June 10, 2019

Mr. Sam Wilson
AARP Wisconsin State Director
222 W. Washington Avenue #600
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Wilson:

On behalf of the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin, I am pleased to offer this letter of our ongoing commitment to creating an age-friendly environment. We are excited to join AARP’s Age-Friendly Communities network. La Crosse is committed to becoming a livable community to promote health and sustainable growth and contribute to the well-being of citizens in all stages of life.

As the City of La Crosse considers its Comprehensive Plan, we want to promote successful aging and improve the quality of life for all residents. There is great value in utilizing the AARP’s Eight Domains of Livability in establishing a more age-friendly city: making outdoor spaces and buildings more senior friendly, increasing the accessibility and affordability of transportation and housing, increasing access and opportunities for social participation and inclusion through programs that promote ethnic and cultural diversity, supporting work and volunteer opportunities, access to communication and information, and supporting the ability of older people to age in place through community support and health services.

As a participant in the AARP and the World Health Organization (WHO) Age-Friendly Community it is the intent of the City of La Crosse to:

- Pursue the active engagement of older adults in the planning process through outreach and inclusion by bringing events to where older people live and recreate.
- Pursue outreach through churches, civic organizations, AARP, providers of aging services and host events designed for older people.
- Establish a plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older people.
- Develop a means to measure our activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and plans to determine we are meeting our goals.
- Keep the public, especially older people, informed throughout the process.

We look forward to working with AARP Wisconsin staff, members and volunteers to make our city a place where we can all age with dignity.

Sincerely,

Mayor Tim Kabat

400 La Crosse Street * La Crosse, WI 54601 * Phone (608) 789-7500 * kabatt@cityoflacrosse.org * www.cityoflacrosse.org