



Kansas City Region

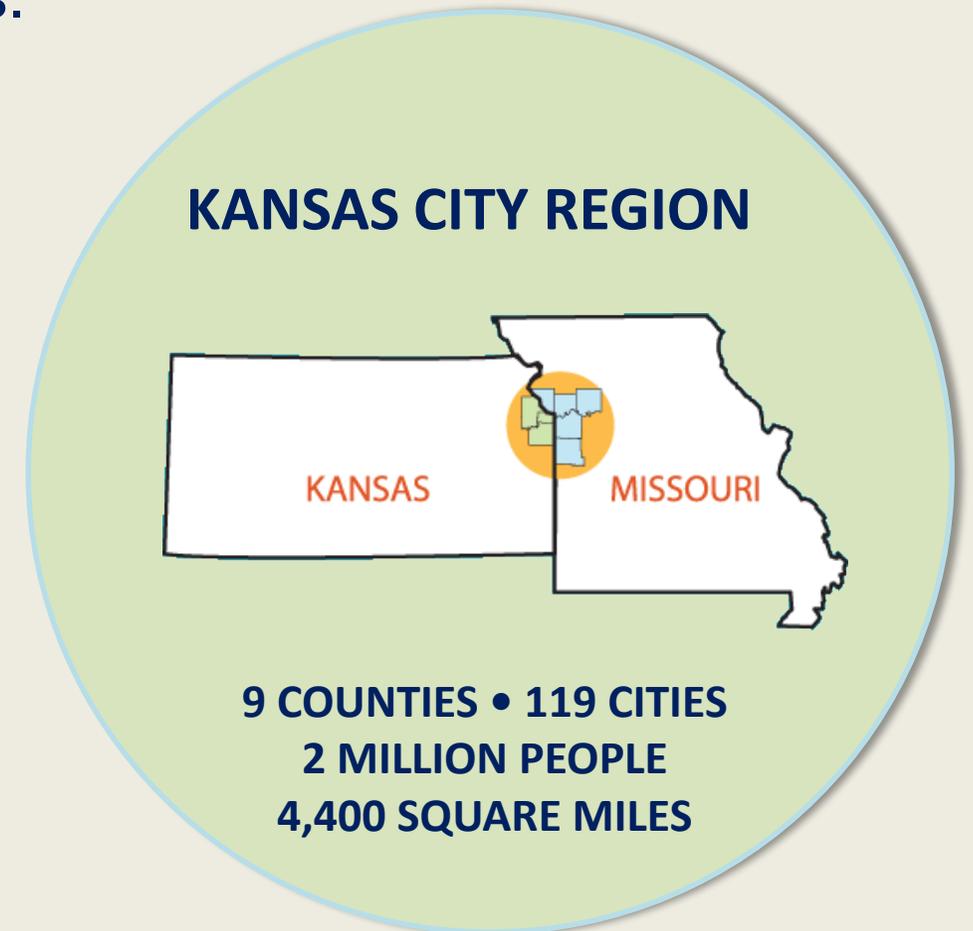
Age-Friendly City Experience

Cathy Boyer-Shesol, MPA
Mid-America Regional Council

ICMA Conference - 2019

Mid-America Regional Council

- Association of city and county governments.
- Board of 33 locally elected officials.
- Founded in 1972.
- Roles: leadership, planning, action.
- Program areas:
 - Transportation Planning
 - Emergency Services and 9-1-1
 - Environmental Planning
 - Local Government Services
 - Research, Maps and Data
 - Aging/Adult Services and Head Start
- MARC CSC 501(c)(3)



Communities for All Ages Recognition Program



Community for All Ages Recognition program
A great place to grow up and grow old.

Is your city age friendly? Be recognized for the work you've done. KC Communities for All Ages (CPAA) and the First Suburbs Coalition (FSC) are offering the Community for All Ages Recognition Program as an Incentive for your city to become a Community for All Ages.

How it works
 This program will recognize communities that have taken steps to become more welcoming to residents of all ages and, in the process, more vibrant, healthy and prosperous. It is not meant to be a formal certification program.

A community can earn one of three levels of recognition representing the extent of its work in becoming a Community for All Ages: **Bronze** (Awareness), **Silver** (Assessment) or **Gold** (Implementation).

Recognition for each level requires a community to complete a set of tasks (see reverse). The tasks don't necessarily require a great financial commitment, but do require time and effort from elected officials and staff, as well as citizen engagement. In most cases, the tasks can be included in already-existing processes and programs.

Application process
 To apply for Communities for All Ages recognition, submit an application form and supporting documentation to the First Suburbs Coalition via the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) by 5 p.m., April 1, 2015.

A joint First Suburbs Coalition and KC Communities for All Ages committee will review applications and certify those communities that meet the criteria. Communities will be notified by June 1, 2015 if they have met the recognition criteria and, if not, what additional work needs to be done.

Communities are encouraged to use "Making Your Community Work for All Ages: A Toolkit for Cities" and the "Communities for All Ages Checklist" to guide their work. They are also encouraged to seek assistance from the First Suburbs Coalition, KC Communities for All Ages and MARC.

An application form may be downloaded at www.KCCommunitiesforAllAges.org.

Advantages of participating

- A more aware, well-planned community that meets the needs of all its residents.
- Regional recognition that your city is looking to the future, creating a community that is vibrant, connected and green, and serves the needs of all residents regardless of age.
- Recognition at First Suburbs Coalition and or Communities for All Ages events and on websites.
- Assistance with materials for websites, newsletters and news releases.
- News releases on the recognition and why it is important for communities.
- Templates for Community for All Ages street signs.

Step Effort required

Step	Effort required	Award Level
3	Implement Adopt Community for All Ages plan	Gold
2	Assessment Use tools to assess your city's progress	Silver
1	Awareness Use "All Ages" lens	Bronze

See recognition level tasks on reverse >>

Checklist

- Public Spaces.
- Transportation/Mobility.
- Housing and Commercial Development.
- Social Inclusion, Communication and Participation.
- Civic Participation and Employment.
- Community and Health Services.

Become a Community for All Ages **KC Communities for All Ages**
A checklist to help you become age friendly June 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, or contact Cathy Boyer-Shesol at cboyer@marc.org or 816/701-9246 to get a printed copy.

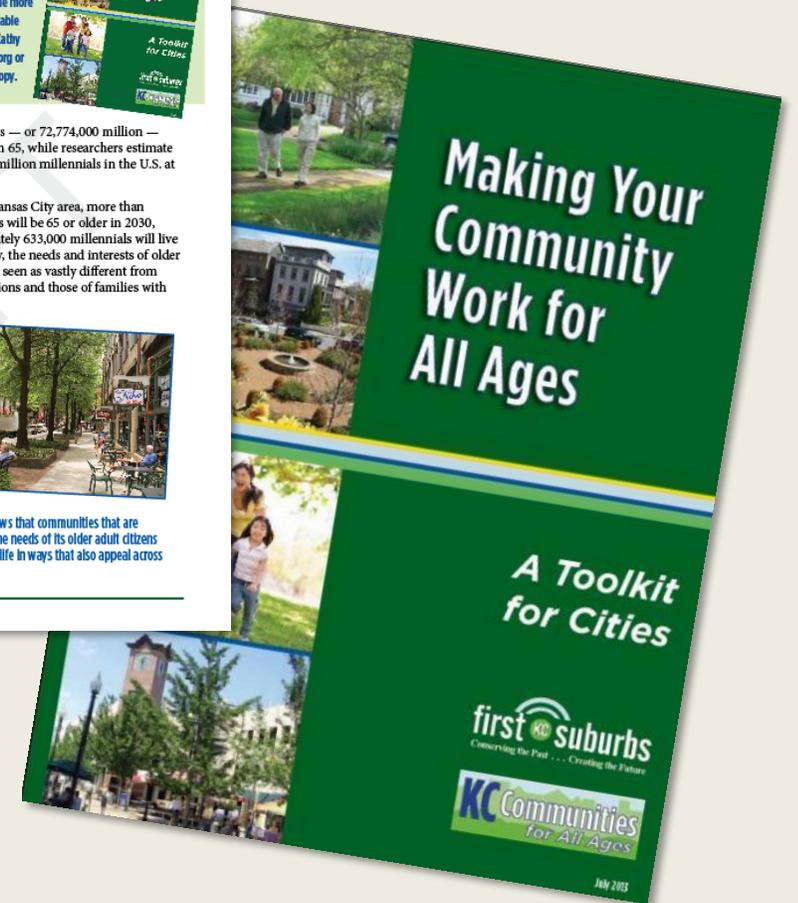
in five Americans — or 72,774,000 million — will be older than 65, while researchers estimate there will be 76 million millennials in the U.S. at that time.

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.



Checklist

● Bronze

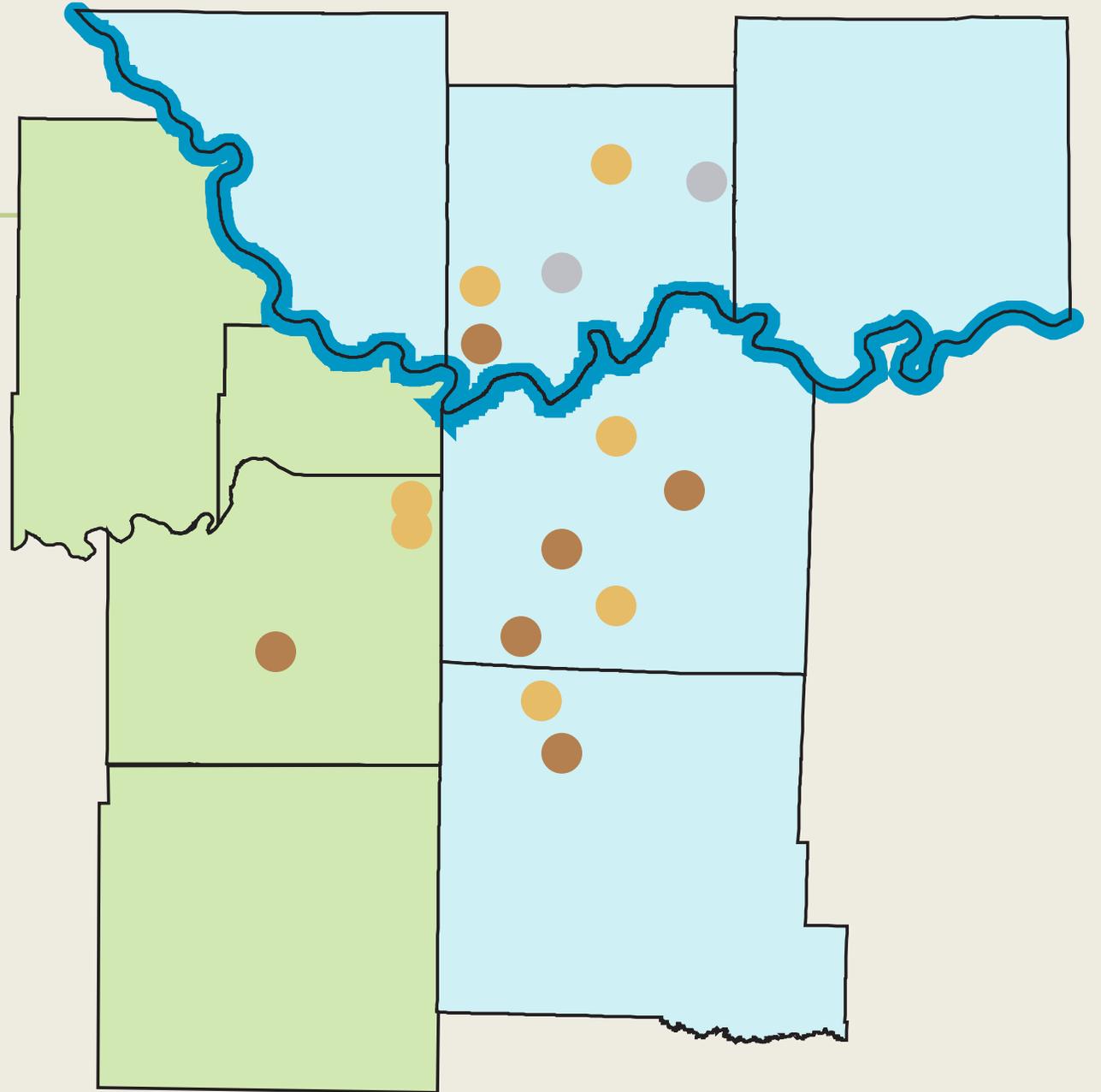
- Blue Springs, Missouri
- Grandview, Missouri
- North Kansas City, Missouri
- Olathe, Kansas
- Peculiar, Missouri
- Raytown, Missouri

● Silver

- Excelsior Springs, Missouri
- Liberty, Missouri

● Gold

- Gladstone, Missouri
- Independence, Missouri
- Kearney, Missouri
- Lee's Summit, Missouri
- Mission, Kansas
- Raymore, Missouri
- Roeland Park, Kansas



Gold Level Communities — Policy Adoption

- **Communities for All Ages Master Plan**
 - Lee's Summit and Raymore, Missouri
- **Updated Comp/Strategic Plan:**
 - Gladstone, Independence and Kearney, Missouri
- **Updated Parks Plan**
 - Mission, Kansas (updated Park Plan) and Roeland Park, Kansas (R Park Phased Development Plan)

Examples of embedded practices

- City council resolutions.
- Seven communities have applied an “age-lens” to a major city plan (City Council approval)
- Three communities are engaging local high schools to become involved, for example, adding students to committees and commissions.
- One community applied an “age-lens” to a new farmers market.
- Two communities place a “CFAA Impact” statement on all Council agenda items.
- Two communities established a CFAA Advisory Committee (oversee implementation).



Embedded Practices – Planning / Zoning

- Two communities participated in a universal design (UD) Park Charrette and plan to incorporate UD principles in future outdoor projects.
- Accessory Dwelling Ordinance expanded and adopted.
- One community applied an “age-lens” to a neighborhood revitalization plan.
- Elevated understanding of universal design (one community currently researching with intent to adopt a policy).
- Intergenerational parks.



Examples of embedded practices



Embedded Practices – Professional Development

- **Mandatory Educational Sessions (Bronze Level)**
 - City council.
 - Department heads.
 - Planning/zoning commission.
- **Communities for All Ages Professional Network**
 - National speakers.
- **Bi-monthly meetings – recognition city representatives**
 - Best practice sharing.
 - Local content experts.
 - Site visits.



Educational sessions



Resources and links

- **KC Communities for All Ages**
All materials are available on the KC Communities for All Ages website:
www.kccfaa.org
- **Cathy Boyer-Shesol, MPA**
Project Manager
KC Communities for All Ages
cboyer@marc.org
816-701-8246

