August 28, 2017

William Armbruster
Advisor, AARP Livable Communities Programs
Community, State and National Affairs, AARP
601 E Street NW
Washington DC 20049

Dear Mr. Armbruster,

I proudly served as City Councilwoman when the City of Henderson announced its designation as an ‘Age-Friendly City’ by the AARP and the World Health Organization’s Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative in 2015. Now, as Henderson’s Mayor, I am pleased to submit the completed Age-Friendly Henderson Community Action Plan to the AARP. As an age-friendly community, we are charged with increasing awareness of senior related issues and promoting policies so that individuals of all ages can maintain active, healthy and productive lifestyles in Henderson.

Research shows that the population of Henderson is older, on average, than that of the United States as a whole, with a median age of 41 compared with the national median age of 37. Additionally, 22.3% of our city’s population is over the age of 60. In recognizing the unique composition of our community, the City has committed to better serving our seniors and ensuring a high quality of life and self-sufficiency for residents of all ages and abilities.

The City of Henderson has a history of providing quality recreational and housing services for its senior population. The City currently has two senior recreation centers, as well as the Henderson Multigenerational Center and Aquatic Complex, the first of its kind in Southern Nevada, designed to bring people of all generations together to enjoy the benefits of recreation. Additionally, the City has three different entertainment venues which are aimed at providing diverse performing arts and events for audiences of all ages. The City has worked diligently to provide a mixture of housing options for our elderly and disabled population including affordable active, disabled and senior communities as well as affordable long-term care facilities.
Henderson is committed to achieving the goals and visions of this plan and making Henderson a truly “livable community” for all ages. “Livable communities” are defined by AARP as places that are safe and secure, have affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and offer supportive community features and services for older adults and people of all ages. Accomplishing the goals of this plan will ensure that all Henderson residents can remain in their neighborhoods and community as they age.

The Henderson Action Plan establishes a vision, goals, strategies and action items to respond to the needs of its senior residents. We look forward to working together with AARP, its members and volunteers, members of our business and non-profit community, medical and education providers, social services, and other stakeholders to implement the initiatives established in this plan. The City of Henderson is committed to continuing the vision of the age-friendly initiative and remaining a welcoming place for all.

Sincerely,

Debra March

Mayor Debra March