

TOWN OF SUDBURY

Office of Selectmen

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April 2, 2018

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

Re: Membership in the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and communities

Dear Mr. Festa:

On behalf of Sudbury, I am pleased to offer this letter for our ongoing commitment to creating an Age-Friendly Community and Region, and I respectfully request membership to the AARP/WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Sudbury is submitting this letter and its application as a part of a 14-town collaborative effort of the Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC) to advance regional age-friendly planning.

Older adults are increasingly a larger part of our community, a trend we are also seeing in our neighboring towns. Now accounting for 21% of total Sudbury population, this segment is likely to reach one-quarter of total in the next 3 years, not taking into account two age-restricted developments under construction. Sudbury is, in fact, aging faster than the MetroWest region itself. The unique needs of a growing older adult population will influence housing, transportation, and health care, among other services and systems. These facts compel us to be proactive, to ensure that current efforts and planning address these issues, and that both now and in the future older residents are supported in leading stable, engaged, and healthy lives.

Through the 14-town collaborative effort, Sudbury will seek to advance age-friendly regional planning and solutions for two particularly pressing issues: housing and transportation. Where the region has limited public transit and is largely car-dependent, solutions must address needs for older adult mobility, particularly for those that do not drive cars, and including active transportation solutions that support active and healthy lifestyles. In the region, the housing stock available may not meet the needs of adults as they age and as their households get smaller. Solutions, therefore must be responsive to older adults across their lifetime, and must also include adequate affordable options to ensure that residents may continue to age in their communities. Where these are issues that towns work actively on, by working across towns, we will have the opportunity to build on our successes and identify and implement regional housing and transportation solutions for older adults both in the near term and into the future.

Our objective is to be all-age- ("0 to 100") and dementia-friendly, and we are currently invested in two initiatives relevant to this application: a formal needs assessment, and a multi-community transportation pilot. The first is being conducted by researchers at the Center for Social & Demographic Research on Aging at UMass Boston. This 9-month effort, which began last fall with two public forums, focuses on the needs and interests of Sudbury's adult population as they shape planning and development in support of being a Livable Community. The second initiative is a multi-community effort. Several municipalities

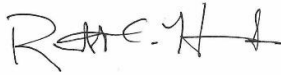
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(including Sudbury, the originator of this initiative) are submitting an MAPC project concept for a 1-year pilot consisting of partnership between CrossTown Connect Transportation Management Association member towns and local taxi, bus, and livery companies. Further details on both initiatives can be found in this application.

Thank you for your consideration of our membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. We look forward to our partnership in building age-friendly communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Haarde". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Robert C. Haarde, Chairman
Board of Selectmen