

Route 1 South Housing Affordability Strategy
Charrette Day 4, 03/01/18
Morning Volunteer / Core Team Meeting

Summary:

Common Themes

- Improvements for pedestrians along and across Route 1
- Congestion/traffic flow
- It's about people instead of building density
- Even though there are only 215 affordable units within the focus area, it's rare in Alexandria to have opportunity to preserve or build affordable units.
- Clarified that high rise buildings are not being proposed in the plan

Community Feedback on Guiding Principles

- The meaning of neighborhood character can be construed in many ways.
- Consensus around exactly 215 affordable units, but not more units.
- Can we replace the word 'units' with 'families'?
- Add the word 'integrated'.
- Emphasize neighborhood streets.

Verbatim Core Team Notes:

- How do we determine who gets to live in affordable housing outside of income?
 - Fair housing laws
- Why would the City buy the gas station?
 - City would not buy the gas station. This planning process is just establishing City's guidelines for redevelopment.
- Alexandrians need a reality check because we have a "candy store" of transportation options
- Gateway is more about design and infrastructure to cue drivers to slow down as they arrive than a shiny entrance sign