



AGE-FRIENDLY DC 2024 PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT QUESTIONS

I. AGENCY-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- 1. Please provide information on the origin of Age-Friendly DC, including the date and method of establishment number (e.g. Mayor's Order, D.C. Law).**

[February 18, 2018 Mayor's Order 2018-026](#)

- 2. Please provide a full list of all the 2018-2023 and 2024-2028 Age-Friendly Task Force's members and their terms. For each member, please provide the following:**
- 3. The member's name**
- 4. Member's contact**
- 5. Member's duties**
- 6. The Ward, agency or organization the member represents**
- 7. Who appointed the member**
- 8. When the member's term expires**
- 9. The member's attendance record**

All Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Task Force members terms expired December 31, 2023. Members duties, in accordance with the 2018-026 Mayor's Order were

- ✓ Issue an Age-Friendly DC in 2023 Strategic Plan. The plan shall include Districtwide recommendations for improvements and enhancements to transform the District of Columbia into an even more age-friendly city, and shall be issued by September 30, 2018.
- ✓ Advise on strategies, policies, and private and public funding opportunities for implementing the Age-Friendly DC in 2023 Strategic Plan.
- ✓ Produce an Age-Friendly Annual Report to detail the progress of the Age Friendly DC in 2023 Strategic Plan, including any amendments or revisions to the Plan, to the Mayor by September 30 of each year between 2018 and 2023.
- ✓ Produce an Age-Friendly DC in 2023 Progress Report for the Mayor, for transmittal to the World Health Organization, describing the progress that the District has made in achieving the goals of the Age-Friendly DC in 2023.
- ✓ The report shall be submitted to the Mayor by September 30, 2023 (submitted January 2024).
- ✓ E. Undertake other functions as requested by the Mayor,

Task Force members were appointed by the Mayor.



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Age-Friendly DC agency Task Force members were all deputy mayors or agency directors and were permitted to name a stand-in. DC agencies were selected to focus on Age-Friendly DC domains (areas of focus)

The following government members: Mayor's Order 2018-026

The Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, or his or her designee – Wayne Turnage or Ciana Creighton, attended every meeting;

The Deputy Mayor for Education or his or her designee – Michelle Johnson, attended every meeting;

The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development or his or her designee – Timothy Maher, attended every meeting;

The Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, or his or her designee – DM Lindsey Appiah and/or Nicole Peckumn, attended every meeting;

The Director of the Department of Employment Services, or his or her designee, Mary Terrell, attended every meeting;

The Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development – Drew Hubbard and later Lesley Edmond attended every meeting;

The Director of the Department of Human Services, or his or her designee – Dr. Sheila Jones, attended every meeting;

The Director of the Department of health, or his or her designee – Dr. Jacqueline Watson or Sara Beckwith attended every meeting;

The Director of the Office on Aging (now Department of Aging and Community Living), or his or her designee – Mark Bjorge attended every meeting;

The Director of the District Department of Transportation, or his or her designee – Zachary Smith attended every meeting;

The Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs, or his or her designee – Jackie Reyes attended every meeting;

The Director of the Office of Disability Rights, or his or her designee – Mat McCollough attended every meeting.

The following community organization members:

Co-chair – James Appleby, attended every meeting;

Pillar 1 Built Environment

Domain 1 Outdoor Spaces and Buildings – Tama Duffy Day, attended every meeting;

Domain 2 Transportation – Rachel Maisler, attended no meetings;

Domain 3 Housing – Dr. Katrina Polk, attended every meeting;

Pillar 2 Changing Attitudes About Growing Older

Domain 4 Social Participation, Winona Lake, attended no meetings;



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Domain 5 Respect and Social Inclusion, Ron Swanda, attended no meetings;

Domain 6 Civic Participation and Employment, vacant

Domain 7 Communication and Information, Susan Donley, attended every meeting;

Pillar 3 Lifelong Health and Security

Domain 8 Community Support and Health Services, Dr. Sandra Owens Lawson, attended every meeting;

Domain 9 Emergency Preparedness and Resilience, Joe Lenz, attended every meeting;

Domain 10 Abuse, Neglect and Undue Influence, Denise Roper, attended no meetings;

Domain 11 Financial Security, Susan Saunders McKenzie, attended every meeting;

Domain 12 Lifelong Learning, Connie Spinner, attended every meeting, until she died in November 2023;

Domain 13 Public Safety, Dr. Lynn Addington, attended every meeting;

Domain 14 Caregiving, Stacy Canan, attended every meeting.

3. Please highlight the purpose of the Task Force, including the intent of this initiative and age groups served. Please also discuss how the purpose has evolved since.

The Age-Friendly DC initiative is part of an international project started by the World Health Organization (WHO) to respond to two significant demographic trends: urbanization and population aging. AARP's DC chapter was joined by the DC faith-based community urged the Mayor to sign the pledge to the World Health Organization that the District would work to become an easier city in which to grow older. Then-Councilmember Muriel Bowser led that effort. Mayor Vincent Gray sent the pledge to the World Health Organization in 2012. Since then, DC agencies and community groups have worked with the Age-Friendly DC Task Force for changes, focused on equity, to transform DC into an easier city in which to age from birth onward.

After the completion of the 2013-2017 Age-Friendly DC Strategic Plan, the District of Columbia was recognized as a top city in the world for Age-Friendly policy directions by the World Health Organization and AARP. As an interagency initiative housed in the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Age-Friendly DC collaborates with agencies across the government and with community organizations whose missions aim to achieve equity and inclusion. This ensures that lifelong aging is a consideration in all citywide plans, and actions. There are even more community organizations than government agencies that collaborate with Age-Friendly DC.

The purpose of Age-Friendly DC has remained consistent with the Mayor's Age-Friendly DC 2023 Establishment Order throughout the last five years. Age-Friendly DC relied on the advice and expertise of its task force, charged with contributing to the District's second 5-year strategic plan. However, Age-Friendly DC



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has been intentional about including the voices of residents living with disabilities and including the special populations that are addressed in the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs.

4. Please provide a list of the Task Force's meeting dates, times, attendance, and locations to date for 2018-2023 and 2024-2028. Please include information for each meeting within the Task Force's domains.

Age-Friendly DC Task Force meetings are all virtual because, we have better attendance, when travel is not required. Age-Friendly DC Task Force meetings are recorded for later review. Those recordings are maintained on the [Age-Friendly DC website](#). Leading up to Task Force meetings, every domain has virtual meetings focused on progress associated with the goals and strategies established in the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. For details, please examine the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report that will soon be released by the Mayor.

5. Please discuss the status of the Age-Friendly DC 2023 Strategic Plan, including challenges faced since its establishment in 2018.

The Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan continues to be implemented due to the actions of DC agencies and community organizations that have agreed to complete the goals and strategies in each domain of the plan. See the draft Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report that will soon be released by the Mayor. Challenges?

- DC Agency and community organization leadership turnover
- Building up and losing interested participants

6. Please describe the activities executed and/or implemented by the Task Force in FY23 and FY24 to date, and identify the top accomplishments of the Task Force in FY23 and Q1 of FY24?

The Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan continues to be implemented due to the actions of DC agencies and community organizations that have agreed to complete the goals and strategies in each domain of the plan. See the draft Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report that will soon be released by the Mayor.

One of Age-Friendly DC's community organization partners is the George Washington University Center for Aging, Health and Humanities (GWCAHH). Dr. Melissa Batchelor heads the Center and hosts Age-Friendly DC virtual meetings. The Age-Friendly DC January 23, 2024 Task Force meeting featured presentations by Task Force members in each domain who described progress. [Here is the recording of the meeting.](#)

Age-Friendly DC top accomplishments in FY23?

Age-Friendly DC produced the draft Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report soon to be released by the Mayor, after consulting about progress with partner DC agencies and community



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organizations, as well as collecting opinions about progress from over 1,100 residents from across DC as well as carrying out listening sessions about progress in every ward.

Top accomplishments will also be discussed at the Age-Friendly DC January 30, 2024 Task Force meeting. [Register here](#) or if you miss it go to the Age-Friendly DC website (www.agefriendly.dc.gov) and watch the recording of the meeting. No time for that? Here are the programs that stand out for their value to DC residents.

- Built Environment:
 - ✓ Completion and approval to release the Department of Parks and Recreation, ReadytoPlay Plan
 - ✓ Continued implementation of the Safe at Home program
- Changing Attitudes about Growing Older
 - ✓ Tech Training for Residents, including those 60 years and Older
 - ✓ Age-Friendly DC and Olmstead Plan Integration
- Lifelong Health and Security
 - ✓ AgeWell's Grandparents Against Covid and Friendship Bench
 - ✓ Money Follows the Person
 - ✓ Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

7. Please discuss the top 5 areas of concerns that were been received by Age-Friendly DC. Please also provide the following information:

- a. **Scope of issues raised and its urgency**
- b. **Potential solutions identified**
- c. **Costs of implementing a solution**
- d. **Opportunities for improvement**
- e. **Demographics being impacted**

This question asks Age-Friendly DC to outline the Age-Friendly DC 2024-2028 Strategic Plan. Please allow the process to proceed and ask this same question at the FY24 Performance Hearing.

8. What role(s) does Age-Friendly DC have in improving public safety, education, food security, transportation, health, isolation, and outreach?

Age-Friendly DC's role is to convene groups of interested and knowledgeable people and encourage work toward implementing aims, goals and strategies, based, as well, on listening to residents with equity in mind. All the topics that you mention in your question will continue to be addressed by the Age-Friendly DC Task Force in 2024-2028.

9. Looking forward into FY24, what opportunities can Age-Friendly identify towards lifestyle improvements of District residents of all ages? These may include areas of nutrition, transportation, economic opportunities, housing, socialization, etc.



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In every Pillar and each domain there will be new directions and continued efforts to address 2018-2023 Age-Friendly DC strategies. Age-Friendly DC will put more emphasis on lifelong aging, developing habits that make a difference earlier in life that avoid challenges later. For sure all the areas you mentioned in your question and more will be covered.

10. Please provide the total number of residents who have provided feedback throughout the lifetime of the Task Force by Ward.

Here's an educated guess: > 6,000

Ward	Approximate % of residents who provided feedback
1	6
2	10
3	17
4	14
5	11
6	10
7	15
8	17

- ✓ In 2013 Age-Friendly DC held listening sessions with DC residents in every ward, reaching nearly 3,000 residents across DC. Meetings were intentionally concentrated in Wards 5, 7 and 8.
- ✓ The following year, the Age-Friendly DC Block-by-Block relied on ANCs, Commission on Aging contacts, Councilmembers, moms pushing strollers, residents with canes and walkers, University faculty and students, particularly from Trinity, George Washington University, Catholic and American who geolocated and reported team observations. There were close to 3,000 participants. Many probably also participated in Age-Friendly DC listening sessions the year before.
- ✓ From 2014-2017, Task Force domain meetings occurred in Wellness Centers, every DCPL, Village gatherings, houses of worship, recreation centers. There were familiar and new faces at every meeting. In 2015, nearly 900 completed the Age-Friendly DC livability survey. An estimate of new contacts per year from the survey and at meetings would be 1,000. Data bases with names and contact information were challenging to keep current.
- ✓ In 2018, the 2023 Establishment Order and new Task Force members brought new faces to the meetings. The 2018-2023 Age-Friendly DC Strategic Plan included four additional domains, identified from concerns expressed in listening sessions: Financial Security, Lifelong Learning, Public Safety and Caregiving. With these new domains additional advocates and interest groups joined us. An estimate of



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additional DC residents who saw the wisdom of promoting goals and strategies in the plan probably added an additional 2,000.

- ✓ In 2020, when Covid changed our lives. Sadly, we lost followers, but due to the use of virtual meetings we gained supporters.
- ✓ The Center for Aging, Health and Humanities began hosting virtual meetings in 2021, which brought additional contacts.
- ✓ DC agency leadership turnover causes Age-Friendly DC to rebuild agency connections.
- ✓ In 2023 we acquired more interest in Age-Friendly DC through listening sessions and discussions with DC agency leaders.
- ✓ Age-Friendly DC Interns over the years have generated interest.
- ✓ All-in-all, there has been stalwart group who come to virtual meetings and bring new voices to work with community organizations and DC agencies on Age-Friendly DC goals and strategies.

11. How does the information gathered in each meeting translate into deliverable programs, services, or work products?

Information gathered at Task Force meetings demonstrated focus by DC agencies and community organizations on aims and strategies in the Age-Friendly 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. Age-Friendly DC causes leaders to deliberate with colleagues and advocates about progress, just as DC Council hearings do.

12. Please provide an overview of the primary areas of focus for the 2018-2023 Age-Friendly DC Task Force.

Pillar 1 Built Environment – Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing

Pillar 2 Changing Attitudes about Growing Older – Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment. Communication and Information

Pillar 3 Community Support and Health Services, Emergency Preparedness and Resilience, Abuse, Neglect and Undue Influence, Financial Security, Lifelong Learning, Public Safety, Caregiving

13. Please provide a detailed description of measurable outcomes and activities from meetings held by the Task Force with other agencies and/or groups. Please list, including dates and times:

- a. **Activities and meetings with other DC Government Agencies**
 - b. **Activities and meetings with the Department on Aging and Community Living**
 - c. **Activities and meetings with Commission on Aging**
 - d. **Activities and meetings with Senior Villages**
- a. The Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report, soon to be released by the Mayor, provides descriptions of activities with the 26 DC agencies with which Age-Friendly DC interacts and tracks annually on the results of mutually agreed upon aims, goals and strategies.



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- b. See page 72 of the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2024 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report for Age-Friendly DC activities with the Department of Aging and Community Living.
- c. See page 73 of the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2024 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report for Age-Friendly DC activities with the Commission on Aging. Age-Friendly DC’s Coordinator virtually attends most of the Commission meetings.
- d. See page 77 of the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2024 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report for Age-Friendly DC activities with Villages. Some Villages in DC and across the nation serve their community in many ways; they are more than a resource for adults 60 and over.

14. What are the Task Force’s measurable goals

Age-Friendly DC awaits the Mayor’s action to sign the Age-Friendly DC 2028 Establishment Order. Anticipating approval, the newly appointed Age-Friendly DC Task Force is expected to begin meeting March 5th, to work diligently to present the Mayor with the 2024-2028 Strategic Plan by the end of May. If the Mayor, as expected, releases the Age-Friendly DC 2024-2028 Strategic Plan by the end of June 2024, there will be measurable actions taken to address goals and strategies in every Pillar and domain in the plan by the end of FY24 and onward for the next five years.

II. DISTRICT-WIDE INITIATIVES

a. Racial Equity and Social Justice

15. Please list three opportunity areas, programs, or initiatives that Age-Friendly DC may facilitate to address racial inequity.

Eliminating racial inequity and inequity regarding other personal characteristics is central to the work of Age-Friendly DC. Here are four examples of the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan addressing racial inequity. These efforts will no doubt continue in the Age-Friendly DC 2024-2028 Strategic Plan.

First, in the Outdoor Spaces and Buildings Pillar, the Age-Friendly DC Task Force leaders in the Outdoor Spaces and Buildings domain include the Department of Parks and Recreation. The ReadytoPlay plan, now being implemented, has developed programming and recreational outlets that attract residents of color.

Second, also in the Outdoor Spaces and Buildings Pillar Housing domain, the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Office of Planning have worked to implement the Housing Equity Plan.

16. Please discuss one operational data point and one performance data point where you already collect race information or could collect such information.

Age-Friendly DC repeated in 2023 the Age-Friendly DC Livability survey first used in 2015. In both surveys, race data, age data, ward data were collected. In 2023 more than 1,100 participated. In 2015 nearly 900 participated. Both studies asked questions about every Age-Friendly DC domain. In 2023 the results were incorporated into domain reports about



progress in the Age-Friendly DC 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Progress Evaluation Report, soon to be released by the Mayor.

17. In considering a racially equitable District of Columbia, please discuss the three ways that Age-Friendly DC would reflect such achievement.

First, employment among residents of color in Wards 7 and 8 is on the upswing.

Second, DC Housing Equity Plan has increased affordable housing for persons of color, including affordable assisted living.

Third, Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) enrollment is growing every month with participants primarily of color. Please attend or watch the recording of the Age-Friendly DC final 2018-2023 Task Force meeting, where Jacqueline Gould will discuss the program and its impact on Wards 7 and 8.

Fourth, Wildtech has distributed machines (Ipads, etc.) and focused training on low-income persons of color living in Wards 7 and 8. Please attend or watch the recording of the Age-Friendly DC final 2018-2023 Task Force meeting, where Lou August will discuss the Wildtech program and its impact on Wards 7 and 8.

b. Harassment and Workplace Culture

18. Please discuss how Age-Friendly DC handles harassment claims, such as sexual harassment, retaliation, bullying.

Age-Friendly DC follows DMHHS and DCHR protocols regarding sexual harassment claims.

19. How many complaints of harassment has Age-Friendly DC received in FY23 and Q1 of FY24? Please provide breakdown of the following:

- a. Number of complaints
- b. Types of harassment (sexual harassment, retaliation, bullying, etc.)
- c. Resolutions of each complaint (settlement, transfers, separation, etc.)

None.

20. Please describe the process that Age-Friendly DC takes in sexual harassment-related matters. Please provide a breakdown of the agency's role in the following:

- i. Training and education;
- ii. Investigations;
- iii. Designation of Sexual Harassment Officers (SHO); and
- iv. Other personnel matters

Age-Friendly DC domain 5, Respect and Social Inclusion, partners reported at the January 23 Age-Friendly DC Task Force meeting on January 23 as follows:

Respect and Social Inclusion

A city that actively empowers adults of all abilities by improving public and private services, as well as public perceptions of lifelong aging

Co-chairs: Mathew McCollough and Ron Swanda

- Over 50,000 Language Access Compliance trainings have been completed by District employees and grantees since 2018.
- The 2021 - 2024 Olmstead Plan was adopted with strategic goals focused on housing, healthcare, and employment for people with disabilities.
- Between 2018-2023, 100% of new and current government employees received LGBTQ+ training.
- Long-term care employee LGBTQ+ Sensitivity Training is now mandated and is being systematically implemented.





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21. Please discuss any changes or improvements made in the Age-Friendly DC workplace culture in FY23 and Q1 of FY24, and any plans for future improvements.

Age-Friendly DC is in DMHHS. The Age-Friendly DC Coordinator is the only Age-Friendly DC employee. No workplace culture changes occurred in FY23, nor Q1 of FY24, nor are there any announced plans for future improvements.

c. Public Safety

22. Please describe the process to address violence and public safety in senior wellness centers, housing facilities, community centers, and other places in the community that they frequent.

Age-Friendly DC partner, Department of Safety and Justice presented the following information to the Age-Friendly DC Task Force January 23, 2024.

Public Safety

A city where DC residents and visitors feel safe no matter the time or location.

Co-chairs Nicole Peckumn and Dr. Lynn Addington

- Robberies in all forms have come down 21% since [The Robbery Suppression Initiative](#) was instituted in July 2023.
- Beginning in late 2017, The [Private Security Camera Incentive Program](#) has encouraged residents to install cameras and register them with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to deter crime and assist with investigations.
- As of June 2023, 11,405 rebates and vouchers have been issued and 26,466 private security cameras have been funded.
- Over 360 MPD community walks were conducted annually to engage with the community.
- Multiple community organizations such as [the See Forever Foundation](#) and the [East of the River Clergy Police Community Partnership](#) are focused on providing meaningful education and activities for youth and young adults to engage them in a life without criminal activity.
- Annually since 2015, MPD has held three cohorts of the [Community Engagement Academy](#) allows community members to learn firsthand about police operations.
- Since 2018, 146 individuals have completed [MPD Cadet Corps](#) to become officers in the DC communities in which they grew up.





23. Please describe how Age-Friendly DC plans to take an active role in improving public safety for the city.

In collaboration with the Age-Friendly DC 2028 Establishment Order, Task Force members, expected to be the Deputy Mayor of the Department of Safety and Justice and Dr. Lynn Addington, Age-Friendly DC will plan the 2024-2028 goals and strategies.