

Decatur Lifelong Community Advisory Board

Section 1. Establishment of a Decatur Lifelong Community Advisory Board.

A City of Decatur Lifelong Community Advisory Board will be established to provide guidance to the City Commission regarding the programs and goal of the city's Community and Economic Development Division, to help citizens stay in their homes and participate in the community as they age in place along with guidance and assistance with implementing the recommendations to promote positive outcomes from the 2010 Decatur Strategic Plan.

The Lifelong Community Advisory Board should provide advice and recommendations regarding the following:

- 1) Effectively promoting to city residents the programs currently available to live safely in their homes, maintain active lives, and to continue to be involved in the community as they age.
- 2) Coordinating with established programs and organizations in the community working to promote resources to aging residents regarding resources to improve their quality of life.
- 3) Identifying and researching the latest developments in housing and accessibility and recommending enhancements to existing ordinances.
- 4) Identifying and researching potential programs and activities for the city's Lifelong Community initiative.
- 5) Identifying alternative funding sources for Lifelong Community programs and activities.
- 6) Identifying potential partners, research opportunities and co-sponsorships for Lifelong Community programs and activities.
- 7) Reviewing local, state, and regional policies pertaining to Lifelong Community and recommending enhancements or changes needed for Lifelong Community.
- 8) Identifying physical barriers to active participation in the community and informing possible areas in need of improvements to the physical infrastructure.
- 9) Identifying the latest developments in the Lifelong Community model to assist senior citizens with the ability to participate in the community to the best of their ability, provide social support, and to promote independence.

Section 2. Membership Qualifications and Terms.

The Lifelong Community Advisory Board shall consist of nine (9) members appointed by the City Commission. Board members should have expertise in professional fields and interests such as:

Architecture/Interior Design/Accessibility	Marketing
Community Organizations	Mental Health
Diverse Populations	Occupational/Physical Therapy
Elder Law	Physical Disability
Financial Planning	Public Health/Nutrition
Fundraising	Research
Geriatric Care/Gerontology	Seniors/Healthy Aging
Housing	Transportation

Members of the Board shall demonstrate interest in supporting the efficient and effective implementation of the goals and mission of the City's Lifelong Community initiatives. Board members shall serve without compensation.

The City Commission shall appoint Board members to a term of three (3) years. The terms of the original members may be staggered so that all terms do not expire simultaneously. Vacancies shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacant position.

Section 3. Officers.

The Board shall elect one member to serve as chair and to preside over its meetings, and shall create and fill such offices and sub-committees as it may deem necessary. The term of the chair and other officers shall be one (1) year, with eligibility for re-election to succeeding terms.

Section 4. Charge and Responsibilities of the Lifelong Community Advisory Board.

The Lifelong Community Advisory Board is charged with the following responsibilities:

- 1) Assist city staff with public education and outreach activities to provide information on current and new programs and resources for senior citizens.
- 2) Assist city staff with outreach activities to senior citizens to obtain input on desired programs and resources.
- 3) Support programs and resources for senior citizens in nonprofit organizations, community organizations, and other organizations.
- 4) Assist city staff with outreach to senior citizens, people with disabilities, and diverse populations to encourage participation in available programs and to develop new programs.
- 5) Provide recommendations regarding the creation of a citywide initiative to assist senior citizens with Lifelong Community.
- 6) Assist with the implementation of Lifelong Community initiatives.
- 7) Provide recommendations in all subject areas of Lifelong Community, including housing, transportation, and mobility.
- 8) Assist city staff in working with stakeholder groups to implement program objectives and activities.
- 9) Provide recommendations for internal program evaluation and reporting, and assist City staff in periodically reporting to the City Commission on program effectiveness.

Section 5. Meetings.

The Lifelong Community Advisory Board shall establish a regular monthly meeting schedule. Special called meetings may occur more frequently. All Board meetings shall be open to the public, and reasonable notice of the time and place thereof shall be given in accordance with City of Decatur policies and State law. The Board shall keep a record of its meetings, including attendance of its members, and its findings, recommendations, and actions.

Section 6. Meeting Attendance.

Any member of the Board who misses more than three (3) consecutive meetings shall lose his or her status as a member of the Board, and shall be replaced or reappointed by the City Commission. Absence due to sickness, death, or other emergencies of like nature shall be recognized as excused absences and shall not affect the member's status on the Board.

Section 7. Quorum and Voting.

A quorum of the board shall consist of a simple majority of the members present. The vote of a simple majority of a quorum shall be necessary to take any official board action.

Section 8. Public Comment.

A public comment period shall be allowed at each meeting to allow citizens the opportunity to be heard regarding active living issues and concerns. The method, timing and duration of such public comment period shall be determined by the Board. The Board may resume conducting its business once the public comment period is closed.

Section 9. Staff Liaison.

The staff liaison for the Board shall be designated by the City Manager and may consist of multiple persons as deemed necessary. The staff person(s) or a staff designee shall attend all Board meetings.