

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



FRANK HUTTLE III

**CITY HALL
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07631**

(201) 871-6666

October 17, 2018

Bill Armbruster
AARP
601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049

Dear Mr. Armbruster:


I am pleased to express my interest in pursuing admission into the World Health Organization (WHO) and AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative. Throughout my career of public service, I have had a keen interest in preserving the independence of aging residents of the City of Englewood and improving the lives of persons 50 years of age and older. The City of Englewood has a long-standing history of ensuring the aging community has access to necessary services, is valued and able to contribute to civic life, and has a suitable environment with strong supports in which they can remain healthy and age safely, with purpose and dignity.

I believe that our community must come together and build a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable future for all. In 2014, following two years of assessment including significant input from several hundred residents from all areas of the City, Englewood adopted a Master Plan which we have been working diligently to fulfill and, now, to revise for the years ahead. Among the elements of this plan are many directed toward older adult residents: improved streetscapes, walkable mixed-use downtown, safer streets and sidewalks, preservation of well-connected and safe neighborhoods, better walkways into and around the central business district, senior-oriented development, increased affordable housing, abundant and accessible community amenities and services.

I see great value in the AARP/WHO Network and am excited to continue our efforts to establish Englewood as an Age Friendly City. For the past two years, I, City Council members and agencies of City government have been collaborating closely with the Age-Friendly Englewood initiative, which seeks to help older adult residents of Englewood age-in-place with dignity and independence. Age-Friendly Englewood is using WHO's Eight Domains as a framework for developing a dynamic action plan that is now in the process of being implemented. We are committed to advancing public and aging policy goals within these established domains: making outdoor spaces and buildings more senior friendly; increasing the accessibility and affordability of transportation and housing; creating jobs to help supplement fixed incomes; ensuring adequate medical and long-term care services and supports to help seniors stay healthy and age in place; protecting against abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation; and providing activities to ensure social participation and inclusion in an effort to keep seniors active and engaged in the community.

I look forward to continue working with the existing Age-Friendly Englewood Coalition, AARP New Jersey State Office, its members and volunteers, and other stakeholders to implement the plan of action that is responding to needs in our community. Englewood is and will continue to be a shining example age-friendliness, and we look forward to joining the WHO/AARP Network of Age-Friendly Cities.

Sincerely,



Frank Huttles III
Mayor