



City of Southfield

26000 Evergreen Rd. • P.O. Box 2055 • Southfield, MI 48037-2055 • www.cityofsouthfield.com

March 31, 2017

Karen Kafantaris, Associate State Director
AARP Michigan
309 N. Washington Sq., #110
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Ms. Kafantaris:

The City of Southfield is pleased to submit an application to become part of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. This international effort was launched in 2006 to help cities prepare for their growing population of older adults.

I understand you met in January with our Commission on Senior Adults to provide guidance to our city on this undertaking. We appreciate your help and your commitment to continue working with us throughout the process. The City of Southfield has taken many steps prior to this application to ready itself for designation. Our Commission on Senior Adults is the community group that will lead our effort; it will be assisted by our Human Services Coordinator. Most importantly, every appropriate city department, board and commission is committed to contributing to efforts to make Southfield an age-friendly community.

Our Commission on Senior Adults requested the support of the Mayor and City Council last August; the Council and I issued a joint resolution in support of this direction in September 2016. Since that time, meetings have been held with major city stakeholders to secure strong collaboration throughout the next several years. The AARP Survey has been on our City Website and we have tabulated the results periodically and provided them to the Commission on Senior Adults.

We have our kickoff event scheduled for May 24, 2017 and we look forward to your participation. City leadership looks forward to participating in this as well. With over 40% of Southfield's population age 50 or better, we recognize the importance of planning for the future needs of our aging population. We also recognize improvements that make our community age-friendly will improve the quality of life for all our residents. We look forward to working with AARP and the World Health Organization to reinforce our commitment to truly make Southfield "the center of it all." Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our application. City of Southfield Human Services Coordinator Rhonda Terry and COSA Chairperson Karen Schrock are also available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kenson J. Siver
Mayor

Mayor
Kenson J. Siver

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