



Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Committee: Goal 2

RECOMMENDATIONS: LIVABLE COMMUNITIES & PURPOSE

Thank you

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Goal 2: Livable Communities & Purpose



We will live in and be engaged in communities that are age-friendly, dementia-friendly, disability-friendly, and **equitable** for all.

What is a Livable Community?

- ▶ A livable community is one that is safe, secure and welcoming
- ▶ ...has affordable, accessible and appropriate housing and transportation options
- ▶ ...offers supportive community features, benefits and services that serve residents of all ages and abilities.
- ▶ Such resources enhance personal independence, allow residents to age in place, and foster residents' engagement in the community's civic, economic, and social life.

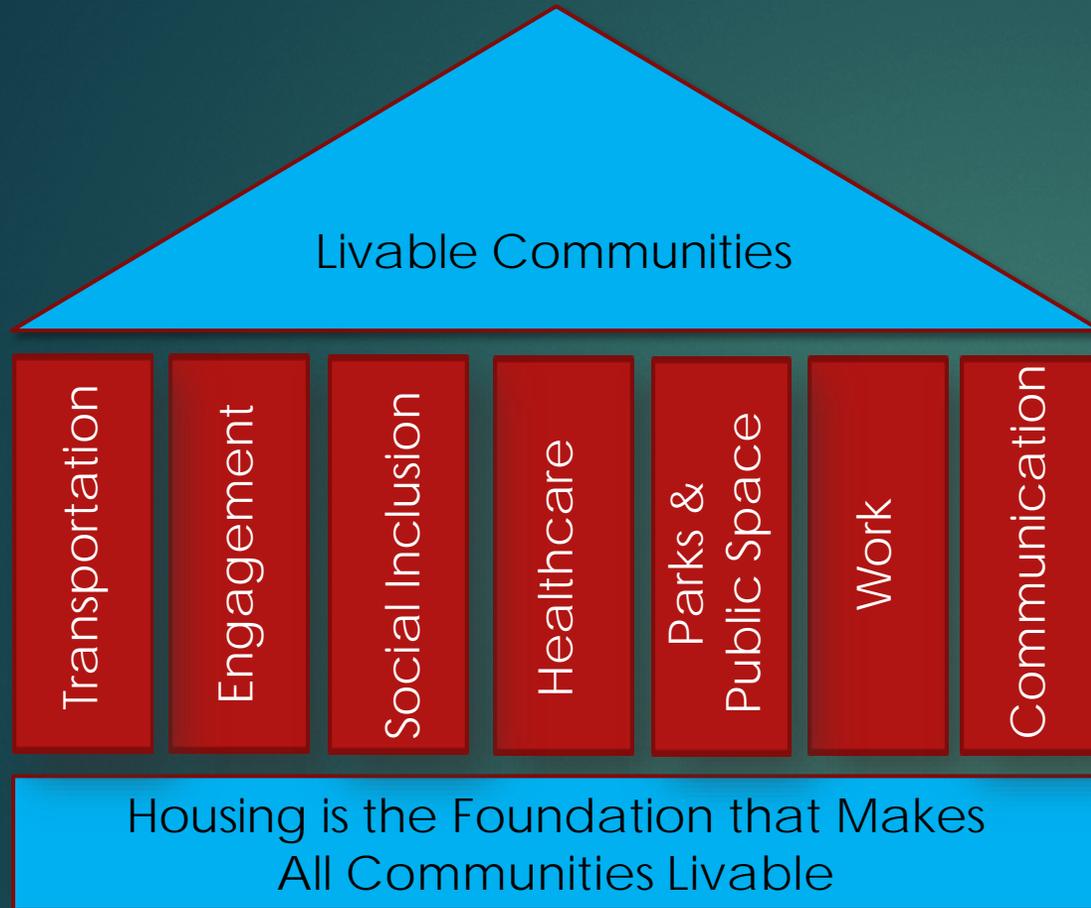
THE 8 DOMAINS OF LIVABILITY

The availability and quality of these community features impact the well-being of older adults



Guiding Principles

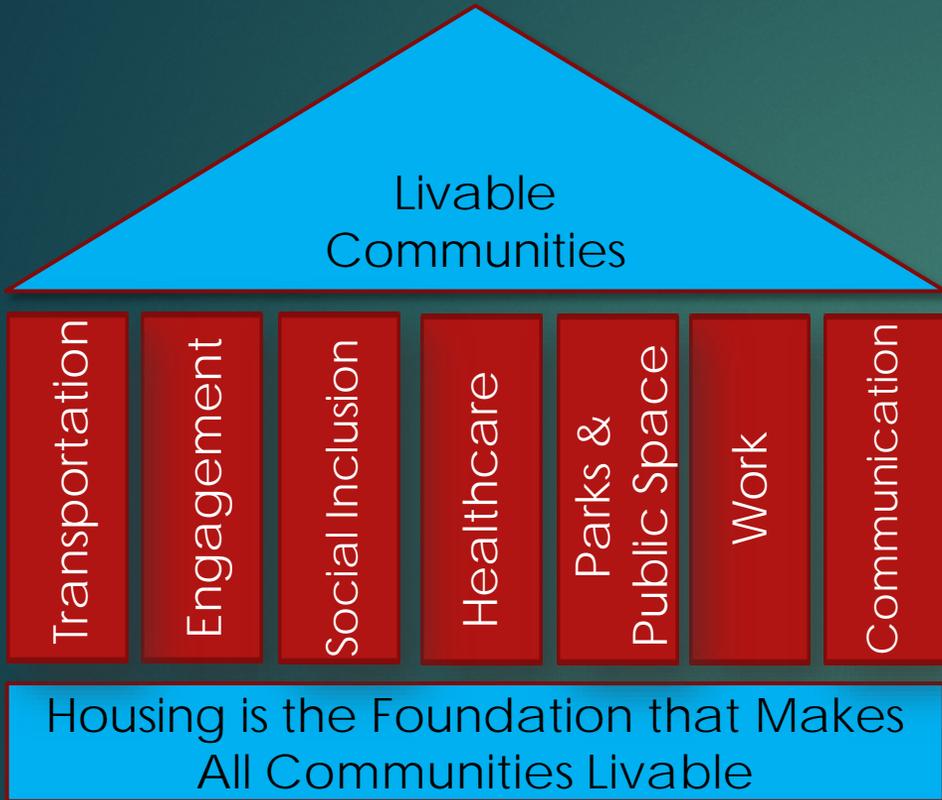
- ▶ **Housing** is a **foundational** component of our continuum of care for older adults and people with disabilities.
- ▶ Transportation should be available, accessible, and affordable and meet the needs of older adults and people with disabilities.
- ▶ California must address **the historic racism and resulting systemic disparities** inherent in our built environment by intentionally advancing solutions that build toward **equity**.
- ▶ Each domain of livability is **interdependent**.



Housing
is a
Right

1. HOUSING

Immediate/Short Term (0-3yrs) • Mid-term (3-5yrs) • Long-Term (5-10yrs)



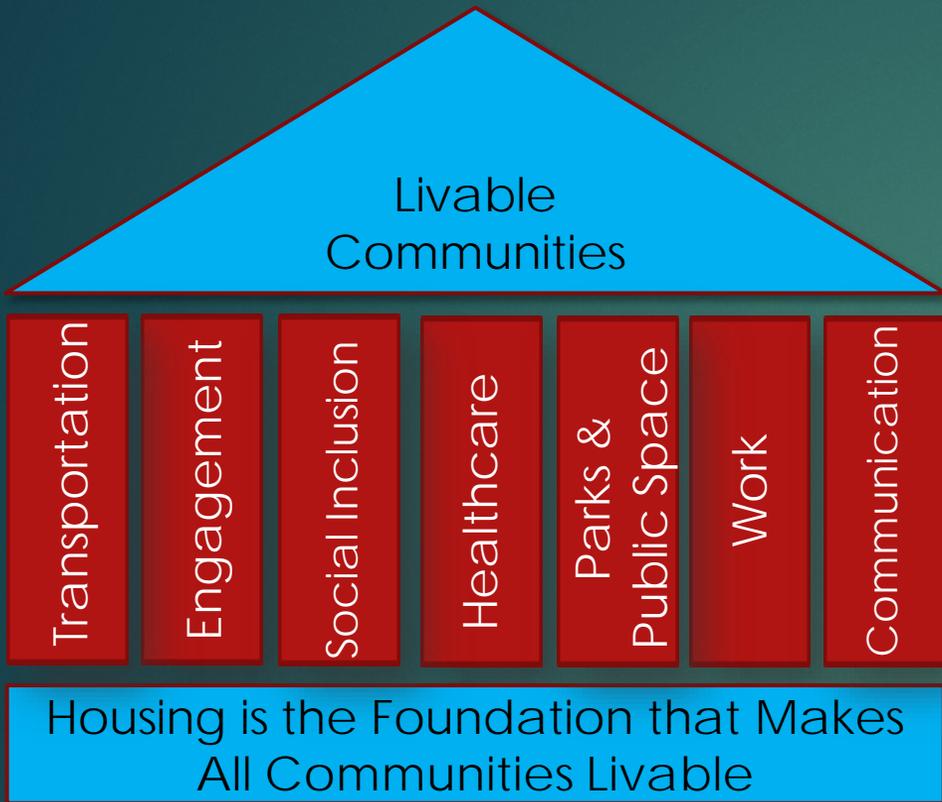
California must create housing options suitable for all people, recognizing the **intersectionality** of age, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, income, ability, and life stage.

Access to affordable housing in California is next to impossible for many older adults.

Nearly 2/3 who qualify for affordable housing don't receive it.

1. HOUSING

Immediate/Short Term (0-3yrs) • Mid-term (3-5yrs) • Long-Term (5-10yrs)



- ▶ Build more **affordable senior housing**.
- ▶ Expand funding for **Permanent Supportive Housing**.
- ▶ Create **Integrated Care at Home Demonstration** with CMMI grant funding.
- ▶ Make **housing a primary component** of any statewide long-term care benefit at home.
- ▶ Adopt a permanent and statewide **Integrated Care at Home Program** to help older adults and people with disabilities age in place.

2. ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION



Transportation is the vital link that **connects** older adults and people with disabilities to social activity, economic opportunity, and community services, hence supporting their independence.

Without transportation, people cannot remain in their **homes and communities** as they age.

Many older adults need **specialized transportation services** such as door-to-door paratransit and escorts to physician's offices.

Historic discrimination and the **intersection** of disability and discrimination must be part of the calculus in developing a rider centric system.

Safe, affordable, accessible, dependable, and user-friendly options are needed to overcome the physical limitations associated with aging and living with one or more disabilities.

2. ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION



1. **Accessible** coordinated **transportation** and mobility spanning the entire age/ability spectrum (local).
2. **Policy** and planning imperatives (statewide).
3. **Rural investments.**

3. PARKS & PUBLIC SPACES

- ▶ Public parks are important places for physical and mental health, building a sense of community and social belonging.
- ▶ Parks are spaces belonging to Californians of all ages, gender identities, ethnicities, races, religions and income levels.
- ▶ The way that parks are designed, maintained and programmed doesn't always reflect the purpose and promise of such uniquely public spaces.
- ▶ Many municipalities neglect their park networks or fail to invest in these vital places as their communities grow and change.

3. PARKS & PUBLIC SPACES

California must enact a policy of parks for ALL.

- ▶ Protect and preserve funding for parks as part of our **critical health infrastructure**.
- ▶ Advance park design, planning, and programming that is **culturally inclusive, dementia-friendly, disability-friendly, being diverse** across the **age and ability** spectrum while **eliminating disparities** in older adult park use while enhancing a sense of safety.
- ▶ Examine and adopt **new methodologies** in planning to improve **quality** and **equity**, and **implement innovations**.
- ▶ Improve parks and public space **access** and address **funding adequacy**.

4. ENGAGEMENT, SOCIAL ISOLATION, SOCIAL INCLUSION

- ▶ As longevity reshapes the distribution of age in the population, California is changing irrevocably.
- ▶ California's population is increasingly diverse.
- ▶ With sustained attention and deliberative planning, we can intentionally create and elevate environments where older people are valued, contributing, and socially connected as family members, employees, volunteers, mentors, and life-long learners of all abilities, races, religions, ages, and identities.
- ▶ Today's older Americans remain a largely untapped resource. California stands to gain from activating the rich resource represented in aging populations while supporting those who are vulnerable.
- ▶ Yet, a significant minority of older adults are severely isolated, thus limiting their contributions and placing their health at risk.
- ▶ California could serve as a model for other states around the country facing the challenges and opportunities of growing longevity and profound demographic shifts.

4. ENGAGEMENT, SOCIAL ISOLATION, SOCIAL INCLUSION

- ▶ We endeavor to mold a multigenerational society that maximizes strengths and builds resilience and capacity and is also ready to support and care for those who have vulnerabilities as they emerge.
- ▶ Spearhead action by appointing a **Minister of Engagement** to **coordinate** efforts, **identify gaps**, and **advance progress** within the social inclusion goals in the Master Plan for Aging.
- ▶ Fight Ageism
- ▶ Ensure access (more on this in Communications)
- ▶ Honor Diversity
- ▶ Engage Talent
- ▶ Alleviate Isolation

4. COMMUNICATION

Ensure Access:

- ▶ Enhance digital, social, and physical accessibility in all counties in California.
- ▶ Make digital access broadly available for all older Californians, including statewide broadband, devices that accommodate sensory limitations, and training in digital literacy, and provide special content about topics ranging from fraud detection to app-based transportation services.
- ▶ Utilize existing infrastructures for multigenerational opportunities, studying existing resources from an available time perspective, in addition to envisioning better use of locations. Utilize spaces like schools and day programs for evening and weekend activities.
- ▶ Remove legal and regulatory barriers to allow for more seamless access to multiuse spaces.

5. STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP

A Livable California for All requires strong, enduring commitment from statewide leadership at all levels, led by the Governor's Office, with full support of all state departments and agencies, all elected offices, and the legislature.

- ▶ Establish an interagency process similar to the **Strategic Growth Council** to prioritize and implement critical solutions and all Master Plan for Aging components.
- ▶ Establish a cabinet level position to provide **sustained oversight** and **coordination** of the Master Plan for Aging across all sectors and to ensure successful implementation, **collaboration** and cooperation across departments.
- ▶ California joins the Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities (NAFSC) and develops a **statewide partnership** for age-friendly communities and organizations to **collaborate**, exchange **local best practices**, and help the state ensure policies are appropriate and relate to community as well as state need.

Goal 2: Livable Communities & Purpose

Housing provides the basic infrastructure that allows Californians to thrive, for older adults to live in and be engaged in communities that are race, gender and disability **equitable, age-friendly, dementia-friendly, and disability friendly**. Paired with affordable housing, accessible and affordable **transportation** allows community access at all stages of life.

Every Californian must be able to actively participate in their communities through **Civic and social engagement**. Paired with full access to health care, **parks and public spaces**, and work opportunities, we can advance the promise of a Livable California for All.

Finally, none of this is possible without strong leadership from the Governor and active participation of the Legislature and all state departments and agencies.

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Discussion