



COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTOPHER WARD THIRD COUNCIL DISTRICT

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COUNCILMEMBER WARD ANNOUNCES SAN DIEGO AS THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES

SAN DIEGO, CA – Councilmember Chris Ward (District Three) issued the following statement after announcing San Diego as the newest member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Cities.

“It’s an exciting time in San Diego. We are committed now, more than ever, to building a sustainable and inclusive City where San Diegans of all ages and abilities can have long, active, and productive lives,” said Councilmember Ward. “San Diego’s membership in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and our local partnership with The San Diego Foundation are essential to helping residents live easily and comfortably in their homes and communities as they age.”

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities is an affiliate of the World Health Organization’s Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Program, an international effort launched in 2006 to help cities prepare for rapid population aging and the parallel trend of urbanization. The program has participating communities in more than 20 nations, as well as 10 affiliates representing more than 1,000 communities.

“Here in San Diego we’re focused on building more affordable housing, increasing mobility choices, and creating livable communities to improve the quality of life for all San Diegans, including older adults,” said Mayor Kevin Faulconer. “We also recognize the importance of preparing for San Diego’s aging population with policies that enhance healthy aging, civic participation, and social inclusion. I look forward to working with AARP California to continue those efforts so that we can meet the current and future needs of our residents.”

As a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities, San Diegans has made a commitment to actively work towards making our City a place for residents of all ages and abilities. San Diego is now part of a global network of communities that are committed to giving residents the opportunity to have safe, productive lives.

“The City of San Diego partnership with the World Health Organization and AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities is a major step forward in our commitment to an inclusive region,” shared

Connie Matsui, Interim President & CEO of The San Diego Foundation. “Together, we are helping create communities where our residents can age in place, stay connected to their neighborhoods and remain independent and meaningfully engaged in their later years.”

Americans are aging, with the number of people age 60 and over increasing by 30.7 % from approximately 48 million to 63 million in the United States. In San Diego County, the number of people 65 and over is expected to double by 2030. This Age-Friendly Initiative works directly with cities to address shifting demography and build sustainable communities and homes for the future.

For more information or to interview Councilmember Ward, contact Ansermio Jake Estrada at (619) 227-0421 or EstradaAJ@sandiego.gov.

Councilmember Chris Ward represents San Diego’s Third Council District including communities of Downtown, Little Italy, Bankers Hill, Mission Hills, Middletown, Hillcrest, University Heights, North Park, Normal Heights, Old Town, South Park, and Golden Hill; while also serving as Chair of the Regional Task Force on the Homeless.

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