

City of Vaughan Age-Friendly Community Action Plan

Older Adult Task Force
March 28, 2022



Purpose

The goal of the Age-Friendly Community Action Plan is to assess the City's social and physical environment using the eight World Health Organization (WHO) dimensions of community life and identify priority areas for meeting the needs of the aging population.

Age-Friendly Communities

An Age-Friendly community is one that responds to both the opportunities and challenges of an aging population by creating physical and social environments that support independent active living and enable older people to continue contributing to all aspects of community life.

(Ontario Age-Friendly Community Planning Guide)

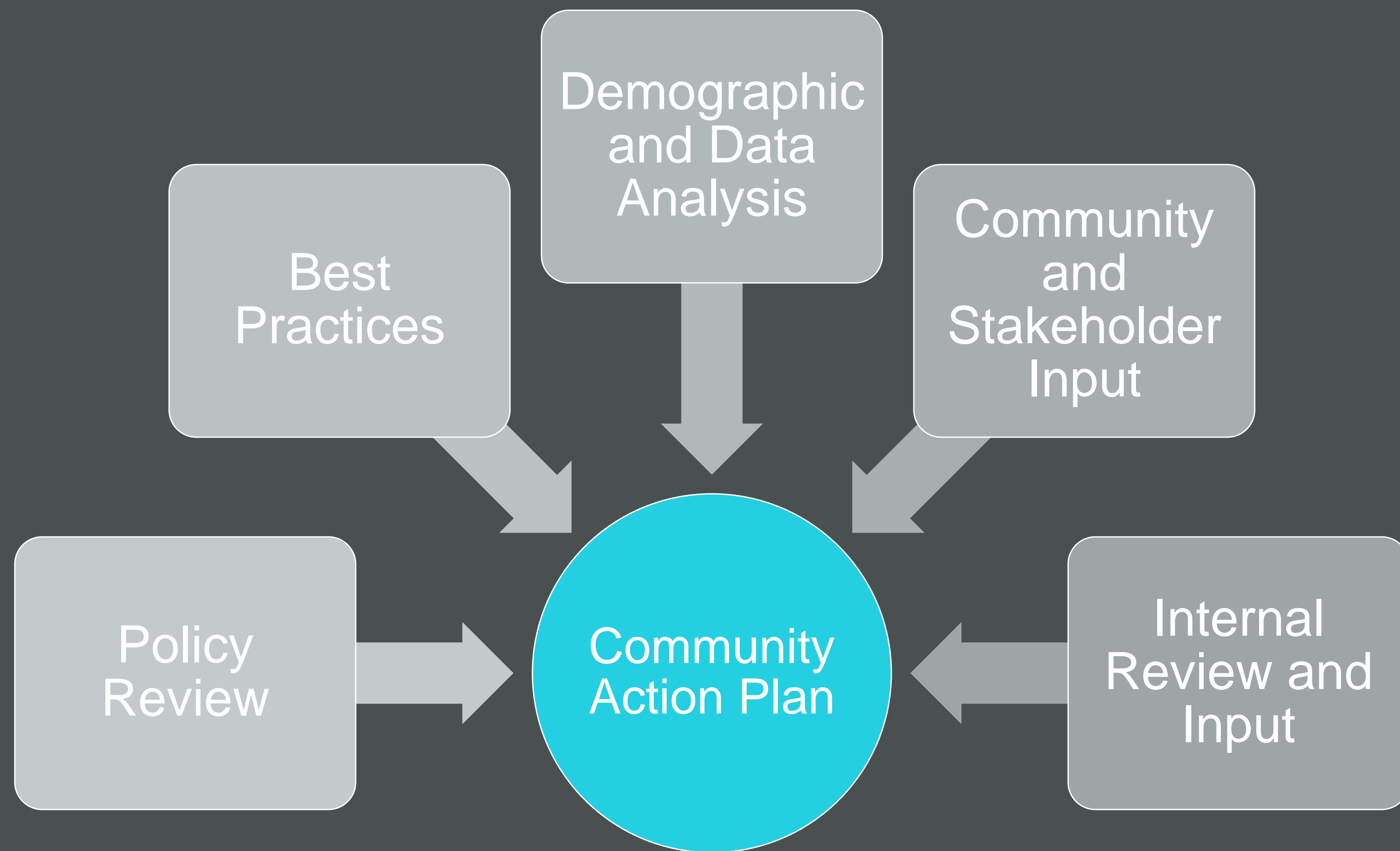
Picture Source: Centre for Age-Friendly Excellence



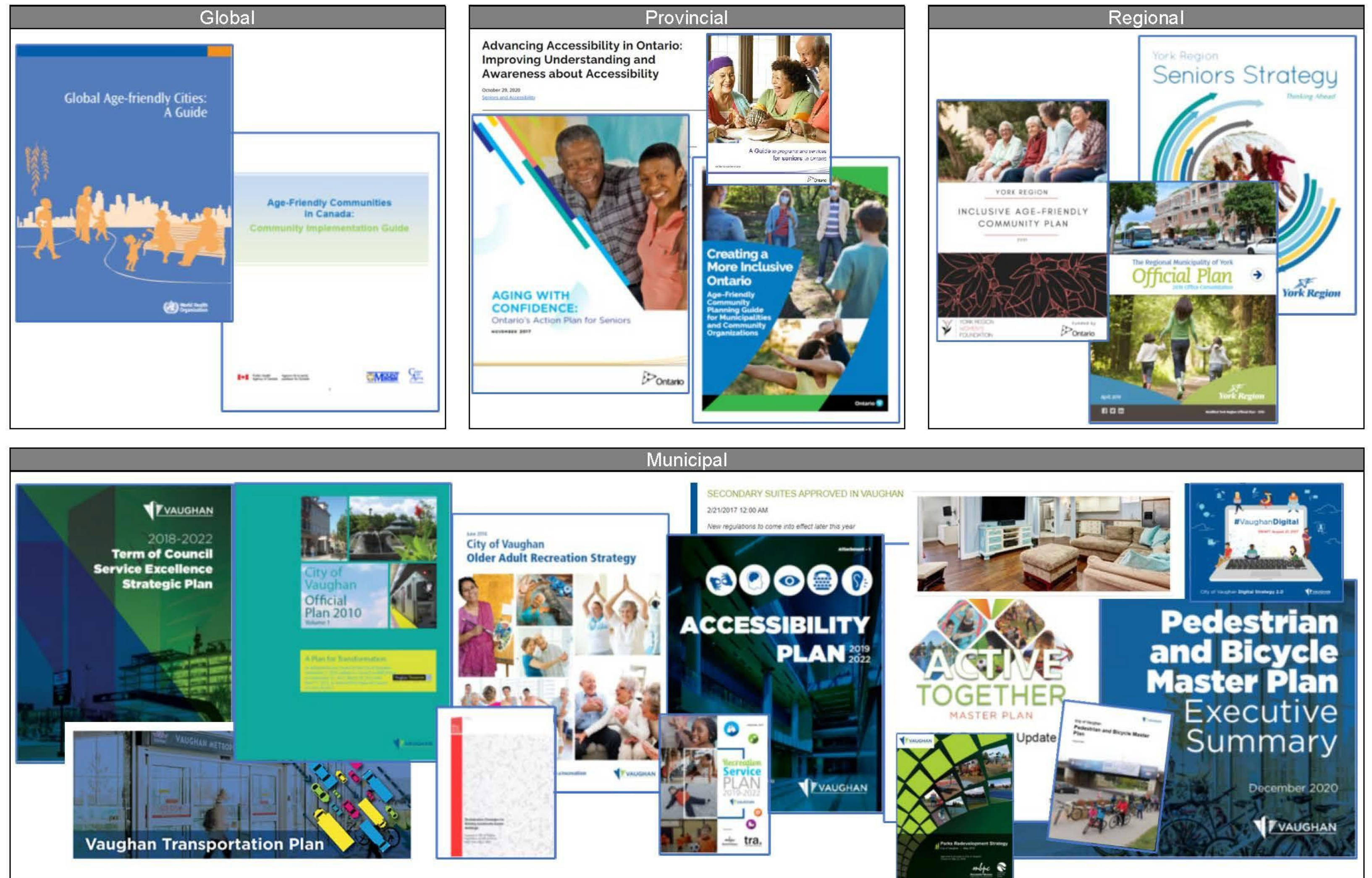
Project Activities



Developing the Plan



Policy Review





Jurisdictional Scan

- City of Brampton
- City of Richmond
- City of Barrie
- City of Hamilton
- City of Markham
- City of Toronto
- County of Perth
- City of Edmonton
- City of Pickering
- City of Kitchener



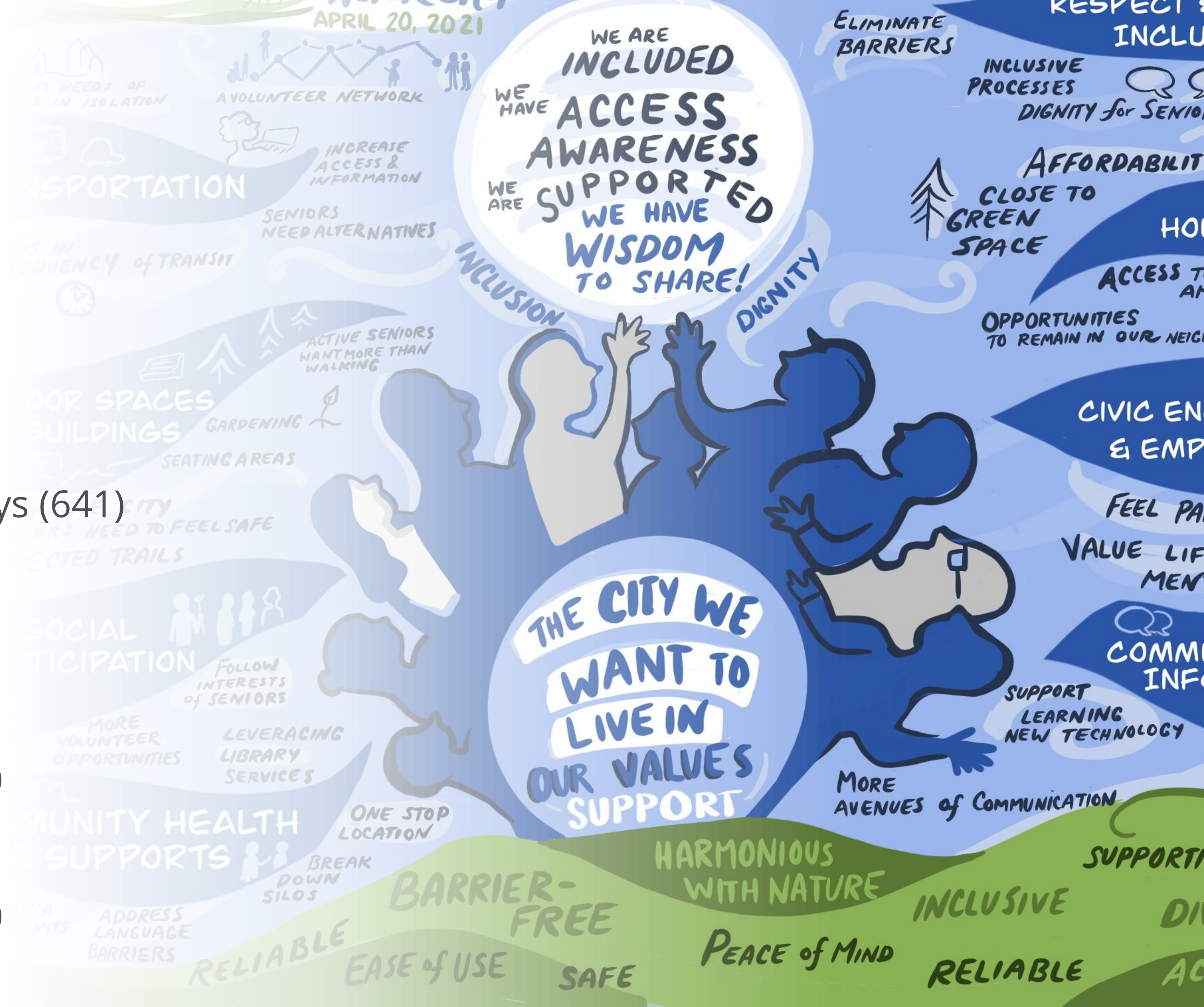
Demographic and Socio-Economic Analysis

- Population growth, household characteristics, income
- Housing & health indicators
- Future Characteristics of seniors (Region)
- Review of Older Adult Services



Community Engagement Activities

- Visioning workshop (25)
- Telephone and online surveys (641)
- Interviews (30+)
- Focus groups (9)(82)
- Online questionnaire (8)
- Community workshop 2 (25)
- Community Pop-Ups (30+)
- Community workshop 3 (40)





Community Outreach

- Website
- Public Service Announcements
- Media coverage
- Social media
- Digital signs
- Mobile signs
- Radio advertising
- Engagement newsletter
- Vaughan Public Library Handouts
- Dedicated age-friendly phone extension & email address

**Creating a more
age-friendly
Vaughan**

Share your feedback
to help shape the City's
Age-Friendly Community
Action Plan

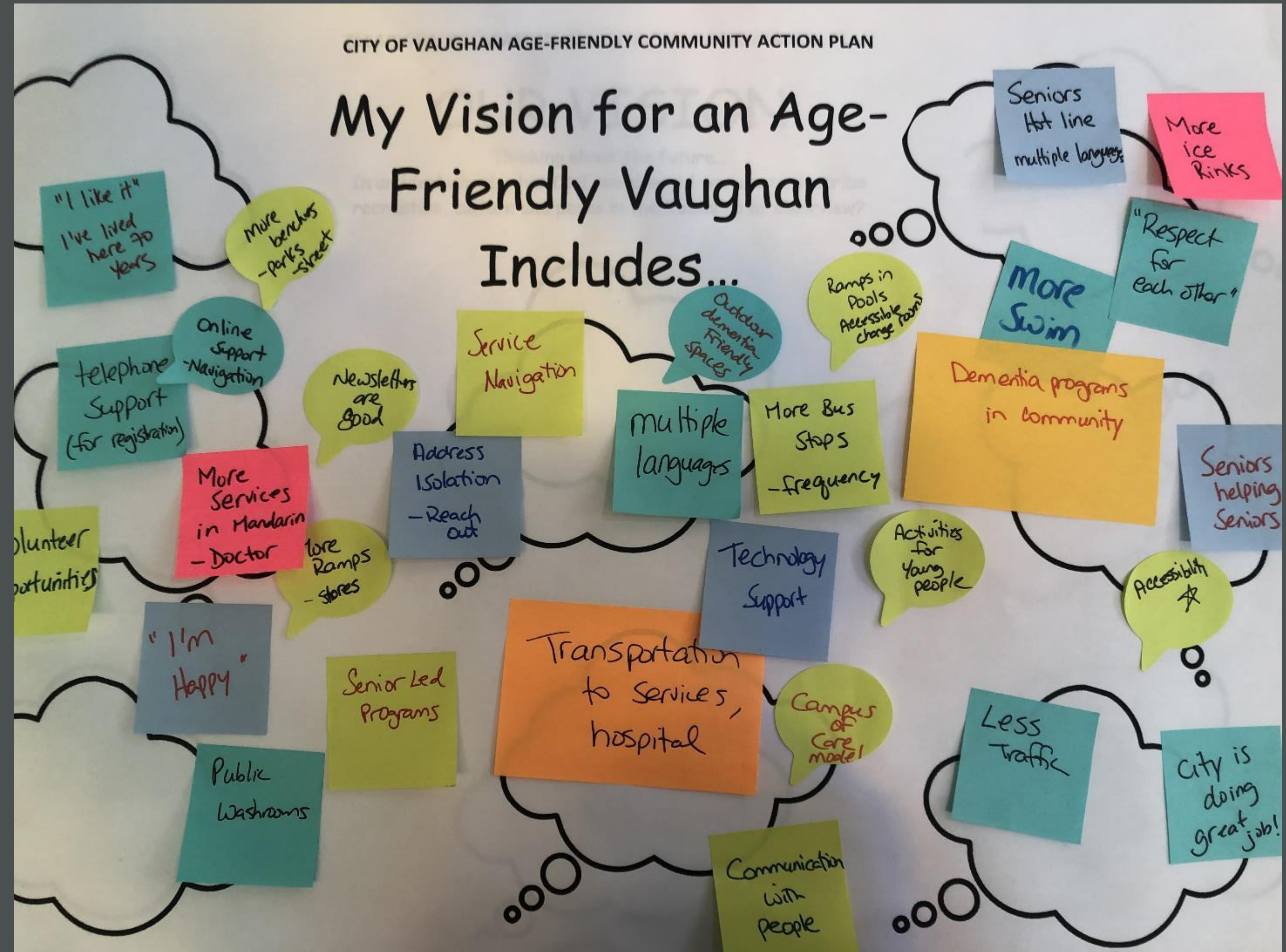
Who We Heard From

Residents
650+

Community
Groups, Clubs,
Organizations
20+

Members of
Council
9

City Staff
30+



Who We Heard From

Community Groups, Clubs, Networks, Service Providers, Partners

York Region

Vaughan
Community
Health Centre

Alzheimer's
Society

Islamic Society

Music Share

Welcome Centre

Jewish Russian
Community
Centre

Town of East
Gwillimbury

Family Services
of York Region

Caribbean
Association

United Way

South Asian
Seniors' Club

Chats

Reena

March of Dimes

Concord West
Seniors

Seniors Focus
Vaughan

First Chinese
Seniors'
Association

Human
Endeavour

Filipino Seniors
Club

Thornhill
Seniors Club

Ontario Network
Age-Friendly
Communities

Vita Community
Living Services

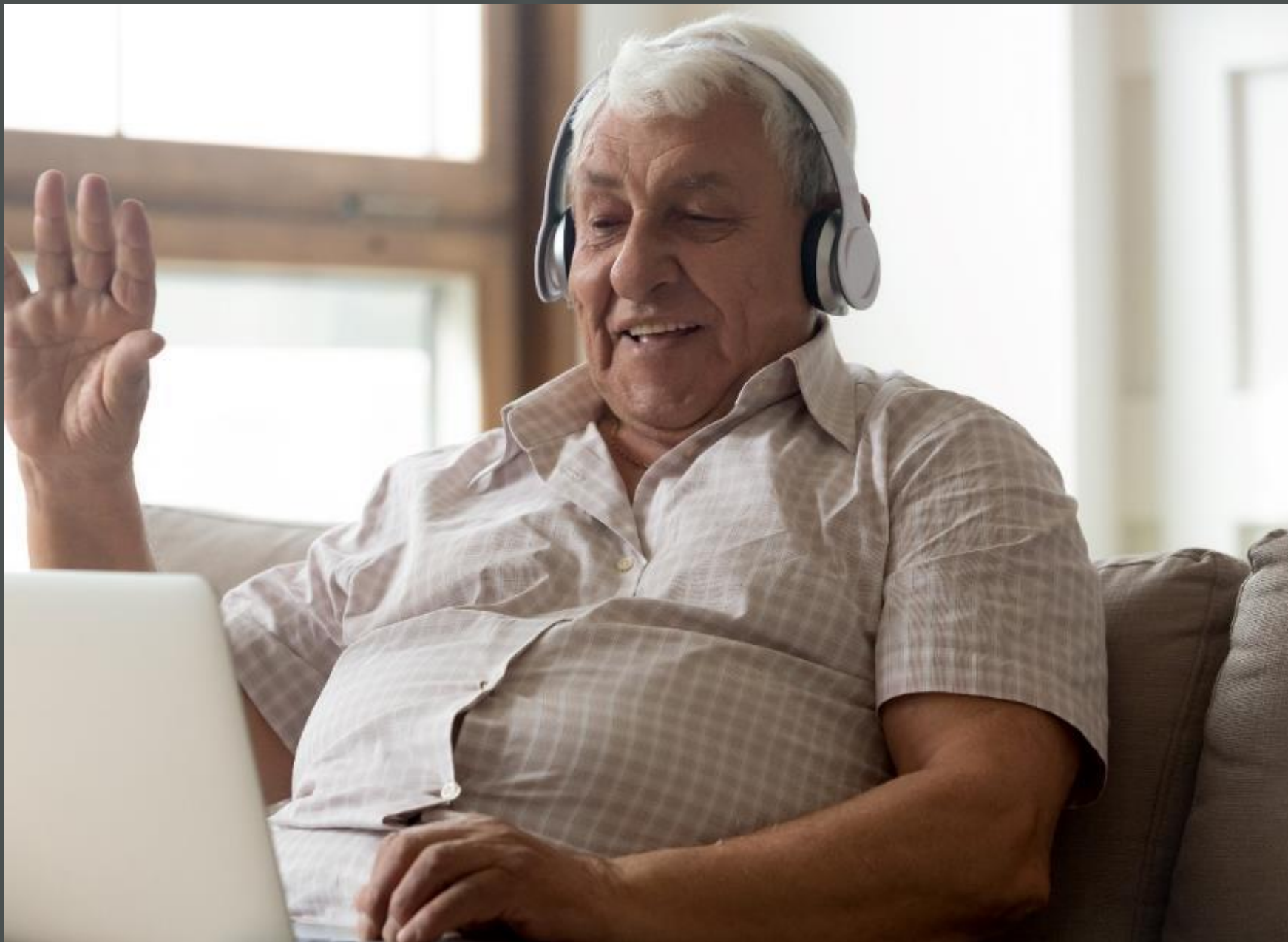
York Regional
Police

Welcome Centre

Chartwell

Vaughan Public
Libraries

United Way
Greater Toronto



City of Vaughan Age-Friendly Community Action Plan

Vision

Vaughan is a community of choice for all generations.



Principles

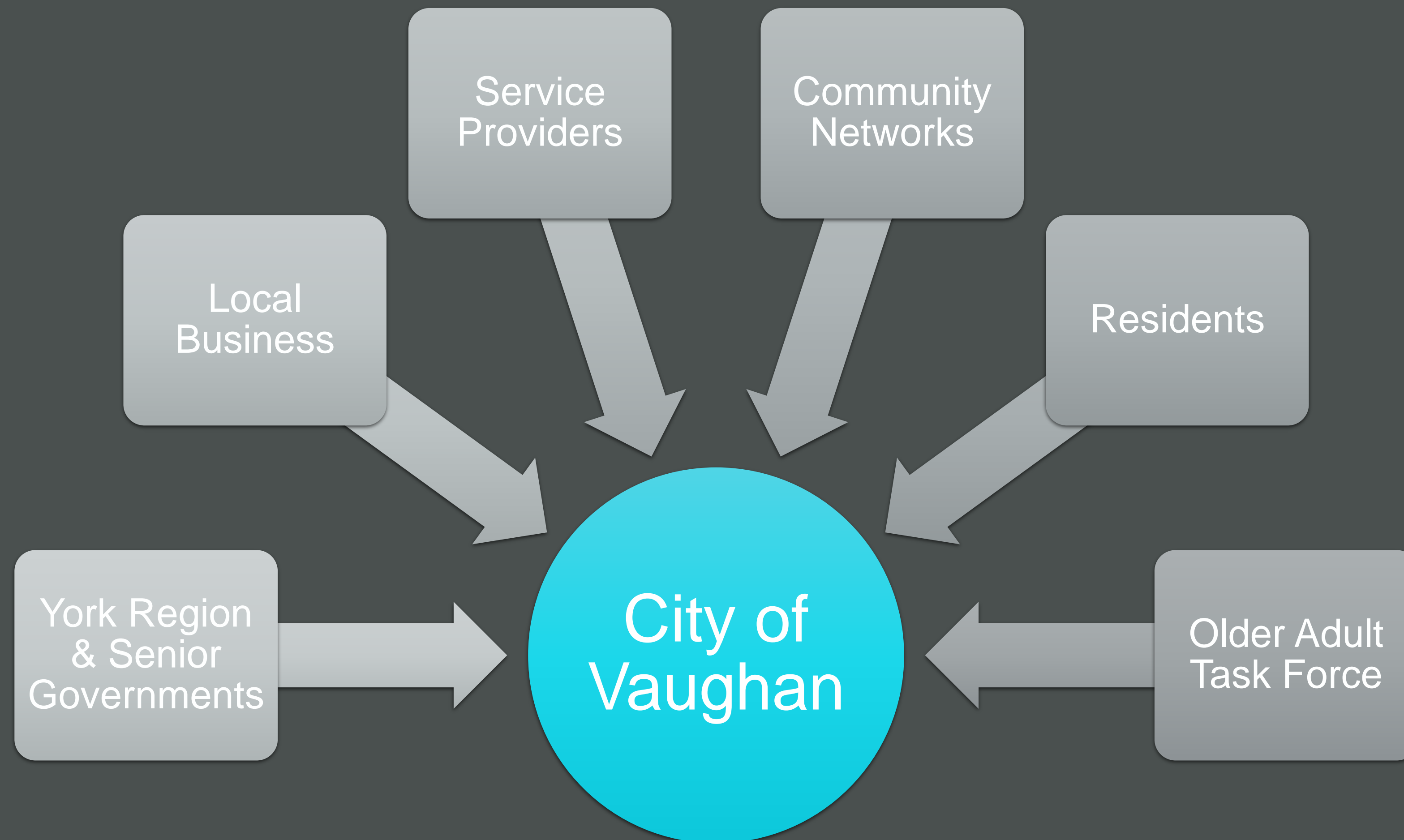
- Equity
- Collaboration
- Accountability
- Connection
- Inclusion



Objectives

- 1.To recognize the diversity of Vaughan's aging population not only in terms of age but also ability, gender, sexual orientation, culture, support needs, and income.
- 2.To support policies that create complete, accessible, and welcoming neighbourhoods.
- 3.To support independent, active, and healthy aging for all residents.
- 4.To realize a shared responsibility among community members and partners to fulfil the vision of this Plan.
- 5.To achieve recognition of the City of Vaughan as an age-friendly community through Ontario's Network of Age-Friendly Community Initiatives.

Collective Accountability



Proposed Age-Friendly Actions



Outdoor Spaces & Buildings



Transportation



Housing



Respect & Social Inclusion



Civic Participation & Employment



Communication & Information



Community Supports & Health Services



Social Participation



Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

1. Continue to explore opportunities to expand winter snow removal program
2. Continue to ensure park and open space design incorporate accessibility, safety, and recreational opportunities
3. Continue to make improvements to age-friendly street design
4. Support accessible community gardens
5. Identify opportunities to create more walkable neighbourhoods

A photograph of a person in a wheelchair, seen from the side and back, approaching a white vehicle with its door open. The person is wearing a white shirt and a patterned skirt. The background is blurred, showing greenery and a bright, sunny day.

Transportation

- 6. Continue to enhance bus stop accessibility, comfort and safety
- 7. Promote alternative transportation options
- 8. Increase awareness of transit options
- 9. Explore opportunities for needs-based transit subsidy

Housing

- 10. Establish policies to support a range of affordable and accessible housing options
- 11. Explore HomeShare program options
- 12. Increase awareness of home adaptation programs
- 13. Promote and support in-home support options





Respect & Social Inclusion

- 14. Celebrate seniors and youth through art**
- 15. Increase awareness to help combat ageism and elder abuse**
- 16. Explore integration of some local club events/programs**
- 17. Engage and partner with community organizations to identify unique and diverse needs of older adults**



Civic Participation & Employment

- 18. Promote and share volunteer and employment opportunities**
- 19. Expand age-friendly awareness among local businesses**
- 20. Engage with OATF in community planning**

Communication & Information

- 21. Expand digital access and literacy
- 22. Enhance online presence of
community information and services
- 23. Continue to create positive and
inclusive messaging and promotional
material





Community Supports & Health Services

- 24. Explore opportunities to develop a community hub
- 25. Encourage partnerships with local health care agencies

Social Participation

- 26. Continue to expand diversity of recreational programs and inter-generational programs
- 27. Explore opportunities for additional training for front line staff to support seniors
- 28. In partnership with community organizations, coordinate monthly 'Coffee Connections' for older adults



Achieving Action

- Expand membership of OATF
- Develop decision-making framework
- Establish an Age-Friendly Coordinator Role
- Prepare an Annual Report Card
- Join Ontario's Network of Age-Friendly Community Initiatives
- Explore membership to the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities
- Consider the priorities in the Age-Friendly Community Action Plan for inclusion in the 2022-2026 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan
- Conduct a 5-Year Review





Stay informed:
vaughan.ca/agefriendly

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