RESOLUTION NO. 2019-10-73

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS (AARP) AGE FRIENDLY LIVABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AND TO SUPPORT INITIATIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES AND COMMUNITIES NETWORK.

WHEREAS, the global population of people aged 60 and over is expected to grow from 600 million in 2000 to almost 2 billion by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, the population of people aged 65 and over is expected to grow from 35 million in 2000 to 88.5 million by 2050, taking the total share of the 65 and over population from 12 percent to 20 percent of the total population; and

WHEREAS, research shows that older Americans overwhelmingly want to remain in their homes and communities as they age; and

WHEREAS, access to quality health care and long-term services and support is essential for individuals to live in their homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, of the 80 percent of adults 65 and older living in metropolitan areas, 64 percent live outside the principal cities of these areas in suburban locations that tend to be auto-dependent, creating challenges for residents who do not drive; and

WHEREAS, 21 percent of adults age 65 and older do not drive, and more than half of these non-drivers do not leave home on a given day, in part because they lack transportation options; and

WHEREAS, reduced mobility for older non-drivers leads to 15 percent fewer trips to the doctor, 59 percent fewer shopping trips and visits to restaurants, and 65 percent fewer trips for social, family and religious activities; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support healthy aging and thereby improve the health, well-being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older Americans; and

WHEREAS, active aging is a life-long process, whereby an age-friendly community is not just “elder-friendly” but also intended to be friendly for all ages; and

WHEREAS, the WHO has noted that “making cities and communities age-friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic ageing."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Lancaster supports initiatives and opportunities to engage in the WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Network of municipalities encouraging and promoting public policies supporting healthy ageing.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately from and after its passage, and it is duly resolved.
DULY PASSED and approved by the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, on this the 14th day of October, 2019.

ATTEST:

Sorangel O. Arenas, City Secretary

APPROVED:

Clyde C. Hairston, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

David T. Ritter, City Attorney