AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES: LESSONS FROM GMF FELLOWSHIP

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Healthy Communities Task Force March 2016
GMF FELLOWSHIP

- Urban and Regional Policy Fellowship 2014-2015

G | M | F  The German Marshall Fund of the United States
STRENGTHENING TRANSatlantic cooperation
OVERVIEW

- Who is Promoting Age-Friendly?
- Fellowship
  - Cities: Manchester and London
  - WHO’s 8 Domains of Age-Friendly
    - Outdoor Spaces & Buildings
    - Transportation
  - Lessons Learned
  - Recommendations
WHO IS PROMOTING AGE-FRIENDLY?

- WHO’s GNAFCC, 2010
  - UK Network of Age-Friendly Cities, 2012
  - AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities, 2012
- EPA’s Smart Growth & Active Aging, 2007
- APA’s Aging in Community Policy Guide, 2014
- PCA’s Age-Friendly Philadelphia, 2009
- Philly’s MCOA Strategic Plan, 2011
- Philly’s WHO Age-Friendly Assessment, 2012
MANCHESTER

- First to join GNAFCC & UK Network
- Mayor an early adopter, 2003
- Staff in Public Health Dept.
- Valuing Older People Forum
- Manchester: A Great Place to Grow
- Older 2010-2020
- The Age-Friendly Manchester
- Development Plan 2014-2016
LONDON

- World city; global growing pains
- Only one Borough has joined Network
- Older People’s Manifesto
- London Older People’s Strategies Group
- The London Plan (2011)
- Aspires to be 1st dementia-friendly capital
WHO’S EIGHT DOMAINS

1. Outdoor Spaces & Buildings
2. Transportation
3. Housing
4. Social Participation
5. Respect & Social Inclusion
6. Civic Participation & Employment
7. Communication & Information
8. Community Support & Health Services
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OUTDOOR SPACES & BUILDINGS

- Narrowing down of spatial experience
  - Getting outdoors harder
  - Immediate neighborhood more important
- Amplification of impact of many small environmental deficits
  - Sidewalks, Crosswalks, Pavement Quality
  - Places to Sit
  - Public Toilets
  - Access to Green Space
  - Age-Friendly Buildings
PLACES TO SIT: IMPROVISED SEATING

PLACES TO SIT: BETTER BENCHES

- Alexandra Park bench re-design

Walking Routes to the District Centre & beyond
PUBLIC TOILET: AVAILABILITY
THAT'S A RELIEF...
SHOPS AGREE TO OPEN LOOS FOR PUBLIC

A SCHEME to give people access to public loos without spending a penny has been launched.

Lambeth Council has pioneered the scheme which will make loo times free of charge in a number of public toilets.

The council hopes to tackle the issue of loo shortage by providing toilets that are free to use.

By Chief Reporter
GREG TRUSCOTT

A scheme to give people access to public loos without spending a penny has been launched.

Twenty-five businesses in town centres across the borough have already signed up.

Leon Berra, of Honest Foods in Colchester, Essex, was one of the first businesses in Lambeth to become part of it.

He said: "We really had part of the town and a lot of the businesses, we're part of the town and this scheme will help them and we make sure that the toilets are in good condition."

The first phase of the scheme was launched yesterday.

The scheme will see a "little booklet" distributed to local businesses to promote the toilets.

The booklet will include details of how to use the toilets, including opening times and locations.

The scheme is part of a wider initiative to improve public amenities in the borough.

For more information, visit the Lambeth Council website or contact the council direct on 020 7772 3000.
AGE-FRIENDLY SUPERMARKET
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TRANSPORTATION

- Maintaining one’s sense of self and wellbeing
- Transit as a “place”
- Walking barrier against depression & vascular dementia
- Greater reliance on walking and transit, just as falls and traffic risks greater concerns
- Not all about active modes
TRANSPORTATION

Driving
Transit
Specialized Transport
Walking
Biking

Availability
Affordability
Reliability
Frequency
Destinations
Age-Friendly Vehicles
Priority Seating
Safety
Comfort
PHYSICAL ACCESS
AFFORDABLE ACCESS

![Oyster card and Freedom Pass](image)
CALMING TRAFFIC: 20MPH ZONES

Slower speeds, safer roads

Camden has a 20mph speed limit across the borough

camden.gov.uk/20mph
CALMING: SHARED SPACE STREETS
CYCLING: CYCLE SUPERHIGHWAY

Transport for London is creating a new East-West Cycle Superhighway from Lancaster Gate to Tower Hill.

Mayor of London
CYCLING: QUIETWAYS

Quietways
The first seven routes
CYCLING: REMOVE BARRIERS
LESSONS LEARNED

- Framing the debate: How the concept is explained matters.
  - Senior as patient/customer (Need) vs. citizen (Rights to the city/Contribution)
- Role of messaging: Change the images and attitudes. Branding. Shared fate.
- From aspiration to reality: How to move from policy to implementation. Need better data, maps, metrics, partnerships.
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Situate age-friendly in sustainability.
- Distill the message.
  - Built environment accessible, affordable, flexible and supportive of everyone
  - Cities that are good for aging are good for business
  - Tell the story
- Learn from the other domains.
  - Public Participation: Seniors as expert citizens.
  - Employment: Why is there no 60 over 60?
- Embed in plans, policies, leadership.