



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

City of Northampton

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mayor@northamptonma.gov

November 15, 2018

Michael E. Festa, State Director
AARP Massachusetts
One Beacon Street, Suite 2301
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Northampton, MA Age Friendly Application

Dear Mr. Festa:

On behalf of the City of Northampton, I am pleased to submit our application for designation as an Age Friendly City and membership in the AARP/WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

As you will note in our application, Northampton has a long-standing commitment to ensuring that we are a livable City for all of our residents, including older adults who comprise almost twenty percent of our population. An integral component of the Age Friendly Northampton initiative is a commitment to ensure that all of our planning and recommendations will include a Dementia Friendly lens.

Through the Age Friendly Northampton initiative, we will bring together older residents, City staff and volunteers, and community partners who will collaborate to

- Assess current programs, services, and infrastructure in order to determine if current and future needs are being addressed
- Gather input from older residents (through interviews, surveys and listening sessions) about what would make Northampton even more Age Friendly
- Develop a multi-year plan for age friendly focused improvements based upon assessments and input

We intend that a key by-product of this initiative will be an effective navigation and communication systems, easily accessible to all residents.

Thank you for your consideration of our application. Should you have any questions about the application or our Age Friendly Northampton plans, please feel free to contact Marie Westburg, our Director of Senior Services (mwestburg@northamptonma.gov)

We look forward to our partnership in developing Age Friendly Northampton and to contributing to Massachusetts' Age Friendly network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David J. Narkewicz".

David J. Narkewicz
Mayor