



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

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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 develop “communities for all ages.” 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 highlight the needs and assets of older adults within neighborhoods and across communities within the City’s 8-80 Initiative.
- Explore intergenerational opportunities and interaction with families, youth and children.

Highlights from 2014

- Created a strategic plan for the committee based upon recommendations cited in the 2013 Report on city readiness to adopt a *Lifetime Communities* model of planning (grant funded by Metro Area Agency on Aging and United Way). The exploratory research provided a guide for priorities and a focus on urgent topics. This has resulted in the committee seeking administrative relocation within the City infrastructure.
- Collaborated with City staff to sustain ACOA in a city department in which the committee will be efficient and utilized.
- ACOA public comments submitted to Metropolitan Council in response to their 2040 Housing Policy Plan; comments were included in transmission from Mayor Coleman and the city Planning Commission.
- Clarified and pursued the vision and key components of a *Lifetime Community* – or *communities for a lifetime* - as could be realized in the City of Saint Paul.
- Pursued collaborative opportunities with the City of Minneapolis, Office of Neighborhood and Community Relations, on cross metro technical assistance and forums.
- ACOA ongoing efforts toward realizing the *Lifetime Communities* model showcased at the MAAA Annual Community Meeting and annual staff meeting.

Directions for 2015

- Secure administrative relocation and department accountability within the City; determine specific rolls and responsibilities in relationship to that department.
- Recruit additional membership under new model, *Communities for All Ages*.
- Continue to establish connections/linkages to other key groups, including advisory groups, as well as key policymaking and planning/development groups and activities. Intent to connect with City Policy makers and City of Saint Paul Planning Commission.

Ongoing Activities for 2015

- Present the model and paradigm for Communities for All Ages to the City Planning Commission in preparation for meaningful involvement in the City’s Comprehensive Plan process.
- Secure resources to adapt existing checklists/templates/guides/technical assistance materials to assist planners in a Saint Paul model for *communities of all ages*.
- Plan, secure funding for and host two events in 2015: Housing and Communities for All Ages in partnership with relevant stakeholders.
- Develop strategy to meaningfully engage Ramsey County Human Services and Public Health.
- Foster resident and local service provider engagement.
- Participate in the Metro Area Agency on Aging Lifetime Communities Work Group.