



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: 12/20/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Rowlett

STATE: Texas

POPULATION SIZE: 66,285

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 7,894

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 4000 Main Street, Rowlett, Texas 75088

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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

Angie is the Parks and Recreation Director who work directly with the education, social and active programming for seniors at the Rowlett Community Centre and serves as the liaison to the City of Rowlett Senior Advisory Board. The board is comprised of seven regular members and three alternate members. The Senior Advisory Board will be the lead team on developing the community's age-friendly initiatives in Rowlett, Texas.

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](#).

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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.**

In 2019, Rowlett was named by US News and World Report as one of their Top 10 Great Small Towns to Retire. When a small town has a high quality of life and a good economy, it often begins to draw new residents. Rowlett has done just this, with our lake access providing natural beauty, the many entertainment options provided by the Department, and our location allowing convenient access to the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. City of Rowlett staff work closely with the Senior Advisory Board, SCOR, local Baylor, Scott and White hospital staff and other senior community liasions. The Senior Advisory Board will hold public input meetings to hear the voices of all Rolwett Rowlett seniors during this process. The Senior Advisory Board is appointed by the Rowlett City Council to represent the senior citizens and their concerns in Rowlett, so and this group will play a critical role in ensure ensuring the voices of our older residents are heard. all voices are heard. The Department Leadership Teams in Rowlett work very closely together and meet bi-monthly to discuss agendas and current issues. This fosters a good relationship relationship between city departments and ensures this team can work together toward this common goal. The City of Rowlett Parks and Recreation provided and hosted over 287 programs with 17,447 participants in FY2019. The Department provides both active and social programming to seniors over the age of 60 years of age. The City of Rowlett also provides transportation vouchers for seniors that are Rowlett citizens and over the age of 60. Last year over 5,000 passes were given away. The City has a partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit that allows us to purchase discounted regional day passes which are allocated to be handed out to seniors. Seniors are able to request five per week and up to fifteen per month. Rowlett also offers a \$30,000 senior tax exemption as well as a senior tax freeze, Rowlett is still one of only seven Dallas County cities that offer the tax freeze.

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

Rowlett will continue to focus on communicating ongoing programs with seniors. With a built in audience of over 17,000 per year, the Senior Advisory Board will work closely with existing senior programs to ensure the senior population is involved in the process of becoming a more age-friendly community. We will conduct an AARP survey and work closely with Senior Citizens of Rowlett (SCOR) to communicate about the program and the benefit to the seniors of Rowlett, Texas.

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.

City of Rowlett staff work closely with the Senior Advisory Board, SCOR, local Baylor, Scott and White hospital staff and other senior community liasons. The Senior Advisory Board will hold public input meetings to hear the voices of all Rowlett seniors during this process. The Senior Advisory Board is appointed by the Rowlett City Council to represent the senior citizens and their concerns in Rowlett, so this group will play a critical role in ensuring the voices of our older residents are heard. The Department Leadership Teams in Rowlett work very closely together and meet bi-monthly to discuss agendas and current issues. This fosters a good relationship between city departments and ensures this team can work together toward this common goal.

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?

We see great value in the AARP Network and are excited to embark upon the journey establishing Rowlett as an Age-Friendly City. As a participant in the national network of communities, the City of Rowlett will continue to include the active engagement of older adults in community decisions; secure a council resolution to enhance our age-friendly efforts; establish a Plan of Action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community; commit to measuring activities, review actional plan outcomes and report on them publicly.

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?

In Rowlett, we hold our older citizens in high regard. Their life experience and broad range of knowledge has proven invaluable as our community has grown. In fact, the Rowlett City Council has an appointed Senior Advisory Board, whose mission is to generate public awareness of and support for senior citizens' concerns, and to provide those citizens with information of interest to them. The Senior Advisory Board also proposes solutions and makes recommendations to the City Council concerning issues important to our older population.

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:

Click here to add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send a JPEG, PDF or PNG of your logo by email attachment to livable@aarp.org. city logo attached

