



October 15, 2018

World Health Organization, Age-Friendly Communities
c/o AARP
150 Post Street, Suite 450
San Francisco, CA 94108

Dear AARP and World Health Organization Age-Friendly Communities:

On behalf of the Town of Ross, I am pleased to offer this letter of our ongoing commitment to creating an age-friendly environment and respectfully request membership to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organizations Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Town of Ross recognizes the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning and policies to address changing demographics and to enhance independent living; and is committed to a process of continual improvement to support active and healthy aging and sustain economic and social vitality.

Ross is a small town in heart of Marin County, California with a population of 2,533. Data from the American Community Survey (Census Bureau's Population Estimates) for 2012-2016 indicate that 28% of the Town's population is over the age of 60. This percent is expected to increase by 2030.

To respond to the growing needs of our residents, the Ross Town Council voted on October 11, 2018, to enhance the future for our aging community by taking the steps necessary to become a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organizations Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. An Age-Friendly Committee will be formed to help develop and implement the plan.

The Town of Ross understands and commits to the cycle of continual improvement as outlined in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities application. Specifically, the Town commits to:

- Establishing mechanisms to involve older people in all stages of the Age-Friendly Cities Process.
- Developing a baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of Ross
- Developing a community-wide plan based on the findings of our assessment
- Identifying indicators so progress can be monitored against the action plan

Continually improving Ross's age-friendliness for its residents is a priority for our Town.

Sincerely,

P. Beach Kuhl
Mayor