

February 14, 2018

Commission on Seniors Working Groups

1. Age Friendly Action Plan Working Group:
 - a. The Age Friendly Action Plan Working Group will oversee implementation of the Age Friendly Action plan and coordinate with other working groups on items related to the Action Plan. It will include the Communications and Information domain.
 - b. Commissioners: Van Sickle (Chair), Varteressian, Briesemeister, Lugo, Bordie, Garcia-Pittman
 - c. Shubhada Saxena, SAIVA/AAQL; Jessica Lemann, AARP; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP; Mary Teeters, MOWCT
 - d. Representatives of Hispanic Latino Quality of Life Commission; African American Quality of Life Commission; LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission; Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities; Planning and Zoning/Imagine Austin staff; Interim Assistant City Manager Sara Hensley; other staff as requested.
 - e. Priorities identified in Domain 7:
 - i. 7.1.1: Include information about city and state services, community organizations and other resources on all appropriate City communication channels.
 - ii. 7.2.2: Urge City communications staff to include an "age-friendly" perspective in all communications materials and age-inclusive language, messaging and visuals in materials intended for older adult audiences.
 - iii. 7.3.3: Offer learning opportunities for those seniors without access to technology.
 - iv. 7.3.4: Use all appropriate City communication channels to promote training opportunities.
2. Transportation, Housing, and Open Spaces:
 - a. The Working Group will review and make recommendations on city budget, city programs and policies and other policies (such as from Cap Metro) related to the Age Friendly Action Plan Domains 1, 2 and 3.

- b. Commissioners Varteressian (chair), Kareithi, Briesemeister, Jackson, Angel
- c. Tommi Ferguson, Capitol City Village, Diana Deaton, Aging 2.0; Shubhada Saxena, SAIVA/AAQL; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP; Charles Curry, Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging and LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission; Carla Penny, AARP Volunteer; Jessica Lemann, AARP
- d. Staff from Austin Transportation Department, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, Parks and Recreation and other departments as requested.
- e. Priorities identified in Domains 1, 2 and 3
 - i. 1.1.1: Ensure all residents have access to parks and open spaces within a half mile of every home.
 - ii. 1.1.2 : Ensure all residents have access to recreation facilities within a mile of every home.
 - iii. 1.1.3: Increase the number of parks and public spaces that are equipped with functional seating at frequent intervals, drinking fountains, shaded resting areas, walkways suitable for wheelchairs/walkers and accessible public restrooms.
 - iv. 2.1.4: Evaluate and install pedestrian-friendly crossing signals.
 - v. 2.1.8: Replace missing street signs/traffic signs with easily readable, well-lit signage and addresses access and functional needs.
 - vi. 2.2.2: Create a centralized clearing house for seamless information for the public.
 - vii. 2.3.3: Provide public transportation discounts to older adults.
 - viii. 3.1.1: Encourage the development of new and innovative models of affordable housing (multigenerational, co-housing/cooperative housing).
 - ix. 3.1.2: Increase and prioritize funding for affordable housing for seniors (housing bonds, housing trust fund).
 - x. 3.3.1: Expand support for the Austin Housing Repair Coalition.
 - xi. 3.3.2: Increase home access for seniors through design modification that improves safety and accessibility.

3. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment (Domains 4, 5, 6)

- a. The Working Group will review and make recommendations on city budget, city programs and policies and other policies related to the Age Friendly Action Plan Domains 4, 5, and 6.
- b. Commissioners Lugo (Chair), Grampp, Van Sickle,
- c. Claire Irwin, Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Cody Rothschild, Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Richard Bondi, Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging and Texas Health and Human Services Commission; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP.
- d. Staff from Austin Public Library, Austin Public Health, Parks and Recreation Department, Economic Development, and other departments as requested.
- e. Priorities identified in Domains 4, 5, and 6:
 - i. 4.2.1 Develop an asset map to identify existing and new opportunities for senior social engagement at public libraries, PARD facilities, HHS facilities and schools.
 - ii. 5.3.3: Ensure services and programs targeted to seniors that respect racial, ethnic and cultural diversity and are welcoming and inclusive.
 - iii. 5.3.4: Advocate that all City programs, services and strategic plans address the needs of seniors.
 - iv. 6.1.1: Improve awareness and coordination of employment services
 - v. 6.1.2: Promote home-based, part-time and job-sharing employment opportunities
 - vi. 6.1.4: Encourage local businesses to hire older persons
 - vii. 6.2.1: Develop a City of Austin internship or fellowship program for people 55+

4. Community and Health Services

- a. The Working Group will review and make recommendations on city budget, city programs and policies and other policies related to the Age Friendly Action Plan Domain 8.
- b. Commissioners Bordie and Garcia-Pittman (co-chairs), Angel, Cagle, Nicola, Hauser

- c. Mary Teeters - Gerontology Consultant - Meals on Wheels of Central Texas; Barry Waller, LGBT Coalition on Aging; Jose "Chema" Saenz, AARP state office and South Austin Chapter 2426; Korey Darling, LMSW, Research and Planning Division at Travis County Health and Human Services; Teresa Ferguson, AustinUP.
- d. Austin Public Health staff, the Travis County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other city and county staff as requested.
- e. Priorities identified under Domain 8:
 - i. 8.1.2 Create focus groups of city and community representatives with the charge of developing a strategic plan to integrate aging, mental health and wellness programs.
 - ii. 8.2.1: Expand community outreach and public awareness around caregiver support and in-home support programs, including respite care, palliative care and other home-based supportive services.
 - iii. 8.3.3: Provide emergency response, preparedness strategies on the COA website specific to the needs of the senior population.