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July 27, 2017

Mr. Sam Wilson
AARP Wisconsin State Director
222 W. Washington Ave, Suite 600
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Wilson:

On behalf of the Village of Greendale, I am pleased to submit this letter of commitment and support in consideration of joining AARP's Age-Friendly Communities Network and the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. One of three government-sponsored "greenbelt" communities built during the Great Depression, Greendale (recently named a National Historic Landmark) continues to serve as a successful model of a planned community.

The work and dedication of a group of older residents in partnership with our public health department (SAGE) has brought to light the importance of building upon our strengths to create a community that allows older adults to be healthy, independent and integrated into village life. SAGE (Successful Aging in Greendale for Everyone) has indicated that they are willing and able to take on a leadership role. As the community's elected leaders, the Village Board of Trustees is committed to assisting in this process by identifying key stakeholders, participating in environmental assessments and in active involvement in the development and implementation of a 3-year village wide plan of action based on these findings. We also commit to the regular evaluation / review of village policies to ensure that they support the 8 domains of livability.

The principles of age-friendly communities strongly align with the Village's Comprehensive Plan. We believe we already have a strong foundation upon which this multi-step process of improvement can take root. We are excited for the opportunity to work with SAGE, AARP and other community stakeholders to improve life for all residents in Greendale.

Thank you for your consideration of our application to join this prestigious group of communities.

Sincerely,


James Birmingham
Village President