

Arlington, VA — Arlington Economic Development

Situation Arlington County, Virginia covers only 26 square miles, yet has an office market that rivals those of cities like Los Angeles, Denver, and Atlanta. Its fashionable neighborhoods are just a stone's throw from Washington, D.C. and attract a young, creative, and diverse population. And its Rosslyn-Ballston commercial corridor is one of the country's finest examples of strategic economic development and urban planning. Arlington Economic Development (AED) Office needed a branding campaign to leverage the county's many strengths, specifically the brainpower of its well-educated residents and the many businesses and organizations already located there, to attract new businesses. The campaign's ads and Metro car displays garnered widespread attention and news coverage. In 2013, the AED office asked The Design Channel to take on the challenge. Solution The "Think Arlington" campaign featured notable and distinctive individuals who lived or worked in Arlington and represented various industries and organizations. We extended this idea by introducing the concept of Arlington as the "intersection" of innovative businesses, the arts, higher education, breakthrough technology, entertainment, and other elements desirable to businesses looking to get started or to relocate in Arlington. These "intersections" were brought to life in the campaign by pairs of distinguished Arlingtonians from disparate fields (an artist and a banker; a university professor and a chef, etc.) posing together. Each ad was anchored by the theme line of "Arlington: at the intersection of business | technology | innovation | culture | diversity" and was executed in print, Metro car displays, and online banners. Result The campaign rolled out in early summer 2013. Thus far it has been very successful in garnering attention in the region and creating a distinctive brand halo around Arlington

County. This year AED is planning to roll out the branding campaign nationally.



Arlington County is comprised of smart, forward-thinking businesses/industries/amenities "intersecting" with, or in close proximity to, each other. The coexistence of these elements within Arlington make the community a desirable destination for relocating businesses and individuals.

Research Modes Used:

One-on-one interviews Competitive brand benchmarking Desk research Review of secondary research

Arlington: at the intersection of business | technology | innovation | culture | diversity

think arlington













strategic | cuisine











