



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Post Office Box 1190
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190
(970) 498-7010
FAX (970) 498-7006

November 24, 2015

Morie Pierce Smile
State Director
AARP Colorado State Office
303 E. 17th Ave., Suite 510
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Ms. Smile,

On behalf of Larimer County, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for our county to be considered by AARP as part of AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Communities. We are well aware of the changing demographics in our community, where the population of adults age 60 and over is expected to increase by 71% in the next ten years and make up 31% of the total population. Larimer County prides itself as a desirable place to live for people of all ages and recognizes the challenges we face to meet the needs of an increasing number of older adults.

In 2013, Larimer County was one of six communities in the country to be a recipient of the Livable Communities Collaborative grant from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a). As a result, the Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities (PAFC) was formed. PAFC is a collaboration of community agencies and volunteers sponsored by the Foundation on Aging and the Larimer County Office on Aging, with support from nine other affiliate organizations. The PAFC is actively working in the areas of housing, transportation, the culture of aging, and health & wellness. In each of these areas, there are exciting projects currently underway. Furthermore, in May of this year, the PAFC held a "Summit on Aging" with 200 people in attendance in order to mobilize the community and raise awareness about issues related to an aging community.

Through these efforts we feel Larimer County has developed a strong framework to address the eight domains of livability as defined by AARP. Inclusion as part of the AARP network will strengthen this framework and provide PAFC with the support it needs to continue the work that has already been started.

The Board of County Commissioners is looking forward to joining Colorado Springs, the Denver metro area and the 70 other communities throughout the country that are a part of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. Moving forward with this designation will help provide our senior citizens the most rewarding, productive and satisfying lives possible.

Sincerely,

Lew Gaiter III
Chair, Larimer County Board of Commissioners

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lew Gaiter III
District 1

Steve Johnson
District 2

Tom Donnelly
District 3