



TOWN OF GREENWICH

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Peter J. Tesei
First Selectman

December 8, 2016

William Armbruster
Advisor
AARP Livable Communities Program
601 E. Street NW
Washington, DC 20049

Dear Mr. Armbruster,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to express our interest in applying for the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities designation. At our Board of Selectmen meeting on December 8, 2016, the Selectmen unanimously adopted the attached resolution in support of this initiative.

The Town of Greenwich has a long history of adopting innovative and forward-thinking policies. We pride ourselves on being a sustainable and livable community for residents of all ages and abilities. Looking into the future, we see value in identifying challenges and opportunities within the community to improve the lives of the Town's older population.

According to the 2016 Greenwich United Way Needs Assessment, currently 17.5% of town residents are over the age of 65. This number is projected to reach 19.5% by the year 2020. This demographic shift coupled with a sizeable longevity bonus will exponentially impact support and services related to healthcare, retirement, personal finances, housing, leisure, and initiatives to help older adults age in place. This transition is certain to have a profound effect on the livability of our community.

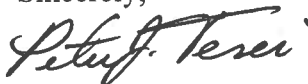
The Town of Greenwich would like to be the first community in the State of Connecticut to apply for and achieve the designation as a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. This initiative will serve as a benchmark of standards for the other communities throughout the state, and similar communities in other states. Age-Friendly communities aim at making communities better for all residents, providing opportunities for greater connection and enhancing the livability quotient for all.

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

- Build upon addressing the World Health Organization's eight domains,
- Establish a robust and concrete plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community,
- Continue to grow our Commission on Aging committee with important community stakeholders,
- Prepare for the rapidly growing aging population in our Town.

We look forward to joining this global network of communities committed to providing their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safe lives. I have no doubt that the Town of Greenwich can be a shining model of Age-Friendliness to the state of Connecticut.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Tesei
First Selectman