February 21, 2017

Mr. Robert Murphy
State Director
AARP Colorado
303 East 17th Avenue
Suite 510
Denver, CO 81203

Dear Mr. Murphy:

On behalf of the Pitkin County, Colorado, we offer this letter pledging our ongoing commitment to creating and maintaining an age-friendly environment, and we respectfully request membership to the World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Pitkin County recognizes the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning and policies to address our growing population of older adults, and to facilitate programs and activities to support independent living. Pitkin County is committed to an ongoing process to support active and healthy aging, economic and social vitality, and a thriving community for aging well.

Pitkin County launched the Pitkin County Aging Well Community Plan in November 2014, facilitated and executed by Pitkin County Senior Services. The comprehensive community plan was the culmination of a 20-month planning process including community input sessions, monthly workgroups, steering committee meetings and a community-wide presentation of findings and results. These addressed older adult needs and programs including identifying resources that are well developed as well as those where there are gaps and inconsistencies. Fourteen (14) goals, including more than 161 action items, were identified in the areas of housing, transportation, civic engagement, health and human services and economic development. The community has been working diligently on these tasks and accomplishments are reported annually. The overall goal of the Aging Well Community Plan is to make Pitkin County a place where residents, through all stages of aging, will have access to the activities and services they need.

Pitkin County has developed a strong framework on which to address the World Health Organization’s eight domains that influence the health and quality of life for older adults. We look forward to joining this global network of communities committed to giving their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safe lives.

Thank you for your consideration of membership for Pitkin County to the World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Sincerely,

Jon Peacock
Pitkin County Manager

George Newman
Pitkin County Commissioner Chair