CITY OF BATH, MAINE

City Hall, 55 Front Street Bath, Maine 04530



OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

(207) 443-8332

July 11, 2018

Ms. Lori Parham AARP Maine State Director 53 Baxter Blvd Portland ME 04101

Dear Ms. Parham,

The City of Bath, Maine, is pleased to submit this letter of interest and commitment to the AARP/World Health Organization Network of Age-Friendly Communities in recognition and support of the work of the Bath Area Livable & Age Friendly Communities Initiative. Via this recognition of the Initiative, the City understands the importance of encouraging and promoting livable, age-friendly planning and policies to address changing demographics and to enhance independent living. We are committed to a process of continual improvement to support active and healthy aging.

The Ad Hoc regional Initiative has been meeting on livable and age friendly community issues and includes people from Bath and the surrounding towns of West Bath, Arrowsic, Woolwich, Georgetown and Phippsburg. This workgroup has already held a series of community conversations, including one on June 14th and is ready to explore next steps including conducting an assessment under the capable leadership of Bath resident Ms. Ruth Lawson-Stopps who has been the convener and organizer. One of our City Councilors, Ms. Phyllis Bailey, has been involved from the beginning and will continue to participate on the workgroup's steering and assessment committees.

As part of our involvement and commitment we will support the Initiative's base assessment of the community's age-friendliness and development of a community action plan based on the findings of the assessment. We support their involvement of older residents deeply in the planning process and we commit to monitoring progress toward implementing the action plan. We are excited about this citizen led initiative and how it will help us sail towards a livable and inclusive future for residents of all ages.

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