

RESOLUTION No: 22-156

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT VENTURA COUNTY MASTER PLAN FOR AGING INITIATIVES AND TO JOIN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY NETWORK**

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors is committed to serving this area's older population; and the global population of people aged 60 and over is expected to grow from 600 million in 2000 to almost 2 billion by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, the population of people aged 65 and over is expected to grow from 35 million in 2000 to 88.5 million by 2050, taking the total share of the 65 and over population from 12 percent to 20 percent of the total population; and

WHEREAS, in Ventura County, there are over 216,000 people of the age of 60, which makes up 25% of the total population; and

WHEREAS, as California's older population is growing, the economic security of older adults across the state is diminishing, with high housing and health care costs, rising inequality, and cuts to critical safety net programs, leaving far too many older Californians without enough income to meet their basic needs;

WHEREAS, research shows that older Americans overwhelmingly want to remain in their homes and communities as they age; and

WHEREAS, access to quality health care and long-term services and supports is essential for individuals to live in their homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, 21 percent of adults age 65 and older do not drive, and more than half of these non-drivers do not leave home on a given day, in part because they lack transportation options; and

WHEREAS, reduced mobility for older non-drivers leads to 15 percent fewer trips to the doctor, 59 percent fewer shopping trips and visits to restaurants, and 65 percent fewer trips for social, family and religious activities; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities, which is led in the United States by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support healthy aging and thereby improve the health, well-being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older Americans; and

WHEREAS, active aging is a lifelong process, whereby an age-friendly community is not just "elder-friendly" but also intended to be friendly for all ages; and

WHEREAS, the WHO has noted that "making cities and communities age-friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic aging," and WHO recognizes that towns, cities and communities have different needs, resources, and varying capacities to engage their resources to take action to facilitate active aging.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF VENTURA supports the initiatives in the Master Plan for Aging and opportunities to engage in the Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Network encouraging and promoting public policies supporting healthy aging and that Ventura County will initiate action to join the WHO/AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities.

On motion of Supervisor Long, seconded by Supervisor Huber the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted on this 11 day of ~~September~~ October 2022.

Matt J. V.  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: Dr. Sevet Johnson  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Ventura, State of  
California

By: Lori Key  
Deputy Clerk of the Board

