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Hilda L. Solis  
Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Sheila Kuehl  
Don Knabe  
Michael D. Antonovich

County of Los Angeles  
**COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES**

3175 West Sixth Street • Los Angeles, CA 90020  
Tel: 213-738-2600 • Fax 213- 487-0379

*Enriching Lives Through Effective And Caring Service*



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Cynthia D. Banks  
Director

Otto Solórzano  
Chief Deputy

May 03, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

29 MAY 3, 2016

LORI GLASGOW  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ENDORSEMENT OF PURPOSEFUL AGING LOS ANGELES INITIATIVE  
IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

The County of Los Angeles Community and Senior Services (CSS) is seeking Board endorsement of a countywide, multi-year initiative to unite public and private leadership, resources, ideas and implementation strategies to meet the challenge represented by a rapidly aging population. This initiative, "Purposeful Aging Los Angeles – The 21st Century Initiative for Age-Friendly Los Angeles," is being launched in close coordination with the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging, USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, UCLA Los Angeles Community Academic Partnership for Research in Aging, AARP (formerly the American Association of Retired Persons), and the Milken Institute.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Endorse the "Purposeful Aging Los Angeles" Initiative, which will provide leadership for an innovative, multi-year, public-private effort in the County of Los Angeles (County) to improve the lives of older adults and ensure a better future for Angelinos of all ages.
2. Authorize CSS to take all necessary actions to apply on behalf of the County for membership in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. In addition, authorize CSS, once membership is granted to take all necessary actions to execute the two-year Age-Friendly Communities planning process.

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The older adult population in the County is rapidly growing. Between 2010 and 2030, the older adult population in the County is expected to almost double from approximately 1.1 million to more than 2.1 million individuals. As social sector initiatives focused on this demographic shift emerge, pioneering leadership among government organizations, including county governments, is needed to meet the critical challenge presented by the future of aging.

CSS has partnered with the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging, USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, UCLA Los Angeles Community Academic Partnership for Research in Aging, AARP and the Milken Institute to create the Purposeful Aging Los Angeles Initiative. The Purposeful Aging Los Angeles Initiative will strengthen County and City of Los Angeles partnerships to meet the demands and challenges of a rapidly aging population. The multi-year effort will unite public and private entities to share ideas and enhance collaboration to develop and implement various aging strategies. The Purposeful Aging Los Angeles Initiative will improve the lives of all Angelinos.

Purposeful Aging Los Angeles will build on existing CSS and County programs, services and initiatives related to older adults. In 2008, CSS played a leadership role, in collaboration with the CEO, in coordinating the Seamless Senior Services Initiative (S3) and in establishing the S3 Task Force. The S3 Task Force conducted 16 stakeholder meetings throughout the County, identified nearly 100 services for older adults and developed a series of recommendations to expand service delivery and improve coordination between aging and adult services departments. These recommendations were included in a final report issued to the CEO and Board Offices in 2009, which proposed a multi-year, phased-in approach to implementation. Purposeful Aging Los Angeles will build on the research, stakeholder engagement efforts and proposals developed by the S3 Initiative. Promoting the coordination of services between aging and adult services departments within the County, as recommended by the S3 Task Force, will be an important goal of Purposeful Aging Los Angeles.

The first step and a central component of Purposeful Aging Los Angeles is the County joining the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. More than 75 communities have joined the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities, which is the national affiliate for the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Network of Age-Friendly Communities process will provide a structured opportunity for the County to examine and enhance current policies, programs and infrastructure across eight domains of livability: outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information, and community support and health services. Upon adoption of the recommended actions, CSS will work with your Board's Chair to secure a letter indicating the County's commitment to the Age-Friendly Communities process, as required by the membership application.

Once the County joins the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, CSS will begin a two-year planning process that will include: the development of a comprehensive baseline assessment, identification of indicators to monitor progress, and the development of a proposed, three-year action plan based on the assessment that would be consistent with the County's Area Agency on Aging (AAA) 2016-2020 Plan. AARP will provide templates, assessment tools, access to a network of communities/best practices and other technical assistance to support the County as it assesses its age-friendliness, engages stakeholders and develops the action plan. After two years, CSS will return to the Board for review and approval of the proposed action plan.

CSS is committed to an inclusive planning process that involves robust engagement of key stakeholders, including older adults, all 88 cities in the County, County Departments, philanthropic organizations, community organizations that serve older adults, businesses, and educational institutions. CSS intends to coordinate with Board Offices to reach out to the 88 cities in the County to ensure their involvement in Purposeful Aging Los Angeles and the Age-Friendly Communities Process. In order to enhance visibility and impact, CSS will work with Board Offices, Initiative partners and other stakeholders to establish an Advisory Body for the Initiative that includes elected officials, older adults and leaders from business, philanthropy, education, faith-based institutions, community organizations and other key constituencies. The establishment of an Advisory Body that includes older adults and other stakeholders is also recommended by AARP as part of initiating the Age-Friendly Communities Process. CSS will provide updates as soon as the Advisory Body is created and its activities are scheduled.

The proposed Purposeful Aging Los Angeles Initiative will provide multiple benefits to the County. The Initiative will help position the County as a national and global leader in responding to the rapid growth in the older adult population. It will provide a structured opportunity and process that will enable the County to carefully examine and enhance existing programs and services for older adults. Moreover, the Initiative will provide an avenue for the County, along with its partners, to engage individuals, businesses, educational institutions, community-based organizations and other stakeholders across the region in a collaborative effort to maximize the County's Age-Friendly Communities Process.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions are consistent with the following Countywide Strategic Plan Goals: Goal #1 Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability; Goal #2 Community Support and Responsiveness; and Goal #3 Integrated Services Delivery.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The recommendations do not have a fiscal or financing impact on the County at this time. It is the intent of CSS to utilize existing funding and to leverage private resources wherever possible. CSS will seek approval from the Board of the proposed action plan that results from the two-year planning process and address any future fiscal impacts in the accompanying Board letter.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Purposeful Aging Los Angeles will build on existing CSS and County leadership of programs, services and initiatives related to older adults. CSS operates the County AAA that is designated by the State and funded to serve residents of 87 of the County's 88 cities and all unincorporated areas. The City of Los Angeles operates a separate AAA that is designated and funded to serve residents of Los Angeles. As mandated by the California Department of Aging, the County AAA provides numerous programs and services in collaboration with private, non-profit and municipal organizations in order to meet the growing needs of the older adult population. These services include Title IIIC Nutrition Services, Comprehensive Case Management, the Family Caregiver Support program, Legal Assistance, Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Services, Supportive Services and Nutrition Education and Counseling Services.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Purposeful Aging Los Angeles seeks to strengthen communities throughout the County and City of Los Angeles, improve the lives of older adults, and ensure a better future for Angelinos of all ages. The Age-Friendly Communities process, ongoing public communications efforts and establishment of the Advisory Body will elevate awareness of aging issues throughout the County, identify new resources to bring to bear, uncover new models and practices, and help embed an aging lens into the work of County and City of Los Angeles agencies. It is anticipated that these efforts will strengthen County and regional aging services, in addition to enhancing the lives of older adults.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia D. Banks".

CYNTHIA D. BANKS

Director

CDB:OS:KA:ev

c: Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel