed within the focus group meetings are the goals and policies for each book (element) of the Plan.

## **Appendix A: April 2023 Open House Presentation**



# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

April 27, 2023



# Presentation Topics



- Planning Process and Timeline
- Comprehensive Plan Table of Contents
- Community Profile and Mapping
- Engagement—Public Comments and Input Received to Date
- Next Steps

# Planning Process & Timeline



2022

2023

2024

Focus Group and Inter-Departmental Coordination (*meetings ongoing*)

## 1. REVIEW BACKGROUND & CONFIRM VISION

- Branding & Templates
- Review Existing Plans
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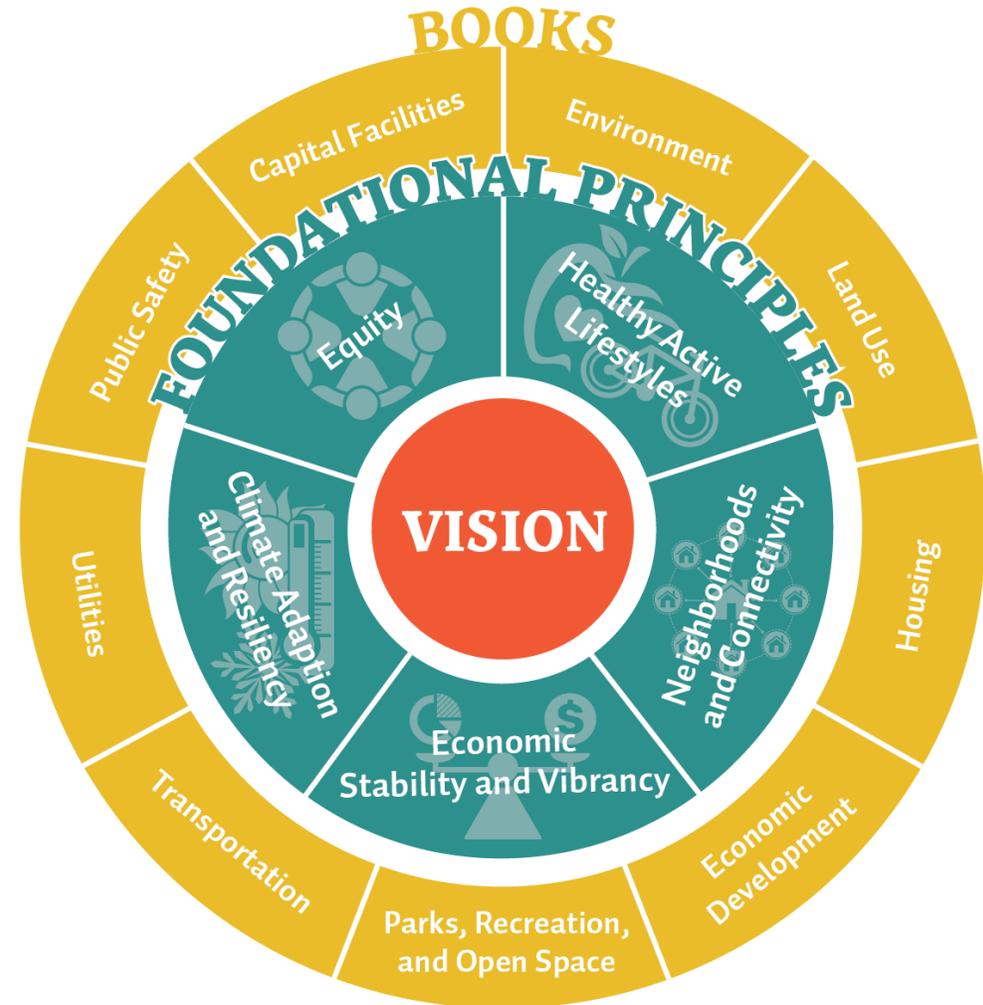
- Finalize Plan
- Code/Zoning Recommendations
- Support Formal Adoption Process

Public Engagement (*ongoing*)

# Plan Framework



-  **Economic Stability and Vibrancy**
-  **Neighborhoods and Connectivity**
-  **Climate Adaption and Resiliency**
-  **Equity**
-  **Healthy Active Lifestyles**



# Plan Framework

## SECTION I: Introduction and Plan Organization

## SECTION II: Foundation Principles

Equity

Neighborhoods &  
Connectivity

Economic Stability  
& Vibrancy

Climate Adaption &  
Community Resiliency

Healthy, Active  
Lifestyles

## SECTION III: Neighborhoods

## SECTION IV: Books

**Book 1**

Environment

**Book 2**

Land Use

**Book 3**

Housing

**Book 4**

Economic  
Development

**Book 5**

Park,  
Recreation,  
Open Space

**Book 6**

Transportation

**Book 7**

Utilities

**Book 8**

Public  
Safety

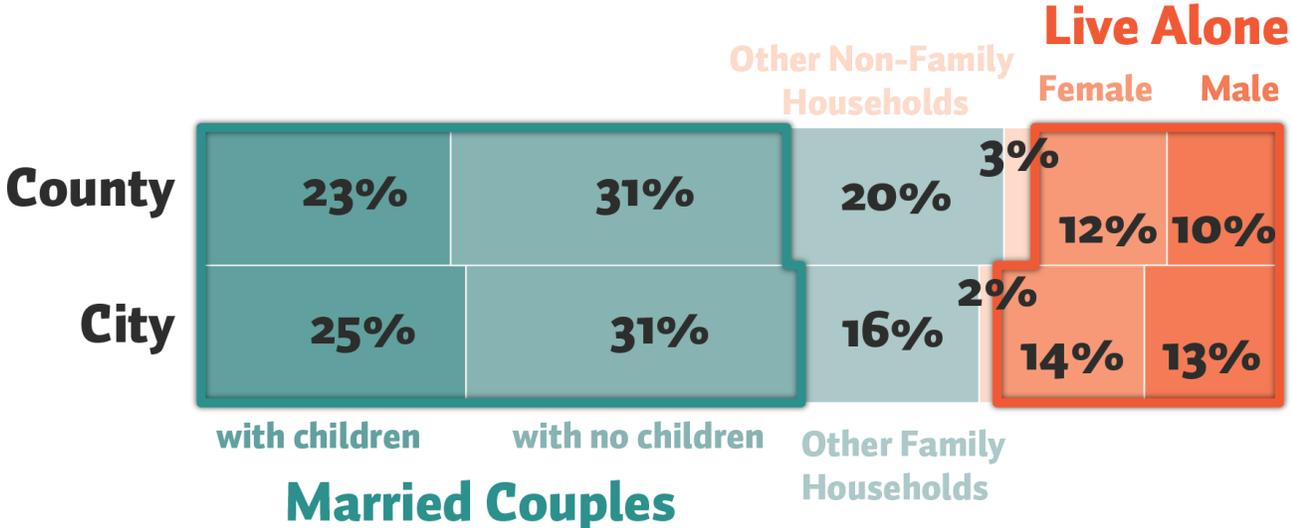
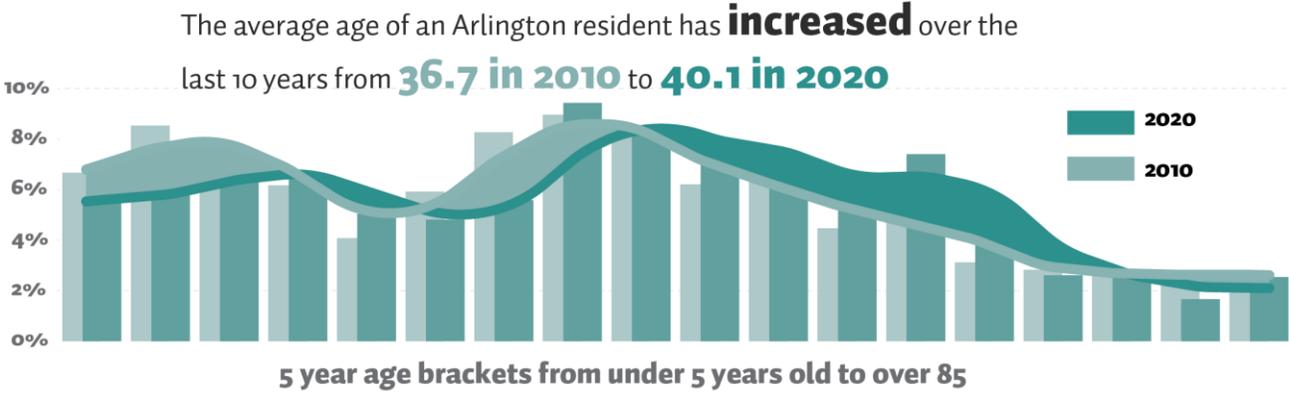
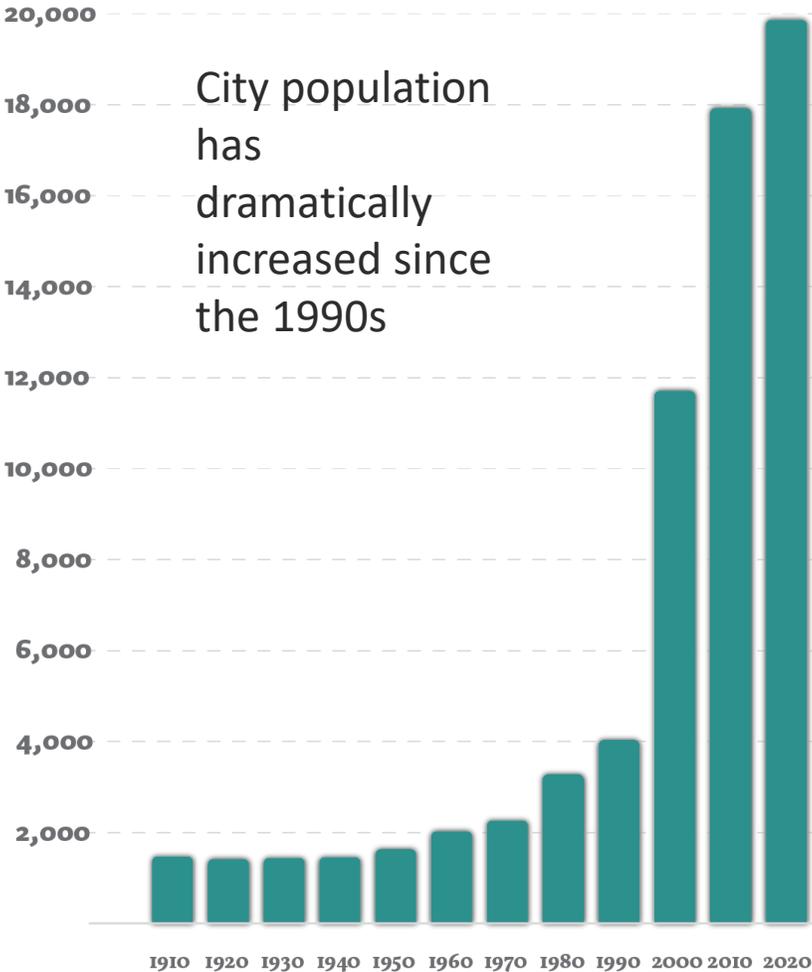
**Book 9**

Capital  
Facilities

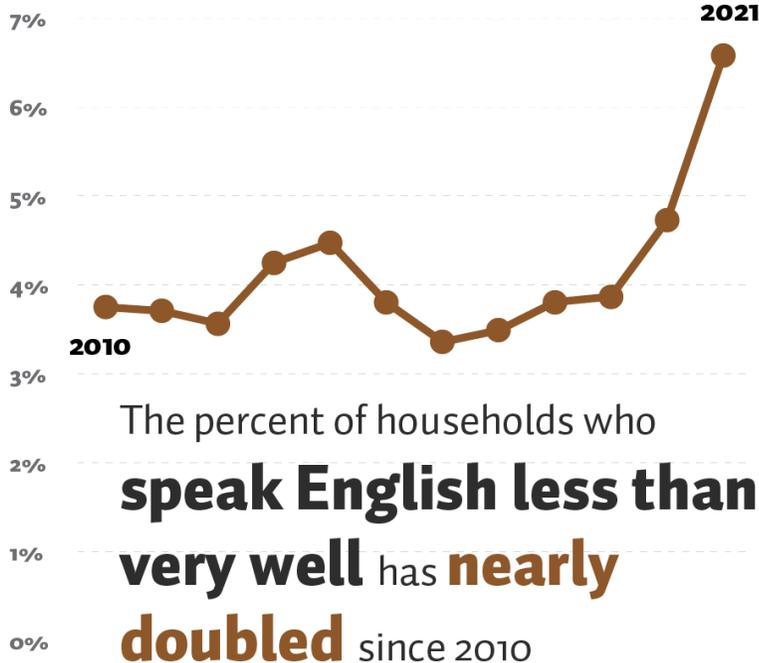
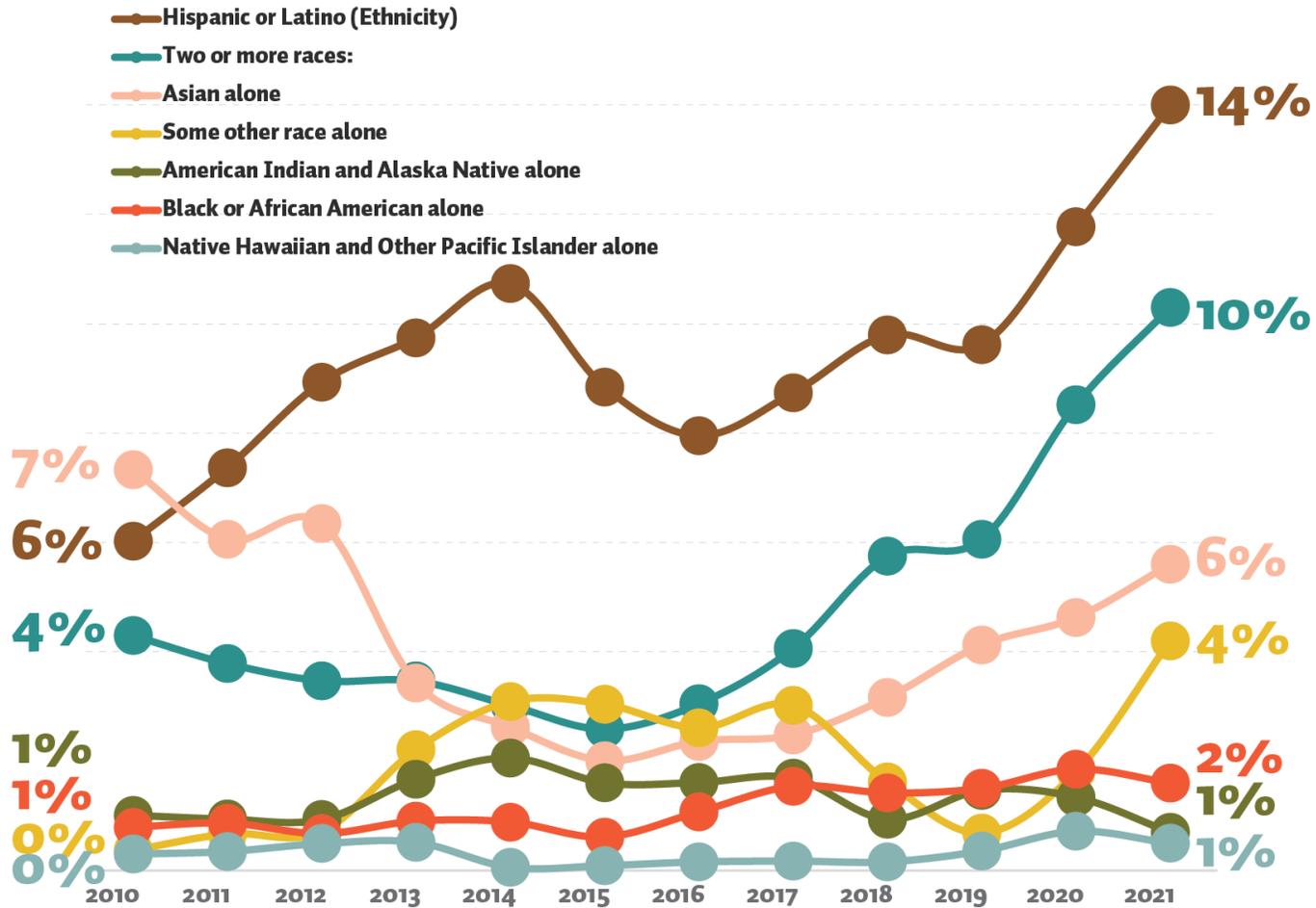
## SECTION V: Implementation and Monitoring

APPENDIX

# Community Profile



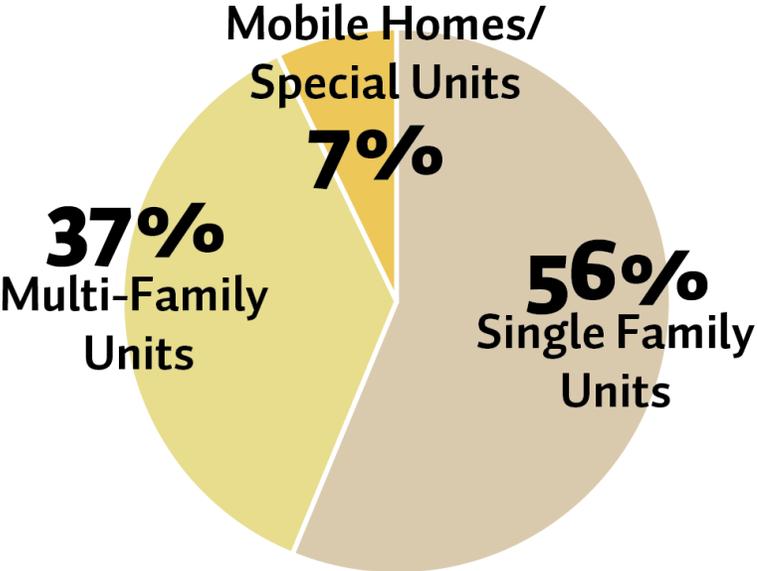
# Community Profile



# Community Profile

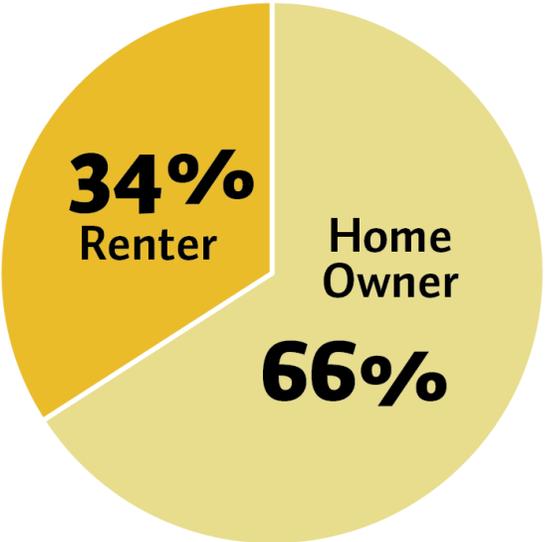


**94.6%** of units are **Occupied**



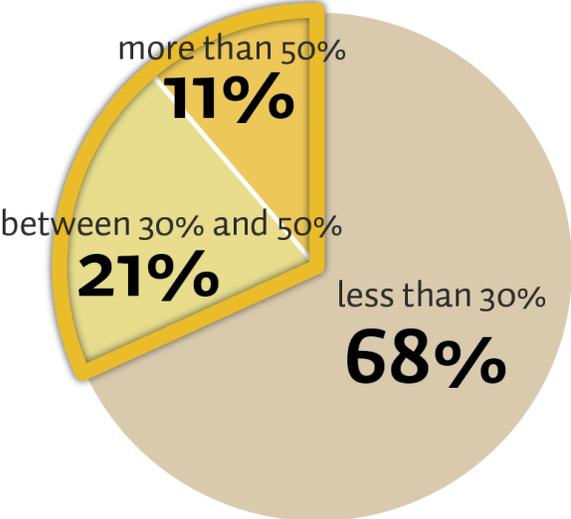
Mix of Unit Types Citywide

**A third** of households **rent their homes**



Housing Tenure

**32%** of households are **housing cost burdened** and pay more than **30% of their annual** household income on housing

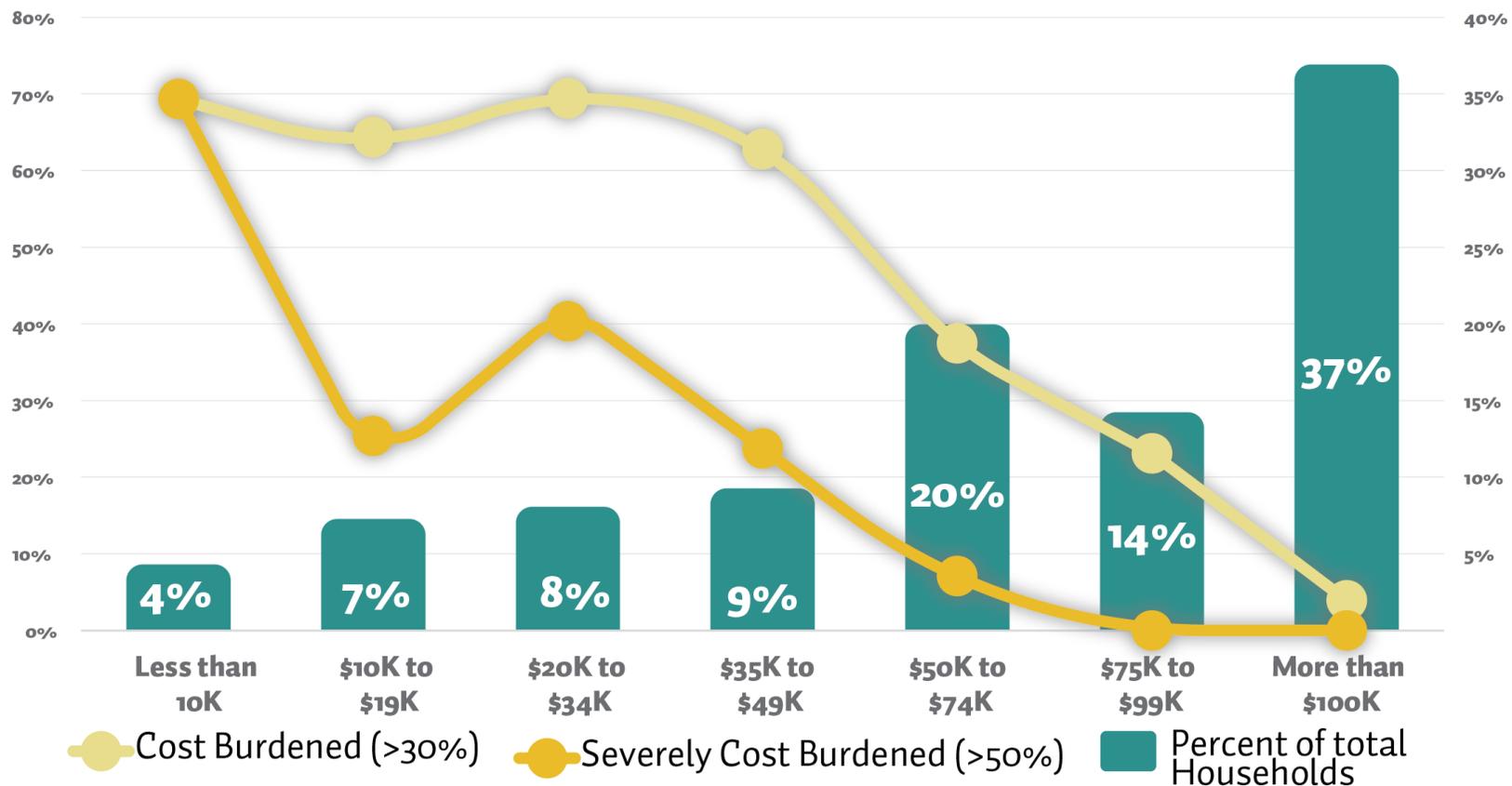


Percent of household income spent on housing

# Community Profile

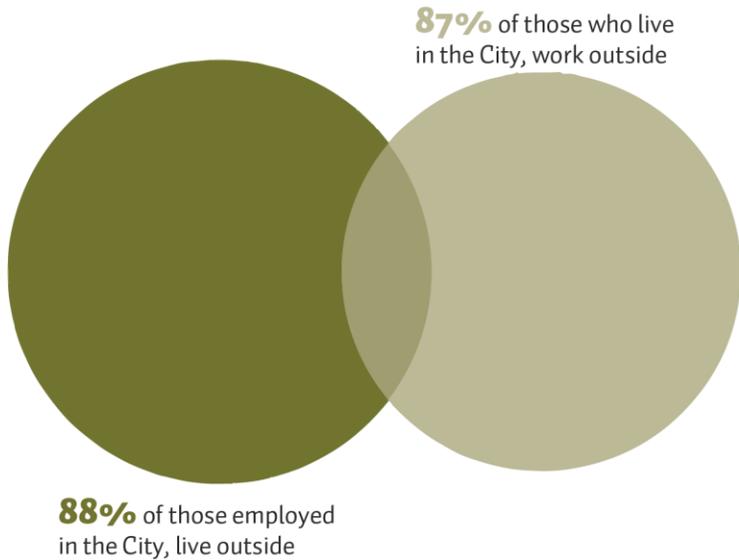
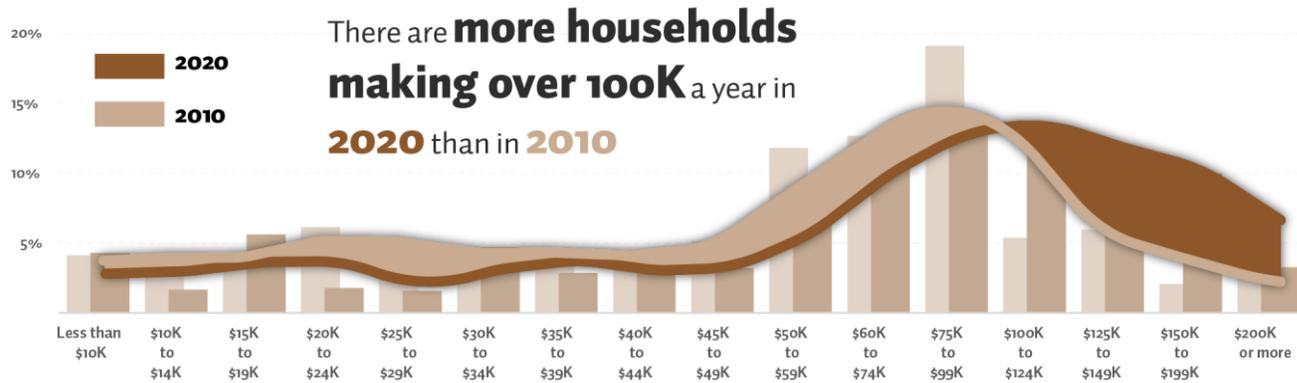


Households who make less than the median household income of **\$77,023** are **more likely to be housing cost burdened**

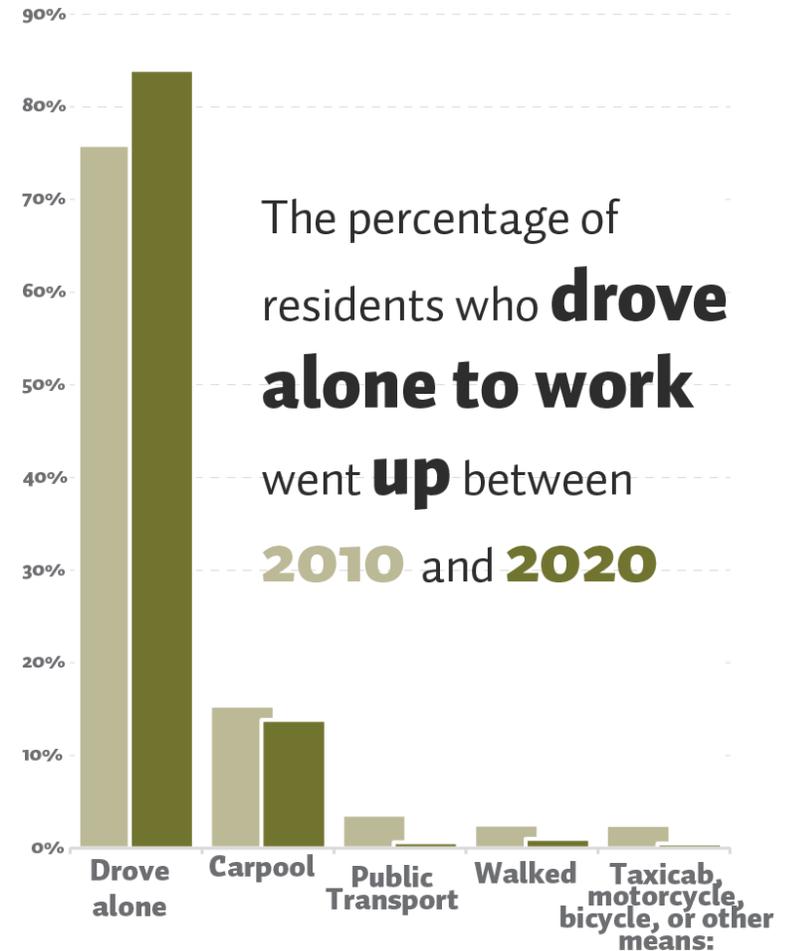


**over a third** of households make **more than 100K** in a year

# Community Profile



Only 13 % of residents work within the City Limits



# Subareas



# Neighborhoods

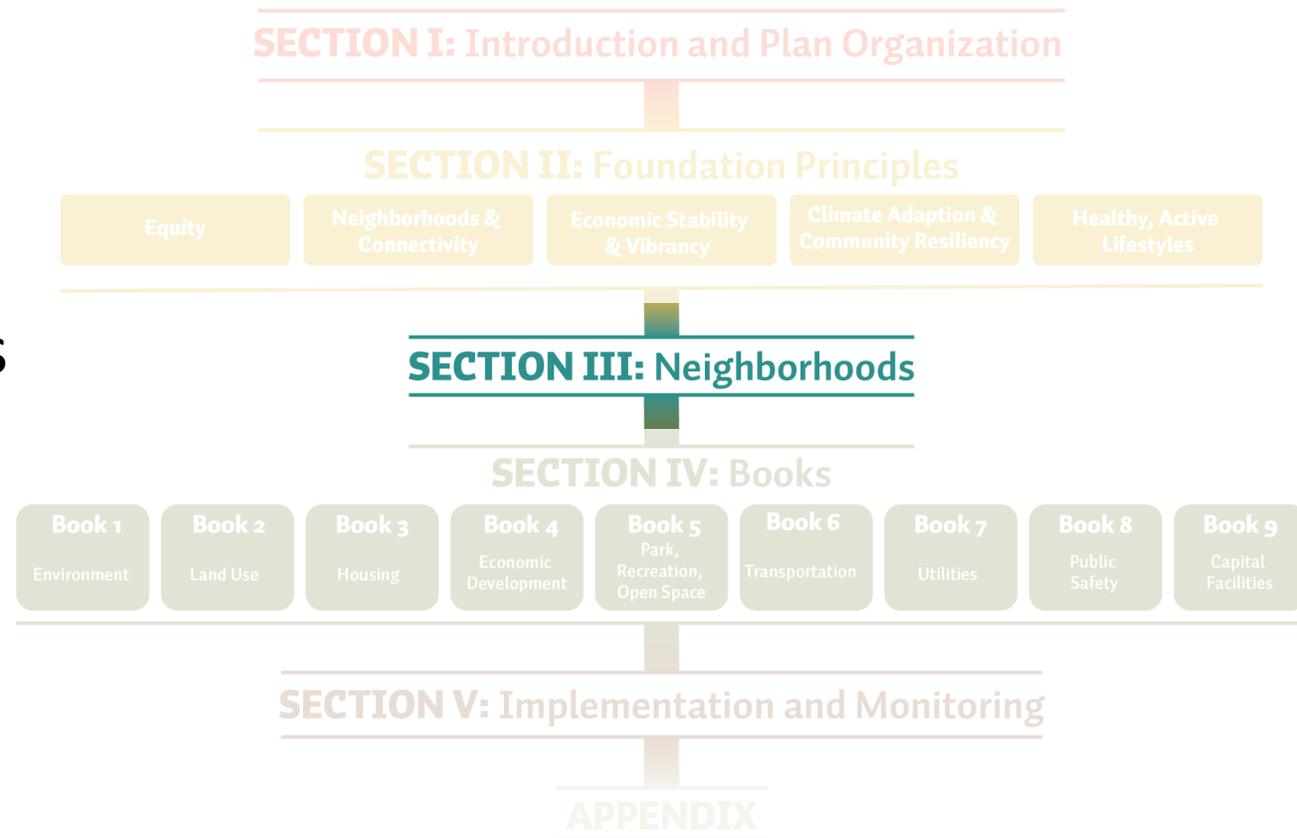


# Plan Table of Contents



## SECTION III: NEIGHBORHOODS

- Existing characteristics of neighborhoods (needs), goals and opportunities for the next 20 years





# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

**Public Comments and  
Input Received So Far**



# Question 1: What do you LOVE about Arlington?



# Question 2: Favorite Places in Arlington



## COMMONLY MENTIONED:

- Downtown / Old Town
- Stillaguamish River
- Farmer's Market
- Olympic Avenue
- Home
- Airport
- Farms
- Parks and Trails
  - Legion Park
  - Wetland Park
  - Centennial Trail
  - Haller Park
  - Terrace Park
- Local Businesses
  - Arlington Hardware
  - Moe's
  - Stilly Coffee House
  - Bistro San Martin
  - Bluebird Café
  - Nutty's Junkyard Grill
  - Rocket Alley Bar and Grill
  - Hammond Bread Company
  - Garden Treasures
  - Andrew's Hay
  - Co-op Supply
  - Arlington Velo Sport

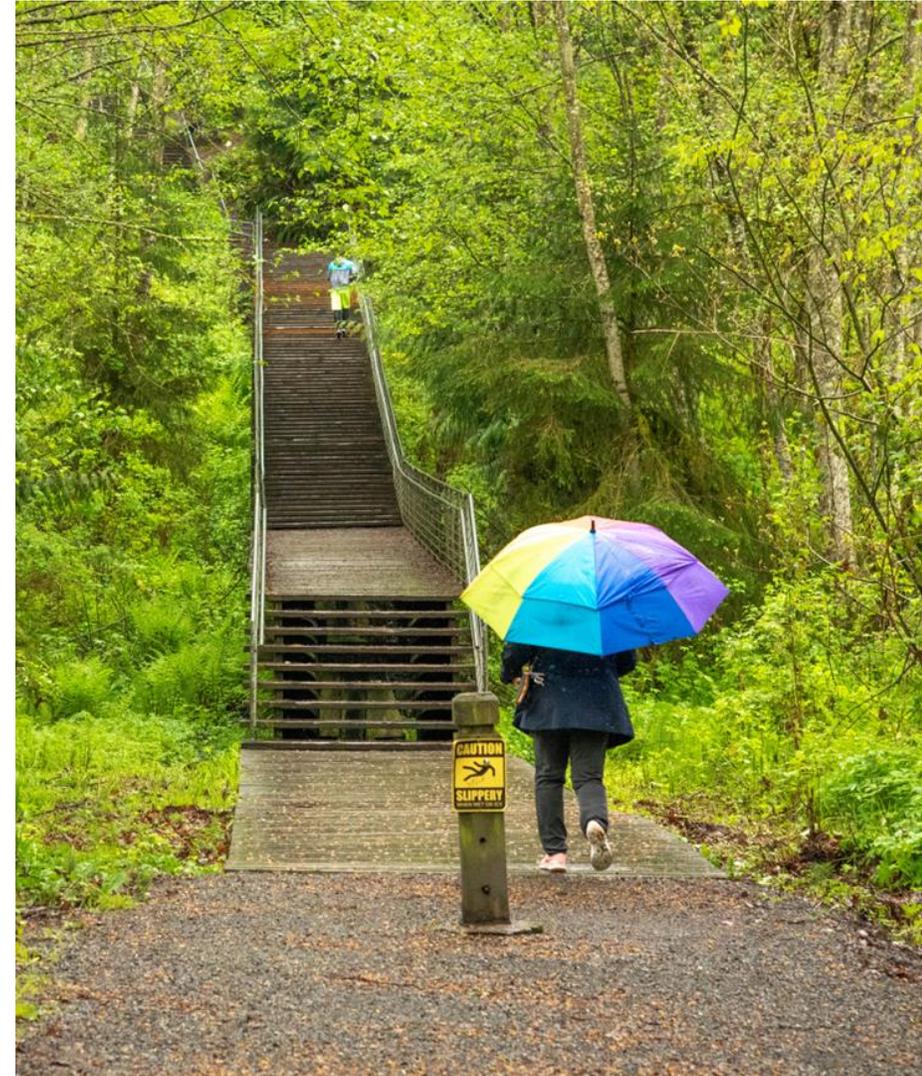


# Question 3: One Word to Describe Arlington



## COMMONLY MENTIONED:

- Small
- Charming
- Hometown
- Changing
- Community
- Crowded
- Festive
- Authentic
- Friendly
- Peaceful



# Question 4: One Thing Enjoyed in Another City



## COMMONLY MENTIONED:

- Variety of Businesses
- Grocery Stores
- Small
- Safety
- Parks and trails
- Recreation Opportunities
- Community Center
- Live Entertainment
- Parking Availability
- Public Transportation
- Diversity
- Quiet
- Murals
- Historical Landmarks
- Urban Design
- Cleanliness
- Affordability



# Question 5: What would you strengthen?





# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## Next Steps

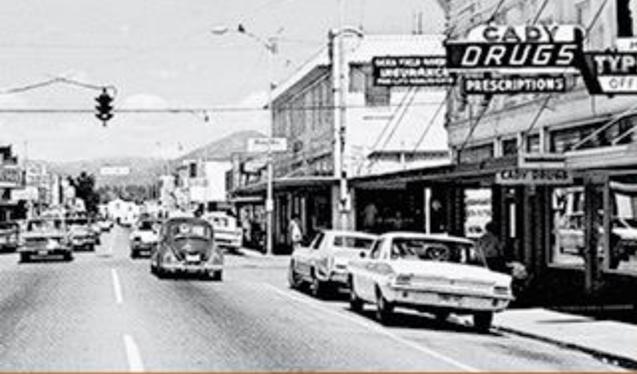


**And now....Please share YOUR IDEAS and TELL US what improvements you would like to see in your neighborhood!**

- Find the subarea you live and/or work in
- Add your comments to the map or board
- Scan the QR code to provide more detailed feedback

*The comprehensive planning team is available for questions!*

## **Appendix B: July 2023 Street Fair Presentation**



# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

July 8, 2023



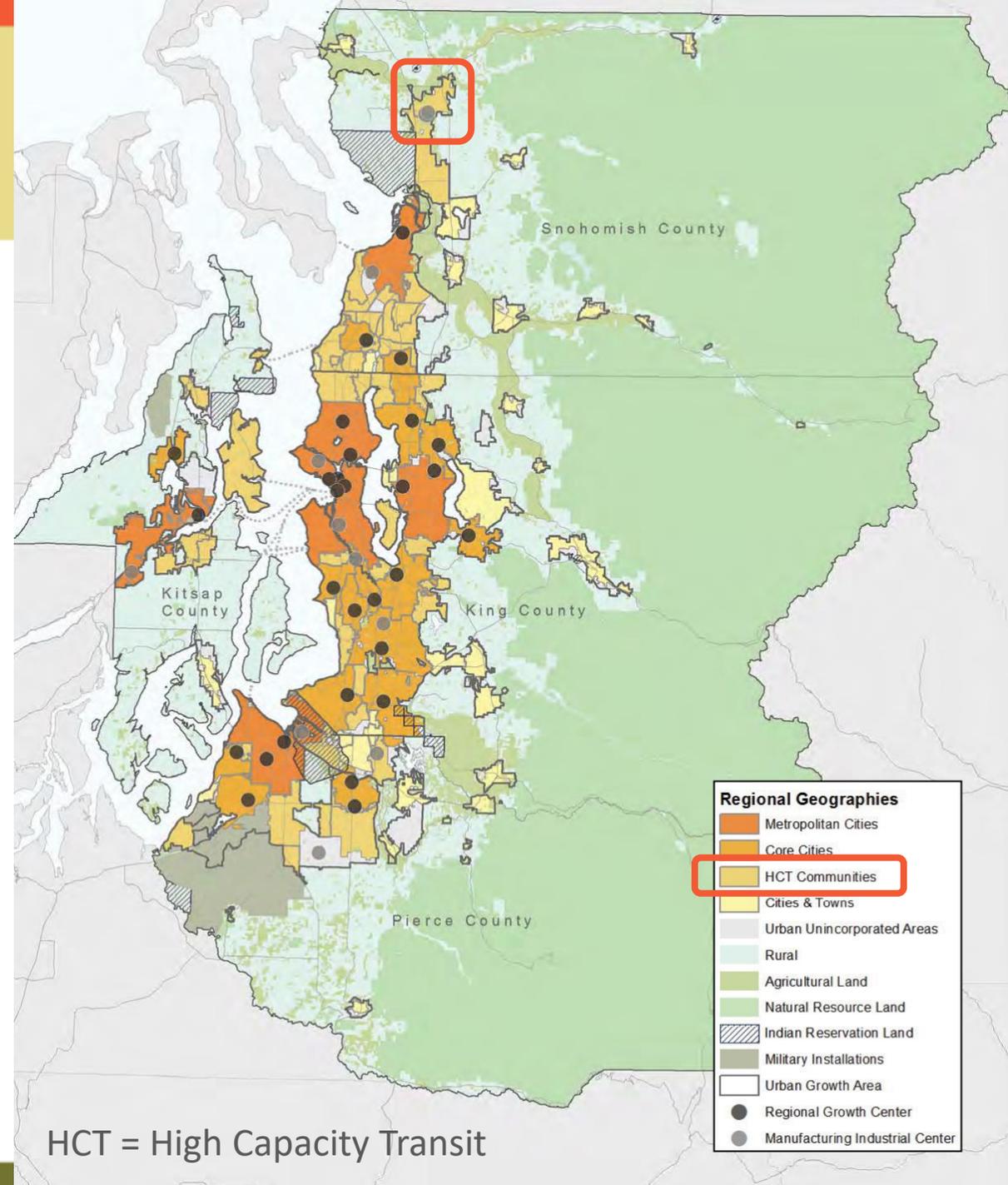
# Presentation Topics



- Overview of Project
- Growth Allocation
- Foundational Principles and Guiding Goals
- Public Feedback Received to Date
- Opportunities to Provide Feedback

# Overview

- Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) enacted in 1990.
- GMA provides a framework for state, regional, county, and local planning coordination.
- Cities, counties, and ports develop and update comprehensive plans to plan for growth for the next 20 years (2044).



# Planning Process & Timeline



2022

2023

2024

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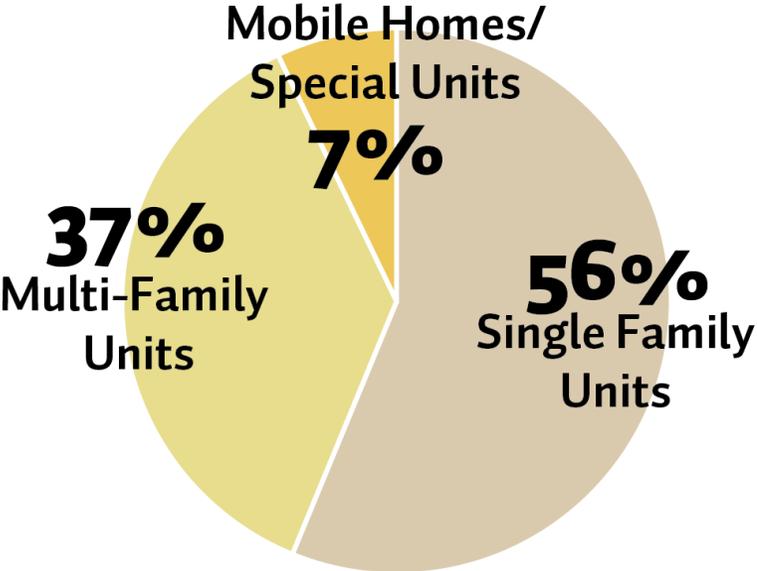
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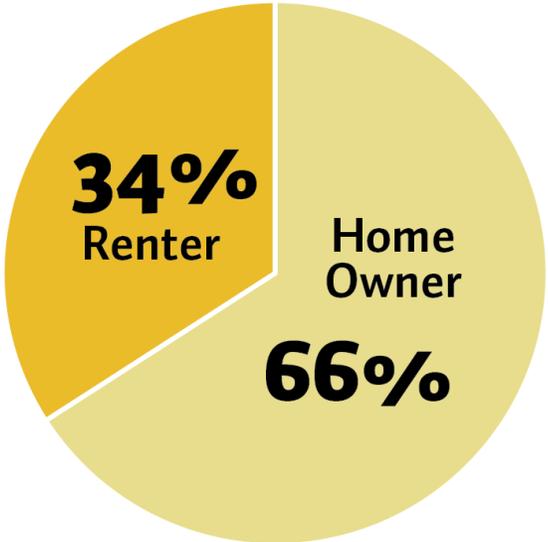
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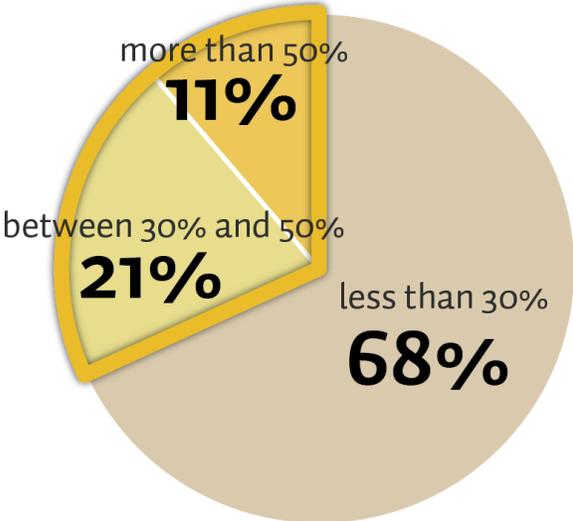
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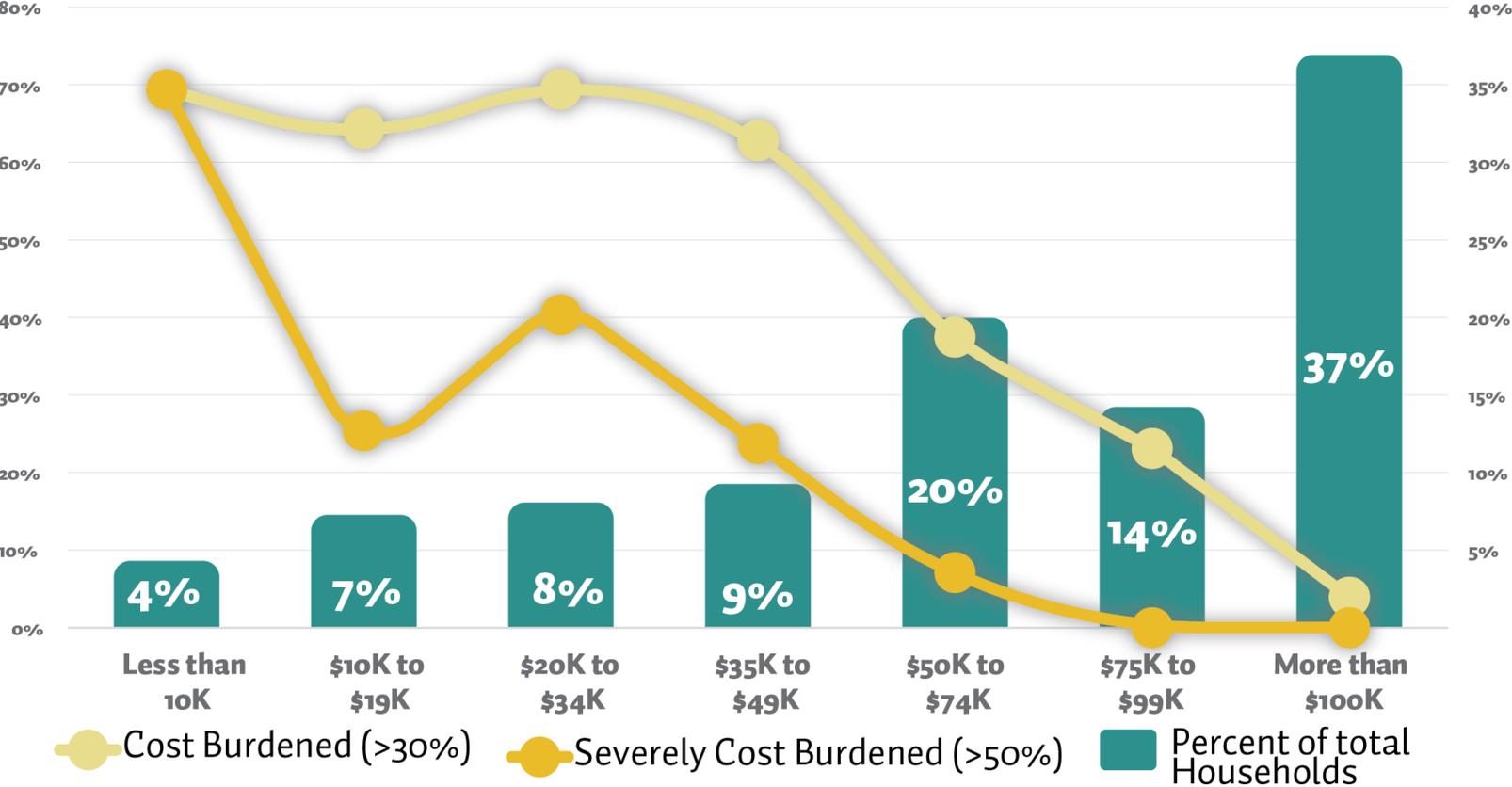


Percent of household income spent on housing

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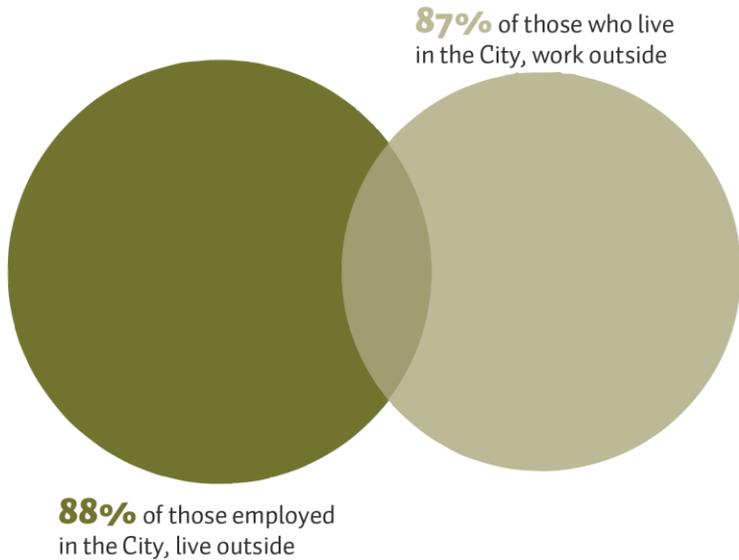
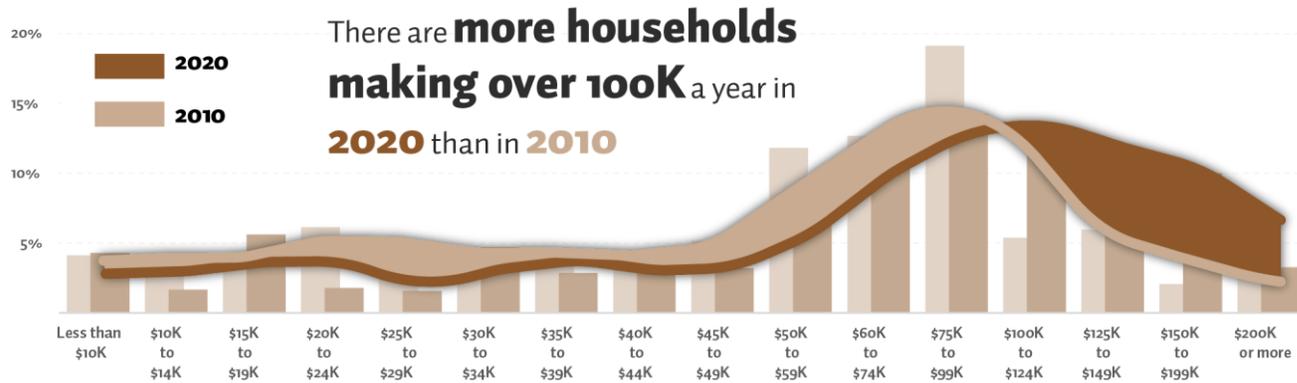


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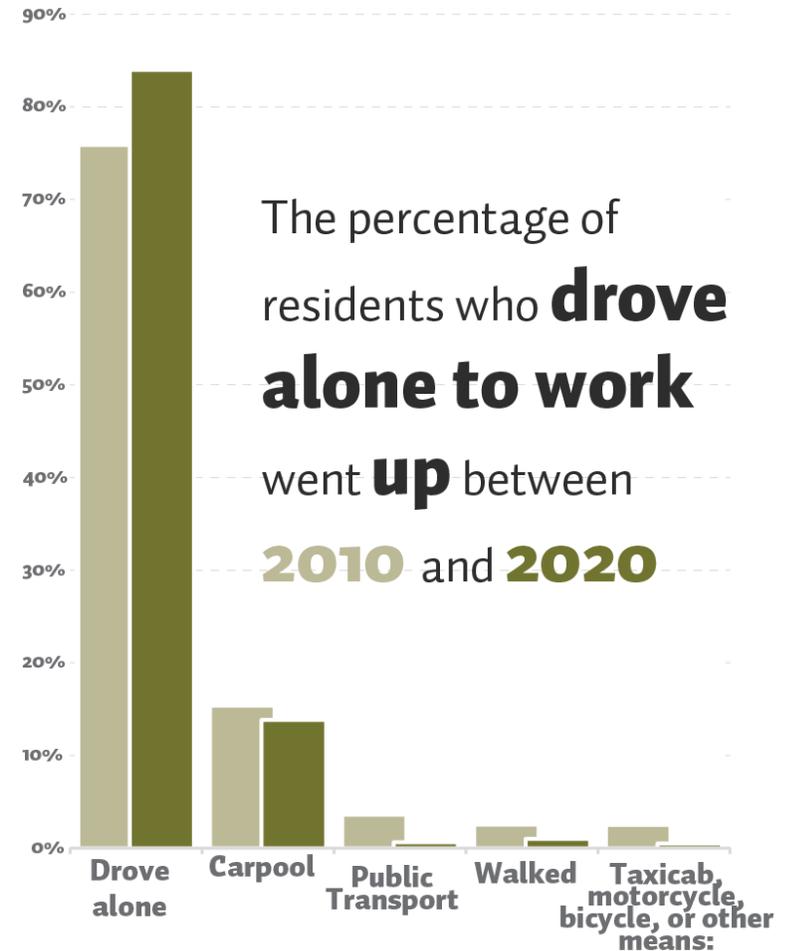


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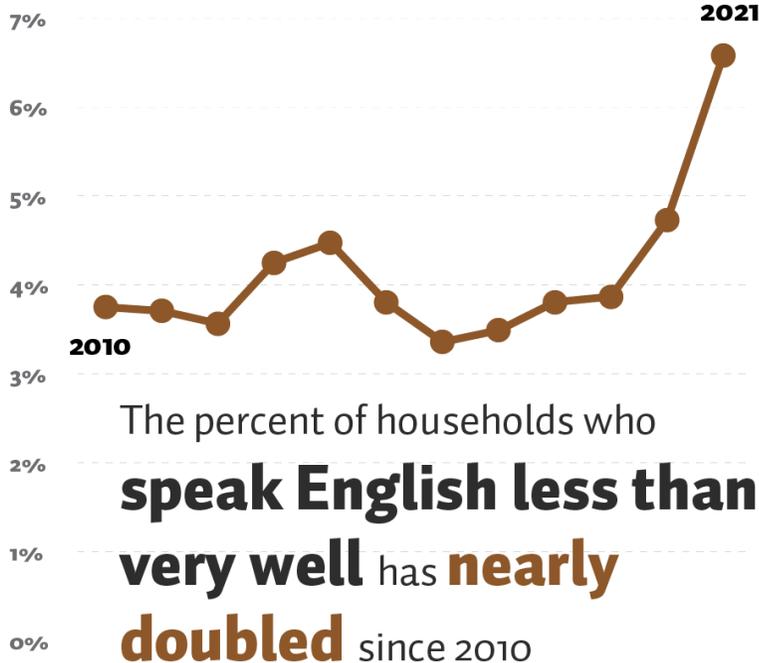
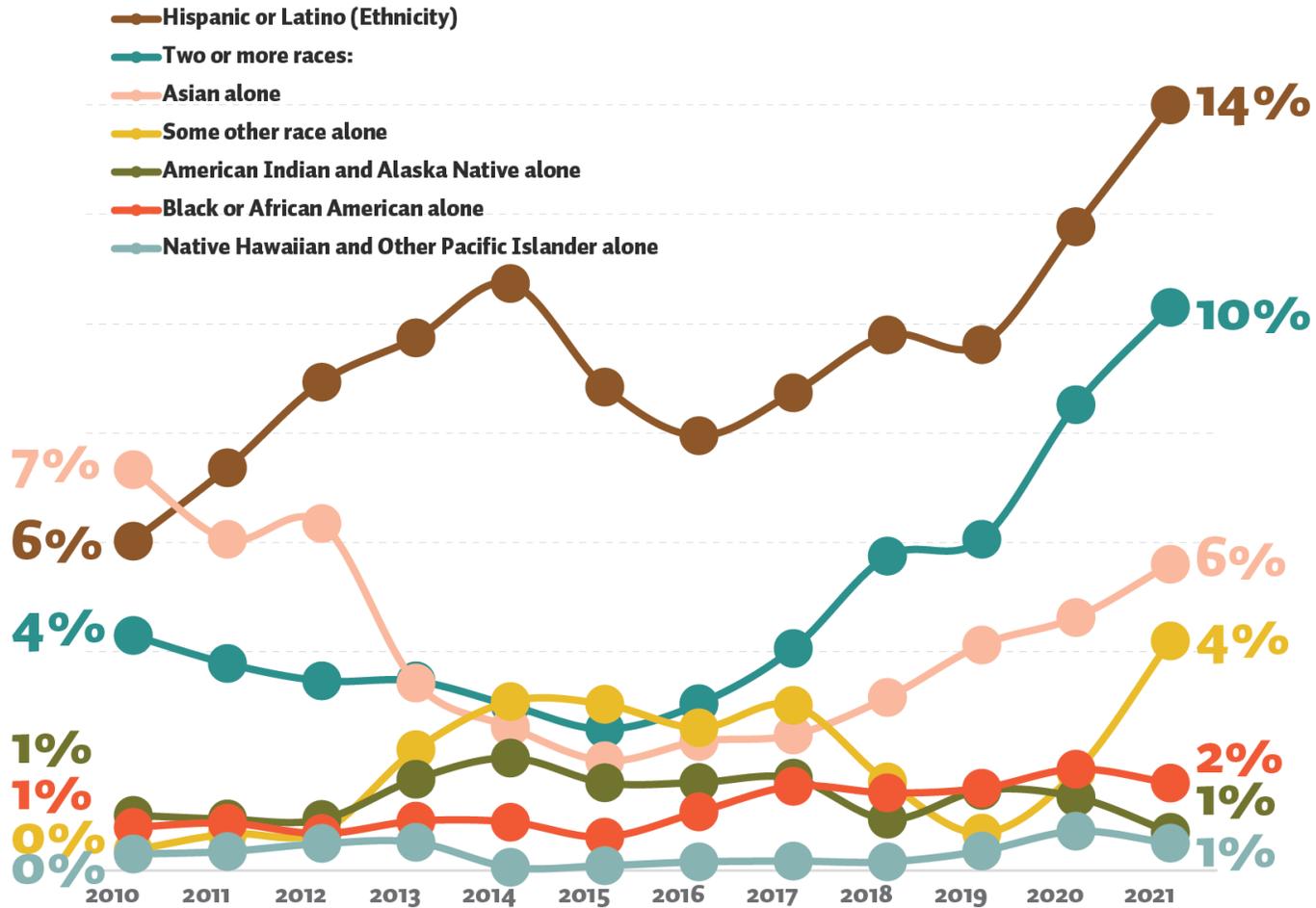
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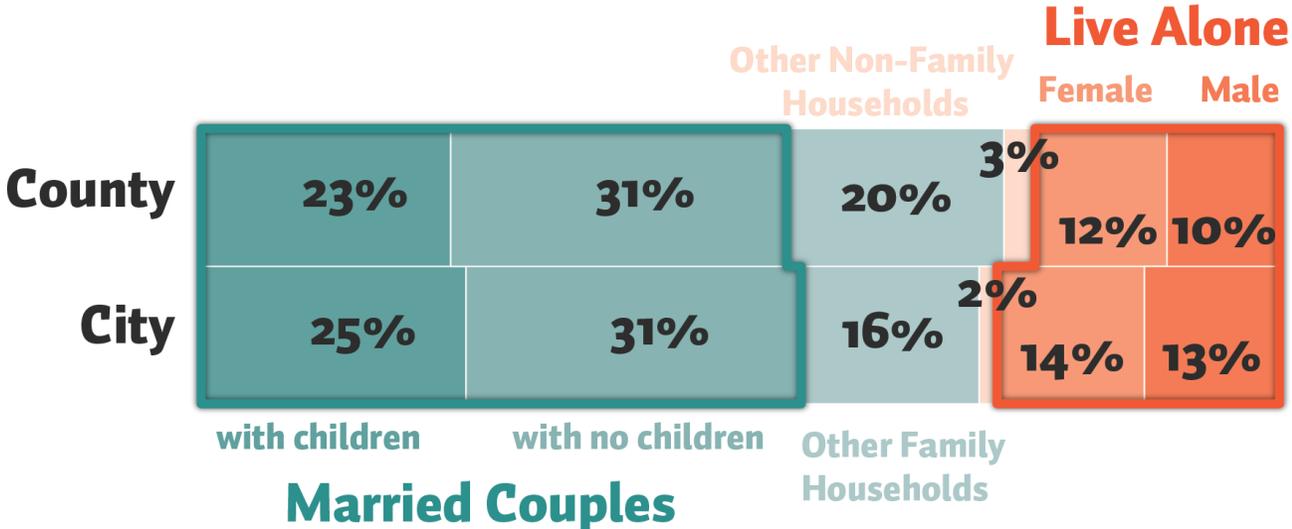
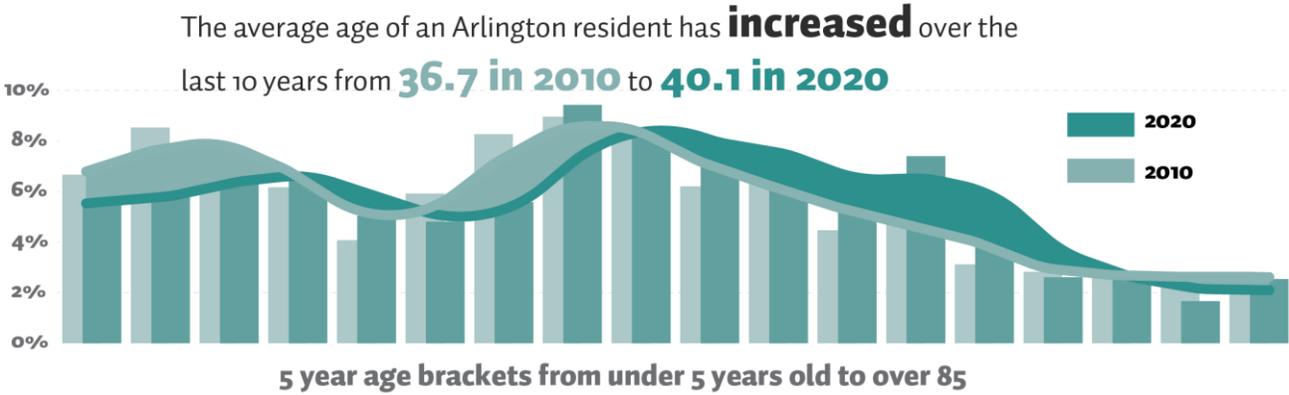
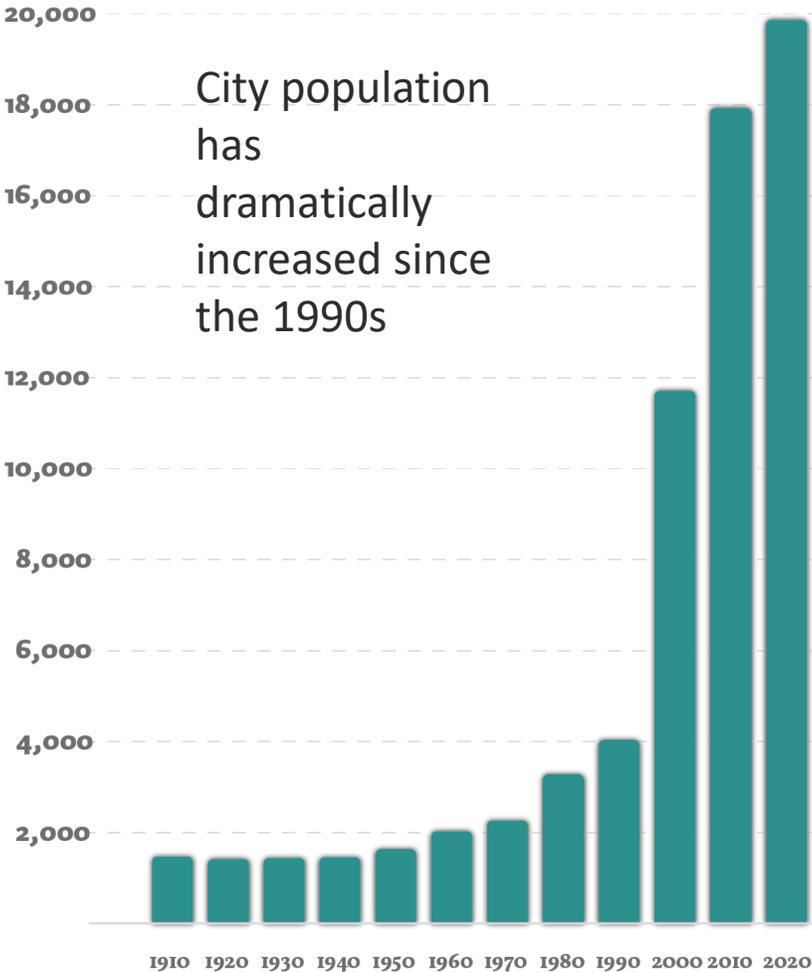
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# Community Profile



# Community Profile





# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## Growth Allocation

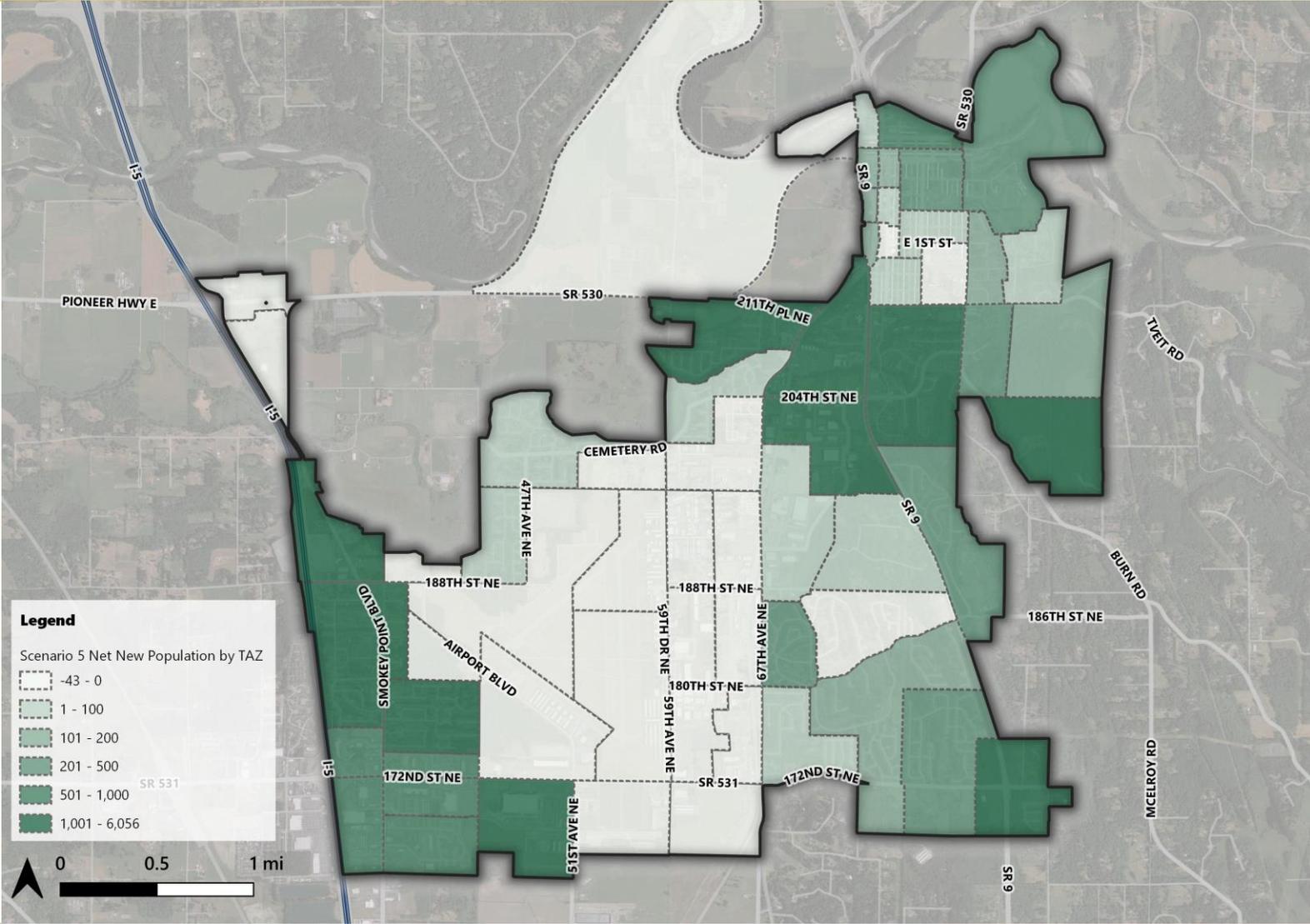


# Growth Allocation

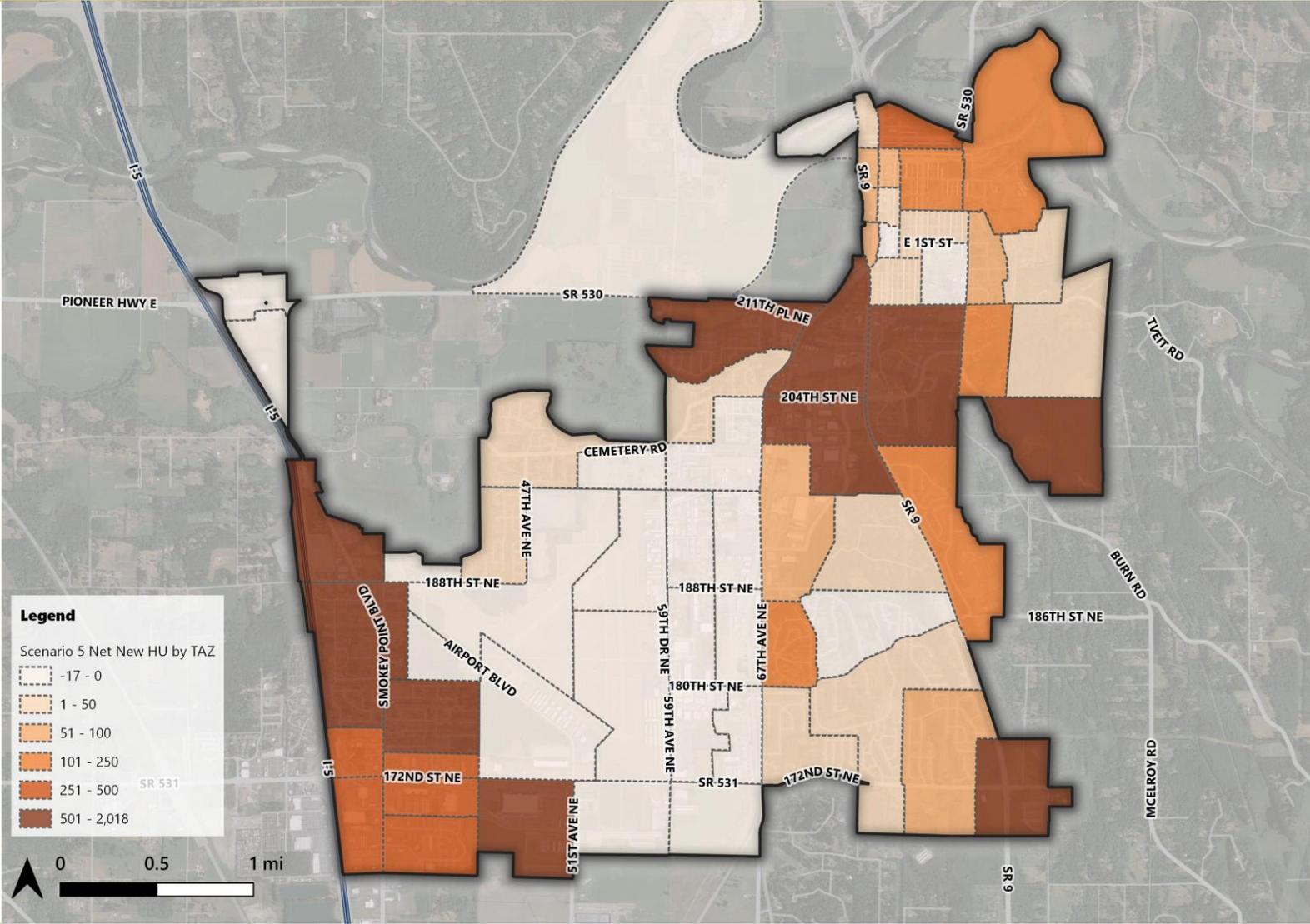


Allocation	2020 Baseline	2044 Allocation	2020-2044 Growth
Population	20,418	35,506	15,088
Housing	9,120	15,483	6,363
Employment	12,449	24,751	12,302

# Growth Allocation - Population



# Growth Allocation - Housing







# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## Foundational Principles & Guiding Goals



# Plan Framework

## SECTION I: Introduction and Plan Organization

## SECTION II: Foundation Principles

Equity

Neighborhoods &  
Connectivity

Economic Stability  
& Vibrancy

Climate Adaption &  
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Healthy, Active  
Lifestyles

## SECTION III: Subareas

## SECTION IV: Books

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## SECTION V: Implementation and Monitoring

## APPENDIX

# Plan Framework



**Economic Stability and Vibrancy**



**Neighborhoods and Connectivity**



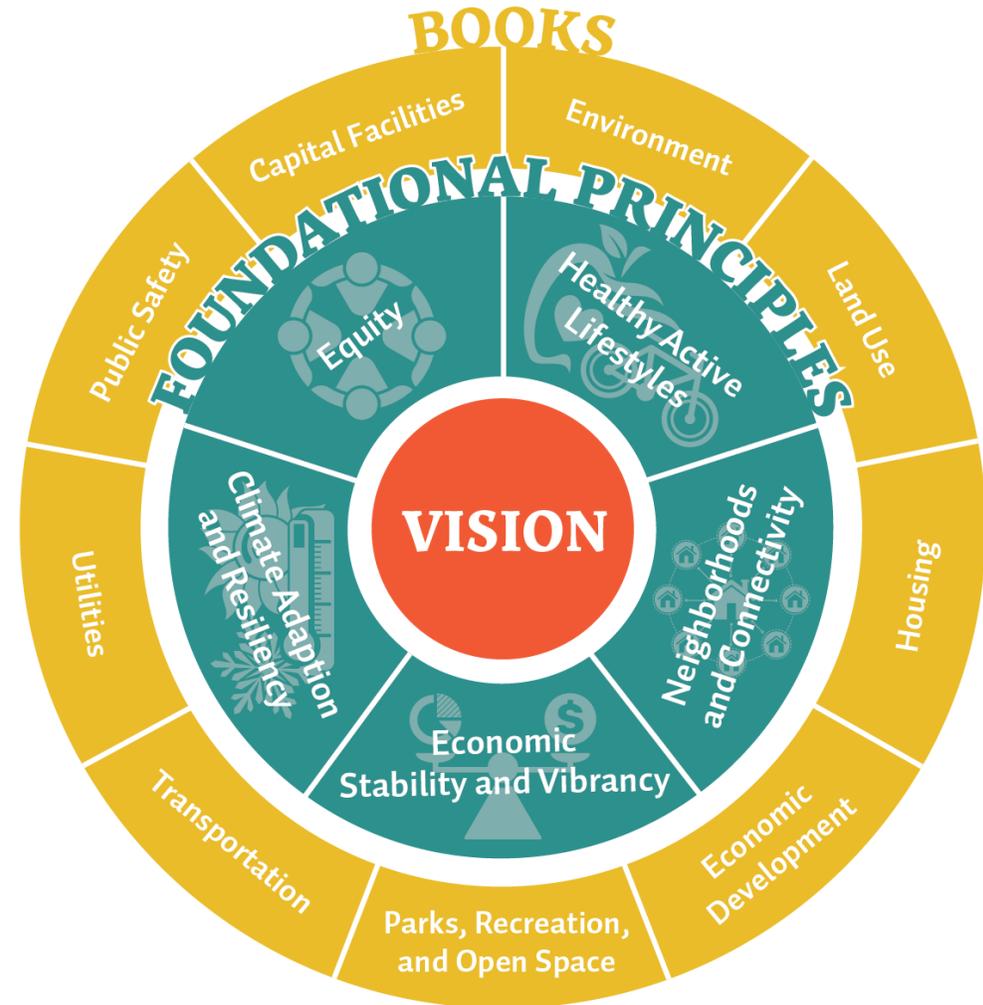
**Climate Adaption and Resiliency**



**Equity**



**Healthy Active Lifestyles**



# Economic Stability and Vibrancy Guiding Goals



- Support the development of new approaches to economic growth and innovation.
- Encourage local businesses through the continued application of mixed-use residential corridors and multiple locations for neighborhood serving businesses.
- Ensure that the airport remains a viable, long-term employment and economic engine for the City of Arlington.
- Promote a strong, diversified, and sustainable local and regional economy, while respecting the natural environment and preserving and enhancing the quality of life in the City.
- Promote diverse and sustainable employment sectors to support and encourage residents to live and work in Arlington.
- Encourage active cooperation between the City and local businesses concerning economic development issues, particularly of those businesses that have specialized infrastructure, building design, transportation or other needs.
- Minimize the adverse impacts of industrial uses to adjacent and abutting residential properties.
- Foster economic development throughout the City's many economic subareas.
- Ensure adequate utility, capital facility, and transportation services to accommodate businesses providing jobs.

# Neighborhoods and Connectivity Guiding Goals



- Use equitable and measurable planning tools to preserve neighborhood character in existing homes and provide regulatory context for new construction or re-development of existing housing stock.
- Create new parks and public spaces to enhance the quality of life in all our neighborhoods.
- Ensure new development and new services and facilities will arrive concurrently prior to the annexation of unincorporated Urban Growth Areas.
- Encourage a mix of residential densities throughout the City.
- Ensure stable residential neighborhoods through public investment in infrastructure and preserving existing housing stock and accommodate new development in a manner that enhances Arlington's quality of life, its natural environment, and its historical and cultural amenities.
- Ensure the development of new multi-family housing and small single-family units occurs near high capacity transit and designated neighborhoods.
- Consider the special needs of subarea transportation facilities including appearance and safety.

# Neighborhoods and Connectivity Guiding Goals



- Maintain and enhance the safety of the transportation system, including non-motorized networks, and reduce the chance of accidents.
- Plan, develop, and maintain a balanced transportation system for the efficient movement of people, goods, and services within the City and between the community and other activity centers in the region.
- Ensure concurrency by providing an effective roadway network with adequate capacity to meet the demand for travel within the City at the adopted Level of Service (LOS) standard.

# Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Guiding Goals



- Mitigate climate impact by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Cultivate safe, prepared, and resilient communities through emergency planning.
- Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster resiliency to climate impacts, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe passage and species migration.
- Identify, protect, and enhance community resiliency to climate change impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, that support adaptation to climate impacts consistent with environmental justice.
- Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change, including sea level rise, landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke, wildfire, and other effects of changes to temperature and precipitation patterns.
- Promote energy conservation by developing incentives and/or requirements for energy-saving transportation, land development patterns and practices, and building construction and operation methods and materials.
- Develop transportation strategies that encourage the use of pedestrian, bicycle, and mass transit facilities that will lead to savings of nonrenewable energy sources and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
- Minimize air quality impacts caused by the transportation system.
- Remain a Tree City and encourage an increased tree canopy.

# Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Guiding Goals



- Implement Travel Demand Management and Transit Oriented Design to create a more walkable city.
- Provide opportunities/resources to educate the public on the importance of preserving natural resources and reducing individual carbon impacts.

# Equity Guiding Goals



- Provide housing options affordable to all demographics.
- Provide unique places and context for the growth of social capital.
- Preserve and enhance open space, natural, and cultural resources and strive for equitable geographic and demographic distribution.
- Encourage development of housing opportunities to accommodate the homeless, elderly, physically or mentally challenged, and other segments of the population who have special needs.
- Encourage a quality and diverse housing stock within the City.
- Promote environmental justice by not creating or worsening environmental health disparities.
- Ensure capital facilities and utilities achieve efficient delivery of services, support equitable distribution of services, minimize environmental impacts, and maximize value for the community.
- Ensure equitable access to City resources and programs through proactive and transparent communication, multiple platforms, and where appropriate, in multiple languages.
- Where possible, incentivize affordable and workforce housing near transportation and employment centers.
- Provide equal access to quality, life-long educational opportunities.

# Healthy Active Lifestyles Guiding Goals



- Create and enhance environments that support physical activity and healthy living.
- Improve collaboration between health organizations, schools, faith-based organizations, and other organizations to promote preventative care and improve access to health services.
- Provide a trail system that creates links between commercial and residential areas in Arlington and connects to regional trails.
- Work towards and maintain an aesthetically pleasing environment that enhances livability for residents.
- Maintain the existing, diverse range of recreational, cultural, and educational activities and support new opportunities.
- Encourage the identification, protection, maintenance, and preservation of landmarks, districts, or structures that have special significance because of historical, archaeological, architectural, recreational, social, cultural, and/or scenic importance.
- Continue to work with other jurisdictions and/or agencies to establish joint use agreements, thus increasing available parkland and facilities at minimum cost.
- Utilize “Vision Zero” and “Safe Routes to School” guidelines to provide safe walking and biking routes for our youth.



# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## Subareas



# Plan Framework

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# Subareas





# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

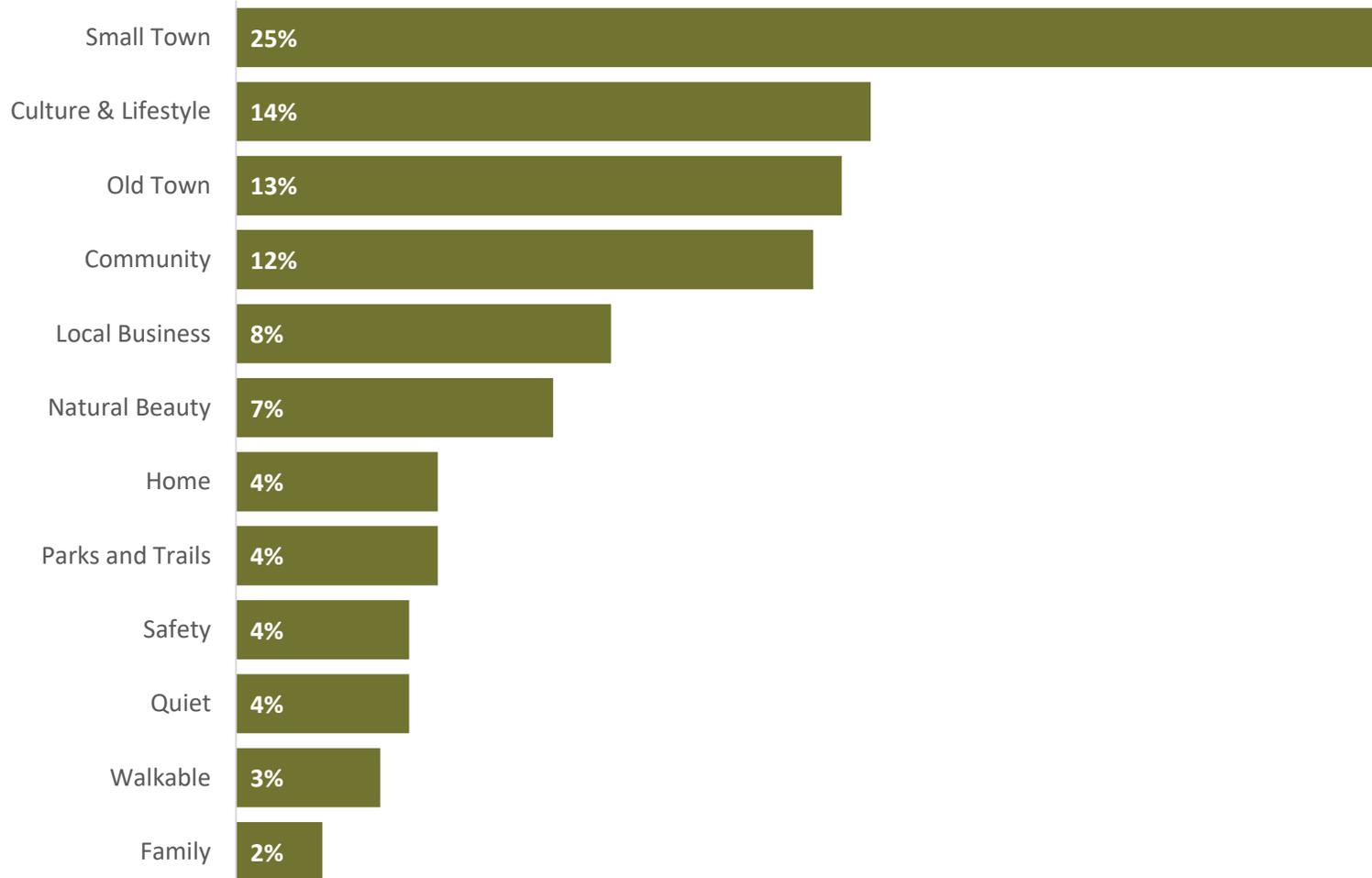
## Feedback



# Question 1



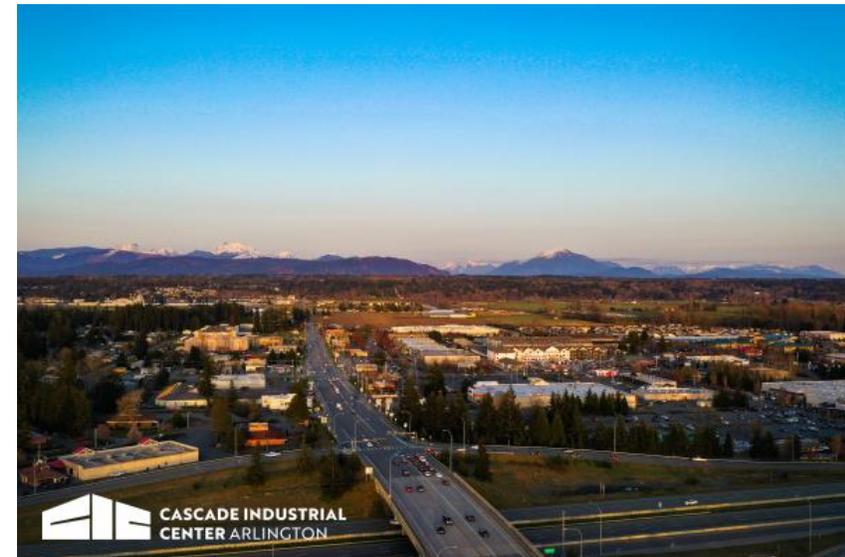
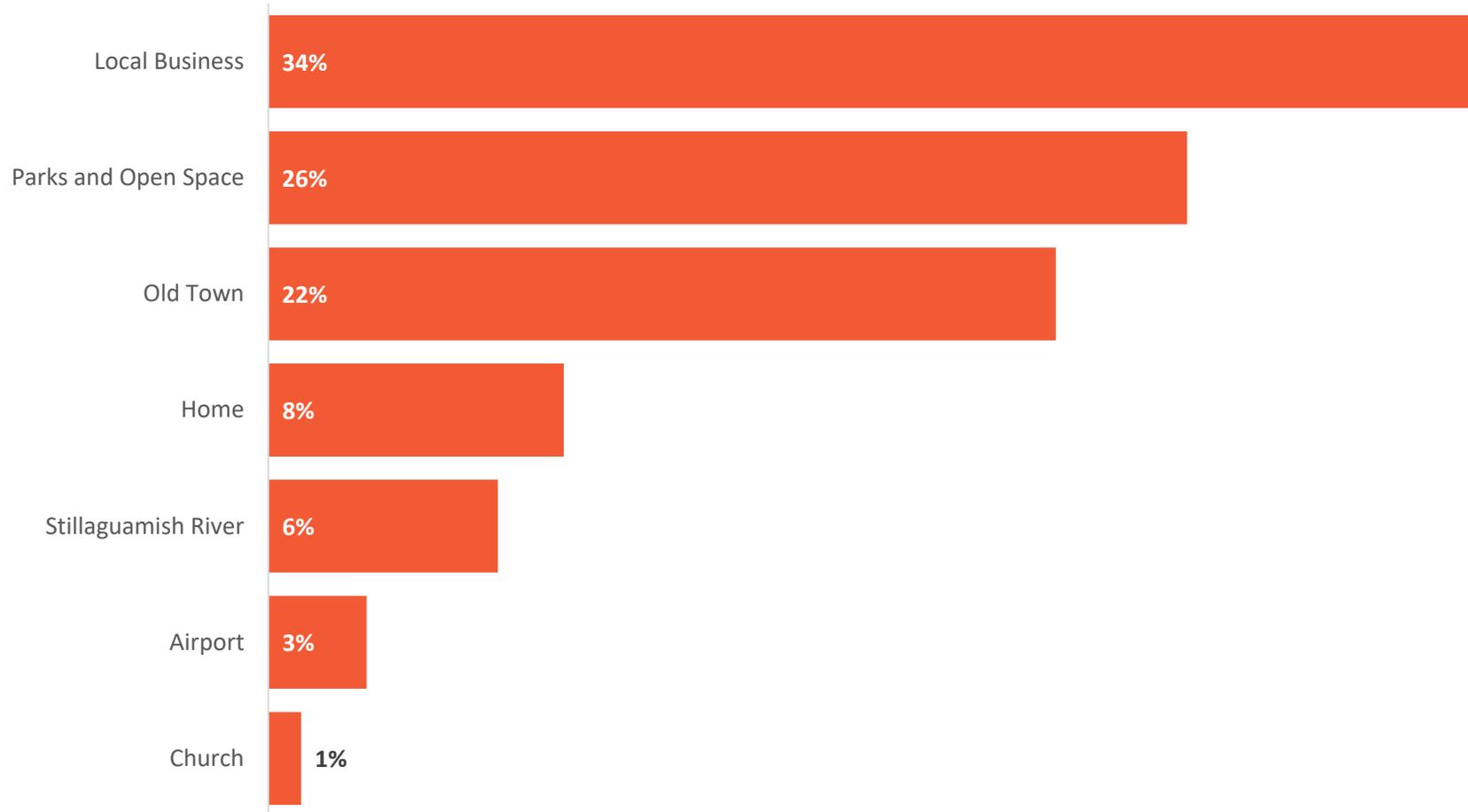
What I love most about Arlington is:



# Question 2



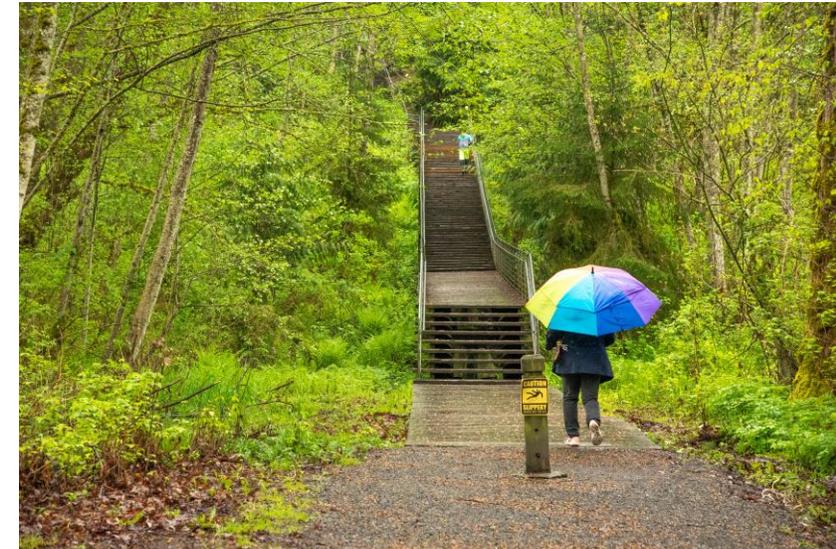
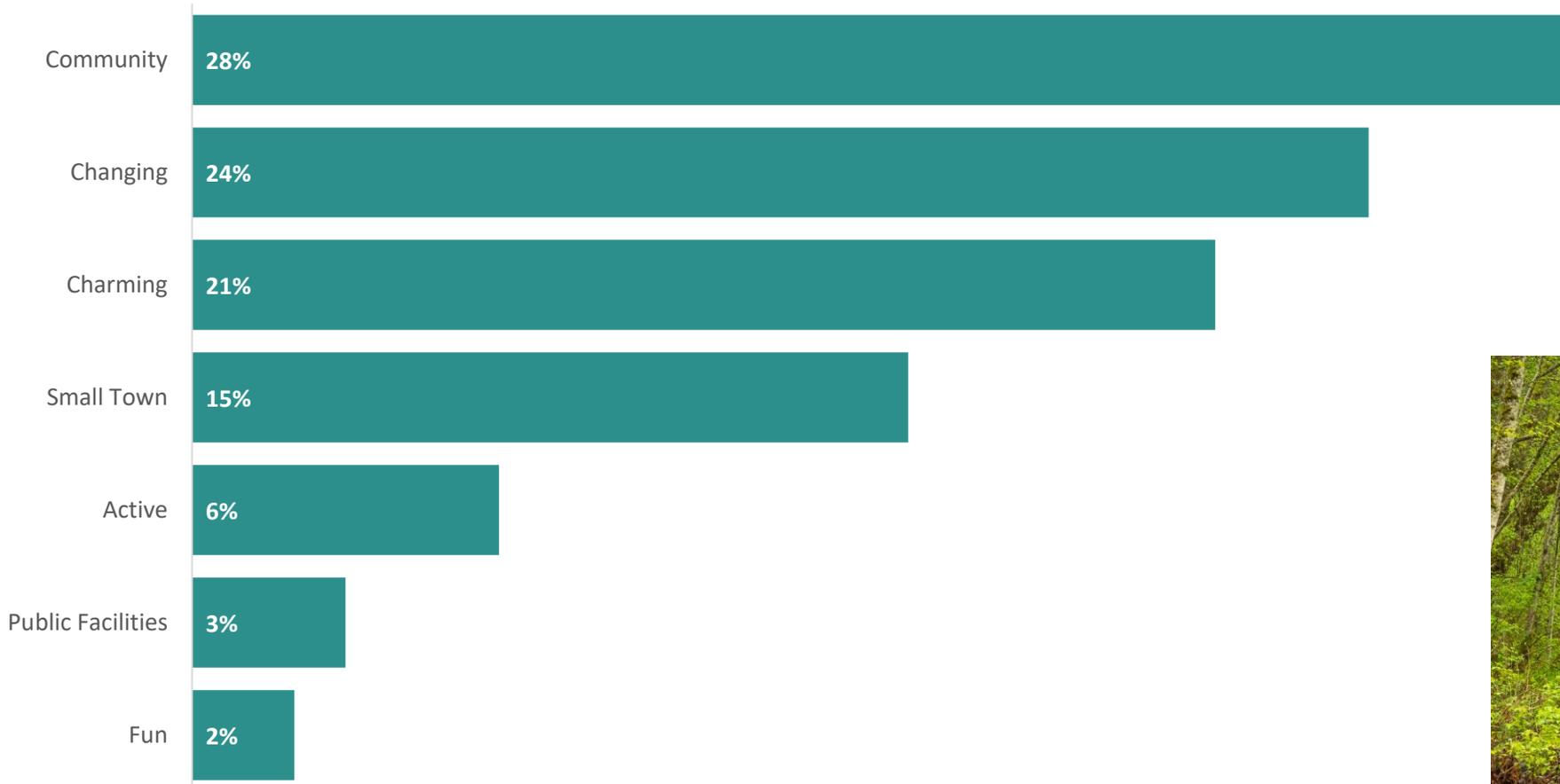
My Favorite Place in Arlington is:



# Question 3



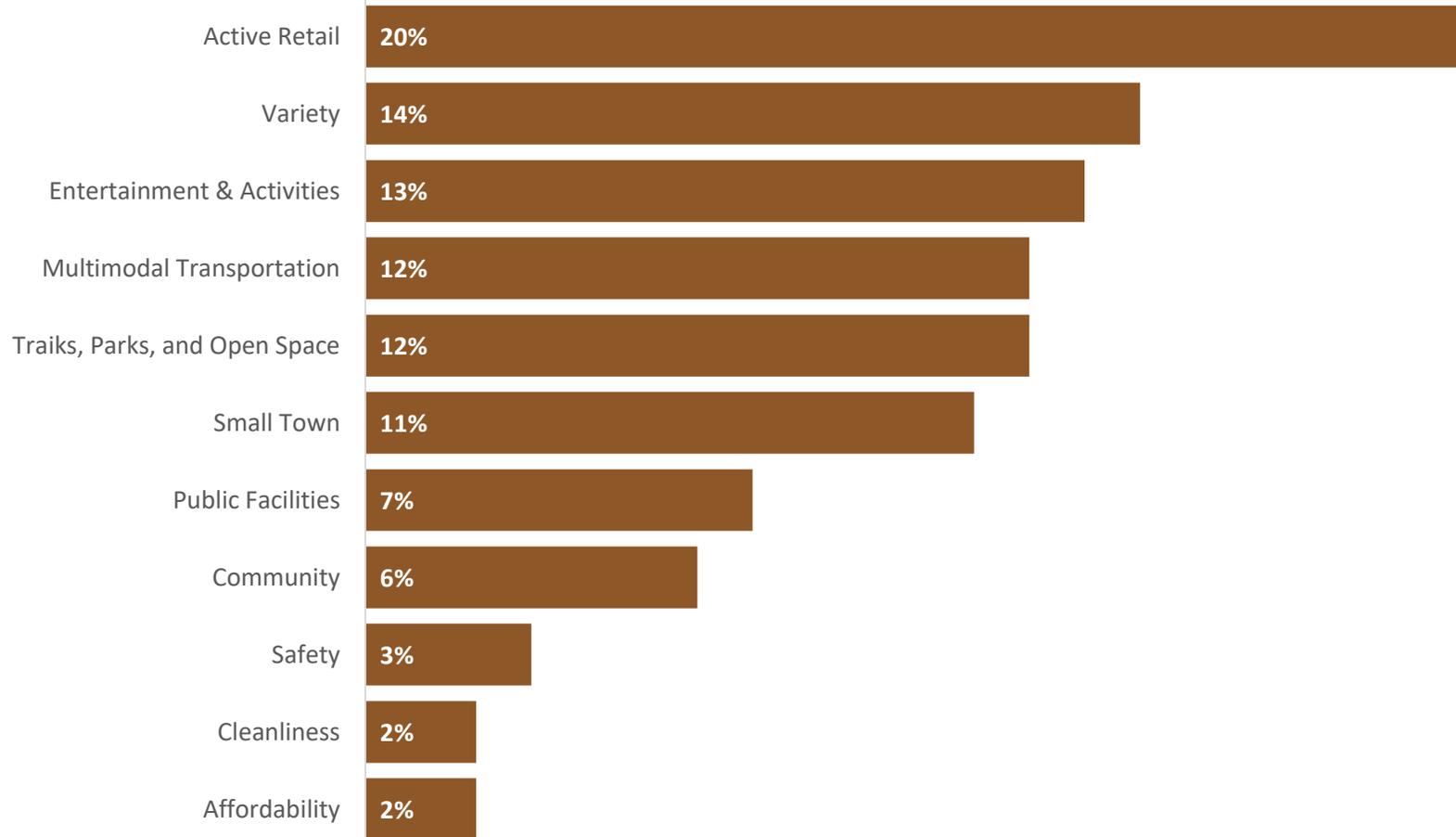
One word to describe Arlington is:



# Question 4



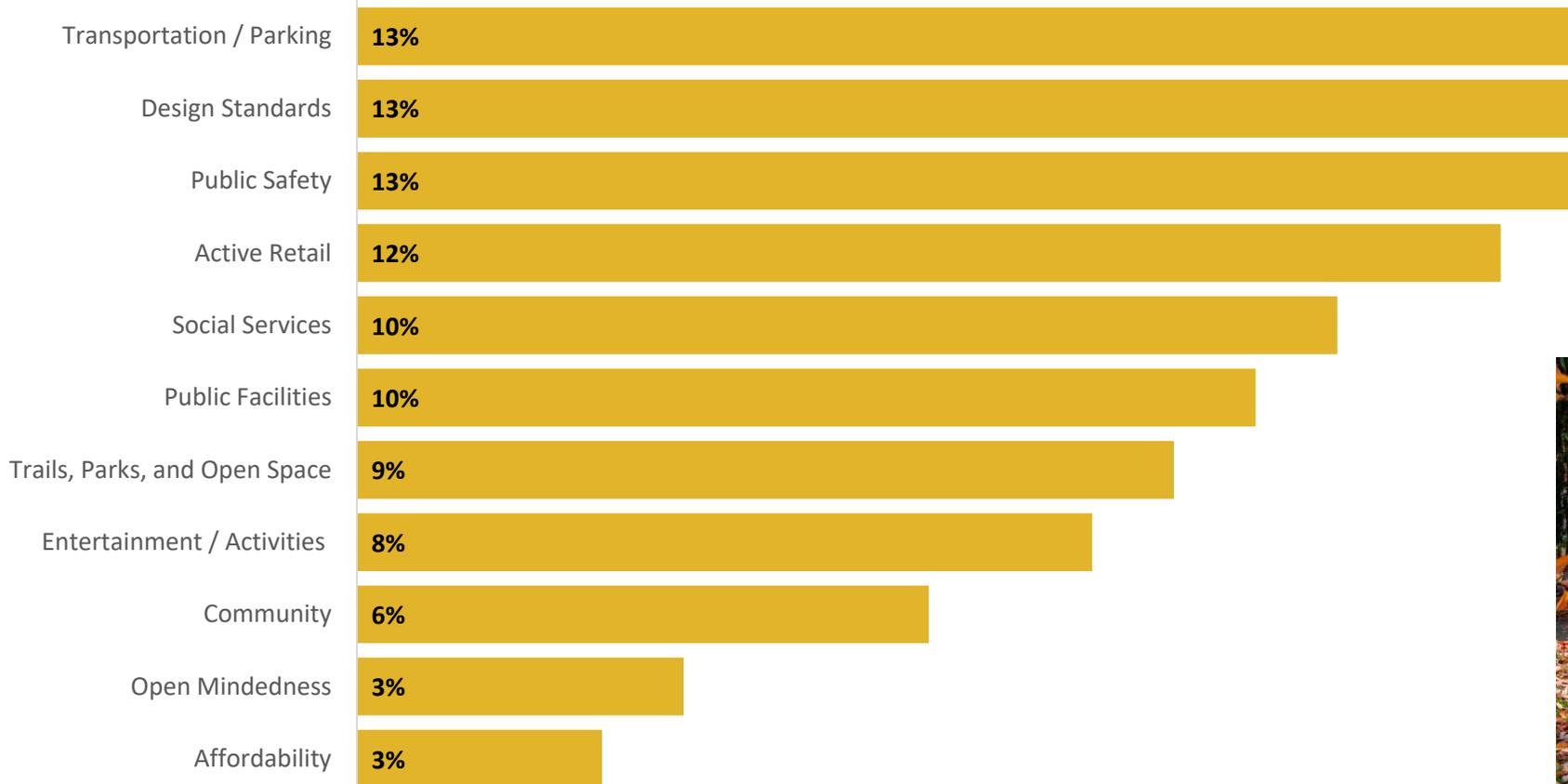
One thing I enjoy about another city is:



# Question 5



One thing I would strengthen in Arlington is:

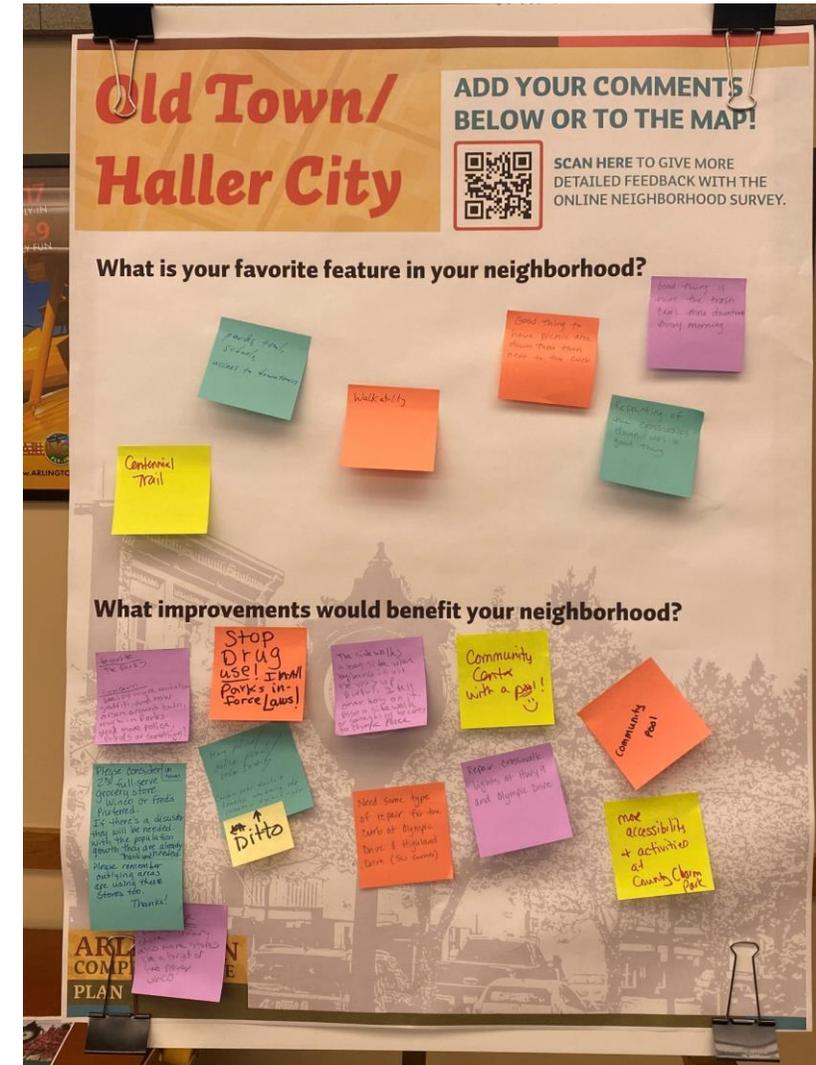


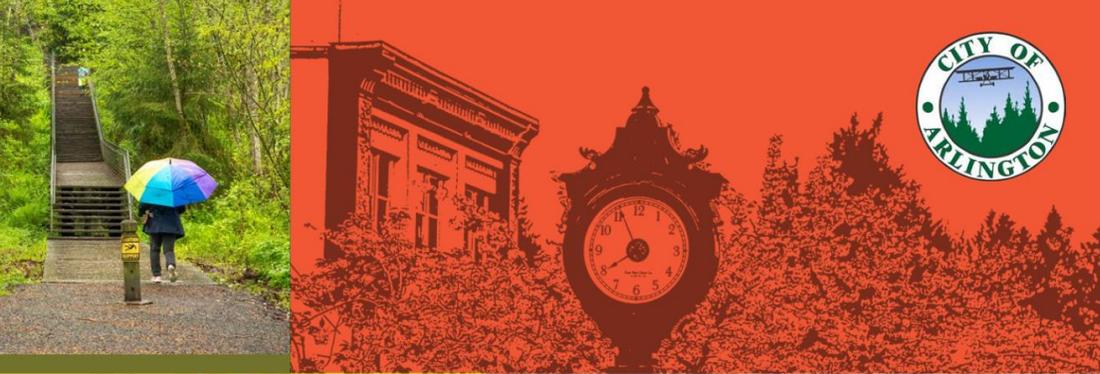
# Provide Feedback!



Please share **YOUR THOUGHTS** and **TELL US:**

- What the foundational principles mean to you
- What improvements you would like to see in your subarea

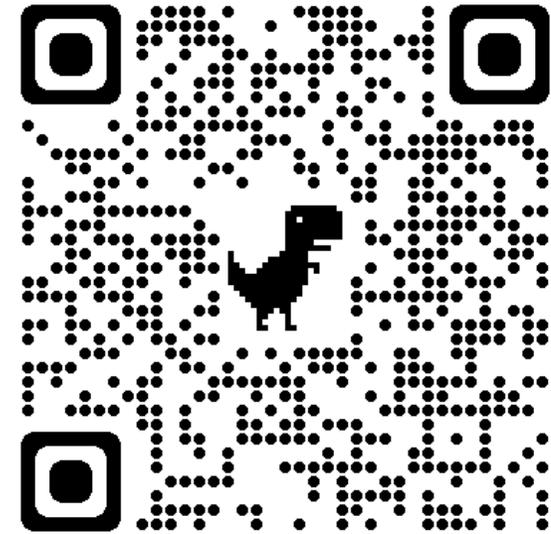




**ARLINGTON  
COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN**

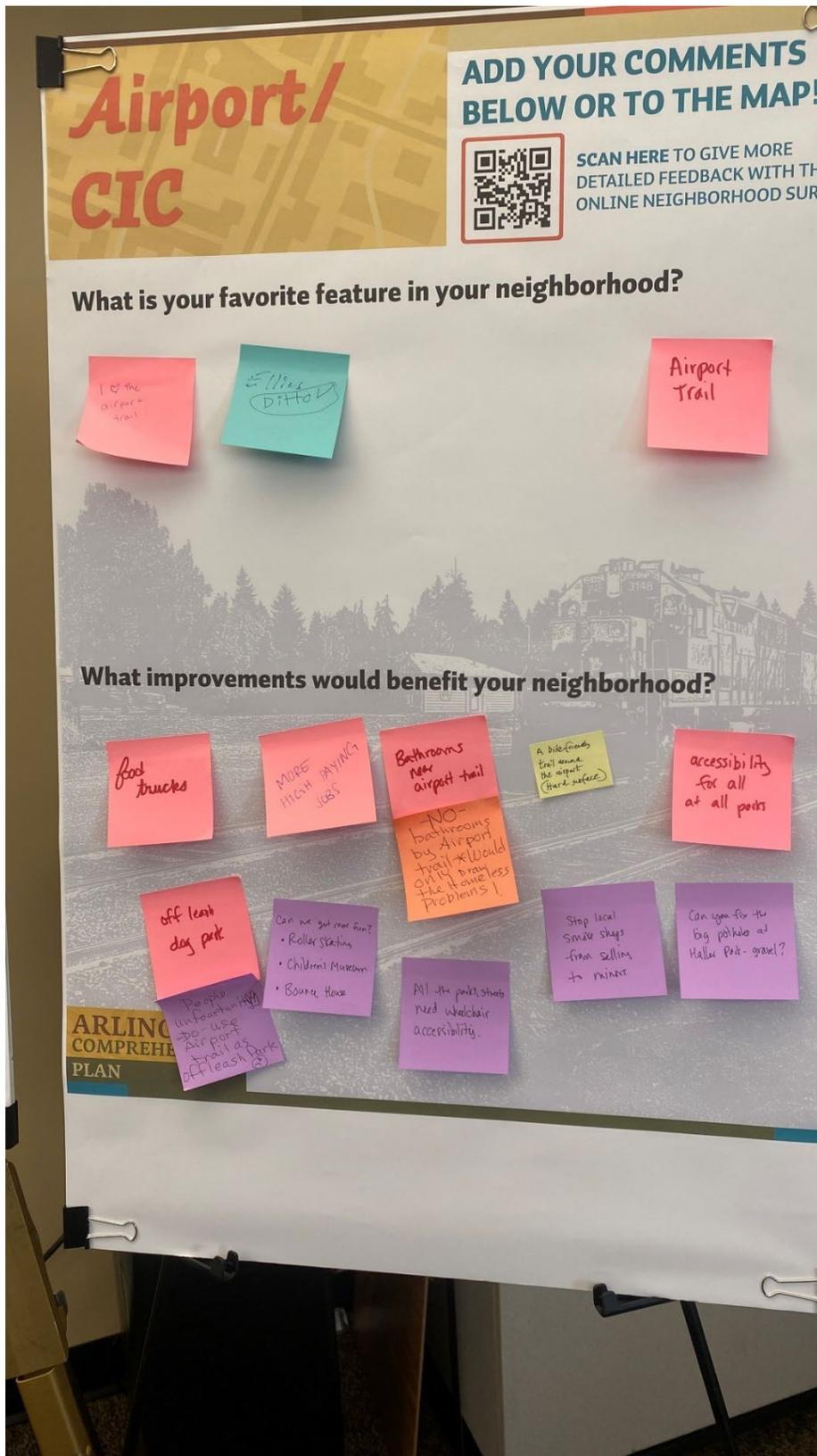


**Thank You!**

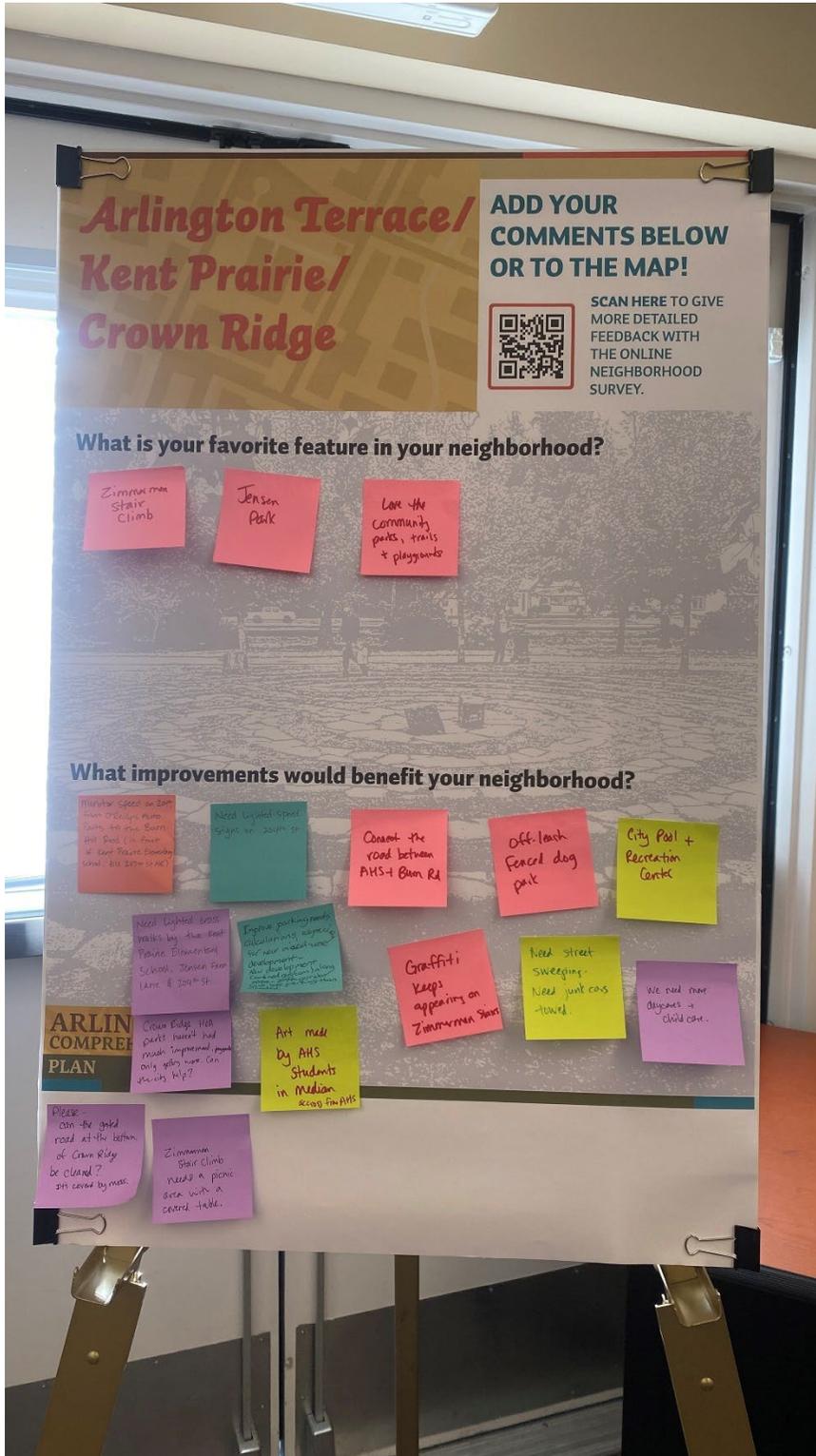


## **Appendix C: Subarea In-Person Engagement Results**

Airport / CIC



Arlington Terrace / Kent Prairie / Crown Ridge



Glendale / Edgecombe / Hill Top

**Glendale/  
Edgecombe/  
Hill Top**

**ADD YOUR COMMENTS  
BELOW OR TO THE MAP!**

SCAN HERE TO GIVE MORE  
DETAILED FEEDBACK WITH THE  
ONLINE NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY

**What is your favorite feature in your neighborhood?**

- CENTENNIAL TRAIL

Mostly quiet,  
of quiet -  
Lippert Ct  
Highland View  
& State

**What improvements would benefit your neighborhood?**

Connect  
172nd to O-  
Please  
With  
Pedestrian  
Safety  
NO Biking  
on the Streets

Yes!  
Please!

A community  
public school  
swim facility  
similar to  
Salemish  
High School.

Build a  
REC CENTER  
w/ POOL

People walking  
on 172nd right  
next to the road  
SCAK me. Need sidewalk  
(between 9 + 67th)

Lippert on 67th  
Need to have  
over area at  
down to 172nd  
Way.

ARLINGTON  
COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN

Island Crossing / Gateway

**Island Crossing / Gateway**

**ADD YOUR COMMENTS BELOW OR TO THE MAP!**

SCAN HERE TO GIVE MORE DETAILED FEEDBACK WITH THE ONLINE NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY.

**What is your favorite feature in your neighborhood?**

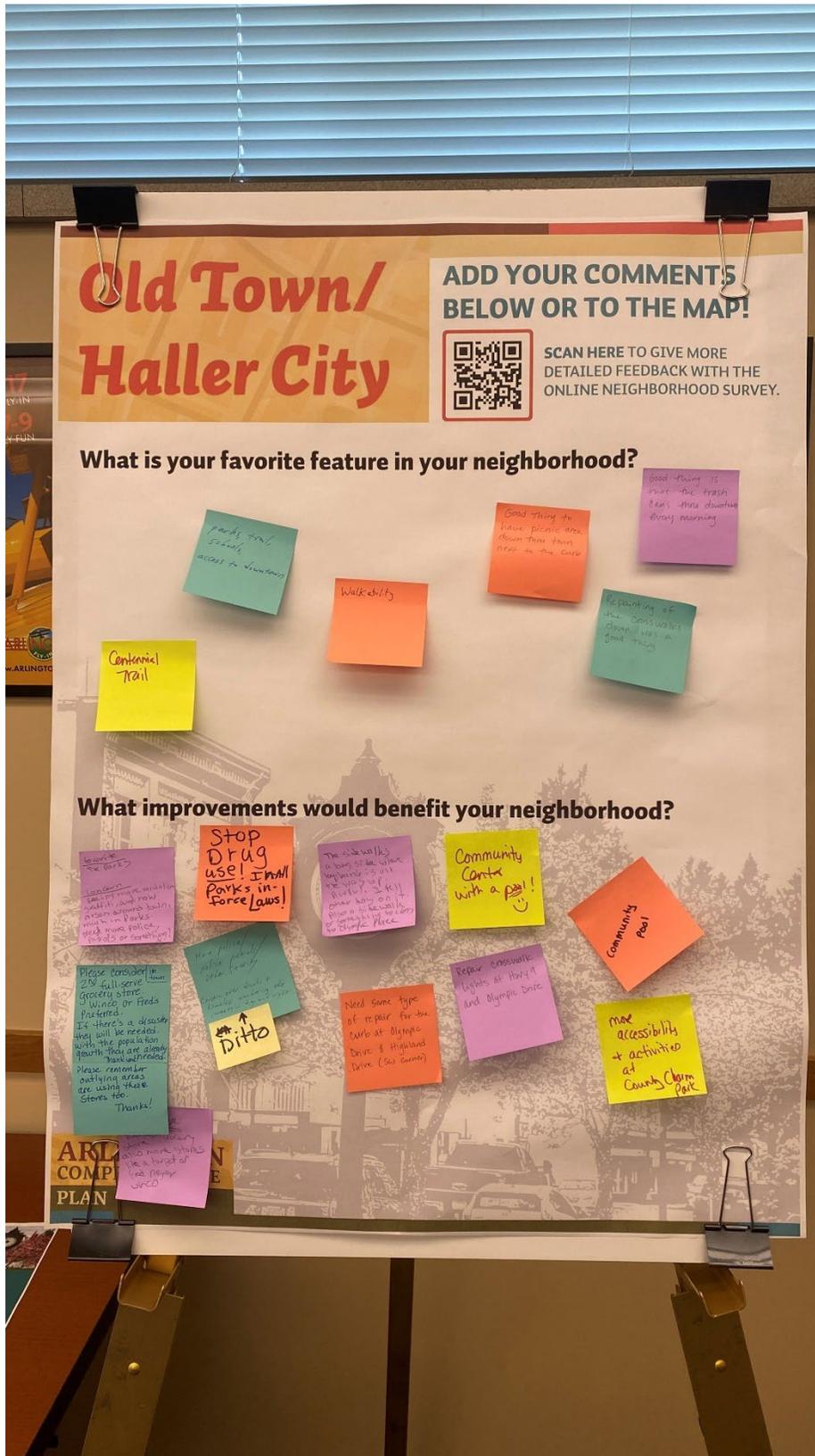
*Leave the farms <sup>and other</sup> other conservation*

**What improvements would benefit your neighborhood?**

*A freeway off-ramp for the truck stops or another exit by the rest area*

**ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

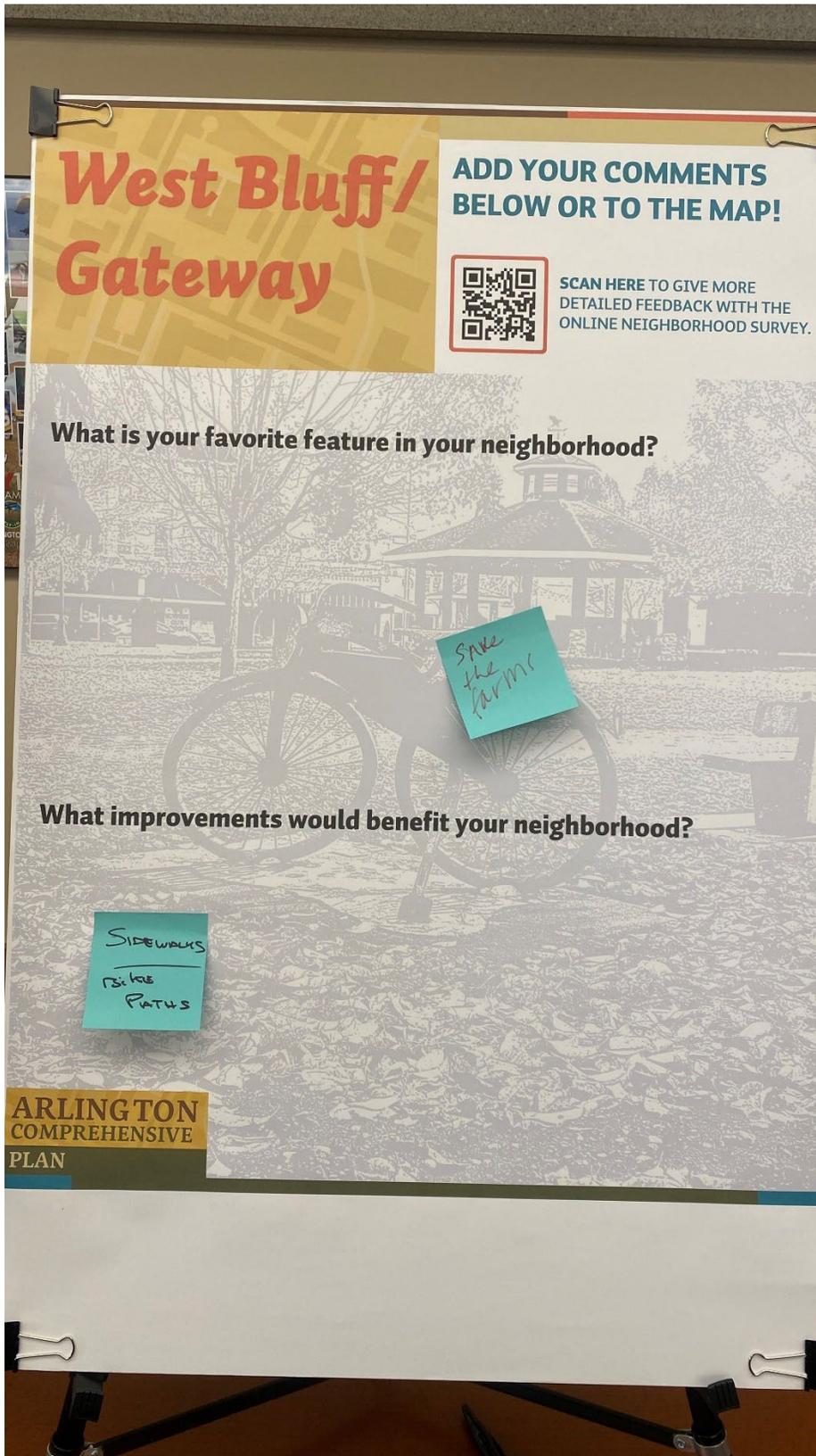
Old Town / Haller City



Smokey Point



West Bluff / Gateway



Comment Number	Neighborhood	Favorite Feature	Improvements
<b>Board Responses</b>			
1	Airport & CIC	Airport Trail	
2	Airport & CIC	Ellie's	
3	Airport & CIC	Ellie's	
4	Airport & CIC	Airport Trail	
5	Airport & CIC		Food trucks
6	Airport & CIC		More high paying jobs
7	Airport & CIC		Bathrooms near Airport Trail
8	Airport & CIC		No bathrooms by Aiport Trail, would only draw the homeless problems
9	Airport & CIC		A bike friendly trail around the Airport (hard surface)
10	Airport & CIC		Accessibility for all at all parks
11	Airport & CIC		Off leash dog park
12	Airport & CIC		People unfortunately do use Airport Trail as off leash park
13	Airport & CIC		Can we get more fun? - roller skating - Children's museum - Bounce house
14	Airport & CIC		All the parks, streets need wheelchair accessibility
15	Airport & CIC		Stop local smoke shops from selling to minors
16	Airport & CIC		Can you fix the big potholes at Haller Park - gravel?
17	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge	Zimmerman Stair Climb	
18	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge	Jensen Park	
19	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge	Love the community parks, trails, and playgrounds	
20	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Monitor speed on 204th, from O'Reilly's Auto Parts to the Burn Hill Road (in front of Kent Prairie Elementary School, 8110 207th St NE)
21	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Need lighted speed signs on 204th
22	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Connect the road between AHS and Burn Rd
23	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Need lighted cross walks by the Kent Prairie Elementary School, Jensen Farm Lane & 204th St.

24	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Improve marking needs calculations, especially for new mixed-use development - new development (combined res/com) along 204th-207th corridor have less parking than needed
25	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Graffiti keeps appearing on Zimmerman stairs
26	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Art made by AHS students in median across from AHS
27	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Crown Ridge HOA parks haven't had much improvement, playgrounds only getting worse. Can the City help?
28	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Please - can the gated road at the bottom of Crown Ridge be cleared? It's covered by moss.
29	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Zimmerman stair climb needs a picnic area with a covered table.
30	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Off-leash fenced dog park
31	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		City pool + recreation center
32	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Need street sweeping. Need junk cars towed.
33	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		We need more daycares + child care.
34	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top	Centennial Trail	
35	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top	Mostly friendly and quiet - Lopper Ct Highland View Estates	
36	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		Connect 172nd to Centennial Trail please
37	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		Widen 172nd with pedestrian safety walking and no biking on the streets
38	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		Yes please "Widen 172nd with pedestrian safety walking and no biking on the streets"
39	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		Build a rec center with pool
40	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		The people walking on 172nd right next to the road. Need sidewalks. (Scare me between 9 and 67th)
41	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		A community public school swim facility similar to Snohomish High School.
42	Glendale & Edgecomb & Hill Top		Traffic on 67th - Hard to leave our area at some times of day

43	Island Crossing & Gateway	Leave the farms; offer conservation	
44	Island Crossing & Gateway		A freeway off and on ramp for the truck stops or another exit by the rest area
45	Old Town & Haller City	Centennial Trail	
46	Old Town & Haller City	Parks, trail, schools, access to downtown	
47	Old Town & Haller City	walkability	
48	Old Town & Haller City	Good thing to have picnic area down thru town next to the curb	
49	Old Town & Haller City	Repainting of the crosswalks down was a good thing	
50	Old Town & Haller City	Good thing is that the trash cans thru downtown every morning	
51	Old Town & Haller City	The parks	
52	Old Town & Haller City		Seeing more vandalism, graffiti, and now arson around town, much in Parks. Need more police, patrols or something!
53	Old Town & Haller City		Stop druge use! In all parks. In-force Laws!
54	Old Town & Haller City		The sidewalks along side where Key Bank is all the way up. Awful. I fell other day on it. Also a sidewalk or something to cross to Olympic Place
55	Old Town & Haller City		Community Center with a pool! :)
56	Old Town & Haller City		Community pool
57	Old Town & Haller City		Repair crosswalk lights at Hwy 9 and Olympic Drive
58	Old Town & Haller City		More accessibility and activities at County Charm Park
59	Old Town & Haller City		Need some type of repair for the curb at Olympic Drive and Highland Drive (SW corner)
60	Old Town & Haller City		More police/police patrols/other security  Concern over drunks and homeless wondering around the streets - day and night
61	Old Town & Haller City		Ditto to:  "More police/police patrols/other security  Concern over drunks and homeless wondering around the streets - day and night "

			Please consider 2nd full-serve grocery store. Winco or Fred's preferred. If there's a disaster they will be needed. With the population growth they are already needed! Thank you! (in town)
62	Old Town & Haller City		Please remember outlying areas are using those stores too. Thanks!
63	Old Town & Haller City		Another grocery store also more stores like Target or Fred Meyer Winco
64	Smokey Point	Walker's coffee stand	
65	Smokey Point	Stilly Valley Center	
		We lived in Smokey Point 40 yrs	
66	Smokey Point	Used to be Airport Trail - have fear of homeless in the woods on the trail	
67	Smokey Point		I understand there will be plants in the median - who will maintain them? And isn't it dangerous to weed in the middle of the street?
68	Smokey Point		Park and ride is not safe to use as intended
			Agree with "Park and ride is not safe to use as intended "
69	Smokey Point		Rite Aid Bus Area Walking sm. Pt. N <-> S
70	Smokey Point		Citywide - we need to get ahead of the growth of disadvantaged/homeless/humhomed - adopt policies to build support proactively for the future number of people with these conditions
71	Smokey Point		Sidewalks
			Lighting
72	Smokey Point		Street lights in all communities (neighborhoods) to help stop crime, drugs, etc.
73	Smokey Point		Need graffiti removed
74	Smokey Point		Accessible sidewalks and parks
75	Smokey Point		Parking lots at Safeways and Rite-Aid not safe
76	Smokey Point		Small businesses
77	West Bluff / Gateway	Save the farms	
<b>Map comments</b>			
1	Arlington Terrace & Kent Prairie & Crown Ridge		Steps up to Crown Ridge need some maintenance

2	City of Arlington		Growth for all without handouts... real places for people to go that have mental health problems in the growth plan... include mental health care that really works... not enabling kind of lies that don't work
3	City of Arlington		Artisan market or gathering place like Wenatchee's market

## **Appendix D: SEPA Scoping Notice**



**Notice of SEPA**  
**Determination of Significance and Request for Comments**  
**on Scope of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for**  
**Arlington 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan Update**  
Arlington in Motion – 2024 and Beyond

**Date of Issuance:** November 1, 2023

**Deadline for Comments:** November 30, 2023 (by no later than 11:59 pm)

**Lead Agency:** City of Arlington Planning and Development Department

**Proposal:** 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan Update

**Location:** City of Arlington (citywide)

**Contact:**

Marc Hayes  
Community and Economic Development Director  
18204 59<sup>th</sup> Dr. NE, Arlington WA 98223  
O: 360 403-3457  
mhayes@arlingtonwa.gov

**Project Website:** <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/784/Comprehensive-Plan-Update-2024>

**Project Notice Website:** <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/310/Public-Notices-Hearings>

**Project Description**

The City of Arlington is completing a periodic update to its Comprehensive Plan (“Plan”) to cover the 20-year period through 2044, which per [RCW 36.70A.130\(5\)\(a\)](#) must be completed by December 31, 2024. The Plan is the city’s primary policy document for guiding growth and development over the next 20 years and covers a wide range of topics such as land use, housing, transportation, parks and recreation, natural resources, economic development, utilities, and capital facilities. The Plan must be consistent with the [Growth Management Act](#), Puget Sound Regional Council [Vision 2050 Plan](#), and Snohomish County [Countywide Planning Policies](#) (CPPs). The most recent periodic update occurred in 2015 and the current version of the Comprehensive Plan is available here: <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/282/Comprehensive-Plan>

As part of the periodic update, the city must evaluate how it can achieve its 20-year (2044) growth targets for population, housing units and employment. These growth targets are based on guidance from the Washington State Department of Commerce and developed following a collaborative process with the county and other cities through Snohomish County Tomorrow and have been incorporated into Appendix B of the Snohomish County CPPs. For Arlington, the 2044 growth targets are as follows:

	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2044 Target</b>	<b>Increase by 2044</b>	<b>Percent of County Total</b>
<b>Population (people)</b>	19,868 (2020)	34,649	14,781	4.8%
<b>Housing (units)</b>	7,689 (2020)	15,483	7,794	4.7%
<b>Employment (jobs)</b>	10,267 (2019)	24,690	14,423	8.4%

## Determination of Significance (DS) and Request for Comments on EIS Scope and Alternatives

The City of Arlington has determined that the proposal could potentially have a significant adverse impact on the environment and as such, requires programmatic environmental analysis within an environmental impact statement (EIS), as required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c) of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The programmatic EIS will evaluate potential impacts and prescribe mitigation measures to address these. Topics and that will be addressed (at a minimum) include:

- Environment (critical areas and other subtopics)
- Land Use
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Public Safety
- Capital Facilities

The EIS will evaluate a No Action Alternative (which assumes no changes to current plans, policies, regulations, or zoning) and one Action Alternative—Implementation of the 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan, evaluating the plan’s capability to meet the city’s 2044 growth targets. Previous city plans and documents as well as recent state legislation will be incorporated into the alternatives analysis. This scoping period provides an opportunity for the public to help shape the topics that are covered in the EIS.

**Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS**, including alternatives, additional topics to address, potential environmental impacts, mitigation measures, approval and permitting requirements, and other considerations.

**The deadline for public scoping comments is November 30, 2023. Comments may be submitted via:**

- Email: [ced@arlingtonwa.gov](mailto:ced@arlingtonwa.gov) (Subject: Comp Plan EIS Scoping Comments)
- Mail: City of Arlington, Attn: Marc Hayes; Community and Economic Development Director 18204 59th Avenue NE Arlington, WA 98223
- Project website: <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/784/Comprehensive-Plan-Update-2024>

### **PUBLIC MEETING:**

The city will be holding a public meeting during the scoping period to gather comments to inform the scope of the EIS. This open house style meeting will be held on November 7, 2023 at City Council Chambers (110 E Third Street, Arlington, WA 98223), from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, with presentations at 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm.

**Responsible Official:** Marc Hayes, Community and Economic Development Manager

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** November 1, 2023

### **Appeal Process**

An agency or person may appeal the City’s procedural compliance with WAC 197-11. The appeal shall meet the requirements of AMC 20.98.210, AMC 20.20, and AMC 20.24. The appeal period commences on the date of publication of notice. Any appeal to the Hearing Examiner must be addressed to the City Hearing Examiner, accompanied by an application, written findings, a filing fee (plus the actual cost of the Hearing Examiner), and be filed in writing at the City of Arlington, Community and Economic Development Department, 18204 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Arlington, WA 98223.

## **Appendix E: SEPA Scoping Presentation**



# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## SEPA Scoping

November 7, 2023



# Presentation Topics



- What is the Comprehensive Plan?
- What is SEPA scoping?
- Alternatives
- Next steps





# ARLINGTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

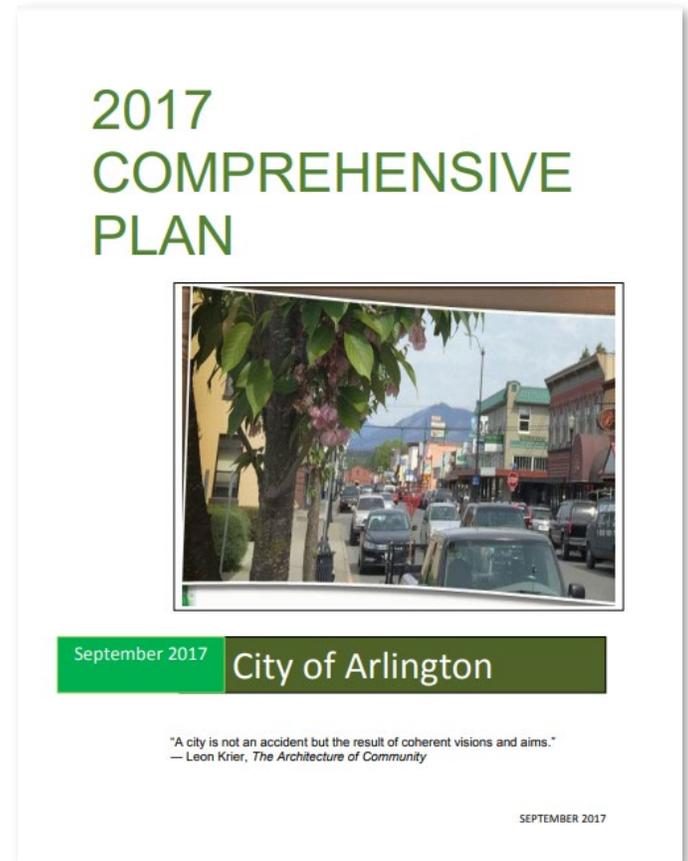
What is the Comprehensive Plan?



# What is a Comprehensive Plan?



- 20-year vision and roadmap for Arlington's future
- Meets requirements to ensure the City is eligible for important funding
  - Growth Management Act
  - Puget Sound Regional Council
  - Snohomish County
- Guides decisions on infrastructure, housing, and more
- Framework that guides other important documents
  - Parks & Recreation Master Plan
  - Transportation Improvement Plan
  - Stormwater Comprehensive Plan



# Planning Process & Timeline



**2022**

**2023**

**2024**

**Focus Group and Inter-Departmental Coordination** (*meetings ongoing*)

## 1. REVIEW BACKGROUND & CONFIRM VISION

- Branding & Templates
- Review Existing Plans
- Outline & Frame
- Define Process
- Engagement Plan
- Confirm Vision & Values
- Identify Update Needs
- Format & Style Parameters

## 2. POLICY FRAMEWORK & PLANNING SCENARIOS

- Develop & Review Preliminary Draft Books
- Revision Rounds (1-2)

## 3. DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN & ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- Compile & Review Full Draft Revision Rounds (2-3)
- Align Capital Facilities & Capital Improvements

## 4. FINALIZE & ADOPT

- Finalize Plan
- Code/Zoning Recommendations
- Support Formal Adoption Process

**Public Engagement** (*ongoing*)

# Plan Framework

## SECTION I: Introduction and Plan Organization

## SECTION II: Foundational Principles

Equity

Neighborhoods &  
Connectivity

Economic Stability  
& Vibrancy

Climate Adaption &  
Community Resiliency

Healthy, Active  
Lifestyles

## SECTION III: Subareas

## SECTION IV: Books

Book 1

Environment

Book 2

Land Use

Book 3

Housing

Book 4

Economic  
Development

Book 5

Parks,  
Recreation,  
Open Space

Book 6

Transportation

Book 7

Utilities

Book 8

Public  
Safety

Book 9

Capital  
Facilities

## SECTION V: Implementation and Monitoring

APPENDIX



Economic Stability  
and Vibrancy



Neighborhoods  
and Connectivity



Climate Adaption  
and Resiliency



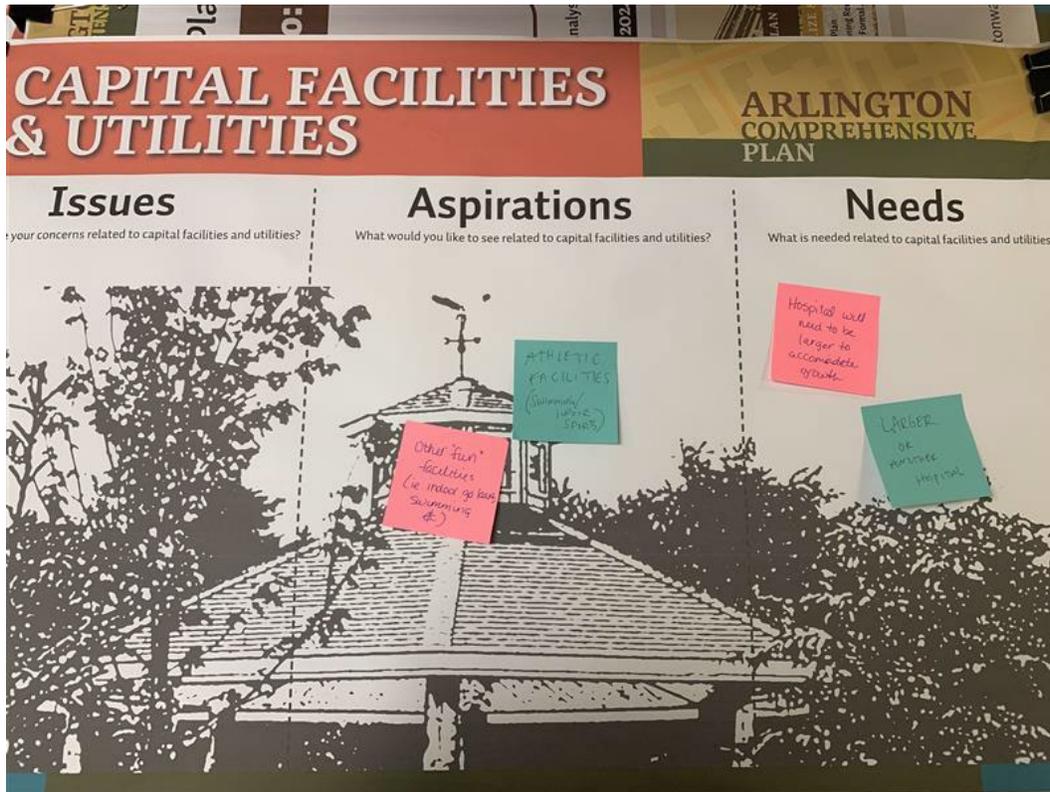
Equity



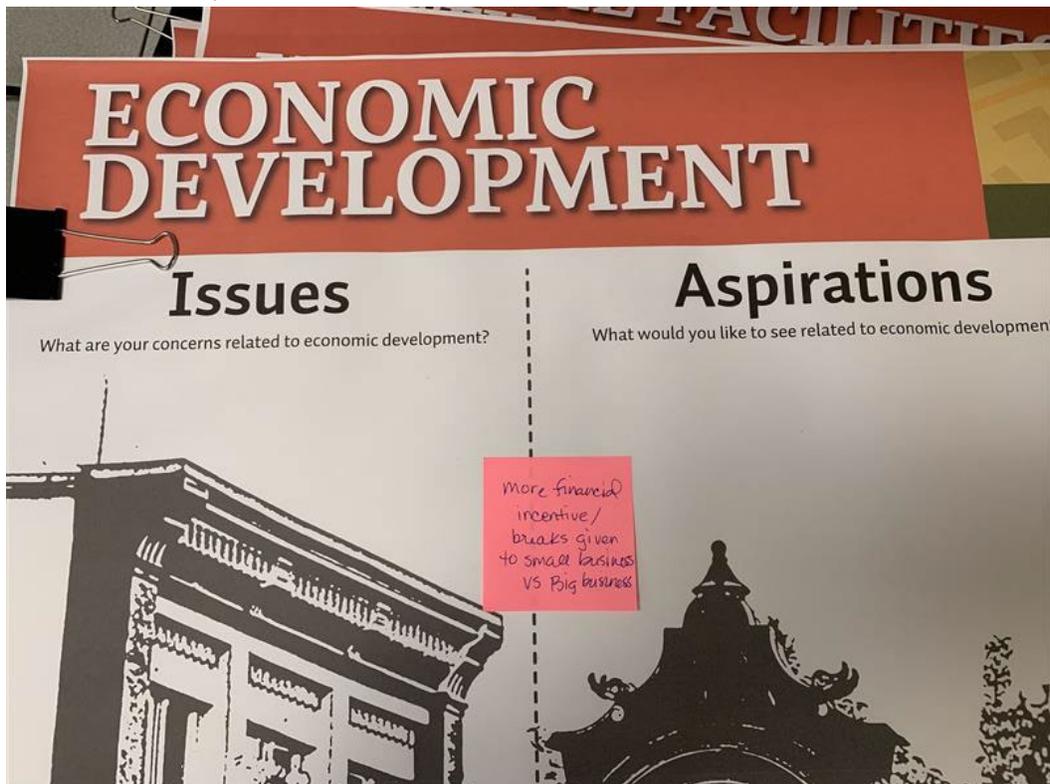
Healthy Active  
Lifestyles

## **Appendix F: SEPA Scoping Engagement Results**

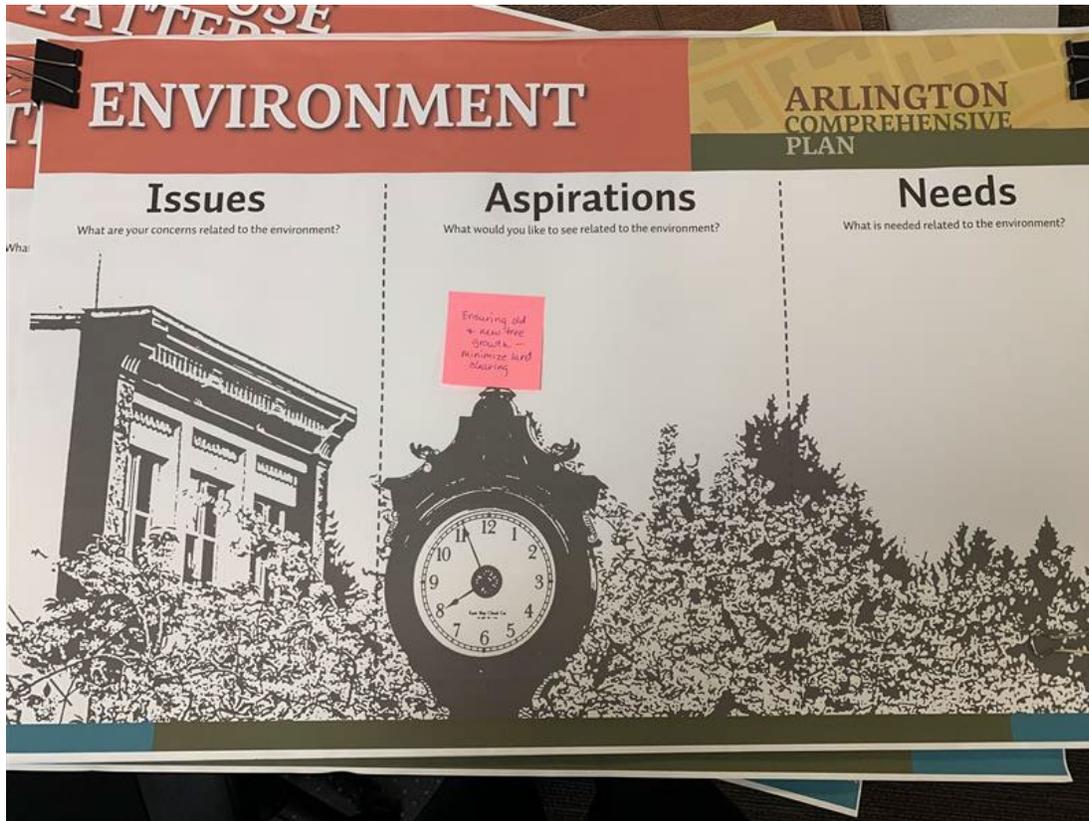
Capital Facilities and Utilities



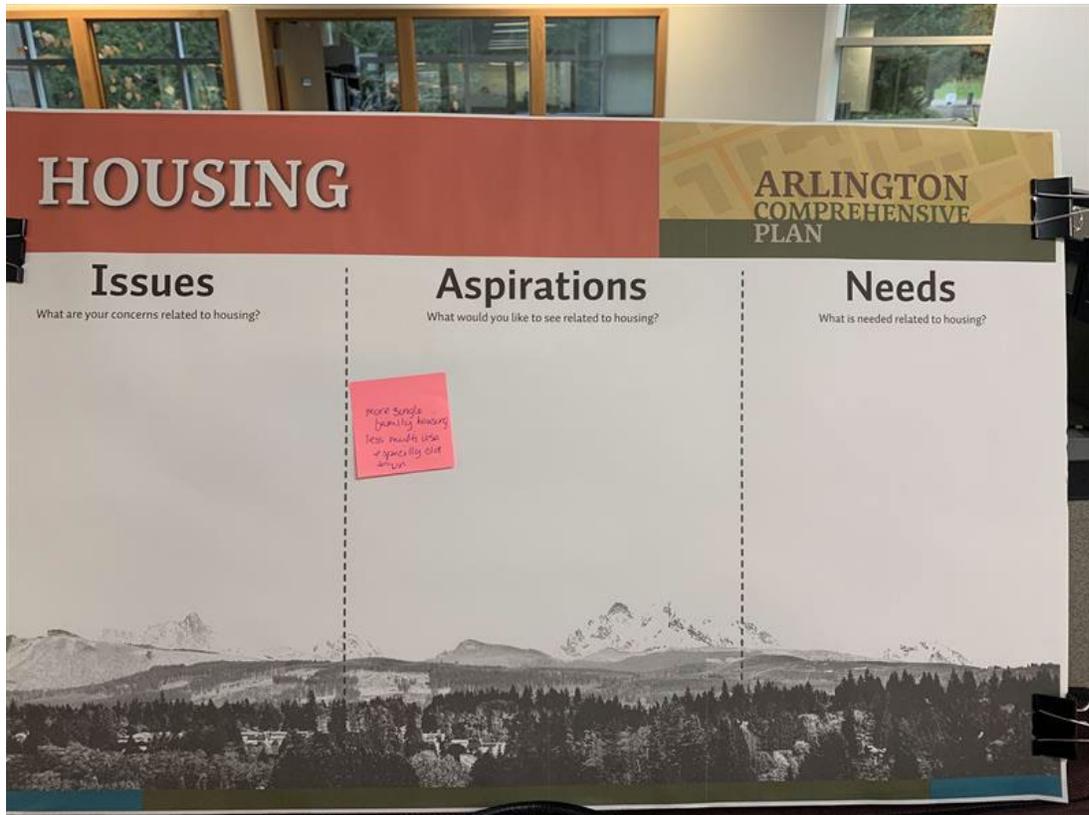
Economic Development



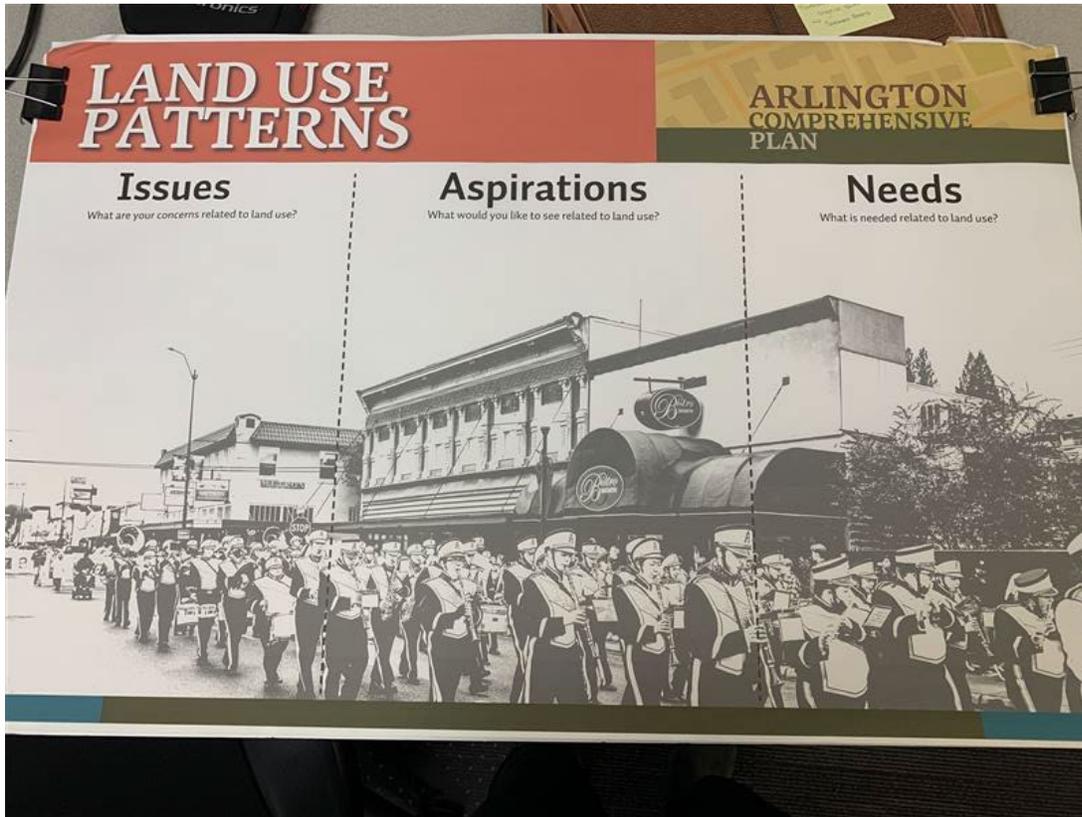
Environment



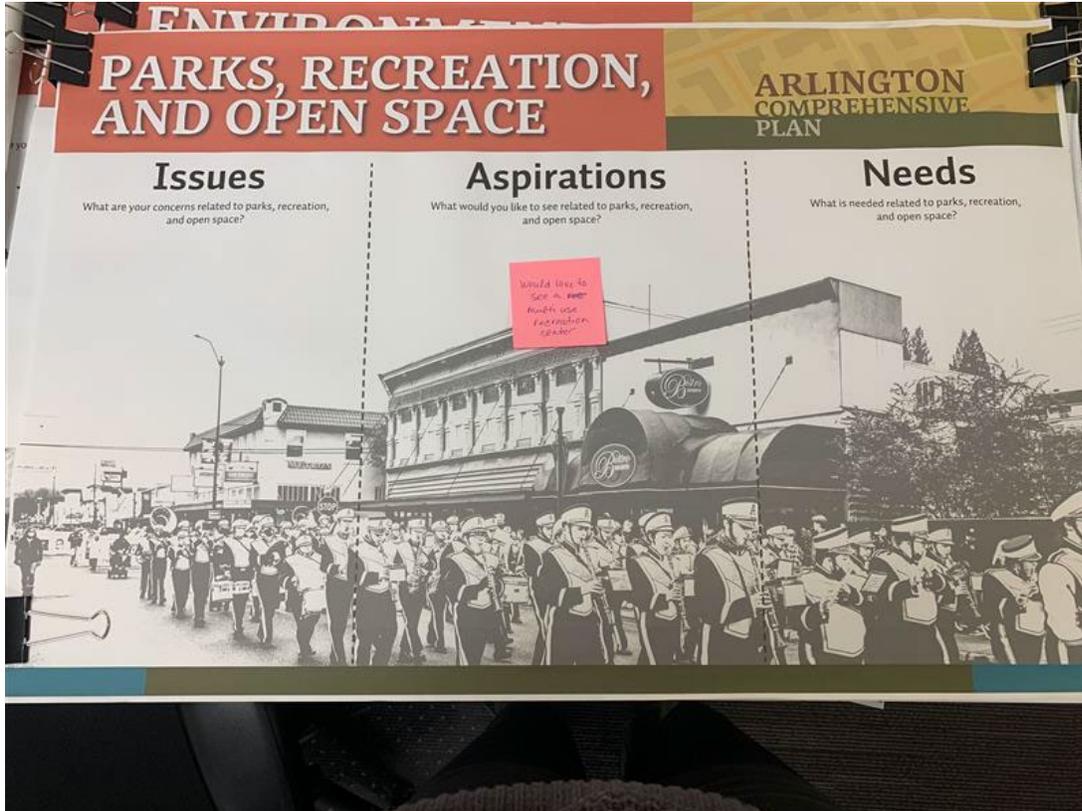
Housing



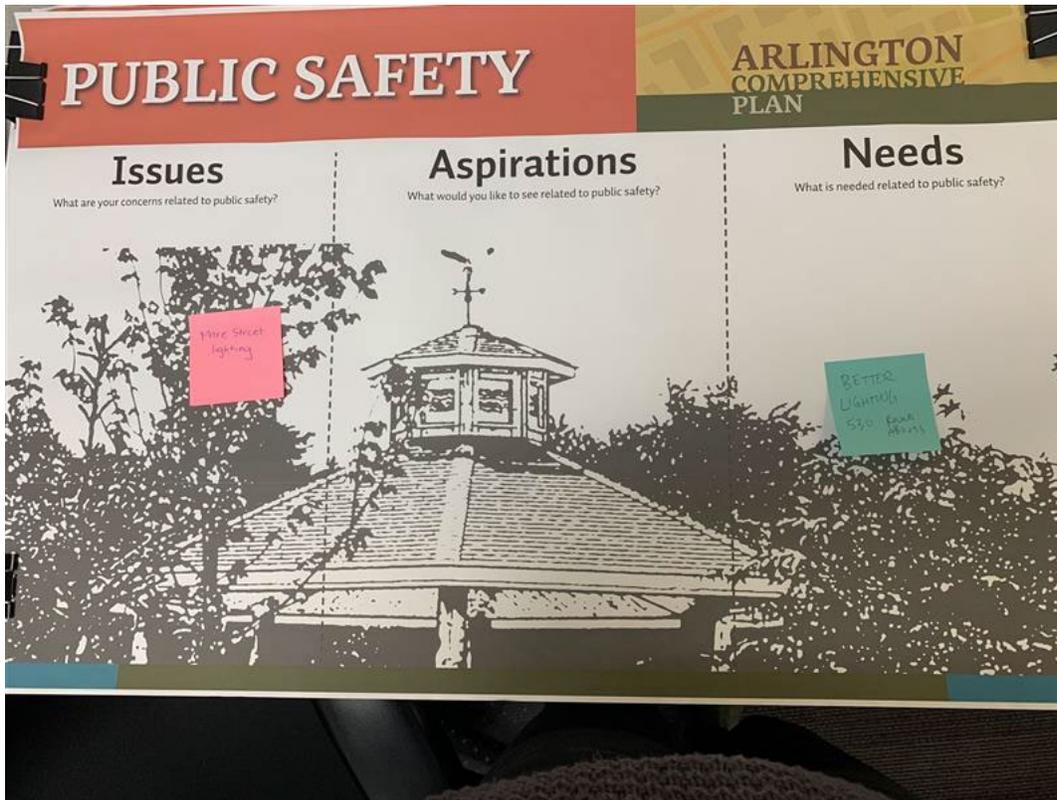
Land Use Patterns



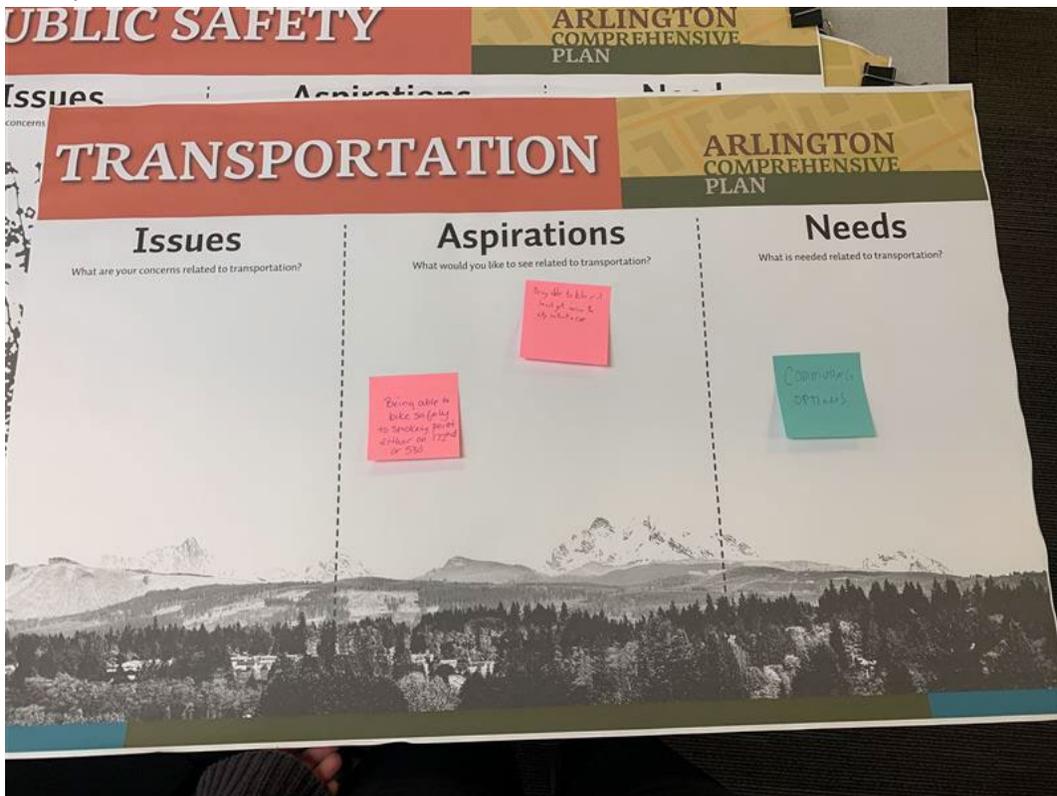
Parks, Recreation, and Open Space



Public Safety



Transportation





January 24, 2024

Amy Rusko, Planning Manager  
City of Arlington Land Use & Planning Division  
18204 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Arlington, WA 982923

RE: City of Arlington Comprehensive Plan 2024 Update: Utility Element

Dear Ms. Rusko:

In response to the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update for the City of Arlington, Puget Sound Energy would like to submit the following comments:

**Company Overview:** Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is a private utility provider of electric and natural gas service to homes and businesses in Puget Sound. With a 6,000 square mile service territory encompassing 10 counties, PSE provides power to more than 1.2 million electric customers and 900,000 natural gas customers.

PSE creates 46% of electricity from its own hydro, thermal, solar and wind facilities; the company has 3,500 megawatts of power-generating capacity, and purchases the rest of its power supply from other utilities, independent power producers, and energy marketers across the United States and Canada. In 2022, PSE provided 3,794,770 MWh of renewable energy produced from wind and hydropower facilities. Electric and natural gas planning efforts are integrated and centered on providing safe, reliable, and efficient energy service.

**Regulatory Environment:** PSE's operations and rates are governed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). PSE electric utility options and standards are further governed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the National Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC). These respective agencies monitor, assess and enforce compliance and reliability standards for PSE.

Additionally, the Clean Electricity Transformation Act (CETA) became law in Washington State in 2019. CETA requires PSE provide electricity free of greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. The UTC and Washington Department of Commerce (WDOC) adopted CETA implementation rules that require utilities develop four-year plans known as Clean Energy Implementation Plans (CEIP) to outline plans for clean energy investments, equitable distribution of customer benefits, and 100% clean energy by

2045. The first CEIP covers the time period of 2022-2025 and was filed with the UTC on December 17, 2021. It includes programs and investments such as expanding energy efficiency efforts, deploying new technologies, installing localized sources of clean energy, and investing in renewable energy.

The CEIP Library, including the 2023 Biennial Update, can be found:

<https://www.cleanenergyplan.pse.com/ceip-library>

Further government regulation includes the Washington Climate Commitment Act (CCA), which caps and reduces greenhouse gas emissions from large emitting sources to lower 95% of carbon emissions by 2050. This new program puts a price on greenhouse gas emissions emitted in the state and increases the cost to deliver electricity and natural gas to our customers.

Arlington residents rely on PSE and the City to coordinate efforts on ordinances and codes that protect existing energy facilities and embrace new clean energy technology. One of the primary intentions of the Utility Element is to assure proper coordination of public land use planning and infrastructure planning by providers. Routine utility maintenance work—including vegetation management and avian protection—is required for regulatory compliance with FERC, NERC, WECC, and CETA.

**PSE Planning: Integrated Resource Plan (IRP):** Puget Sound Energy plans years in advance to ensure we have the supply and infrastructure necessary to deliver clean, safe and reliable energy. An IRP is a plus year view of PSE’s energy resource needs, which is developed through a planning process that evaluates how a range of potential future outcomes could affect PSE’s ability to meet our customers’ electric and natural gas supply needs. The analysis considers policies, costs, economic conditions, physical energy systems, and future resource procurement. PSE’s latest IRP was filed with the UTC on April 1, 2021 and is the foundation for PSE’s first Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP).

The 2021 IRP can be accessed at:

<https://www.pse.com/en/IRP/Past-IRPs/2021-IRP>;

The 2023 GAS IRP: <https://www.pse.com/en/IRP/Past-IRPs/2023-IRP>

PSE’s 2023 Electric Progress Report: <https://www.pse.com/en/IRP/Past-IRPs/2023-IRP>

**Equity:** Many of PSE’s clean energy products include enhanced incentives for historically marginalized communities, and the community-based organizations, government agencies, and Tribal entities that serve them. For many products, PSE is moving away from qualifying customers for enhanced incentives or services based on solely on their geographic location within these communities, as mapped. Instead, PSE is focused on whether or not a project or its location will primarily serve and/or benefit these communities. Ensuring code language makes clean energy programs and products accessible to these communities will be key.

**Distributed Energy Resources:** PSE offers the Distributed Energy Resources program to commercial customers in order to fulfill our commitment to a clean energy future. DER's aim is to support the development of customer-owned renewable energy projects that generate between 100 kilowatts and 5 megawatts to interconnect to the PSE electrical distribution grid. Current federal and state laws require

the interconnection customer to be responsible for all costs related to connecting their system to PSE's power grid. Therefore, PSE works with customers to ensure the interconnection process is efficient, while maintaining a grid that is safe and reliable.

**PSE Gas System Overview:** PSE builds, operates, and maintains an extensive gas system in Snohomish County, which consists of transmission and distribution natural gas mains, odorizing stations, pressure regulation stations, heaters, corrosion protection systems, above ground appurtenances, and metering systems. In Snohomish County, PSE takes gas from Williams Northwest Pipeline at 15 gate/town border stations. PSE operates and maintains 75 miles of high pressure main, 78 District Regulators, nearly 2,175 miles of intermediate main, and serves 152,000 metered customers. Presently, PSE serves approximately 150 commercial/industrial and 350 residential natural gas customer meters within the City of Arlington.

PSE's culture of total safety is reflected in our approach to gas treatment, pressure reduction, and distribution. Gate Station infrastructure serves as a place of custody transfer, measurement, odorant treatment, and pressure regulation. Gas pressure is most commonly reduced to levels at or below 250 PSIG, then continues throughout PSE's supply system in steel mains ranging in diameter of 2" to 20." Over-pressure protection mechanisms release gas into the atmosphere, enact secondary regulation, or completely shut off the gas supply to ensure safety. PSE also applies corrosion control mitigation systems to prevent pipe damage. Yet another safety feature PSE uses involves odorants. Since natural gas is naturally odorless, the odorant mercaptan is injected so that leaks are detectable.

In 2021, PSE launched a Renewable Natural Gas (RNG), program in which more than 4,700 customers lowered their carbon footprint by replacing a portion of their conventional natural gas usage with renewable natural gas. The renewable natural gas offered to customers is made from gas captured at a landfill—not from fossil fuels. Since launching RNG, PSE sold more than 92,000 therms of this cleaner alternative. In 2024, PSE strives for 3.5% RNG by volume.

**Hydrogen Hub:** In 2023, the U.S. Department of Energy selected the Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Association's PNWH2 hub as a regional Clean Hydrogen Hub to kick start a national network of clean hydrogen producers, consumers, and connective infrastructure while supporting the production, storage, delivery, and end-use of clean hydrogen. This Hub will receive \$1 billion in federal funding spanning nine years of development phases. PSE's portion of the project seeks to use clean hydrogen for peaking applications to support the utility's push to meet Washington State's mandated Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), which calls for no fossil fuel use by 2045.

**PSE 2030:** PSE strives to decarbonize via PSE 2030, a strategic framework for guiding our company's capital investments over the next 10 years. PSE 2030 is in alignment with our Beyond Net Zero Carbon goals and our commitments to safety, reliability, affordability and equity. PSE 2030 has four main focus areas of:

1. CETA Implementation
2. Natural Gas Decarbonization
3. Regulatory and Legislative Enablement
4. Customer Solutions

**PSE Electrical System Overview:** To provide Puget Sound with electricity, PSE maintains an extensive integrated electric system consisting of generating plants, transmission lines, substations, switching stations, sub-systems, overhead and underground distribution systems, attachments, appurtenances, and metering systems. Electricity provided by PSE to customers is often produced elsewhere, then interconnected to the Northwest’s regional grid.

The PSE electric transmission facilities in Snohomish County are important components of the regional grid serving Puget Sound. For example, PSE serves Skagit, Island (Whidbey Island only), Whatcom, and King Counties with electricity by linking transmission facilities that pass through Snohomish County. In addition, PSE jointly owns the Anderson Canyon – Beverly Park line serving customers along Highway 2.

**Transmission Facilities in Snohomish County**

PSE owns and operates 114.5 miles of transmission line (230 kV and 115 kV) as well as the Horse Ranch substation in Snohomish County. The details of these facilities are provided in the table below.

Line Name	Voltage (kV)	PSE-Owned Mileage in Snohomish County
Sedro Woolley - Horse Ranch	230	24.5
Sedro Woolley - SCL Bothell - Horse Ranch	230	35
Horse Ranch - BPA Monroe - BPA Snohomish	230	3.5
Beverly Park - Cottage Brook	115	11.4
Anderson Canyon - Beverly Park	115	40
BPA Snohomish - Beverly Park #4	115	0.1
<b>Total:</b>		<b>114.5</b>

**Transmission Lines**

PSE wholly owns the Sedro Woolley – Horse Ranch 230 kV transmission line which runs from Skagit County to Snohomish County. PSE jointly owns two other 230 kV transmission lines: Sedro Woolley – SCL Bothell – Horse Ranch and Horse Ranch – BPA Monroe – BPA Snohomish.

In addition to the 230 kV lines, PSE wholly owns the Beverly Park – Cottage Brook 115 kV line. PSE jointly owns two other 115 kV transmission lines operating in Snohomish County: Anderson Canyon – Beverly Park and BPA Snohomish – Beverly Park #4.

**Future PSE Projects & Programs:**

**Electric:** To meet increasing regional electric demand, new transmission lines and substations may need to be constructed. In addition, existing facilities will need to be maintained and possibly rebuilt. The system responds differently year to year and PSE is constantly modifying infrastructure to meet demands, including:

- **Wishbone Crossarm Replacement Program**

Transmission poles constructed with wishbone crossarms have exhibited failure modes requiring proactive replacement. There is an active system wide program to replace these crossarms. Sections of the Anderson Canyon – Beverly Park line are constructed using wishbone crossarms.

**Gas:** To meet regional natural gas demand, PSE’s delivery system is modified every year to address customer growth, load changes that require system reinforcement, Rights-Of-Way (ROW) improvements, and pipeline integrity issues. PSE must maintain large-diameter transmission pipelines, system components and infrastructure, city gate stations, and smaller utility-owned gas mains. The system responds differently year to year so PSE is constantly adding or modifying infrastructure to meet gas volume and pressures demands.

Ongoing gas system integrity work may include:

- **Pipe Replacement:** PSE will continue pipe investigations to determine the exact location of any DuPont pipe and qualified steel wrapped pipe requiring replacement. Dupont manufactured polyethylene main and service piping, plus qualified steel wrapped intermediate pressure main and service piping may require attention.
- **Sewer Cross Bores:** PSE will conduct investigations of cross bores to determine where gas lines have been cross bored through sewer lines, and then make subsequent repairs.
- **Buried Meters:** There will be ongoing projects to remediate locations where above ground gas meter set piping was inadvertently buried.

PSE encourages the City of Arlington to consider the following documents:

- PSE Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) – 25 year Long-range Plan
- PSE Clean Energy Action Plan (CEAP) – 10 year Strategy Plan
- PSE Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) – 4 year Plan

Further, PSE poses the following questions to the City for consideration:

- How will the 2024 Comprehensive Plan meet requirements for the 2019 Washington Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA)?

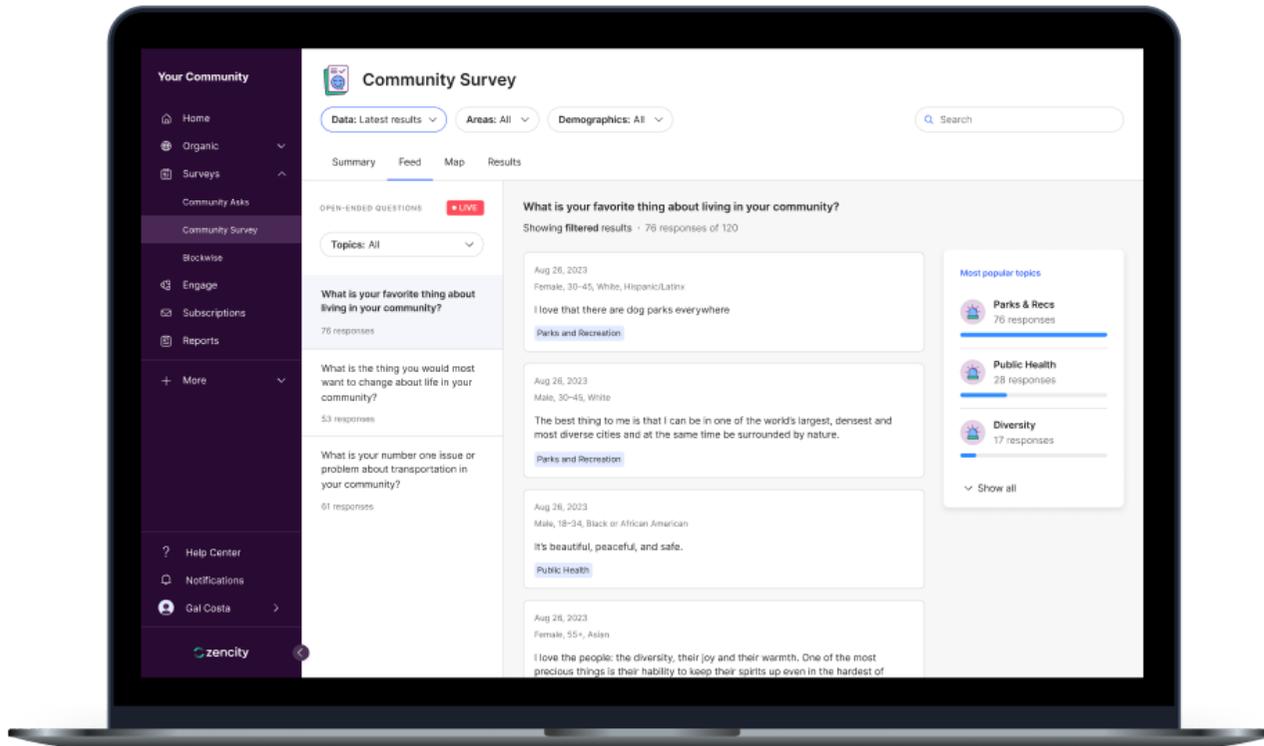
## **Appendix G: Zencity Community Survey Report**



**Arlington, WA**

**Community Survey**

**October 2023 - January 2024**



## The Zencity Community Survey

A recurring survey that never stops running, the Zencity Community Survey measures how satisfied residents are with their community and with local government-provided services and allows officials to compare these scores over time and against a cohort of similar communities.



## Survey Methodology

685 respondents were digitally recruited (e.g. over social media, mobile apps, local websites, and survey panels) between October 2023 - January 2024. Zencity built a representative sample by matching respondent data to the U.S. Census Bureau's race, ethnicity, age, and gender distributions in Arlington, WA. Finally, rake-weighting was applied as a statistical safeguard to balance out any remaining discrepancies in distribution, so no demographic group is overrepresented or underrepresented in the final score.

## Score Calculation

The overall satisfaction score is calculated by averaging how each resident rated quality of life and community characteristics on a numeric scale (1-5), and classifying this average as satisfied, neutral, or not satisfied. The resulting score, then, is the weighted percentage of residents who gave an overall satisfied rating.

# Overall Satisfaction

The overall satisfaction score is calculated from the questions in the two main sections of the survey: general quality of life and satisfaction with different characteristics of life in your community.

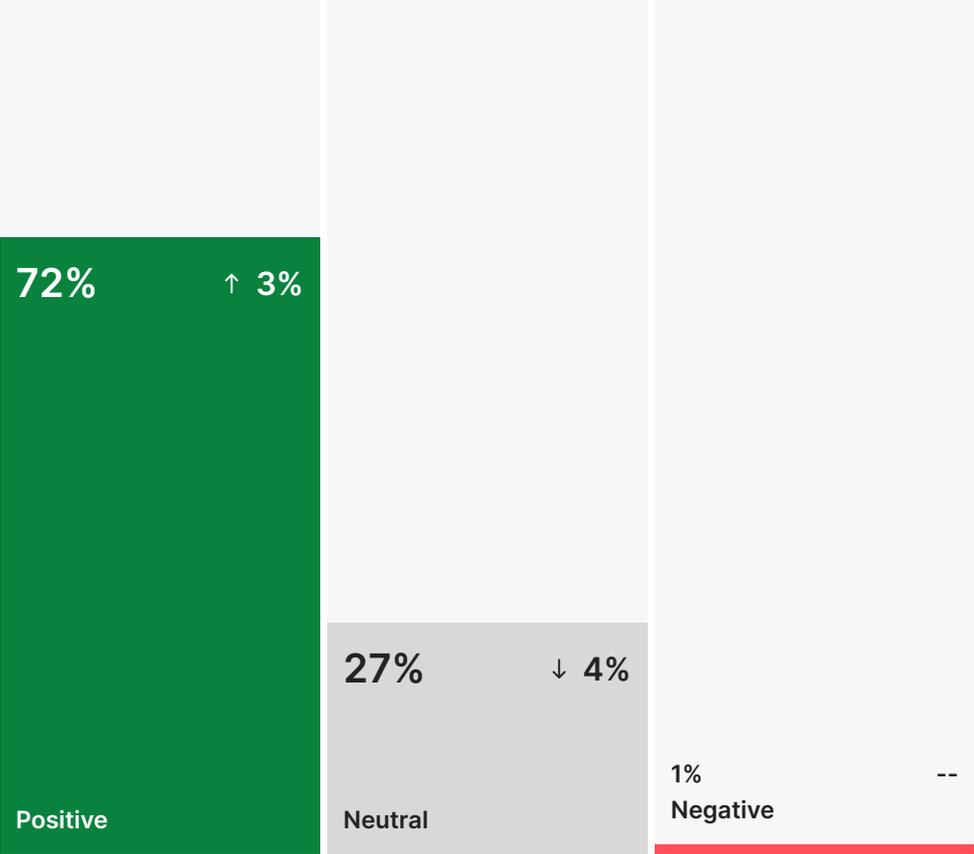
We take the average of these questions, then classify the score as positive (3+), neutral (1.5 to <3), or negative ( $\leq 1.5$ ). The percentages represent the percent of respondents in each category.

If you have a previous cycle, the up (↑) and down (↓) arrows will show the change in percentage points.

# 72%

of 685 surveyed residents are satisfied with life in Arlington

↑ 3% vs. previous cycle



## These are the main measures of satisfaction in your community

The bars on the right show the proportion of responses that are positive (4 or 5), neutral (3), or negative (1 or 2). The percentages show the percent in the positive category.

We take the average of the Community Characteristics, then classify the score as positive (3+), neutral (1.5 to <3), or negative ( $\leq 1.5$ ). The percentages represent the percent of respondents in each category.

If you have a previous cycle, the up ( $\uparrow$ ) and down ( $\downarrow$ ) arrows will show the change in percentage points.

QUESTION	RESIDENT SATISFACTION
<b>How is the overall quality of life in Arlington?</b>	63% • $\downarrow$ 1% 
<b>How likely are you to recommend Arlington as a place to live?</b>	56% • $\uparrow$ 3% 
<b>How likely are you to be living in Arlington 5 years from now?</b>	64% • $\uparrow$ 6% 
<b>Average rating from the Community Characteristics questions</b>	59% • -- 

# Demographic Breakdown

Smaller sample sizes can lead to unreliable estimates. For this reason, we hide scores for groups under 30 respondents.

For groups between 30 and 49 respondents, we highlight the small sample size using an asterisk (\*). Use these scores with caution.

# Zencity Community Survey

Arlington, WA  
October 2023 - January 2024

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DEMOGRAPHIC	GROUP	SCORE	N
<b>Age</b>	18-34	66%	127
<b>Age</b>	35-54	69%	215
<b>Age</b>	55+	80%	314
<b>Education</b>	High school degree or less	75%	169
<b>Education</b>	Some college or college degree	71%	447
<b>Education</b>	Higher education degree	81% *	46
<b>Ethnicity</b>	American Indian or Alaska Native	76% *	31

DEMOGRAPHIC	GROUP	SCORE	N
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Hispanic/Latino	75% *	34
<b>Ethnicity</b>	White	75%	571
<b>Gender</b>	Female	73%	463
<b>Gender</b>	Male	70%	218
<b>Income</b>	\$49,999 or less	64%	131
<b>Income</b>	\$50,000-\$149,999	77%	325
<b>Income</b>	\$150,000 or more	73%	128

# Life in Arlington

The bars show the percent of respondents who reported positively (4 or 5) in response to questions about community characteristics.

We also display the percent of respondents who were neutral (3, shown with a gray dot) or negative (1 or 2, shown with a red dot).

# Zencity Community Survey

Arlington, WA  
October 2023 - January 2024

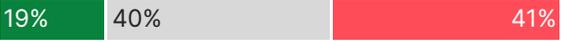
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COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTIC	SATISFACTION SCORE			CHANGE	KEY
Quality of waste and recycling services	62%	27%	11%	↑ 4% ↓ 1%	
Overall cleanliness and maintenance	54%	30%	16%	↑ 5% ↓ 5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ ↑ CHANGE IN POSITIVE SCORE</li> <li>↓ ↑ CHANGE IN NEGATIVE SCORE</li> </ul>
Quality of parks and recreational amenities	54%	29%	17%	↑ 3% ↓ 2%	
Access to quality education	53%	29%	18%	↑ 2% ↑ 3%	<p>The 'Change' column shows the percentage point changes in positive and negative scores from the previous cycle. In addition, questions with the largest changes above 5% are highlighted.</p>
Overall quality of services provided by Arlington	51%	32%	16%	↑ 3% ↑ 1%	
Access to quality health care services	51%	32%	16%	- 0% ↓ 1%	
Sense of community among residents	48%	30%	22%	↓ 3% ↑ 3%	
<b>Acceptance of residents of all backgrounds</b>	47%	22%	31%	↓ 3% ↑ 10%	

# Zencity Community Survey

Arlington, WA  
October 2023 - January 2024

Powered by  

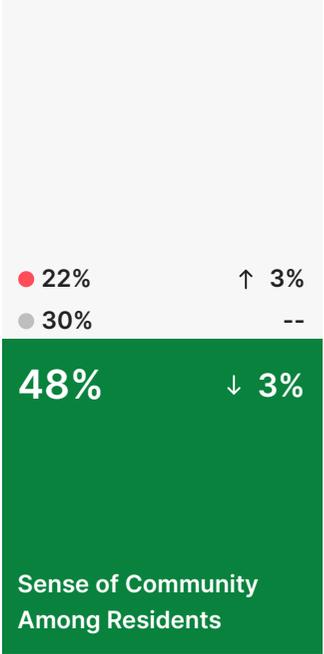

COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTIC	SATISFACTION SCORE	CHANGE	KEY
Sense of overall safety		↓ 1% ↑ 1%	<p><b>KEY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● POSITIVE</li> <li>● NEUTRAL</li> <li>● NEGATIVE</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>↓ ↑ CHANGE IN POSITIVE SCORE</p> <p>↓ ↑ CHANGE IN NEGATIVE SCORE</p> <hr/> <p>The 'Change' column shows the percentage point changes in positive and negative scores from the previous cycle. In addition, questions with the largest changes above 5% are highlighted.</p>
Availability of a variety of art and cultural events		↓ 1% ↓ 2%	
<b>Ability of residents to give input to the Arlington government</b>		↓ 4% ↑ 9%	
Availability of jobs that pay a living wage		↓ 2% ↑ 4%	
<b>Ease of getting around by public transportation</b>		↓ 8% ↑ 17%	
<b>Availability of affordable housing</b>		↓ 6% ↑ 13%	

## The ratings residents gave these parts of life showed a connection to their overall satisfaction

In order to appear here, a characteristic must a) demonstrate a strong correlation with how residents rated their overall satisfaction and b) receive a notably high or low satisfaction score

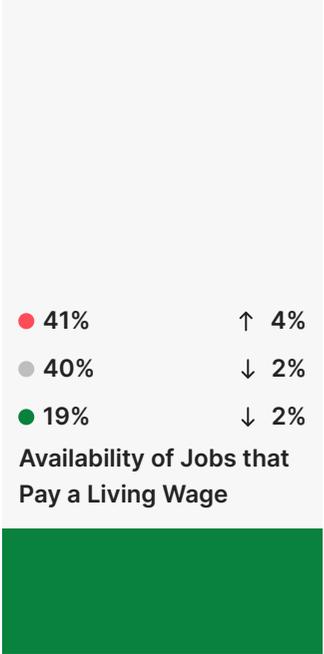
### Maintain

High-scoring characteristics with strong correlation to overall satisfaction



### Focus on

Low-scoring characteristics with strong correlation to overall satisfaction



# Strengths

This community characteristic was selected because it had a high correlation with satisfaction AND received a notably high score.

The percentages shown indicate the percent of respondents who responded positively (4 or 5). The bars indicate the proportion of respondents who were positive, neutral (3), or negative (1 or 2).

For groups between 30 and 49 respondents, we highlight the small sample size using an asterisk (\*). Use these scores with caution.

# 48%

of residents are satisfied with the sense of community among residents

↓ 3% vs. previous cycle



Neutral  
30% · --

Dissatisfied  
22% · ↑ 3%

AGE		
18-34	35% · ↓ 13%	
35-54	48% · --	
55+	59% · --	
RACE/ETHNICITY		
White	52% · ↓ 2%	
Hispanic/Latino *	41% · ↓ 6%	
GENDER		
Male	47% · ↓ 3%	
Female	50% · ↓ 3%	
HOME OWNERSHIP		
Owned	48% · ↓ 6%	
Rented	54% · ↑ 7%	

# In Focus

This community characteristic was selected because it had a high correlation with satisfaction AND received a notably low score.

The percentages shown indicate the percent of respondents who responded positively (4 or 5). The bars indicate the proportion of respondents who were positive, neutral (3), or negative (1 or 2).

For groups between 30 and 49 respondents, we highlight the small sample size using an asterisk (\*). Use these scores with caution.

# 19%

of residents are satisfied with the availability of jobs that pay a living wage

↓ 2% vs. previous cycle



Neutral  
**40%** • ↓ 2%

Dissatisfied  
**41%** • ↑ 4%

### EDUCATION

Some college or college degree	19% • ↓ 1%	
Higher education degree *	31% • ↓ 6%	
High school degree or less	18% • ↑ 1%	

### AGE

18-34	18% • ↓ 4%	
35-54	17% • --	
55+	23% • ↓ 1%	

### GENDER

Male	19% • ↓ 6%	
Female	19% • ↑ 1%	

# Community Benchmark

## How we compare Arlington, WA to other similar communities

Residents from more than 1,000 communities across the United States have participated in Zencity's Community Surveys. We use the combined results from these surveys to produce our benchmark estimates. By averaging across respondents from dozens or hundreds of different communities, it's possible to arrive at a picture of what the results for a "typical" community in that cohort look like. This offers a way to compare your results- particularly strengths and areas for improvement- within a greater context. Each community running a Community Survey with Zencity receives a customized community benchmark cohort that reflects its unique characteristics.

First, the cities, towns, and counties in the United States are allocated into cohorts using variables such as population size, geography, density, and demographics to group similar communities together. Then, each cohort's benchmarks are calculated using the same scoring methodology outlined in the Survey Methodology section. Finally, since recruitment methods can differ slightly according to the needs of each community, cohort benchmarks are adjusted accordingly to match the exact distribution of recruitment methods.

## These are some of the communities represented in your cohort

**Density** is calculated by people per square mile of land area.

**Diversity** is measured by percentage of people who are not in the largest race or ethnicity group.

**Median income** is the median annual dollars of income per household.

COMMUNITY NAME	TOTAL POP	DENSITY	DIVERSITY	MEDIAN INCOME (\$)
Arlington, Washington	19,947	2,033	10.36%	\$77,023
Tumwater, Washington	23,390	1,337	11.24%	\$76,676
Covington, Washington	21,131	3,562	19.65%	\$106,737
Bremerton, Washington	41,258	1,451	18.99%	\$57,963
Puyallup, Washington	41,666	2,948	13.65%	\$76,565
Kelso, Washington	12,237	1,504	8.64%	\$48,005

*The data displayed on this page was sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Census of Population and Housing.*

+ more communities with similar characteristics

## The overall resident satisfaction in Arlington is lower than its cohort.

**72%** Arlington  
**75%** Cohort  
**76%** National

- Arlington
- Cohort
- ▲ National

QUESTION	NATIONAL	COHORT	YOUR SCORE	SATISFACTION COMPARISON
How is the overall quality of life in Arlington?	63%	61%	63%	
How likely are you to recommend Arlington as a place to live?	61%	57%	56%	
How likely are you to be living in Arlington 5 years from now?	64%	67%	64%	

0%    25%    50%    75%    100%

# Community Benchmark

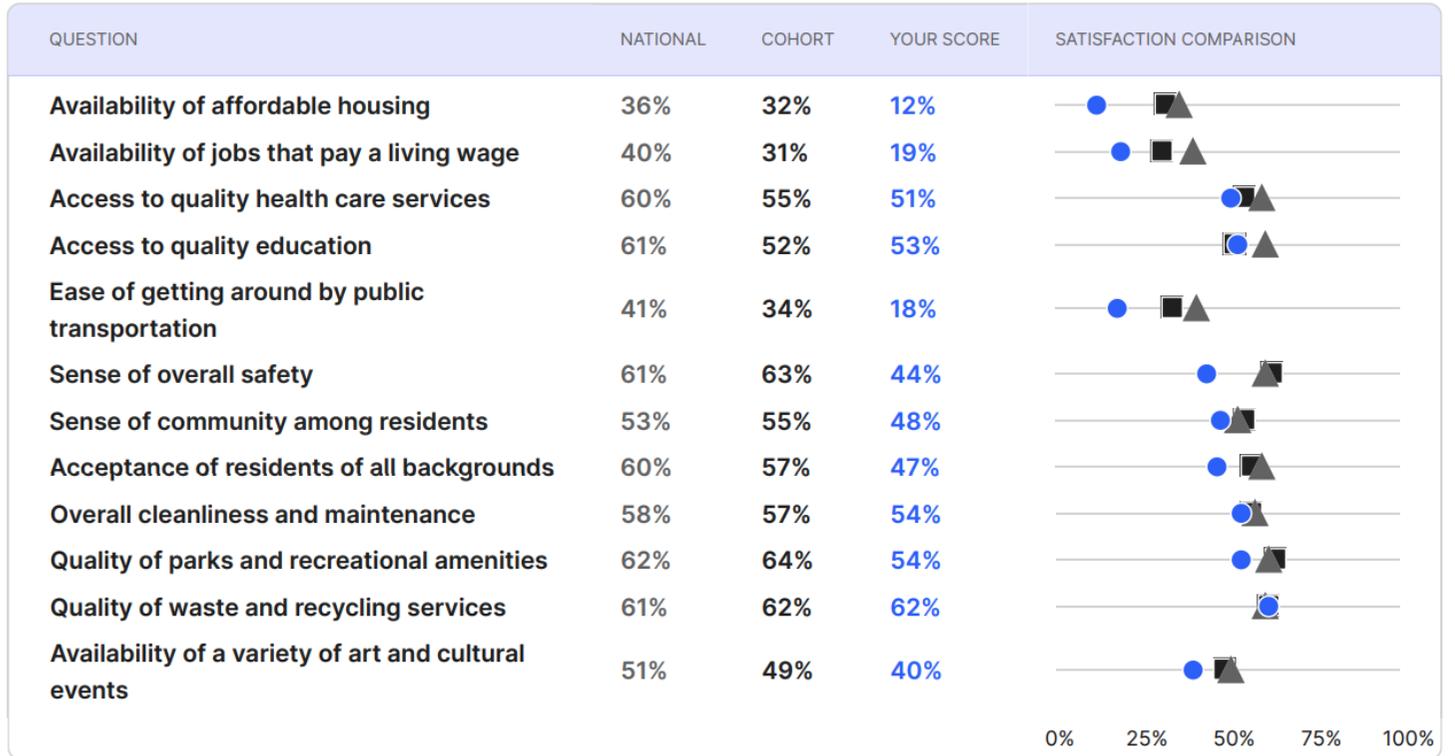
Arlington, WA  
October 2023 - January 2024

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## Satisfaction with Life in Arlington, WA

Breakdown by characteristic

- Arlington
- Cohort
- ▲ National



# Free-Text Responses



## What residents love

Question: What is your favorite thing about living in Arlington?



## What residents want changed

Question: What is the one thing you would change in Arlington?

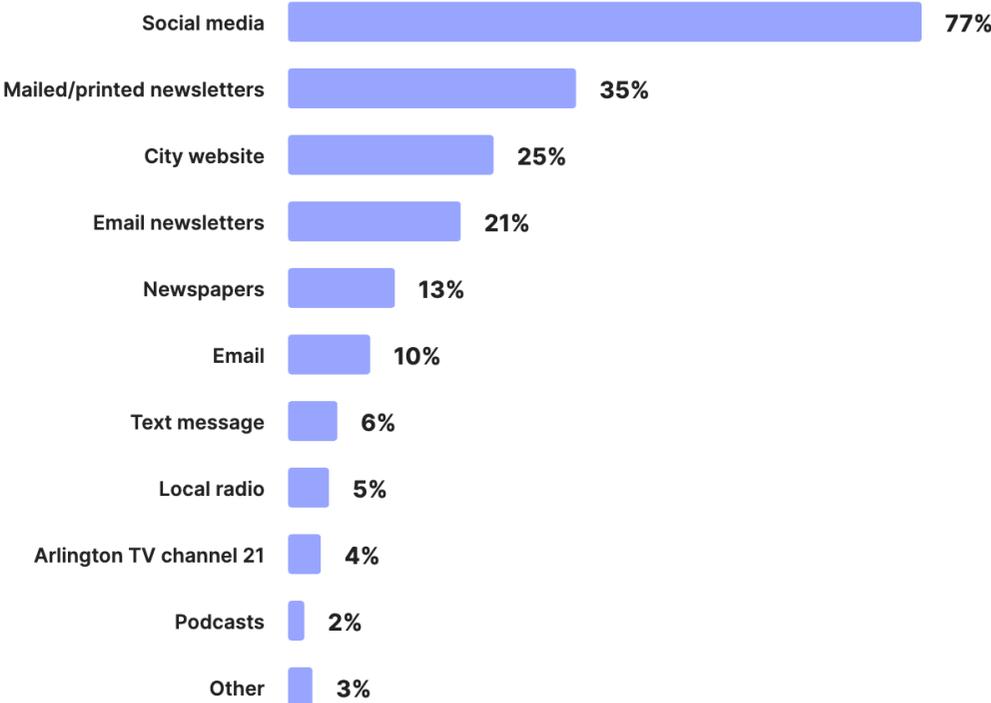


# Rotating Survey Section

The rotating survey section focuses on one issue per survey cycle and can be updated as new areas of interest emerge.

**77%** of respondents like to receive their local Arlington news and information from **social media**.

The question: How do you like to receive local Arlington news and information?



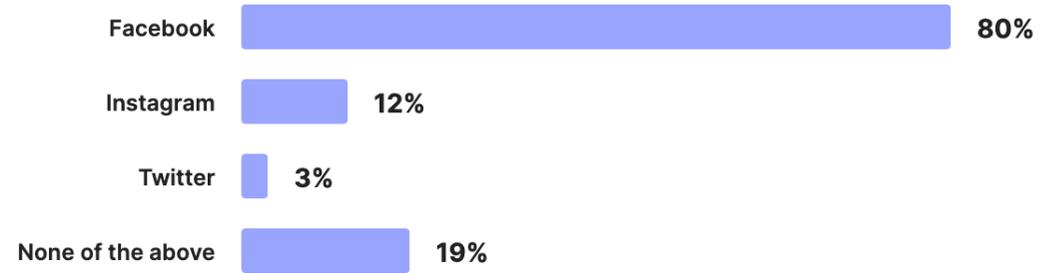
**74%** of respondents would like to see communications about **community happenings and events**.

The question: What types of communications would you most like to see from City of Arlington?



**80%** of respondents currently follow the City of Arlington on **Facebook**.

The question: Which of the following City of Arlington social media accounts do you currently follow?



# The Questionnaire

## Section 1

# General Satisfaction

QUESTIONS	CHOICES
How is the overall quality of life in Arlington? *	1 - 5 Scale (Poor - Excellent)
How likely are you to recommend Arlington as a place to live? *	1 - 5 Scale (Very unlikely - Very likely)
How likely are you to be living in Arlington 5 years from now? *	1 - 5 Scale (Very unlikely - Very likely)
What is your favorite thing about living in Arlington?	Open Ended
What is the thing you would most want to change about life in Arlington?	Open Ended

## Section 2

# Community Characteristics

QUESTIONS
Availability of affordable housing
Availability of jobs that pay a living wage
Access to quality health care services
Access to quality education
Availability of a variety of art and cultural events
Ease of getting around by public transportation
Sense of overall safety
Sense of community among residents

QUESTIONS
Acceptance of residents of all backgrounds
Ability of residents to give input to the Arlington government
Overall cleanliness and maintenance
Quality of parks and recreational amenities
Quality of waste and recycling services
Overall quality of services provided by Arlington

Section 3  
**Rotating  
Survey Section**

QUESTIONS	CHOICES
<b>How do you like to receive local Arlington news and information?</b>	Social media / Podcasts / Mailed/printed newsletters / Email newsletters / Newspapers / City website / Text message / Email / Local radio / Arlington TV channel 21 / Other
<b>What types of communications would you most like to see from City of Arlington?</b>	Community happenings and events / Infrastructure updates / City government news / About City projects / Other
<b>Which of the following City of Arlington social media accounts do you currently follow?</b>	Facebook / Twitter / Instagram / None of the above

## Section 4 Demographics

QUESTIONS	CHOICES
<b>In what year were you born? *</b>	Open Ended
<b>Which of the following do you identify as? *</b>	Male / Female / Prefer to self-describe
<b>Please state the gender you identify as.</b>	Open Ended
<b>Which one of these statements best describes your current situation? *</b>	Full-time employed / Part-time employed / Unemployed / Student / Apprentice/intern / In retirement or early retirement / Permanently disabled / Fulfilling domestic tasks or looking after children/family / Prefer not to say / Other
<b>Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? *</b>	Yes / No / Prefer not to say
<b>What is your race? *</b>	White / Black or African American / American Indian or Alaska Native / Asian / Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Chamorro, or other Pacific Islander / Prefer not to say / Other
<b>Is your home: *</b>	Owned by you or someone in your household, with or without a mortgage or loan? / Rented? / Occupied without payment of rent? / Prefer not to say

## Section 4

### Demographics

QUESTIONS	CHOICES
<b>What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? *</b>	Less than a high school diploma / High school graduate or GED / Some college but no degree / Associate degree in college / Bachelor's degree (For example: BA, AB, BS) / Master's degree (for example: MA, MS, MBA) / Professional School Degree (for example: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD) / Doctorate degree (for example: PhD, EdD) / Prefer not to say
<b>Do any children under the age of 18 live in your household at least half of the time? *</b>	Yes / No / Prefer not to say
<b>Were you born in the United States? *</b>	Yes, born in the United States / No, born outside the United States / Prefer not to say
<b>Which category best represents your household's total income over the past year? *</b>	\$14,999 or less / \$15,000 to \$24,999 / \$25,000 to \$34,999 / \$35,000 to \$49,999 / \$50,000 to \$74,999 / \$75,000 to \$99,999 / \$100,000 to \$149,999 / \$150,000 to \$199,999 / \$200,000 to \$299,999 / \$300,000 or more / Prefer not to say



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