

CITY OF NEWPORT

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL**

No. 2019-29

WHEREAS, the global population of people aged 60 and over is expected to grow from 600 million in 2000 to almost 2 billion by 2050; AND

WHEREAS, in the United States, the population of people aged 65 and over is expected to grow from 35 million in 2000 to 88.5 million by 2050, taking the total share of the 65+ population from 12 percent to 20 percent of the total population; AND

WHEREAS, 34 percent of the population of Newport is aged 50 and over and 16 percent is aged 65 and over and the number of older Newport residents is projected to continue increase; AND

WHEREAS, research shows that older Americans overwhelmingly want to remain in their homes and communities as they age; AND

WHEREAS, access to quality health care, long term services and supports and affordable housing is essential for older adults to live in their homes and communities; AND

WHEREAS, 21 percent of adults age 65 and older do not drive, and more than half of these non- drivers do not leave home on a given day, in part because they lack transportation options; AND

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a Global Network of Age- Friendly Cities and Communities to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support healthy aging and thereby improve the health, well-being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older Americans; AND

WHEREAS, active aging is a life-long process, whereby an age-friendly community is not just “elder-friendly” but also intended to be friendly for all ages; AND

WHEREAS, the WHO has noted that “making cities and communities age-friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic ageing.”; AND

WHEREAS, the WHO has developed eight domains of community life that influence the livability and quality of life of persons of all ages:

- 1. Outdoor spaces and buildings** – accessibility to and availability of clean, safe community centers, parks, and other recreational facilities;
- 2. Transportation** – safe and affordable modes of private and public transportation, “Complete Streets” types of initiatives, hospitable built

environments;

3. Housing – wide range of housing options for older residents, ageing in place and other home modification programs, housing that is accessible to transportation and community and health services;

4. Social participation – access to leisure and cultural activities; opportunities for older residents to participate in social and civic engagement with their peers and younger people;

5. Respect and social inclusion – programs to support and promote ethnic and cultural diversity, programs to encourage multigenerational interaction and dialogue, programs to combat loneliness and isolation among older residents;

6. Civic participation and employment – promotion of paid work and volunteer opportunities for older residents; opportunities for older residents to engage in formulation of policies relevant to their lives;

7. Communication and information – promotion of and access to the use of technology to keep older residents connected to their community and friends and family, both near and far; and

8. Community support and health services – access to homecare services, clinics, programs to promote active ageing (physical exercise and healthy habits); AND

WHEREAS, the WHO recognizes that cities and communities have different needs, resources, and varying capacities to engage their resources to take action to facilitate active aging; AND

WHEREAS, the City of Newport's Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopted in 2017 supports age-friendly policies in outdoor spaces and recreation, housing, transportation, and community supports and health services and livability objectives for the City's future; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the City of Newport hereby supports initiatives and opportunities to engage in the AARP/WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Network; AND, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, Further, in recognition of existing efforts to promote and expand age-friendly policies and programs in the City of Newport, the City Council hereby supports the NEWPORT FOR ALL AGES initiative.

LYNN UNDERWOOD CEGLIE
JEANNE-MARIE NAPOLITANO
KATHRYN E. LEONARD
JAMIE BOVA
SUSAN D. TAYLOR

IN COUNCIL
READ AND PASSED
APRIL 10, 2019

Laura C. Swistak
City Clerk