



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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DEKE COPENHAVER  
MAYOR

January 27, 2014

Mr. Greg Tanner, State Director  
AARP Georgia State Office  
999 Peachtree St NE, Ste 1100  
Atlanta, GA 30309

Dear Mr. Tanner:

It is with great pleasure that I write you to today to express my interest in joining with AARP Georgia and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Along with other selected communities in the nation, Augusta, GA, is committed to promoting policies that make our city friendly to the aging population.

Augusta is a destination location for people aged 65 and older, as our percentage of citizens in this age category is higher than the state average. Many factors, such as an affordable cost of living, access to numerous medical facilities, and a high quality of life, make our city desirable for the aging population. Augusta-Richmond County continues to receive national attention for the remarkable work that is being done in our community. Most recently, Augusta ranked second nationally as the Most-Budget Friendly City in the U.S. by ApartmentGuide.com.

The Augusta Commission and I are committed to creating a city that brings together our community in order to build a more prosperous and sustainable future for all. This initiative along with others that the City of Augusta has committed to falls in line with creating a brighter future for all our residents.

As a participant in the national network of communities, it is the intent of the Mayor of the City of Augusta to:

- Secure a council resolution that supports the City's effort to become age-friendly.
- Establish a Task Force that involves older citizens
- Perform a baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of the city.
- Develop a city-wide action plan based upon the findings of the assessment.
- Commit to measuring outcomes relative to the action plan to monitor progress and make necessary adjustments to the initial plan.

We look forward to working with AARP Georgia staff and other stakeholders to ensure that our community has the appropriate infrastructure to ensure that we are adequately responding to the needs of our citizens. I have no doubt that Augusta, GA, can be a shining example of age-friendliness.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deke Copenhaver', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mayor Deke Copenhaver

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