



Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly 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@aarpp.org.
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 1/28/2019

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Archdale

STATE: North Carolina

POPULATION SIZE: 12,105

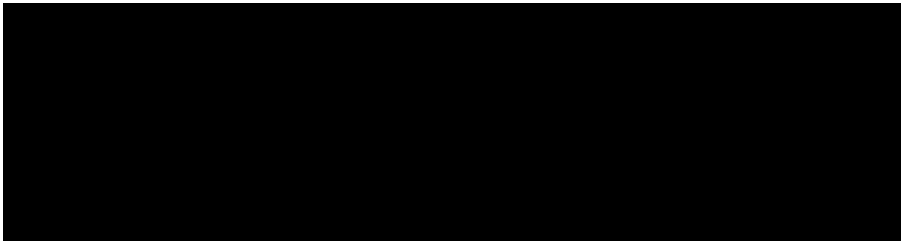
PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 24% (ACS, 2017)

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Bert Lance-Stone, Mayor

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 307 Balfour Drive, Archdale NC 27263

Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY 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.



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

Jason Miller is an AICP certified planner and has served as the Planning Director for the City of Archdale since December 2016. Prior to being promoted to Planning Director, he served as the City's Interim Planning Director and Planning Officer for over ten years. Jason studied urban and economic development, completing his M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Jason studies Aging in Community Initiatives across the United States and attended the AARP annual Livable Communities Conference in Charlotte in November of 2018. As Planning Director of the City of Archdale, he oversees the Planning Department, maintaining a close working relationship with other municipal departments and various other government and civic organizations. Jason serves as staff liaison to committees on planning, transportation, and economic issues (Chairman of the Randolph County Transportation Advisory Board Committee for the Regional Coordinated Area Transportation System; staff liaison to Archdale-Trinity Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee and High Point MPO Technical Coordinating Committee). The Planning Department is charged with seeking opportunities to develop and fund long-term planning and development goals. With an established commitment to public engagement and providing a high quality of life for all residents, the Planning Department is well positioned to guide the Age-Friendly Archdale Initiative.

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.

The City of Archdale has many policies, programs, and services that are targeted toward older people, and the City's commitment to become more age-friendly is articulated in numerous planning documents. One of the most appreciated assets of the City, promoting many of the AARP's domains of livability, is Creekside Park. Within walking distance of many neighborhoods, the park is host to a recreation center, playgrounds, tennis courts, greenways, picnic shelters, and a disc golf course. The Archdale Public Library, Senior Center, and Archdale Campus of the Randolph County Community College (RCCC) are also located in or adjacent to Creekside Park. These civic institutions and public spaces anchor the community and encourage meaningful contact between citizens of all ages. Fitness activities at Creekside Park include walking clubs, yoga, dancing classes, and pickle ball leagues. The Park also provides arts and craft opportunities, a farmer's market, community garden, and day trips that are designed to foster social participation for older adults. Computer classes and health seminars are offered at RCCC. Randolph County Senior Adults Association (RCSAA) operates the Archdale Senior Center and Regional Coordinated Area Transportation System (RCATS). Activities offered at the Senior Center include a host of recreational and social programs as well as tax aid and blood pressure checks. In addition, the Center delivers Meals-On-Wheels to homebound seniors. RCSAA serves as a central access point for information about community resources. RCATS provides public transportation services for older residents and uses vans equipped with special accessibility features. The Grubb Family YMCA offers a host of programs geared towards older adults including fitness classes, personal training, wellness and nutrition classes, and water aerobics. The YMCA also administers the local Silver Sneakers Program. Other organizations in Archdale that provide significant resources to older adults include Community Outreach of Archdale-Trinity, Archdale-Trinity Serco Club, Randolph County Department of Health, United Way, Northwestern Randolph County Arts Council, as well as a myriad of faith-based organizations. The City of Archdale is committed to fostering a high quality of life for its increasingly diverse population and is dedicated to crafting policy that accounts for people of all ages and abilities. The City has and will continue to use adopted long-range plans and development ordinances as powerful tools to encourage domains of livability. One of the most effective strategies for Archdale to positively affect the lives of older adults is to continue implementing land use and transportation policies and development regulations that promote walkable new development, complete streets, and age-friendly housing options. The City of Archdale is beginning the process of developing a Comprehensive Strategic Plan and updating its Zoning Ordinance. These planning initiatives afford the City a tremendous opportunity to further emphasize age-friendly policies and programs that will make Archdale a more livable community for residents of all ages. The process of conducting a baseline assessment of the community's age-friendliness, writing an action plan based on the results from the assessment, and monitoring progress of the plan will be strongly tied to components of the City's Comprehensive Plan and influence future amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. We believe that inclusion in the AARP Network of Age-

Friendly Communities will provide the resources necessary for Archdale to fulfill its mission to provide a high quality of life for all residents.

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

The process of Archdale becoming more age-friendly will include significant public engagement, in which older residents are highly valued and well represented. The development of the plan coincides with the City's 50th anniversary, having been founded in July 1969. Events marking the anniversary will occur throughout the year and present a special opportunity to engage residents on all aspects of community life and government, develop stakeholder groups, and prioritize elements of the Age-Friendly Archdale Action Plan. The City desires an aggressive, creative, and far-reaching public input strategy, including, but not limited to, stakeholder meetings, social media, and other creative input mechanisms. The timing is great to take advantage of the City's forthcoming Comprehensive Plan Process, set to begin in the Spring of 2019 with anticipated completion in the Summer of 2020. The Comprehensive Plan will become the primary policy guide for future land use development, capital investments, and growth management decisions over the next decade and beyond; providing a solid foundation for the Age Friendly Archdale Plan. The public outreach component of the Comprehensive Plan will provide a great deal of the survey and background information required for the Age-Friendly Archdale Action Plan. The City will seek volunteers and older adults from its formal networks and actively promote the initiative to all segments of the community. Archdale is home to many civic institutions and faith-based organizations that encourage meaningful contact between residents and volunteers throughout the community. Formal requests for participation will be placed in various media outlets including the newspaper, City newsletter, and City social media accounts. A goal of the planning process is to identify stakeholders that have an interest or background in specific domains of livability. Throughout the formal planning process, it is the intention of the planning group to develop task forces comprised of local individuals with expertise in the areas of each domain. The Age-Friendly Archdale initiative will utilize technical expertise concerning public engagement techniques provided by The Piedmont Triad Regional Council Area Agency on Aging (PTRC AAA), and AARP North Carolina.

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.

The City of Archdale possesses, and will continue to cultivate, mechanisms to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments. The upcoming process of developing a Comprehensive Plan will require participation from many City departments and key stakeholders throughout the community and lay the groundwork for further efforts that will focus on the Age-Friendly Archdale initiative. Annual festivals and activities dedicated to the City's anniversary will provide opportunities for municipal departments (Planning, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Police,) to strengthen relationships and work together to make Archdale an age-friendly community. The City will seek out agencies that will expand on existing areas of expertise to address all domains of livability; specific agencies identified thus far include the PTRC AAA, RCSAA, NCDOT, Archdale-Trinity Chamber of Commerce, and AARP North Carolina. A small portion of Archdale lies within Guilford County which will foster collaboration with the Guilford County Age-Friendly Initiative. The Age-Friendly Archdale planning process will begin with a Steering Committee which will identify and recruit Stakeholders from different sectors of the Archdale community. The role of the Stakeholders Group will be to provide input on key issues and action items, to represent the views of the citizenry of the City of Archdale, and to help formulate the strategic planning and implementation process. The Stakeholders will also play an important role in identifying and recruiting the members to formulate goals and recommendations that address the domains of livability.

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 Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

The Age-Friendly Archdale Initiative believes it can make a positive contribution to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities. We hope to promote key livability principles and show that by implementing sound planning principles, smaller cities can become model age-friendly communities. We believe that it is the responsibility of local government to ensure the built environment supports continued health and independence for all residents, particularly older adults. Three components of the built environment with the greatest impact on livability are housing design, land use, and transportation. The City Council recently adopted a Resolution of Support and submitted a membership application to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities, signaling a commitment to crafting policy that promotes walkable streets, housing and transportation options, and access to key services and opportunities for all residents to participate in community activities. The City believes that the Age-Friendly Archdale Initiative and Comprehensive Planning Process will work in concert to produce a policy guide and development ordinance that will include actionable strategies that support the domains of livability along with a full implementation and budgeting matrix. In addition, we feel it is important to share lessons learned from the application process, and approaches used to overcome unexpected resistance to the program.

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

Several factors have served to motivate the City of Archdale to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities. The American Planning Association (APA) believes the planning community can be a leader in encouraging comprehensive approaches to issues affecting the quality of life of older adults. More specifically, the APA Policy Guide to Aging in Community and numerous collaborations with the AARP's Livable Communities Initiative motivated the City's Planning Department to commit to crafting policy that would account for residents of all ages and abilities, guided by the belief that planning policies and development ordinances can and should directly affect many of the domains of livability, with particular influence over housing costs, transportation and land use. It is the perfect time for the City of Archdale to begin its Age-Friendly Initiative, as it will run concurrently with events marking the City's 50th anniversary and the kickoff of the Comprehensive Plan process. Age-Friendly Archdale can take advantage of an existing widespread community outreach effort, but more importantly the Comprehensive Plan can incorporate age-friendly policies and strategies to address the domains of livability; laying the foundation for the implementation of the forthcoming Age-Friendly Archdale Action Plan. Additionally, Mark Hensley, AARP Associate State Director and AARP-NC State President, Dr. Catherine Sevier, were instrumental in explaining the

Network of Age-Friendly Communities to Archdale's elected officials; addressing some limited apprehension to the age-friendly initiative application process, and explaining the benefits afforded to members of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. Archdale's planning history shows a lasting commitment to the domains of livability; fostering a balanced economy and providing quality of life assets and recreational amenities that inspire social interaction between citizens of all ages. We believe that membership in the Network of Age-Friendly Communities will create positive publicity and assist in marketing existing quality of life assets and help the City in its longstanding effort to create a more defined sense of place. The myriad of resources and tools afforded to members of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities will guide a successful Age-Friendly Archdale Initiative and Action Plan.

6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.

The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours >



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