

City of Alexandria, Virginia

# Torpedo Factory Art Center Next Steps

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# Torpedo Factory Art Center - Next Steps

## City Council Direction

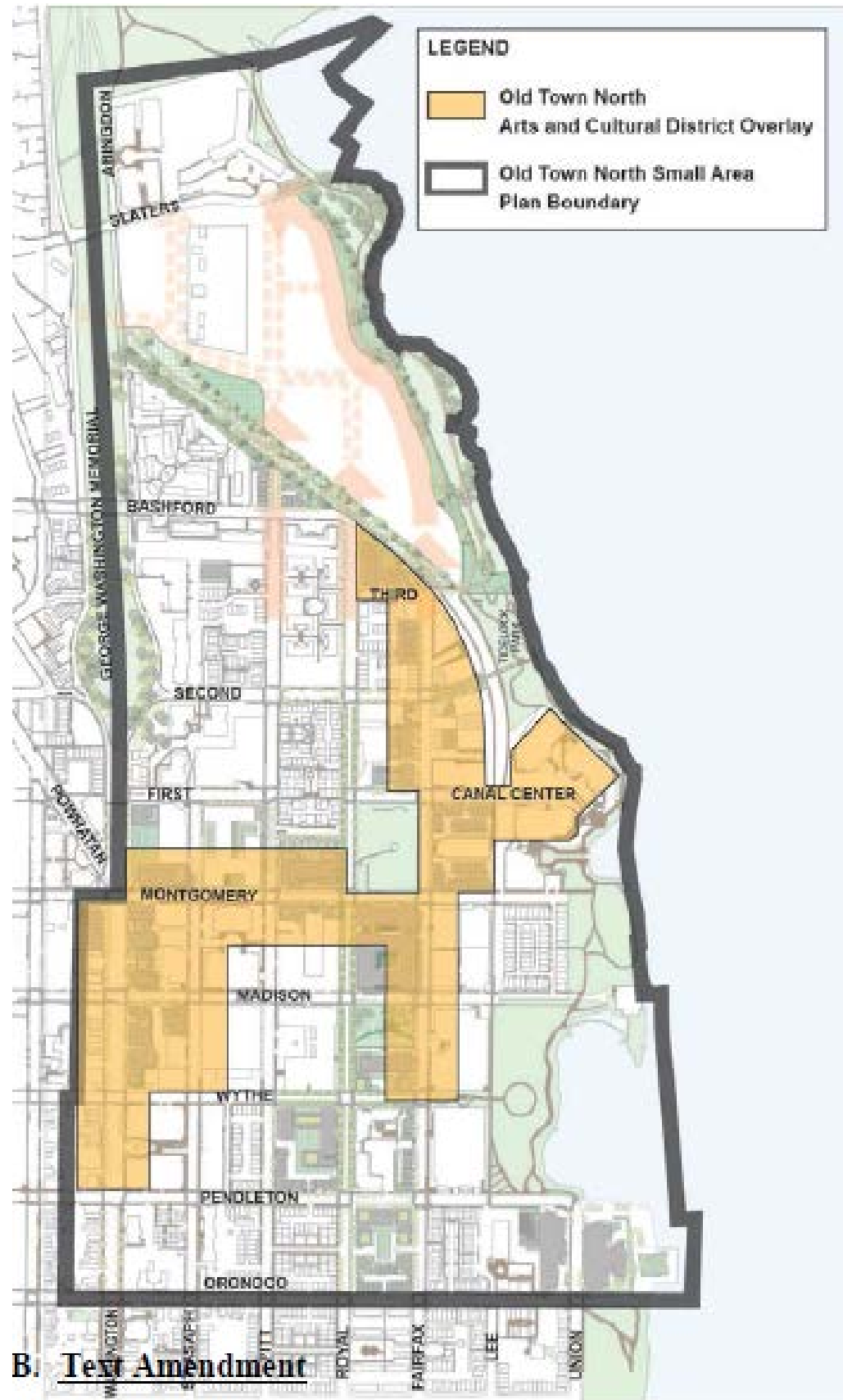
On December 14, 2021, City Council adopted a set of principles to revitalize the Torpedo Factory Art Center.

Council directed staff to proceed with the following objectives:

1. Exploration of creating a separate public entity to consolidate governance of the Art Center with Alexandria's artistic real estate assets in Old Town North.
2. Establishment of a Stakeholder Task Force to develop a coherent mission and vision for the Art Center and guide planning for the future.
3. Implementation of the Action Plan for Vibrancy and Sustainability.



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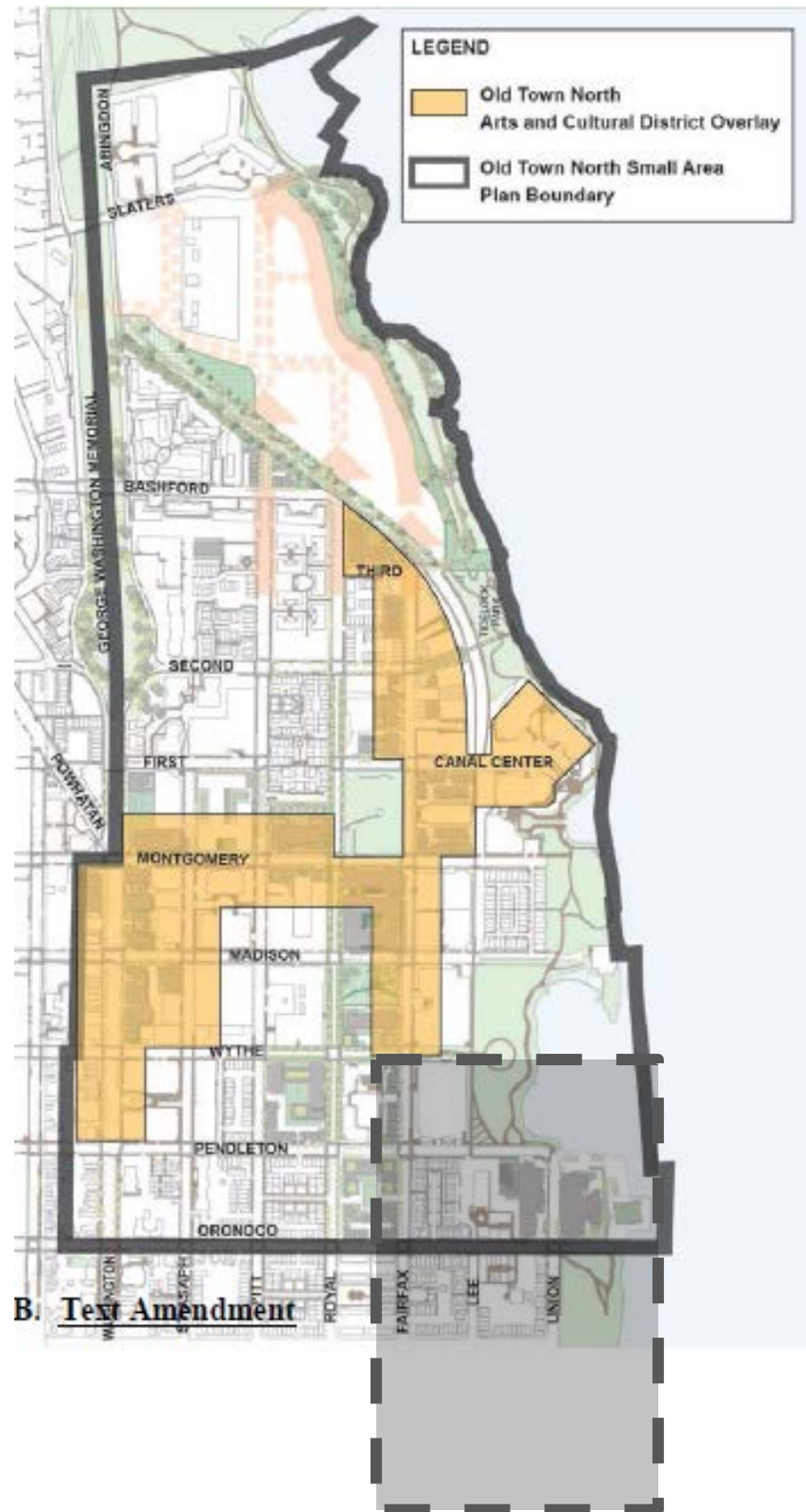


## Old Town North Arts and Cultural District

- Created April 2018, part of implementation of Old Town North Small Area Plan
- Defines incentives for the creation of "arts and cultural anchor" spaces in redevelopment projects
- Before the pandemic, the first projects in this neighborhood were approved and anchors were secured
- The pandemic uncovered structural financial challenges that have prevented arts and cultural anchors from taking occupancy of new spaces
  - Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP) is creating new public real estate entity, with the Industrial Development Authority of the City of Alexandria (IDA), to bring new financial tools to solve the structural problem
  - ARPA funding allocated by City Council to expedite solving this problem



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## Evaluation of Role of Separate Public Entity

- Evaluation led by AEDP and the City Manager's Office.
- Evaluate whether:
  - Torpedo Factory building should be included in assets financially managed by new public real estate entity for Old Town North Arts & Cultural District.
  - Explore the possibility of expanding the role of this separate public entity to include governance of the Torpedo Factory Art Center.
  - Explore the expansion of the Arts & Cultural District to include TFAC



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## Stakeholder Task Force

- Create a task force comprised of individuals from various Art Center stakeholder groups and organizations.
- Charged with outlining the future mission and vision for the Art Center in alignment with the adopted principles.
- Staff, consultants, and a third-party facilitator, will work with the Task Force throughout the process to develop their recommendation for the City Manager.
- This process will begin with the appointment of the task force in Spring of 2022.



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## Action Plan Implementation

Continue the implementation of the Core Strategic Directions as directed by City Council and outlined in the Action Plan for Vibrancy and Sustainability

### Completed:

- Move of Printmakers Studio completed in Fall of 2021.

### In Progress

- Re-jurying announcement to all current resident artists, February 2022.
- Converting of third-floor studio space to a publicly rentable space (expected to be completed in Spring, 2022).
- Updating the Operating Rules and Procedures will begin in March 2022 with a focus on facility and studio operating hours.



City of Alexandria, Virginia

**Thank You**  
**Questions?**

