The Independent Living/Long-Term Services and Supports Team of AARP’s Public Policy Institute provides research, policy analysis and technical assistance to support AARP’s public policy agenda in the areas of livable communities and long-term services and supports (LTSS).

The livable communities’ staff offers expertise in urban and regional planning, transportation, housing, and land use. The LTSS staff addresses issues including home and community-based services and supports, family caregiving, LTSS financing and reform, residential options, disability trends, and system analysis at state, national, and international levels.

The team focuses on dialogue with thought leaders and research to foster sound, creative solutions to the meet the challenges of an aging society. The team’s work examines critical public policy issues that affect the ability of people to successfully age in their homes and communities, regardless of their level of ability. This is accomplished by developing policy options that enhance the livability of communities through affordable and accessible housing, mobility options, and person- and family-centered services and supports that maximize independence, choice, and control for older adults and people with disabilities.

We primarily seek to inform state and national policymakers, opinion leaders, researchers, program planners, and administrators. The team also supports the efforts of AARP’s advocacy staff through the analysis of legislation and regulations, and the development of policy options and alternatives.

**Selected Publications**

- Aging in Place: A State Survey of Livability Policies and Practices
- Across the States 2012
- At the Crossroads: Providing Long-Term Services and Supports at a time of High Demands and Fiscal Constraint
- Consumer Choices and Continuity of Care in Managed Long-Term Services and Supports: Emerging Practices and Lessons
- Home Alone: Family Caregivers Providing Complex Chronic Care
- Housing for Older Adults: The Impacts of the Recession
- Impact of Baby Boomers on U.S. Travel, 1969 to 2009
- Keeping up with the Times: Supporting Family Caregivers with Workplace Leave Policies
- Loss of Housing Affordability Threatens Financial Stability for Older Middle-Class Adults
- Medicaid: A Program of Last Resort for People Who Need Long-Term Services and Support
- Raising Expectations: A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities, and Family Caregivers
- State Housing Profiles: Housing Conditions and Affordability for the Older Population 2011
- State Studies Find Home and Community-Based Services to be Cost Effective
- Strategies to Meet the Housing Needs of Older Adults
- The Aging of the Baby Boom and the Growing Care Gap
- Two Thirds of State Integrating Medicare and Medicaid Services for Dual Eligibles
- Valuing the Invaluable: 2011 Update The Growing Contributions and Costs of Family Caregiving
- Weaving It Together: A Tapestry of Transportation Funding for Older Adults

**Selected Forthcoming Publication**
- Is this a good place to live? Measuring Community Quality of Life for All Ages
- What is Livable? Community Preferences of Older Adults

**Staff**

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**Rita Choula, Project Manager**
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Jana Lynott, AICP, Senior Strategic Policy Advisor, (202) 434-3893 or jlynott@aarp.org – focuses on the linkage between land use and the mobility of older adults, transit-oriented development, street design for all users, transit service, older driver safety, and transportation finance. As a land use and transportation planner, she brings practical expertise to research.

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AARP’s Public Policy Institute informs and stimulates public debate on the issues we face as we age. Through research, analysis, and dialogue with the nation’s leading experts, PPI promotes development of sound, creative policies to address our common need for economic security, health care, and quality of life.