

The AARP logo is rendered in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The letter 'A' is stylized with a thick, curved underline that sweeps under the 'A' and extends slightly to the left. The letters 'A', 'A', 'R', 'P' are all in the same bold, red font. A small 'SM' trademark symbol is positioned to the upper right of the 'P'.

The power to make it better.[®]

“Aging in Place”

Agenda for today

1. Complete Streets, Universal Design and Transit Oriented Development
 - > What are they?
 - > What are the benefits?
 - > What do they look like?
 - > Current local, state and federal efforts?
2. AARP efforts to improve mobility and housing options for people of all ages and abilities.
3. How you can get engaged?

Complete Streets

“Getting There From Here”

“Getting There From Here”

What are Complete Streets?

Complete streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a complete street*

What do Complete Streets policies do?

Complete Streets policies direct transportation planners and engineers to consistently design with all users in mind including drivers, public transportation vehicles and riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists as well as older people, children, and people with disabilities**

“Getting There From Here”

Benefits of Complete Streets:

- > Improve Safety
- > Encourage walking and biking for health
- > Connect communities to transit options
- > Attract and improve business in downtowns
- > Green – Smart Growth

“Getting There From Here”



BEFORE

Suicide lane in the middle

No bike lane

No sidewalks

Inadequate street lighting

No street crossings

No signage

“Getting There From Here”



AFTER

Divided and designated left turn

Bike lanes

Sidewalks

Street lighting

Street crossings

Bus stop shelter

Street signage

No more of This!



Why AARP?

A livable community is one that has affordable and appropriate housing, supportive community features and services, and adequate mobility options. Together, these components help people remain independent and engaged in civic and social life.

- > Nationally, 11.8 percent of all traffic deaths were pedestrians in 2007 and 2008 (13.8 percent if bicyclists are included).
 - > **22.5% of all traffic deaths in NY are pedestrians**
- > New York State has the **third highest** pedestrian fatality rate in the country for people age 65+.
- > By 2020 1 in 4 drivers will be 65+ in the U.S.
- > By 2030 every baby boomer in the U.S, and the world for that matter, will be 65 or older.

Federal, State and Local efforts

Federal

- The Complete Streets Act of 2009 [House bill \(H.R. 1443\)](#) and [Senate bill \(S. 584\)](#).
- Senator Tom Harkin [IA] and Congresswoman Doris Matsui [CA-5] introduced the Complete Streets Act of 2009 in March.
- The bills will ensure that all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users as well as children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities, are able to travel safely and conveniently on our streets.
- Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood has issued [a new policy statement](#) that calls for full inclusion of pedestrians and bicyclists in transportation projects, with particular attention paid to transit riders and people of all ages and abilities – essentially, a Complete Streets policy.

States

- From Hawaii to Florida to Massachusetts states and local communities are taking action through laws and ordinances, internal policies and design manuals to compel complete streets policies.
- In 2009, Forty-three jurisdictions nationwide adopted policies. 120 jurisdictions in total have adopted policies or have made written commitment to do so as of February 4, 2010.

New York State

- An ACT to amend the highway law, in relation to enabling safe access to public roads for all users by utilizing complete street design principles
- S.5751-Dilan-Diaz / A8587 Gant-Dinowitz
Aging and Transportation Committee Chairs in both houses

What is AARP New York doing?

- AARP has collaborated with New York State Bicycle Coalition, Tri-State Transportation Campaign, Transportation Alternatives and Green Options Buffalo for bill introduction.
- 200+ livable community stakeholders statewide engaged in complete streets discussions, development and legislation.
- April – Week of the 19th – Complete Streets Week: Making New York Walkable for All Generations. A statewide walkability audit of intersections of concern. More than 400 intersections surveyed!
- May – Release of Pedestrian Fatality Report in 5 upstate counties (Erie, Monroe, Onondaga, Albany and Broome). AARP.org/ny

What you can do:

- > Join us June 17, 2010 at one of our 15 videoconferencing sites.
- > Go to www.createthegood.org to create an opportunity for engagement in your community for safer streets.
- > Influence your agency, organization, business to support complete streets policies.
- > Other Ideas? Contact Will Stoner, AARP NY, Associate State Director for Livable Communities at wstoner@aarp.org.

Safe at Home

Building & Rehabilitating Better Homes to Meet the Needs of All Ages & Abilities.

Universal Design (UD) for All Ages

Definition:

- No-Cost or Low-Cost modifications to improve resident's ability to age in place
- Low-Cost building designs to allow for Aging in Place
- Usable and marketable to people of all ages.

Why Universal Design?

- Many people are living in older structures that can be dangerous and contribute to falls and injuries.
- The National Centers for Disease Control (CDC) suggests that one-third of home accidents can be prevented by modification and repair.
- Home modification can be a key factor in increasing the chances of older people staying independent and injury-free in their own homes and active in their own community for as long as they desire.
- 89 % of survey respondents say they want to remain in their homes.

Why Continued-

- > By 2050, 2 billion older persons in the world -- compared with 600 million today. For the first time in world history, older people will outnumber children!
- > Fastest growing population segment - people age 85. Second fastest growing population - those who have celebrated their 100th birthday.
- > Since 1990, roughly 90% of older Americans have stayed in the county they've been living in, if not the very same home!

Building Using Universal Design Basics

- > **No-step entry**
- > **One-story living**
 - > **Full bathroom on the main floor**
 - > **Bedroom or a room that can be converted**
- > **Wide doorways- 36 inches**
- > **Wide hallways**
- > **Extra floor space**
- > **Blocking behind the walls for future grab bars**
- > **Plumbing behind walls in downstairs bath for future roll in shower.**

Recommendations and Action Steps for housing.

- > Work to encourage all new housing to incorporate Universal Design features
 - ❖ Mandates- affordable housing
 - ❖ Incentives-
 - ❖ Building Codes
 - Work with town, county and state decision makers to pass model ordinances, laws and code changes.
 - Work with builders and remodelers to consider Universal Design features when they build new homes or remodel homes for people of all ages and abilities.

What is AARP doing?

- > Model Mandates
- > Model Incentives
- > Model Building Codes

www.docs.google.com

- > Email- wstoner@aarp.org
- > Password- livablecommunity
- > Or email me and I will send them to you. wstoner@aarp.org

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

- > TODs are compact, walkable, mixed-use communities that are developed around high-quality public transportation.
- > Residents often prize these places for the advantages created by the proximity to transportation and other amenities.

PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEAR TOD.

- > More than 250,000 affordable apartments are located within one half mile of public transit in the 20 metropolitan areas studied in AARP's report (nearly 200,000 are within one-quarter mile).
- > **PROBLEM!** -more than two thirds of the federal subsidies that keep these apartments affordable will expire within the next five years.

Affordability continued

> To better enable older persons to age in place,

***affordable housing must be both well served by quality public transit and within walkable distances of amenities and services.**

Policy Recommendations

- 1. Preserve existing affordable housing.**
- 2. Integrate housing, transportation, and land use planning more effectively.**
- 3. Improve and invest in public transportation.**

Putting it all together in 4 small steps!

- > Develop relationships with traditional and non traditional partners
- > Create walkable, bikable communities with safer driving conditions for all ages.
- > Create housing that meets the needs of all generations.
- > Connect the walking and accessible housing to transit!

Resources

- > **Planning Complete Streets for an Aging America**
- > **Preserving Affordability and Access in Livable Communities: Subsidized Housing Opportunities near Transit and the 50+ Population.**
- > **Model laws and ordinances**
- > **These and many more resources -available on my Google Docs Site.**

www.docs.google.com

- > **Log in**
- > **Email-wstoner@aarp.org**
- > **Password-livablecommunity**

Comments and Questions



Contact

William I. Stoner

Associate State Director-Livable Communities

780 Third Avenue, 33rd floor

New York, NY 10017

www.aarp.org

(o) 212-407-3736

(c) 917-860-4465

(f) 212-644-6390

wstoner@aarp.org

Contact Information

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