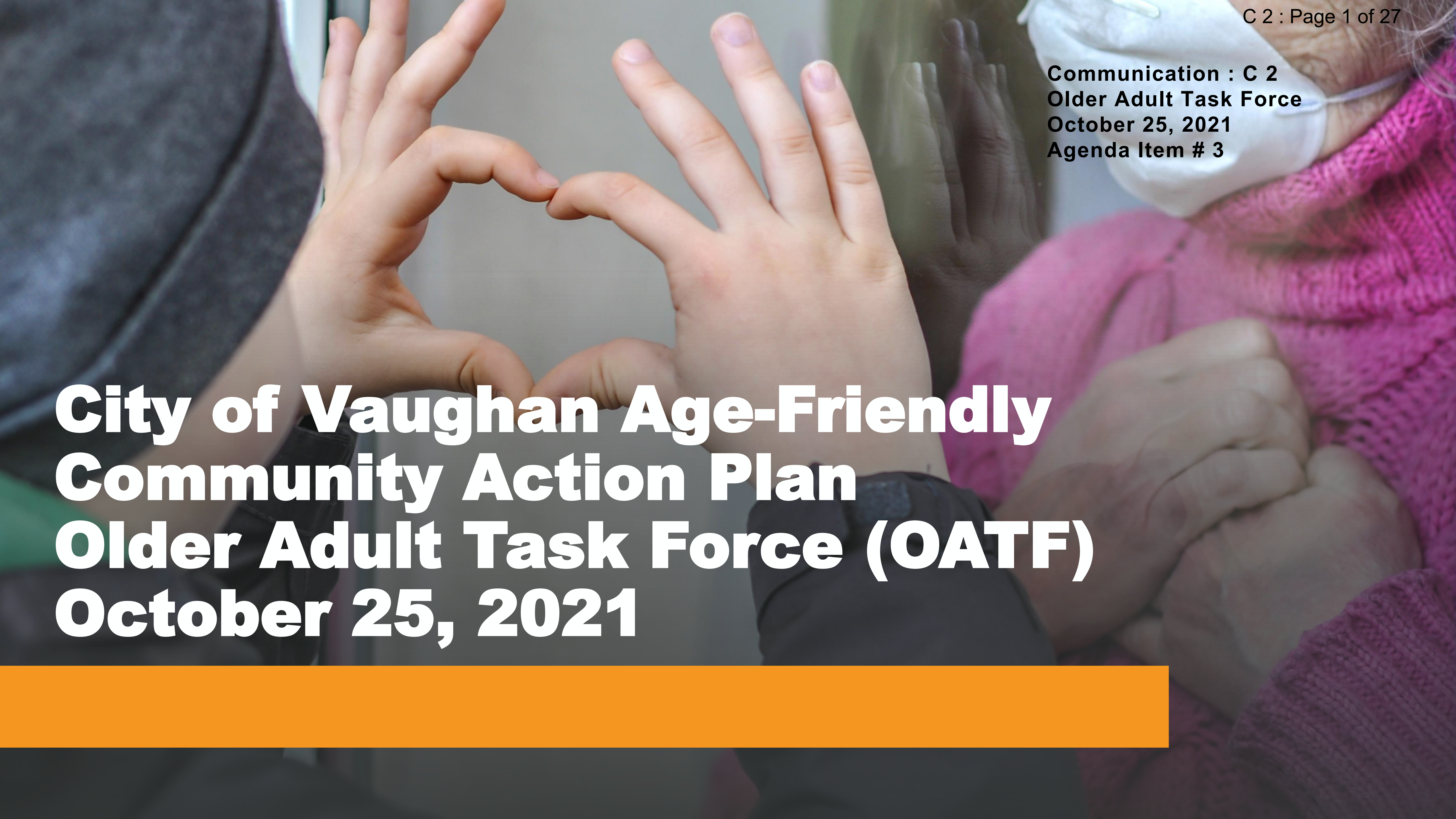


Communication : C 2
Older Adult Task Force
October 25, 2021
Agenda Item # 3

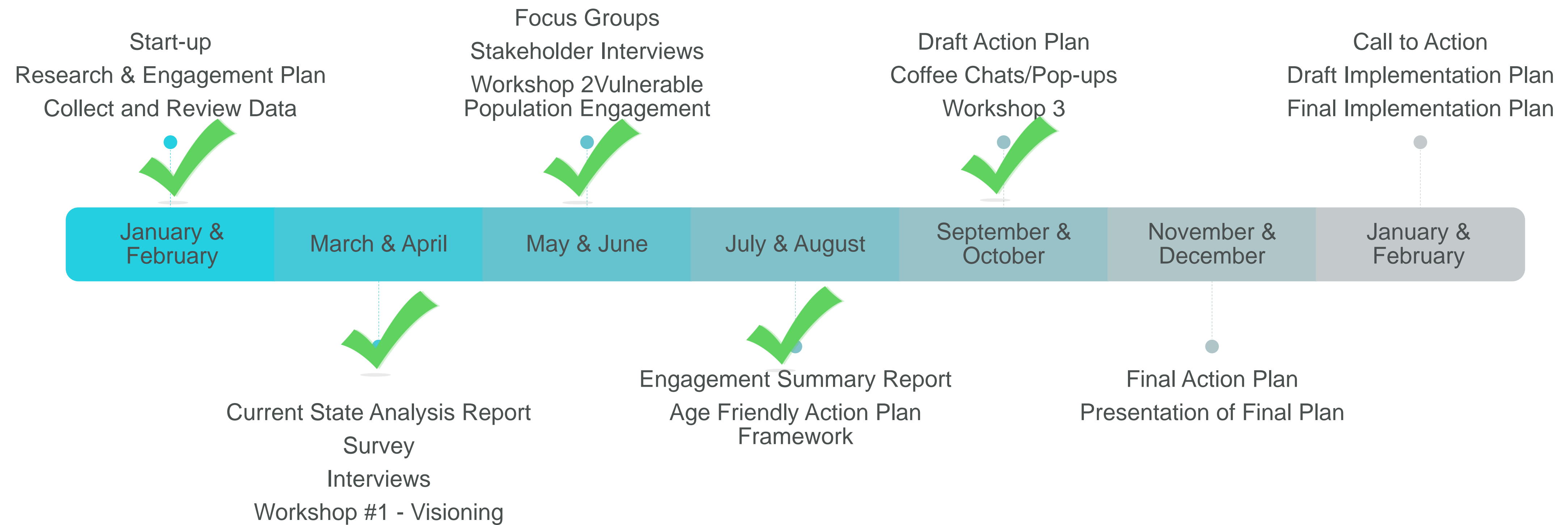


**City of Vaughan Age-Friendly
Community Action Plan
Older Adult Task Force (OATF)
October 25, 2021**

Today's Objectives

1. Project Update
2. Share Key Findings
3. Present Direction for Age-Friendly Community Plan
4. Discussion of 'Ideas for Action'

Project Status



Community Engagement Activities

- Visioning workshop (25)
- Telephone and online surveys (641)
- Interviews (31)
- Focus groups (9)(88)
- Online questionnaire (8)
- Community workshop 2 (25)
- Community Pop-Ups (30+)
- Community workshop 3 (40)



Community Outreach

1. Website (571 visits)
2. Public Service Announcements (2,400 subscribers)
3. Media coverage (Vaughan Citizen, thestar.com, yorkregion.com, Toronto.com)
4. Social media (492 likes, comments, shares)
5. Digital signs (10)
6. Mobile signs (5 – one in each ward)
7. Radio ads in top 5 languages spoken in Vaughan (236)
8. Engagement newsletter (769 recipients)
9. Vaughan Public Library Handouts (9,000)



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





What We Heard



Building on Strengths

Access to
greenspace
and parks

Great trail
system

Good transit
system

Accessible
transportation
is available

Programs to
help people in
their home

Diverse and
welcoming city

Commitment
to age-friendly
planning

Strong civic
engagement

Library is a
key resource

“Blessed to
have this
focus group to
voice our
suggestions”

Many places
are accessible

Strong health
system, many
service
locations

Wide range of
programs and
activities

Strong
community
partnerships

Strong
municipal
support for
local clubs

Identifying Challenges

Car-dependent communities

Not all trails, outdoor spaces are accessible

Crosswalk timing not long enough

Accessing transportation

Lack of affordable housing, housing choice

Many seniors do not speak English

Ageism

Seniors not as valued as they should be

Unaware of volunteer and employment opportunities

Varying levels of comfort and access to tech

Some not aware of what services, programs are available

“Everyone should be able to get the information they need”

Caregiver burnout

Isolation

Ability to access programs and services

Developing Opportunities

Enhance outdoor spaces

Create more walkable communities

Increase crosswalk timing

Align City policies with age-friendly principles

Create greater awareness of transit options

Provide transit subsidy for residents in need

Provide information in multiple languages

Increase affordable housing options

Engage seniors more in planning

“Need equity not just equality”

Create greater awareness of volunteering opportunities

“I want to feel comfortable as a senior”

Create a community hub

Increase awareness of services and programs

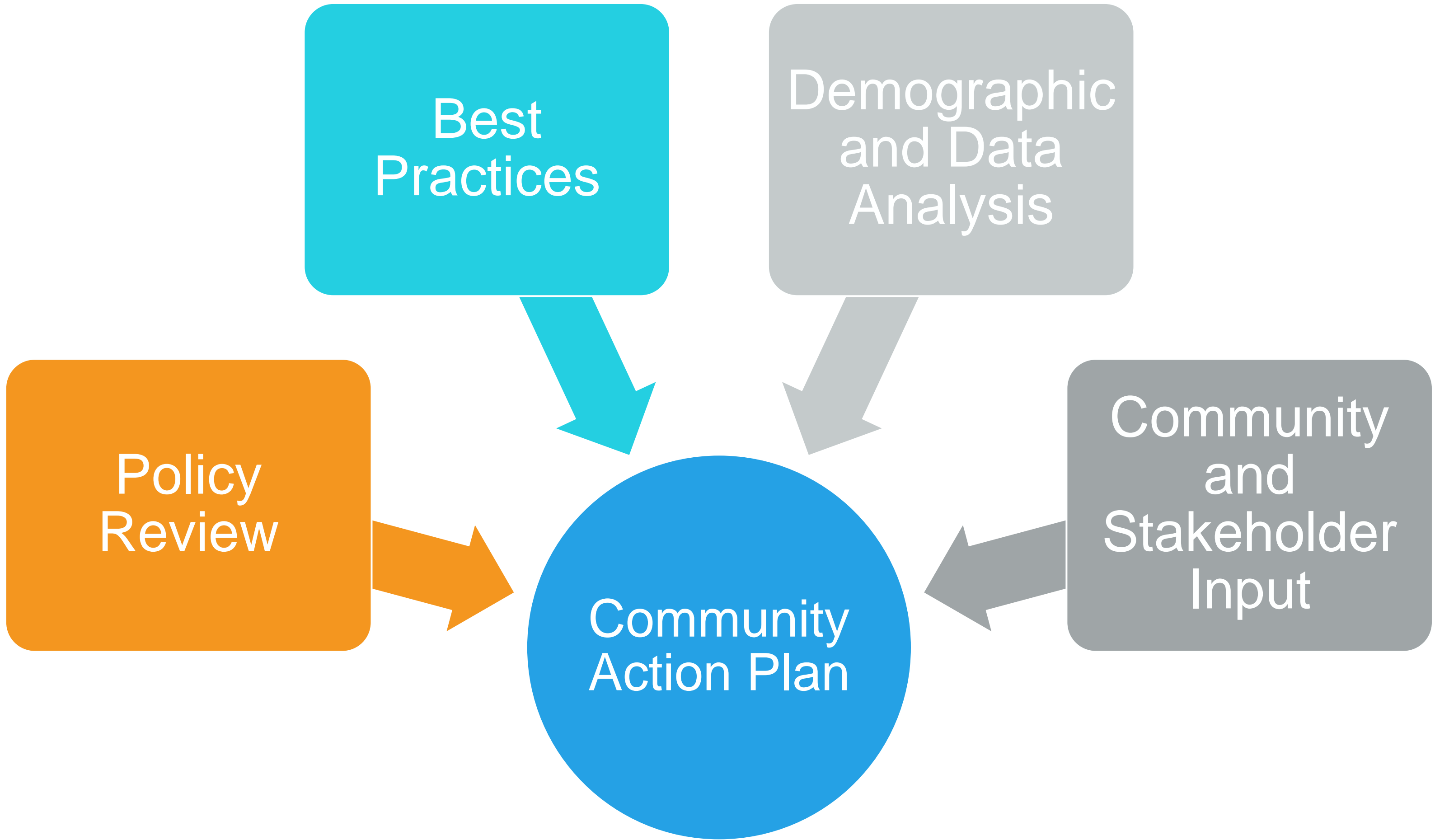
Include caregivers in planning

Emerging Priorities

- **Ensuring accessibility** in all areas of community life.
- Increasing the **range of housing choices** available to meet people's diverse needs.
- Creating greater **awareness and connection to services**.
- Ensuring all residents feel **safe, respected, and included** in the community.
- Planning our communities and spaces through the **lens of age-friendliness**.
- Providing opportunities for all residents, including older adults, to **engage** in community planning.

Age-Friendly Framework

Developing the Plan



Age-Friendly Community Action Plan: Draft Vision

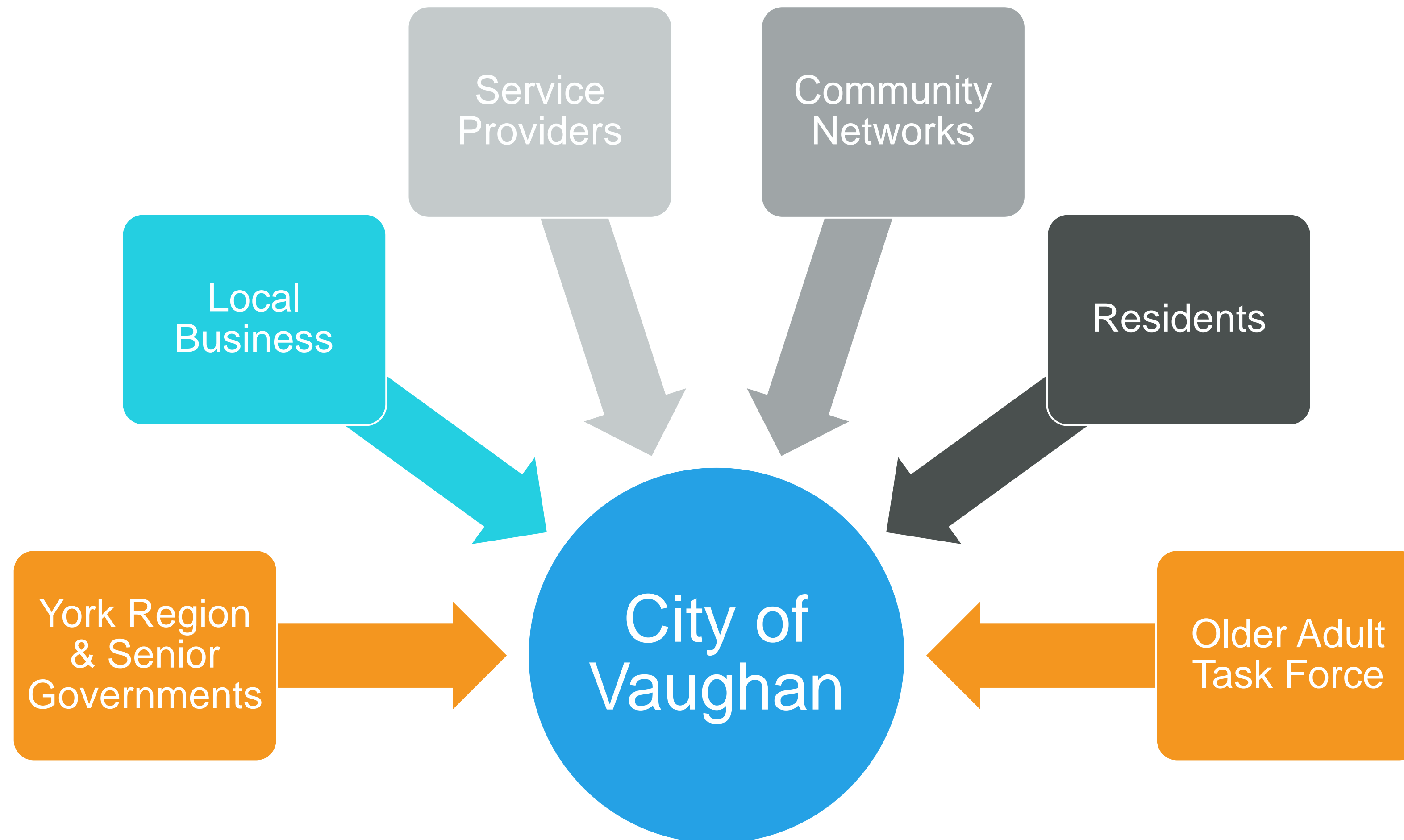
The City of Vaughan is a diverse community that is supportive, accessible, and equitable where everyone can live, work, and age well and feel a sense of belonging.



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 the Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Program, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility.

Collective Accountability



Age-Friendly Ideas for Action

Outdoor Spaces
& Buildings

Transportation

Housing

Respect & Social
Inclusion

Civic Engagement
& Employment

Community
Supports & Health
Services

Communication &
Information

Social
Participation

Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

1. Expand winter snow removal program
2. Continue to ensure park and open space design incorporate accessibility, safety, and recreational opportunities
3. Continue work to improve age-friendly street design
4. Create accessible community gardens
5. Explore opportunities for more walkable communities

A photograph showing the back of a person sitting in a wheelchair. The person is wearing a white shirt and a dark cap. They are holding the wheelchair's handle. In the background, the open door of a white bus is visible, suggesting a bus stop. The scene is brightly lit, likely outdoors.

Transportation

1. Enhance bus stop accessibility, comfort and safety
2. Increase alternative transportation options
3. Increase awareness of transit options
4. Explore transit subsidy

Housing

1. Establish policies to support a range of affordable and accessible housing options
2. Explore Home Share program options
3. Increase awareness of home adaptation, repair, and modification programs
4. Increase in-home support options





Respect & Social Inclusion

1. Celebrate seniors and youth
2. Combat ageism and elder abuse
3. Explore integration of some local club events/programs
4. Increase awareness and promotion of friendly visiting programs
5. Engage and partner with community organizations to identify unique and diverse needs of older adults

Civic Engagement & Employment

1. Share volunteer and employment opportunities
2. Expand age-friendly awareness among local businesses
3. Engage with older adults and youth in community planning



Communication & Information

1. Expand digital access and literacy
2. Establish online community service hubs
3. Create positive and inclusive messaging and promotional material
4. Develop wayfinding materials



Community & Health Supports

1. Explore development of a community hub
2. Encourage partnerships with local health care agencies



Social Participation

1. Expand diversity of recreational programs and inter-generational programs
2. Expand support to community clubs through provision of community space





Thoughts?

1. Do you support these actions? Is anything missing? What other ideas do you have?
2. What is your top priority? If we were to tackle one action, which would you choose?



Stay informed:
vaughan.ca/agefriendly

Contact us:
905-832-2281 ext. 3622

