



City of Marlborough

Office of the Mayor

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March 22, 2018

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

Re: AARP Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative

Dear Mr. Festa,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you today on behalf of the City of Marlborough to express interest in joining the World Health Organization and AARP Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative. In recent years, the City of Marlborough has pledged its commitment to supporting healthy aging by launching community development initiatives and partnering with local organizations that specialize in promoting healthy aging and engaging older members in the community.

According to the 2016 American Community Survey, 19.4% of the City of Marlborough's population is over the age of 60, with another 23.2% between the ages of 45 and 59. In response to this demographic reality, the city has turned its focus towards developing a community that caters to the needs of its older citizens. We currently work with several community partners to support its older citizens, and our Council on Aging provides a wide range of useful services to older members of the community.

The City of Marlborough is also a member of the State of Massachusetts Mass in Motion program in the MetroWest region. In response to the needs of our community, the two primary strategies of the MetroWest project are a Community Food Assessment, and an Age Friendly Community initiative. These projects will assess what our community members see as important to maintaining healthy lifestyles and successfully aging in place.

The City of Marlborough is committed to meeting and exceeding the needs of our older community members by keeping them healthy, engaging them in the community, and giving them the physical and social infrastructure they need to thrive. We feel that our goals overlap with the goals of the AARP Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative, and that joining this network would both exemplify and strengthen our commitment to developing a more inclusive and successful city.

We look forward to having the chance to work with AARP Massachusetts. Thank you for considering the City of Marlborough for membership in the WHO and AARP Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Arthur G. Vigeant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Arthur G. Vigeant
Mayor