October 21, 2021  
American Association of Retired Persons  
601 E. Street NW,  
Washington D.C. 20049, United States

Re: Letter of Commitment to become an AARP “Age-Friendly Community”

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my commitment for the City of South Bend, Indiana to become an “age-friendly community” by the standards set by the American Association of Retired Persons.

We acknowledge that our population in the United States and likewise in South Bend is aging, and by 2030, one fifth of the US population will be 65 or older. In recognition of this fact, it is urgent and imperative that our cities and communities become more welcoming and livable to older people.

In addition to committing the support of myself and my administration, I will also partner with community organizations to further this goal, including REAL Services, South Bend Heritage Foundation, and the Forever Learning Institute.

The City of South Bend commits to the following:

- Enhancing and expanding our initiatives targeted towards older people regarding health, housing, and quality of life.
- Involving and engaging older adults in addressing their wants and needs from city government and other social agencies.
- Coordinating and creating new partnerships with community organizations doing work that directly impacts and benefits older residents.

South Bend recently saw its largest population increase in more than 50 years. Growing our City’s population remains a major priority of our administration. Older adults have much to offer our community and we hope that South Bend can continue to be a place where older adults choose to live.

Thank you for your consideration,

James Mueller  
Mayor, City of South Bend