



RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



September 23, 2015

Mr. Bill Johnston-Walsh, Director
AARP Pennsylvania
30 North 3rd Street, Suite 750
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Mr. Johnston-Walsh:

We write today to convey our support for the efforts of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Partnership for Aging and commitment to the pursuit of policies to make our region friendlier to aging populations. By pursuing admission into the World Health Organization and AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Communities Initiative, we can ensure that our residents age safely and with purpose and dignity.

Allegheny County has one of the highest proportions of residents aged 60-plus with 22.72% of the population falling into that category. This is an opportunity for our governments to address those changing demographics and environments so that older residents can live their best lives. To that end, Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh will be supporting this enrollment in the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities by:

- Designating staff to represent both governments on the local Age-Friendly Community collaborative, and throughout the stakeholder process;
- Engaging relevant departments, agencies and offices within our governments as appropriate to inform the action plan being developed for our region; and
- Leveraging our voices to raise the visibility and awareness of Age-Friendly Community issues and efforts when the opportunity presents itself.

We look forward to working collaboratively with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Partnership for Aging, AARP Pennsylvania, as well as other stakeholders to make Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh most livable communities for people of all ages.

Sincerely,

Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive

William Peduto, Mayor
City of Pittsburgh

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