



County of Onondaga
Office of the County Executive

J. Ryan McMahan, II
County Executive

ongov.net

August 20, 2019

Ms. Beth Finkle
AARP New York
435 E. Henrietta Road
Rochester, NY 14620

Dear Ms. Finkle:

On behalf of the County of Onondaga, I'm pleased to offer this letter outlining our commitment to creating an age-friendly community in Central New York. Along with other communities in New York and nationwide, we in Onondaga County recognize the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning, practices and policies to address changing demographics and to make it easier for citizens to safely age in place. Currently in Onondaga more than 20% of our population is 60 years of age and older and by 2030, projections place that percentage at close to 30%. As part of this trend, we are committed to a community-wide process of continual improvement to support active and healthy aging.

The Onondaga County Office for Aging annually holds public hearings with the members of our community. We also meet regularly with our Aging Services Advisory Board, our Long Term Care Council as well as more than forty (40) community-based subcontracting partners. We will be convening a Livable Communities Alliance of Onondaga County that will be comprised of members of governmental agencies, community-based organizations and citizens of all ages from every corner of our urban, suburban and rural county. The Livable Communities Alliance will commit itself to:

- Actively involving seniors and others that are reflective of our community;
- Establishing concrete action plans with measurable outcomes;
- Reporting publicly on decisions and progress made; and
- Securing a resolution to work towards becoming age-friendly.

With this letter and companion application, I respectfully request to have Onondaga County be empowered to move forward toward membership into the AARP/World Health Organization's Network of Age-Friendly Communities. We look forward to working with the AARP New York staff on this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Ryan McMahan, II".

J. Ryan McMahan, II
County Executive, Onondaga County