

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI, SUPPORTING
INITIATIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**

WHEREAS, the global population of people aged 60 and over is expected to grow from 600 million in 2000 to almost 2 billion in 2050; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, the population of people aged 65 and over is expected to grow from 35 million in 2000 to 88.5 million by 2050, taking the total share of the 65+ population from 12 percent to 20 percent of the total population; and

WHEREAS, research shows that older Americans overwhelmingly want to remain in their homes and communities as they age; and

WHEREAS, access to quality health care and long-term services and supports is essential for individuals to live in their homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, of the 80 percent of adults 65 and older living in metropolitan areas, 64 percent live outside the principal cities of these areas in suburban locations that tend to be auto-dependent, creating challenges for residents who do not drive; and

WHEREAS, 21 percent of adults age 65 and older do not drive, and more than half of these non-drivers do not leave home on a given day, in part because they lack transportation options; and

WHEREAS, reduced mobility for older non-drivers leads to 15 percent fewer trips to the doctor, 59 percent fewer shopping trips and visits to restaurants, and 65 percent fewer trips for social, family and religious activities; and

WHEREAS, World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support health aging and thereby improve the health, well-being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older Americans; and

WHEREAS, active aging is a life-long process, whereby an age-friendly community is not just “elder-friendly” but also intended to be friendly for all ages; and

WHEREAS, the WHO has noted that “[m]aking cities and communities age-friendly is one of the most effective policy approaches for responding to demographic ageing,” and

WHEREAS, the WHO has developed eight domains of community life that influence the health and quality of life of older people:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings – accessibility to and availability of clean, safe community centers, parks and other recreational facilities;

2. Transportation – safe and affordable modes of private and public transportation, “Complete Streets” types of initiatives, hospitable built environments;

3. Housing – wide range of housing options for older residents, aging in place and other home modification programs, housing that is accessible to transportation and community and health services;

4. Social participation – access to leisure and cultural activities; opportunities for older residents to participate in social and civic engagement with their peers and younger people;

5. Respect and social inclusion – programs to support and promote ethnic and cultural diversity, programs to encourage multigenerational interaction and dialogue, programs to combat loneliness and isolation among older residents;

6. Civic participation and employment – promotion of paid work and volunteer opportunities for older residents; opportunities for older residents to engage in formulation of policies relevant to their lives;

7. Communication and information – promotion of and access to the use of technology to keep older residents connected to their community and friends and family, both near and far; and

8. Community support and health services – access to homecare services, clinics, programs to promote active aging (physical exercise and health habits); and

WHEREAS, the WHO recognizes that cities and communities have different needs, resources, and varying capacities to engage their resources to take action to facilitate active ageing;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Vicksburg supports initiatives and opportunities to engage in the WHO Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Network of municipalities encouraging and promoting public policies supporting health aging.

**THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE
CITY OF VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI**

GEORGE FLAGGS, JR., MAYOR

ALDERMAN MICHAEL A. MAYFIELD, SR.

ALDERMAN ALEX J. MONSOUR, JR.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATE

I, Walter W. Osborne, Jr., the duly appointed, qualified and acting City Clerk and lawful custodian of the Minutes of The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Vicksburg and Seal of said City, Certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution Adopted by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Vicksburg at a Regular Board Meeting held on Monday, May 7, 2018.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office this 7th day of May, 2018.

Walter W. Osborne, Jr., City Clerk