



Office of the City Manager

September 9, 2020

Holly A. Holtzen, PhD
State Director, AARP Ohio
17 S. High Street, Suite 800
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Dr. Holtzen,

On behalf of the City of Worthington, Ohio, I am pleased to offer this letter of ongoing commitment to creating an Age Friendly Community. We are excited to join AARP's Age Friendly Communities network and are committed to providing quality services that empower residents with resources and opportunities to live, work, and play in the community we call "Home." The city, its organizations, and its citizens are working together to strengthen Worthington's inherent character as an inclusive, supportive, and dynamic community for all ages and abilities.

As the Age Friendly Planning Committee for the Worthington initiative considers its Comprehensive Plan, we look to promote successful aging and improve the quality of life for all residents. AARP's Eight Domains of Livability provide a great structure in understanding and establishing a more age friendly city by, 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 to age in place through community support and senior services.

It is the intent of the City of Worthington and the Age Friendly Planning Committee to conduct the following as a participant in the AARP and World Health Organization's Age Friendly Communities:

- Convene a Planning Committee of stakeholders, city staff, and active older adults in the community to lead the process.
- Conduct focus groups, surveys and information gathering to understand community needs.
- Create an action plan based on findings of data gathering.
- Communicate with the public, keeping older adults informed throughout the process.

We are excited to work with AARP, staff, and volunteers to bring this important initiative to Worthington and make a place for all people to age with dignity.

Sincerely,

Matthew H. Greeson
City Manager, City of Worthington