



Arlington County Housing Activities January 2021

Affordable Housing Master Plan Review Arlington County is conducting a five-year review of its [Affordable Housing Master Plan \(AHMP\)](#). The review will begin with two webinars in January 2021:

- **Thurs. Jan. 21st at 7 p.m.:** [Kick Off Webinar #1: Updated Housing Needs Analysis](#)
 - Learn characteristics of Arlington's population, current housing needs, and the forecasted demand for housing through 2045
- **Thurs. Jan. 28th at 7 p.m.:** [Kick Off Webinar #2: Five-Year Report](#)
 - Learn about progress in meeting the goals and objectives in the 2015 AHMP

Arlington County Eviction Prevention Data Portal County staff and countless community-based partners continue their tremendous work helping tenants and landlords with rental assistance and other supportive services. The [Arlington County Data Eviction Portal](#) provides a demographic snapshot of rental assistance through September 2020. A total of 2,387 households have received assistance, with over \$4.5 million in funding being disbursed. A little more than 500 households served live in the 2204 ZIP code. The data also shows that female, single-person households are the largest percentage of those who have received assistance to date. The final graphic in the portal shows a significant increase in eviction case continuances and a decrease in judgement and default judgement meaning a ruling in favor of a landlord's request to evict. Expect to see a reversal of these trends if the Jan 31, 2021 moratorium is not extended.

Recently passed federal legislation provides approximately \$580 million in rental assistance for Virginia, and extends the CDC moratorium on evictions until Jan 31, 2021. This financial assistance will be provided through the state's [Rent and Mortgage Relief Program](#) and may be available to eligible households for a maximum of 12 months, with an additional 3 month allowable extension if it's necessary to ensure housing stability for the household. The [Aspen Institute](#) estimates that almost 265,000 households will be [were] at risk of eviction by the end of 2020. How we address our

longer-term systemic housing shortage is the issue we need to confront sooner rather than later.

Virtual 2021 Northern Virginia Housing Expo Looking for resources or information related to affordable housing in Northern Virginia? Join the [virtual 2021 Northern Virginia Housing Expo beginning January 1, 2021](#). The free, online public event will be hosted at NoVaHousingExpo.org and will be available for the entire year. The expo will feature monthly workshops and exhibits designed to educate participants about COVID-19-related housing assistance, location options, being prepared for buying or renting, understanding and improving credit scores, improving energy efficiency and more. The virtual expo will also offer confidential individual financial counselling and provide a 24-hour Exhibitor Hall featuring lenders, property management companies, developers, contractors, real estate agents, service providers, local jurisdictions and more. This event, now in its 11th year, is made possible through a cooperative effort of representatives from the cities of Alexandria and Falls Church; the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William; and Virginia Housing (formerly VHDA).

Virginia General Assembly The General Assembly convenes annually on the second Wednesday in January, meeting for 30 days - a short session - in the odd years. This year's session begins on January 13th. We will be watching legislative action on the state housing trust fund; a proposed state low-income housing tax credit; support for homeless prevention and permanent supportive housing; and the increasingly important issue of expanding broadband to address the affordability and accessibility of appropriate devices for low income residents in high-cost urban areas.