



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGING



Updated 6-7-2023

PENNSYLVANIA Master Plan for Older Adults

Age 60
and older



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGING

Office of the Secretary

Governor's Office of Policy and Planning Presentation

Master Plan Background

- On May 25, 2023, Governor Shapiro signed Executive Order (EO) 2023-09 – Pennsylvania Master Plan for Older Adults. This EO directed PDA to evaluate issues facing older Pennsylvanians to support the development of a Master Plan for Older Adults (“Master Plan”).
- This plan will include goals, objectives, and initiatives that promote the health, well-being, and quality of life of Pennsylvania’s older adult and disabled populations and shall prepare the Commonwealth to deal with the continual changes.
- This plan is not meant to be developed and sit on a shelf. It will be fluid and change as needs change. The goals, objectives and initiatives will need to be adapted as we work toward a better Commonwealth for our aging and disabled population.
- Pennsylvania is engaging in this planning process because we are a state with a large older adult and adult with disability population. Pennsylvania also expressly values older adults and adults with disabilities and is committed to building and maintaining an age and disability-friendly Commonwealth so that all Pennsylvanians may live with dignity and independence.
- Stakeholders including all of you will define what is to be included in the plan. Part of this stakeholder engagement and data collection process involves in person listening sessions like the one you are attending today. The objective is to gather your input to support the prioritization and articulation of goals, objectives, and initiatives to be included the Master Plan.

Development Process

In addition to direct engagement with stakeholders like all of you, the master plan development process will involve and engage all levels of government for input and engagement regarding the Master Plan goals, opportunities, and challenges including:

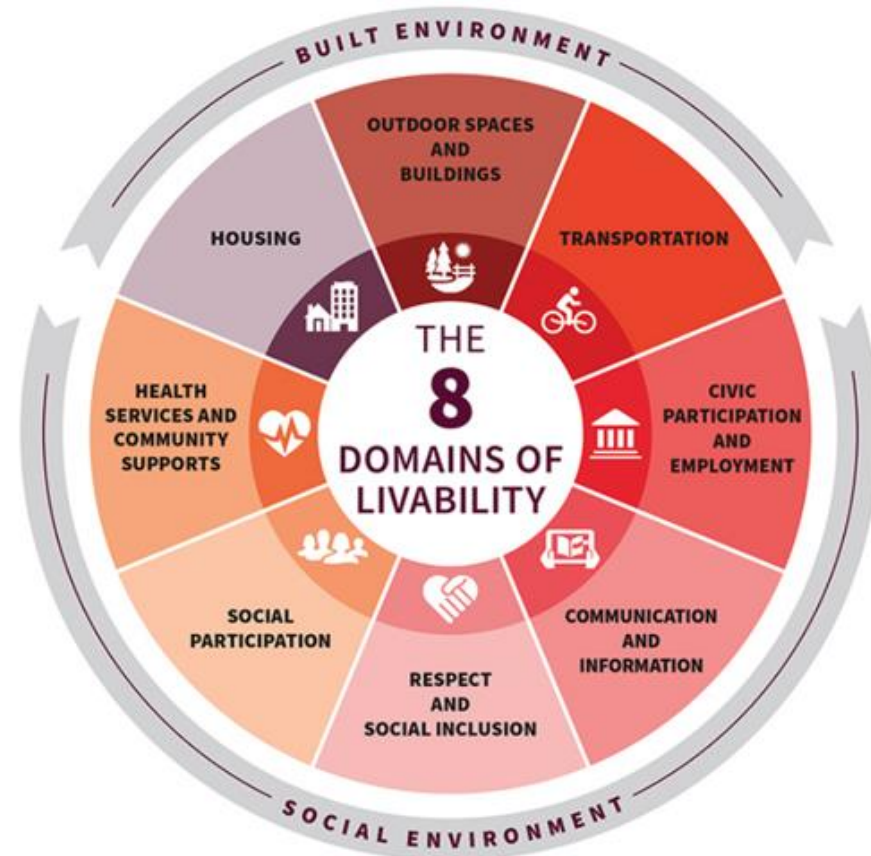
- County and local government representatives
- Members of the General Assembly and their staff
- Federal partners
- Members of the Executive Branch of State Government specifically those that are engaged with services and programs that intersect with older adults and adults with disabilities

After Publication Monitoring

- The master plan will be published on or before February 1, 2024.
- The published master plan will identify “quick wins,” aspirational goals, accountability and measurement, and resources for implementation.
- The master plan will include a process for ongoing monitoring of initiatives to measure their effectiveness in supporting its goals and objectives.
- The master plan will include a public-facing, accessible, and transparent reporting platform to demonstrate how well the Commonwealth is performing against Master Plan goals and objectives, to continue stakeholder engagement, and to identify changes to goals, objectives, and initiatives over time.

AARPs' Domains of Age-Friendly Communities

Our discussion today will focus on the Domains for Age-Friendly Communities developed by the World Health Organization and adapted for the United States by AARP. These 8 domains provide a framework to further analyze and understand comments and input from engaged stakeholders. These domains allow for a holistic understanding of aging in our communities.



AARPs' Domains of Age-Friendly Communities

- Age-friendly is an approach developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) featuring 8 key action areas that directly influence the quality of life and wellbeing of older people, including:
 - Outdoor spaces and buildings
Seniors live in an environment that includes open spaces, buildings, shaded areas and walkways that are safe and easy to navigate.
 - Transport
Seniors can get out and about using a range of affordable, user-friendly transport and associated services.
 - Housing
Seniors' housing options are affordable, accessible and close to transport and community services.
 - Social participation
Seniors are supported to be active in their community doing the things they enjoy.

AARPs' Domains of Age-Friendly Communities

- Age-friendly (Continued):
 - Respect and social inclusion
Seniors from all backgrounds are valued and appreciated and no one is excluded based on race, geography, culture, language, gender, sexuality, ability or socioeconomic status.
 - Civic participation and employment
Seniors participate in employment, training, lifelong learning and volunteering opportunities and inform government policies.
 - Communication and information
Seniors access information they need in a variety of formats to stay informed and connected with their communities, families and friends.
 - Community support and health services
Seniors are helped to stay healthy, active and independent through community support and health services, including services responding to elder abuse, fraud or exploitation.

AARPs' Domains of Age-Friendly Communities

- Key features include:
 - pleasant, secure and physically accessible outdoor spaces and public buildings
 - well-designed, affordable and secure housing choices
 - well-maintained and accessible roads and walkways
 - affordable and accessible public transport
 - secure neighborhoods
 - respectful relationships
 - supportive health and community services
 - opportunities to be socially active
 - opportunities to participate in suitable volunteer, civic and employed positions
 - information that is easy to access and understand.

Transportation

Transportation includes the full range of ways people get around, from walking to personal vehicles to purchased private or public services.

- How easy is it for you to get around your community? Can someone without a car get to places they need to go?
- Do you feel safe walking, crossing at corners, or cycling on streets?

Respect and Social Inclusion

This may mean access to an environment that encourages respect in treatment and interactions, intergenerational activities, and involvement by residents of all ages, abilities and incomes.

- Does your community encourage respect for all persons, regardless of age, ability, or income?
- Are there opportunities to interact with people who are different from you?

Communication and Information

Timely, clear information is important for many tasks, such as accessing community services or obtaining health care.

- What sources do you go to for getting the information you need? What about during emergencies?
- Is this information easy to access and easy to understand?

Housing

This refers to living spaces that are safe and affordable and provide essential services when properly maintained. As peoples' health changes, their needs for housing may also change. Some people may need to consider moving to a new home or a different community.

- How difficult is it to find housing in your community that meets your needs?
- What special challenges, if any, do older people or people with disabilities face in finding appropriate housing?
- How difficult is it for someone to modify their housing to improve accessibility or safety?
- Due to your health, do you think you might want to move to a different home or community at some point?

Social participation

Public events are activities that are open to the community for the purpose of entertainment or socializing. Social isolation and loneliness are major factors that affect health and well-being.

- What do you think communities can do to make different activities more accessible to older people and people with disabilities?
- What are the main barriers older people and people with disabilities face in participating in community events?

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Outdoor spaces include sidewalks, streets, state and local parks, and green spaces as well as buildings you may need to access for services or shopping.

- Are you comfortable in public spaces, like a park or shopping area?
- Is it enjoyable to walk in your neighborhood?

Health Services and Community Supports

Medical needs can be met with a wide variety of health services and supports. These include services from health care professionals as well as long-term care services that allow a person with chronic conditions to live well at home.

- Are health and long-term care services available in your community?
- Are caregiver support programs available for people with long term care needs?

Civic Engagement and Employment

Volunteering includes opportunities to engage in meaningful service in the community as a non-paid member of an organization

- What kind of volunteering or work opportunities would you like to see or are missing in your community?
- What do you think communities can do to make volunteering or work opportunities more accessible to older people and people with disabilities?
- What are the main barriers older people and people with disabilities face in working or volunteering?