AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY STATES AND COMMUNITIES

Making Chatham a Livable Community for All

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North Carolina is Aging

- North Carolina ranks 9th nationally in total population and 8th in the number of people 65 and older.

- In 2020, 1 in 6 North Carolinians were 65 and older.

- In the next 2 decades, our 65-and-older population will increase from 1.7 to 2.7 million, a projected growth of 52%.

- In 2020, 85 counties in the state had more people 60 and older than under 18 years.

- By 2031 there will be more people 65 and older than children 0-17.

Chatham County

- 28.2% of Chatham County residents were over the age of 65 in 2022.
  - Outpaced the 0-18 population (16.9%)

- Chatham ranked 10th amongst the state's 100 counties
  - Moore (12th), Guilford (87th), Alamance (77th), Orange (88th), Durham (96th), Wake (97th), Harnett (95th), Lee (79th) and Randolph (69th)

- In 2021, 480 people 60+ moved to Chatham from other states and abroad.

AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

- Launched in 2012

- A program within the larger AARP Livable Communities initiative

- 733 communities nationwide have joined the Network.

- Established to connect cities, communities and organizations with vision of making the community a great place where people can grow up and grow old.

- People of all ages benefit

- Well-designed, age-friendly communities foster economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages

8 Domains of Livability

1. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

2. Transportation

3. Housing

4. Social Participation

5. Respect and Social Inclusion

6. Work and Civic Engagement

7. Communication and Information

8. Community and Health Services

The Age-Friendly Process and Program Cycle

- Create a steering committee to include residents, providers and local leaders in all stages of the age-friendly planning and implementation process

- Conduct a community needs assessment

- Develop an action and evaluation plan based on the assessment results

- Submit the plan for review by AARP

- Implement and work toward the goals of the plan

- Share solutions, successes and best practices with AARP

- Assess the plan's impact and submit progress reports

- Repeat

Request

Our request today is that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners vote to support our efforts in becoming an "Age-Friendly Community" by signing a letter of commitment that will be submitted with our application to become a part of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.

References

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AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, 2020.

AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. AARP, https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/network-age-friendly-communities/. Accessed 15 February 2023.