

Amazon In-Person Listening Session
DRAFT RUN OF SHOW
Saturday, January 12, 2019
9:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
Location:

OVERVIEW

Arlington County will host a second listening session on Amazon scheduled for Saturday, January 12th from 9:30-11:30 at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (4301 Wilson Blvd). The session will provide an opportunity for the County Board to hear additional areas of interests and perspectives regarding Amazon in Arlington prior to the vote on the performance agreement in February.

We anticipate approximately 150-200 participants will be in attendance with a broad range of perspectives from across the County. The room will be set up in round tables, similar to the session held in December. Board members and Subject matter experts from the staff will also be seated with participants throughout the room.

RUN OF SHOW (See Script below)

9:00 a.m.	Doors and Registration Open County Board Members and Staff arrive for Networking Opportunities
9:30 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks (Christian Dorsey)
9:40 a.m.	Amazon in Arlington Presentation (TBD-CB member OR Staff?)
10:00 a.m.	Building a Conversation (Christian Dorsey)
11:15 a.m.	Reflections from Arlington County Board Members
11:25 a.m.	Next Steps
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn

ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Role	Team Member	Notes	Arrival Time
Master Facilitator (Other Board Members as co-facilitators?)	Christian Dorsey	Introduce session, format, ground rules; and facilitate interactive conversation	9:00 a.m.
Presenter	TBD	Opening presentation	9:00 a.m.
CB Members	CB members in attendance	TBD-Participate in the conversation by asking prompting questions; and offering clarifications	9:00/9:15 a.m.
SME	Members of ACG Amazon Team	Available for clarification (as prompted by Master Facilitator)	9:00 a.m.
Flip Chart	Jerry; Jennifer	Capture high level bullet points for entire room to track conversation	8:30 a.m.
Microphone Runners	Bryna and Roger	Positioned in different parts of the room with microphones for easy access to individuals wanting to make comments	8:30 a.m.
Note Takers (Laptop)	TBD	Capture all conversation in the room (no attribution needed—unless a Board member, staff, or there is a follow up item)	8:15 a.m.
Registration and Set up	TBD--CBO Aides; Jerry, Roger, Bryna	Set up and check in	7:30 a.m.
Sound	David Wood-TBD	Set up and operate mics during the event	7:30 a.m.

RUN OF SHOW/ SCRIPT

7:30 a.m. Set Up (seating, note capture, presentation, audio, registration)

9:00 a.m. Doors and Registration Open (Networking Opportunities)

9:30 a.m. Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks (Christian)

9:30 am: Welcome to the second formal listening session hosted by the Arlington County Board focused on Amazon. As most of you know, the County Board will review an incentive package-most likely on February 23. We are pleased to be here today; and to also have members of the Arlington County Board. If I can ask each of them to stand-and introduce themselves? I also want to recognize Arlington County Staff who are in the room to stand and introduce themselves.

9:35 am: Before we get started—let me just highlight a few of the issues we have heard—in previous listening sessions (THESE THEMES will be POSTED on a FLIP Chart or SLIDE).

- **INCENTIVES:** There has been some who have expressed concern about using transient occupancy taxes to support an Incentive package for Amazon (as opposed to other types of things for residents)
- **TRAFFIC/PARKING:** People have expressed their anxiety about the potential increase in traffic and limited parking that may come with an increased number of people in single occupancy vehicles.
- **TRANSIT:** While Amazon offers transit benefits to their employees, the challenges with Metro over the past several years has not created confidence that Amazon employees will use public transportation.
- **HOUSING COSTS:** The costs for living in Arlington (for both owners and renters) has been rising over the past decade and has limited people with lower salaries and wages to be able to live here. People are genuinely concerned that Amazon's arrival into Arlington will add to those challenges.
- **BUSINESS PRACTICE:** There is a group of stakeholders-some in this room-who have shared their concern about Amazon's business practice; and their alignment with Arlington County Values.

- LOCAL HIRE/FAIR WAGE: Some of you have shared the importance of creating good paying jobs for all levels of workers; and the need to integrate local hiring and community benefit agreements with private developers.
- SCHOOL GROWTH: We know that school population growth and classroom capacity is an area of interest for many Arlingtonians; and folks have expressed concern that a big company like Amazon will bring even more student growth.
- DENSITY/GROWTH: Last summer during the Big Idea roundtables and now with the Amazon proposal, we know that balancing density and growth –with our ability to maintain the character and diversity of our community is important for those of us who live, work, and play here in Arlington.

Before we launch in to the conversation, I want to ask X to offer a few highlights included In the Amazon Proposal.

9:45 a.m.

Amazon in Arlington Presentation (TBD-CB member OR Staff?)

This is a short 10-15-minute slide presentation to help everyone in the room understand some of the basic points about the proposal.

10:00 a.m.

Building a Conversation (Christian)

10:00 am: Earlier, I highlighted some of the points we already heard; and we just learned a little more about some of those issues. I hope that we can focus today’s session on identifying any additional areas of interests or concerns; going deeper on the previous issues identified; and giving individuals who we have not heard from a chance to share their thoughts and perspectives.

And, I hope that we can hear from as many people as possible and get as many perspectives as possible. To that end, I ask that everyone is thoughtful about the amount of time they use -and give others a chance to also talk. And, that we listen to each other. We recognize that there may be differences of opinions and thoughts during our conversation-- we want people to feel comfortable sharing their perspectives, so ask that everyone respects each other throughout our conversation.

10:10 am: Possible PROMPT questions for participants:

- Beyond the areas that surfaced in previous sessions, are there other areas of interests that we have not yet heard? It would be great to start with those topics. (UNPACK)
- Arlington has had a goal of diversifying (beyond government) to help us bring down our vacancy rate and offer different job opportunities for residents. What role do you think Amazon or other businesses (of any size) can play to help achieve this goal--- (e.g., help Arlington continue to diversify our economy? and bring down the office vacancy rate?)
- As we look at affordable housing; and/or housing affordability. Are there specific policies or models that might help maintain mixed used environments-that offer housing options for people with a range of incomes?
- We have been hearing that we need to maintain Arlington's character; and ensure that our investments align with our values? We would be interested in hearing more about what this means for you? Your family? Your community?
- What policies and/or partnerships might be possible to ensure that we can offer a range of diverse jobs for a range of skills and income levels in the County?
- In February, the Board will have the chance to vote on the performance agreements with Amazon. What are the elements that you think we have to pay most attention to –as we move into this decision?
- Arlington and the region already have many transportation challenges facing us. What specific transportation system improvements do we need to see to meet our future needs, especially with Amazon coming?

11:15 a.m.

Closing Reflections by each Board Member (2 min each)

Each Board member will have the chance to offer a reflection of what they have heard -in their own words and voice.

11:25 a.m.

Next Steps (Christian)

Thank you for spending time with us this morning; and for your interest in our community. As we have stated, the County board will be reviewing and voting on the performance agreement during our February Board meeting. We also have at least one more virtual learning series on Housing-scheduled for January 16th; and will continue to make ourselves available to be in the community for various meetings and presentations. IF the performance agreement is adopted in February—I can promise you that we will have ongoing conversations on all of the topics discussed today and previously. And, we will be following our regular engagement processes for any site plan and development projects.

If you have additional comments, please feel free to leave them on a card as you leave today.

Thank you again for joining us- Have a great day.

11:30 a.m.

Adjourn