



Age-Friendly Community Action Plan

Presentation to
Municipal Council

March 16, 2022



Project Goal

What?

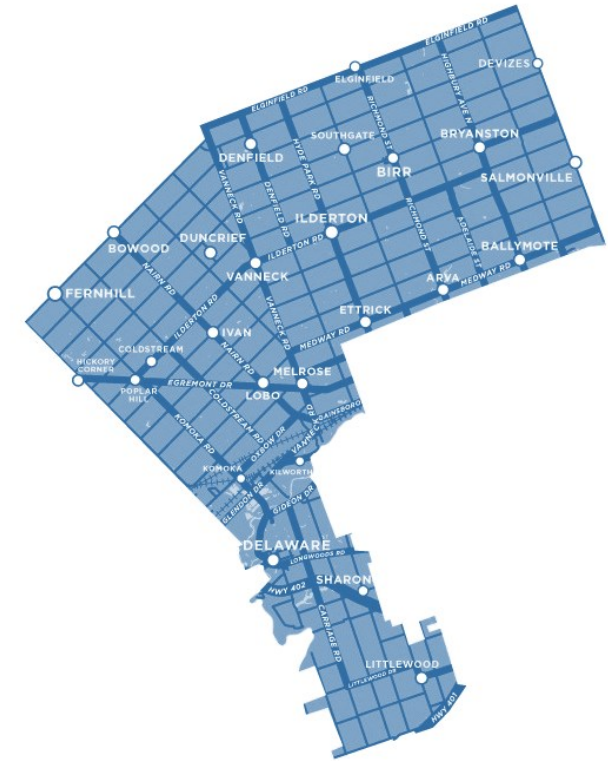
The Age-Friendly Community Action Plan identifies age-friendly priorities across the Municipality of Middlesex Centre

Why?

To create a healthy and sustainable environment for older adults and those with disabilities today and into the future.

How?

With guidance from a project Task Force, we have conducted research and engaged with the community to develop the plan. This project has been funded by the Province of Ontario.



Project Outcomes

The Age-Friendly Plan:

- Assesses the local social and physical environment using the eight World Health Organization domains of community life affecting older adults (aged 55 years or older) and people with disabilities
- Identifies a vision, principles, actions and strategies to support a 3-to-5-year Action Plan for the municipality



Community Input

Residents want to see a focus placed on:

- An accessible public realm (parks, sidewalks, etc.)
- Active transportation (trails, bike lanes, etc.)
- Increased transportation options
- Attainable housing and supports to age-in-place
- Complete communities with convenient access to services
- Recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities
- Volunteer management and support
- Communications, awareness and signage
- Access to health services and support for isolated individuals
- And more!



supportsafety
engagement mobility
diversity communication
affordability inclusion
access transparency
quality-of-life

Age-Friendly Vision

“We are an inclusive, age-friendly community that supports healthy aging, empowers independence, and promotes full participation in community life.”



Age-Friendly Principles

1. Respect and support for all citizens
2. Access and inclusion for all citizens
3. Community engagement in decision-making
4. Livability
5. Accountability



The 8 Age-Friendly Domains



Outdoor Spaces and Buildings



Transportation



Housing



Social Participation



Respect and Social Inclusion



Civic Participation and Employment



Communication and Information



Community Support and Health Services

Action Plans & Strategies

- Actions (higher-level) and strategies (more detailed) have been developed for each of the WHO domains
- Some strategies solidify and support existing municipal policies and practices, while others reflect new considerations
- Timelines, departmental leads, and key resources have been identified to assist with successful implementation
- Some strategies are beyond the Municipality's service mandate and will require the participation of other levels of government, agencies, community organizations, and local businesses



Action Plans – slide 1



Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

1.1: Consider the needs of older adults and people with disabilities when designing and developing parks and trails.

1.2: Design public buildings and outdoor spaces as accessible multi-service hubs.



Transportation

2.1: Create safe options for active transportation (pedestrians and cyclists) and motorized scooters.

2.2: Increase the range of public and private transportation options for residents.

2.3: Improve safety for all road users.

Action Plans – slide 2



Housing

3.1: Support affordable and accessible housing in close proximity to services (complete communities).

3.2: Expand the variety of housing types and forms.

3.3: Encourage strategies to help seniors age in place.



Social Participation

4.1: Increase the number and range of opportunities for participation in recreational, cultural and social activities.

4.2: Enhance awareness of leisure programs, community activities and special events.

Action Plans – slide 3



Respect and Inclusion

5.1: Encourage and celebrate the inclusion of older adults, seniors and people with disabilities within civic initiatives.

5.2: Increase inter-generational opportunities in the community.

5.3: Support and promote community education initiatives that address ageism and foster mutual respect and understanding.



Civic Participation and Employment

6.1: Utilize the knowledge and experience of older adults and seniors.

6.2: Promote volunteerism amongst older adults and seniors.

6.3: Improve access to and promotion of employment opportunities for older adults and seniors.

Action Plans – slide 4



Communication and Information

7.1: Support equitable communication strategies that increase engagement of older adults and seniors.

7.2: Ensure that information is provided in formats that are accessible to all residents.



Community Support and Health Services

8.1: Promote healthy lifestyles and wellness for older adults and seniors.

8.2: Support expanded access to community health services for Middlesex Centre residents.

8.3: Increase awareness of community health services and supports.

Implementation

- The Community Services Department will be the primary coordinating body for this plan and will work with the Advisory Committee and Council to:
 - regularly discuss priorities
 - identify potential funding opportunities
 - coordinate with the community and partners
- Full implementation will require promotion and support from the community and local champions.



We would like to thank the members of the **Age-Friendly Task Force** for their commitment and important contributions to this project!

*Thank!
you!*

Questions?



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