

Government and Public Safety

Municipal government services directly affect daily life for residents and businesses including trash pick-up, dog licensing, sign permits, facility rentals, or emergency services. These services not only allow a community to function, but also impact its overall quality of life.

Public safety services include law enforcement, fire protection, emergency medical services and emergency management. The continuity of governmental services offers reassurance that essential services are in place to respond to basic community concerns and needs.



Guiding Principle:

In 2035, Fairfax is a city with... exceptional governmental, police and fire safety services.



Government and Public Safety

Goal 1

Provide state-of-the-art-facilities for local government and public safety operations.

Anticipating future growth patterns and planning for infrastructure and services to meet the needs of such growth are critical elements in determining the future of the City and its development framework. The City's location in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area promises to provide the stimulus for continued growth. This growth will affect the resources required to provide the desired level of public services, safety response, and protection. The City must continually monitor demands on government and public safety resources in order to determine needs for facility and service enhancements.

OUTCOME GPS1.1: Public facilities and equipment that properly support the efficient functioning of City staff to provide valued services to City residents and businesses.

ACTION GPS1.1.1 Maintain and update City facilities to ensure all are safe, accessible to individuals of all abilities, energy efficient, and modernized to meet the changing needs of the community and operations.

ACTION GPS1.1.2 Construct new buildings, when warranted, that are accessible, sustainable, and properly located, including co-locating multiple uses to meet the needs of the community and operations.

ACTION GPS1.1.3 Pursue right of first refusal agreement with Fairfax County on County-owned property located within the City.



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Goal 2

Provide high-quality community services.

The City must balance fiscal challenges with the need to maintain public facilities and equipment. Improper maintenance and inadequate facilities can result in disruptive needs for repair and costly replacements. The City will provide high-quality, efficient and cost-effective community services with optimal levels of service to meet public needs on a daily basis, as well as during times of stress.

OUTCOME GPS2.1: User-friendly and convenient customer service tools using the latest technology available.

ACTION GPS2.1.1 Monitor trends and advancements in technology as they become available to determine if they would benefit City staff's ability to deliver services.

OUTCOME GPS2.2: Police protection and service that maintain a safe environment for residents, workers and visitors.

ACTION GPS2.2.1 Prevent crime through safe environmental design.

ACTION GPS2.2.2 Support the implementation of the Police Department's long-range plans.

OUTCOME GPS2.3: Responsive fire and rescue services that protect lives and property.

ACTION GPS2.3.1 Support the implementation of the Fire Department's long-range plans.

ACTION GPS2.3.2 Maintain and update City fire facilities and equipment to ensure all are safe, accessible to individuals of all abilities, energy efficient, and modernized to meet the changing needs of the community and staff.

OUTCOME GPS2.4: Continued coordination and collaboration with appropriate jurisdictions, agencies and groups for emergency preparedness and response.

ACTION GPS2.4.1 Survey assets and expand upon them to best capitalize on investment in preparedness.

ACTION GPS2.4.2 Continue education programs focused on establishing survivable spaces and promoting emergency preparedness.

OUTCOME GPS2.5: Essential health and human services are readily available for all community members.

ACTION GPS2.5.1 Improve access and availability to health and human services, amenities, and products.

ACTION GPS2.5.2 Increase transit service options available to destinations where healthy food is sold or distributed such as food banks, farmers markets and grocery stores.

ACTION GPS2.5.3 Recognizing many human services are provided by outside agencies and are not directly marketed for the City, develop a marketing strategy targeting individuals in the City who could benefit from those services.