



The Most Livable
City in America

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

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2015 Annual Report

City of Saint Paul Advisory Committee on Aging

The Advisory Committee on Aging is comprised of Mayor and City Council-appointed members charged to promote the dignity and independence of older residents in Saint Paul.

Mission - to fulfill the responsibilities of the Committee through collaborative initiatives that promote aging in community. The Committee will:

- Advise the Mayor and City Council on age-related policies.
- Recommend changes in City services, public and private sector policies and practices that will improve intergenerational opportunities within Saint Paul.
- Identify and promote community-wide awareness of issues that affect our aging population.
- Advocate for elder rights and promote access to resources and the assets of older adults in neighborhoods and across communities within the City's 8-80 Initiative.
- Explore intergenerational opportunities and interaction with families, youth and children.

Highlights from 2015

- Convened a Housing Forum to elicit input for City planners and policymakers as they begin to develop the Comprehensive Plan to ensure they are cognizant of the Aging in Community model and emphasize the impact the plan will have on the health and well-being of all residents and neighborhoods. The robust dialogue brought together 40 people, including Saint Paul residents, City leadership and planners, leaders and staff from area non-profit organizations, and developers.
- Maintained ongoing dialogue with PED planner tasked with identifying the impact of Comprehensive Plan initiatives on aging Saint Paul residents.
- Provided counsel to City leadership on a variety of issues including the exploration of partnership opportunities with AARP and drafting the job description related to the 8-80 Initiative.
- Initiated meaningful conversations with Ramsey County's Public Health staff in support of their initiative to identify pressing needs for older adults throughout the county.
- Relocated the committee to the Mayor's Office, ensuring the committee can continue to be active, effective, efficient, and well-utilized.
- Presented to the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging all staff annual gathering; assessed the process and success of the Communities for All Ages project and reflected upon the utility of the Lifetime Communities Learning and Action Collaborative.

Opportunities in 2016

- Continue seeking collaborative relationships with stakeholders and organizations, including advisory groups, policymaking and planning/development professionals, and participating in age-related policy discussions.
- Recruit additional membership, reconsidering membership approach to include intentional regional representation across the City.
- Present the Aging in Communities model to the City Planning Commission.
- Organize and facilitate a Community Forum as a reflection of ACOA's role as an information gathering and advisory asset, to further assist the development of the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- Secure resources to adapt existing checklists/templates/guides/technical assistance materials to assist planners in a Saint Paul model for aging in community.
- Foster resident and local service provider engagement.
- Participate in the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging's the Lifetime Communities Learning and Action Collaborative.