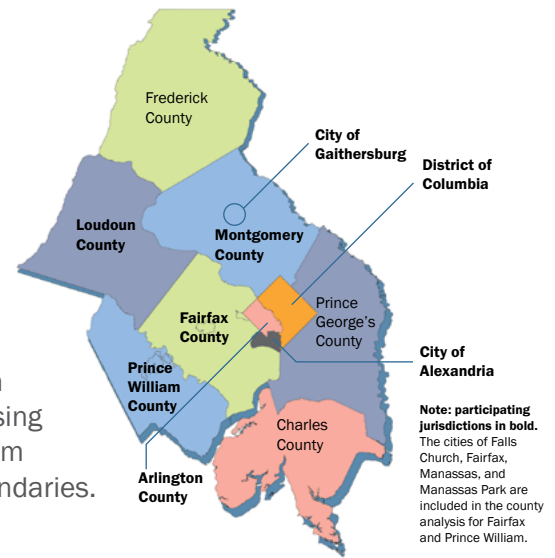


# REGIONAL FAIR HOUSING PLAN

Your zip code and where you live can determine your lifelong earnings and longevity.

This is the first time in 25 years that the region has come together through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments to align federal housing investments in a way that deepens local impact. Our region can benefit from shared visions and approaches that are not limited by city and county boundaries.



## CHALLENGES:

- The metropolitan Washington region is segregated by race and income and has become more segregated since 1990.
- Community opposition to new housing development.
- Lack of affordable, accessible housing and services.
- Living in segregated neighborhoods can lead to limited educational and job success.

## SOLUTIONS:

1. Increase the supply of housing affordable to households at 60% AMI or below in all neighborhoods.
2. Reform zoning and land use policies to allow for a greater variety of housing types throughout the region.
3. Preserve existing affordable housing and prevent displacement.
4. Increase homeownership opportunities and prevent discrimination for homebuyers.
5. Protect the housing rights of individuals who are part of protected groups.
6. Reduce housing barriers for people with disabilities.
7. Expand access and affordability of public transit.



**IMPACT:**

**Stronger regional economy**

**Lower housing costs**

**Vibrant, integrated communities for people of all abilities and incomes**

**Better access to jobs and services**

**Better educational outcomes**

**Improved quality of life**

**More housing choices for your stage of life**

**Improved health outcomes**

By working together on shared strategies, we can meet our goals to reduce housing discrimination, reverse patterns of racial segregation, and improve access to opportunity for all current and future residents of the metropolitan Washington region.

For more information and to read the fair housing plan, visit [www.mwcog.org/fairhousing](http://www.mwcog.org/fairhousing) or call TDD at 202-962-3213.

For more information:



A survey of nearly 3,000 residents underscored the need for action:

**84%** reported having difficulty accessing safe, affordable housing.

**13%** said they have faced discrimination.

**41%** of those who faced discrimination attributed it to income level or source of income.

Eight local governments partnered with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) to produce a Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (Regional Fair Housing Plan) in 2023: City of Alexandria, VA; Arlington County, VA; the District of Columbia; Fairfax County, VA; City of Gaithersburg, MD; Loudoun County, VA; Montgomery County, MD; and Prince William County, VA. The jurisdictions are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to affirmatively further fair housing. The Regional Fair Housing Plan will fulfill this HUD requirement and aims to increase collaboration, innovation, and effectiveness of strategies to expand access to safe and affordable housing, increase investment and resources in priority areas, and create more inclusive communities.