

Gap Analysis Addendum
Livability for All: The 2016 Age-Friendly Community Survey
of Houston AARP Members Age 50-plus

Which Community Features Are Important
Versus Which Ones Exist by Domain

(Need Gap = % Extremely/Very/Somewhat Important - % Yes/Exists)

Items within each domain sorted in descending order by size of the gap.

Housing (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
A home repair service for low-income and older adults that helps with things like roof or window repairs	69%	86%	17%	56%
Well-maintained and safe low-income housing	54%	79%	25%	42%
Homes that are equipped with things like a no step entrance, wider doorways, grab bars in bathrooms, and first floor bedrooms and bathrooms	53%	85%	32%	44%
Affordable housing options for adults of varying income levels such as older active adult communities, assisted living and communities with shared facilities and outdoor spaces.	53%	84%	31%	38%
Seasonal services such as lawn work or snow removal for low-income and older adults	46%	83%	37%	37%
Home repair contractors who are trustworthy, do quality work and are affordable	40%	90%	50%	33%
Well-maintained homes and properties	18%	95%	77%	9%

Outdoor Space and Buildings (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Separate pathways for bicyclists and pedestrians	61%	87%	26%	9%
Well-maintained public restrooms that are accessible to people of different physical abilities	58%	89%	31%	28%
Sidewalks that are in good condition, free from obstruction and are safe for pedestrian use and accessible for wheelchairs or other assistive mobility devices	52%	94%	42%	10%
Neighborhood watch programs	51%	94%	43%	21%
Public parks with enough benches	49%	89%	40%	17%
Well-maintained public buildings and facilities that are accessible to people of different physical abilities	41%	92%	51%	22%
Well-maintained and safe parks that are within walking distance of your home	41%	90%	49%	8%

Transportation and Streets (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Audio/visual pedestrian crossings	54%	91%	37%	18%
Driver education/refresher courses	52%	83%	31%	38%
Safe public transportation stops or areas	51%	88%	37%	29%
Affordable public parking	48%	89%	41%	23%
Well-maintained public transportation vehicles	45%	90%	45%	30%
Reliable public transportation	43%	89%	46%	27%
Well-lit, safe streets and intersections for all users (pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers)	43%	95%	52%	16%
Well-maintained streets	43%	97%	54%	6%
Special transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults	41%	92%	51%	31%
Accessible and convenient public transportation	40%	89%	49%	13%
Affordable public transportation	37%	89%	52%	20%
Enforced speed limits	37%	96%	59%	10%
Public parking lots, spaces and areas to park	36%	92%	56%	13%
Easy to read traffic signs	23%	97%	74%	3%

Health and Wellness (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Affordable home health care providers	73%	96%	23%	56%
A service that helps seniors find and access health and supportive services	67%	94%	27%	52%
Well-trained certified home health care providers	64%	95%	31%	50%
Easy to find information on local health and supportive services	59%	96%	37%	41%
Health and wellness programs and classes in areas such as nutrition, smoking cessation, and weight control	58%	93%	35%	42%
Home care services including health, personal care and housekeeping	57%	95%	38%	44%
Fitness activities specifically geared towards older adults	53%	93%	40%	39%
Conveniently located health and social services	46%	93%	47%	31%
Easily understandable and helpful local hospital or clinic answering services	42%	94%	52%	30%
Respectful and helpful hospital and clinic staff	28%	97%	69%	19%
A variety of health care professionals including specialists	28%	97%	69%	17%
Health care professionals who speak different languages	27%	83%	56%	30%
Conveniently located emergency care centers	25%	97%	72%	13%
Well-maintained hospitals and health care facilities	24%	98%	74%	14%

Social Participation, Inclusion and Education Opportunities (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Local schools that involve older adults in events and activities	56%	78%	22%	52%
Accurate and widely publicized information about social activities	54%	88%	34%	36%
Activities that are affordable to all residents	54%	89%	35%	41%
Activities specifically geared towards older adults	50%	86%	36%	41%
Activities that involve both younger and older people	49%	84%	35%	43%
A variety of cultural activities for diverse populations	47%	82%	35%	40%
Social clubs such as book, gardening, craft or hobby	43%	84%	41%	40%
Activities that offer senior discounts	42%	88%	46%	33%
Continuing education classes	32%	80%	48%	34%
Conveniently located venues for entertainment	32%	82%	50%	22%

Volunteering and Civic Engagement (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Transportation to and from volunteer activities for those who need it	72%	86%	14%	56%
Volunteer training opportunities to help people perform better in their volunteer roles	64%	85%	21%	57%
Easy to find information on available local volunteer opportunities	63%	88%	25%	50%
Opportunities for older adults to participate in decision making bodies such as community councils or committees	61%	88%	27%	52%
A range of volunteer activities to choose from	52%	86%	34%	42%

Job Opportunities (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Job training opportunities for older adults who want to learn new job skills within their job or get training in a different field of work	73%	83%	10%	58%
Jobs that are adapted to meet the needs of people with disabilities	73%	85%	12%	59%
A range of flexible job opportunities for older adults	66%	79%	13%	55%

Community Information (n=328)	Gap	Extremely, Very, or Somewhat Important	Yes, Characteristic or Service Exists	Not sure, Characteristic or Service Exists
Community information that is delivered in person to people who may have difficulty or may not be able to leave their home	75%	85%	10%	64%
Clearly displayed printed community information with large lettering	75%	88%	13%	55%
Access to community information in one central source	72%	88%	16%	55%
An automated community information source that is easy to understand like a toll-free telephone number	70%	86%	16%	54%
Community information that is available in a number of different languages	57%	76%	19%	59%
Free access to computers and the Internet in public places such as the library, senior centers or government buildings	41%	87%	46%	37%