DATE: July 6, 2020

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council

VIA: Dante Hall, Interim City Manager

FROM: Jennifer Liu, Parks and Recreation Director
       Jennifer Phan, Principal Management Analyst

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION OF AGE-FRIENDLY CITY INITIATIVE AND
         APPOINTMENT OF ONE (1) COUNCILMEMBER TO THE FOSTER
         CITY AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council of the City of Foster City, by Minute Order:

1. Receive and accept the introductory report on the Age-Friendly City Initiative;
   and
2. Appoint one (1) Councilmember to serve on the Foster City Age-Friendly
   Community Task Force.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities offers opportunities to address the aging
population in a positive and inclusive way. The program provides resources to help
communities actively help people live easily and comfortably in their homes and
communities, and also encourages older residents to take an active role and have their
voices heard.

To become designated as an "Age-Friendly City" through the World Health
Organization (WHO), Foster City must demonstrate that it is committed to providing
places for older adults to be engaged, as well as providing for social opportunities and
services that ensure older adults can thrive and be part of the community. Attachment 1
provides a checklist of essential age-friendly city features.
This report, as well as a brief presentation from the Center for Age-Friendly Excellence (CAFE), serves as the introduction to the Age-Friendly City Initiative. With the appointment of one (1) Councilmember to the Foster City Age-Friendly Community Task Force, the process and efforts towards attaining the "Age-Friendly City" designation may commence.

BACKGROUND

The concept of Global Age-Friendly Cities was developed in 2005 by the World Health Organization (WHO) to help cities consider and implement policies and services to support older adults as they grow older to live healthy and vibrant lives. According to WHO, population aging and urbanization are two global trends that comprise major forces shaping the 21st Century.

WHO also recognizes that older people often require supportive and enabling living environments to compensate for physical and social changes associated with aging. Thus, in order to retain a vibrant and enriching population of older adults, cities must provide the structures and services to support their well being and productivity. Making cities more age-friendly is a necessary and logical response to promote the well being and contributions of older urban residents and to keep cities thriving.

WHO has identified eight (8) key domains requiring a conscious effort to create an age-friendly community. It includes:

1. Housing
2. Transportation
3. Social Participation
4. Respect and Social Inclusion
5. Civic Participation and Employment
6. Communication and Information
7. Community Support and Health Services
8. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

ANALYSIS

Many cities are experiencing rapid increases to their aging population, particularly the proportion of people aged 65 years old and over. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey Program, the population of persons 65 years old and over in Foster City was estimated at 15.5% in 2018. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) also provides forecasting projections of demographic, economic, and land use changes in coming decades -- the most recent of which covers the period between 2010 and 2040. For Foster City, the population of people aged 65
years old and over is expected to nearly double from 13% in 2010 to 24% in 2040.

In 2018, the Board of Supervisors for the County of San Mateo committed to joining WHO's Age-Friendly Global Network and established the San Mateo County Age Friendly Initiative. The County also then partnered with the Center for Age-Friendly Excellence (CAFE) to help achieve this designation over the coming years. CAFE is a project of the Los Altos Community Foundation whose mission is to create vibrant, sustainable, supportive, and inclusive communities for all generations.

The cities that participated in the pilot year of the San Mateo County Age Friendly Initiative were Redwood City, Daly City, and Pacifica. As part of Phase II, San Mateo, Colma, and Foster City were selected as the next communities to participate in the County's Age Friendly Initiative. During the upcoming months, Foster City will work closely with CAFE, who will be providing technical assistance, consultation, applied research access, community organizing synergy, coordination of the assessment process, and will also help write the official application to be submitted to WHO for Foster City to receive the Global Age-Friendly Cities Designation.

The process begins with identifying a task force with various stakeholders to oversee the process. An overview of the role of the Foster City Age-Friendly Community Task Force is outlined in Attachment 2. Staff has organized the task force to be comprised of the following members and is seeking the appointment of one (1) Councilmember to serve as a member, bringing the task force to full complement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Representation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Councilmember (TBD)</td>
<td>City Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Dante Hall</td>
<td>Interim City Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Jennifer Phan</td>
<td>Principal Management Analyst, City Manager Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Jennifer Liu</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Julie Paping</td>
<td>Human Resources Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Debra Owdom</td>
<td>Chair, Parks &amp; Recreation Citizen’s Advisory Committee (PRC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Steve Okamoto</td>
<td>Resident, former Councilmember and PRC Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Amit Saini</td>
<td>Resident, former PRC Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Ray Rosenthal</td>
<td>Resident, Lions Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Patricia Player-Maxwell</td>
<td>Resident, Foster City Village Founder, Rotary Club</td>
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The next steps will then be to conduct a series of focus groups to assess the baseline “age-friendliness” of a city or community in the key domains mentioned above. The focus group and survey results will then be reviewed; identifying indicators so progress can be monitored against an action plan. As CAFE helps in guiding this process, the task force will need to recommend potential projects and services to address unmet needs that will be implemented over the next 1 to 2 years.

This will lead up to the completion of the Age-Friendly City application, which includes a letter of intent signed by the Mayor and City Manager. Communities that actively
demonstrate a commitment to foster the full participation of older people in community life and that promote healthy and active aging are invited to become members of the Network and receive formal designation as an "Age-Friendly City".

It should be noted that the expected duration of the task force is for the initial five-month planning stage (at the very minimum). Once the five-month planning stage is over, the task force will continue to meet monthly or, less often, as needed to assist with and guide implementation of inaugural Foster City Age-Friendly Community Projects. CAFE will be available for consultation, as needed.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the acceptance of this introductory report and appointment of a Councilmember to the Foster City Age-Friendly Community Task Force. If related projects are identified in the future that require additional resources, these would be brought to City Council for consideration.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Checklist of Essential Features of Age-Friendly Cities
- Attachment 2 - Overview of Foster City Age-Friendly Community Task Force Role