

The Task Force approved the Guiding Principles on February 24, 2020, with one principle, 6C, remaining under discussion.

To begin a community dialogue on Lorton’s vision for the future, an online community survey and a community meeting were utilized to collect ideas and opinions from Lorton area residents and visitors. These ideas were summarized into themes describing the desirable features of Lorton today and in the future. The Visioning Guiding Principles were drafted as a final product to be shared with and solicit further feedback from the community.

Theme	Principle
Placemaking	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define a community identity that is developed by and supported by residents within the Lorton area.                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Create a unifying framework for Lorton through connective elements and common design features</li> <li>b. Celebrate the many distinct neighborhoods of Lorton and promote a sense of community and place</li> <li>c. Promote publicly accessible community common spaces and places where people can gather and meet their neighbors</li> <li>d. Develop a community where multiple generations can live, work, and play and that attracts new residents at all stages of life</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Housing and Neighborhood Stability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Maintain the stability of established neighborhoods and housing affordability for current and future residents.                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Diversify and create a healthy balance of housing types to accommodate a variety of ages, incomes, family sizes, and living arrangements</li> <li>b. Encourage development and redevelopment that is compatible with existing residential uses and provides effective transitions between land uses</li> <li>c. Limit industrial expansion into existing neighborhoods</li> <li>d. Mitigate the potential negative impacts of development on existing neighborhoods and community facilities</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Economic Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Create a vibrant and diverse network of businesses and attractions that build community identity and create interest and services for area residents and visitors.                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strengthen existing commercial areas and other destinations by building upon such community assets, such as the Amtrak Autotrain and the Workhouse Arts Center, to meet the needs of the local community while capitalizing on potential visitors to support local businesses</li> <li>b. Encourage economic development opportunities, and necessary infrastructure and services, that improve the quality of life for residents</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Health and Recreation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Ensure the health and leisure needs of people living, working, and visiting Lorton are met.                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Celebrate and promote more active and outdoor recreation opportunities, as well as access to parkland</li> <li>b. Expand access to public facilities such as libraries and community centers</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Accessibility and  
Connectivity

c. Expand access to high quality healthy foods, farmers markets, etc.

5. Enhance community connections to natural resources and other destinations throughout Lorton through a variety of safe, efficient, and interconnected transportation modes.
  - a. Encourage multimodal transportation usage by providing a well-designed and publicly accessible network of complete streets that integrate transit, pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular connections within Lorton and to adjacent neighborhoods.
  - b. Substantially expand existing trails and connect to the interregional trail system
  - c. Prioritize infrastructure for “active transportation” including bicycles and pedestrians at all ages and abilities
  - d. Improve safety conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists

Heritage  
Resources and  
Environment

6. Act as responsible stewards of heritage, cultural, and natural resources.
  - a. Understand and study impacts of potential development
  - b. Promote conservation and preservation efforts
  - c. Preserve Approved Sewer Service Area boundary
  - d. Embrace environmental and heritage resources such as the natural areas, parks, the Workhouse Arts Center, museums, and Suffragist history to amplify community pride
  - e. Develop with the optimization of renewable energy investment; community gardens and greenhouses; and other environmentally focused development activities

Equity and  
Access

7. Foster an environment of collective support and empowerment for people of all backgrounds and ages.
  - a. Provide access to employment, technology, health services, education, recreation, childcare, etc.
  - b. Ensure that services are available for everyone in the community
  - c. Study potential development impacts as they may affect different populations, including those who would benefit and those who could be harmed