

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 12, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Senior Affairs: Age-Friendly Initiative Dallas**

On April 17, 2019, City Council will be briefed on the Age-Friendly Initiative and the Age-Friendly Dallas Plan.

Background

The Age-Friendly Initiative is managed across a national network by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and implemented at the community level by a network of state and local partners and local government agencies. The Age-Friendly Initiative process involved 4 steps: 1) entering the network; 2) planning phase; 3) implementation and evaluation; and 4) continuous cycle of improvements.

The City of Dallas completed step 1 in 2014. In August 2014, Mayor Michael Rawlings enrolled the City of Dallas in the Age-Friendly Communities (AFC) Network AARP. Later that year, AARP presented the City with the AFC certificate, which was then presented to the Senior Affairs Commission. AFC was then briefed to the City's Housing Committee in April 2015 and to the full Council in 2015.

In 2015, the program entered the planning phase. The Senior Affairs Commission (SAC), working with local representatives of AARP, worked together to conduct numerous community listening sessions and community partner stakeholder meetings. Over the next 2-3 years, more than 40 community partners and stakeholders were engaged in the process. Data and input from these meetings was aggregated to develop a set of domains and strategic recommendations, which was then integrated into an action plan.

By early 2018, the plan, now called the Age-Friendly Dallas Plan (the Plan), was completed and AARP representatives and SAC members began meeting with Council members and City staffers to share the plan. In September of that year, there was a final convening of community partners and stakeholders for final comments on the proposed plan. In February 2019, the SAC held a special called meeting to discuss the Plan. On March 25, 2019, the SAC voted to adopt the Plan and to recommend that City Council and to recommend adoption of the Plan to City Council. On April 1, 2019, the SAC presented the plan to the Human and Social Needs Committee, which voted in support of the plan and recommended the plan be briefed at an upcoming City Council meeting.



Senior Affairs: Age-Friendly Initiative Dallas

Dallas City Council

April 17, 2019

Jessica Galleshaw, Director
Office of Community Care

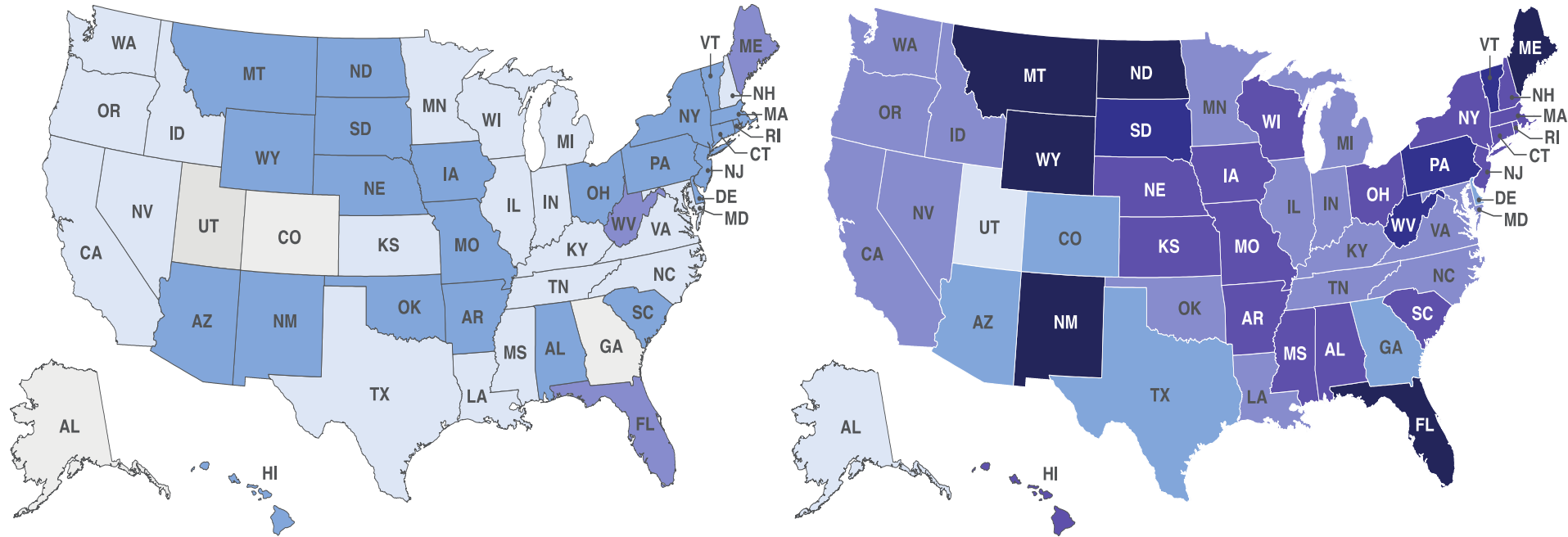
Sharyn Fein, Chair
Senior Affairs Commission



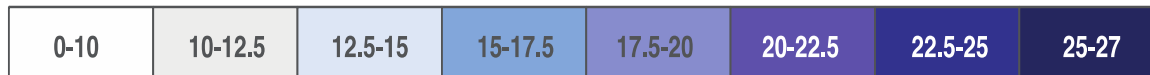
America is aging

2015

2030

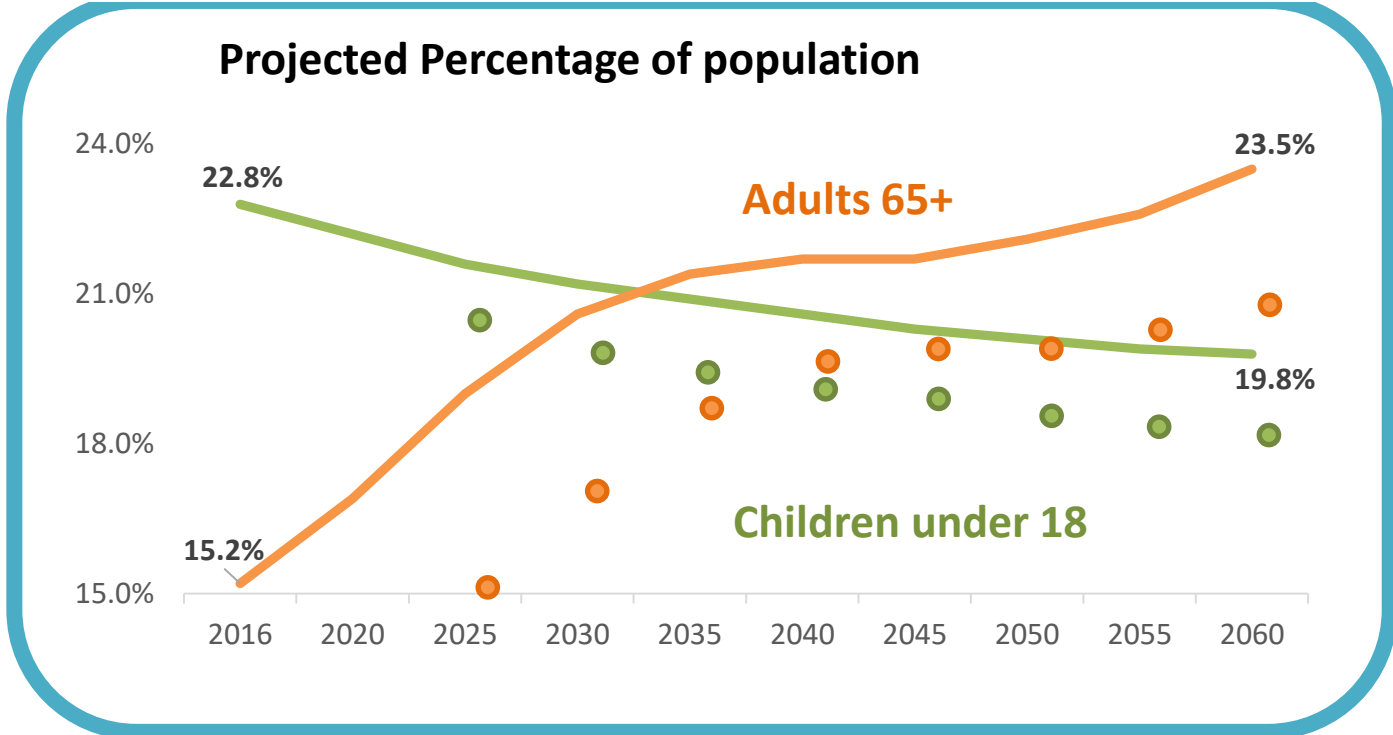


PERCENT OF POPULATION AGE 65+



Source: US Census

For the first time in U.S. history, older people will outnumber children.



Source: US Census Bureau (March, 2018). Older People Projected to Outnumber Children for First time in US History. Retrieved from: <https://bit.ly/2p8zoQY>

Millennials and baby boomers want walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods.

Age
doesn't
define us



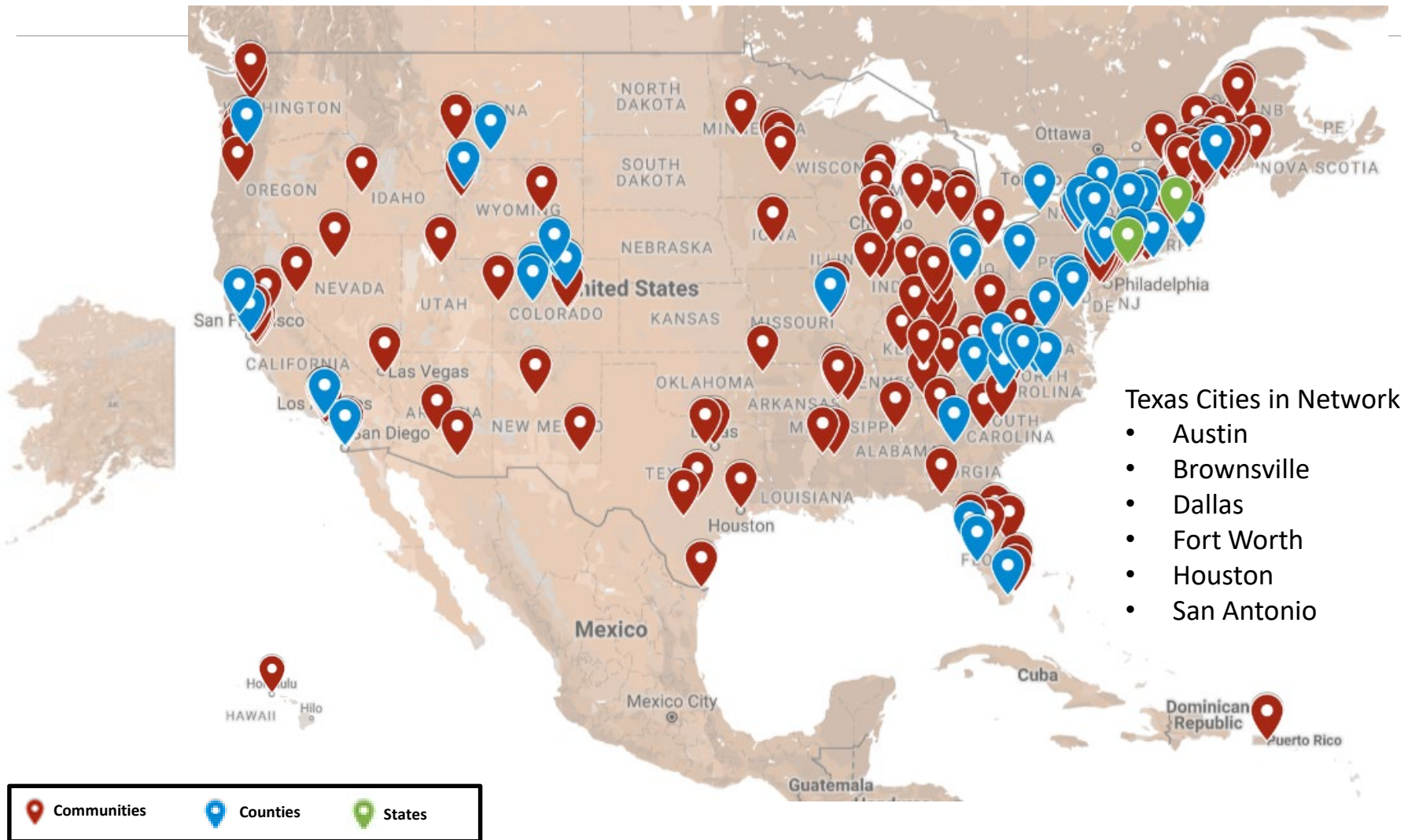
Source: 2018 AARP Home and Community Preferences Survey: A National Survey of Adults Age 18+

And that is why we need to focus on....

Becoming an Age-friendly or livable community that has walkable streets, housing and transportation options, access to key services and opportunities for residents to participate in community activities.

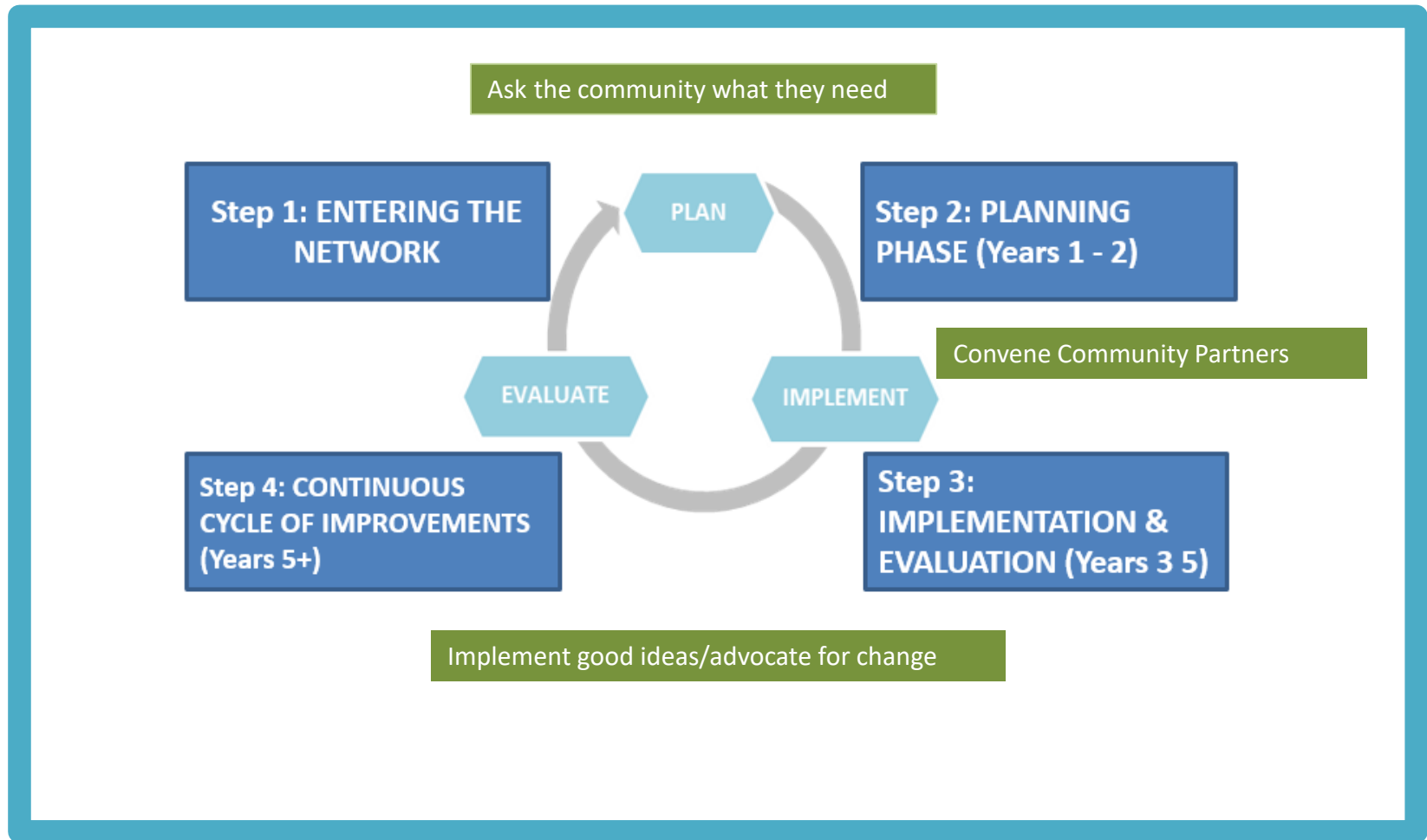
- *promote health and build and maintain physical and mental capacity across the life course; and*
- *enable people, even when experiencing capacity loss, to continue to do the things they value.*

Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities



Map updated August 24, 2018

Age Friendly Communities Initiative Process



Age Friendly Initiative Dallas – Stakeholders

AARP Texas
Adult Protective Services
Age Well Live Well
Alzheimer's Association
American Foundation for the Blind
Brookhaven College 50+
Catholic Diocese
Catholic Charities
Celebration Magazine
COD Senior Services
COD Mobility and Street Services
City Square
Coalition for Aging LGBT
Community Council of Greater Dallas
Dallas Area Agency on Aging
Dallas Area Gerontology Society
Dallas Police Department
Dallas Public Library
Dallas Area Rapid Transit
Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions

DCCCD
Determination, Inc.
Ed-U-Care
Grow North Texas
Health and Human Services
Independent Transportation Network
Injury Prevention Center
IACT
Metrocare Services (ADRC)
Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance
My Ride Dallas
Parkland Hospital
Rebuilding Together
Senior Blue Book
Texas Hunger Initiative, Senior Action Team
The Senior Source
SPAN
United Way
University of North Texas Dallas
Visiting Nurses Association

Age Friendly Initiative Dallas - Timeline

2014	2015
August - Mayor Rawlings enrolled Dallas in the AFC Network	<u>City Council Briefing</u> April - Presented AFC to Housing Committee of City of Dallas
December - AARP Texas presented AFC certificate to Mayor and City Council	October - Briefed city council members on the AFC effort
Presented AFC to Senior Affairs Commission, AFC became an ad hoc committee	December - Met with Mayor Pro Tem Alonzo
	<u>Meetings</u> January - Director, COD Senior Services and AARP met, started the assessment phase
	<u>Community Listening</u> 14 listening sessions in each council district
	<u>Stakeholder Meetings</u> Convened AFC community partner stakeholder meetings with SAC (Jan/March/July/Nov/Dec)

Age Friendly Initiative Dallas - Timeline

2016	2017
<p><u>Meetings</u> February – New city staff met with AARP about AFC initiative</p> <p><u>Community Listening</u> January/June – Conducted AARP Member Survey</p> <p>June – Commissioned UNT to do a supplemental survey of the H/L community</p> <p>January/December – Conducted 11 listening sessions.</p> <p>May – Unmanned listening posts in all Dallas libraries</p> <p><u>Stakeholder Meetings</u> Convened AFC community partner stakeholder meetings with SAC (Jan/March/May/June)</p>	<p><u>Community Listening</u> 9 listening sessions/events</p> <p><u>Stakeholder Meetings</u> Continued monthly AFC community partner stakeholder meetings with SAC (Feb/April/May/June)</p>

Age Friendly Initiative Dallas - Timeline

2018	2019
<p><u>City Council Briefing</u> January – Met with City Council members individually to provide an update and share action plan.</p>	<p>March – Senior Affairs Commission voted to put full support behind AFC initiative as their advocacy effort.</p>
<p><u>Meetings</u> May – New Senior Services Director met with AARP about AFC initiative</p>	<p>April – SAC presented AFC to Human and Social Needs Committee.</p>
<p>December – AARP and SAC Chair met with Assistant City Manager, Nadia Chandler- Hardy, and Director, Jessica Galleshaw</p>	
<p><u>Community Listening</u> January/March – Conducted 15 Listening Sessions to present AFC action plan to citizens and get comments.</p>	
<p><u>Stakeholder Meetings</u> September – Convened AFC community partner stakeholder meeting for final comments.</p>	

The Domains of Livability – The Age-Friendly Dallas Plan

Domain 1. Outdoor spaces
and Building

Domain 2. Transportation

Domain 3. Housing

Domain 4. Social
Participation/Inclusion

The Network of Age Friendly Communities

Domains of Livability

Help Communities become even better places for people to live of all ages

Domain 5. Civic Participation
and Employment

Domain 6. Communication
Information

Domain 7. Community Support
and Health

City/Community Partner Roles

City of Dallas	Senior Affairs Commission	AARP Texas	Community Partners
<p>This plan serves as a stake in the ground for the City to ensure the Older Adult perspective is included across city planning and action</p> <p>Leads some action items</p>	<p>SAC will align their sub-committee priorities with the domains/strategies identified in the Age Friendly Dallas (AFD) Plan</p> <p>Advocate to the City and network partners in support of goals</p> <p>Serve as stewards and volunteers to support Dallas as an Age-Friendly community</p>	<p>Acts as convener for AFD stakeholders.</p> <p>Helps to identify domain leaders</p> <p>Shepherds action items within the plan and evaluates success/report to City and WHO</p> <p>Leads some action items</p>	<p>Serve as AFD stakeholders</p> <p>Server as domain leaders</p> <p>Continuously bring more partners and ideas to the initiative</p> <p>Leads some action items</p>

Domain 1: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

People need places to gather- indoors and out. Parks, sidewalks, safe streets, outdoor seating, and accessible buildings can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages.

- Increase access to and utilization of parks, open spaces, and public buildings.
- Address sidewalk issues in areas with a high older adult pedestrian population.



Domain 2: Transportation

Driving shouldn't be the only way to get around. Public transit options can be as expansive as a train system or as targeted as a taxi service that provides non-drivers with rides to and from a doctor's office.

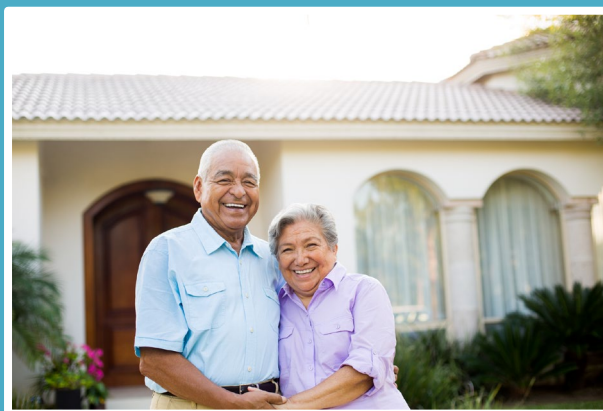
- Ensure all modes of transportation are safe, affordable, and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.
- Provide residents with information and tools to make informed and safe travel choices.
- Develop additional transportation options for older adults.



Domain 3: Housing

Most older adults want to age in place. Doing so is possible if homes are appropriately designed or modified – and if a community includes affordable housing options for varying life stages.

- Expand and promote the development of diverse housing options that are affordable and accessible.
- Support aging in place through the preservation of existing housing for seniors.
- Maximize awareness and referral programs to senior housing.
- Support efforts to address the unique, homelessness issues with older adult.



Domain 4: Social Participation and Inclusion

Regardless of one's age, loneliness negatively affects a person's health and sense of wellbeing. Isolation can be combatted by the availability of accessible, affordable, and fun social activities.

- Strengthen recreation, leisure, and educational activities targeting older adults.
- Increase older adult programming in city facilities.
- Create a city interagency team to optimize senior engagement and services.
- Develop age and dementia friendly business practices.



Domain 5: Civic Participation and Employment

An age-friendly community provides ways older people can, if they choose to, work for pay, volunteer their skills, and be actively engaged in community life.

- Increase employment, entrepreneurial, and volunteer opportunities for residents age 50+.
- Engage the older adult perspective in city issues.



Domain 6: Communication and Information

Age-friendly communities recognize that not everyone has a smartphone or Internet access and that information needs to be disseminated through a variety of means.

- Provide information regarding issues, events and interests related to older adults in user friendly formats.
- Promote access to technology and technology training to keep older adults connected to their community, friends and families.



Domain 7: Community Support and Health

At some point, everyone gets hurt, becomes ill, or simply needs a bit of help. While it's important that care be available nearby, it's essential that residents are able to access and afford the services required.

- Increase consumer awareness of services available in Dallas.
- Promote safety and wellness in the community.
- Increase awareness and access to fresh produce, healthy foods and SNAP.
- Provide information, education, and training for emergency preparedness of seniors.
- Support work to prevent elder abuse, neglect, financial exploitation and fraud.
- Support family caregivers.



It's the little things...



Next Steps

Senior Affairs Commission will:

- **Align sub-committee priorities with the domains/strategies identified in the Age Friendly Dallas Plan**
- **Incorporate Age Friendly Dallas Plan domains and strategies into SAC goals and sub-committee work**
- **Advocate to the City and network partners in support of SAC goals in alignment with priorities identified within Age Friendly Dallas Plan**
- **Serve as stewards and volunteers to support Dallas as an Age-Friendly community**

Recommendation

- **The Senior Affairs Commission voted to adopt the Age-Friendly Dallas plan on March 25, 2019 and is in full support of the plan**
- **The Senior Affairs Commission requests that City Council formally adopt the Age-Friendly Dallas plan.**



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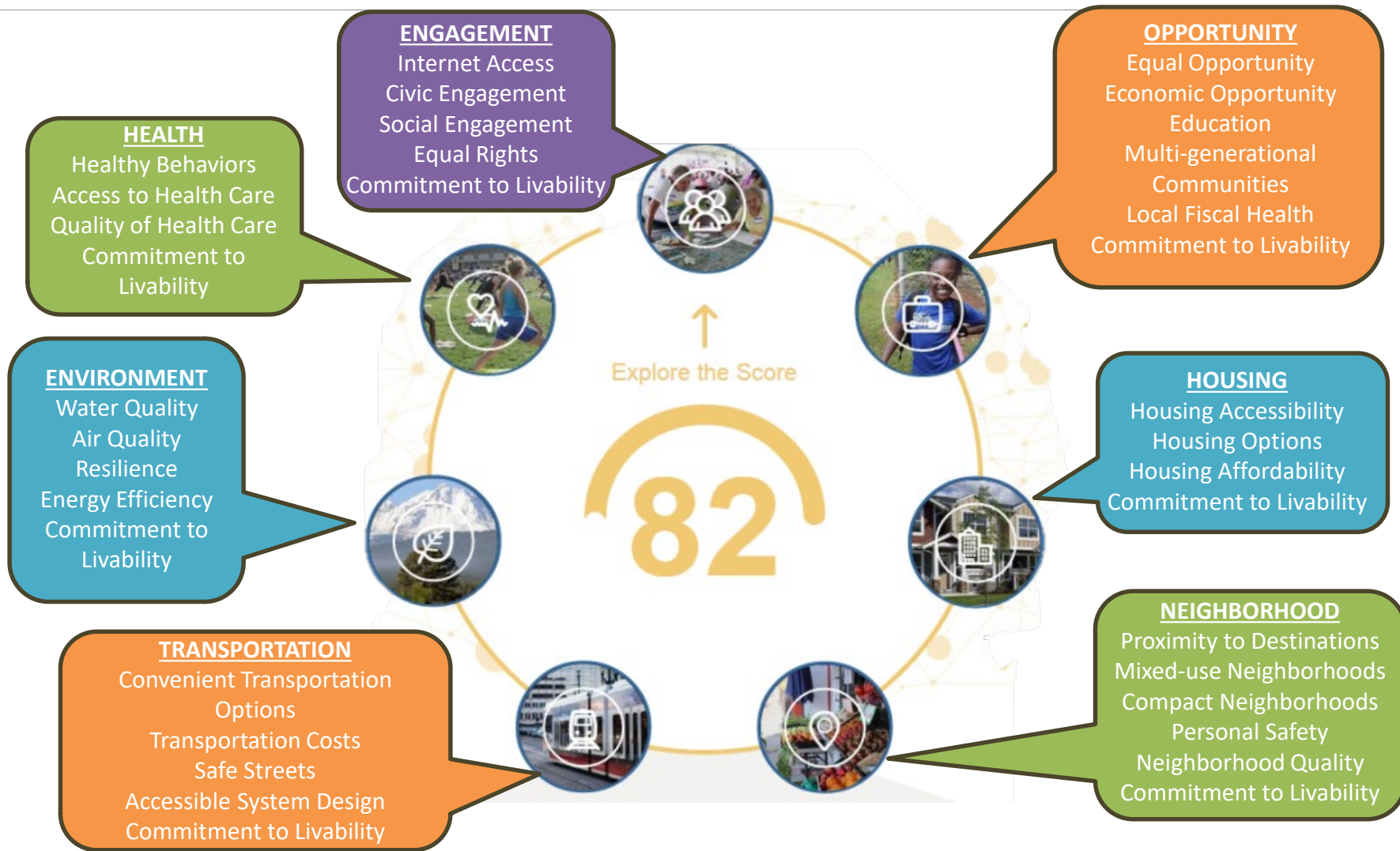
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Jessica Galleshaw, Director
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AARP Livability Index



<https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/>