April 20, 2021

Lupe Wissel, State Director  
AARP Idaho  
250 55th St Ste 800  
Boise, Idaho 83702  

Re: AARP’s Livable Communities – Meridian Application

Dear Lupe,

Thank you to you, Bill Armbruster, Dr. Tom Trotter, and Francoise Cleveland for your continued dedication and efforts to make Meridian a more livable community for all demographics, and for helping the City understand and evaluate AARP’s Livable Communities program.

Many of the topics identified in the eight domains of AARP’s Livable Communities program correlate to Meridian’s goals laid out in our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, and we plan to evaluate and identify needs and actions within the Livable Communities program that will move our strategic goals forward. To that, I am excited to participate in the program and believe the program will help Meridian accomplish its strategic goals and achieve its vision of being the West’s premier community in which to live, work and raise a family.

As a participant in AARP’s Livable Community Program, we intend to pursue methods to involve all citizens including older demographics. Our Mayor’s Senior Advisory Board (MSAB) already engages on some of these fronts and will have direct involvement as we move forward with this effort. In fact, last year MSAB completed its own survey, in addition to a City-wide citizen survey, to gather data on topics of importance to the senior population. These types of survey efforts are part of the City’s ongoing commitment to hear from all demographics of our community.

Meridian is well-positioned to advance awareness and solutions as they pertain to the Livable Communities program, and the City is committed to pursue public outreach efforts, develop a plan of action and measures to monitor plan outcomes and actions, and keep citizens engaged and informed of findings and intended direction of any action plan.
Overall, I believe participation in the AARP Livable Communities program will help make the City of Meridian a premier place to live, work, and raise a family for all in our community for years to come.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Robert Simison
Mayor