

Board of Supervisors
Canandaigua, New York 14424

Supervisor Daniel Marshall offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 403-2021
PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR AN “AGE-FRIENDLY ONTARIO” INITIATIVE TO
SUPPORT THE WELL-BEING OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

WHEREAS, Age-Friendly Communities are great places to grow up and grow old and are well-designed, livable communities that promote health, sustain economic growth, and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, There are numerous social and economic benefits to building a community that is inclusive and meets the needs of residents and visitors of all ages, backgrounds and ability levels; and

WHEREAS, Age-Friendly Communities are defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the American Association of Retired People (AARP) as committed to improving their communities by addressing the 8 Domains of Livability: 1.Outdoor Spaces and Buildings; 2. Transportation; 3. Housing; 4. Social Participation; 5. Respect and Social Inclusion; 6. Civic Participation and Employment; 7. Communication and Information; 8. Community and Health Services; and

WHEREAS, An Age-Friendly approach benefits multi-generations because safe healthy communities make it possible for young children and elders to navigate independently and this independence promotes active aging and healthy child development, but it also relieves the pressures of caregiving on other family members; and

WHEREAS, In 2017 New York became the first state in the nation to be designated an Age-Friendly state and is supporting communities around the state to be more Age-Friendly via a grants program; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County was one of the grant recipients and has used the grant to raise awareness and interest in Age-Friendly principles and create a collaboration of county and community partners to consider priorities and strategies to further the County’s desire to be Age-Friendly; and

WHEREAS, The Age-Friendly initiative also aligns with the county’s vision to be a “Vibrant Community Where Every Citizen has the Opportunity to be Healthy, Successful and Safe” and aligns with the NY Department of Health’s Prevention Agenda, the Department of State’s Smart Growth

Agenda, and the Governor's Health Across All Policies Agenda; and

WHEREAS, The Office of Aging (OFA) and Planning Department (PD) have convened two community education workshops and developed a County website of Age Friendly resources; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County already is engaged in Age Friendly activities such as accessibility improvements at parks and buildings, investing in active transportation options and access to vehicle based mobility options for residents of all ages, and meeting the needs of vulnerable populations in the face of the COVID 19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, An Ad-Hoc Age Friendly Committee comprised of representatives from OFA, PD, Public Health, DPW, Purchasing , DSS, EMS, Finance/Grant Administration, the Sheriffs' Department, Town Supervisors and community partners with the intention of identifying strategies that will bolster Ontario County's Age-Friendly position and recommends adoption of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, Ontario County is experiencing an "aging boom" as the number of residents age 60 or older is expected to increase from 27% of the population in 2019 to 33% of the population in 2030. From 2010 to 2019 in Ontario County the number of residents age 60 to 74 increased by 4,657 and those age 75 and over increased by 900. From 2019 to 2030 in Ontario County the number of residents age 60 to 74 is expected to increase by 2,960 and those age 75 and over to increase by 6,364. (Source: 2010 U.S. Census, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, and NYSOFA Projections; and

WHEREAS, The Planning and Environmental Quality Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee recommend adoption of this resolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Ontario County is committed to intentionally transforming the social and physical environments to support the health and well-being of community members across the lifespan and hereby declares our support for an Age-Friendly initiative in Ontario County that will enhance livability across the lifespan and support growing number of older adults; and further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports all appropriate County departments and entities to consider Age-Friendly implications of decisions and investments and to incorporate Age-Friendly strategies, priorities and principles into departmental, city, town or county plans, contracts, programs, policies, procedures, grant funded activities and procurements where practicable and feasible in order to further the goals of the Age Friendly initiative; and further

RESOLVED, That this Board does adopt the following statement of policy and actions to promote

Age Friendly development and operations within Ontario County:

- A. Continue to improve accessibility of county facilities and services and incorporate enabling features as facilities are remodeled, including but not limited to access to building and outdoor spaces, easy to understand and well located signage, appropriate lighting, and purchase of accommodating furniture and fixtures,
- B. Pursue funding for Age Friendly home modifications and work with municipalities to identify and pursue neighborhood modifications to make them more Age Friendly,
- C. Identify and pursue funding for various programs and improvements to allow older adults and individuals with disabilities to remain in their homes, including home services such as vaccine administration, therapy, and medical/vision/mental health services,
- D. Work with municipalities to incorporate Age Friendly policies and standards, including a complete street policy, into local comprehensive plans, zoning, design of recreation facilities, and adopt other local policies to promote Age Friendly housing, including zero-step access housing, affordable housing options, and accessory dwelling units by right, and accessibility of municipal facilities and services.
- E. Add Age Friendly design as a standard consideration by staff for all reviews performed by the Ontario County Planning Board pursuant to General Municipal Law 239 k, l, & m,
- F. Continue to pursue opportunities to enhance mobility of older adults and others without access to private transportation while educating the public considering moving to a rural area about the differences in the level of services available in rural vs. suburban and urban areas (for example, level of public transportation, social clubs, public utilities, proximity of health and personal services, etc.),
- G. Identify and use communication channels available to those without digital access for County communications with the public and when seeking public input on projects and environmental reviews,
- H. Support and sponsor Age Friendly training and provide education resources for design professionals, contractors, developers, and municipal boards, such as through municipal training programs offered by the Planning Department,
- I. Increase opportunities for intergenerational engagement,

- J. Incorporate Complete Street principals to better accommodate the needs of pedestrian and bicyclist modes of transportation into design of County roads where appropriate, and continue to work to make roads safer for bicyclists and pedestrians,
- K. Work to expand older adult use of existing municipal and community spaces for weekday social participation and civic engagement, including, but not limited to, removing hurdles such as insurance requirements,
- L. Identify and implement other initiatives related to civic engagement and employment, respect and social inclusion or social participation; and further

RESOLVED, That the County Office of the Aging and/or Planning Department shall at least annually convene said Ad Hoc Committee and report to the Board of Supervisors in conjunction with annual review of operating and capital budgets on Age Friendly activities, additional policy recommendation, and the advisability, costs, and sources of funding to pursue Ontario County’s certification as an Age Friendly community in accordance with AARP/WHO requirements; and further

RESOLVED, That electronic copies of this resolution will be sent to all department heads, Ad Hoc committee community organization representatives, local municipal Planning and Zoning Board Chairs, and the County Administrator, Christopher DeBolt.



STATE OF NEW YORK }
 County of Ontario }

I do hereby certify that I have compared the preceding with the original thereof, on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at Canandaigua, New York, and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original; and that said original was duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Ontario County held at Canandaigua, New York, August 26, 2021.

Given under my hand and official seal August 27, 2021.

Kristin A. Mueller
 Kristin A. Mueller, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Ontario County, NY