

The Alexandria Age Friendly Plan

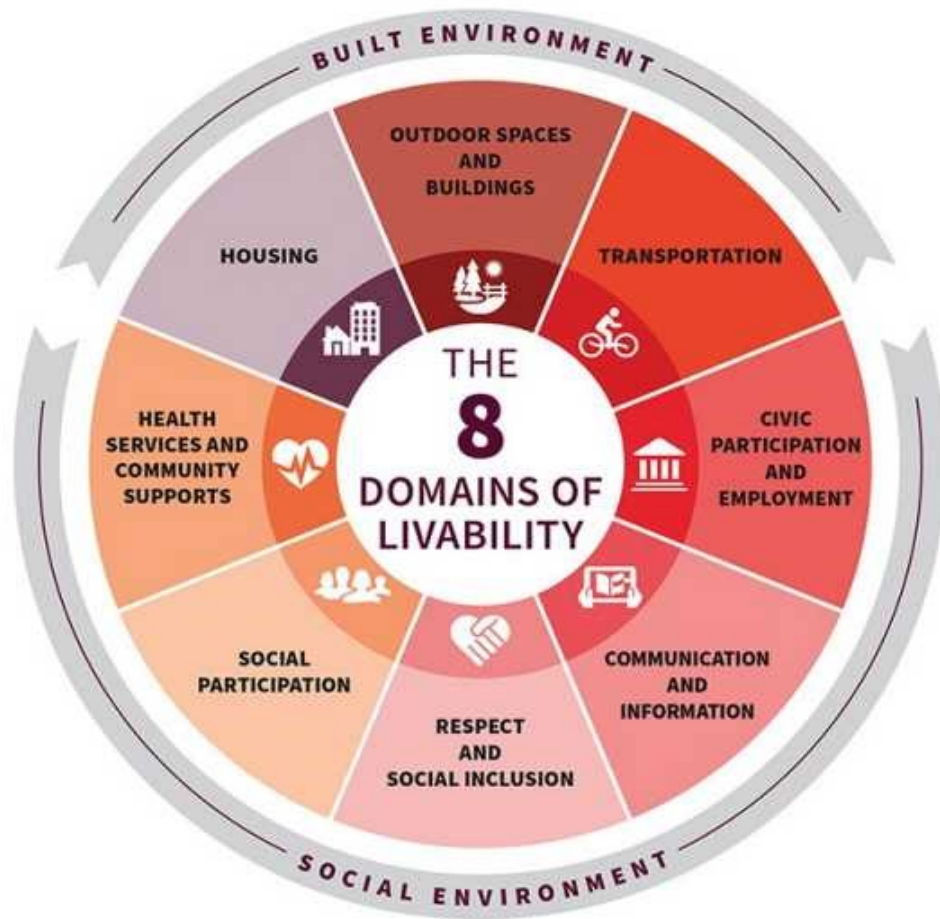
Alexandria's Strategic Plan on Aging



The History of Age Friendly Communities

AARP's Adoption of Age Friendly Communities

Recognizing the demographic shifts underway, and the opportunity they present to create more age-friendly communities, in 2012 AARP created a US-based affiliate of WHO's Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC). The GNAFCC invites cities around the world to use a foundation of eight “domains” to assess community needs and then develop a course of action over a five-year process to create a more age-friendly future for their communities.



THE EIGHT DOMAINS OF LIVABILITY

Alexandria's Adoption of AFP

- 2012 – City Council adopts Strategic Plan for Aging – 2013-2017
- 2017-2019 - Community engagement on new Age Friendly Plan – 500-Person phone survey
- November 2017 – AARP Virginia and Just Partners with the Commission on Aging hosted one-day workshop
- 2019 – City Council approved unanimously the current Age Friendly Plan (See Photo on lower right)
- 2024 – City Council approves AFP [Final Report](#)



Highlights of Current AFP

- Senior Services of Alexandria recruited over 120 Community Ambassadors
- COA participated in recommendations for developer affordable housing contribution policy
- COA completed 13 walkability audits with AARP
- Advocated in City Council for full-time WDC 55+ coordinator; free DASH rides; increase in Rent Relief for older adults; by-right ordinance for ADUs; expansion of Real Estate Tax Relief program
- Secured additional funding for outreach to underserved communities and for DAAS programs
- [Expanded outreach on LGBTQ+ issues](#)
- Developed concept of Mixed Income Affordable Assisted Living Facility (MIAALF)

Process for Revised AFP

- January 17, 2025 Kick Off at Lee Center
- February- April - Group meetings at Ladrey, Claridge Towers, and Charles Houston Community Center
- February - [Age Friendly Community Survey launched](#)
- July 2 - Town Hall meeting on AFP and Area Agency on Aging Plan under the Older Americans Act
- Revised Plan – Fall 2025
- Fall 2025 - City Council Approval
- Fall 2025, Early 2026 - AARP Submission

2025-2028 3 Proposed Housing Goals

1. Mixed Income Affordable Assisted Living
2. Eviction Prevention
3. Aging in Place Options

Proposed Housing Goals – Goal 1

- **Goal 1: Advocate for mixed income affordable assisted living facility (MIAALF) as approved in the COA Concept Plan for such a facility.**
- **Objective 1.1: Build support for mixed income affordable assisted living facility.**
- **Objective 1.2: Advocate for amending Section 7-700 to address the unique aspects of independent and assisted living developments**

MIAALF – Part of Master Housing Plan

- According to [Housing Needs Analysis](#) projections through 2040, the age cohort anticipated to continue to experience the highest rate of growth in the City of Alexandria, Virginia are adults aged 65+.
- Since 2006, a significant percentage of Virginia case managers reported problems finding available assisted living for auxiliary grant recipients. [JLARC Low Income Assisted Living Residents 2012](#)
- While the auxiliary grant program supports assisted living care, the 2025 payment (\$2,103 monthly statewide, \$2,418 monthly in Northern Virginia) is far below the actual cost of care.

Proposed Housing Goals – Goal II

Goal II: Enhance Housing affordability for older Alexandrians

- **Objective 2.1: Advocate for Increased Funding for City Rent Relief Fund for Older Adults**
- **Objective 2.2: Promote Eviction Protections**
- **Objective 2.3: Promote the use of Accessory Dwelling Units**

Proposed Housing Goals – Goal III

- **Goal III: Prevent the unnecessary or unwanted institutionalization of older adults who could and would prefer to remain in their homes or in the community for as long as possible.**
- **Objective 3.1: Increase Alexandrians' awareness and access to programs and services supportive of older adults and adults with disabilities as well as their caregivers.**
- **Objective 3.2: Advocate for financially viable budget proposals that would increase and expand funding for affordable programs providing personal assistance with activities of daily living.**
- **Objective 3.3: Sponsor/conduct public education programs, in collaboration with the Outreach Committee and community partners, on home modifications and home sharing.**

Other Proposed Age Friendly Goals

- Support and expand support for Workforce Center 50+ programs.
- Increase Access to Food Services
- Advocate for additional resources to fill any gaps created by potential cuts in the federal low-income Home Energy Assistance Program ([LIHEAP](#)) and Virginia Energy Assistance ([EAP](#))
- Preserve Medicaid Eligibility for Older Adults
- Promote Mental Wellness and Dementia-Friendly Supports
- Those who walk, drive, and ride a bicycle in Alexandria can do so safely.

NVAN – COA 2026 Legislative Platform

- **October 3rd Northern Virginia Aging Network Legislative Breakfast**
- Eviction Prevention (Delegate Price/Senator Rouse)
- Negotiated Affordable Assisted Living Set-Asides (Delegate Reaser)
- Free Certified Nurse Assistant Training (Delegate Willett/Senator Favola)
- LTCOP Funding - \$2 million
- Medicaid Preservation
- Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Funding - \$10 million
- Housing Study
- Increase Minimum SNAP benefit from \$23 to \$50

QUESTIONS?

Thanks!

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