January 7, 2020

Rafi Nazarians  
Associate State Director, Community  
AARP California  
200 S. Los Robles Avenue, Ste. 400  
Pasadena, CA 91101-2422

Dear AARP and World Health Organizations Age-Friendly Communities:

The City of Petaluma, it’s residents and officials, remain dedicated to creating and maintaining an age-friendly community for all. I am pleased to offer this letter in support of Petaluma’s membership into the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organizations Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities. Petaluma is committed to establishing the services, policies, and programs for Petalumans to live fulfilling lives while aging in place.

With a population of 60,738, Petaluma is the second largest City in Sonoma County and data from the Sonoma County Economic Development Board indicates that by 2022, 19.1% of the City’s population will be older than 65. As the demographics of our citizenry changes, we are committed to adopting an action plan that reflects the growing needs of the community.

The City of Petaluma recently adopted several age-friendly objectives as part of the approved Fiscal Year 2019-2021 City Council Goals and Priorities. The City also continues to strengthen partnerships with volunteer groups and non-profit organizations focused on serving an intergenerational audience. The City continues to incorporate many age-friendly initiatives when prioritizing housing and transportation projects.

On behalf of the City, I look forward to working with AARP, and the WHO to establish Petaluma as Age Friendly and hope to be a model for other cities in creating a community where youth and older adults can succeed in leading healthy, active lives and ultimately, aging with dignity.

Sincerely,

Teresa Barrett  
Mayor