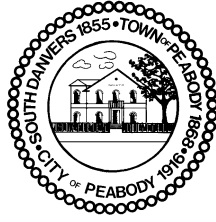


CITY OF PEABODY

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR EDWARD A. BETTENCOURT, JR.

January 3, 2017

Valerie Spain
AARP Massachusetts
1 Beacon St #2301
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Spain,

On behalf of the City of Peabody, we are excited about the opportunity to join with the AARP Massachusetts and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Along with other selected communities in the nation, Peabody is committed to promoting policies that make American cities friendly to aging populations.

Residents aged 60 and older make up the fastest growing segment of Peabody's population. Peabody seniors are especially vibrant leading active social lives and engaging in their community like never before.

To help address our changing demographics, our community is fortunate to have the support of the Peabody Council on Aging as well as the Friends of the Peabody Council on Aging. In addition, Peabody's Peter A. Torigian Senior Center is a hub for thousands of older residents and has long been the envy of the entire North Shore region.

As a participant in the national network of communities, the City of Peabody intends to:

- Secure a City Council Resolution to work toward becoming age-friendly
- Convene a Task Force on Aging comprised of a diverse group, including older adults, executives from non-profit providers, funding agencies, policy makers, and academia.
- Establish a Plan of Action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly.

We look forward to working with AARP Massachusetts staff and volunteers to ensure our community has the appropriate infrastructure in place so we can all age with dignity.

Warmest regards,

Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr.
Mayor, City of Peabody