



ACTION PLAN 2023-2025



AGE-FRIENDLY RENTON ACTION PLAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RENTON CONTINUES TO GROW AND ADAPT to an ever changing and aging community. With the vision and leadership of Mayor Armondo Pavone and AARP Washington, Renton is committed to becoming an Age-Friendly city. According to AARP, an Age-Friendly city entails “an inclusive and accessible urban or suburban environment that encourages active and healthy aging.” In 2020, the City of Renton applied for and was accepted into the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities and AARP’s National Network of Age-Friendly Communities. By joining this network, the city of Renton committed to a five- year process of assessing needs and working with community partners to develop, implement, and evaluate an action plan.

Communities across the world are looking for ways to accommodate the growing population of older adults. Due to longer lifespans and decreasing birth rates, older adults make up a larger percentage of the population than ever before. In Renton, seniors over the age of 65 will make up an estimated 20% of the population by 2030. It is the city’s goal to provide a community where its senior population will remain active, independent and vibrant members of their community.





LETTER FROM MAYOR PAVONE

March 23, 2023

To Our Renton Community:

It is our pleasure to share with you the City of Renton's Age-Friendly Renton Action Plan. This is a major step in demonstrating our commitment to providing a livable community where all generations have value, thrive and age with respect.

With our commitment to the World Health Organization's and AARP's Age Friendly Communities Initiative in 2020, we have joined communities across the globe in ensuring Renton is welcoming and accessible to its aging population, and allows them to age in place with comfort and dignity.

Older adults are a vital part of the fabric of our neighborhoods and civic life. Changing demographics drive the timing of our effort, with the number of Renton residents aged 65 and older expected to more than double to over 1 in 5 people by 2030.

This plan starts a two-year phase where we assess, promote, and enhance the existing Age-Friendly features of our community: programs, activities, resources, and services that make life better for Renton residents, particularly older adults and those with different abilities. In these two years, the City will focus on evaluating and improving service offerings that fall under four Age-Friendly domains: Health and Safety, Communication and Information, Housing, and Transportation. After this first phase, we will address the other four Age-Friendly domains. The Age-Friendly Renton initiative will involve all sections of the city—residents, non-profit organizations, businesses, and faith-based communities—in the effort to make Renton more livable for all.

The following plan will serve as a roadmap to a more inclusive, equitable, and accessible city. Age-Friendly communities benefit all, whether it be an 8-year-old or an 80-year-old. This endeavor will be just one part of an evolving community process that will benefit generations to come.

It is a pleasure to be a part of a community committed to addressing the concerns of not only its aging population, but entire families as well. It is our honor to submit this action plan, our next step to a more Age-Friendly Renton.

Sincerely,

Armondo Pavone
Mayor



COMMUNITY PROFILE

THE CITY OF RENTON, WASHINGTON, with a population of 107,500 (2022), is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that are providing employees and their families an outstanding quality of life. Renton is the home of Boeing, PACCAR, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks, Seattle Sounders, and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix.

Renton encompasses 29 public parks, a 190-acre public golf course, 13 miles of trails—including a large portion of the popular 17.3-mile Cedar River Trail that passes the city's Senior Activity and main recreation center and aquatic center, and 813 acres of public open space. Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park is among the most popular of Renton's parks. It boasts 57 acres of land and water at the southeast corner of Lake Washington, and activities and amenities abound eight boat-launch lanes, four picnic shelters, playground equipment, two tennis courts, two sand volleyball courts, fishing pier, swimming area, over 1.5 miles of paved walking trails, food concessions, and more. The park sees 1.5 million visitors every year.

Older adults are a vital part of the fabric of Renton's neighborhoods and civic life. The number of Renton residents 65 and older is projected to more than double to over 1 in 5 by 2030. In order to prepare and plan for this demographic shift, Renton applied for and was accepted to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities and American Association of Retired People's (AARP) National Network of Age-Friendly Communities in 2020.

With its network of neighborhoods and proximity to services, Renton is an ideal place to live if you are an older adult. According to AARP, an age-friendly city entails "an inclusive and accessible urban or suburban environment that encourages active and healthy aging." We have renowned healthcare, a safe and reliable public transportation system, beautiful parks and natural areas and opportunities to experience culture and continued education. The city's neighborhoods encourage social integration, well-being, and independence—all factors that contribute to an age-friendly city. Renton Washington is the center of opportunity where families and businesses thrive. With over 2,000 software companies within a 30-mile radius, over 2,800 acres of parks and playgrounds. Renton continues to position itself as a standout city in both King County and the state of Washington.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND DIVERSITY DATA

BELOW YOU WILL FIND data from the 2020 Census, describing today's Renton residents aged 65 and over. The census numbers have been adjusted to reflect Renton's 2022 population.

Renton Residents Aged 65 and Older (2022)

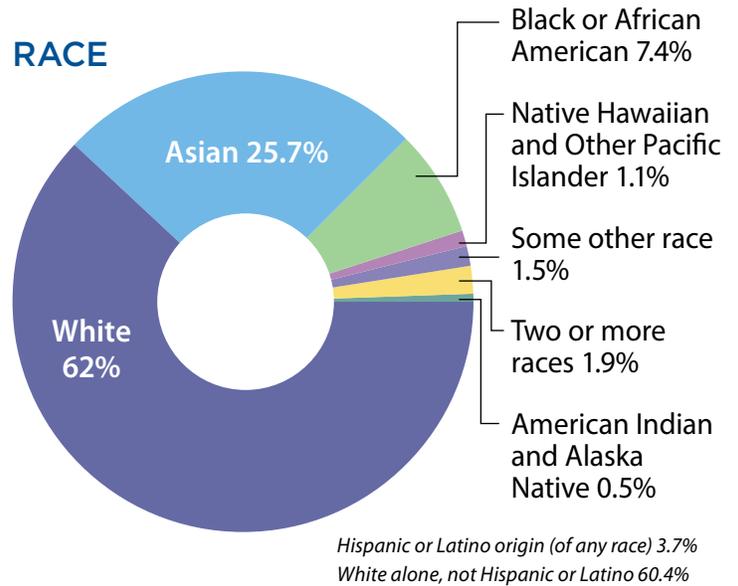
12,403

Population size

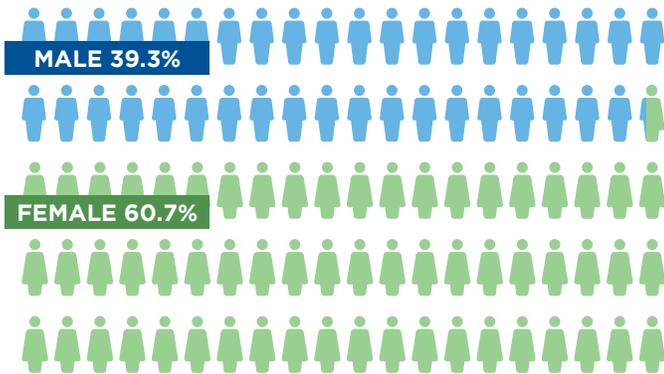
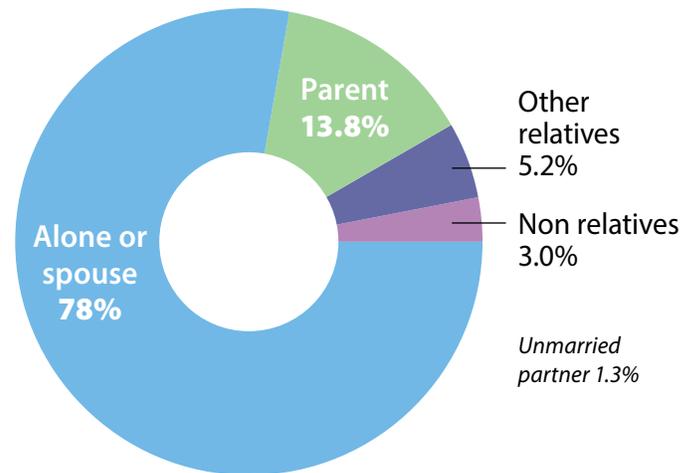
11.5%

Percent of total population of Renton

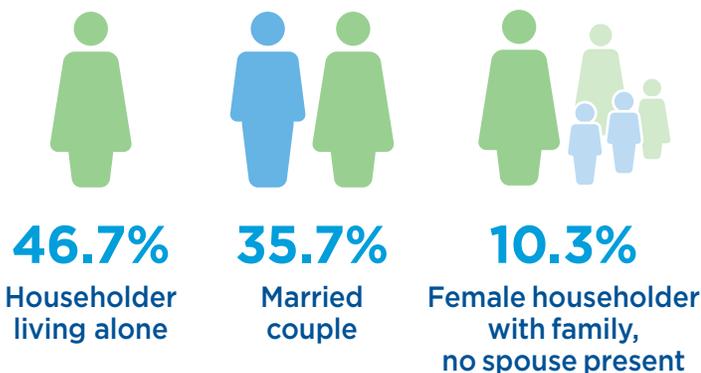
RACE



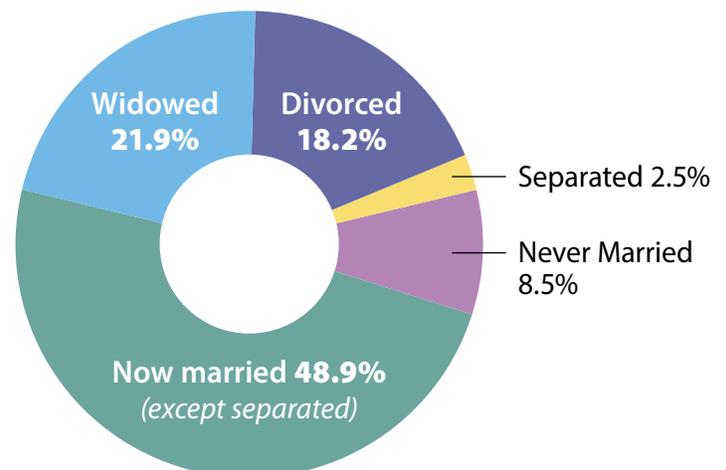
RESIDENTS 65+ ARE LIVING WITH



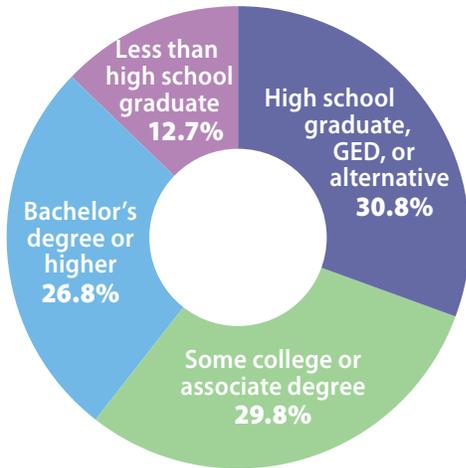
TYPES OF SENIOR HOUSEHOLDS IN RENTON



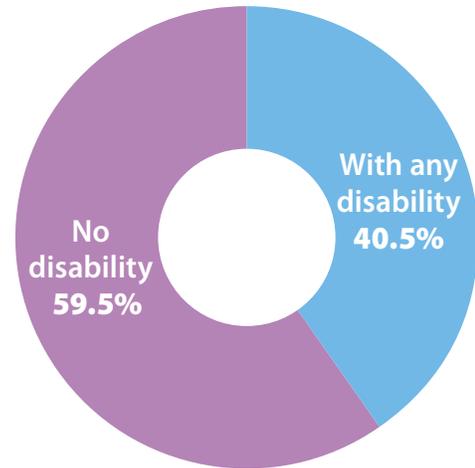
MARITAL STATUS



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



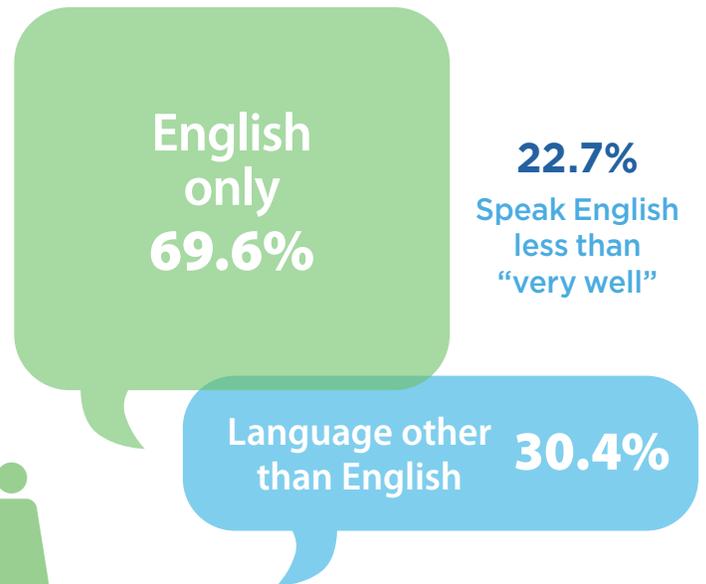
DISABILITY STATUS



EMPLOYMENT STATUS



LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME



RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANDCHILDREN under 18 years of age



SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS as a percentage of household income in the past 12 months

Less than 30 percent **68.7%**
30 percent or more **31.3%**



GROSS RENT as a percentage of household income in the past 12 months

55.1% Less than 30 percent
44.9% 30 percent or more



THE AGE-FRIENDLY DESIGNATION

AGE-FRIENDLY IS A FRAMEWORK created by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the AARP. It guides member cities, states, and communities in their efforts to make life better for people of all ages. Age-Friendly communities are dedicated to adopting and creating anti-ageist policies and programs. An Age-Friendly designation signifies a community's commitment to health promotion; social inclusion, diversity, and cohesion; accessibility in the built environment; and straightforward access to community resources and social services. WHO's Age-Friendly Cities framework specifies eight "domains of livability" to guide current and future member cities in these efforts. The eight domains are:

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

AGE-FRIENDLY RENTON

AGE-FRIENDLY RENTON is an interdepartmental, citywide initiative to advance the city's livability in the eight domains listed above. Renton's current "livability score"—a measurement of how well housing, neighborhood convenience, environment, transportation, security, and opportunity serve a given city's population—is 56. This means the city is already serving the aging community well, but that we have plenty of room to grow. Age-Friendly Renton is focused on improving quality-of-life for older adults in the community via structural and social changes. These changes will make the community a better place to live for people of all ages.

DEVELOPING THE ACTION PLAN

THE CITY OF RENTON embarked on developing the Age-Friendly Renton Action Plan by reviewing older adult demographics and data and previous key informant interviews with older adults, interviewing staff from all City departments and key partners, and administering a community-wide Age-Friendly Survey. All these components were instrumental in developing the plan.



STEPS IN DEVELOPING THE ACTION PLAN:

2020

- Convened city leadership team and worked with the Mayor to launch the initiative
- Completed assessment and was accepted into the national and international Network of Age-Friendly Cities
- Included “Age-Friendly” planning in the City of Renton strategic plan

2020–2022

- Reviewed WHO guidelines and other cities’ Age-Friendly Action Plans
- Collected and reviewed relevant information from Senior Citizen Advisory Board and previous senior surveys
- Conducted Age-Friendly community survey online and by utilizing local organizations to distribute hard copies in English, Spanish and Vietnamese; 421 surveys were completed and analyzed
- Interviewed 37 City staff from all departments to assess how their current work aligns with Age-Friendly goals and domains, create an inventory of existing resources, and draft recommendations
- Interviewed community partners and “key informants” to assess current Age-Friendly offerings in Renton and identify gaps in service

Fall 2022–March 2023

- Gathered additional community feedback via focus groups and public listening sessions
- Reviewed Action Plan draft with key City of Renton staff
- Presented progress report and solicited feedback from the Renton City Council and Senior Citizen Advisory Board
- Synthesized community and partner data and feedback to include in the Age-Friendly Renton Action Plan
- Reviewed final Age-Friendly Renton Action Plan with City Council
- Submitted plan to AARP on March 31, 2023

2023–2025

- Implement Action Plan
 - » **Year 1:** Set up action framework, convene work team and begin data collection
 - » Finalize Age-Friendly Renton webpage and resource portal
 - » **Years 2-3:** Execute, coordinate, and track action items
- Conduct an evaluation of the implementation process
- Determine future resource and staffing needs
- Update Action Plan as needed

EXISTING AGE-FRIENDLY FEATURES IN RENTON, BY DOMAIN

EXISTING AND DESIRED SERVICES were collected and reviewed for all eight Age-Friendly domains, in collaboration with 37 City of Renton staff across

all departments, the City of Renton’s Senior Citizen Advisory Board, and community members at large. The summary results from those assessments are below:

| Health & Safety | Communication & Information |
|---|--|
| <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Human Services Grants (64 grantees for 2023–2024, totaling 812k) ■ Congregate Lunch at the Don Persson Renton Senior Activity Center (Senior Activity Center) ■ Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (\$87,872 in fresh produce received by approximately 1,098 seniors at the 2022 Renton Farmers Market) ■ FDCARES (Renton Regional Fire Authority) ■ Health promotion and fitness programming at the Senior Activity Center, Renton Community Center and outlying parks ■ Renton Police Department (RPD) Take Me Home Program ■ Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (RPD and Parks) ■ RPD Senior Safety Academy ■ RPD Shred-a-Thon/Rx Drug Take Back ■ RPD Senior Personal Safety and Fraud Prevention Classes ■ RPD Residential and Business Security Assessments ■ RPD Dog Walker Watch ■ Emergency Preparedness Academy <p>Desired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pay-what-you-can model for Congregate Lunch for all seniors 50+ ■ Cooking classes and vegetarian options for Congregate Lunch Program ■ Quarterly ethnic (Hispanic/Latinx, African-American, Asian, Eastern European) congregate Lunches with pay-what-you-can-model | <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City of Renton Guide to Social Services ■ Weekly Mayor’s Newsletter ■ City of Renton Facebook, Instagram, and Flickr accounts ■ Quarterly <i>Let’s Go Renton!</i> guide to Renton Recreation Programs ■ Language Line ■ King County Library computer and technology classes online <p>Desired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In-person technology classes at the Senior Activity Center ■ City information in diverse languages (English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Tagalog, Russian, Ukrainian) ■ Easy-to-navigate, “one stop shop” for list of resources and services on City of Renton webpages ■ City resources and services widely advertised in print |

EXISTING AGE-FRIENDLY FEATURES IN RENTON, BY DOMAIN

| Housing | Transportation |
|---|---|
| <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ City of Renton Housing Repair Assistance Program (HRAP) (minor repairs) ■ King County Housing Repair Program (major repairs) ■ King County Weatherization Program ■ City of Renton Utility Discounts for Low-Income Seniors and Disabled Residents ■ Senior Utility Discount Program (King County) ■ Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (King County) ■ AARP/King County Age Friendly Housing Forums and Working Groups ■ Renton Housing Authority (RHA) ■ King County Housing Authority ■ SHAG (Sustainable Housing for Ageless Generations) ■ Housing Action Plan ■ King County Senior Property Tax Relief ■ Permit Ready Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Program (PRADU) ■ Catholic Community Services Chore Assistance/ Home Care <p>Desired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lower-cost housing ■ Reduced property tax for all seniors ■ More accessible help finding affordable housing | <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ADA Transition/Barrier-Free Mobility Plan ■ City of Renton Trails and Bicycle Master Plan ■ Complete Streets ordinance and design standards ■ Metro Access (paratransit service), and Hyde Shuttle services ■ Metro Flex on-demand neighborhood transit service (app-based or call-in) ■ Volunteer transportation services through Sound Generations and Catholic Community Services ■ ORCA LIFT discounted fare ■ Safe Access to Neighborhood Destinations (SAND) Pilot Program ■ Safe Routes to Transit Program <p>Desired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ More accessible information about transportation options (e.g. posters, in-person trainings, mailers) |

EXISTING AGE-FRIENDLY FEATURES IN RENTON, BY DOMAIN

| Outdoor Spaces and Buildings | Social Participation/ Respect & Inclusion |
|--|---|
| <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Parks, Recreation, and Natural Areas Plan ■ City of Renton Trails and Bicycle Master Plan ■ Urban Forestry Program ■ Parks Capital Improvement Projects (King County) ■ Community Gardens Program ■ Senior Activity Center, Renton Community Center, Aquatic Center ■ Parks and trails ■ Outdoor fitness areas (AARP Outdoor Fitness Area, Senior Activity Center outdoor area – renovated 3/2023) ■ Maplewood Golf course <p>Desired Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ More walking groups ■ Self-guided TRACK Trail | <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Senior Activity Center and Renton Community Center programming, in-person and virtual options ■ Renton Farmers Market ■ Community Gardens Program ■ Adaptive Recreation programming ■ Neighborhood-specific programming and engagement; grants for neighborhood projects and events <p>Desired Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Intergenerational social activities ■ Events and activities held in diverse languages ■ In-person classes about using computers and smartphones ■ Grief counseling/programs for emotional support |
| Work and Civic Engagement | |
| <p>Existing Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Parks Commission ■ Trail Ranger and Park Ambassador volunteers ■ CERVIS volunteer listing platform ■ Senior Citizen Advisory Board ■ Mayor’s Inclusion Task Force ■ Public Safety Academy (Renton PD) ■ Coffee With A Cop (Renton PD) ■ Police Volunteer Program ■ Community Police Academy/Neighborhood Watch ■ Emergency Management volunteers <p>Desired Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Easy-to-find volunteer opportunities ■ Opportunities to work with children | |

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SURVEY: RESULTS BY DOMAIN

IN FALL 2020, the City of Renton invited older adult residents captured in its recreation client management system to respond to an online survey distributed via email. 200 additional printed surveys were distributed at the Senior Activity Center during its congregate lunch program. 4,000 AARP members living in Renton zip codes were also invited to

complete the Age-Friendly Renton survey online. Surveys were translated into Vietnamese and Spanish.

There were 421 total survey respondents. The following summary results, grouped by age-friendly domain, are considered key to the development of Renton's Age-Friendly Initiative.

| Health & Safety | Communication & Information |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 55% of the 2020 survey respondents rated their health as very good or excellent. 33% rated their health as good. ■ 65% of the 2020 respondents said their daily activities were uninhibited by any disability, handicap, or chronic disease. ■ 56% of 2020 respondents said enhancing or ensuring “personal safety or security” was the most important factor in a decision to move. ■ Most of the 2020 respondents rated Renton’s health care facilities as “good” or “excellent.” One third rated the convenience of public parking lots with spaces for handicapped parking in Renton as “good.” ■ Over 60% of 2020 respondents were not sure how to rate the quality of health and home care services available in Renton, including health care professionals who speak different languages, affordable home care services such as personal care and housekeeping, and affordable home health care. ■ Most 2020 respondents felt that health and social services were conveniently located, however the majority were also unsure about wellness programs like nutrition classes, smoking cessation, and services that help seniors find and access health and supportive services. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 66% of survey respondents rated free access to computers and the internet in the library as excellent or good. ■ 41% of respondents prefer to get emails about events, resources, and activities for older adults. That said, 47% prefer printed information materials, with 36% wanting access to in print City of Renton <i>Let’s Go Renton!</i> Recreation Guides and 11% wanting informative postcards or letters mailed to their address. ■ 92% of 2020 respondents asked family and friends for information about services, home delivered meals, and home repairs. 85% instead or additionally got information about these resources from the Senior Activity Center and/or the Internet. 61% also noted the library as a source of information about resources, 49% mentioned the Area Agency on Aging Seattle King County, and 41% mentioned faith-based organizations as ways to stay informed. |

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SURVEY: RESULTS BY DOMAIN

| Housing | Transportation |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 37% of the 2020 Age Friendly Renton Community Survey Respondents live alone. 35% live with one other adult. ■ 49% of the 2020 respondents wanted to stay in their home as they aged and never move. ■ 42% felt it was extremely important to stay in their current community for as long as possible. ■ 54% of respondents rated “wanting a home where you can live independently, e.g. no stairs” as a major factor influencing a move. ■ 80% of the 2020 respondents owned their own home. ■ 60% of the 2020 respondents rated Renton a “good” place for people to live as they age. ■ 79% of the 2020 respondents rated independence in their own home as “extremely important.” Half of respondents are in a home they could age in comfortably, i.e. a home not in need of modifications. One third of respondents would need to make repairs to their current residence in order to age comfortably in place. ■ 2020 respondents are not consistently confident that low-income housing is well-maintained, senior living communities are affordable, or that houses with no-step entrances, wide doorways, and first floor bathrooms are in good supply in Renton. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Most 2020 community survey respondents rated Renton’s public transportation as “good” or “fair” in its affordability and accessibility (special transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults, safe bus stops that are accessible to people of varying abilities, affordable public transportation, and accessible and convenient public transportation). However, many respondents were unsure about these services, particularly special transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults. ■ 96% of 2020 respondents tended to take a car to errands and appointments; 22% have another person drive. 20% of respondents report taking a King County Metro bus, 45% walk or bike, and 15% take an Uber, Lyft, or taxi. ■ 4% of respondents reported not leaving their homes. |
| | <h3 style="text-align: center;">Outdoor Spaces & Buildings</h3> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 39% of 2020 respondents rated the safety of public parks for older adults as “good.” ■ 2020 respondents saw room for improvement in “benches for resting in parks, along sidewalks, near public buildings,” with one third rating Renton’s bench access as “good” and a third rating it as “fair.” Only 12% rated bench access as “excellent,” and 18% rated Renton’s outdoor benches as “poor.” ■ Most 2020 respondents would like to see separate pathways for bicyclists and pedestrians. Respondents feel there is room for improvement regarding Renton’s streets, with most respondents rating “streets without potholes,” “well-lit safe streets and intersections,” “accessible sidewalks or roadways for wheelchairs, walkers,” and “sidewalks in good condition, safe for pedestrians” as “good” or “fair” but not “excellent.” |

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SURVEY: RESULTS BY DOMAIN

| Work & Civic Engagement | Social Participation, Respect, & Inclusion |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 58% of survey respondents were retired, 22% were employed full-time, and 9% were employed part-time. ■ 37% of respondents were “extremely likely” to keep working as long as possible rather than retire, while 33% were “not at all likely” to work once they could retire. ■ Participants rated job training and opportunities for older adults as “fair,” i.e., a “2” on a 4-point scale. ■ 75% of respondents were not sure about available transportation options to and from volunteer activities. More importantly, respondents were not sure about the range of local volunteer opportunities on offer. For example, 49% of respondents were unsure about ways for older adults to volunteer on community councils or committees. ■ One third of respondents rated the range of volunteer opportunities available in Renton as “good,” while another third were not sure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 23% had contact with someone outside of their household every day. 46% of 2020 respondents had contact with someone they did not live with several times a week. 30% of the 2020 respondents had contact with someone they do not live with only once a week or less. Note that this survey was administered in November 2020, nine months into the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting lockdown. ■ Even at the height of the pandemic, most respondents did not feel isolated, with two-thirds of respondents stating they rarely or never felt left out, isolated from others, or that they lacked companionship. 91% had friends or family members who could help them at any time of the day or night if they were in trouble or had an emergency. ■ 77% of the 2020 Age Friendly Renton Community Survey respondents were White or Caucasian. ■ Over half of the 2020 respondents were highly educated (4-year college degree, graduate or professional degree). ■ Only 23% of respondents reported a lack of participation in life-long learning or self-improvement classes. ■ About 30% of respondents were unaware of or unsure how to rate the availability of intergenerational activities/events, cultural events for diverse populations, affordable activities/events, activities/events that are discounted for seniors, or activities developed specifically for older adults. ■ 60% of respondents were unsure about the availability of driver refresher courses. |

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS

IN ADDITION to the community survey discussed above, interviews were held with City of Renton staff, Renton’s Senior Citizen Advisory Board, and diverse older adult community members to assess needs and priorities for Renton’s senior population.

The Senior Activity Center (DPRSAC) Renton Older Adults Community Needs Assessment was conducted from August 2018 through March 2019 to identify the needs and interests of diverse senior residents in Renton. Assessment participants ranged in age, mobility, health status, and socioeconomic status, and represented many racial, ethnic, and language groups.

To conduct the assessment, Senior Ambassadors were recruited from the Mayor’s Inclusion Task Force and

the Senior Citizen Advisory Board to connect with Renton seniors living in a variety of settings: their own homes, independent living communities and assisted living facilities. The community assessment process also elicited input from individuals and groups attending public events and other gatherings.

Responses were collected through brief interactions at events, paper surveys, online surveys, interviews, and focus groups. Surveys were translated into Spanish, and Ambassadors were able to provide interpretation for other languages. Five focus groups were held; volunteer participants were recruited from a church group and senior independent and assisted living facilities. Six to fifteen seniors participated in each of these 40–70-minute focus group discussions.

| Description of Groups | Number of respondents |
|---|-----------------------|
| Community Seniors- individuals attending the Senior Picnic Lunch in July 2018, Farmers Market August 2018, and Golden Care Day at Renton Community Center September 2018 | 287 |
| African-American elders- focus group held at a local church February 2019 | 8 |
| Hispanic/Latino elders- individual interviews completed with a convenience sample of older adults who were contacted through a bi-lingual and bi-cultural Ambassador in February-March 2019 | 15 |
| Five discussion groups held with residents who lived in Senior Living facilities in Renton or were members of a local church | 47 |
| Respondents who completed survey questions that were distributed by the Ambassadors who connected with these older adults at church groups, service organizations, apartment complexes and other residences | 148 |
| Survey respondents who completed survey questions online by accessing a link that was shared or sent in an email by an Ambassador | 88 |
| Current DPRSAC users who completed surveys about Center programs and activities; Survey was made available at the DPRSAC in February 2019 | 50 |
| Total | 643 |

These interviews and focus groups informed the following Action Plan in that they:

- A. Illuminated existing age-friendly programs and services in Renton that should be maintained, expanded, and/or more widely advertised,
- B. Clarified which of the eight domains of livability were priorities in the minds of diverse older adults in Renton, and
- C. Highlighted gaps and opportunities in Renton’s services for older and aging residents that could be addressed through this Age-Friendly Initiative.



THE AGE-FRIENDLY RENTON ACTION PLAN

THE FOLLOWING PLAN will guide Renton's Age-Friendly working group through 2025. It will be followed by a second iteration focusing on 2026 and beyond.

Age-Friendly Renton will focus on four domains during the initial phase (2023–2025). Health and Safety, Communication and Information, Housing, and Transportation have been identified as priority areas for Renton's initial Age-Friendly Action Plan. These priority domains were determined through Renton's 2020 Community Survey, discussion with City of Renton employees across departments, and interviews and focus groups with ethnically, linguistically, and age diverse Renton residents.

Communication and Information will take precedence among these four priority domains, given the foundational importance of efficient and equitable communication of information. Success in all other domains depends on success in Communication and Information. Survey results and interviews indicated a lack of knowledge of and/or access to the suite

of resources and services available to older adults living in Renton and/or King County. Thus, improving Communication and Information in the City is a means of improving quality of life for Renton's seniors in the short and medium term.

The Age-Friendly Renton working group will comprise of Senior Citizen Advisory Board members, City of Renton staff from the Equity Housing and Human Services, Communications, Transportation, Parks and Recreation, and Police Departments.

Action items in the tables below are intended to blend with existing priorities, goals, and workflows in the lead departments listed. The second phase of Renton's Age-Friendly Action Plan will focus on partnering with community groups to create new workflows. Possible community partners include cultural centers, church congregations, special interest groups, and employees at local aging-related organizations. See Appendix B for a list of potential partners.

1 HEALTH & SAFETY

VISION: We envision a city that supports the aging population via programming and services that support all older adults, including those who wish to age in place. We envision a city where health and safety are priorities, and care is easy to access. We envision robust public/private partnerships that make community and

health services accessible and affordable for all older adults.

2025 OBJECTIVE: Maintain and enhance existing health and safety programs and resources for seniors. Improve access and awareness of these programs among diverse community members in Renton.

| Action | Steps & Performance Indicators | Lead Dept | Target Start |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Health and community services information in languages other than English | Human Services guides available online and in-print in English and top five languages spoken in Renton | Equity, Housing, and Human Services | Q3 2023 |
| | Housing Repair Assistance Program information available online and in-print in English and top five languages spoken in Renton | Equity, Housing, and Human Services | Q3 2023 |
| | Age-Friendly Renton and Senior Activity Center websites updated with list of services and resources, in English and top five languages spoken in Renton | Renton Recreation | Q3 2023 |
| Maintain diversity of health and safety-related program offerings at the Senior Activity Center. Advertise these programs widely. Offer health and safety programs/classes in Spanish and advertise these to the Latinx/Hispanic community. | Quarterly reports show a steady or increasing number of “Health and Wellness” and “Education and Personal Growth” programs offered for seniors. | Recreation | Q4 2023 |
| | Spanish-speaking instructors/presenters hired to teach on these topics in separate Spanish-language sessions. Program participation among Latinx/Hispanic elders should increase. | Recreation | Q4 2023 |
| Maintain diversity of health and safety-related program offered by the Renton Police Department (RPD). Advertise these programs widely. | Quarterly reports show a steady or increasing number of “Health and Wellness” and “Education and Personal Growth” programs offered for seniors. | Police | Q4 2023 |
| Increase affordable access to healthy, culturally appropriate, easy-to-prepare foods. | Continued partnership with Sound Generations, Sustainable Renton, and Renton Farmers Market to maintain daily congregate lunch service, biweekly free groceries, and seasonal free farm-fresh produce at the Senior Activity Center. Increased instance of ethnically diverse food offerings during congregate meals. Continued diversity of produce offerings among biweekly and seasonal free groceries. | Recreation | Q1 2023 |

2 COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

VISION: We envision a city where people easily access information about events, activities, services, and resources that help them stay healthy, safe and connected. This information is available in multiple languages and various formats and can be accessed in an efficient and equitable manner.

We commit to implementing and regularly updating various media channels and formats to inform older

adults of available community supports, resources, and activities. These supports, resources, and activities should help older adults maintain their preferred lifestyles.

2025 OBJECTIVE: Information about services, resources, and programming is available in multiple formats, various languages, and can be accessed in an efficient and equitable manner.

| Action | Steps & Performance Indicators | Lead Dept | Target Start |
|--|---|----------------------------|--------------|
| Community information for isolated seniors who do not leave their home. | <i>Let's Go Renton!</i> Recreation Guide, Social Services guide, and Housing Repair Assistance Program information are mailed to residents of major senior living communities, and/or to the mailing addresses of all seniors 60+ in Renton. | Recreation, Communications | Q4 2023 |
| | Add easy-to-navigate list of resources and services to Age-Friendly Renton and Senior Activity Center websites. | Recreation, Communications | Q2 2023 |
| Plan and implement annual Age-Friendly Resource Expo. | Annual event at the Senior Activity Center, featuring presenters from organizations that provide health and wellness-related services for seniors. | Recreation | Q4 2023 |
| Community information in diverse languages . | Create and advertise a QR code that takes residents to a Spanish-language translation of the online <i>Let's Go Renton!</i> guide. Advertise the translation widget found on all City websites that easily translates these pages into common languages. Create and circulate posters in diverse languages that show residents how to find and activate these widgets. | Communications | Q2 2024 |
| In-person programs about accessing and understanding technology, fraud, etc. | At least one technology education-focused program or event offered at the Senior Activity Center each quarter, advertised widely in the community via various digital and print media channels. | Recreation | Q4 2023 |
| Widely advertise Renton Recreation's <i>Let's Go Renton!</i> activities guide each quarter, online and in print. | Print and deliver <i>Let's Go Renton!</i> guides to senior living facilities, churches, libraries, doctor's and dentist's offices throughout Renton. | Communications, Recreation | Q1 2024 |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------|
| <p>Increase visibility of existing resources and services in the City of Renton and King County. Support the activities of the Senior Citizen Advisory Board Subcommittee for Outreach.</p> | <p>Offer a bi-quarterly event or program at the Senior Activity Center that orients Renton seniors to available services and resources in the City and King Co.</p> <p>Scale up monthly speaker series at the Senior Activity Center.</p> <p>Update the Age-Friendly Renton and Senior Activity Center webpages with an easy-to-navigate list of resources and services.</p> <p>Add an insert in the “Our Renton” utility mailer that highlights the updated Age-Friendly Renton website. Include a QR code to help people access this webpage and associated resources list. In addition, keep and update a master list of senior living facilities and condos (these facilities do not receive the “Our Renton” mailer); send the website and resource list information to their offices for distribution to residents.</p> <p>Display information about these resources and services at the Senior Activity Center along with instructions about how to get online and learn more.</p> <p>Utilize Renton Reporter to connect people to existing services, programs, resources, and community information. This could mean a monthly column in this local newspaper.</p> | <p>Recreation, Communications, and Renton Senior Citizen Advisory Board</p> | <p>Q4 2023/ Q1 2024</p> |
| <p>Increase accommodations for the hearing impaired at Senior Activity Center events and programs.</p> | <p>Promote and better utilize the existing hearing loop system at the Senior Activity Center. Add the center to the nationwide registry of locations with this loop system.</p> <p>Ensure subtitles are enabled and enlarged for all audio-visual media.</p> <p>Update Senior Activity Center projectors to ensure functional sound systems.</p> <p>Partner with the Senior Activity Center’s Hearing Loss Association of America group.</p> | <p>Recreation</p> | <p>Q3 2023</p> |
| <p>Increase linguistic diversity of Senior Activity Center and Renton Community Center staff to support ESL and non-English-speaking residents in accessing City programs, services, and resources.</p> | <p>At least one bi-lingual speaking staff hired to work at the Senior Activity Center.</p> | <p>Recreation</p> | <p>Q1 2024</p> |
| <p>Hold free/pay-what-you-can quarterly ethnic lunches (African American, Asian, Latinx/Hispanic, Filipino/Pacific Islander) to attract and engage diverse community elders.</p> | <p>Partner with diverse seniors and community groups to plan events.</p> | <p>Recreation, Equity, Housing and Human Services</p> | <p>Q1 2024</p> |

3 HOUSING

VISION: We envision a city where people can choose where they want to live as their needs change. Housing is accessible and affordable, and people feel connected to their neighbors and community. Transportation and amenities are nearby. People can stay in their homes for as long as they wish and those who chose to relocate can do so affordably.

This can be accomplished by creating and maintaining a variety of communication channels and formats to

increase older adults’ awareness of housing resources, utility assistance, and home maintenance programs to sustain their safety and comfort in their preferred community.

2025 OBJECTIVE: Increase awareness and use of existing programs such as utility assistance, minor home repairs, Safe and Healthy Housing, and other housing resources by older adults, to help Renton seniors age in place.

| Action | Steps & Performance Indicators | Lead Dept. | Target Start |
|---|---|---|--------------|
| Update master list of senior living facilities in Renton. | Physical addresses for all senior housing options in the city should be included in this master list, along with phone numbers and email addresses for their management. | Equity, Housing, and Human Services | Q4 2023 |
| Increase appropriate use of existing programs such as the Housing Repair Assistance Program (HRAP), utility assistance, and other housing resources. | Advertise these programs widely. Circulate this information in churches, doctors’ and dentists’ offices, and other community spaces. Ensure community leaders are aware of these programs. Print information in Spanish, Mandarin, and Russian, and make these language translations available on the HRAP webpage. Include links to the HRAP webpage on the updated Age-Friendly Renton and Senior Activity Center webpages. | Equity, Housing, and Human Services, Communications | Q3 2023 |
| Collaborate with and stay abreast of strides made by the working groups established during the AARP/Age-Friendly Housing Forums held in early 2023 (Housing Authorities, Co-Housing, Aging-in-Place/ Maintaining Safety at Home, Resources and Services Development). | Ensure at least one City of Renton staff is present in these forums and reports back to other members of the Age-Friendly working group. | Equity, Housing, and Human Services, Recreation | Q3 2023 |
| Spread awareness among Renton’s older adults about eligibility for King County’s Utility Discount (UDP) and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) Programs and the application process. | Encourage or otherwise incentivize Senior Activity Center staff and community volunteers to participate in the Multi-Service Center’s annual volunteer training. This training is required before staff or volunteers can help residents apply for utility assistance. | Recreation | Q1 2024 |

4 TRANSPORTATION

VISION: We envision a city where transportation is easily accessible, safe, clean, and timely. People have a choice of transportation, whether it be walking, biking, driving or public transport. In Age-Friendly Renton, streets, parks, and all community access points are designed for users of all ages and abilities.

It will be Renton’s mission to identify and resolve safety

and access issues among older adults to optimize their use of private and public means of transportation. These efforts should enable people of all ages to remain active and engaged in their community.

2025 OBJECTIVE: Increase awareness and use of existing transportation assistance programs available in Renton and King County for older adults.

| Action | Steps & Performance Indicators | Lead Dept. | Target Start |
|---|--|------------|--------------|
| Increase appropriate use of Access Transportation (King County Metro), Hyde Shuttle (Sound Generations), Metro Flex services (Metro), Ride United (Crisis Connections), volunteer transportation (Sound Generations, Catholic Community Services), ORCA LIFT (Metro), and other existing transportation assistance and fare-reduction services. | <p>Printed information about these services is displayed in the Senior Activity Center.</p> <p>These services are listed on the Age-Friendly Renton and Senior Activity Center webpages. Staff are familiar with eligibility criteria and the ride request process for all programs.</p> <p>Online and/or in-person training is offered to teach seniors how to use mobile-app-based ridesharing services (e.g. Via to Transit and Metro Flex).</p> | Recreation | Q3 2023 |
| <p>Resume offering of Driver Safety course as soon as AARP reinstates this program. Advertise this course widely in senior living facilities, at the Senior Activity Center and Renton Community Center, and in churches and other community spaces.</p> <p>Advertise the ongoing AARP Defensive Driving online course.</p> <p>Assist older adults in signing up for and following this course.</p> | <p>Senior Activity Center staff are aware of the in-person AARP Driver Safety course and other courses like it. They inform patrons about when this class may resume, and how to sign up and participate when this happens.</p> <p>Aid Senior Activity Center patrons in signing up for the ongoing online course AARP Defensive Driving. Consider creating an in-person program at the Senior Activity Center in which patrons can take this online course together with a tech-savvy volunteer or staff member facilitating.</p> | Recreation | Q3 2023 |
| Partner with local peer-to-peer ride sharing services and advertise these at the Senior Activity Center. Include information about these services in the forthcoming resources and services list on the Age-Friendly Renton website and in print. (e.g. Sound Generations volunteer transportation, Catholic Community Services volunteer transportation). | Recreation facility staff are aware of volunteer transportation programs in Renton and King County. Staff work to recruit volunteers and connect patrons in need of transportation to these services. These services are clearly advertised in Recreation facilities and on the Age-Friendly Renton and Senior Activity Center webpages. | Recreation | Q3 2023 |



CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, the City of Renton will be working to accomplish the 2025 objectives listed above. We will also finalize the Age-Friendly Renton web portal and set up quarterly meetings with involved city departments to keep a pulse on steps accomplished towards meeting the domain objectives. Finally, we will be activating the Senior Citizen Advisory Board to help advance Age-Friendly Renton’s objectives, and making partnerships with diverse community groups to inform the second phrase of the initiative.

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- | | | | | |
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Appendix A

Age-Friendly Renton Community Survey Results.pdf

RSAC Comm Assessment Summary_F.pdf

Appendix B

Potential partners to include in second iteration of Renton's Age Friendly Action Plan:

A. Cultural centers

- i. Chabad Jewish Center
- ii. Ukrainian Community Center of Washington
- iii. Centro Rendu
- iv. Casa Italiana (Burien)
- v. Jaya Hanuman Temple and Cultural Center
- vi. Iraqi Community Center of Washington (Kent)
- vii. Korean Women's Association (King County: Federal Way)

B. Church leaders and congregation members

C. Women's associations

D. DSHS/Kinship Care

E. Seattle/King County Area Agency on Aging and Disability (Aging and Disability Services (ADS))

F. Sound Generations

G. Mayor's Inclusion Task Force

H. Metro and Access Shuttle

I. GenPride

Appendix C

VISIONS FOR PHASE TWO PRIORITY DOMAINS (2026 and beyond)

| Outdoor Spaces and Buildings | Social Participation |
|---|--|
| <p>We envision a city that embraces the beauty of the Northwest. Situated between the Cascade Mountains and Puget Sound, Renton offers abundant natural amenities: parks, rivers, lakes, and trails. We envision residents of all ages and abilities enjoying the bounty of Renton’s outdoor spaces. Accessible paths, spaces to rest, adequate lighting, and clean, safe restrooms will help people of all abilities move about easily and enjoy time outdoors.</p> <p>We want to ensure that public spaces, trails, walkways, paths, and parks are safe and accessible for older adults by regularly including their input in planning groups and meetings.</p> | <p>We envision a city where people can participate in intergenerational cultural, recreational and leisure events that bring the community together. To accomplish this, we must be able to inform all of Renton’s older adults—diverse as we are in languages, ethnic backgrounds, and religious faiths—about opportunities to become involved in the community: as participants, volunteers, and/or committee and task force members.</p> |
| Respect and Social Inclusion | Work and Civic Engagement |
| <p>We envision an inclusive city where individuals of all ages, races, languages, faiths, and sexual orientations will feel welcome and respected.</p> <p>We envision a city where the respect and social inclusion of older adults enriches the greater community through the experience and wisdom seniors share with younger generations.</p> | <p>We envision a city where older adults have many opportunities to stay involved and connected in their communities. There will be options for those who want to continue working, those who want to start a new career, and those who want to volunteer. We envision a city that provides resources to help residents get involved with organizations that fulfill their desire for civic engagement.</p> <p>To accomplish this, we will open and maintain multiple channels to inform interested and willing older adults about volunteer openings and paid employment opportunities that may support their income, personal satisfaction, and contribution as community members.</p> |





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