Age-Friendly Action Plan

Toward Building a Livable Community for all Ages

Catherine Hurley
Sustainability Manager

Susan Cherco
Chairperson
Age-Friendly Task Force
WHAT IS AN AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY?

“...encourages active ageing by optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age... [and] adapts its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities”

- World Health Organization
COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Importance of Age-Friendliness

- The Boomers are Coming!
- Beneficial for Residents of All Ages and Abilities
- A Plan for Short-Term and Long-Term Needs
- Promotes Connection to Home, Family, and Community
- Economic Value

Source: 2010 City of Evanston Census, 2014 U.S. Census Bureau

2010 Evanston Population: 74,486
60% Female
40% Male
BACKGROUND AND PROCESS

• WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities
• Evanston Age-Friendly Task Force
• Focus Groups
• Round Table Discussions
• Community Survey
• Age-Friendly Action Plan
# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## Age-Friendly Task Force Members

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Representation</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Barfield</td>
<td>Community &amp; Health Services</td>
<td>Representative from Mental Health Board</td>
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<td>Susan Canter</td>
<td>Outdoor Spaces &amp; Buildings</td>
<td>Representative from Commission on Aging</td>
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<td>Susan Cherco</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Community Member</td>
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<td>Jo-Ann Cromer</td>
<td>Social Participation</td>
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<td>Helen Gagel</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>Wayne Heimbach</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Representative from Commission on Aging</td>
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<td>Martha Holmes</td>
<td>Communication &amp; Information</td>
<td>Representative from Commission on Aging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isidro Lucas</td>
<td>Civic Participation &amp; Employment</td>
<td>Representative from Human Relations Commission</td>
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<td>Dorothy Strong</td>
<td>Respect &amp; Social Inclusion</td>
<td>Representative from the Commission on Aging</td>
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## Working Group Members
FINDINGS
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## ACTION PLAN

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ACTION AREA 1: PLANNING

Action Item 1.1: Apply an Age-Friendly Lens to All Projects and Programs

- Age-Friendly Checklist

Recommended Actions Under Way:

- Upgrades to City of Evanston website
ACTION AREA 2: HOUSING

**Action Item 2.1** – Expand Affordable Housing through Community Land Trust

**Action Item 2.2** – Expand Shared Housing Opportunities

**Action Item 2.3** – Expand Opportunities for Subsidized Assisted Living

**Action Item 2.4** – Explore Innovative Approaches to Expand Affordable Housing Options

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**2010 Evanston Housing Demographics**

- **10.5%** Householder 65 and Older Living Alone
- **22%** Other Households
- **22%** Households with Individuals 65 Years and Older
ACTION AREA 3: TRANSPORTATION

**Action Item 3.1** – Define and Design a Comprehensive Intra-City Transportation Network with Connections to Outside Transportation Networks

**Action Item 3.2** – Provide Safe and Efficient Mobility for all by Promoting Rules of the Road Education for Drivers, Bicyclists and Pedestrians

**Recommended Actions Under Way:**
- Transit Planning 4 All Grant
ACTION AREA 4: COMMUNICATION

Action Item 4.1—Improve City-wide Communications and Access to Information with Diverse Media Using Consistent Messaging

- Communications-information Liaison role
- Upgrades to communications tools
- Enhance Public Access Cable TV Channel
ACTION ITEM 5: COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND HEALTH SERVICES

**Action Item 5.1** – Expand Evanston 311 to Provide Information on Community Social Service Resources, Activities and Opportunities for Engagement

**Recommended Actions Under Way:**

- Initial training for Evanston 311 Operators
- Updating the Community Resources page on the Evanston Public Library Website
ACTION ITEM 6: OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS

Action Item 6.1 – Enhance and Improve Public Spaces for Safety, Quality of Life and Community Access

- Assess, repair, and rehabilitate outdoor spaces, public buildings and other structures
- Snow removal
- 50/50 Sidewalk Program
- Volunteer opportunities

Recommended Actions Under Way:

- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings Review of Parks Summary
- Concrete pad installed at Levy Center bus shelter
ACTION ITEM 7: SOCIAL & CIVIL PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT

**Action Item 7.1**— Improve Access to Social, Cultural, Educational, Civic and Recreational Resources through Outreach Partnerships and Communication

**Action Item 7.2** — Enhance Opportunities and Access to Recreational Opportunities Year Round

**Action Item 7.3** — Encourage Age-Friendly Business Practices through Education and Development of Business Certification Program
ACTION ITEM 8: VISIONING

Action Item 8.1 – Assemble a Future-Oriented Task Force to Identify and Explore Best Practices and Innovations Worldwide to Achieve a Livable Community for All

- Recommendations to the City’s Health and Human Services Committee
- Pilot Projects
IMPLEMENTATION

Years 1 and 2: Dec 2014 - 2016
ASSESSMENT AND PLAN DEVELOPMENT
Submit to WHO by December 2016
Quarterly Meetings to coordinate implementation

Years 3, 4 and 5: Dec 2016 – 2019
IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION
Oversee the implementation of the action plan approved by the City Council.

Continual improvement
Age-Friendly Action Plan

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Thank You

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