Practical Solutions for Aging in Place:  
State Policies and Practices That Work  

An AARP Solutions Forum in collaboration with  
the National Conference of State Legislators  

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AARP Brickfield Conference Center  
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Washington DC 20049

Speakers

Don Chartock

Don Chartock joined the Washington State Department of Transportation in 2000. Since that time, he has helped the state and its communities develop public transportation solutions. In his current position he manages WSDOT’s special needs, rural and intercity bus programs and administers the Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation. He and his team oversee $122 million in public transportation grants, manage the Travel Washington Intercity Bus Program, publish major reports on transportation to the legislature and public, and provide technical assistance to organizations seeking to improve public transportation. Don has BA from American University and a JD from the Seattle University School of Law.

Senator D. Scott Dibble

Senator Dibble first became involved in politics in the mid-1980’s and has played a key role in a number of legislative successes in the areas of neighborhood livability, transportation, housing, energy and the environment. These include passage of an historic transportation funding measure, enactment of the Freedom to Breathe Act (ensuring clean indoor air for all workers) and approval of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. As the Chair of the Senate’s Transit Subdivision, Senator Dibble played a pivotal role in the override of Governor Pawlenty’s veto of a vital transportation improvement bill that will allow the Twin Cities to build a transit system for the 21st century. He was also asked to serve on a special investigative committee that looked into the tragic collapse of the I-35W
Bridge. Sen. Dibble is a Past Chair of the National Conference of State Legislature’s Transportation Committee.

**Rodney Harrell**

Rodney Harrell, PhD, is the Senior Strategic Policy Advisor for Housing and Livable Communities in AARP’s Public Policy Institute. In his position, he is responsible for developing AARP’s policy on housing and livable communities issues, and he also manages the housing research agenda and conducts independent research. Dr. Harrell has made numerous public appearances to discuss issues of housing, aging, and livable communities, and has been a featured speaker for audiences across the United States and in other countries. Dr. Harrell was graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the honors program at Howard University, earned dual master’s degrees in Public Affairs and in Urban and Regional Planning from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University, and received a Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Design from the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Enid Kassner**

Enid Kassner is Director of the Independent Living/Long-Term Services and Supports Team for the AARP Public Policy Institute. In this capacity, she oversees research and policy development that focus on expanding consumer access and choice to an array of affordable long-term care options, with an emphasis on improving home and community-based services, supporting family caregivers, and making communities more livable. Enid has nearly 30 years of experience in the field of aging as a policy analyst, researcher, author, lobbyist, and speaker on a broad range of issues including long-term services and supports, Medicaid, and long-term care insurance. She holds an MSW from the University of Maryland and a BS from the University of Wisconsin.

**Representative Bradley Last**

Representative Brad Last is serving his fifth term in Utah’s 71st House District in the beautiful red rock country of southwestern Utah. He also served eight years as a member of the locally elected Board of Education. He is an energetic advocate for innovative public education reform, home and community-based services for the elderly and persons with disabilities, and public policies that promote aging in place. Until recently, Mr. Last was the President and CEO of Home Health Services, Inc., a company that provides in-home health care and hospice services in Utah, Arizona and Nevada. He is currently the Senior Development Officer for Dixie State College in St. George, Utah.

**Kathryn Lawler**

Kathryn Lawler is the external affairs manager for the Atlanta Regional Commission, the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Area Agency on Aging for the greater Atlanta
area. Prior to this role, she was a consultant working with local governments, foundations and community based coalitions, interested in effectively organizing to better prepare for the rapidly growing older adult population. One of her key projects was the development and launch of the Atlanta Regional Commission’s Lifelong Communities Initiative. From 2002 to 2006, Kathryn was Director of Aging Atlanta, a 50 organization partnership focused on preparing the metro region for the rapid growth in the older adult population. Ms. Lawler received a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s degree from Harvard University.

**Jana Lynott**

Jana Lynott, AICP, is the Senior Strategic Policy Advisor for Transportation and Livable Communities in AARP’s Public Policy Institute. She manages AARP’s transportation research agenda and is responsible for developing the content of the Livable Communities chapter of the AARP Policy Book, adopted by the AARP Policy Council and Board. Her research covers a broad array of planning and policy issues, including street design for all users, the travel patterns of older adults, transit service needs, and older driver safety. As a land use and transportation planner, she brings practical expertise to the research field.

**Douglas Shinkle**

Douglas Shinkle is a Policy Specialist in the Environment, Energy and Transportation Program at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). He is a primary author of the NCSL-AARP report on aging in place. Mr. Shinkle has worked for NCSL for six years on transportation, conservation, land-use, and healthy communities issues. Prior to joining NCSL, Mr. Shinkle worked for elected officials in California and Colorado in a number of capacities. He is a native of Colorado and a graduate of Colorado State University.