Reunión Comunitaria en Del Ray
Sábado, 1 de Febrero de 2020
10:00 am a 12:00 pm
Mount Vernon Recreation Center
2701 Commonwealth Ave

Open House in Del Ray
Saturday, February 1, 2020
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Community Planning Process to Update Plans for Arlandria and Del Ray

Why Update the Plans Now?

The Mt. Vernon Avenue Business Plan and Action Plan for Arlandria were adopted in 2005 and 2003, respectively. There have been many changes in the neighborhoods and surrounding area since then including implementation of plans recommendations:
- Four Mile Run Conservatory
- Del Ray and Arlandria farmers markets
- Four Mile Run Restoration and Park expansion
- Additional park improvements and new parks
- Route 1 Transitway
- Many new and growing community organizations
- Neighborhood/community and regional festivals and events
- Pedestrian and bike improvements
- Restaurants and retail growth

In recent years, community members expressed concerns that can be addressed with a plan update, including:
- Preservation and expansion of housing affordability
- Small business retention
- Business district competitiveness
- Pedestrian and bike safety and accessibility
- Preservation of unique neighborhood and business district character
- Historic preservation

Change to some degree will occur in the neighborhoods from the introduction of the Potomac Yard Metro Station, Amazons, and Virginia Tech Campus. This update is an opportunity to address existing concerns and get ahead of plan for potential changes while also enhancing the potential of the neighborhood as a partner in the planning process.

What We've Been Up To

Street Outreach
- City Staff walked the streets of Arlandria and Del Ray to engage community members and:
  - Invite them to a community conversation
  - Invite them to complete the pre-planning questionnaire

Community Conversations
- Arlandria: November 21, 2019, Core Kelly Elementary School in Spanish with English translation.
- Del Ray: December 12, 2019, Mount Vernon Community School in English with Spanish translation available.

See anything missing?
POST YOUR THOUGHTS!
HOUSING AFFORDABILITY
IN THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VA

WHAT IS AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Having an affordable home ensures a household pays no more than approximately 30% of its income (before taxes) on rent or mortgage payments and related housing costs (such as utilities and insurance).
- Affordable housing helps Alexandria families, workers, and seniors meet important needs such as healthcare, childcare, build savings, and invest in education.
- Affordable housing is also critically important to the City’s economic vitality and competitiveness. Businesses look for a diverse and stable local workforce when deciding to locate, retain, and expand their operations in the City.

WHY IS THERE DEMAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

1. Fuelled by a strong economy, the supply of housing across the region struggles to keep pace with housing demand. This pushes up rents and home prices.
2. Jobs in lower-wage service sectors, such as leisure and hospitality, healthcare, and retail, are expanding. This increases demand for more affordable priced housing.
3. Housing needs continue to evolve as our population changes and ages.

WHAT’S PRICED OUT

- $91,840 annual salary needed to rent an average 2-bedroom in the City in 2019
- $74,040 annual salary needed to rent an average 1-bedroom in the City in 2019
- $63,274 average teacher’s salary in the City in 2019
- $62,691 average nurse’s salary in the City in 2019
- $66,180 average median income in the City in 2019
- $51,643 average median income in the City in 2019
- $50,840 average median income in the City in 2019
- $42,473 average median income in the City in 2019
- $43,728 average median income in the City in 2019
- $39,322 average median income in the City in 2019
- $33,638 average median income in the City in 2019
- $33,200 average median income in the City in 2019
- $32,650 average median income in the City in 2019
- $33,180 average median income in the City in 2019
- $32,420 average median income in the City in 2019
- $32,200 average median income in the City in 2019
- $28,288 average median income in the City in 2019
- $23,712 average median income in the City in 2019
- $9,260 average median income in the City in 2019

LEARN MORE ABOUT AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT: ALEXANDRIAVA.GOV/HOUSING

5% of commitments
3% of regional non-profit units

Mobility - Bus Transit

Existing Midday Network

Existing Peak Network

What You Said
Challenges:

"Better covered bus stops: All the bus stops in Chinatown have people using them, yet not all have a shelter. Shelter would keep waiting and is proper rain to cover than umbrella, coat and sun."

"We need more protection for people when they wait for the bus. People get wet when it rains, and it's also hot when it snows!"

"Bus stops are not well marked. It's confusing to find the right bus."

"The new bus route will make it harder to walk to the bus."

"Additional local bus routes would be helpful for some.
The path we have now, the City doesn't clean up the side walks."

"The bus schedule could also be better, as there are times when there's a lack of service and then 30- minute intervals when nothing comes along."

What You Love:

"Love the BRT on route 1, use it often."

"Walk stop from Park Square to next block, studied here."

"Bus system is great."

"Convenient to ride transit - bus, metro, etc."

"All transit options are a big positive."

"Ferry able to walk or bus is everything I need."

What You Said
Challenges:

"South end of RR. Various needs streetcar and easy with chairs, need protected bike lanes, underground express..."

"My side walk near share bikes is often because it's not safe on the streets."

"I worry about pedestrian safety, especially since so many children walk to school. I worry that not every cross ever make stop and children don't always pay attention to traffic."

"People are very difficult to navigate on a bike or on foot."

What You Love:

"The ability of neighborhood kids to ride bikes on our residential streets."

"Across to many different T & Bтаны: Shriners and Crystal City bike lane, Del Ray and Alexandria by bike. Beautiful paths and river trails."

"Cox Memorial bike lane."

"The park with bike trail and green spaces. In particular, connection to regional bike trails. And it's nice that there is a green space there that is child friendly."

"The Del Ray streets and atmosphere. Old Town and the waterfront. The bike paths that run from E. Broadcloth Road to Crystal City."

Mobility - Existing Bicycle Network

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What You Said

Challenges:

- "Non-diverse retail"
- "Variety of business on NE Vernon Ave"
- "Large retail buildings"
- "Scattered and rundown retail sites"
- "Empty storefronts"
- "Many housing and parking for both businesses and residents"
- "Very little walk" - "Continuing to maintain a variety of businesses while new stores continue to rise."

What You Love:

- "Small town feel, moderate retail"
- "Community activities and local retail"
- "The walkability and the interwoven retail and restaurant"
- "Walkable access to amenities (grocery stores, restaurants, dry cleaners, etc.)"