



TOWN OF ACTON
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Office of the Town Manager

Mr. Michael Festa
Massachusetts State Director
AARP
One Beacon Street, Suite 2301
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Town of Acton Application for Membership in AARP/WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities

Dear Mr. Festa:

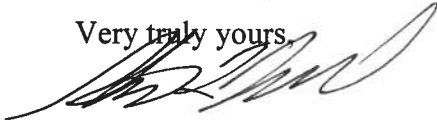
On behalf of the Town of Acton, and pursuant to a vote of the Acton Board of Selectmen at its meeting on February 26, 2018, we are pleased to furnish this letter confirming the Town's commitment to creating an age-friendly community and region, and respectfully request membership in the AARP/WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Town is submitting this letter and accompanying application as part of a 14-town collaborative effort of the Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC) to advance regional age-friendly planning.

Older adults are a growing proportion of Acton's population, and in neighboring towns. Currently in the region, 9% to 20% of residents are age 65 and older, with those percentages projected to jump in 2030 to 14% to 36%. The unique needs of the growing older adult population will have an impact on housing, transportation, and health care, as well as other services. Communities must be proactive in addressing these issues, and ensuring that older residents currently have and will continue to have the necessary support to lead stable, engaged and healthy lives.

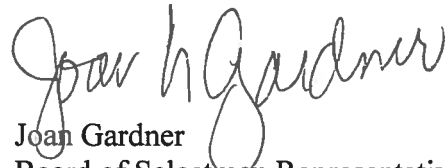
Through the 14-town collaborative MAGIC effort, Acton will seek to advance age-friendly regional planning and solutions for two particularly pressing issues: housing and transportation. Where the region has limited public transit and is largely car-dependent, solutions must address the need for older adult mobility, particularly for individuals who do not drive cars, and include active transportation solutions that support active and healthy lifestyles. If the available housing stock in the region might not meet the needs of residents as they age and as their households shrink, solutions must include suitable, affordable options that address the changing needs of older adults and enable them to age while remaining in their communities. By working with other MAGIC communities, Acton will have the opportunity to build on its successes and develop regional housing and transportation solutions that will enhance the lives of older adults in the near term and into the future.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to our partnership in building age-friendly communities.

Very truly yours,



Steven L. Ledoux
Town Manager



Joan Gardner
Board of Selectmen Representative,
Minuteman Interlocal Advisory Group
on Interlocal Coordination

cc (w/application): Board of Selectmen