June 12, 2015

Nancy McPherson, AARP CA Interim State Director
AARP California
1415 L St #960
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. McPherson,

On behalf of the City of West Sacramento, I would like to enroll our community in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. The City of West Sacramento is committed to enhancing our policies, programs and services targeted towards older adults and improving the quality of life for residents of all ages. The City Council has unanimously endorsed this application, and has allocated resources to accomplish the work ahead.

I am convening a diverse advisory committee comprised of a cross-section of residents serving on our City’s six major policy commissions. This advisory committee will assist in the development of an action plan based on the findings of our initial baseline assessment of the eight domains of livability as defined by the World Health Organization. We have recently redesigned our governance to incorporate age-friendly policy responsibility across the full range of citizen commissions, including planning, transportation and infrastructure, environment and utilities, arts and culture, parks and recreation, and housing and economic development. This cross-cutting approach to the advisory committee guiding our work with the AARP Network will assure broad-based collective ownership of the strategy and effective implementation of the action plan.

Our baseline assessment will integrate traditional mechanisms to involve older adults including a survey instrument and informational interviews, but will also include emerging techniques, such as the use of existing data sets from our transportation system, housing as well as parks and recreation department to infer the preferences of older adult residents. We intend to spearhead a new model of community engagement that prioritizes big data and predictive analytics to model the behavior of our citizens and uncover indicators that will allow us to monitor and evaluate our progress as we implement the action plan.

I look forward to working with the AARP California staff, its members and volunteers, and other stakeholders as we create and implement an action plan that responds to the needs of the community.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

CHRISTOPHER L. CABALDON
Mayor of West Sacramento

www.cityofwestsacramento.org