

# Child Care Zoning Ordinance Amendments (Family Day Care Homes, S-D)

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Zoning Committee (ZOCO) of the Planning  
Commission

October 15, 2024

# Overview

Child care is a key component of a thriving, diverse community.

In 2019, the County conducted a Child Care Initiative to eliminate barriers to child care and address:

- Accessibility:** to increase access to child care that is affordable at all income levels
- Availability:** to increase the availability and utilization of child care slots
- Quality:** to enhance the safety and quality of all child care.

To continue this work expanding access to child care, staff is proposing two amendments.



CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

Accepted Action Plan 07/24/2018



# Family Day Care Homes

- Family day care homes with up to 9 children that comply with applicable zoning standards are permitted by-right.
- Those with 10-12 children currently require a use permit.
- Enabling by-right approval of family day care homes with 10-12 children would facilitate expanded access to child care.
- Since there are zoning standards and other permitting processes/reviews already in place, requiring use permits is unnecessary and burdensome.

# Family Day Care Homes

Jurisdiction	Agency	Required Review Process
<b>Arlington County</b>	Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (CPHD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection Services Division (ISD)</li> <li>• CPHD Planning Division</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building Permit</li> <li>• Code Consultation</li> <li>• Certificate of Occupancy</li> <li>• Use Permit</li> </ul>
	Department of Human Services (DHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing Consultation Request Form</li> <li>• Pre-Licensing Workshop</li> <li>• County Child Care License</li> </ul>
	Office of the Commissioner of Revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business License</li> </ul>
	Department of Environmental Services (DES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Permit</li> </ul>
	Virginia Department of Education	State Child Care License (for family day care homes with 5-12 children or 4 or more children under the age of 2)

# Family Day Care Homes

- There has been 5-year observation period since the Zoning Ordinance was amended to allow family day care homes with 10-12 children by use permit.
- Staff recommends allowing for by-right zoning approval of family day care homes. County Codes would remain in place to regulate these operations.
- Should the amendment to remove the use permit requirement be approved, existing use permits for family day care home providers approved for 10-12 children would be discontinued, thus allowing the operations to continue as a by-right use.

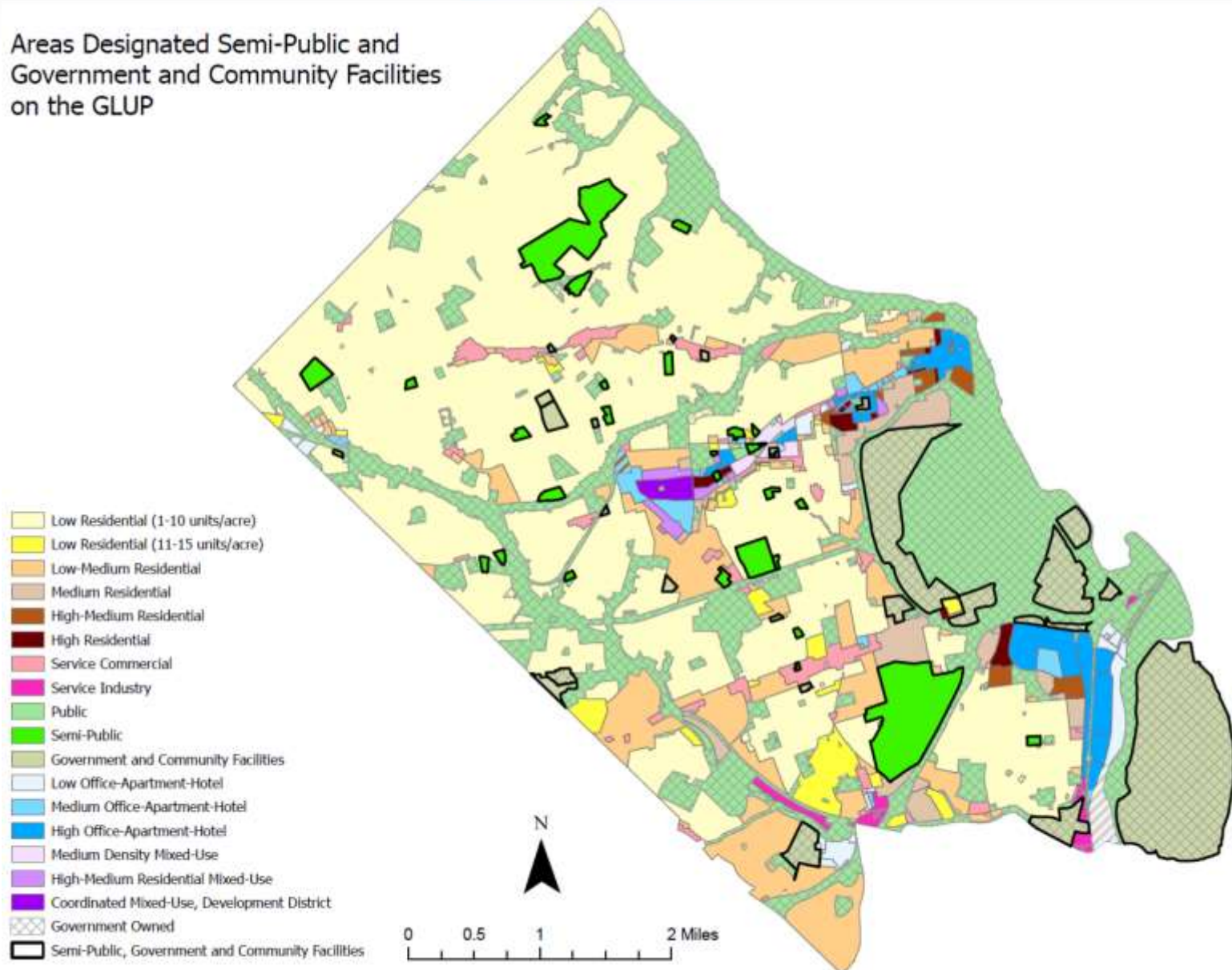
# S-D

- The Zoning Ordinance currently permits child care centers and other day care uses by use permit in all zoning districts except S-D.
- This discrepancy was identified during the 2019 Child Care Initiative for additional examination.
- Staff recommends amending the S-D district so that every zoning district permits child care centers and other day care uses.



# “Semi-Public” and “Govt. & Comm. Facilities”

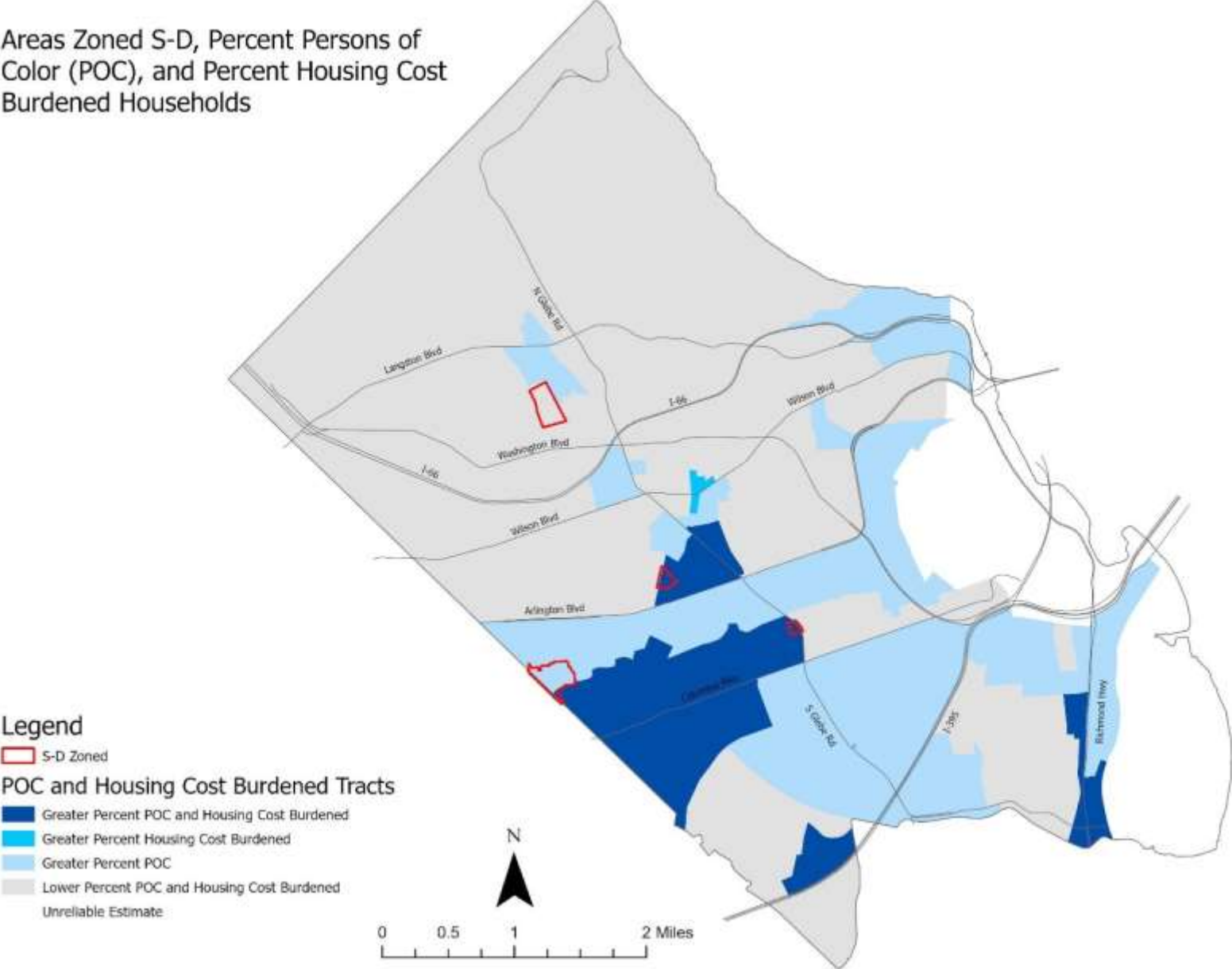
Areas Designated Semi-Public and Government and Community Facilities on the GLUP





# Equity Considerations

Areas Zoned S-D, Percent Persons of Color (POC), and Percent Housing Cost Burdened Households



# Form Based Code

- Through this work, staff identified a difference in the precise wording on child care-related terms in the FBC versus the rest of the Zoning Ordinance.
- Staff recommends changes to the FBC text related to child care for consistency throughout the Zoning Ordinance.
- Ex: FBC Current: “All day care uses.”  
FBC Proposed: “Child care centers” and “All other day care uses.”

# Recap

- These amendments build on the work done and/or identified as part of the 2019 Child Care Initiative.
- They will facilitate the provision of child care throughout the County.



# Questions or Comments?

## ZOCO Discussion

# Conclusion

The End