



SUBJECT: Approval of a resolution to apply for membership in the AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Membership in the AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities confirms the community's elected leadership and City staff have made a commitment to actively work toward making their city a great place to live for people of all ages.

The state of Michigan and eight Michigan communities (Auburn Hills, Royal Oak, Southfield, Lansing, East Lansing, Grand Rapids, Highland Park, and Jackson) are members of this network. Joining the network will create an opportunity for City staff to exchange and share expertise, best practices, and resources with other communities in the Older Adult Services (OAS) area.

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 of Novi has had a dedicated Older Adult Services division for more than 30 years and is committed to the health, wellness, lifelong education, and quality of life of its older adult residents

The network focuses on community activities, affordable housing for seniors, walkability, access to green space, and community health. Ongoing training, networking, and workshop opportunities are made available to participating members. Additionally, grant and other financial assistance opportunities are made available through AARP for members of the initiative.

Older Adult Services already enjoys a fruitful relationship with the AARP, partnering to provide programs such as Tax Aide, a free tax preparation service, Smart Driver courses and more. OAS Manager Derek R. Stogner would serve as the community point of contact with the AARP and networked communities.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of resolution to apply for membership in the AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities.



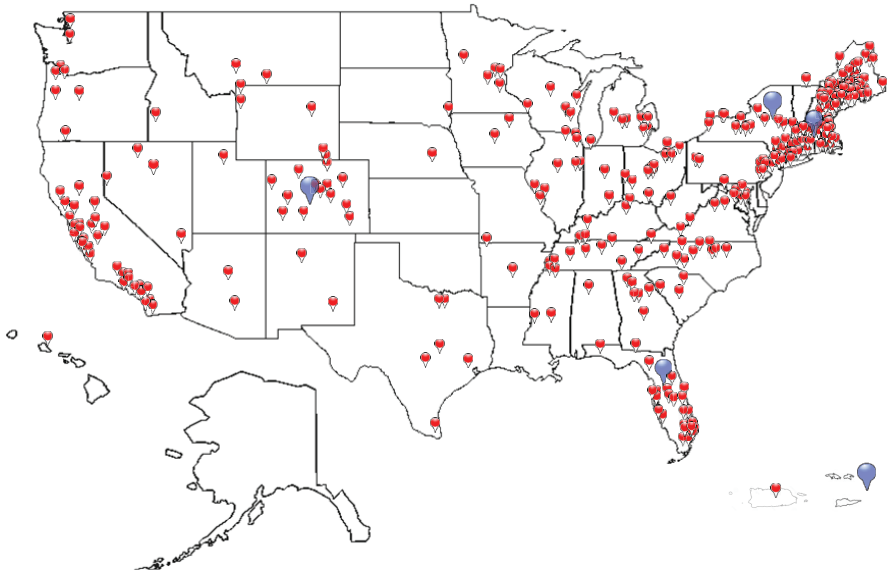
AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

An age-friendly community is livable for people of *all* ages



[AARP.org/AgeFriendly](https://www.aarp.org/AgeFriendly)

AARP[®]
Real Possibilities



The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities reached the 400 member mark in September 2019. The red dots indicate town-, city- and county-level members. The blue pins identify state- and territory-level members. Check out the member list at [AARP.org/AgeFriendly-Member-List](https://www.aarp.org/agefriendly-member-list).



Websites: [AARP.org](https://www.aarp.org) and [AARP.org/Livable](https://www.aarp.org/livable)

Email: Livable@AARP.org

Facebook: [/AARPLivableCommunities](https://www.facebook.com/AARPLivableCommunities)

Twitter: [@AARPLivable](https://twitter.com/AARPLivable)

Free Newsletter: [AARP.org/LivableSubscribe](https://www.aarp.org/livable/subscribe)

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 or older to choose how they live as they age. With nearly 38 million members and offices in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP strengthens communities and advocates for what matters most to families: health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. The AARP Livable Communities initiative works nationwide to support the efforts of neighborhoods, towns, cities, counties, rural regions and entire states to be livable for people of all ages.

Cover photographs (clockwise from top): Washington, D.C., block party, provided by Van Ness Main Street; bike-sharing in Honolulu, by Colby Takeda, Blue Zones Project Hawaii; Age-Friendly Festival, provided by Age-Friendly Sarasota, Florida.

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09/19/19

- The population of the United States is rapidly aging.
- By 2030, one of every five people in the U.S. will be 65 or older.
- By 2035, the number of adults older than 65 will be greater than the number of children under 18.

That's why AARP staff and volunteers are working throughout the nation to engage and mobilize communities, share expertise, and deliver technical assistance to the towns, cities, counties and states in the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities**.

The work that happens within the network — which is a program within the larger **AARP Livable Communities** initiative — is hands-on and locally determined and directed. The common thread among the enrolled communities and states is the belief that the places where we live are more livable, and better able to support people of *all* ages, when local leaders commit to improving the quality of life for the very young, the very old, and everyone in between.

AARP engages with elected officials, partner organizations and local leaders to guide communities through the age-friendly network's assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation processes.

People of all ages benefit from the adoption of policies and programs that make neighborhoods walkable, feature transportation options, enable access to key services, provide opportunities to participate in community activities, and support housing that's affordable and adaptable. Well-designed, age-friendly communities foster economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages.

Established in 2012, the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities is the United States affiliate of the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, an international effort launched in 2006 to help cities prepare for their own and the world's growing population of older adults. Enrollment in the AARP network includes automatic (but optional) membership in the World Health Organization network.

This booklet provides an overview of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, the enrollment process and the obligations of member communities. Turn the page to learn more. ▶

FIRST IN THE NETWORK!

► In April 2012, Macon-Bibb, Georgia, became the first community to join the brand-new **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities**, thanks to the age-friendly efforts of AARP volunteer Myrtle Habersham, Bibb County Commission Chairman Samuel F. Hart (seated, left) and Macon Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert.



◀ In 2017, grant funds from the **AARP Community Challenge** (see below) helped a Macon neighborhood turn a vacant lot into a community park with outdoor games, seating and tables so people of all ages can visit and play together. "Chess allows people to open their minds," said Antonio Lewis-Ross, president of South Macon Arts Revitalization Technology (SMART). Outdoor game tables "bring people together and gives them something to do other than just hanging around."

Learn about the AARP Community Challenge at AARP.org/CommunityChallenge.



Photographs by Matt Odum (top) and Julio S. Gonzalez

Introducing the Age-Friendly Network

The **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities** serves as a catalyst to educate local leaders (both elected officials and engaged residents) and encourage them to implement the types of changes that make communities more livable for people of all ages, especially older adults.

The network provides cities, towns, counties and states with the resources to become more age-friendly by tapping into national and global research, planning models and best practices.

Membership in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities means that a community's elected leadership has made a commitment to actively work with residents and local advocates to make their town, city, county or state an age-friendly place to live.

A community's age-friendly leaders and champions will likely include:

- Elected officials
- Government agencies
- Nonprofit organizations and foundations
- Academic institutions
- Local businesses and Chambers of Commerce
- Area Agencies on Aging
- Community coalitions
- Residents and lots of volunteers

A few important points:

- Communities in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities are not retirement villages, nursing homes or assisted-living facilities. Nor are they planned communities or age-restricted housing developments.
- Membership in the network does not mean AARP endorses the towns, cities, counties or states as places to live. Nor does it mean the member communities and states are currently age-friendly and great places to retire.

The Benefits of Membership

Members of the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities** become part of a network of towns, cities, counties and states that are committed to enhancing the lives of people of all ages and enabling older residents to have rewarding, productive and safe lives.

Membership in the network:

- Helps local leaders identify and understand community needs
- Serves as an organizing structure for making community improvements
- Fosters partnerships among community groups and local stakeholders
- Provides leadership opportunities for volunteers
- Enables changes that benefit people of all ages

In addition, membership provides a community with:

- Public recognition for committing to becoming age-friendly
- Resources for identifying and assessing community needs
- Access to technical assistance and expert-led webinars
- Support and best practice materials from AARP

According to a membership survey, after enrolling in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities:

- 60% of member communities achieved a change in public policy, most often by integrating an “age-friendly lens” into community planning
- 34% achieved a private-sector investment or action — such as by local retailers and restaurants securing “age-friendly business” designations, commitments by builders to expand their use of age-friendly design standards, and partnerships with taxi services to provide discounted rides to older adults
- 85% described other successes, such as raising awareness about livability issues, increasing collaborations within the community, and implementing educational and engagement programs

* Survey distributed to members of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities (February 2019)

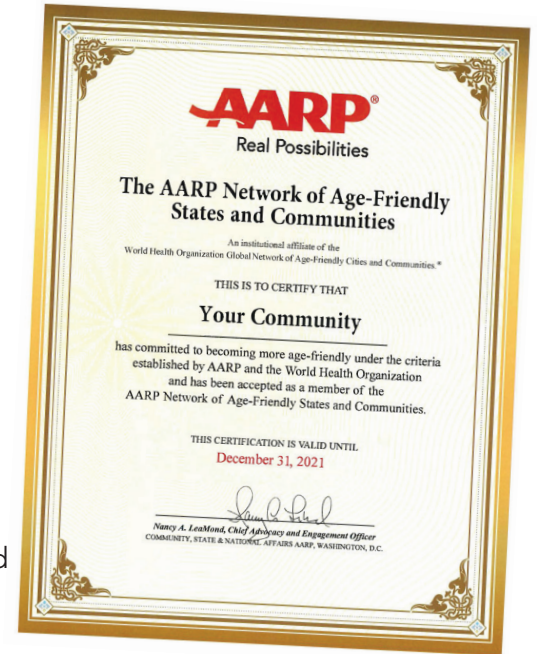
Joining the Network

Communities enroll individually, as part of a region or as a state.*

All towns, villages, townships, boroughs, cities, counties and states seeking to enroll in the AARP age-friendly network are required to submit a membership application.

In addition, the community must provide a letter of commitment signed by the jurisdiction’s highest elected official (e.g. a governor, mayor, county executive).

Communities with council or commission forms of government typically pass a resolution in support of membership in the network.



▲ An enrollment certificate is issued once a community’s application has been reviewed and accepted by AARP.

There is no fee to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

- Find membership details and an online application: [AARP.org/AgeFriendly](https://www.aarp.org/AgeFriendly)
- Interested communities can contact their AARP State office: [AARP.org/States](https://www.aarp.org/States)
- See the list of enrolled communities: [AARP.org/AgeFriendly-Member-List](https://www.aarp.org/AgeFriendly-Member-List)

* State enrollment in the network does not confer automatic membership on that state’s local communities.

What Makes a Community “Age-Friendly”?

The most livable communities are those that enable residents to thrive at every age and every life stage — in other words, they are age-friendly.

However, the availability and quality of certain community features — commonly referred to as the **“8 Domains of Livability”** — do have a particular impact on the well-being of older adults. The domains framework can be used to organize and prioritize a community’s work to become more livable for older residents as well as people of all ages.

While many members of the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities** tackle all eight domains at once, others choose to focus on fewer or combined domains.

1. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

People need public places to gather — indoors and out. Green spaces, seating and accessible buildings (elevators, zero-step entrances, staircases with railings) can be used and enjoyed by people of all ages.



2. Transportation

Driving shouldn’t be the only way to get around. Pedestrians need sidewalks and safe, crossable streets. Dedicated bicycle lanes benefit nondrivers and drivers alike. Public transit options can range from the large-scale (trains, buses, light rail) to the small (taxis, shuttles or ride share services).



3. Housing

AARP surveys consistently find that the vast majority of older adults want to reside in their current home or community for as long as possible. Doing so *is* possible if a home is designed or modified for aging in place, or if a community has housing options that are suitable for differing incomes, ages and life stages.



4. Social Participation

Regardless of a person’s age, loneliness is often as debilitating a health condition as having a chronic illness or disease. Sadness and isolation can be combated by having opportunities to socialize and the availability of accessible, affordable and fun social activities.



5. Respect and Social Inclusion

Everyone wants to feel valued. Intergenerational gatherings and activities are a great way for young and older people to learn from one another, honor what each has to offer and, at the same time, feel good about themselves.



6. Work and Civic Engagement

Why does work need to be an all or nothing experience? An age-friendly community encourages older people to be actively engaged in community life and has opportunities for residents to work for pay or volunteer their skills.



7. Communication and Information

We now communicate in ways few could have imagined a decade ago. Age-friendly communities recognize that information needs to be shared through a variety of methods since not everyone is tech-savvy — and not everyone has a smartphone or home-based access to the internet.



8. Community and Health Services

At some point, every person of every age gets hurt, becomes ill or simply needs some help. While it’s important that assistance and care be available nearby, it’s essential that residents are able to access and afford the services required.



The Age-Friendly Process and Program Cycle

Members of the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities** commit to an assessment process and cycle of continuous improvement,* the steps of which typically require the member community to:

1. Establish a way — such as through a commission, advisory panel or focus groups — to include older residents in all stages of the age-friendly planning and implementation process
2. Conduct a community needs assessment (AARP can provide survey examples, templates and an online tool in English and Spanish)
3. Develop an action and evaluation plan based on the assessment results
4. Submit the plan for review by AARP
5. Implement and work toward the goals of the plan
6. Share solutions, successes and best practices with AARP
7. Assess the plan's impact and submit progress reports
8. *Repeat!*

* Community-level members plan work on a 3-year cycle; state-level members operate on a 4-year cycle.

AARP Livable Communities Resources

- Learn about AARP's livability and age-friendly work: [AARP.org/Livable](https://www.aarp.org/Livable)
- Find network-related information and materials: [AARP.org/AgeFriendly](https://www.aarp.org/AgeFriendly)
- Download or order free publications: [AARP.org/LivableLibrary](https://www.aarp.org/LivableLibrary)
- Read about our "quick-action" grant program: [AARP.org/CommunityChallenge](https://www.aarp.org/CommunityChallenge)
- Follow us on Twitter: [@AARPLivable](https://twitter.com/AARPLivable)
- Like us on Facebook: [@AARPLivableCommunities](https://www.facebook.com/AARPLivableCommunities)
- Calculate your community's livability score: [AARP.org/LivabilityIndex](https://www.aarp.org/LivabilityIndex)

Stay informed! Subscribe to the free, weekly, award-winning
AARP Livable Communities e-Newsletter: [AARP.org/LivableSubscribe](https://www.aarp.org/LivableSubscribe)

In a livable community, people of all ages can ...



Go for a walk



Cross the streets



Ride a bike



Get around without a car



Live safely and comfortably



Work or volunteer



Enjoy public places



Socialize



Spend time outdoors



Be entertained



Go shopping



Buy healthy food



Find the services they need



... and make their city, town or neighborhood a lifelong home.

[AARP.org/Livable](https://www.aarp.org/Livable)



▲ The handout pictured here is available in five languages — English, Chinese, French, Korean and Spanish — as a free, printable download. Visit [AARP.org/Livable-Poster](https://www.aarp.org/Livable-Poster).

Learn how your town, village, township, borough,
city, county or state can join the
AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.
[AARP.org/AgeFriendly](https://www.aarp.org/AgeFriendly)



State of Florida



San Rafael, California



Vicksburg, Mississippi



State of Colorado



U.S. Virgin Islands



Ithaca and Tompkins County, New York



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

See the complete list of enrolled communities: [AARP.org/AgeFriendly-Member-List](https://www.aarp.org/AgeFriendly-Member-List)

To locate and connect with your **AARP State Office**,
visit [AARP.org/States](https://www.aarp.org/States) or call 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277)

Email **AARP Livable Communities**: Livable@AARP.org



AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that empowers people to choose how they live as they age.

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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
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: *Click here to enter a date.*

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: *Bob Gatt, Mayor.*

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.

NAME: *Derek R. Stogner*

POSITION: *Older Adult Services Manager; Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services*

EMAIL ADDRESS: *derekstogner@cityofnovi.org*

TELEPHONE NUMBER: *248.347.0550*

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.

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

Section 3: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ENGAGEMENTS and COLLABORATIONS

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 50+. This includes our innovative Older Adult Transportation Service, that provides FREE transportation to residents over 50 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, 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 department serve the needs of our Older Adults. Novi Public Safety 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.

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

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 City regularly seeks resident feedback through surveys, public forums, town hall meetings, and program evaluation forms. Public input is an active aspect of all city planning, and efforts are put forth to reach all demographics.

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 already, in many ways, align with 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.

Additionally City Manager Pete Auger leads and meets regularly with all City Department Heads 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.

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.

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 of Novi has had a dedicated Older Adult Services division for over 30 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.





**RESOLUTION TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP IN
THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

CITY OF NOVI
COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Novi, County of Oakland, Michigan, held in the Civic Center of said City on January 27, 2020, at 7 P.M. Prevailing Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Councilmembers _____

ABSENT: Councilmembers _____

The following preamble and Resolution were offered by Councilmember _____ and supported by Councilmember _____.

WHEREAS, a significant portion of Novi's residents are aging, and healthy aging affects us all; Novi is committed to meeting the needs of residents of all ages, encouraging planning, opportunities and programs that promote healthy, active aging; and

WHEREAS, Novi's planning processes, including community and economic development, include the needs of all people regardless of age, income, physical ability, race, and other factors of older adults; and

WHEREAS, community decisions on land-use, housing, and transportation are consistent with comprehensive master and strategic plans that have been developed with public input; and

WHEREAS, members of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities become part of a global network of communities that are committed to giving their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safer lives; and

WHEREAS, membership in the Network of Age-Friendly Communities include access to financial assistance and technical expertise; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Novi is committed to promoting, creating, and sustaining our community for all ages and seek membership in the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities.

AYES:

NAYS:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Hon. Bob Gatt, Mayor
City of Novi

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk
City of Novi

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi, County of Oakland, and State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held this 27th day of January, 2020, and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting have been kept and made available to the public as required by said Act.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk
City of Novi