

# Age-Friendly Cleveland 2025 – 2028 Action Plan

## DASHBOARD

May 2025 – January 2026



CITY OF CLEVELAND  
Mayor Justin M. Bibb  
AGING



Currently, more than 86,000 seniors call Cleveland home. We, like other Age-Friendly communities, have dedicated ourselves to being a livable city for people of all ages. By creating accessible services and infrastructure that promote the health and safety of its citizens, Age-Friendly Cleveland is changing the landscape of aging.

### MISSION

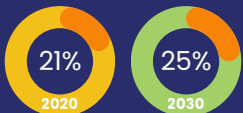
Age-Friendly Cleveland works to create a city where all people are valued, respected, and can thrive knowing their community supports them.

### VISION

A City of Cleveland that is accessible and inclusive for people of all ages and abilities.

#### 21% of Cleveland's Residents are over 60

Cuyahoga County's population of older adults is expected to grow to 28.5% of the total population by 2030.



#### 55% are women



#### 38% have a disability

26% reported difficulty caring for themselves or a spouse with a disability.



#### 29% receive SNAP Benefits



#### 26% are still in the workforce

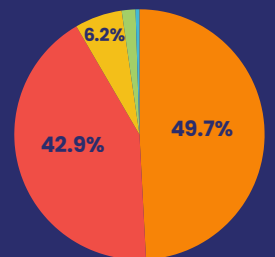


#### 42% are renters

With 52% of renters reporting spending more than 30% of their income on rent.



#### 59% in non-family households live alone



Black or African American  
White  
Hispanic or Latino  
Asian  
Indigenous

## Domains of Livability



Housing



Transportation



Communication  
& Information



Sustainability &  
Emergency Preparedness



Outdoor Spaces  
& Buildings



Civic Participation  
& Employment



Community Health  
& Support



Social Participation



Respect &  
Social Inclusion

# 1 Increase 'walkability' of public right of way in Cleveland

## ACTIONS

- Increased number of older adults utilizing walking as a form of transportation via Senior Walks and Walking Clubs, and Transportation Fairs
- Promoted available resources to residents for sidewalk repair, such as the 50/50 Sidewalk Repair program through community partners



## NOT YET STARTED

- Include sidewalks in scope of work with road rehab projects
- Define and publicize sidewalk safety and usability standards and map sidewalk conditions
- Explore options for an increase in funding for pivotal programs such as the 50/50 Sidewalk Repair
- Develop a sidewalk repair program aimed toward older adults and people with disabilities



# 2 Increase accessible and affordable housing options for disabled and older adults

## ACTIONS

- Age-Friendly Home Investment Program Completed more than 930 projects to date
- Identify funding sources for minor home repair projects
- Aging in Place criteria was created for builders as points incentive during modular housing pilot



## NOT YET STARTED

- Publish Aging in Place Guide
- Create an expedited permitting service for those seeking health-related home modifications
- Identify and maintain a list of trustworthy repair and maintenance services
- Promote home maintenance classes
- Create a quick response program to provide low-cost entry ramps to improve home accessibility



# 3 Increase access to transportation through options education and advocacy

## ACTIONS

- Promote travel training services
- Promote shared mobility alternatives to public and or car-based transit
- Provide driver's safety and education opportunities for older adults and their family members



## NOT YET STARTED

- Create and promote an Age-Friendly Transportation Guide that covers transportation options, use, and cost
- Promote transportation options utilizing local media outlets



# 4 Prepare for extreme weather emergencies by creating infrastructure for the impacts of Climate Change

## ACTIONS

- Implement Snow Heroes - Volunteer Snow Removal Program for residents
- Invest in emergency preparedness education options to prepare for extreme weather
- Increase local accessible transit options to emergency weather and health centers



## NOT YET STARTED

- Improve communication infrastructure to ensure access to emergency information distribution to older and disabled adults
- Coordinate with local hospitals to set up wellness check stations and medical equipment charging



## 5 Increase personal safety and prevention of violent crimes in neighborhoods

### ACTIONS

- Create and promote personal safety and wellness class options
- Promote traffic and driver safety initiatives to reduce speeding and crashes



### NOT YET STARTED

- Increase funding to block clubs and neighborhood groups
- Create infrastructure for supporting "Neighborhood Watch" groups, run by volunteers
- Implement education campaigns about reporting suspected crimes or incidences anonymously
- Educate Northeast Ohio Aging and Disability Networks about violence prevention resources



## 6 Increase intergenerational interactions and relationship building

### ACTIONS

- Create infrastructure to promote senior attendance at community events
- Build a volunteer network of seniors to be present in City spaces, and within community hubs
- Promote community-based grandparent education and resource classes



### NOT YET STARTED

- Create and distribute an intergenerational survey
- Designate a city park as an intergenerational "grandparent's park"
- Identify funding options for intergenerational companionship programming



## 7 Reduce community-based risk factors for chronic disease and disability

### ACTIONS

- Increase relevant health-related communications
- Increase equitable access to fresh and local food
- Identify opportunities for creating social connections at community events and increase older adult and disabled population participation



### NOT YET STARTED

- Encourage local healthcare systems to adopt Age-Friendly practices and frameworks
- Support efforts to decrease tobacco use among older adults
- Increase access to community resources and feelings of social connectedness through digital education



## 8 Promote economic wellness for older and disabled adults through education and service availability

### NOT YET STARTED

- Provide additional estate planning services for older adults to preserve family assets
- Increase 0% interest loan and grant availability for home repair and bill payment
- Provide stipends to disabled and older adult volunteers to provide additional income without losing benefits
- Promote streamlined processes to assist caregivers in receiving compensation from state sources
- Engage mid-career adults with retirement planning education opportunities and tools
- Advocate for state and federal-level policy change to support economic wellness of older adults and people with disabilities



## 9 Support inclusive, Age-Friendly customer service and communication throughout all City operations

### ACTIONS

- Train City employees to treat older adults and people with disabilities with empathy and dignity, utilizing local disability and aging resources
- Create a fully accessible customer service kiosk within city hall for in-person permit and applications assistance
- Consult with local disability and language resources to create an Age-Friendly document guide



### NOT YET STARTED

- Create an Age-Friendly City Hall ambassadors volunteer group to assist visitors with navigating City Hall



## 10 Improve and expand supportive services for city employees with caregiving responsibilities

### NOT YET STARTED

- Create and distribute a needs assessment survey with a goal of understanding the caregiving responsibilities of city employees
- Identify opportunities for employee conversations on the realities and tolls of caregiving through affinity or support groups
- Explore flexible support options to employees that meet modern workplace standards and align with stated employee needs
- Create and launch an information campaign about existing options for employees like FMLA and timesharing



## 11 Create a permanent infrastructure for continuing Age-Friendly interdepartmental work within Cleveland City Hall

### ACTIONS

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