



## 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](mailto: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:** January 29, 2020

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** *City of Novi.*

**STATE:** *Michigan.*

**POPULATION SIZE:** *63,533.*

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** *16.1%.*

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** *The City Council of Novi (see included resolution)* **OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** *45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.*

### 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:**

Derek R. Stogner is the Older Adult Services Manager for the City of Novi. A division of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services, Older Adult Services (OAS) promotes healthy, active lifestyles that support independence and vitality for adults 55+ by providing opportunities and networks within the community for socialization, health and fitness, transportation, life-long learning and support services. OAS runs over 60 programs including free Senior Transportation, Meals on Wheels, a durable medical equipment loan closet, group fitness, educational & social programming, and residential facility Meadowbrook Commons. Mr. Stogner serves as a part of City and Parks & Recreation Leadership, advocating for older adults in community projects and programs.

Additionally, Mr. Stogner presides over the Older Adult Services Advisory Board, which is instrumental in strategic planning and community feedback for older adults. This board will be a key partner in Novi's participation in Age Friendly Communities.

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](http://AARP.org/Livable-Subscribe).

*Older Adult Services Manager Derek R. Stogner has already subscribed to this publication*

**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.**

The City of Novi is committed to excellent services to all of our residents, and have many initiatives and programs that benefit our older residents. Novi Older Adult Services (OAS) is a division of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PRCS) that provides a wide variety of programs and services to adults 55+. This includes our innovative Older Adult Transportation Service, that provides FREE transportation to residents over 55 or with a disability anywhere in the city limits and the surrounding areas for a low fare. The City employs over a dozen drivers and dispatchers, and the Department of Public Works partners with PRCS to manage the vehicle fleet.

OAS is comprised of 3 full-time and 2 part-time staff. OAS Social Services offers a durable medical equipment loan closet, health & wellness seminars, AARP Tax Aide, AARP Driver Safety Courses, food commodity distribution, Meals on Wheels, and home repair services. Recreation programming includes travel, day trips, social events, parties, dances, educational speaker series, environmental programming, group fitness classes, and more at locations across the city. The City owns Meadowbrook Commons, a 175-unit independent senior living community that provides a high-quality and affordable housing options to older adult residents. The property is managed by KMG Prestige property managers and overseen and programmed by Older Adult Services. Additionally, many City services and departments serve the needs of our Older Adults. Novi Public Safety, for example is active in providing scam/fraud prevention services, hosting town halls, and partnering with Older Adult Services on events such as the Rotary Holiday Lunch.

The City continues to study best practices and trends in making the community more age friendly. City Council has made "aging in place" initiatives a City-wide goal. The OAS Manager serves as a member of the PRCS and City leadership teams. The City sends the OAS Manager and Social Services Coordinator to state and national conferences and trainings. The City has a "Walkable Novi" committee to increase accessibility, and a goal to have every resident within a 10 minute walk of a public park or green space. The City is also committed to accessibility in all it's projects and construction, and the Strategic Community Recreation & Master Parks plan outlines a strategy for complying with accessibility standards and planning for universal design. As part of the development of that plan for 2020-2024 an accessibility assessment was done of all Novi Parks and recreation facilities, based on the Michigan DNR's guidelines and ranking system. This same master plan calls for increase programming for middle-aged and "boomer" residents, and calls for tracking trends of the changing needs and wants of that demographic. The OAS division is working with Community Relations to develop resource guides for local housing and "aging in place" services.

Additionally, there is a 2018-2022 Older Adult Services Strategic Plan that outlines goals and four action steps to continually improve our communication, program effectiveness, resource facilitation, and strengthen our presences in the community.

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

The City of Novi works diligently to ensure that ALL residents have a say in everything we do. The City regularly seeks resident feedback through surveys, public forums, town hall meetings, and program evaluation forms. Every City Council and Commission meeting are broadcast live and two opportunities for public comment. Public input is an active aspect of all city planning, and efforts are put forth to reach all demographics.

The Community Relations department also actively works to communicate city initiatives, programs, and projects through social media, local media, local access tv, and the bi-monthly Engage magazine, that is mailed to every residence in Novi. The City also has a program called Novi Ambassadors where members of the public learn about the workings of every City Department, are kept up to date on projects, and graduates of this program are encouraged to apply for City commissions and advisory boards.

This initiative will be spearheaded by the Older Adult Services Advisory Board. In addition to OAS Manager Derek R. Stogner, the 6 member board, comprised all of residents and stakeholders are all over the age 60 and participants in Novi's older adult programming. The board was already instrumental in drafting the Older Adult Services Strategic Plan 2018-2022, which will serve as a guidepost, along with the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services (PRCS) Strategic Master Plan in the City's "age friendly" initiatives. The plan was developed using a community survey and four "community conversations" public input sections. Older Adult Services also uses social media, flyers and a monthly calendar to engage with Older Adults and would use these avenues in further developing age friendly initiatives and plans.

**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.**

The guiding principles that guide all City departments stem from City Council goals and objectives, which align with many of the objectives of the Age Friendly Communities Initiatives. Novi's goals and objectives are: Nurture public services that residents want and value. Operate a world-class and sustainable local government. Value and build a desirable and vibrant community for residents and businesses alike now and into the future. Invest properly in being a safe community at all times for all people.

City Manager Pete Auger leads and meets regularly with all City Department leadership to foster collaboration and implementation, and adherence to the goals and objectives. This includes leadership meetings after all City Council meetings. Additionally there is cooperation across departments on dozens of City projects, programs, and initiatives including events/festivals, the Older Adult Transportation Program, environmental initiatives, Public Safety education and more. Every department works closely with Community Relations to effectively communicate programs and services.

Many current services and programs are multi-departmental collaborations. Just a few examples include Older Adult Transportation is operated collaboratively between Parks and Public Works, Older Adult Services collaborates on programming with the Novi Public Library, Public Safety (Police & Fire), and Novi Forestry Services. Environmental and sustainability initiatives bring together facilities, DPW, Parks, Community Relations, and others.

Additionally, Novi Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services is among the 2% of nationally accredited Parks & Recreation agencies through Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). CAPRA accreditation requires extensive and ongoing cooperation between departments to ensure policies, regulations, and procedures meet standards.

#### 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?

The City of Novi hopes to contribute in the sharing of best practices, knowledge and resources with fellow network members in Michigan. We offer many programs and services that could benefit residents of our neighboring communities, and we look forward to learning from them as well. Novi Older Adult Services staff already collaborate with neighboring senior services programs on programming and idea sharing, and this initiative will take that to the next level. Additionally, as Michigan has recently joined the network as a state, Novi wishes to contribute on a local level to livability towards the state's goals.

#### 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?

The goals of the initiative align strongly with the goals of the City of Novi, to nurture public services that residents want and value, operate a world-class and sustainable local government, value and build a desirable and vibrant community for residents and businesses alike now and into the future, and invest properly in being a safe community at all times for all people. The City is dedicated to accessibility and access for all of our residents and have taken steps including becoming KultureCity Sensory Inclusive Certified at our Civic Center, and implementing universal design in projects.

Novi is also committed to livability for all ages, as evidenced by our third consecutive GOLD certification from the Michigan Green Communities challenge, for our commitment to sustainability including installing solar panels, rain gardens and bioswales in our parks, using green products in all of our facilities, and being committed to bike trails and walk-ability. We are one of only 10 communities in Michigan to achieve this top level certification.

The City of Novi has had a dedicated Older Adult Services division for over 35 years, and is committed to the health, wellness, lifelong education, and quality of life to its older adult residents, and is looking forward to joining our state and fellow cities in continuing to work towards those goals.

#### 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:

*JPEG of Logo sent with application to [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org).*

