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August 28, 2019

Mr. Robert Hoffman
Vice President, NE Region
AARP
435 Henrietta Road
Rochester, NY 14620

Re: Oswego County – AARP Membership Application Commitment Letter

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

On behalf of Oswego County I write to express the County's commitment to join with AARP and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Oswego County has a long-standing commitment to promoting age-friendly policies and to promoting the health and welfare of our rapidly growing senior population.

Oswego County has a population of 117,898; 16.3% of residents are over 65, and 38% of residents are 50 or over. Oswego is proud to have initiated a number of programs and service offerings in recent years in order to assist with its goal of becoming an Age-Friendly Community. For example, our local Office for the Aging participates in the Rural Health Network in order to collaborate on health measures for its senior residents, and the County facilitates a Long-Term Care Counsel which includes County administrators and local service providers. Additionally, the Office for the Aging holds an annual public hearing to receive feedback from the community regarding the efficacy of our existing programs and identify additional programming and service needs. However, the County is ready to take more formal steps to address its Age-Friendly policies and services and we believe that becoming an AARP Age-Friendly Community is paramount to this goal.

As a participant in the national network of communities, it is the intent of Oswego County to:

- Establish further mechanisms to involve senior residents;
- Create a baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of the community;
- Develop a community wide action plan based on the findings of that assessment; and
- Identify indicators so that progress can be monitored against the Action Plan in the future.

Oswego County looks forward to working with AARP New York staff and volunteers to ensure our community has the tools in place to allow all Oswego County residents to age with dignity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Weatherup".

James Weatherup, Chairman
Oswego County Legislature