



**CITY OF TUCSON
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

**JONATHAN ROTHSCHILD
MAYOR**

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September 22, 2016

Dana M. Kennedy
State Director
AARP Arizona
16165 N. 83rd Ave., Ste. 201
Peoria, AZ 85382

Dear Ms. Kennedy,

On behalf of the of the City of Tucson, Arizona, I am pleased to begin the process of working toward Tucson being recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO) and AARP as an Age Friendly Community.

The attached Resolution, which I presented to and was approved unanimously by the Mayor and Council, establishes the dedication of the governing body and staff of the City of Tucson to join with the Arizona AARP and the community's Elder Alliance in submitting an application through AARP for the City to be a member and participant in AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

The City of Tucson and Pima Council on Aging (PCOA), the area agency on aging for our community, have worked together for years to adopt policies and take actions to improve the lives of older adults and others in our community. PCOA is a lead agency in the formation of the ELDER Alliance, a broad collaboration that includes representation from non-profit organizations, businesses, government agencies, community partners and age-50+ residents, dedicated to ensuring older adults thrive, enjoy quality of life, and play an active role in shaping livable communities for all ages in Tucson, Arizona. The Elder Alliance will be our partner and "Community Advisory Committee" working to ensure that policies, services, settings and structures support and enable people to remain active as they age.

The Elder Alliance will also support our efforts and commitment to:

- Establish mechanisms to involve older people.
- Conduct a baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of the community.
- Develop a community-wide action plan based on the findings of the assessment, and
- Identify indicators, so progress can be monitored against the action plan.

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To: Dana M. Kennedy

From: Jonathan Rothschild

Re: Tucson in AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities


Among other goals, our process intends to:

- Increase awareness about what the age 50+ population needs in order to maintain active, healthy and productive lives where they live.
- Foster dialogue, knowledge and actions that support the development of age-friendly communities across the United States.
- Create a cycle of continuous improvement within the eight domains of livability identified by WHO.

We further acknowledge that active aging is a life-long process and that an age-friendly community is not just "elder-friendly," but is friendly for all ages.

We are excited to submit the attached application and look forward with our partners in completing the work and becoming a part AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Rothschild
Mayor of Tucson