



**City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor**

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

Mr. Michael Festa, State Director
AARP Massachusetts
1 Beacon Street
Suite 2301
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Festa:

We are pleased to provide this letter supporting the AARP Age-friendly community request on behalf of the City of Fall River, its Council on Aging, and Bristol Elder Services, Inc. Throughout the years City leaders and staff have worked diligently to promote independent aging and to ensure our community offers every support possible to the aging population. We have a long and positive relationship with Bristol Elder Services. As our population of seniors continues to increase, we will find it imperative to be proactive in our efforts to be supportive and accessible to the entire population.

It is our hope that joining the AARP network of Age-friendly communities will not only complement existing programs, including our dementia-friendly work, but also allow us to develop new initiatives so that we may evolve as a community. Current programs and services available in Fall River include supportive housing, home delivered and congregate meal site, in-home and community-based supports, and a multitude of health promotion activities, and evidence-based programs.

As we then move forward with our master plan, we will ensure that its implementation reflects the needs of the substantial senior population. We are dedicated to promoting an inclusive and accessible environment for all. By including Age-friendly concepts and principles in all future endeavors, we can ensure that Fall River is not only dementia friendly, but Age-Friendly.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to joining this global effort.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Coogan
Mayor