

**CITY OF EAST LANSING  
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN  
AGE-FRIENDLY STATE OF MICHIGAN DESIGNATION**

WHEREAS, in Michigan, the population of people aged 65+ currently represents 17% of the population and is expected to grow significantly, surpassing those under the age of 18 by 2025.

WHEREAS, research shows that older Americans overwhelmingly want to remain in their homes and communities as they age; and

WHEREAS, access to quality health care and long-term services and supports is essential for individuals to live in their homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, 21 percent of adults age 65 and older do not drive, and more than half of these non-drivers do not leave home on a given day, in part because they lack transportation options; and

WHEREAS, reduced mobility for older non-drivers leads to 15 percent fewer trips to the doctor, 59 percent fewer shopping trips and visits to restaurants, and 65 percent fewer trips for social, family and religious activities; and

WHEREAS, AARP is an affiliate to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Age-Friendly Cities program and has developed the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support healthy aging and thereby improve the health, well-being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older Americans; and

WHEREAS, active aging is a life-long process, whereby an Age-Friendly community is not just "elder-friendly" but also intended to be friendly for all ages; and

WHEREAS, the WHO and AARP have noted that "Making cities and communities Age-Friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic aging," and

WHEREAS, the WHO has developed eight domains of community life that influence the health and quality of life of people of all ages:

- 1. Outdoor spaces and buildings** – accessibility to and availability of clean, safe community centers, parks, and other recreational facilities;
- 2. Transportation** – safe and affordable modes of private and public transportation, "Complete Streets" types of initiatives, hospitable built environments;
- 3. Housing** – wide range of housing options for older residents, ageing in place and other home modification programs, housing that is accessible to transportation and community and health services;
- 4. Social participation** – access to leisure and cultural activities; opportunities for older residents to participate in social and civic engagement with their peers and younger people;

**5. Respect and social inclusion** – programs to support and promote ethnic and cultural diversity, programs to encourage multigenerational interaction and dialogue, programs to combat loneliness and isolation among older residents;

**6. Civic participation and employment** – promotion of paid work and volunteer opportunities for older residents; opportunities for older residents to engage in formulation of policies relevant to their lives;

**7. Communication and information** – promotion of and access to the use of technology to keep older residents connected to their community and friends and family, both near and far; and

**8. Community support and health services** – access to homecare services, clinics, programs to promote active ageing (physical exercise and healthy habits); and

WHEREAS, AARP recognizes that cities and communities have different needs, resources, and varying capacities to engage their resources to take action to facilitate active aging, and

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing has been accepted into AARP's Age-Friendly Communities Program and is actively developing an Age-Friendly Action Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, The City of East Lansing does hereby join AARP Michigan and others in supporting and encouraging the Governor of the State of Michigan to apply to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities to earn the designation as an Age-Friendly State.



Mark Meadows, Mayor

Dated: October 16, 2018

Moved by Council member: Altmann

Supported by Council member: Stephens

ADOPTED: Yeas: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0

CLERKS CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the East Lansing City Council at its meeting held on October 16, 2018 the original of which is part of the Council's minutes.



Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk