ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

A County Board Town Hall Meeting of the County Board of Arlington County, held at held at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 307, Arlington, Virginia 22201 on Monday, October 26th, 2026, at 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Matt de Ferranti, Chair
Maureen Coffey, Vice-Chair
Susan Cunningham, Member
Julius D. "JD" Spain, Sr., Member
Takis Karantonis, Member

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Schwartz, County Manager
Mason Kushnir, County Board Clerk
David Barrera, Communications and Constituent Services Manager

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COUNTY BOARD TOWN HALL MEETING

The Board held a duly advertised public hearing from 7:02 PM to 7:39 PM at which 81 persons spoke regarding their general interests and concerns.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Matt de Ferranti highlighted County resources available to federal workers, including employment, mental health, food, housing, health insurance, and event information.

Matt de Ferranti highlighted publicly available resources for immigrants and refugees, including information on legal rights and the path to citizenship

TWO MINUTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Jane Green urged the Board to expand Arlington's housing supply and allow greater density countywide to preserve access and opportunity for future residents.

Eric Lotke urged the Board to prohibit automatic license plate readers (ALPRs), citing privacy, data-security, and civil-liberties concerns.

John Antonelli opposed ending the Flock camera contract and urged continued use of ALPR technology with appropriate safeguards.

Pat Findikoglu urged policies supporting abundant housing to promote economically and racially integrated neighborhoods and schools.

Desiree Lomer-Clarke urged the Board to remove the ALPR near Washington-Liberty High School and adopt an ordinance prohibiting ALPR technology.

Anne Komer urged the Board to ban all ALPR vendors, citing privacy, data-retention, and surveillance concerns.

Jeannette Louise Smith urged the Board to terminate the County's deer-management contract with Wildlife Resources LLC and pursue humane fertility-control alternatives.

Dr. Paul Fisher urged increased residential density, particularly near Metrorail, through changes to the General Land Use Plan.

Alice Hogan urged the Board to pursue significant housing growth to sustain Arlington's schools, economy, workforce, and future population.

Bobbie Fisher raised concerns regarding her treatment in Arlington, including at the Aurora Hills Library, and regarding registered sex offenders serving on her condominium board.

Scott Barton urged additional housing options through the Comprehensive Plan update to enable younger residents and families to remain in Arlington.

Jeffrey Williams urged increased housing supply and flexibility in the Comprehensive Plan to reduce displacement and preserve housing opportunities for residents of modest means.

Elizabeth Villarroel Santana urged continued funding for free, high-quality after-school programs such as Aspire.

Lesley Daigle urged immediate and sustained County funding for health-care services for uninsured and low-income Arlington residents.

Dixie Duncan raised pedestrian-safety concerns on Carlin Springs Road, with accompanying remarks calling for lower speeds, additional signage, and crossing-guard coverage near schools.

Kishori Mahulikar urged the County to adopt an economic-development ethics policy and end collaboration with entities associated with alleged human-rights abuses.

Aasim Rawoot urged engagement with Arlington Apartheid Divest on a County ethics policy and called for greater transparency concerning County actions and the May officer-involved shooting.

Sam Laveson urged adoption of an ethics policy governing County investments, contracts, and economic-development relationships.

Nizar Farsakh urged the County to stop using public resources to support or partner with companies implicated in serious human-rights abuses.

Michael Beer supported ranked-choice voting, further restrictions on ALPR surveillance, and adoption of a County ethics policy.

Rev. CJ Valenti urged preservation of affordable housing in Buckingham so residents can continue to live near their workplaces and community.

Meredith Sumpter urged continued use of ranked-choice voting in County general elections and continued investment in voter education.

Tia Alfred called for accountability and changes in County leadership and public-safety practices following the May 2026 officer-involved shooting.

Ryan Nary urged the Board to end County relationships with the Virginia Israel Advisory Board and related entities and adopt an ethics policy.

Barbara Taylor raised concerns about increased density and potential impacts on historic character, green space, and neighboring properties through the Ballston Park planning study.

Daniela urged action to address housing costs or compensation so APS support staff can afford to live in Arlington.

Audrey Clement defended continued County economic-development relationships with Israeli businesses and opposed the County's reduced cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

Jean Henceroth reported on the Lee Center and Leeway Overlee Civic Association centennial celebration and dedication of memorial "stumbling stones."

Jay Hamilton criticized EHO outcomes and urged a greater focus on genuinely affordable housing and transit-oriented density.

Sharon Hawthorne advocated for renter representation, transit-oriented urban development, reduced street parking where needed for transit, and stronger enforcement in pedestrian areas.

Kathy Sibert questioned the affordability outcomes of EHO and urged greater focus on housing affordable to teachers, first responders, and middle-income residents.

Stephen Robert D'Alessio urged the County not to replace Flock cameras with another ALPR vendor and to reject ALPR surveillance generally.

Susan Campbell urged immediate pedestrian and traffic-safety improvements along Carlin Springs Road while the broader transportation study proceeds.

Richard McNamara urged reconsideration of EHO, increased investment in affordable childcare, and completion of the Woodmont playground project.

Joshua Handler urged the County to prioritize tools that directly produce affordable housing rather than relying on market-rate EHO development.

Glenn Tobin urged reversal or comprehensive review of EHO, citing neighborhood, infrastructure, traffic, environmental, and affordability concerns in Woodmont.

Peter S. Boone opposed the approved EHO development adjacent to his property and urged development of an alternative approach to affordable housing.

Shirin Wertime urged the Board to ban ALPRs and adopt a public ethics policy addressing County business relationships associated with human-rights abuses.

Becca Dedert urged continued support for EHO and updates to the General Land Use Plan to allow more housing near transit.

Laura Tinter urged County advocacy and collaboration to preserve access to gender-affirming health care for residents affected by Medicaid and CHIP restrictions.

Jason Schwartz urged substantial housing growth through EHO and Comprehensive Plan changes to increase supply and reduce housing costs.

Ken Reid opposed calls to sever relationships with the Virginia Israel Advisory Board and defended continued economic-development engagement with Israeli businesses.

Danielle Pasch urged preservation of Integration Station as an inclusive early-childhood program for children with disabilities and their peers.

Pamela Pinnock called for release of complete body-worn-camera footage, a public community meeting, and leadership accountability concerning the May officer-involved shooting.

Sarah Nichols called for police accountability and urged greater focus on affordable rental housing and transparency regarding mandatory rental fees.

Maxwell Hiznay urged greater County attention to economic development, transit service, small businesses, tenants, and working-class residents along Columbia Pike.

Eli Torres raised concerns that County procurement requirements and the supplier portal create barriers for smaller organizations seeking to provide training services.

General Michael Mann urged continued cooperation with Israel and Israeli companies and cautioned against policies he characterized as discriminatory or harmful to Jewish residents.

Leslie Tierstein requested that the County pursue naming the W&OD bicycle and pedestrian bridge over Langston Boulevard in honor of Pete Beers.

Sharon Dubrow raised concerns about antisemitism and urged support for Israeli-Palestinian initiatives centered on dialogue and coexistence.

Judith Davis urged clearer timelines for releasing body-worn-camera footage, public review of behavioral-health crisis-response policies, and accountability following the May shooting.

Ibrahim Alamin urged continued County action on housing affordability, ALPR surveillance, pedestrian safety, and other issues affecting residents, businesses, and employees.

Francis X Durkin urged the County to apply form-based design principles to EHO development to better integrate increased density with existing neighborhood character.

Kelly Haywood urged adoption of an ordinance banning stationary and mobile ALPR technology regardless of vendor.

Mark Riley questioned the affordability outcomes of EHO and urged the County to clarify its long-term housing strategy.

Robert B. Douglas raised concerns about County deficits, debt, taxes, personnel and service reductions, and the fiscal impact on Arlington Public Schools.

Brooke Alexander requested that the Board revise the Ballston Park planning-study charge to make preservation of the existing tree canopy an explicit consideration.

Michelle Alveario called for additional transparency regarding the May officer-involved shooting, including release of additional evidence and a defined timeline for future body-worn-camera disclosures.

Cynthia Hilton urged stronger County oversight of commercial traffic and site operations at the Cherrydale Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Ryan Arnold urged the County to pilot and ultimately establish car-free streets in appropriate high-density, transit-rich areas.

Avi Arditti opposed the approved EHO development on North 24th Street and raised affordability, infrastructure, traffic, safety, and environmental concerns.

Bernie Berne urged DPR and DES to stop removing milkweed and other native plants from County parks and public spaces during the growing season.

Chris DeRosa encouraged Arlington residents and Board members to visit, volunteer with, and promote Remote Area Medical clinics providing free medical, dental, and vision care.

Tyler Conger urged increased housing density and continued pursuit of a pro-housing agenda to expand housing availability.

Christopher Concepcion urged stronger affordable-housing protections and expanded culturally competent, multilingual assistance for residents navigating County programs.

Kevin Kaime urged preservation of Ballston Park's green space, historic character, affordable housing, and existing community as redevelopment options are considered.

William Driscoll urged the County to encourage the Ballston ice rink to make wrist guards available during senior skating sessions.

Janmarie Pena urged release of full body-worn-camera footage, a public forum, and reforms to prevent similar outcomes in future behavioral-health crises.

Terri Prell urged updates to site-plan and 4.1 standards requiring adequate on-site space for pick-up, drop-off, deliveries, loading, and building services in new developments.

Samuel Lipton urged continued upzoning and other measures to substantially increase Arlington's housing supply and improve affordability.

Laura urged the Board to support state legislation requiring timely investigation of alleged criminal misconduct by federal immigration officers when victims cannot initiate police reports themselves.

Wilma Jones raised concerns regarding racial disparities in policing and urged release of unedited body-worn-camera footage and greater accountability.

Raphael Golner urged support for the Center for Youth and Family Advocacy and its youth leadership and civic-engagement programs.

Ginger Evans urged more proactive body-worn-camera and co-responder policies, including greater use of behavioral-health expertise during crisis responses.

Monique Bryant requested review of 911 and dispatch communications and the role of behavioral-health services in the May officer-involved shooting.

Brendan Dresdner urged the Board to oppose County relationships and policies he viewed as supporting Israeli actions in Palestine.

Gabriel Haynes urged County support and greater visibility for the Center for Youth and Family Advocacy's youth leadership and civic-engagement work.

Jason Carnes urged the County to ease regulatory barriers to housing construction, citing the development constraints affecting 919 South Monroe Street.

Cynthia Bensburg urged the Board to prohibit all ALPR technology to protect residents' privacy and civil liberties.

Ann Barbour raised concerns about housing affordability and treatment of residents with disabilities, including her experience with affordable housing and emergency response.

Ben Schweitzer opposed the North 24th Street EHO project based on traffic, child-safety, stormwater, tree-canopy, and affordability concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

Without Objection, at 10:15 PM, the County Board Town Hall Meeting adjourned.

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Matt de Ferranti, Chair

ATTEST:

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Mason Kushnir, Clerk
Approved: November 14th, 2026