

# Lee's Summit

## Community for All Ages Plan



**LEE'S SUMMIT**  
MISSOURI

# Acknowledgements

**A Special Thanks To:**  
 The Community for All Ages Committee  
 members for their input and time.

To the Staff at MARC for creating this program and for their guidance  
 in helping us become a Community for All Ages City.

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# Community for All Ages Program

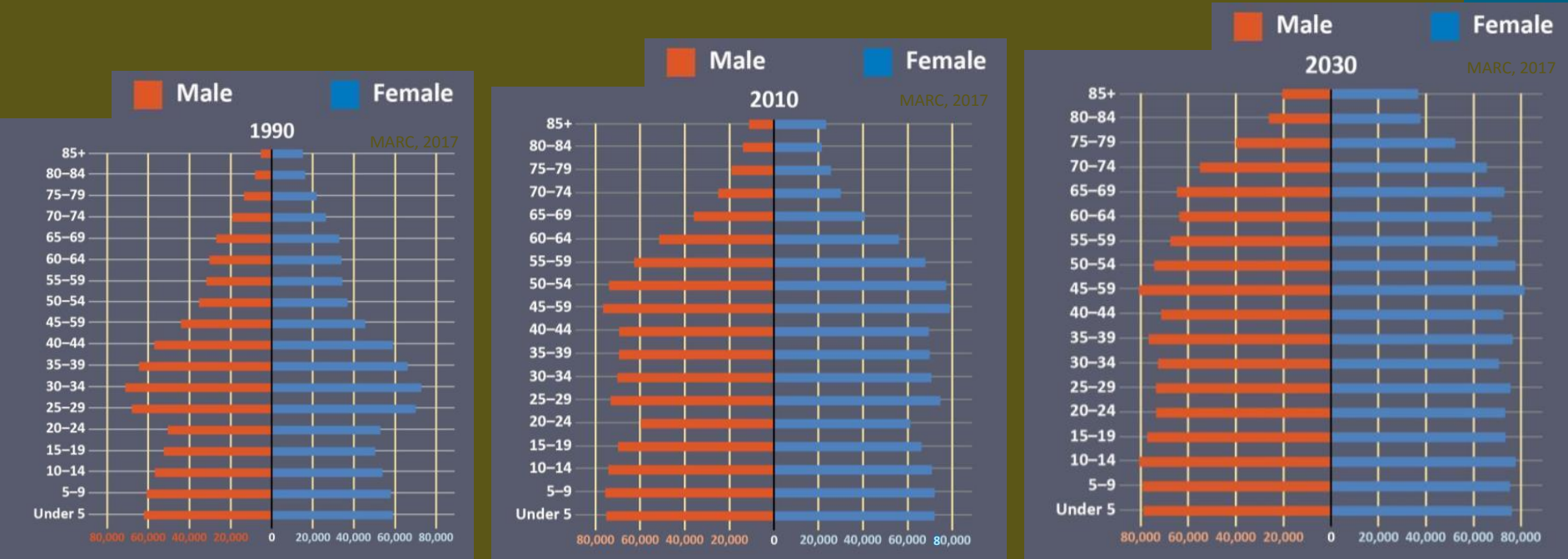


The City of Lee's Summit has partnered up with Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), the Region's metropolitan planning organization, to make Lee's Summit a Community for All Ages.



# Community for All Ages Program

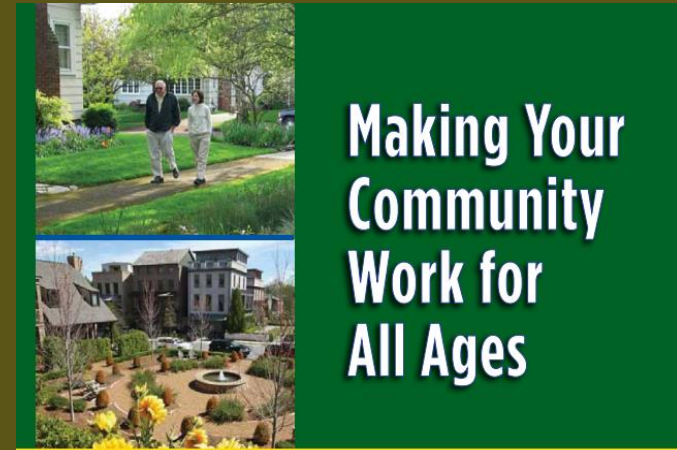
The population pyramids below indicate that the Kansas City Metropolitan Area population is quickly becoming a region of all ages. A traditional population pyramid should be shaped like a pyramid, but as we can see the Kansas City Metropolitan Area population is not. The results show that the baby-boom generation is aging into the senior years, family sizes are decreasing, and life expectancies are prolonging. By the year 2030, nearly 20% of the US population is projected to be aged 65 or older.



# Community for All Ages Program

To help address the changing demographics, the KC Community for All Ages (CFAA) initiative program was designed to assist communities in their efforts to:

- Raise awareness,
- Perform analysis, and
- Implement strategies to become an “age-friendly” community.

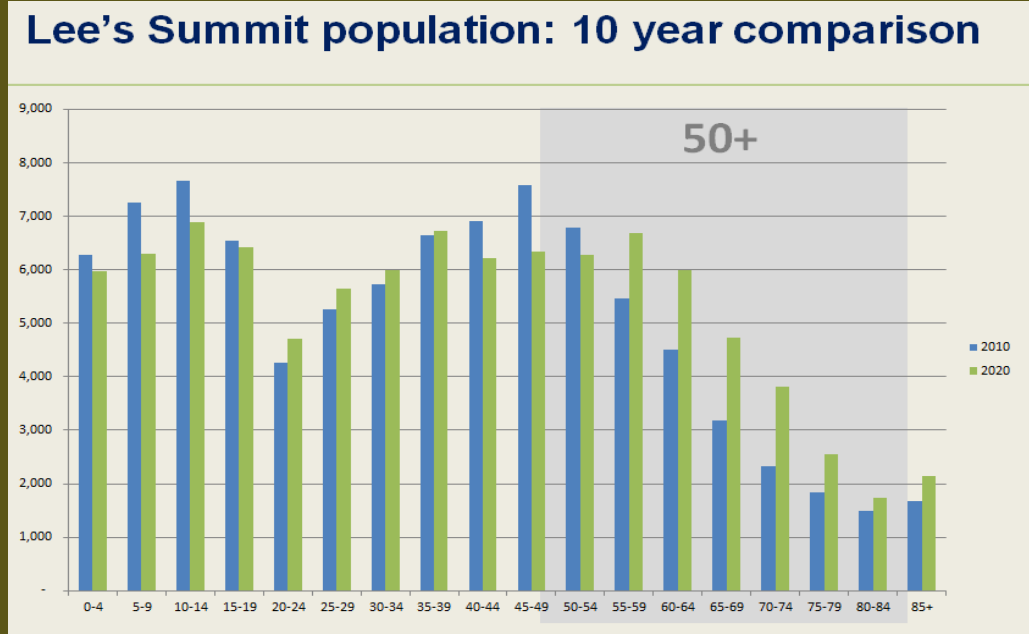


Since its initial launch in 2012, the CFAA initiative has continued to garner attention from municipalities around the region.

# Community for All Ages Program

In 2016, the City of Lee's Summit committed to participate in the Community for All Ages Recognition program and to create a Community for All Ages Plan. This plan is intended to be used as a guide to show areas that need to be improved and maintained as the City is faced with changing demographics. It is the intent of the City to incorporate this plan into the City's Comprehensive Plan through a Comprehensive Plan amendment. As of 2016, 8.4% of the residents were between the ages of 10 to 14 years, 8.3% were 45 to 49 years, and 11.5% were 65 years and over (ACS, 2016). The chart below shows a dramatic increase in the older adult population by the year 2020 with an even higher population of millennials right behind.

These numbers indicate that the City needs to start actively planning now so that it is ready for the future.





# Lee's Summit "the City"



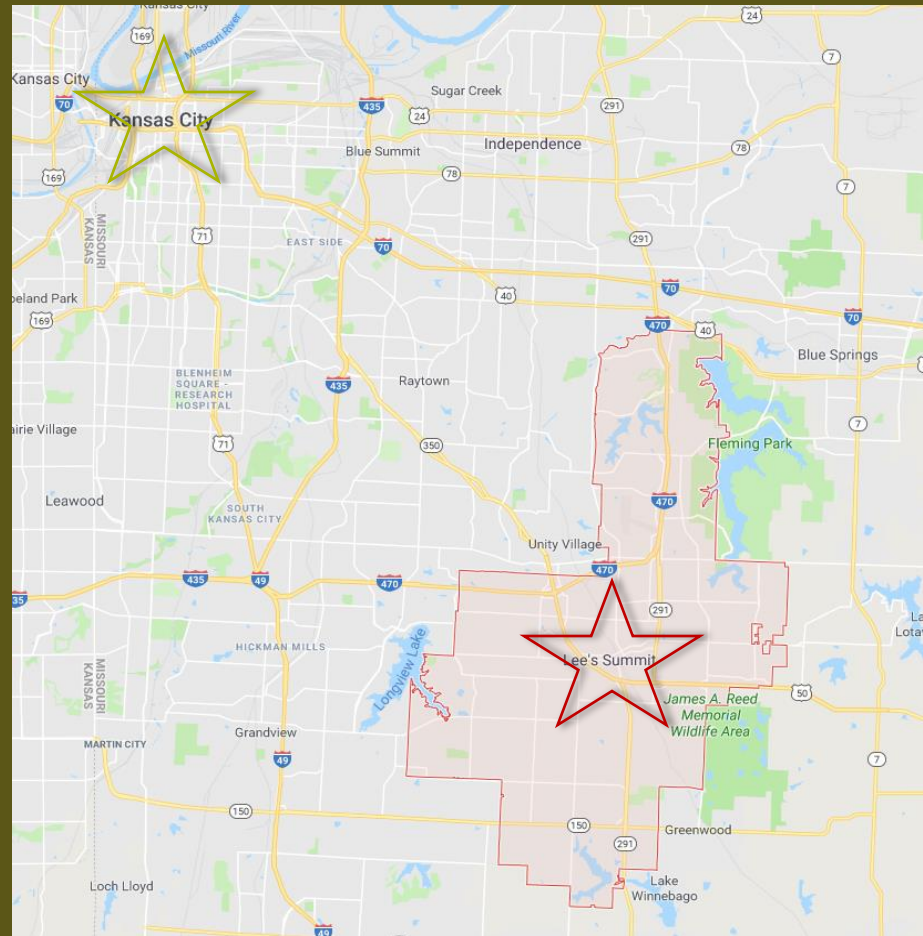


# Lee's Summit "the City"

The City of Lee's Summit, Missouri is located on the southeastern edge of the Kansas City Metropolitan Area. Lee's Summit sits approximately 20 miles from the downtown Kansas City area.

Lee's Summit has many positive attributes that can attract a person of any age including:

- A good geographic location in the metro area,
- One of the highest ranking school systems in the state,
- An Upscale suburban feel with many activities, and
- An Excellent parks and recreation system.



# Lee's Summit "the City"

## Previous Planning Efforts

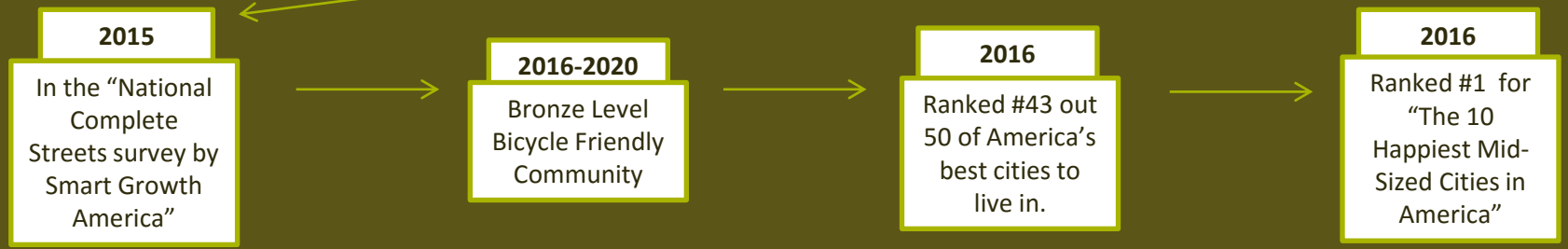
The previous planning efforts that are listed below contributed to the City becoming an "age friendly" community.

2000	2007	2009	2010	2012	2016	2017
Start of Public Transportation	Cultural Plan	Lee's Summit 360 Charting Tomorrow	Livable Streets Policy	Bicycle Transportation Plan	Thoroughfare Master Plan 2015-2040	EnVision LS Master Development Plan and Design Standards
City was allocated transportation funds to start experimenting with public transit.	This plan was created to influence arts and culture in the community.	This plan is a vision for the future looking at education, economic development, health and human services, local government, quality of life, and transportation.	The City was one of the first in the state to become recognized as a Complete Streets community.	The City adopted this plan in support of the Livable Streets policy.	The City adopted this comprehensive transportation study to encourage all types of mobility.	This City plan was created to promote a mixed use environment for activities accommodating people of all ages and different modes of transportation.

# Lee's Summit "the City"

## Previous Recognition Programs

The City has been recognized for its dedication and hard work over the Years.



# Community for All Ages Process





# Community for All Ages Process

## MARC's CFAA Bronze Level Requirements

### To earn Bronze / Awareness recognition:

- Adopt a resolution to become a Community for All Ages.
- Make a presentation to governing bodies and relevant commissions on becoming age friendly and the Community for All Ages program.
- Take at least two of the following actions:
  - Hold at least one community meeting to discuss issues and present information.
  - Prepare written materials on age-friendly communities and distribute them to the public.
  - Establish a speakers bureau to speak to neighborhoods, businesses and civic groups.
  - Put information about demographic changes and Community for All Ages program/certification on your website.

**Awareness**

**Use "All  
Ages" lens**



**LS**

# Community for All Ages Process

## Lee's Summit Bronze Level

### Level 1. Bronze — Raising Awareness

- Governing body adopted a resolution indicating its intent to become a Community for All Ages.
  - July 7, 2016 – Lee's Summit's City Council adopted Resolution 16-16.
  - One or more presentations made to governing body and relevant commissions (planning commission, strategic planning committee, aging task force, etc.) on becoming a Community for All Ages.
  - June 23, 2016 – Introduction to the Community for All Ages Program presented to City Council.
  - June 27, 2017 – Presentation to Management Team and Planning Commission, which also served as community wide meeting.
  - July 17<sup>th</sup>-August 18<sup>th</sup> – City wide Community for All Ages Survey conducted.



# Community for All Ages Process

## MARC's CFAA Silver Level Requirements

### To earn Silver / Assessment recognition:

- Meet the requirements for Bronze / Awareness level.
- Form a Community for All Ages committee of community members (or assign tasks to an existing committee) and have members use the Community for All Ages Checklist to assess your community and issue a report based on their findings.
- The Silver phase addresses five key components:
  - Community and Neighborhood Environment
  - Housing
  - Transportation
  - Community Services and Facilities
  - Health Care and Healthy Living

**Assessment**

**Use tools to assess your  
city's progress**



**LS**

# Community for All Ages Process

## Lee's Summit Silver Level

### Level 2. Silver — Assessment

- Met the Bronze Awareness Level
- Formed a Community for All Ages committee of elected officials, staff, and community members (tasks may be distributed to an existing committee). Members will use the Community for All Ages Checklist to conduct a self-assessment of our community and issue a report based on the findings.
- Nine committee members met for an hour and half for five months from January to May in 2018.
- During that time the committee decided to add “Arts” to the five original components bringing the City’s total to six components.
- Came up with an extensive list of recommendations that need to be addressed to help the City become a true Community for All Ages. (Some of the items on the list have been completed since the final May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting)





## Lee's Summit Silver Phase Key Components



\*All phases are interconnected.

# Community for All Ages Process

## MARC's CFAA Gold Level Requirements

### To earn Gold / Implementation recognition:

- Meet the Bronze / Awareness and Silver / Assessment level criteria.
- Adopt a Community for All Ages Plan or include a Community for All Ages component in a major local plan, such as a comprehensive plan, strategic plan or park plan.

**Implementation**

**Adopt Community for All Ages plan**

**Gold**

A gold ribbon icon with the word "Gold" written on it, positioned to the right of the "Adopt Community for All Ages plan" text.

### Maintain the recognition level:

- After achieving the Gold level recognition, a community must demonstrate that it is continuing to work to become a Community for All Ages.
- If a community fails to meet this maintenance standard, it will forgo its recognition and all the benefits associated with recognition.



# Community for All Ages Process

## Lee's Summit Gold Level

### Level 3. Gold — Adopt and Implement Plans

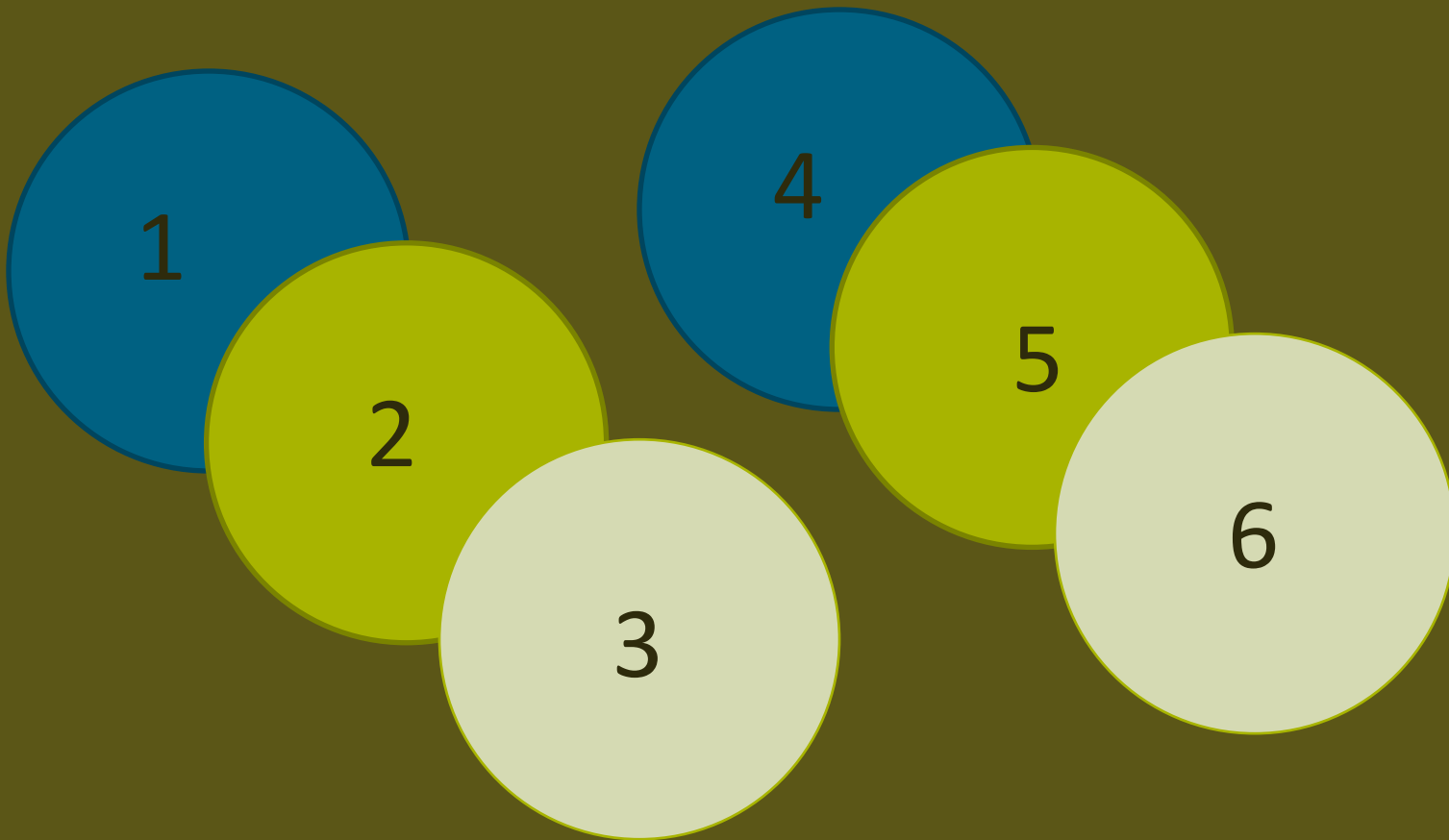
- Meet the Bronze Awareness and Silver Assessment level criteria
- Adopt Community for All Ages Plan or include a Community for All Ages component in major local plan, such as a comprehensive plan, strategic plan or park plan. (Will revise this sentence to say we adopted our plan on 10/00/2018)



### Maintain the recognition level:

- It is the responsibility of the Community for All Ages Committee and the City to follow through the initial goals and to continue with the process indefinitely.
- If the City fails to meet this criteria, it will forgo its recognition and all the benefits associated with it.

# Lee's Summit Six Components

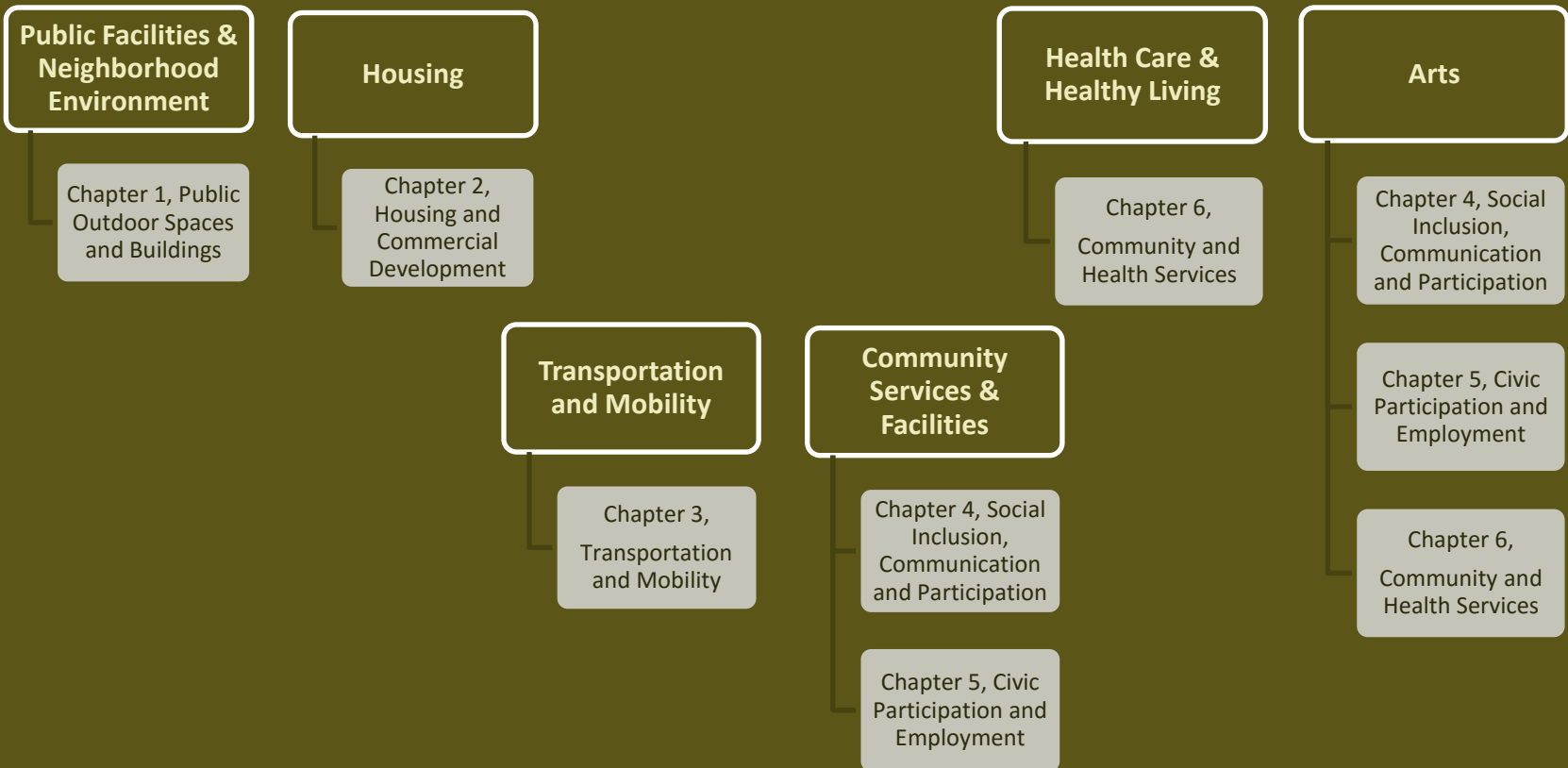




# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Six Components

The Lee's Summit six components are based on the Community for All Ages Checklist chapters. The diagrams below show which chapters are connected to each of Lee's Summit components. Arts does not directly connect with any of the chapters, however, some correlation exists between it and the chapters. A detailed list of recommendations can be found in the Checklist chapter of this plan starting on page 29.



# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Public Facilities and Neighborhood Environment

Public Facilities and Neighborhood Environment focuses on connectivity, accessibility, recreation, and the enhancement of a community's sense of place. Prior efforts and successes include:

- Lee's Summit residents have access to about 29 parks and over 30 miles of trails.
- All of Lee's Summit facilities have met or exceed ADA requirements.
- Lee's Summit Parks slogan is Every Age, Every Season.
- There are many public facilities throughout the City where residents can go to improve their quality of life whether it is for wellness, leisure activities, educational purposes, or just to get questions answered.

Goals: Promote age-friendly design

Many of the facilities have the basic requirements to make an area inviting, accessible, and vibrant. The ability to make sure these areas are without any impediments will help relieve any unnecessary stress and confusion that would otherwise cause a negative impact on the residents.

### Areas of improvements recommended by the Committee:

A. Incorporate easy to read wayfinding signs for direction and accessibility

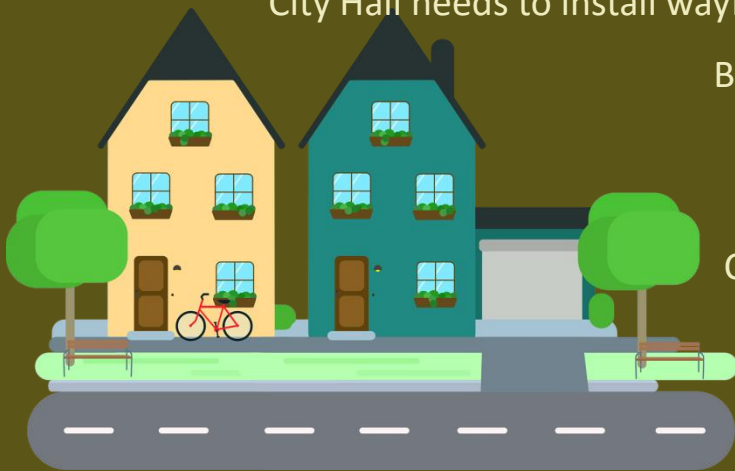
City Hall needs to install wayfinding signs for ADA buttons and ADA restroom.

B. ADA Accessibility

City Hall should install an ADA restroom on the second floor and increase ADA parking in the downtown area.

C. Seating areas

City Hall should install a bench on the end of each entrance of the buildings for pedestrians who are unable to stand for long periods of time.



# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Housing

Housing primary focuses on accessible, affordable, adaptable, and safe housing. Prior efforts include:

- Lee's Summit has a mix of high quality housing stock.

Goals: Promote a mix of affordable housing for all

Lee's Summit has a reputation for large beautiful homes and safe walkable neighborhoods. However, the average older home price is starting around \$200,000 and a newly constructed home is averaging around \$300,000 and up. There has also been an increase in the development of luxury apartments.

Areas of improvements recommended by the Committee:

- Different types of housing
  - When constructing new developments, we need to encourage inclusionary housing. As people age, their income eventually becomes fixed, making it challenging for them to stay in the community as prices increase.
- Universal Design
  - One way to keep housing cost low is to require developers to include more universal design approaches. This will keep future costs of modifications at a low level.
  - Universal Designs help ensure a family to be able to stay in their homes from child to elderly.
- Reduction in size
  - The City of Lee's Summit Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) will soon have a section that encourages small lot development for smaller homes starting at a minimum of 720 sq. ft.



# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Transportation & Mobility

Transportation and Mobility focuses on all the different ways Lee's Summit residents are able to be mobile. This includes, walking, bicycling, car sharing, personal vehicles, and busses. Prior efforts include:

- Lee's Summit has contracted with OATS and KCATA to shuttle residents from door to door or curb to curb more than 15 years. Over that time, transit services have gone from running periodically during the week to all weekdays from 7:00am to 5:30pm, Monday-Friday. Just in the last nine months ridership has increased more than 30%.
- In 2010, Lee's Summit passed a "Livable Streets" Resolution, requiring the City to be designed to accommodate everyone.
- The City has adopted a Sidewalk program and ADA Transition Plan for Public Rights of Way that encourages sidewalks on both sides of the street maintained to acceptable standards.
- Sidewalk Action Plan-inventory of sidewalks where gaps need to be filled and any safety concerns are addressed.
- Bicycle Transportation Plan was adopted in 2012 to supplement the Greenway Master Plan ("Trails").

Goals: Promote alternative transportation

Lee's Summit has a great start on providing alternative transportation options for its residents. However, many of the residents in the community who run, walk, and use bicycles are primarily for recreational purposes.

Areas of improvements recommended by the Committee:

- Promoting transit.
  - Even though RideKC Lee's Summit (formerly OATS) ridership is increasing, there are still many people who have never heard of them.
- Accommodations at Work
  - Encourage places of work to install bike racks and more sidewalk connections.
  - Install showers and small locker rooms.



# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Social Inclusion, Communication, and Civic Participation

Social Inclusion, Communication, and Civic Participation focuses on providing opportunities for residents to be involved and to increase their knowledge and skills. Prior efforts include:

- Lee's summit residents have many different opportunities for volunteering. These opportunities include working with festivals, youth, hunger, elderly, local government, and much more.
- Lee's Summit also has many different educational opportunities available through schools and organizations for people of all ages.

Goals: Encourage volunteerism and education

Lee's Summit has a variety of opportunities for people to expand their social capabilities and have the chance to learn and share their experiences with others. The City also tries to cover the basics of how they promote these occasions through website, newsletters, social media, radio, Government Channel, and inserts in the mail. However, this is still not enough, because many residents do not have access to a lot of the everyday amenities.

Areas of improvements recommended by the Committee:

- Advertising
  - Find more non-traditional ways of promoting events for better outreach.
- ADA accessibility and businesses
  - Create a list of all the businesses that are truly ADA compliant. This would be helpful for people who have mobility problems, parents with strollers, etc.



# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Health Care and Healthy Living

Health care and Healthy Living focuses on the accessibility to being a healthy individual. This includes, but is not limited to, access to healthy foods, medications, mobility, and activities. Prior efforts include:

- Lee's Summit residents have access to the farmers market on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the summer months and have access to about 10 grocery stores that are open all year round.
- The residents also have the option to receive medicine from about 12 different pharmacies and 7 medical providers.

Goals: Encourage healthy habits

The residents of Lee's Summit have a variety of options for medical help. Lifestyle, on the other hand, is something that can diminish the need for medical attention and help residents reduce medical costs. Therefore, providing the necessary amenities that can improve a person's quality of life is important.

Areas of improvements recommended by the Committee:

### A. Transportation

- Promote OATS and other alternative methods to help people get to appointments, grocery stores, etc.





# Lee's Summit Six Components

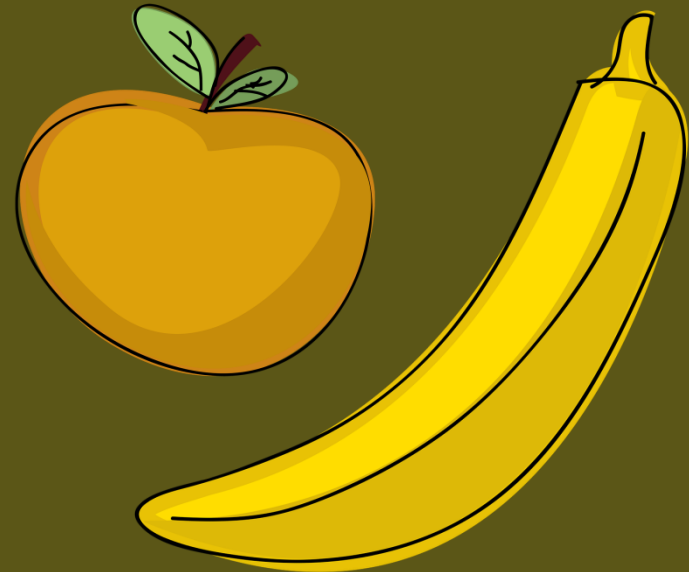
## Health Care and Healthy Living Cont.

### B. Nutrition

- Make it easier for low-income families to access healthy food by adding “SNAP” programs such as “Double Up Food Bucks” to our grocery stores and farmers market.
- Increase the amount of nutrition and cooking classes.
- Promote and publicize community and neighborhood gardens that are open to the general public.

### C. Movement and Social interaction

- Advertise events to encourage people to interact with others and be active.
- Promote recreational activities for people who may not enjoy participating in social events, but can still find other activities that offer a solo environment.



# Lee's Summit Six Components

## Arts

Arts is a new key component that the City of Lee's Summit wants to introduce. Arts has been shown to reduce stress, build confidence, increase empathy, and enhance brain productivity. Prior efforts include:

- In 2007, the City of Lee's Summit introduced its Cultural Plan.
- In 2018, the City hired its first Cultural Arts Manager.
- The City also holds monthly art events around the community. These events include music, painting, photography, horticulture, and so much more.

Goals: Promote the Arts

The residents of Lee's Summit are able to participate in many different cultural events.

Areas of improvements recommended by the Committee:

### A. Health benefits of the Arts

- Educate people that there is more to Arts than just sitting on the side and enjoying as a spectator.
- Encourage more art programs and resident involvement throughout the City.

### B. Transportation

- Promote OATS and other alternative methods to transport people to the activities.



## Implementation and Evaluation

After the successful completion of the Community for All Ages recognition program, the communities must demonstrate their dedication by continuing with the process that they started.

To help keep the City progressing, the Community for All Ages Committee will continue to meet annually to make sure that the needs of the residents are being addressed.

There will be some alterations to the list of committee members. A few of the members were High School Seniors who are going off to college and others have conflicting schedules. Therefore, the new committee will be a combination of previous and new members.



# MARC's Checklist

## Become a Community for All Ages

A checklist to help you become age friendly

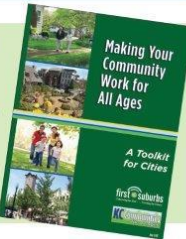


September 2014

Does your city or county need tools to help it become a Community for All Ages? This checklist is designed to be used together with *Making Your Community Work for All Ages – A Toolkit for Cities* as a way to raise awareness, plan actions and assess your city for age friendliness.

The first suburbs of Kansas City, established nearly 60 years ago, have done exactly what they were intended to do — provide homes and services for families that raised the generation of Americans we now call the baby boomers. But, as the baby boomers have aged, and the oldest of the generation known as the millennials (young adults born between 1982 and 2004, now age 10 to 32) have come into adulthood, it is time to reevaluate the role that the suburbs play in housing and serving the American population.

*Making Your Community Work for All Ages – A Toolkit for Cities* provides detailed information on steps that communities can take to become more age friendly. The toolkit is available at [www.kccfaa.org](http://www.kccfaa.org), or contact Cathy Boyer-Shesol at [cboyer@marc.org](mailto:cboyer@marc.org) or 816/701-8246 to get a printed copy.



In five Americans — or 72,774,000 million — will be older than 65, while researchers estimate there will be 76 million millennials in the U.S. at that time.

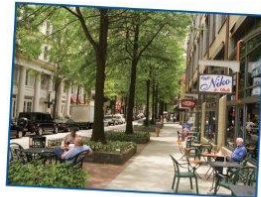
In the Greater Kansas City area, more than 416,000 residents will be 65 or older in 2030, while approximately 633,000 millennials will live here. Historically, the needs and interests of older adults have been seen as vastly different from younger generations and those of families with young children.



Kansas City's first suburbs can evolve in response to new trends and needs as communities for all ages.

A community for all ages seeks to meet the needs and interests of the very old, the very young and everyone in between. A key driver for this work is the rapidly changing older adult demographics.

The post-war population swell known as the baby boom is paving the way for the next "baby boomlet," the generation known as the millennials that followed the smaller Generation X (ages 33 to 53) population. Today, the oldest baby boomers are in their late 60s. By 2030, one



Today, research shows that communities that are adapting to meet the needs of its older adult citizens raise the quality of life in ways that also appeal across the age spectrum.

## 1 Public outdoor spaces and buildings



## 2 Housing and commercial development



## 3 Transportation and mobility



## 4 Social inclusion, communication and participation



## 5 Civic participation and employment



## 6 Community and health services



# MARC's Checklist

Chapters	Lee's Summit Recommendations	Completed
1. Public outdoor spaces and buildings	Work with MoDot and get a sidewalk put in along Blue Parkway for high school children that walk to school.	
	Provide wayfinding signs to show where handicap accessibility is in City Hall.	
	Make an informational video, using someone with a stroller and a kid in a cast to promote ADA and Universal Design.	
2. Housing and commercial development	Support a wide variety of housing units in the downtown area (Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), Inclusionary Housing, Cottages, etc.).	
	Post and define all the different housing information on LS website and make handouts, including assisted living homes, nursing homes, etc.	
	Include more handicap parking in downtown area.	
	Encourage universal design.	
3. Transportation and mobility	Promote transit services and information for residents.	
	Add Link for Care on the LS website to promote other transit connectivity choices throughout the region.	Completed
	Add MoDot and FHWA older driver information to website.	Completed
	Promote OATS, KC Lee's Summit, Ride KC Freedom, car sharing, and zip cars.	
	Advertise more on Government Channel, website, and handouts.	

# MARC's Checklist

Chapters	Lee's Summit Recommendations	Completed
4. Social inclusion, communication and participation	Create a list like "Angie's List" of all the truly ADA compliant locations and restaurants. Contact the Whole Person and ask if they can do an accessibility audit for downtown and eventually entire city.	
	Advertise events and transportation with people who assist "in home" people. Groups-such as Meals on Wheels, Lee's Summit Social Services, One Good Meal, etc.	
5. Civic participation and Employment	Update City's website so people know what volunteer and training programs are available, where and how to apply.	Completed
	Promote all events, including unique ones. All events can use volunteers.	Completed
	Add "Boomers Get Connected" link on the City's website.	Completed
	Add wayfinding signs for ADA accessibility in City Hall, for example which bathroom has handicap button.	
6. Community and health services	Talk with the Parks Department about working with Jackson County Health Department and making the Gamber Center a wellness hub.	
	Research the impacts that food delivery services have on food deserts.	
	Contact Fire and Police, to find out if they work with planning services to ensure demographic information.	Yes, they work with Jackson County Health and create the "Community Health Needs Assessment"



# MARC's Checklist

## Chapters

## Lee's Summit Recommendations

## Completed

Community and health services continued

Create diet restrictive classes to educate people with food allergies other ways to get food nutrients.

Work with Jackson County Health Department and other food educators about educating students about food. Try to have short sessions once a year in a required classes, so all kids will be able to provide input.

Contact Jennifer McCleary (owner of Bodies Health & Fitness) for help with menus and where to shop.

Contact Jennifer Dampf (Hy-Vee Dietician) to see if she can do a program for kids.

Create a map of community gardens and install it on the City website so residents have access to their locations.

Promote and publicize community and neighborhood gardens that are open to the general public.

Contact hospitals about smoking cessation programs.

Lee's Summit hospitals only provide programs for their patients, not the general public.

Contact Lee's Summit R-VII School District about creating a food pantry program in its elementary schools.

Encourage more farmers market farmers to donate leftover food.

# MARC's Checklist

Other	Lee's Summit Recommendations	Completed
Jackson County Recommendations	Promote walk-in clinics for immunizations	
	Expand stock health-shop healthy.	
	Adopt procurement policy.	
	Expand "Double Up Food Bucks".	
	Learn more about senior Farmers Market.	
Expand neighborhood gardens.		
New component-Arts	Promote the health benefits of the Arts.	



# Thank you

The City of Lee's Summit would like to say thank you to all the staff and residents that participated in helping the City achieve this goal! Keep up-to-date on our progress and follow along at <https://cityofLS.net>

*Yours Truly,*



**LEE'S SUMMIT**  
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