

Office of the Mayor



200 South President Street
Post Office Box 17
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0017

Ms. Ivory L. Craig
Associate State Director Community Outreach
AARP Mississippi State Office
141 Township Avenue, #302
Ridgeland, MS 39157

Dear Ms. Craig,

It is with great pleasure that I'm writing this letter to express our interest in applying for AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities designation and the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities designation. On April 10, 2018, the Jackson City Council adopted the attached order in support of this initiative.

The City of Jackson prides itself on adopting innovative and forward thinking policies to keep our motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and all users of our roadways, sidewalks, and public places safe. In October, 2015, we adopted the Complete Streets Policy, which defines a complete street as to provide a safe, convenient, and context-sensitive facility for all modes of travel, for users of all ages and all abilities. My administration is based on the idea that we must come together to build a more human scale, equitable, and sustainable community for all. The goals and principles of the ongoing projects in the City such as Jackson's Blight Elimination Program, Business Entrepreneur Assisting Team, Lunch Streets Program, Unified Signage Design Competition for Jackson, and Car-free Pilot Program have a clear overlap with the goals of WHO's Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Therefore, I see great value in joining the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. In preparing for the rapidly growing aging population, my administration is committed to advancing public and aging policy goals within the World Health Organization's eight established domains: making outdoor spaces and buildings more senior friendly; increasing the accessibility and affordability of transportation and housing; promoting social participation opportunities for senior citizens to participate in social and civic engagement with their peers and younger people; providing activities to ensure social inclusion in an effort to keep seniors active and engaged on the community; creating employment opportunities and civic participation to help supplement fixed incomes; promoting the access to the use of technology to keep senior citizens connected to their community and family; ensuring adequate medical and long-term care services and supports to help seniors stay healthy and active aging in place.

I look forward to working with the AARP Mississippi State Office, its members and volunteers, and other stakeholders to create a plan of action that responds to needs in our community. I'm confident that the City of Jackson, the State Capitol, can be a shining example of an Age-friendly city in the South.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chokwe Antar Lumumba" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chokwe Antar Lumumba, Esq.

Mayor, City of Jackson