

Arlington Historic Preservation Master Plan Update

Feedback Form #1 Results: November 2020

In November 2020, Arlington's Historic Preservation Program offered a first opportunity for the community to provide input on a series of questions about County history, historic resources, iconography, and engagement methods. About 40 citizens responded, with most of those residing and owning property in Arlington and many also working there. Five respondents were longtime or childhood residents of Arlington but no longer live here. The majority of respondents (58%) indicated they have lived in Arlington for 21 years or more, and the second largest group, at 20%, have lived here for 11 to 20 years.

The most popular opinions are listed below (in order of popularity).

Question: What defines the history and heritage of Arlington?

- General history (Arlington House, Freedman's Village, Robert E. Lee, etc.) (10)
- Rapid development and/or associated loss (6)
- Mainstream white history (5)
- Proximity to and relationship with Washington, DC (4)
- Strong community (3)
- Military history (3)

Question: What *should* define the history and heritage of Arlington?

- Equity, inclusion, and diversity: general acknowledgement of diversity, aspirational
- Traditional history/stories Arlington already represents: Confederate history, Virginia history, proximity to Washington, DC, federal/military presence
- People and community: neighborhoods, social change, specific people and how they have contributed

Question: Which places and stories in Arlington matter but are overlooked?

- Stories of residents and organizations (including service organizations)
- Development/architectural/planning history
- Black history (including African American neighborhoods)
- Immigrants
- Schools
- Native Americans
- Archaeology
- Transportation
- Civil War era
- Neighborhoods

Question: What symbols, images, and iconography do you believe best represent Arlington today?

- Current iconography of logo; more mentioned the formal version with the dogwoods
- Federal buildings/holdings located in Arlington
- Non-federal buildings in Arlington, such as housing or public buildings
- Map elements or imaging
- Natural images, such as the Potomac River, trees, or parks

Question: What are your favorite ways to learn about Arlington's history?

- Historic markers/interpretive panels
- In-person programs/events
- Websites/email/social media
- Books and documentaries
- Formal learning/courses/lectures
- Apps/interactive technology

Question: Are you familiar with any of the following Historic Preservation tools available in the County now?

- Historic easements
 - Heard of 32 (80%)
 - Not heard of 7
 - Used 1
- Local Historic Districts
 - Heard of 30 (75%)
 - Not heard of 4
 - Used 6
- Federal or State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits
 - Heard of 28 (70%)
 - Not heard of 11
 - Used 1
- Form Based Code/Sector Plans
 - Heard of 15
 - Not heard of 25 (62.5%)

Question: How would you prefer to engage and provide feedback throughout the upcoming process of updating the *Historic Preservation Master Plan*?

- Online tools (feedback forms) 31 (77.5%)
- Emails/emailed comments 25 (62.5%)
- Virtual (webinars, streamed events) 22 (55%)