



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON
MAYOR

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Sarah Waddle, Indiana State Director
AARP Indiana
One North Capitol Avenue Suite 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Greetings Ms. Waddle:

The City of Gary is excited to become a partner with AARP Indiana and a member of the AARP network of "Age Friendly" cities and towns working to enhance the quality of life for our aging communities. This partnership could not have come at a better time, when the city is poised for resurgence.

The City of Gary is a hidden treasure nestled on the south shores of Lake Michigan. Our citizens and visitors enjoy our beautiful 15 miles of beach; our historic Marquette Park-home to the Gary Air Show; our state-of-the-art USS Steelyard baseball stadium and our newest addition to downtown, Gary Arthouse; a business incubator and public arts and cultural center. Not to mention, our location is quickly assessable from all modes of transportation.

Our overreaching vision is to make Gary a safe, blight free, livable community with resources for all ages. Initiatives toward this end drives all of our planning efforts. As we develop the city's comprehensive plan, our planning takes into consideration the trajectory that will shape our quickly changing city, as well the demographics of our community. While we agree our youth are the future of our city, our senior population remains a valuable asset. It is through partnerships like AARP that will help us to ensure additional resources are available for our seniors.

We look forward to the AARP partnership as we respond to our aging population. Our work continues toward making Gary a great place to live, work, play and yes!-to retire.

Sincerely,

Karen Freeman-Wilson, Mayor
City of Gary