When We Grow Up!

Age-Friendly Auburn Hills
‘Planning Now for the Upcoming Senior Boom’

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1. The number of seniors (65+) in your community is likely to **double** by 2040.

2. Accommodating this very large demographic will be a **challenge**, but also a great **opportunity**

3. The time to start evaluating your community’s ‘gaps and assets’ is **now**!
The Baby Boomers Are Aging
a.k.a. The Senior Boom

- Born between 1946 and 1964: They’re between the ages of 67 and 49 today
- An estimated 77 million babies were born in America alone during the 18-year boom
- Boomers represent nearly 20% of the American public

Sylvester Stallone
“Rocky”
67 years old (July 6, 1946)

Michelle Obama
“The First Lady”
49 years old (January 14, 1964)
People Are Living Longer

Experts believe the Baby Boomers will live 10 to 15 years longer than their parents did

According to the Social Security Administration
Today, on average ...

• 65 year-old male will live until age 84.
• 65 year-old female will live until age 86.
• 1 of 4 - will live past age 90
• 1 in 10 - will live past age 95

Percent of Auburn Hills Total Population - Age 65+
1960 – 4.1%        2000 – 7.3%        2040 – 21.3%

Data Sources: US Census and SEMCOG
Yes, Auburn Hills is Aging

Auburn Hills – Older Population
Historical and Projected – 1960 to 2040

Projected between Y2010 to Y2040 ...
• 65+ population will more than DOUBLE
• 75+ population will almost QUADRUPLE

Data Source: SEMCOG
A First! Seniors Will Outnumber Kids

Auburn Hills - Population
School Age Kids vs. Older Adults
2010 Actual thru 2040 Projection

Data Source: SEMCOG
Households Getting Smaller

2010 Snapshot

7 out of 10 housing units were without kids

18% of the housing units had 65+ residents

2.24 people per household

Auburn Hills Household Occupants (2010)

- 2+ people w/out Kids: 40%
- Live alone, 65+: 7%
- Live alone, under 65: 26%
- w/Kids: 27%

Data Source: US Census
There’s No Place Like Home
People Want to “Age in Place”

- The vast majority of Americans want to remain in their communities as they age
- Few actually move to warmer climates upon retirement
- Less than 5% of the 65+ population reside in nursing homes
What Municipal Leaders Need to Know

- The 65 and over population will need **supportive services** and **suitable housing**
- Communities that prepare for and accommodate their elders **efficiently** will grow and thrive
AARP® Studies tell us that Older Adults want ...

• Community
• Mobility
• Choices & Control
• Services

Carole Wilson, 75, enjoys the age-friendly atmosphere of Auburn Hills

Photo by Tom McKenzie
Why We Care?
Auburn Hills wishes to extend the years its residents can live independently

Key Issue: A solid ‘network of supports’ can help a resident stay above the disability threshold.

Source: World Heath Organization
What Supports Are Needed?

Basics
- Transportation
- Meals
- Home Maintenance

Health Services
- Social Services
- Dental and Medical Care
- Mental Health Services
- Adult Day Care / Personal Care

Quality of Life Enhancements
- Recreation
- Wellness Programs
- Educational / Cultural Activities
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Legal / Financial Services
Are We Ready?
Yes, No, and ... Not Sure

- Where do we need to improve?
- What tools can we use to evaluate ourselves?
Michigan’s Aging Evaluation Model
“Community for a Lifetime”

Alpena (2007)
**Auburn Hills (2013)**
Bay County (2008)
Bellaire (2013)
Farmington (2010, 2008)
Farmington Hills (2010, 2008)
Gaylord (2007)
Greater Battle Creek (2007)
Holland (2009)
Inkster (2009)
Kent County (2007)
Manistique (2012)
**Monroe County (2012, 2011)**
Northwest Ottawa County (2007)
Traverse City (2012)
Washtenaw County (2008, 2007)
Michigan’s Aging Evaluation Model
“Community for a Lifetime”

Started - August 2012
Completed - May 2013

• Created Team
• Completed assessment which involved ten different categories

This assessment is intended to raise awareness, not be judgmental
Age-Friendly Auburn Hills
Awarded membership in March 2013

Eight Quality of Life Domains

- Transportation
- Housing
- Social participation
- Respect and social inclusion
- Civic participation and employment
- Communication and information
- Community support and health services
- Outdoor spaces and buildings

Age-friendly city

Global Age-friendly Cities: A Guide

AARP®

World Health Organization
What’s Involved?

1. Letter of Intent

2. Acceptance into the Network

3. Create Community Team

4. Joint Meeting w/AARP and Community Team

5. Complete an Assessment involving extensive community participation (e.g. focus groups and town hall meetings)

6. Create “Plan of Action”

7. Implement and Evaluate
Quality of Life Domains

No. 1 - Transportation
Are both public and private transportation options safe, available, and affordable?

No. 2 - Civic Participation and Employment
Do older residents have the opportunity to continue working and volunteering?

Do older residents have a say in policies that are most relevant to them?
Quality of Life Domains

No. 3 - Social Participation

Do seniors have access to affordable leisure and cultural activities that not only gives them the opportunity to socialize with their peers, but with younger people as well?

No. 4 - Respect and Social Inclusion

Are there programs that support and promote ethnic and cultural diversity as well as multi-generational interaction and dialogue?
Quality of Life Domains

No. 5 - Communication and Information
Can seniors and those who support them easily access information they need when it’s required?

No. 6 - Community Support and Health Services
Do older residents have access to homecare services, clinics, and programs that promote their overall wellness?
Quality of Life Domains

No. 7 - Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
Are City parks, walkways, buildings designed to be accessible and available?

No. 8 - Housing
Are home modification programs and a variety of housing options available to older residents so that they do not have to move away when they get older?
Key Challenges in Suburbia

- The majority of the housing stock was designed for the “young and able”
- Mobility is heavily dependant on the automobile
Geographically Separated Neighborhoods

Spread-out distances of home sites were created by design.

Market trend toward smaller homes and condos, walkable neighborhoods, and rental options.
**Age-Friendly Auburn Hills**

**General Plan of Action**

- **2013** - Acceptance / Create Team
  Formulate Game Plan

- **2014** - Extensive Assessment and
  Public Outreach

- **2015** - Finalize the Vision Statement
  and Action Plan

- **2016** - Implementation

- **2017** - Develop Progress Report
The Bottom Line

- **Start planning now** to avert greater challenges in the future

- **Ask questions/listen.** Work to increase your understanding of your aging residents’ needs

- A good **evaluation of ‘assets and gaps’** will assist future planning and budgeting tasks

- **Local government doesn’t have to do everything!** Seek public/private collaborations to help fill the gaps
Frank and Wanda’s Story

Photo Taken on 9-25-13
Call Us ...

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