



Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities**
and the **World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

- If you have questions while completing this form, please email livable@aarp.org
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 7/31/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Peoria

STATE: Illinois

POPULATION SIZE: 111,388 (Census, American FactFinder, 2018 population estimates); 112,883 (per American Community Survey, July 1, 2017)

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 14% (persons over 65, per the American Community Survey, July 1, 2017)

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Jim Ardis

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, Illinois 61602

Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT for the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

- The community contact is the local staff member or volunteer who is primarily responsible for carrying out the community-level work — it is not the responsible AARP staff member.

NAME: *Kimberly Smith*

POSITION: Senior Urban Planner

EMAIL ADDRESS: kismith@peoriagov.org

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (309) 494-8612 direct; (309) 494-8600 main line

Please describe the named person's role in the city or community's age-friendly initiative:

Land Use Planner and project lead. Responsible for application to join AARP's network of age-friendly communities, and related public input solicitation, creation of action plan; and implementation of action plan.

The person named above agrees to be subscribed to the [AARP Livable Communities Weekly e-Newsletter](#), which is one of the primary ways we share useful news and resources. To add additional subscribers, type their names and email addresses into below. Once this application is processed, a subscription confirmation message will be sent so the individual can confirm that they want to subscribe. To subscribe today, follow the link above or visit AARP.org/Livable-Subscribe.

Click here to enter text.

Section 3: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ENGAGEMENTS and COLLABORATIONS

1) Please provide a brief summary of the community policies, programs and services that are targeted toward older people and how the community plans to become more age-friendly.

Our community has a number of existing policies, programs, and services that are targeted toward older people. Here are a few examples: Meals on Wheels, Ollie Program, Adult Protective Services – Center for Prevention of Abuse, Rehabilitation Programs for Seniors/Disabled – Rebuilding Together, Accessibility Programs for Seniors/Disabled – Advocates for Access, Variety of Services – Central IL Agency on Aging, Support Groups/Care Navigation – Alzheimer’s Association Peoria, Senior Recreational Activities – Peoria Park District; and Senior In-Home Counseling and Visitor Programs – Center for Youth and Family Solutions. We also have other initiatives underway, that, while not specifically targeted to our older population, are inclusive to a wide variety of populations and needs, and offer a benefit to all ages: 1. With technical assistance from IHDA, three current and active community revitalization plans are in progress in areas with low income, and poor quality housing and infrastructure. 2. Southside Community United for Change, the County/City Health Department, the City of Peoria, OSF, Intangible Mindz, and the Economic Development Council is working towards a local food plan for Peoria, focusing in particular on the City’s South Side. 3. In past years, the City has adopted a complete streets policy, and continues to work to implement it. 4. We have a long standing sidewalk rehabilitation program, which makes use of CDBG funds. 5. The mass transit district continues to actively add bus shelters wherever possible. ... As safe and affordable housing is key to success and security for all, our community plans to focus on our three current Community Revitalization plans for purposes of AARP. The three neighborhood areas are known as the Near Northside, the Near Southside, and the East Bluff.

2) How will the community engage and involve older people in the process of becoming a more age-friendly?

1. The City’s three community reinvestment strategies currently in progress have a large citizen input component, which has included surveys and meetings geared for active participation and input. 2. Current corridor planning and the South Village Implementation Plan will enable the public for still further input. 3. Both the community revitalization plans and the corridor plans will be adopted into our community’s City-wide Comprehensive Plan. Related implementation plans will be developed, and physical improvements are expected to be incorporated into the coming year’s capital improvement plan and budget. The type and purpose of desired physical improvements will be decided as part of the community input gained from the community revitalization planning in the three areas. The World Health Organization’s Checklist of Essential Features of Age-Friendly Cities will be prominently incorporated into the discussion. Additionally: 4. The City continues to host public meetings prior to any major infrastructure project. 5. The City is expanding its public outreach for citizen input into the City-wide budget discussions.

3) Briefly describe the mechanisms the community has or is planning to put in place to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments.

Community Reinvestment Strategies and corridor plans for locations are being created throughout the City.

Section 4: NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

- Your answers to the following questions will help us complete your membership in the global age-friendly network and better enable us to understand how to support the network.

4) How do you hope to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

Our City’s contribution to the network will be most visible by our attention to and investment in areas considered “essential features of age-friendly communities,” as listed by the World Health Organization. Such features are related to outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information; and community and health services.

5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

Inclusion in the network will affirm our commitment to improve livability within the City of Peoria and be inclusive of all ages.

6) Provide a digital file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community and for which you have reprint rights. The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours:

Logo will be emailed, by attachment, to livable@aarp.org, as both a TIFF and PDF document.

