



CITY OF ANAHEIM
MAYOR TOM TAIT

September 11, 2018

Nancy McPherson, CA State Director
American Association of Retired Person
1415 L Street, Suite 960
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. McPherson;

On behalf of the City of Anaheim, we are excited about the opportunity to join with AARP California and the World Health Organizations (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Along with other selected communities in the nation, Anaheim is committed to promoting policies to make American cities friendly to aging populations.

The City of Anaheim is home to Orange County's fastest growing senior community. Thirteen percent of Anaheim residents are age 60 or older. By 2040, we expect seniors to make up a quarter of our population. To address our changing demographics, I have made it one of my core missions as Anaheim's mayor to reach out to our seniors and develop programs and services to help them. Just this year, we launched Reach out Anaheim, a program that aims to connect generations across our city. It's a friendly knock on the door of a senior you know or know of in your neighborhood. It's reaching out and making a small but meaningful connection. For seniors, outreach encounters can help combat isolation and provide healthy interaction.

In addition, our City Council has recently appointed a seven-member Senior Citizen's Commission comprised of a diverse group of Anaheim residents whom advise the City Council on the needs of seniors. Our goal is to ensure that our aging residents have access to opportunities through the provision of resources that help them continue to be healthy, active, and independent. I am also pleased to note that the City of Anaheim participates on the Orange County Strategic Plan for Aging. This is a countywide initiative leading the planning and operation of a system of integrated aging programs and services designed to maximize the health, the lives and overall well-being of our older adults.

We have developed a strong framework to build upon in addressing the World Health Organizations eight domains. We look forward to working with AARP California staff and volunteers to ensure our community has the appropriate infrastructure in place to age gracefully and with dignity.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Tait
Mayor