



# TOWN OF GREENWICH

Office of First Selectman (203) 622-7710 Fax (203) 622-3793  
Town Hall • 101 Field Point Road • Greenwich, CT 06830  
E-Mail: [ptesei@greenwichct.org](mailto:ptesei@greenwichct.org)

Peter J. Tesei  
*First Selectman*

December 8, 2016

William Armbruster  
Advisor  
AARP Livable Communities Program  
601 E. Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

Dear Mr. Armbruster,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to express our interest in applying for the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities designation. At our Board of Selectmen meeting on December 8, 2016, the Selectmen unanimously adopted the attached resolution in support of this initiative.

The Town of Greenwich has a long history of adopting innovative and forward-thinking policies. We pride ourselves on being a sustainable and livable community for residents of all ages and abilities. Looking into the future, we see value in identifying challenges and opportunities within the community to improve the lives of the Town's older population.

According to the 2016 Greenwich United Way Needs Assessment, currently 17.5% of town residents are over the age of 65. This number is projected to reach 19.5% by the year 2020. This demographic shift coupled with a sizeable longevity bonus will exponentially impact support and services related to healthcare, retirement, personal finances, housing, leisure, and initiatives to help older adults age in place. This transition is certain to have a profound effect on the livability of our community.

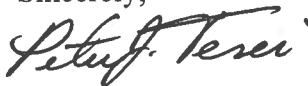
The Town of Greenwich would like to be the first community in the State of Connecticut to apply for and achieve the designation as a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. This initiative will serve as a benchmark of standards for the other communities throughout the state, and similar communities in other states. Age-Friendly communities aim at making communities better for all residents, providing opportunities for greater connection and enhancing the livability quotient for all.

Partnering and exchanging ideas with AARP will help enhance our ability to:

- Build upon addressing the World Health Organization's eight domains,
- Establish a robust and concrete plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community,
- Continue to grow our Commission on Aging committee with important community stakeholders,
- Prepare for the rapidly growing aging population in our Town.

We look forward to joining this global network of communities committed to providing their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safe lives. I have no doubt that the Town of Greenwich can be a shining model of Age-Friendliness to the state of Connecticut.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Tesei  
First Selectman



## Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and the **World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

- If you have questions while completing this form, please email [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org) or call 202-434-2430
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 12/8/2016

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** Town of Greenwich

**STATE:** Connecticut

**POPULATION SIZE:** 60,000

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 18%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman, Town of Greenwich

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** Greenwich Town Hall, 101 Field Point Road, Greenwich, CT 06830

### Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The community contact is the local staff member or volunteer who is primarily responsible for carrying out the community-level work — it is not the responsible AARP staff member.

**NAME:** Lori Contadino

**POSITION:** Director of Commission of Aging

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** Lori.Contadino@greenwichct.org

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (203) 862-6711

**Please describe the named person's role in the city or community's age-friendly initiative:**

The Age Friendly Greenwich initiative will be headed by the Director of the Town of Greenwich's Commission on Aging, Lori Contadino. Lori has been Director of the Commission on Aging since January 2012. Her office is located in the Greenwich Senior Center which is at the heart of Greenwich's 55+ community. As Director over the last four years, Lori has energized the Commission on Aging and Senior Center inspiring service excellence in tackling challenges around transportation, healthcare, information, referrals, Health Insurance Counseling, Senior Tax Relief, facility enhancement and social, educational and quality of life programming at the Senior Center including advocacy while helping to manage issues before they become a crisis. The Commission on Aging Board consists of seven members that are appointed for three year terms; these members meet once a month and actively work on important initiatives in small working sub-committees. The members of the Commission will support Lori in coordinating the goals of the Age Friendly initiative in Greenwich.



#### Action 4: NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

Your answers to the following questions will help us complete your membership in the global age-friendly network and better enable us to understand how to support the network.

#### 4) How do you hope to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

We hope to develop approaches to aging-friendly problems that we will share with future applicants and cities striving to achieve Age-Friendly designation. We want to be a model and support system for other Connecticut towns by establishing formalized best practices for achieving Age-Friendly designation and helping other towns throughout the application process. We also want to recommend to AARP to establish a best practices section on their website and publish our application to assist future applicants.

#### 5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

The current increase in the global aging population is a demographic shift that will shape local, regional, national and international policy making, economies and lifestyle; Greenwich is no exception to this population transition. According to the 2016 Greenwich United Way Needs Assessment, currently 17.5% of town residents are 65 and older. This number is projected to reach 19.5% by the year 2020. The Town of Greenwich would like to be the first community in the State of Connecticut to apply for and achieve the designation as a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities. We want to be a leading example and resource to other Connecticut towns by establishing formalized best practices for achieving Age-Friendly designation.

#### 6) Please provide a digital file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.

The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours >



Click here to enter text.



**Town of Greenwich, CT Resolution No 1 of 2016**  
**World Health Organization**  
**Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

WHEREAS, the global population of people aged 60 and over is expected to grow from 600 million in 2000 to almost 2 billion by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, the population of people aged 65 and over is expected to grow from 35 million in 2000 to 88.5 million by 2050, taking the total share of the 65+ population from 12 percent to 20 percent of the total population; and

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, of the 80 percent of adults 65 and older living in metropolitan areas, 64 percent live outside the principal cities of these areas in suburban locations that tend to be auto-dependent, creating challenges for residents who do not drive; 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, the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and 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 has noted that "[m]aking 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 older people:

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, aging 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 aging (physical exercise and healthy habits); and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman of the Town of Greenwich by virtue of the authority invested in me by the Town of Greenwich do hereby support initiatives and opportunities to engage in the WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Network.

Further, in recognition of existing efforts to promote and expand age friendly communities in the Town of Greenwich, I do hereby appoint Selectman, John F. Toner to actively work with the Commission on Aging and act as a liaison to the Board of Selectmen on this initiative.

Further, I order and direct the Greenwich Commission on Aging to convene a Blue Ribbon Commission to evaluate opportunities to engage in the WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Blue Ribbon Commission shall actively seek input from diverse stakeholders. At least twenty-five percent of the Blue Ribbon Commission members shall be residents of the community and shall include older adult residents.

**T**HIS ORDER supersedes any other previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as the Board of Selectmen rescinds it.

**M**otion moved by: Selectman John F. Toner

**S**econded by: Selectman Drew Marzullo

**A**pproved: 3-0-0

**A**dopted: December 8, 2016

Attested by:

*John F. Toner*  
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FIRST SELECTMAN  
12/08/2016









**TOWN OF  
GREENWICH**  
COMMISSION ON AGING

Lori Contadino, M.S.  
*Director*

December 13, 2016

William Armbruster  
Advisor  
AARP Livable Communities Program  
601 E. Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

Dear Mr. Armbruster,

The Town of Greenwich, Connecticut is thrilled to be considered for membership in the AARP Livable Communities Program. The Board of Selectmen passed the resolution, signed the letter of intent and authorized that the application be submitted for consideration. All necessary documents are enclosed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 203-862-6711 if I can offer any additional information. I look forward to your prompt response.

Happy Holidays!

With kind regards,

Lori Contadino, MS  
Director  
Greenwich Commission on Aging