March 22, 2018

Lori Parham
AARP Maine State Director
53 Baster Blvd
Portland, ME 04101

Dear Ms. Parham,

Our current administration is interested and excited to learn and offer opportunities to our region. We have been speaking with residents in our town and surrounding areas about future projects and ideas that they would like to see happen in the East Grand Lake region. One issue that was mentioned repeatedly was the need for better elder services and accessibility. The inspiration of becoming an AARP/World Health Organization Age-Friendly Community sprang from these conversations and we are writing you today to express our commitment.

The town of Danforth acts as a hub for several outlying towns in the region and incorporating age-friendly planning and policies is instrumental to the well-being of our aging population. We will be arranging an initial assessment of the community’s current age-friendliness with the results being used to form an action plan. Though we have had several ideas brought to our attention, we want to know what can be done to improve livability in the Danforth area for a range of age groups, in particular, our seniors.

We shall strive to encompass the 8 Domains of Livability throughout the entire process while developing an action plan that will be continuously reassessed in light of resident feedback, requests and suggestions. We hope to have a committed standing board in place soon, comprised of residents of various ages, economic standing and physical health. With their guidance we hope to coordinate, develop, and realize our efforts in making Danforth an Age-Friendly Community.

Sincerely,

Carrie Oliver
Barry Gillis
Charles Parker
Selectmen of Danforth