



Village of Great Neck Plaza, Inc.

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April 19, 2013

Ms. Beth Finkel
NYS Director, AARP
780 Third Ave., 33rd floor
New York, New York 10017-2003

Dear Ms. Finkel:

I am writing this as a letter of intent to express our interest in applying for the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities designation. At our Board of Trustees meeting on April 17, the Village Board adopted the attached resolution in support of this initiative.

The Village of Great Neck Plaza has a long history of adopting innovative and forward-thinking policies to keep our motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and all users of our roadways, sidewalks and public places, safe. We pride ourselves on being a smart growth, sustainable and livable community for residents of all ages and abilities. We adopted a Village Complete Streets Policy in February 2012 and we encourage development that focuses on enhancing the pedestrian experience and making our village more walkable. Over the past decade we have developed a comprehensive program to improve vehicular, pedestrian and bicyclist safety through traffic calming initiatives. During that time, close to \$3 million in five, traffic calming and pedestrian enhancement projects for the Plaza were implemented through state grants obtained from the New York State Department of Transportation. These traffic and pedestrian/bicyclist safety initiatives include a modern roundabout at Barstow Road and So. Station Plaza, reconstruction of Great Neck Road, bulb-outs on Bond Street, channelization of traffic at Barstow Road and Linden Place, and traffic, pedestrian and bicyclist enhancements at the Long Island Rail Road Great Neck train station plaza.

Partnering and exchanging ideas with AARP will help enhance our ability to:

- Practice sound planning;
- Establish an advisory citizens' committee that includes the active engagement of older adults
- Establish a robust and concrete plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community;
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes, and reporting them publicly.

We appreciate your interest in working with the Village of Great Neck Plaza and we look forward to our partnership on this important program.

Sincerely,

Jean A. Celender, Mayor

JAC:bh
Encl.