



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MAYOR: David H. Bieter

January 9, 2018

Lupe Wissel  
AARP Idaho State Director  
3080 E Gentry Way, Suite 100  
Meridian, ID 83642

Dear Ms. Wissel,

On behalf of the City of Boise, we are excited to offer this letter of intent for the opportunity to join AARP, Idaho and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community.

Since my first term as mayor in 2004, I have worked with city employees and many different organizations and businesses throughout the city to help make Boise the most livable city in the country. We move one step closer to this lofty goal by making Boise a great community for people of all ages and abilities. Age Friendly planning is a priority that Boise, Idaho is dedicated to accomplishing to enhance independent living and promote active and healthy aging for all its citizens.

In 2015, The City of Boise partnered with Boise State University's Center for the Study of Aging to produce a survey targeting the eight domains of livability. The process included older adults, care givers and care facilities and provided a useful insight on where processes were strong and opportunities for improvement.

The City of Boise recently acquired the sole operation of its local Senior Center in December of 2016. Through this acquisition, we realized we have a strong framework of senior services through pre-existing recreational programming as well as other positive initiatives. However, we recognize that a more comprehensive assessment needs to happen to create a more age-friendly environment. Advocates throughout the community will be involved in creating a Task Force including Idaho's Central District Health, Boise State University, Idaho Commission on Aging, Homeowner's Associations, and volunteers that represent a diverse representation of this growing population.

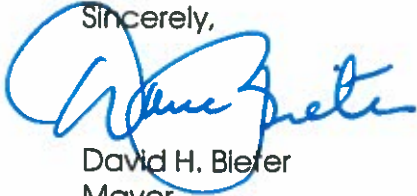
As a participant in the national network of communities, it is the intent of the City of Boise to:

- Include the active engagement of older adults in the Task Force.
- Utilize the 2015 Boise State University study as a starting point for further assessment.
- Establish a Plan of Action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community.

- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly. Measuring tools will consist of community surveys of older adults, care givers and care facilities. Indicators will include accessibility and affordability of transportation, housing, recreational opportunities, access to open space, inclusion and health systems.

We look forward to working with AARP Idaho staff and volunteers to ensure our community has the appropriate infrastructure in place so we can all age with dignity. Thank you for your consideration of membership for the City of Boise to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David H. Blefer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "B".

David H. Blefer  
Mayor