

# Historic Preservation Master Plan Update

## Summary of Technical Memo #2

Prepared by Birch Wood Planning, LLC, Technical Memorandum 2 describes the work done to date on the Historic Preservation Master Plan's (HPMP) three main goals since its adoption in 2006. Understanding both the accomplishments and why some recommendations did not move forward is vital to setting the stage for success in the HPMP update.

### Goal 1: Enhance Understanding of Arlington's History and Historic Character

#### Projects that support this goal include:

- ✓ Educating the public about Arlington's history.
- ✓ Installing more than 45 historic markers.
- ✓ Sponsoring popular history publications.
- ✓ Expanding the County's website.
- ✓ Including HP policy in planning processes.
- ✓ Recording more than 19,000 historic buildings within the state-run cultural resources database.

#### Plan recommendations not yet achieved include:

- Formation of an interpretive framework.
- Development of long-term research goals.
- Collection and preservation of historical records.
- Development of a County-sponsored Heritage Center.
- Creation of a historic house plaque program.
- Establishment of comprehensive educational programming.
- Inclusion of HP in all elements of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Full-service assistance for historic rehabilitation tax credits.

### Goal 2: Better Integrate Preservation Values into County Planning, Land Use, and Other Policies and Practices

#### Projects that support this goal include:

- ✓ County Board adoption of Historic Resources Inventory.
- ✓ Updates to the HP sections of the Zoning Ordinance.
- ✓ Inclusion of HP in sector, area, and revitalization plans.
- ✓ Documentation of archaeological sites and projects.
- ✓ Creation of GIS archaeological data.
- ✓ Promotion of archaeological monitoring activities.
- ✓ Successful project partnerships with:
  - Public Art,
  - Parks and Recreation, and
  - Environmental Services.

#### Plan recommendations not yet achieved include:

- Cross-training County staff on historic preservation.
- Briefing County commissions or Board regularly.
- Promoting historic places and stories for cultural tourism.
- Creating effective tools to address development pressures.
- Pursuing diversified, sustainable funding for programming.
- Managing archaeological sites and artifacts by developing:
  - an archaeological plan,
  - formal policy, or
  - collections strategy.

### Goal 3: Protect Historic Neighborhoods, Corridors, Commercial Centers, and Civic Buildings

#### Projects that support this goal include:

- ✓ Creation of Transfer of Development Rights (TDR).
- ✓ Creation of a neighborhood architectural style guide.
- ✓ Creation of various local historic district guidelines.
- ✓ Preservation policy for some County-owned properties.
- ✓ Interpretation of some archaeological resources.
- ✓ Designation of local historic districts via individual property owners.

#### Areas for improvement or that have yet to be executed include:

- Regular use of TDR as a preservation tool.
- Absence of an archaeological plan and archaeological staff.
- Wider use of local historic district designation.
- Universal inclusion of HP in policies for County-owned properties and in area, sector, and neighborhood plans.

