



COOK COUNTY AGE FRIENDLY NETWORK PROCLAMATION

APRIL 2024

WHEREAS, the health and safety of residents of all ages are of the highest concern to the citizens of the Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has noted that "making cities and communities age friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic aging,"; and

WHEREAS, the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities (the Network) is an affiliate of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, an international effort launched in 2006 to help cities prepare for rapid population aging; and

WHEREAS, members of the Network become part of a global network of communities that are committed to giving residents of all ages the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, the Network helps participating communities become great places for all ages by adopting such features as: safe, walkable streets; better housing and transportation options; access to key services; and opportunities for residents to participate in community activities; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of joining the AARP Network include, but are not limited to: access to key information about best practices among age-friendly communities; access to a global network of participating communities; technical expertise; financial assistance; and public recognition of Cook County for its commitment to becoming a more age-friendly community; and

WHEREAS, well-designed, livable communities promote health and sustain economic growth, and they make for happier, healthier residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, as the U.S. population ages and people stay healthy and active longer, communities must adapt; and

WHEREAS, planning processes including community revitalization and economic development plans should include the needs of all people regardless of age, income, physical ability, race, gender and other factors; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Aging Coalition and Public Health and Human Services Advisory Council have formed with membership including residents, business and service providers, and professionals working in the age-friendly sphere, and

WHEREAS, the Cook County finds that this Resolution is in the best interest and welfare of all of its the residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to ensure Cook County is a well-designed, livable community that promotes a high quality of life and sustained economic growth for residents of all ages, the Cook County Public Health and Human Services Board supports the Cook County Aging Coalition and Public Health and Human Services Advisory Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Health and Human Services Director shall coordinate with the Cook County Aging Coalition and Public Health and Human Services Advisory Council including facilitating staff representation and action as its fiscal agent for funds to further age-friendly community initiatives; and

BE IT FUTURE RESOLVED that the Cook County Public Health and Human Services Board supports application to and requests participation as a part of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

David Mills Digitally signed by David Mills
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4/22/2024

Public Health and Human Services Board Chair Signature

Date