

Age and Dementia Friendly Hatfield Action Plan

Housing

Goal 1: Provide opportunities for all Hatfield residents to continue to live in the community in their later years by ensuring the availability of affordable and accessible housing units that enable residents to downsize and foster social connections.				
Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
1.1	Amend current zoning to create a streamlined permitting process that allows for the development of attached or detached Accessory Apartments and/or two-family homes in some districts.	Planning Board; consultants/PVPC	Accessory Apartment bylaws in place	High
1.2	<p>Ensure that zoning allows for the development of additional rental housing that is located within walking distance of amenities and services and meets standards of accessibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Zoning for the ability to renovate existing properties to create apartments or congregate living sites. - Research the feasibility of prioritizing current Hatfield residents for new affordable housing units. 	Planning Board; consultants/PVPC	Zoning Review, GIS map of developable property	High (regulatory review is underway)
1.3	Develop partnerships with agencies that can place people who are at risk of eviction or are unhoused into safe temporary housing while they wait for subsidized housing to become available. Consider locations for temporary supported housing in Hatfield.	Senior Center/COA	Agencies or locations identified to help with transitional housing.	High

Goal 2: Ensure that people who are aging in place in Hatfield have access to resources and support services to ensure that their homes are safe, comfortable, energy-efficient, and well-maintained.

2.1	Connect residents to services that provide energy audits and subsidies for improvements to energy efficiency of existing homes.	Library, COA	Information session; pamphlet with information on subsidies	Medium
2.2	Provide education and resources on how to screen and select reliable contractors for home maintenance, installation of solar panels, or joining community solar programs.	Library; contractors (?)	Education programs; informational flyers or other materials	Medium
2.3	Investigate the possibility of starting or joining a nearby Village or Neighbors program which would include volunteer opportunities for active elders to help people aging in place with basic tasks such as yard work, snow shoveling, etc.	Volunteer lead; COA for information sessions	Informational program about Neighbors programs	High
2.4	Ensure that all older homeowners are familiar with the Property Tax Work-Off Program and eligible volunteer opportunities. Expand the program as needed to enable additional participants.	Senior Center, Municipal departments	# of participants in the program; # of spots available	High

Transportation, Buildings and Outdoor Spaces

Goal 3 Pursue opportunities to expand transportation services for all community members.

	Actions	Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
3.1	Research the feasibility of the Town joining the FRTA Access program to expand the hours and service area of on demand van	Town Administrator; Planner; FRTA	Meeting scheduled with FRTA; information provided to Selectboard	Medium

	transportation for older residents while opening flexible transportation services to all members of the community.			
3.2	Research possibility of volunteer driver program to cover rides during hours not covered by Senior Center vans.	Village network for rides in personal vehicles	Volunteer ride service in place	Medium
Goal 4: Ensure that public buildings, parks, and sidewalks meet ADA standards of accessibility, and that recreation resources including shared use paths and parks are accessible for all ages and abilities.				
Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
4.1	Update and/or implement the Town’s ADA Self-Assessment and Transition Plan to ensure that Town-owned buildings and infrastructure meet ADA standards and are accessible to people of all abilities.	ADA Coordinator; Planner; Commission on Disabilities	Updated ADA Self-Assessment and Transition Plan	High
4.2	Seek appropriate location, design and funding for a new or improved library facility or seek funding to renovate the existing facility to meet accessibility standards. Alternative sites that maintain proximity to the population center of Hatfield should also be considered for the development of a new facility.	Library; residents to advocate	Funding to plan for new or improved library	High
4.3	Develop an inventory of benches along popular walking routes and in recreational areas and seek funding to provide benches where needed.	Town Planner	Map and inventory of walking routes and bench locations	High
4.4	Develop a map of trails that includes information on accessibility, parking, and available restrooms in the area.	Town Planner/Consultant	Map of trails with accessibility, parking and restrooms	Medium

Goal 5: Ensure that transportation infrastructure supports all modes of transportation and users of all ages and abilities.

Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
5.1	Adopt a Complete Streets Policy and seek funding to develop a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan to access funding for implementing improvements to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.	Planning Board, DPW	Complete Streets Policy adopted.	High

Social Connection, Access, Equity and Inclusion

Goal 6: Develop opportunities for activity as well as social connection and interaction through accessibility and physical connections in the built environment.

Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
6.1	Require that new housing developments provide places to gather as well as on-site walking loops and connections to off-site walking routes, parks or trails.	Planning Board/Consultant	Zoning changes	Medium
6.2	Develop a public playground that can be used at all times by people with young children and older adults. Ensure that equipment is accessible for all abilities, and amenities such as benches and accessible picnic tables are in place to accommodate people with wheelchairs.	Planner, Town administrator	Plan for playground, including benches and other amenities for older adults	Medium
6.3	Research the cost, potential locations, and feasibility of developing a Town Community Center which would indoor recreation space and programming for people of all ages (a Senior Center as well as space for teens).	COA, Town Administrator, Schools	Feasibility Study developed	High

Goal 7: Create programs and activities that encourage intergenerational connections and collaboration.

Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
7.1	Develop recreational programming that can be attended by people of all ages such as walking groups (taking advantage of local hiking trails and walking routes), trivia nights or other programming at the library, or volunteer opportunities such as technology training. Involve older adults in planning for recreational and educational programs	Recreation Committee, COA	Zoning changes	High

Health and Community Services

Goal 8: Build on the Town’s agricultural culture and economy by connecting farms with the school and Senior Center and other institutions to promote the farming culture of the community and to improve health with locally grown fresh food.

Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
8.1	Implement a Farm to School program to link local farms to schools, encourage kids to farm.	COA, CISA, local farms, school	Farm to School or agreement with Senior Center in place	High
8.2	Partner with CISA and local farms to offer senior fam shares to all older residents.	CISA, Senior Center, local farms	Senior Farm Share program in place	High
8.3	Seek funding to provide respite care and additional supports for caregivers and people living with dementia.	Senior Center; caregivers; volunteers or paid staff trained to care for people with dementia	Respite program in place; other programs in place for caregivers and people with dementia	High

Public Safety

Goal 9: Ensure the safety of all residents, including older adults and people with dementia, through multi-sectoral partnerships and programming.

Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
9.1	Restart a Triad or SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) to ensure ongoing cooperation and coordination between the Senior Center, COA, police and fire departments	COA, Police, Fire Departments	Triad or SALT program in place	High
9.2	Work with emergency personnel to develop a voluntary registry of where people with dementia or other health concerns live; keep files up to date and educate community about how to add themselves or family members to this list.	COA; Police and Fire Departments	Persons at Risk registry	High
9.3	Educate older adults about what to do in the case of emergency and about the Town's Critical Incident Management Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold educational sessions, develop flyers for homebound older residents on what to do in case of emergency and locations of shelters. 	Police and Fire Departments, COA; management companies for subsidized housing	Educational programs	High
9.4	Collaborate with the District Attorney's office to have trainings on internet and phone scams.	COA, Office of Consumer Protection, DA's Office; Library	Trainings with DA's office	Ongoing

Communication, Information and Technology

Goal 10: Ensure that all residents have access to information about policies and programs that provide opportunities for health and community engagement.				
Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
10.1	Assist older adults in acquiring equipment and training on how to use it and provide assistance with accessing low cost or free broadband service.	Senior Center, Library, Schools	# of people trained, laptops or tablets for loan	High
10.2	Collaborate with existing community-based networks such as faith communities, civic groups, education channels, business groups, to share information and develop programming.	Faith communities, Senior Center, civic groups	# of outlets # of postings # joint programs	High
10.3	Ensure that printed information – including official forms or invoices and text on visual displays in public spaces - has large lettering with main ideas in bold type; simple and straightforward sentences and simple language; and is available in multiple languages as needed.	Municipal Departments	Policy or memo about lettering; implementation of policy	Medium

Dementia Friendly Community Strategies

Goal 11: Build awareness, acceptance, and a culture of support for people living with dementia and the people who care for them.				
Actions		Lead Entity/ Partners	Metrics	Priority
11.1	Work with partners such as the Alzheimer’s Association to offer and connect people to trainings on how to recognize signs of dementia and communicate with people with dementia for all leaders and staff of municipal departments, transit and volunteer	Senior Center, Alzheimer’s Association	# of trainings	High

	drivers, library, businesses, banks, faith communities and other sectors that are public facing.			
11.2	Identify and reach out to people with dementia and family care givers to connect them with support programs and opportunities for meeting with other caregivers and people with dementia. Re-start the caregiver support program at the COA if there is interest.	Senior Center, Alzheimer's Association, Dementia Friends	Caregiver support programs available; # of people contacted	High
11.3	Meaningfully engage people with dementia in developing programs and services such as support groups or memory cafes at the Senior Center, Library and other locations in the community.	Senior Center, Library, Alzheimer's Association	# programs; people with dementia involved	Medium
11.4	Develop a Dementia Awareness committee to implement trainings and a public awareness campaign about dementia.	Senior Center, Library, Alzheimer's Association	Committee in place	Medium
11.5	Recruit volunteers to become Dementia Friends Champions who will provide trainings for community groups and neighbors.	Senior Center, Jewish Family & Children's Services; schools	# Dementia Friends and DF Champions	Medium