COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

MINUTE ORDER NO. 14

SUBJECT: RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE AGING ROADMAP (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

According to population estimates from San Diego Association of Governments, of the nearly 3.3 million people currently residing in San Diego County, approximately 710,000 are adults aged 60 years and older. By 2029, the number of adults aged 60 years and older who reside in the county is expected to increase to more than 824,000. Additionally, the fastest growing age group in the county, those 85 years and older, is projected to increase from an estimated 64,850 in 2022 to 75,740 in 2029. Therefore, it is crucial that we take the needs of our region's older adults into account as we plan for the future.

Launched at the direction of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) on September 24, 2019 (4), the Aging Roadmap is the County of San Diego's (County) plan to ensure that the region has programs and communities that equitably support the needs of older adults. The Aging Roadmap serves as the County framework for aging and identifies goals and action steps in ten priority areas of: Health & Community Support; Housing; Social Participation; Transportation; Dementia; Caregiver Support; Safety; Preparedness; Silver Economy; and Medical & Social Services System.

The Aging Roadmap annual report provides an update on each of the ten priority areas to include the current landscape, accomplishments, and next steps for each priority area. The annual report also describes the programs and initiatives for Fiscal Years 2024-28 through an updated Aging Roadmap Action Plan. Today's action requests the Board receive the fifth annual report of the Aging Roadmap.

This item supports the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by supporting older adults and persons with disabilities through various programs and initiatives and ensuring a community that is livable for people of all ages. This item aligns with and advances the State of California's Master Plan for Aging, which prioritizes advancing local and statewide goals to include person-centered and equity-focused age- and disability-friendly policies, programs, and services.

RECOMMENDATION(S) CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Receive update on the Aging Roadmap.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Recognizing the increasing diversity of San Diego County's population, the Aging Roadmap represents the commitment to ensure that all residents can age well while accessing needed services, regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation.

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Principles of equity guide the County of San Diego's (County) ongoing community engagement efforts. The County Health and Human Services Agency, Aging & Independence Services (AIS) invited input from the community to share their needs and express input on issues relevant to the Aging Roadmap.

Starting in September 2023, AIS conducted 17 community feedback sessions with older adults, caregivers, persons with disabilities, and service providers across a range of topic areas and localities throughout the county. The sessions were held at senior centers, community centers, and similar locations with support from partner and service organizations. Eight of these sessions were fully open to the public while the remaining nine involved groups that had been specifically invited by the host organization (e.g., attendees of a day program for persons living with dementia, people living with disabilities). Some sessions included multi-lingual support or were conducted in a language other than English. A few examples include, Spanish interpretation services for the Congregational Tower Chula Vista community feedback session, Arabic interpretation services for the Salvation Army El Cajon community feedback session, and Arabic and Chaldean interpretation services during the Silvercrest Senior Residence community feedback session in El Cajon. Equity considerations throughout the planning process ensured that sessions would capture the voices of diverse cohorts of older adults. Attendees included people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, non-English speakers, people with disabilities, people with dementia, caregivers, refugees, people from the LGBTQI+ population, housing insecure older adults, and those living on a low-income.

By convening community coalitions, collaborating with community-based organizations, and conducting programming within diverse neighborhoods, the County ensures that the voice of the community informs the development of Aging Roadmap programs and initiatives. One example from Fiscal Year 2023-24 is the creation of a food resource guide for non-English-speaking residents who took a CalFresh Healthy Living course at the Villa Alta Apartments in City Heights. The program participants shared that they lacked awareness of community resources due to language barriers and they desired a resource guide to know where to access various food resources. As a result, a food resource guide was created, and it is now available in the eight languages spoken in that apartment complex.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's action supports the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community in meaningful ways; Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access to County services, and Sustainability Goal #4 to promote the health and well-being of everyone in the region. Specifically, the Aging Roadmap represents the County's comprehensive system of care, including both person-centered and community-wide efforts. Engaging the community through ongoing convenings with community coalitions ensures that diverse input and contributions from impacted stakeholders inform Aging Roadmap priorities. Additionally, equity and service accessibility are prioritized across all ten priority areas within the Aging Roadmap. Specific efforts that contribute to this goal include ensuring resources are available in multiple languages; closing the digital divide through resources and services offered through the Technology for Social Inclusion and Well-Being program such as iPad distribution and one-on-one, in-home instructional classes; and administering programs that keep older adults healthy and housed. Utilizing the Aging Roadmap as the guide, the County and community organizations leverage impactful partnerships to improve and expand services that contribute to the safety and well-being of older adults.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Vargas

State of California) County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Ander Poll

Signed

by Andrew Potter

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