



TOGETHER WE CAN CREATE A MORE OLDER ADULT- FRIENDLY COMMUNITY!

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging invite you to share your ideas on how we can create a more livable community for older residents.

of the proposals generated during meetings with county leaders and staff members.

Now it's your turn!

Inside you will see a vision for a more livable community with three focus areas: **appropriate housing and transportation; easy access to services; and healthy lifestyles & community engagement.**

We hope you will share your ideas, particularly those that might help you, your friends, families and neighbors to continue to thrive in the Fairfax County area.

You'll note that there are several proposals beneath each focus area. These are just a few

Once we complete our community forums, we will develop the **Fairfax 50+ Action Plan** and share it with you.



Board of Supervisors

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Please consider sharing any additional comments you may have on Creating a More Older-Adult Friendly Community by contacting DFSCommunity@fairfaxcounty.gov or calling 703-324-5411, TTY 711.

For information on services, recreational activities and engagement opportunities for older adults, call our **Aging, Disability and Caregiver Resource Line** at 703-324-7948, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

At this web page you can also subscribe to our e-newsletters, **Fairfax 50+ E-news** and **Caregiver Corner Online**, as well as our monthly **Golden Gazette** newspaper.



Fairfax County Department of
Family Services

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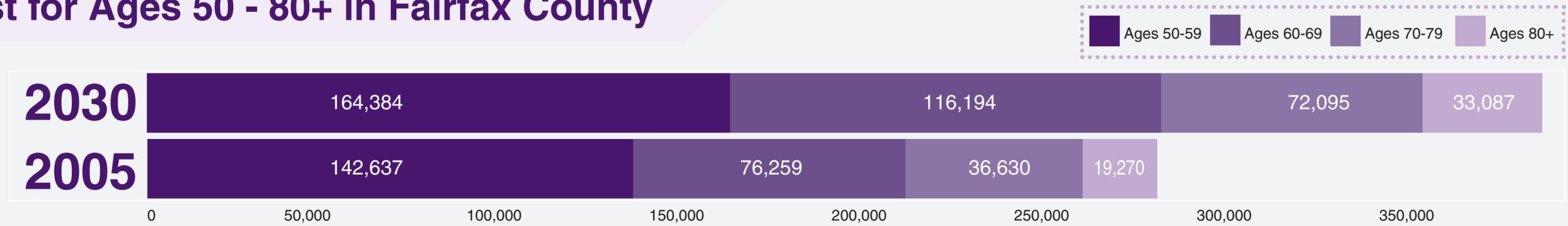
A Call to Action: Fairfax 50+ Community Forums



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
50+ Committee



Forecast for Ages 50 - 80+ in Fairfax County



The Vision: Older Adults will have . . .

Housing and Transportation Options

Community Strengths

- The county has increased affordable housing and transportation options.
- The county's growth strategy promotes pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods with easy access to shopping, recreation and transportation.

Community Challenges

- Most housing units lack universal design features and require retrofitting as residents age.
- Transportation alternatives are limited.
- Most neighborhoods lack sidewalks that access shopping and services.

Possible Actions

- Partner with realtors and builders to promote universal design.
- Work with county agencies to promote livable community planning.
- Partner with nonprofit groups and businesses to provide home modifications for people with disabilities.
- Annually report on efforts to coordinate and expand transportation options for older adults.
- Support the development of a Shared Housing program.
- Review zoning ordinance and building codes for opportunities to remove barriers and reduce cost of construction of additional housing units for older adults.

Easy Access to Services

Community Strengths

- The county plans across agencies to deliver an array of services for older adults and family caregivers and uses multiple channels to promote service awareness.

Community Challenges

- People wait to seek service information until there is a crisis.
- Older adults and caregivers want information about services provided by community organizations.
- With fewer younger workers, businesses must retain older workers and employees who are family caregivers.

Possible Actions

- Continue to support community village networks and the Neighbors Helping Neighbors concept.
- Encourage involvement of local businesses to
 - volunteer in the community;
 - develop initiatives to enhance services;
 - support their own caregiving employees, and;
 - develop flexible work policies to retain older workers.
- Promote the use of technology for health, safety and communication.

Healthy Lifestyles and Community Engagement Opportunities

Community Strengths

- The county has made significant progress in promoting older adult safety, healthy life style choices and opportunities for participation in community activities.

Community Challenges

- The number of health and mental health geriatric specialists is inadequate.
- There is a shortage of nurses and caregivers for older adults.
- Older adults need more opportunities to participate in social, recreational, educational and civic activities.

Possible Actions

- Encourage a nonprofit to establish an interactive virtual community for older adults and caregivers.
- Encourage creative opportunities, lifelong learning, and multigenerational engagement activities.
- Expand nutrition, fitness, healthy living, and fall prevention classes and activities.
- Promote educational activities about elder abuse, domestic violence, and crime prevention.
- Develop a media campaign to promote a Lifelong Community.