



Arlington Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees

Date: September 26, 2024
Time: 7:00 – 8:00 PM
Location: Conducted via remote participation

To register for this Zoom meeting, please visit:
<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/34057/6222>

Agenda

1. Action Plan Implementation

Goal: Create More Affordable Housing

- a. Update on Acquisition, Creation, and Conversion Program Update and Funding Recommendation(s)

Goal: Build the Financial Strength of the Trust

- a. Treasurer's Report
- b. Upcoming community engagement opportunities hosted virtually:
Oct. 17- Strategies for Creating More Affordable Housing and
Nov. 7- Exploring an Affordable Housing Overlay for Arlington
- c. Preliminary FY26 CPA applications are due October 11, 2024

2. Town Day

- a. Update and Motion to approve \$90 purchase of a tent

3. Approval of minutes from September 5th meeting

4. Public Comments (time permitting)

Upcoming Trust Meetings:

Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Dec.19

Attachments

- Standard Attachments
 - Action Plan Summary Diagram
 - Group Agreements
 - Links to Resources and Reference Materials

Join Arlington's Affordable Housing Conversation

Join the Arlington Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Department of Planning and Community Development for two virtual forums this fall.



Thursday, October 17, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. **Strategies for Creating More Affordable Housing**

In this forum, we'll discuss how much affordable housing is available in Arlington, how much more is needed, the challenges we must address to create more, and strategies for doing so. This will include a discussion of the Trust Fund's 5-Year Action Plan, early feedback from its Acquisition, Creation & Conversion Program, and ideas from other Massachusetts communities.



Thursday, November 7, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. **Exploring an Affordable Housing Overlay for Arlington**

Arlington has a scarcity of undeveloped land and substantial zoning barriers to creating affordable housing developments that most commonly attract state and federal affordable housing funds. We'll hear from a citizen working group developing a proposal to ease these barriers with an affordable housing zoning overlay, and discuss this option with affordable housing experts, local leaders and residents.

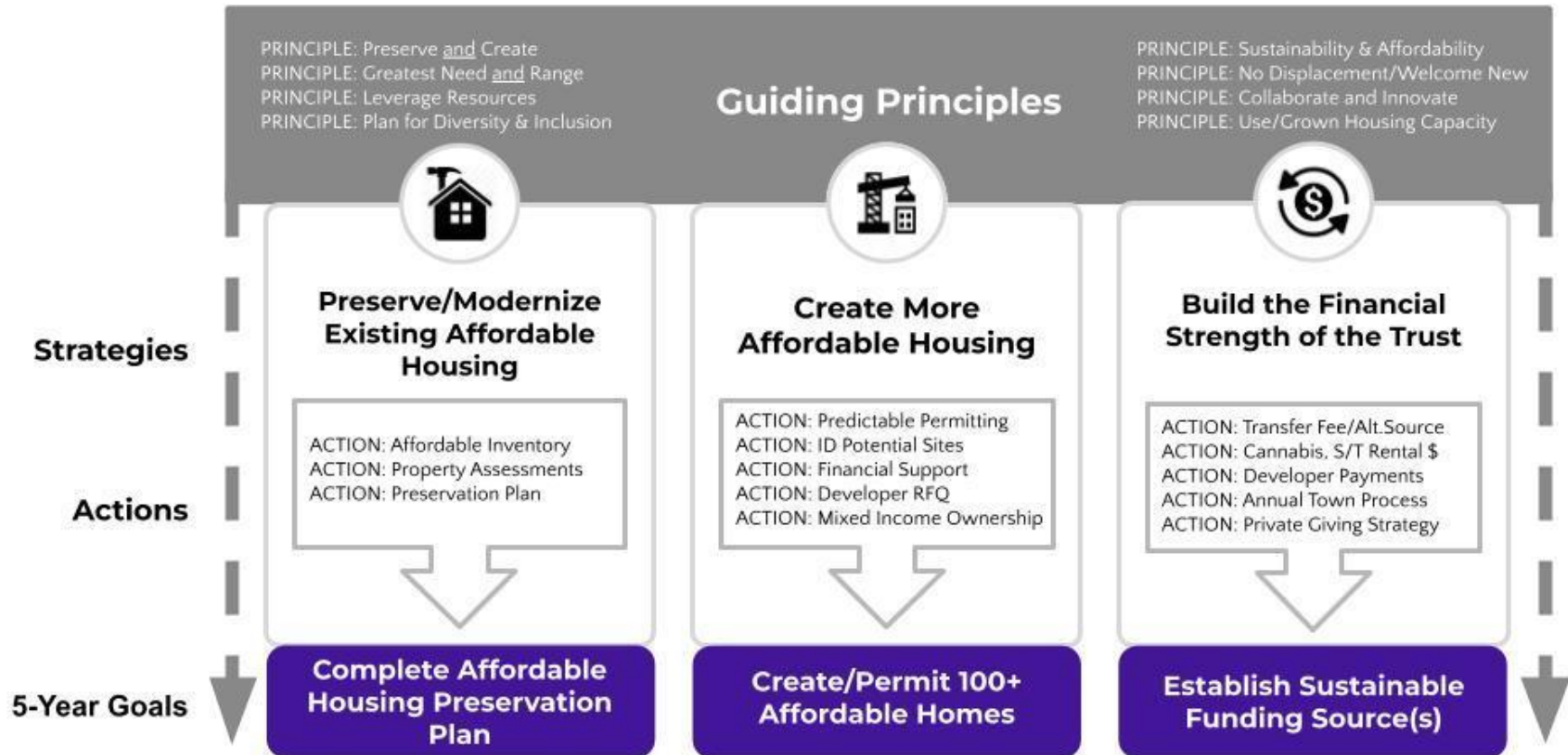
Scan to Register



ARLINGTON
AFFORDABLE
HOUSING TRUST



5-Year Action Plan (2022-2025) Overview



Affordable Housing Trust Group Agreements

- **Be fully present**

Limit distractions, show up as fully as possible to the extent that you are able. Take care of yourself as needed.

- **Use “I” statements (speak based on your own experience)**

Speak from your own experience, where you’re coming from, rather than projecting your experience onto others.

Frame your comments about how you are thinking and feeling, and avoid making assumptions about others and how they are feeling.

- **Take space, make space**

If you’ve been speaking a lot, consider listening to others. If you often talk a lot, make sure to share information geared toward the goal of the meeting. If you have not spoken up much, consider speaking up/contributing. Every member’s input is valuable.

- **Share the lesson, not the story (although if there’s time, it’s helpful to hear the story)**

Focus on sharing outcomes and lessons learned. If there is time, sharing the story can be helpful for context and visualize the issue/concern.

- **One microphone**

Talking over others can be very disruptive to the flow of the conversation. If someone is talking, it is important to recognize that they have the proverbial mic and wait for them to finish before you respond or join in.

- **Joint inquiry over advocacy**

Approach our work together as a process of inquiry together and sharing our perspectives. There is a time and a place for advocacy, but we should prioritize exploration of opportunities instead of a competing over ideas.

- **Use simple, accessible language, avoid jargon or acronyms**

Please use simple, accessible language and avoid jargons and undefined acronyms. If you use an acronym, make sure to define it for the group.

- **Listen for understanding**

Focus on listening and appreciating what others are trying to say, not only what you are hearing.

- **Offer what you can, don’t be afraid to ask for what you need**

You are responsible for your actions and for ideas you share. You are also responsible for taking care of yourself in the meeting.

- **Lean into the edges**

Some of our conversations might put us at the end of our comfort zone and trying on new ideas. Some of these conversations might be uncomfortable, and each of us might experience that during a meeting. If you’re experiencing discomfort, that’s okay. It is often a sign of growth.

- **Seek to build consensus, but accept and expect lack of closure**

We are not always going to solve problems or come to final conclusions in a single meeting. There may be ideas, concepts, conversations that we may want to go deeper with. We hope to be able to do that in future meetings, but it’s important to acknowledge that it may not always happen in the span of a single meeting.

- **Think outside the box**

Sometimes we are used to thinking of certain structures or frameworks for our work. Dare to think outside the structures we are used to and unlock your creative energy.

- **Dare to dream**

Be bold with your ideas and dare to dream big.

- **Everyone contributes energy to this space**

We each have our own experience and mood that we contribute to our meeting space. We welcome different energy and strongly feel it will get us closer to our desired outcome.

- **Mutual respect, always**

We respect each other as individuals, and for the perspective that we each bring to our discussions.

Adopted 11/18/2021

Links to Resources and Reference Materials

Arlington AHTF Governing Documents and Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund Reference Materials

- [Arlington Affordable Housing Trust Five Year Action Plan 2022-2027](#)
- [Title II, Article 14 of the Town Bylaw](#) (Affordable Housing Trust Fund & Board of Trustees, ART. 8, STM 11/18/2020)
- [Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund Guidebook v.3](#), published by Massachusetts Housing Partnership
- [Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund Operations Manual](#), published by Massachusetts Housing Partnership
- [Arlington Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board Webpageww](#)

Other Relevant Reference Materials

- [Massachusetts Open Meeting Law Guide and Educational Materials](#), published by Attorney General Maura Healey (includes statute, regulations and guidance)
- [Summary of the Conflict of Interest Law for Municipal Employees](#), State Ethics Commission
- [July 28 Virtual Public Forum and General Listening Session](#), presentation slides