

GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS CLIMATE

Partnership between the County and Business Community: Encourage Arlington County to view the Chamber and the Arlington business community as a true partner, with a disposition toward leading with 'yes'.

Business Regulations: Call on Arlington County to design its regulatory processes to achieve their purposes while minimizing the regulatory and administrative burden they place on businesses in Arlington.

Business Ombudsperson Role: Urge Arlington County to strengthen the Business Ombudsperson position as a true ombuds role, to be a systematic problem solver and empowered change agent within the Arlington County government for businesses and commercial interests.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development: Call on Arlington County Board to continue to prioritize economic development, and support for existing and growing businesses in Arlington.

Office Occupancy: Encourage Arlington County to promote office occupancy as a Policy Goal that would guide County activities, policy making, decision making, and implementation strategies.

BIDs and Partnerships: Recommend that Arlington County continue harnessing relationships with BIDs and partnerships to enhance community economic development.



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

Importance of Housing to Economic Development: Emphasize that growing and maintaining a diverse housing stock is critical for economic development.

Housing Supply: Request that Arlington County remove barriers to the expansion of housing supply. These barriers include, but are not limited to, limitations on density, limitations on height, or restrictive zoning.

Affordable Housing Incentives: Provide developers and property owners with incentives, which are the best way to obtain substantial additional units that are affordable to a broad part of the community and to preserve existing housing stock.



LAND USE, ZONING, AND PLANNING

Site-Plan Development Process: Support a reasonable approach to the site-plan development process, allowing for flexibility for proposed projects which help Arlington County to achieve strategic goals, including the enhancement of the commercial revenue base.

Adaptive Reuse of Commercial Office Space: Encourage Arlington County to implement the proposed Policy encouraging the repositioning of older and obsolete commercial office space.

Site Plan Amendment System: Support efforts to streamline the Site Plan Amendment system and allow for more uses to only require an administrative or minor Site Plan Amendment.



TRANSPORTATION

Transit Services: Encourage Arlington County to work to ensure the strength of transit, and to prioritize enhancements that will provide reliable service for riders.

Expanding Transit Corridors: Encourage the County to address the current and forecasted needs for robust transit services in the Langston Boulevard and Columbia Pike corridors.

Multimodal Transportation: Emphasize that a road network functioning for all users and modes — including transit, cyclists, riders of shared mobility devices, pedestrians, and automobiles — is essential for mobility within Arlington.



BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Public Infrastructure: Support investments to maintain and improve Arlington's public infrastructure to sustain our economic engine.

Wireless and Fiber Deployment: Encourage Arlington County to follow through on its streamlined permitting and fee structure for small wireless facilities and to approve fiber deployments in a timely manner aligned with partners' expectations and national standards.

Eminent Domain Misuse: Strongly condemn the use or threat of eminent domain against Arlington property owners.



ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Community Energy Plan Flexibility: Encourage Arlington County to ensure sufficient flexibility in implementing the Community Energy Plan to make it economically feasible for businesses and residents.

Energy and Environmental Policies: Encourage Arlington County to engage stakeholders when increasing any energy or environmental policy requirements or terms for incentives.



TAXES AND FISCAL POLICY

Balanced Tax Burden: Support a rational balance of the tax burden among businesses, residents, and users of services.

Tax Rate Competitiveness: Request Arlington County to compare its tax rates with those in surrounding jurisdictions to discover specific tax rates and impact fees that put Arlington at a competitive disadvantage.

Service Fees: Oppose Arlington County using fees to balance its budget or to pay for activities that are priorities for the government, but not for the customers being serviced by the departments charging the fees.



EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

K-12 and Post-Secondary Education: Recognize that a strong K-12 school system and strong post-secondary and trades education are key components in providing a base of qualified employees that serve as a focal point for businesses looking at Arlington County.

Work-Based Learning: Support the expansion of work-based learning programs such as apprenticeships, internships, and experiential learning opportunities.

Child Care Zoning Flexibility: Encourage Arlington County to exclude the child care facility space in eligible buildings from the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) and urges the County to allow day care or child care as a permitted use in the S-D Special Development zoning district, alongside schools, hospitals, and senior housing.



HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

Supporting the Hotel and Restaurant Industries: Support Arlington County efforts to promote travel to Arlington and to support the hospitality and restaurant sectors. The hotel and restaurant industries are facing post-pandemic issues such as inflation and labor shortages, but both sectors remain vital to the local economy.

