

Dollars & Sense: Business & the Economy, Thursday, November 7, 2019, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Topics to start the conversation will include, but are not limited to, economic vibrancy in Leesburg and its sustainability; the role of small business for a stronger community; and new commercial, office, industrial and recreation markets to target in the future. Participants are also asked to bring other ideas about the local economy to expand the discussion.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a draft future land use map and supporting recommendations related to economic development and the business-side of place-making.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about the economy in Leesburg. We want to invite Town business owners, local and regional business advocacy groups (including Chambers of Commerce), Town staff, or anyone else interested in the topics above.

Moving Around Town (Transportation), Thursday, November 7, 2019, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Topics to start the conversation will focus on the role of land use as the ‘demand factor’ in planning a more efficient, more comprehensive transportation system in Leesburg. It will focus on how the type, location, pattern, and intensity of development in the planning area might impact the number of trips generated, the travel distance between destinations, or viable travel modes available to meet residents’ daily travel needs. Participants are also asked to bring other ideas about the local transportation to expand the discussion.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a draft future land use map and supporting recommendations related to transportation.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about land use as the demand factor for planning an efficient transportation system in Leesburg. We want to invite state and regional transportation officials, Town staff, or anyone else interested in the topics above.

Places to Live: Enhancing Neighborhoods & Improving Home Choices, Friday, November 8, 2019, 9:00 a.m.– 10:00 a.m.

Topics to start the conversation will include, but are not limited to, neighborhoods and housing choices — single family detached, townhome, stacked townhome, condominium, apartment, senior living, etc. — to meet future needs, affordable housing, the role of housing in mixed-use development, and neighborhood amenities. Participants are also asked to bring other ideas about their neighborhoods and available home choices in Leesburg to expand the discussion.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a draft future land use map, community character vision, and supporting recommendations related to neighborhood design and housing choices.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about neighborhoods and housing in Leesburg. We want to invite affordable housing interests, Town staff, or anyone else interested in the topics above.

All Things Green: Parks, Open Space & Greenways, Friday, November 8, 2019, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics to start the conversation will focus on the role of parks, public spaces, streetscapes, and natural areas in creating a more meaningful ‘public realm’ for the community. And how the public realm — defined as the spaces around, between, and within buildings, lots, neighborhoods or activity centers — might reinforce a complete and consistent brand and sense of place in Leesburg. In addition, we will discuss potential gaps in the current Leesburg Parks and Recreation system.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a community character vision and supporting recommendations related to urban design in public spaces.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about the role of small parks, public spaces, natural areas, etc. and their potential impacts on a more complete, more consistent brand and sense of place in Leesburg.

Increasing Quality-of-Life for All, Friday, November 8, 2019, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Topics to start the conversation will include, but are not limited to, what defines a high quality-of-life for residents in Leesburg; new, expanded, or renovated civic amenity and facility needs; and the needs and desires of different demographic groups. Participants are also asked to bring other ideas about improving on a high quality-of-life for residents in Leesburg to expand the discussion.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a community character vision and supporting recommendations related to community amenities and promoting a high quality-of-life in Leesburg.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about community amenities and quality-of-life in Leesburg. We want to invite long-time and recently-arrived residents, retirees, children and students, families, seniors, or anyone else interested in the topics above.

Just Big Enough: Continued Growth, It’s Opportunities & Challenges, Saturday, November 9, 2019, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Topics to start the conversation will focus on the type, timing, and magnitude of growth anticipated in Leesburg for the next twenty years, 2020 to 2040. We will contemplate the opportunities and challenges associated with future growth, and what it means to defining Leesburg as a self-sustaining, small town; an emerging suburban activity center; or something else. Understanding the community’s ideas and opinions for a general growth and development framework in the future will help the project team immensely in the planning process.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a draft future land use map and supporting recommendations related to the type, timing, and magnitude of future development.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about growth and what it means to the type and size of community Leesburg will become in the future. We want to invite regional infrastructure providers, affordable housing interests, Town staff, long-time and recently-arrived residents, or anyone else interested in the topics above.

Town Character & Authenticity: Integrating the Natural & Built Environments, Saturday, November 9, 2019, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Topics to start the conversation will include, but are not limited to, the design, scale, architecture, and proximity of development in the planning area (past and present), and how these topics contribute to the character and authenticity of Leesburg (especially in terms of desirable future development). We want to explore opportunities to protect, enhance, transform, or strengthen these topics to meet a stated vision for community character in the Town. Participants are also asked to bring other ideas about past, present, and future design considerations that reinforce a unique sense of place for the Town of Leesburg to expand the discussion.

Thoughts, ideas, and opinions collected during the meeting will be considered by the project team as they develop a community character vision and supporting recommendations related to the design, scale, architecture, and proximity of development to instill a sense of place unique to Leesburg.

Who should attend? The meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about the built environment. We want to invite landowners, developers, residents, business owners, Town staff, or anyone else interested in the topics above.