Healthy Communities

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“A community that is safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and has supportive community features and services. Once in place, those resources enhance personal independence; allow residents to age in place; and foster residents’ engagement in the community’s civic, economic, and social life.”
We have entered a time of **profound and permanent change** to the demographic composition of the United States

Every day, **10,000** boomers turn 65

By 2030 the U.S. will have **twice as many people over the age of 65** as we have today
Survey after survey finds that today’s older adults want to remain in their homes.

78% of adults ages 45+ agree or strongly agree with the statement: “What I’d really like to do is stay in my current residence for as long as possible.”

But most houses haven’t been designed to adapt. In fact, American homes have traditionally been designed and built for able-bodied 35 year olds.

Source: AARP Home and Community Preferences of the 45+ Population, 2014
Survey after survey finds that today’s older adults want to stay in their community

80% of adults ages 45+ agree or strongly agree with the statement: “What I’d really like to do is stay in my current community for as long as possible.”

Source: AARP Home and Community Preferences of the 45+ Population, 2014

For the past 50 years, communities have developed around cars and other motor vehicles as our principal form of transportation.
## What Community Amenities Do Older Adults Want Close to Home?

We asked older adults what amenities they want close to home. Access to transportation, food, and green space top the list. These are among the many community indicators that we are measuring as part of the Livability Index project. Find out more about our livability research and the development of our index here: [www.aarp.org/ppi/liv-com/](http://www.aarp.org/ppi/liv-com/)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amenity</th>
<th>Endorsed within 1 mile or less</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus Stop</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grocery Store</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy / Drug Store</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church / Religious</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Train / Subway</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Box Store</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mall (shopping)</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: AARP Public Policy Institute
Our Work
The AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities

Our Vision and the “8 Domains of Livability”

The Built Environment

The Social Environment

Age-friendly city

Transportation

Housing

Social participation

Outdoor spaces and buildings

Community support and health services

Respect and social inclusion

Communication and information

Civic participation and employment
AARP’s Network of Age-Friendly Communities

The 5-Year Cycle for Members

- Years 1-2: Plan
- Years 3-5: Implement
- Evaluate Your Progress
- Continuously Improve
The 8 Domains of Livability

The availability and quality of these community features impact the well-being of older adults.
In a Livable Community, people of all ages can make their community a lifelong home.
Thank you