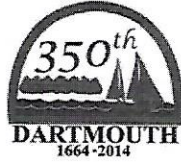


DARTMOUTH MASSACHUSETTS



Office of the Select Board

*Shawn McDonald, Chair*  
*Stanley M. Mickelson, Vice Chair*  
*Frank Gracie*  
*Kelli Martin - Taglianetti*



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**David G. Cressman**  
Town Administrator  
Email: [cressmandg@town.dartmouth.ma.us](mailto:cressmandg@town.dartmouth.ma.us)

Mr. Michael Festa  
AARP State Director  
1 Beacon Street  
Boston MA 02108

Dear Mr. Festa:

On behalf of the Select Board, I wish to advise you that they voted on Monday, December 21, 2015 to join the AARP/ World Health Organization's Age Friendly Communities Network. This decision was made at a joint meeting with the Town's Planning Board and Council on Aging with the Public Health Director representing the Board of Health.

The Town looks forward to participation in the Age Friendly Communities Network as it will provide an opportunity to survey residents and better appreciate their needs. Subsequently, it will allow the Town to develop a plan, policies and programs in response to those needs. The Town produced a Master Plan approximately ten years ago and has created an Affordable Housing Plan, recently updated its Open Space plan, and its Hazards Mitigation Plan. Thus, participation in the Age Friendly Communities Network will assist us in further aligning those plans to senior citizen needs as well as considering possible new plans, policies and programs to respond to the needs of our residents, particularly senior citizens.

The Town has an active Senior Center. The Town has recently made investments to maintain it and has plans to improve it over the next few years. Additionally, the Town recognizes that it needs to consider expanding its services to address the diverse needs of senior citizens.

As a participant in the Age Friendly Communities Network, the Town makes a commitment to:

- Convene an Advisory Council representing Dartmouth residents age 50 and older, academic partners, community organizations and Town Departments, Boards & Commissions.
- Assess the needs of Dartmouth residents age 50 and over, create a plan of action with measurable outcomes, and implement the action plan,
- Commit to measuring progress and reporting outcomes publically.

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Thank you for consideration and we look forward to partnering with AARP Massachusetts staff and volunteers in our efforts to insure that Town of Dartmouth is Age Friendly.

Sincerely,

David G. Cressman  
Town Administrator

CC: Select Board  
H. Sylvia,  
D. Wender  
J. Hansen  
C. Michaud