



Notice of SEPA
Determination of Significance and Request for Comments
on Scope of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for
Arlington 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan Update
Arlington in Motion – 2024 and Beyond

Date of Issuance: November 1, 2023

Deadline for Comments: November 30, 2023 (by no later than 11:59 pm)

Lead Agency: City of Arlington Planning and Development Department

Proposal: 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan Update

Location: City of Arlington (citywide)

Contact:

Marc Hayes
Community and Economic Development Director
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Project Website: <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/784/Comprehensive-Plan-Update-2024>

Project Notice Website: <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/310/Public-Notices-Hearings>

Project Description

The City of Arlington is completing a periodic update to its Comprehensive Plan (“Plan”) to cover the 20-year period through 2044, which per [RCW 36.70A.130\(5\)\(a\)](#) must be completed by December 31, 2024. The Plan is the city’s primary policy document for guiding growth and development over the next 20 years and covers a wide range of topics such as land use, housing, transportation, parks and recreation, natural resources, economic development, utilities, and capital facilities. The Plan must be consistent with the [Growth Management Act](#), Puget Sound Regional Council [Vision 2050 Plan](#), and Snohomish County [Countywide Planning Policies](#) (CPPs). The most recent periodic update occurred in 2015 and the current version of the Comprehensive Plan is available here:

<https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/282/Comprehensive-Plan>

As part of the periodic update, the city must evaluate how it can achieve its 20-year (2044) growth targets for population, housing units and employment. These growth targets are based on guidance from the Washington State Department of Commerce and developed following a collaborative process with the county and other cities through Snohomish County Tomorrow and have been incorporated into Appendix B of the Snohomish County CPPs. For Arlington, the 2044 growth targets are as follows:

	Baseline	2044 Target	Increase by 2044	Percent of County Total
Population (people)	19,868 (2020)	34,649	14,781	4.8%
Housing (units)	7,689 (2020)	15,483	7,794	4.7%
Employment (jobs)	10,267 (2019)	24,690	14,423	8.4%

Determination of Significance (DS) and Request for Comments on EIS Scope and Alternatives

The City of Arlington has determined that the proposal could potentially have a significant adverse impact on the environment and as such, requires programmatic environmental analysis within an environmental impact statement (EIS), as required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c) of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The programmatic EIS will evaluate potential impacts and prescribe mitigation measures to address these. Topics and that will be addressed (at a minimum) include:

- Environment (critical areas and other subtopics)
- Land Use
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Public Safety
- Capital Facilities

The EIS will evaluate a No Action Alternative (which assumes no changes to current plans, policies, regulations, or zoning) and one Action Alternative—Implementation of the 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan, evaluating the plan's capability to meet the city's 2044 growth targets. Previous city plans and documents as well as recent state legislation will be incorporated into the alternatives analysis. This scoping period provides an opportunity for the public to help shape the topics that are covered in the EIS.

Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS, including alternatives, additional topics to address, potential environmental impacts, mitigation measures, approval and permitting requirements, and other considerations.

The deadline for public scoping comments is November 30, 2023. Comments may be submitted via:

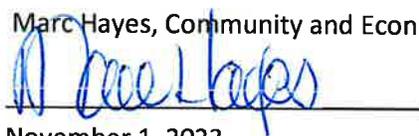
- Email: ced@arlingtonwa.gov (Subject: Comp Plan EIS Scoping Comments)
- Mail: City of Arlington, Attn: Marc Hayes; Community and Economic Development Director 18204 59th Avenue NE Arlington, WA 98223
- Project website: <https://www.arlingtonwa.gov/784/Comprehensive-Plan-Update-2024>

PUBLIC MEETING:

The city will be holding a public meeting during the scoping period to gather comments to inform the scope of the EIS. This open house style meeting will be held on November 7, 2023 at City Council Chambers (110 E Third Street, Arlington, WA 98223), from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, with presentations at 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm.

Responsible Official: Marc Hayes, Community and Economic Development Manager

Signature:



Date:

November 1, 2023

Appeal Process

An agency or person may appeal the City's procedural compliance with WAC 197-11. The appeal shall meet the requirements of AMC 20.98.210, AMC 20.20, and AMC 20.24. The appeal period commences on the date of publication of notice. Any appeal to the Hearing Examiner must be addressed to the City Hearing Examiner, accompanied by an application, written findings, a filing fee (plus the actual cost of the Hearing Examiner), and be filed in writing at the City of Arlington, Community and Economic Development Department, 18204 59th Avenue NE, Arlington, WA 98223.