

DEMOCRAT

**DAK**

HARDWICK

FOR CITY COUNCIL

★  
[empoweralx.com](http://empoweralx.com)

# The Empower Alexandria Plan

A Blueprint for  
Alexandria's Future



*I believe a strong Alexandria is built on a shared vision. The **Empower Alexandria Plan** is a community-based vision focused on making Alexandria the best place to live, work, and prosper in America. In Alexandria, we come for the history. The **Empower Alexandria Plan** is my commitment to ensure we stay for the future.*

- Dak Hardwick

## I. GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT

*Alexandria will deliver world-class municipal services.*

### Education

- **We will** set all our kids on a path to success by providing access to high-quality education, from pre-K through high school and beyond, because Alexandria public schools are **our** schools and every child in an Alexandria public school is **our** child.
- **We will** invest in our school infrastructure by both maintaining what we have while building for the future.
- **We will** strengthen our partnership with the Alexandria City Public Schools and our School Board to provide high quality education to **all** our kids.

### Housing Opportunities

- **We will** ensure Alexandrians at all income levels, including teachers, public safety providers, and city employees – the very people who serve our city – are not priced out of our community.
- **We will** consider new approaches to zoning and development that allow for more diverse housing options, including the expansion of affordable housing opportunities.

### Public Safety

- **We will** provide equipment, training, and competitive pay to our public safety members, ensuring we have the best people serving our community and keeping us safe.

### Health

- **We will** ensure our community health services focus on all aspects of a person's health, including treating and preventing illness.
- **We will** support the work of health providers and partners who are caring for Alexandrians at all income levels.

### Seniors

- **We will** support our senior population, ensuring they have the opportunity to remain independent in our community and contribute, with dignity, to the fabric of our city.

### Parks and Recreation

- **We will** prioritize well-maintained parks and recreational spaces that improve our quality of life by contributing to a healthy, safe, and welcoming environment for everyone.

## II. ADVANCING CIVIC INNOVATION

*Alexandria will think and act creatively about how we address our city's needs in the 21st century.*

### New Funding Approaches

- **We will** find more and different ways to pay for our community's future needs and not simply rely on property taxes as our main revenue source.
- **We will** leverage the financial investments we've already made in our community to fund current and future demands in education, infrastructure, public safety, housing, community health, and parks.
- **We will** professionally manage our city's assets to maximize the taxpayer's investment and contribute to the greater good of all our residents.

### Partnerships

- **We will** aggressively work to form more public-private partnerships to meet urgent needs on issues like school infrastructure, affordable housing, and transportation.
- **We will** pursue the creation of an Office of Strategic Partnerships to get our city focused on leveraging the resources of the private and non-profit sectors.

### Technology

- **We will** accelerate investment in broadband so all Alexandrians have access to the Internet.
- **We will** find partners to help close the "homework gap" so all students have the ability to access the Internet for learning, whether at home or in our schools.

### Local Solutions

- **We will** be a leader in finding local solutions on today's key issues, including environmental sustainability and climate change, economic competitiveness, and housing affordability.
- **We will** listen to the needs of our residents and find the right solutions for our community.

## III. PROMOTING ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

*Alexandria will diversify and strengthen its local economy today to meet the economic challenges of tomorrow.*

### Smart Growth and Development

- **We will** focus our development efforts around our Metro stops and along bus rapid transit corridors along Route 1 and in the West End.
- **We will** continue investing in opportunities that bring key employers, like the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, to Alexandria.
- **We will** expand and encourage small business and entrepreneurship by eliminating unnecessary barriers to starting or expanding a business.

### Transportation

- **We will** make it easier to get around Alexandria by foot, bike, Metro, bus, or car by continuing to invest in transit and transportation infrastructure and smart traffic management technologies.

### Workforce Development and Training

- **We will** strengthen the relationship between the City of Alexandria and the Northern Virginia Community College to develop better pathways to employment for all our residents.
- **We will** engage Alexandria employers, both small and large, to understand and meet their future workforce needs.

# Vote on June 12!

For more information about Dak Hardwick's campaign, visit [www.empoweralx.com](http://www.empoweralx.com) and follow the campaign on **Twitter @empoweralx** and **Facebook at [fb.me/empoweralx](https://fb.me/empoweralx)**.

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