December 21, 2021

Christina FitzPatrick
Interim State Director
AARP Wisconsin
222 W. Washington Ave.
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Ms. FitzPatrick,

On behalf of the City of Wauwatosa, I am pleased to submit this letter of commitment and support in consideration of joining AARP’s Age-Friendly Communities Network and the World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Wauwatosa is committed to continuing efforts to become a livable, age-friendly community as a way to promote overall community health and improve the quality of life for all Wauwatosa residents.

As a City with 23% of residents over the age of 60, we want to be attentive to the needs of our older residents and to promote a community in which people of all ages can flourish. The Health Department will embark on creating its next Community Health Improvement Plan in 2022 and AARP’s eight domains of livability provide a solid framework for creating a plan that will create a more age-friendly city while improving overall community health.

We believe that we have a strong foundation on which to build this initiative. Wauwatosa is a city with very engaged residents, some of whom serve on our citizen boards, committees and commissions. Many of these citizen led groups are already undertaking initiatives that fall within the eight domains of livability, such as plans to create more bike and pedestrian friendly streets and efforts to provide more accessible and affordable housing.

As a participant in AARP’s Age-Friendly Community, the City of Wauwatosa commits to:

- Active engagement of older adults throughout the process of planning and implementing age-friendly initiatives via partnership with senior serving organizations and broad community outreach.
- A baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of Wauwatosa.
- The development of a community-wide action plan based upon data gathered through the assessment.
- The development of indicators to monitor progress on a continuous basis.
- Ongoing engagement of the community.

We look forward to working with AARP Wisconsin to make the City of Wauwatosa a place where people of all ages can age purposefully, comfortably and connected to one another. Thank you for your consideration of our application.

Sincerely,

Dennis McBride
Mayor