# HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE PLANNING PROCESS

Community input is critical to creating plans that define our community's future. Planning documents reflect the community's planning vision for the county and the defined areas throughout. To ensure those goals accurately reflect community sentiment, residents are encouraged to engage in the planning process in Fairfax County.

### **WAYS TO ENGAGE**

Any time there is a proposed change to the Comprehensive Plan, residents and community members have the chance to participate. Depending on the size and scope of the project, County staff will employ a variety of outreach methods including:

# **Community Meetings, Workshops, and Charettes**

Traditional community meetings, like open houses and town halls, are used to provide information, hear from the community, and answer questions. Workshops are similar but more structured. Charettes are typically design-focused.

# **Public Hearings**

Public Hearings are a formal meeting opportunity to provide feedback to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

# Surveys and Questionnaires

Surveys and questionnaires are often used to gather quantitative and measurable data and feedback regarding projects.

#### Online Feedback

You can always connect with the Planning Division in the Department of Planning and Development by visiting FairfaxCounty.gov/planning-development/planning and clicking the "Email Us" button.

#### **Task Forces**

A task force is a group of individuals who live or work in Fairfax County and are usually identified by a Board of Supervisors member. Task force members volunteer their time to represent their community and provide recommendations on a particular project.

#### Stakeholder Outreach

A stakeholder can refer to a person, group, or organization that has an interest in a project or initiative. A stakeholder could be a resident, property owner, non-profit group, community organization, or many others.

## **STAY INFORMED**

The Planning Division of the Department of Planning and Development reaches out to residents in multiple ways.

# FairfaxCounty.gov/planning-development/planning

Visit the Department of Planning and Development website to find up-to-date information about the Comprehensive Plan and any proposed Plan amendments.

#### Subscribe

Subscribe to one of our email newsletters on our website or follow us on our Fairfax County Land Use Planning & Zoning Facebook page.