



CITY OF PUYALLUP

Office of the Mayor

March 15, 2016

Shubhada Kambli, Director of Livable Communities
AAIP Network of Age-Friendly Communities
(skambli@aar.org)

Dear Ms. Kambli:

I am submitting this as a letter of intent to express our interest in applying for the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities designation.

At the City of Puyallup, we began our commitment towards becoming an age-friendly city in 2001, when we chose to participate in the AdvantAge Initiative. Multiple stakeholders including the City Council, Mayor and Pierce College joined together to engage in that process.

After that the initial initiative ended, we have continued our support of the remaining stakeholder group, the Puyallup Area Aging in Community Committee (AICC). An age-diverse group, AAIC serves as an educational resource on aging issues and spearheads community activities which focus on age-friendliness.

A number of city-supported activities reflect our intent to be age-friendly. The installation of Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB) at certain crosswalks is an outgrowth of a pedestrian crossing flag program recommended by our Senior Advisory Board. Currently, we are focusing on non-motorized transportation and an ADA transition plan, both of which will benefit individuals of all ages.

Puyallup's 20-year visioning goal contained in the 2015 update to the City's Comprehensive Plan states:

In 2030, Puyallup is a friendly, active and safe community that celebrates its heritage. The community, while retaining its unique character, has grown responsibly by supporting diverse transportation, recreation, and housing options. Puyallup encourages local economic development and learning opportunities, while providing amenities for all members of the community.

By initiating the prerequisites for Puyallup to gain an AARP/WHO age-friendly community designation, we continue our 2001 commitment of making Puyallup a better place to live for residents of all ages.

We also pledge to develop governmental and resident partnerships that will continue this work well into the future.

With the help of the Puyallup AICC, we will convene a group of community stakeholders that will work to develop a City-wide action plan with age-friendly resources and activities. The plan will include performance measures for monitoring our progress as we move forward.

Thank you for this opportunity to develop a relationship with the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. We look forward to joining the other network member cities across the country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hopkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Hopkins
Mayor, City of Puyallup