

PUYALLUP, THE FIRST AGE-FRIENDLY CITY IN WASHINGTON STATE



Age-friendly communities are “economic engines” and older adults can provide fuel.

-- John Feather, CEO, Grantmakers in Aging

“What I see is individuals and communities worldwide waking up to the reality of demographic aging and not quite knowing what to do....But creating physical spaces and devices to meet needs is not enough. A high quality of life for older adults also requires the support of the entire community—and a different view of aging.”

—Andrew Scharlach, associate dean and professor of social welfare at the University of California, Berkeley.



Age-Friendly City Journey Begins

- AdvantAge Initiative 2001
- Puyallup one of 10 cities participating nationally
- Original stakeholder group
- Continuing role of Puyallup Area Aging in Community Committee (PAICC)



Puyallup's Efforts

- Installed Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB) (stemming from crossing flag recommendation of Senior Advisory Committee)
- Considering non-motorized transportation and ADA transition plans
- Makes commitment to make the city a better place to live for residents of all ages



2015 Comprehensive Plan 20-Year Visioning Goal

"In 2030, Puyallup is a friendly, active and safe community that celebrates its heritage. The community, while retaining its unique character, has grown responsibly by supporting diverse transportation, recreation, and housing options. Puyallup encourages local economic development and learning opportunities, while providing amenities for all members of the community."



Age-Friendly City Journey Continues

- Application to become an AARP/WHO Age-Friendly City March 2016
- Designation granted March 2016 -- presented May 14, 2016
- Puyallup becomes member of AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities
- PAICC will facilitate the accountability process
- New stakeholder group formed May-June 2016



Benefits of an Age-Friendly Community

- Research supports the economic and social benefits of an age-friendly community
- Great place to grow up and grow old
- Older adults are a growing resource
- Benefits residents of all ages
- Benefits categorized in six broad areas:
 - ~~ Economic
 - ~~ Social capital
 - ~~ Opportunities related to innovations in housing and physical infrastructure
 - ~~ Health
 - ~~ Other benefits



— “*The Case for Age-Friendly Communities*” prepared for Grantmakers in Aging

Intangible Benefits

- Creates awareness of the negative impact of ageism
- Opportunity to view community with new lens
- Reduces silo approach to change
- Enhances integration of age-friendly attributes benefitting all ages



“ When we help our older citizens to stay healthy and active, we are really helping them stay engaged in the lives of their families, neighbors and fellow community members. I want for Puyallup to be known as a great place to grow up and also to grow old. ”

—Puyallup Mayor John Hopkins



Scope and Process

- Engage stakeholder group (members selected from 8 domains)
- Develop group structure
- Share resources
- Create process strategy
- Gather community information
- Evaluate perceptions
- Develop action plan
- Determine implementation and accountability



Invitation

Stakeholder resource meeting
September 27, 3:00-4:00 pm:

Group Health Medical Center
1007 39th Ave. SE, Puyallup 98375
Main Floor Conference Room A

AARP.org/livable - Puyallup Area Aging in Community Committee Linda Henry,
jlhenry@aol.com,



"As people live longer and better, incorporating an extended middle age..., we are discovering that aging does not equal decline but instead offers new opportunities for growth and development, new chances to pursue happiness, and more time to live the good live."

—Jo Ann Jenkins, *Disrupt Aging*

