

ARLINGTON UPDATE



OCTOBER 2024

Message from the Mayor

We are now moving into a new biennial budget for 2025-2026. The past two year budget was based on a period of growth in the City, with unprecedented sales tax and construction related revenues. This has allowed the City to make significant investments, with a focus on public safety and infrastructure improvements.

We were able to complete parking lot improvements, intersection improvements, and are building a new park in Smokey Point. Many of the projects are just getting started and will carry into 2025 construction season. This next budget is more conservative, taking into account the decrease in construction sales tax.

The City of Arlington is excelling in our services, and I am proud to report some of our recent achievements. In September, the State Auditor's Office gave the City a "clean" audit report and complimented our finance staff for the excellent documentation that was provided.

The Arlington Police Department has earned State Accreditation, affirming its commitment to excellence in every facet of its operations.

The Arlington Wastewater Treatment Plant has been recognized for its exceptional performance in wastewater treatment.

It is a pleasure working alongside our team of employees and City Councilmembers. As always, I look forward to hearing from the community. Thank you for keeping up to date by reading this newsletter.

As Hometown Holiday season grows near, we are planning for another wonderful festival in our town. Many thanks to those that volunteer and plan for this magical season in Arlington. I hope you will meet me in Arlington to celebrate the holidays!

Mayor Don Vanney



Comprehensive Plan Update Wraps Up

The City of Arlington is wrapping up the draft 2024 – 2044 Comprehensive Plan Update. Documents relating to the update will be posted and available to the public on October 4, 2024 on the City website at: www.arlingtonwa.gov/compplan2024.

Key Dates:

- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Comprehensive Plan Documents will be available for public review and comments from October 4, 2024 to November 4, 2024.
- DEIS Public Meeting on October 22, 2024 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Community and Economic Development Office at 18204 59th Avenue NE, Arlington.

The full draft of the Comprehensive Plan will be viewed and discussed at the following public meetings:

- Planning Commission Workshop Meeting: November 5, 2024
- Planning Commission Meeting and Public Hearing: November 19, 2024
- City Council Workshop Meeting: November 25, 2024
- City Council Meeting and Public Hearing: December 2, 2024

www.arlingtonwa.gov/compplan2024



Sign up for weekly e-newsletters

Communications staff creates a weekly newsletter that is distributed by email to subscribers. The Arlington Update E-newsletter has information about City projects, programs, events and activities. This is a great way to stay informed on what's happening in the community! To sign up, email info@arlingtonwa.gov.

Follow us on Facebook, X (Twitter) and Instagram!
www.facebook.com/arlingtonwa
<https://x.com/ArlingtonWA>
www.instagram.com/arlingtonwacity

Transportation Improvement Project Updates

State Route 531 Update

The SR-531 Widening Project was funded in 2015 under the [Connecting Washington Program](#). Work officially started on this project in 2019. The City has worked with WSDOT on the design and permitting for the SR-531 Widening Project since the project start. The good news is that this project is ready for phase 1 construction in 2025.

Several significant issues have impacted the cost of this project, including Covid-19, increased costs for Arlington Airport runway light relocation, increased costs for BNSF railroad improvements at 67th Avenue, increased real estate costs for right-of-way, and overall increased construction costs. The current funding now only covers the costs for widening SR-531 from 43rd Avenue to 59th Avenue, not all the way to 67th Avenue as originally planned.

The first phase of construction for this widening project will be the 43rd Avenue to 51st Avenue segment. It is scheduled to bid in March 2025. The second phase of construction will be the segment from 51st Avenue to 59th Avenue. It is scheduled to bid in August 2025. SR-531 road widening will extend approximately 200-feet east of the 59th Avenue roundabout where it will narrow down to two-lane state highway with a signal control at 67th Avenue.

Arlington city elected officials are waiting to find out how much extra funding is needed to complete the 59th Avenue to 67th Avenue segment; once they know this amount, they will work with the state legislature to ask for the needed funding to complete this important Arlington roadway. "The City has been working with the State to widen SR-531 from 43rd Avenue to 67th Avenue since 1998. We're not going to stop until it completed," said Public Works Director Jim Kelly.

211th Place Corridor Improvements: Improvements to 211th Place corridor from SR 530 to 67th Avenue NE. *This project has been contracted and construction will begin this fall.*

204th Street NE / 74th Avenue Intersection Project: *This project is being constructed and estimated to be complete early fall.*

74th Avenue Trail Project: Construction of a 12-foot wide trail along 74th Avenue NE; from Arlington Valley Road Trail north to 204th Street. *This project is going to bid this fall.*

Division / Broadway Rehabilitation: Upgrades to the current roundabouts on Division Street and flashing beacons at Broadway/Gilman and Centennial Trail crossings. *This project is going to bid this fall.*

188th Street / Smokey Point Blvd. Roundabout: *This project is awaiting WSDOT approval. Projected to go to bid by end of 2024.*

67th Avenue Sewer Main Replacement: The City will be upsizing the current 12-inch sewer main with a 24-inch main along 67th Avenue from Woodlands Way to 200th Place. *This project is delayed one year, possibly going to bid in the spring of 2025.*

Airport Installs Solar Power Project

The Arlington Municipal Airport has contracted with Veregy, who provides engineering and construction services focused on energy efficiency and smart technology, for a solar panel project totaling 87.5 kW of DC power. The panels are installed on new car canopies and on the roof of the Airport Office facility. This state-of-the-art solar installation is designed to significantly offset the airport's annual electric consumption, providing savings against rising utility costs by generating nearly 145,000 kWh of renewable energy annually.

"We're very excited to bring this project to fruition with Veregy," said Marty Wray, Director of Arlington Airport. "The savings over time will be extraordinary for the airport. This project highlights Arlington's commitment to sustainability and innovation, ensuring we remain at the forefront of the airport energy efficiency movement."

The energy savings and third-party funding for the project are expected to generate substantial financial benefits, with Veregy projecting the return on this investment to be realized in just over 11 years. "Veregy is excited to partner with the Arlington Airport to provide the largest solar array for a general aviation airport in the State of Washington," said Corey Harper, Veregy Account Executive. The airport received a WSDOT Aviation Grant in the amount of \$250,000 and will also receive 30% or more project cost savings from the Federal Government through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) energy investment tax credits.

The implementation of this solar array signifies a major milestone for Arlington Municipal Airport, solidifying its role as a leader in the aviation community for sustainability and energy reduction. This initiative, which began with former Airport Director David Ryan, ensures that the airport can look forward to considerable energy savings and a reduced carbon footprint for many years to come, while benefiting both the environment and the community it serves.



Community Connects with Public Safety at National Night Out

Community members, law enforcement, city representatives, public safety agencies, and non-profits gathered together on the first Tuesday in August for National Night Out at Legion Park downtown. The City's annual event aims to foster police-community partnerships, introduce public safety organizations, and foster camaraderie.



Fall Events Planned for Community

Wag-o-ween

Saturday, October 12

11am to 2pm at Legion Park, 114 N Olympic Avenue

The NOAH Center for animals presents this fun event with dog trick or treating, games, food, music and pet costume contest.

www.thenoahcenter.org/wagoween

Arlington October Fest

Saturday, October 19

Noon to 9pm at Legion Park, 114 N Olympic Avenue

5K Sasquatch Run at 11am, starting at Legion Park.

This new event will feature a beer garden, food, kids games, music, and a pretzel eating contest!

www.stillyvalleychamber.com/activities

www.facebook.com/StillyValleyChamber/events

Hometown Halloween

Saturday, October 26, 10am to 1pm, Downtown Arlington

www.arlingtonwa.gov/Halloween

- Arlington Farmers Market 10am to 2pm at Legion Park
- Pumpkin Carving: registration 8am to 11am, drop off at the gazebo in Legion Park, judging at noon
- Trick or Treating on Olympic Avenue, noon to 1pm with participating merchants
- Pumpkin Roll at 11am to noon, on 3rd Street Hill, with Youth Dynamics. Pumpkins are available.
- Innovate Performing Arts performance 11:30am, Legion Park Stage
- Arlington School of Dance performance at 12:30pm, Legion Park Stage
- Halloween Costume Judging 1pm at Legion Park Stage with Arlington Arts Council.

Arlington Haunted House

October 11 through November 2, 6pm to 10pm, closed Sun. and Mon. Located at 5906 Cemetery Road, Arlington.

"It came from Arlington" haunted house is sponsored by Arlington Vision Therapy.

www.arlingtonhauntedhouse.com

City's Public Art Projects

Here are a few of the public art projects we have installed this year. For information, visit www.arlingtonwa.gov/art



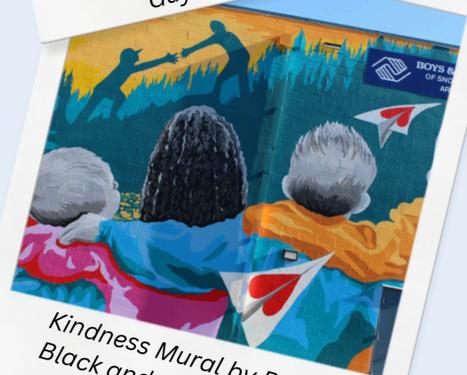
Hopscotch art at the Airport Boulevard Trail by Lori Angdahl



Art Wraps
Butterflies by Jennifer Geiger
Flowers by Kari Parks



Updates to the Skatepark Art
By Josh Robinson & Guy Simmons



Kindness Mural
Black and Community at
Boys & Girls Club

2023 Water Quality Report Released

The City of Arlington is pleased to report that your drinking water is of high quality and compliant with all state and federal drinking water laws. We are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. The Water Department performs more than 16,000 water quality observations and tests every year. The 2023 edition of our annual water quality report summarizes only the key findings of testing completed from January through December 2023. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the Water Department at 360-403-3526.

To view the document, visit www.arlingtonwa.gov/waterreport.

Arlington Wastewater Treatment Plant Receives Outstanding Performance Award

The Arlington Wastewater (sewage) treatment plant has been recognized for its exceptional performance in wastewater treatment. The facility has received the 2023 Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance Award, placing it among the top 118 plants out of 300 evaluated for permit compliance.

The award, given by the Washington State Department of Ecology, recognizes domestic wastewater plants that consistently meet numerical effluent limits, permit criteria, monitoring, and for accurately reporting data. This achievement is a testament to the diligent efforts of the plant's operators and strong management team.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant (also known as the Water Reclamation Facility) is responsible for protecting the environment by properly collecting and treating wastewater from over 4,800 residential and commercial customers. The facility ensures that all wastewater is treated before being discharged into the Stillaguamish River or the City of Arlington constructed wetland at the Stormwater Wetland Park.

This recognition serves as a reminder of the hard work and dedication to protecting public health and preserving our natural resources.

Stay Informed on What's Developing

Are you curious about development activity in the City? Check out our development activity map. The development activity map provides real-time updates on various projects happening in Arlington. Stay updated and informed by exploring the map.

www.arlingtonwa.gov/activitymap

You can also contact the Community and Economic Development Department by phone 360-403-3551, email ced@arlingtonwa.gov or visit the office at 18204 59th Avenue.

State offers Help with Medicare Questions through Benefits Advisors

Do you have questions regarding Medicare and experience challenging times finding your answers? Statewide Health Insurance Benefit Advisors (SHIBA) provides free, unbiased and confidential help with Medicare to people of all ages and backgrounds. The phone number for Snohomish County residents is 425-290-1276. Listen to the message, leave your message, and an experienced consultant will return your call.

Website:

www.insurance.wa.gov/about-shiba-services

Arlington Community Resource Center

Arlington Community Resource Center is a one-stop hub for services for people in need. From help with basic needs like food, clothing and shelter, to assistance with other kinds of resources and programs, they support people in their journey toward stability. Located at 103 E. Third Street, open Monday through Thursday. Phone: 360-322-6988

Website: www.voaww.org/acrc

Grand Opening of Tiny Tots with Kids Kloset

Co-Founder of Kids Kloset, Kimberly Meno and Karla Marsh, founder of Tiny Tots, hosted a ribbon cutting in September with many of the organizations' volunteers, the Chamber of Commerce, and representatives from the school district and City of Arlington.

The Arlington Kids Kloset has expanded with the Tiny Tots addition. The facility is located at the old high school at 135 S. French Avenue. Kids Kloset is a nonprofit organization that invites children with their parents to shop for clothing and shoes free of charge.

Tiny Tots is a free clothing closet for the community with maternity clothes as well as clothes, shoes, toys and helpful items from birth to age 5. There is no paperwork, zip code or income requirements, all are welcome!

Website: www.kids-kloset.org



Police Department Achieves Washington State Accreditation

In a momentous achievement, the Arlington Police Department has attained State Accreditation, as bestowed by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Accreditation Commission on May 22, 2024.

Led by Police Commander Peter Barrett, the Arlington Police Department embarked on a journey towards accreditation in 2022, signifying a commitment to adhere to industry best practices and standards. This accomplishment is not merely a badge of honor but a testament to the collective effort of every department member.

Accreditation professionalizes law enforcement agencies by providing a comprehensive review process that certifies adherence to industry standards. It is a proven modern management model. Once implemented, it presents the Chief Executive Officer, on a continuing basis, with a blueprint that promotes the efficient use of resources and improves service delivery – regardless of the size, geographic location, or functional responsibilities of the agency.

Washington State accreditation comprises approximately 150 mandatory standards, all of which are considered essential practices within the profession. The accreditation process involves thorough examination through document review, observations, and interviews with agency personnel.

Accreditation represents a pinnacle of achievement for the Arlington Police Department, affirming its commitment to excellence in every facet of its operations. It symbolizes adherence to stringent standards and a dedication to continuous improvement and professionalism.

Chief Ventura emphasized this milestone's significance, acknowledging every department member's dedication. "This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our officers and staff who have consistently demonstrated their commitment to excellence, and relentless pursuit of excellence and dedication to serving our community with integrity and professionalism."

The Arlington Police Department has been awarded \$41,666.00 in recognition of achieving State Accreditation under the recent Senate Bill 5187.

2024 Arlington Police Citizen Academy

The Arlington Police Department is hosting the 2024 10-week Citizen's Academy. During the academy, attendees learn about various aspects of law enforcement and gain a better understanding of the work done by the Police Department.

By the end of the program, attendees develop a deeper appreciation for the challenges faced by law enforcement officers and how citizens can contribute to maintaining public safety in Arlington.

Academy Instructor Sergeant Rory Bolter said, "By offering insights into K-9 units, drones, and other specialized tools, attendees gain a comprehensive understanding of modern policing techniques, and it has been a lot of fun sharing what we do with the public." The Arlington Police Department's enthusiasm for this initiative reflects the department's commitment to transparency and building trust with the community they serve.

Attendees at the academy receive a graduation certificate after ten weeks. This certificate serves as recognition of their dedication and commitment to learning about the inner workings of the Police Department and showcasing their newfound knowledge and understanding. This program is offered once a year.



Cleaning Up Graffiti and Abandoned Shopping Carts

Let's work together to keep our city clean and a pleasant, welcoming place. Please report graffiti and abandoned shopping carts using our online forms. The city has set up work parties with volunteers to tackle these issues. If you see someone in the act of vandalizing, please call 911. To report graffiti and carts, visit www.arlingtonwa.gov/police and click on crime prevention.

If you would like to participate in clean-up, consider joining the Arlington Police Department's volunteer group, and contact Ed Krell at ekrell@arlingtonwa.gov.





Heather Logan



Leisha Nobach



Debora Nelson



Michele Blythe



Rob Toyer



Yvonne
Gallardo-Van Ornam



Jan Schuette

City Council Highlights

July

Low Bid Award for 3rd Street and 5th Street Parking Lots
 Acceptance of Auto Theft Prevention Grant
 Funding for Phase II of the Smokey Point Community Park
 Snohomish County Public Utility District No. 1 Easement Request
 Resolution to Waive SkyFest Land Use Fees
 Perimeter Fencing Improvements Project
 Taxiway Alpha Improvements Project
 Audit Entrance Conference for Financial Statement Audit
 Low Income Housing Agreement for Stillaguamish-2 Apartments
 Sole Source Resolution for the Procurement of Equipment for Lift Stations
 Award of Utility Iron Adjustment Public Works Unit Priced Contract
 Resolution Declaring an Emergency for Bidding Requirements for Repair of Streetlight
 Ordinance to Refund Bonds
 Ordinance Amending Arlington Municipal Code Chapters 20.46, 20.52, 20.90
 Ordinance Approving the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

June

LGBTQ+ Pride Month Proclamation
 Ride Transit Month Proclamation
 Programming Services for MBR Program at Water Reclamation Facility
 Amendment #3 to BHC contract for MBR Optimization at Water Reclamation Facility
 Public Hearing for Ordinance Extending a Moratorium for Island Crossing Development
 Airport Commission Appointments
 Contract with Department of Commerce for Commercial Kitchen Facility
 Scope of Work and Fee from Commonstreet Consulting for the 188th Roundabout
 Community Transit Microtransit Pilot program presentation
 Low Bid Award for 3rd and 5th Street Parking Lot
 Acceptance of Auto Theft Prevention Grant

May

Professional Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation
 Public Service Recognition Week Proclamation
 Opioid Litigation Settlement – Johnson & Johnson / Janssen
 Maintenance and Operations Tractor Purchase
 WSDOT Right-of-Way Procedure Amendment
 Ordinance Relating to Eminent Domain Proceeding
 Grant with Dept of Archaeology and Historic Preservation for Arlington Cemetery
 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Appointments
 Mayor's Volunteer Award to Rick and Robin Gaynor
 Resolutions for WSDOT Grants, Airport Master Plan and Airport Perimeter Fencing
 Fee Resolution for Airport Gate Proximity Cards
 Police Quarterly Report and 2023 Annual Report
 North County Regional Fire Authority Quarterly Report
 Interlocal Agreement with Arlington School District No. 16 for School Resource Officer
 Amendment to Interlocal Agreement Relating to Affordable Housing Act
 Amendments to SNO911 Interlocal Agreement
 Agreement with Century West Engineering for Airport Master Plan
 Resolution for WSDOT Grant – Taxiway Alpha Improvements Project
 Airport Fiber Installation Project
 Apraxia Awareness Month Proclamation
 National Police Week Proclamation
 Older Americans Month Proclamation
 Programming Services for MBR Program at Water Reclamation Facility
 Community and Economic Development 2nd Quarter Report
 Utilities and Transportation 2nd Quarter Report

Welcome Councilmember Leisha Nobach

Leisha Nobach was appointed to the unexpired Council Member term on February 4, 2024. Before serving on City Council, Leisha was on the City's Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission.

Local Officials Participate in WA Collaborative Elected Leaders Institute

The first class of the Washington Collaborative Elected Leaders Institute (WA-CELI) began with 50 elected leaders from cities all over Washington, including Mayor Don Vanney, Councilmembers Michele Blythe and Leisha Nobach, and Darrington Mayor Dan Rankin.

This four-month, immersive training program will provide small teams of city elected officials with the collaborative leadership skills to handle real-world challenges facing our cities and towns.

More information at:

<https://wacities.org/cqc-home/WA-CELI>

City Council Meetings

Workshops: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month at 6:00 p.m.
 Meetings: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the Month at 6:00 p.m.

City Council and Planning Commission meetings are recorded on the City's YouTube Channel at:

www.YouTube.com/cityofarlingtonwashington

For current meeting information, go to: www.arlingtonwa.gov calendar or agenda center.

Boards and Commissions

Airport Commission: 2nd Tuesday at 6 p.m.
 Cemetery Board: 3rd Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.
 Civil Service Commission: 1st Wednesday at 9 a.m.
 Park, Arts, Recreation Commission: 4th Tuesday at 6 p.m.
 Planning Commission: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
 Youth Council: 2nd Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

City Phone Numbers

Airport 360-403-3470
 Cemetery 360-403-3428
 Community & Economic Development 360-403-3551
 Finance Department 360-403-3421
 Human Resources 360-403-3443
 Mayor's Office 360-403-3441
 Recreation 360-403-3448
 Public Works Utilities 360-403-3526
 Street & Park Maintenance 360-403-3451
 Utility Billing 360-403-3421

Holiday Kick-Off Shop Small Event Saturday Nov. 30, Downtown Arlington

Tree Lighting at 5pm
Choirs on Stage 5:15-6pm
Olympic Ave. Fire Pits & Falling Snow 4-7pm
Cocoa & Cider at Stilly Diner Booth 4-7pm
Night of Lights - Lighted Cars & Park Lights 4-7pm
Shop Small Specials at Participating Stores
Mrs Claus & Olaf & Minions 4-7pm
Holiday Farmers Market 10am-7pm
Craft Bazaar at Arlington Lifeway 4-7pm
Free Holiday Movie at Olympic Theater, 7pm
Kettle Korn, Mini Donuts, Brats
Holiday Fire Truck, Charm Walk

Hometown Holidays Santa Parade Saturday Dec. 7, Downtown Arlington

Parade at noon on Olympic Avenue
Visits with Santa at Gazebo, after parade until 3pm
Tractor Wagon Rides, pickup at City Hall
Holiday Carousel, noon to 7pm, Dec. 6 - Dec. 15
Holiday Farmers Market 10am-2pm
Charm Walk 10am-3pm
Holiday Movies at Olympic Theater 2pm

Holiday Carousel and Ferris Wheel Presented by the City of Arlington with Sponsorship from Angel of the Winds Casino Resort

The City of Arlington was granted funding from the Arlington Hotel/Motel Tax Grant to provide amusement rides this holiday season.

ANGEL
OF THE
WINDS
CASINO RESORT

The Stillaguamish Tribe's Angel of the Winds Casino Resort is providing sponsorship to partner with us to fund the event.

Hometown Holidays

Please visit our website or Facebook page for additional events and information.

www.arlingtonwa.gov/HH

www.facebook.com/ArlingtonHH

Shop Meet Me in Arlington *For the Holidays*

Have you visited the Meet me in Arlington online marketplace? With over 240 businesses and 600 products, shoppers can browse an assortment of products and services from Arlington businesses. This is a great way to check out what's trending in your favorite Arlington shops!

We have also curated itineraries, such as adventurous dates, foodie fanatics, family fun, biking and hiking, fall fun and adventures, and blogs with more ideas on how to explore Arlington.

We welcome your ideas for itineraries and blogs! Email your ideas to: info@arlingtonwa.gov.

Businesses that are interested in being on the marketplace should contact Stilly Valley Chamber of Commerce, email svcc@stillyvalleychamber.com.

Follow Meet me in Arlington:

Check out our new Arlington promotional video at <https://vimeo.com/998346827>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/meetmeinarlington

Facebook: www.facebook.com/meetmeinarlington

Website: www.MeetmeinArlington.com



City of Arlington's LTAC Awards \$175,000 to Support Tourism Projects and Events

The City's Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) has recommended awarding \$175,000 to support various projects and events that promote and increase tourism in the community. This funding is made possible through a lodging tax generated from overnight stays at local hotels within the city limits, including Best Western Plus, Quality Inn, Medallion Inn & Suites, and Arlington Motor Inn.

The 2025 projects that will receive grants include the 3on3X Basketball Tournament, Art in Legion Park, Battle of the Flags (hosted by Arlington Boys & Girls Club), Skyfest, Arlington-Stillaguamish Eagle Festival, Downtown Digital Reader Board, Hispanic Heritage Event, Holiday Lighting for Smokey Point Park, Hometown Holidays, Summer Entertainment Series, Arlington Street Fair, Gleneagle Summerdaze, Arlington Farmers Market, and Arlington Show & Shine Car Show.

The Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meets annually to review grant applications and make recommendations to City Council for funding. The committee members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.



City of Arlington
238 N Olympic Ave
Arlington, WA 98223

Presort Standard
US Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit #3000
EDDM

*****ECRWSS*****

Postal Customer

HomeTown Holidays



Meet me in
ARLINGTON



Tree Lighting Nov. 30

Santa Parade Dec. 7

Holiday Events Through December

www.arlingtonwa.gov/HH

Event made possible in part by assistance from the City of Arlington Hotel-Motel Tax Fund
and sponsorship from Angel of the Winds Casino Resort.