

AMPUp Advisory Committee

October 23, 2025

Meeting Summary

Attending: Angelique Bradford, Grant Cook, Dave Fatula, Rebecca Gruber, Lillian Hartman, Ann LeRoyer, Cheryl Miller, Arthur Prokosch, Stephen Revilak, Tristan Roubenoff.

Staff: Claire Ricker.

Consultants: Phil Schaeffing (Stantec).

Committee Updates

Mr. Fatula provided a summary of the Economic Development Forum that was held on October 22, 2025. The event was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and about 45 people attended. Katie Luczai gave a presentation on Ninigret's economic development findings. Attendees talked about zoning, having the ability to develop vertically, and how to make Arlington attractive to a younger audience. Feedback is being compiled and will be provided to Stantec.

Ms. LeRoyer reported on a second focus group held on October 15 for Historic and Cultural Resources. Approximately 25 people attended, mostly folks from historic and arts groups. Attendees had concerns around communications, funding, resources, lack of spaces, and the cost of renting. Attendees were interested in having spaces for public art and performances. Some wanted a digital bulletin board. A transcribed list of all comments on 8 topics was prepared and distributed to DPCD/Stantec.

Both groups mentioned the need for some kind of public bulletin board, to get the word out for events and to better communicate with the Arlington Community.

Stantec Updates

Mr. Schaeffing believes that Arlington is a very engaged community. There have been 957 on-line contributions, 624 map pins, and 3,435 votes on the interactive map. The committee has also done 20+ pop-up events.

From the first visioning survey, economic development, open space and recreation, and transportation came out as the top items.

From the interactive map, 60% of contributions were "improve or change", 26% were ideas, and 15% were important places. We've received 624 comments from 213 contributors. Many of these were transportation-related, and a smaller number involved land use and development.

Quick poll #1 asked about the things Arlington needs in the next ten years. The top items were housing choice and affordability and local businesses and jobs. "Other" was the third-ranked choice, where most of the comments related to transportation, trees, and the town budget.

Quick poll #2 asked what types of housing and businesses people wanted to see more of. Responses showed a preference for 4-20 unit homes and affordable housing. On the business side, people were interested in retail, entertainment, and restaurants.

Several items from the paper surveys had response rates of 50% or more. These included: Arlington not having enough housing units, people feeling connected to Arlington through their neighborhoods and communities, prioritizing affordable housing to be more inclusive, and having more density near transit and commercial areas.

Stantec is using this input to revise visions and goals, to raise questions, and to look at areas to focus on. Stantec will present preliminary strategies next Tuesday, and they'll inform priorities and implementation plans. Having more people filling out surveys means that more people are aware of the effort.

Public Meeting Prep

Mr. Schaeffing says the next public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 30, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at Arlington High School. It will be structured so people can drop in and stay for as long as they want. It will start with a presentation, followed by an interactive open-house component. There will be a zoom option. Material will be posted to the project website and there will be a survey afterwards.

The introductory presentation will review the feedback we've received so far, and share the revised vision and goals. Afterwards, there will be five stations. Each station will have a summary of existing conditions, goals, strategies, and a way to provide feedback.

There will be another big public event early next year, for presenting the draft plan.

Committee members can send their feedback on the draft goals to Ms. Ricker, who will forward them on to Stantec.

New Business

Ms. Ricker informs the committee that one person has expressed interest in replacing Mr. Roubenoff as chair. Anyone else that's interested should let her know.

The next regularly-scheduled meeting would fall on Thanksgiving day. Ms. Ricker will send a doodle poll to choose a different date.

Open Forum

There are no speakers for the open forum portion of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 19:11.

Next meeting now set for Tuesday, November 18, 6:30-7:30 pm via Zoom.