January 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern;

The City of Columbus is on the move, earning national attention as a wonderful place to live, work and play. In collaboration with our City Council and regional partners, we are committed to making that promise true not only for future generations, but also the strong base of seniors who already call our city home. As a part of that commitment, we work with many local agencies serving the needs and interests of seniors, and I have a staff member dedicated to working on these issues.

Please accept this letter as an expression of our interest in applying for the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. As Columbus’s longest serving Mayor, I am committed to improving the quality of life for families in our neighborhoods and residents of all ages. We must ensure safety and accessibility for our residents to grow our neighborhood economies, improve our quality of life, and ensure long term sustainability.

A team of local collaborators is already working together to help us show WHO how we are qualified for this designation. We will remain proactive and innovative when it comes to preparing our city. Recent urban revitalization projects are making Columbus a city for all ages and abilities, and I hope that your team can come visit to see all that we are doing together. From accessible public transportation, walkability, multi-use businesses, and a collaborative network including dozens of organizations serving the needs of the aging members of our community, we are ready to make this vision a success.

Thank you for all you are doing to make the world more Age-Friendly, and for giving Columbus your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Coleman
Mayor