

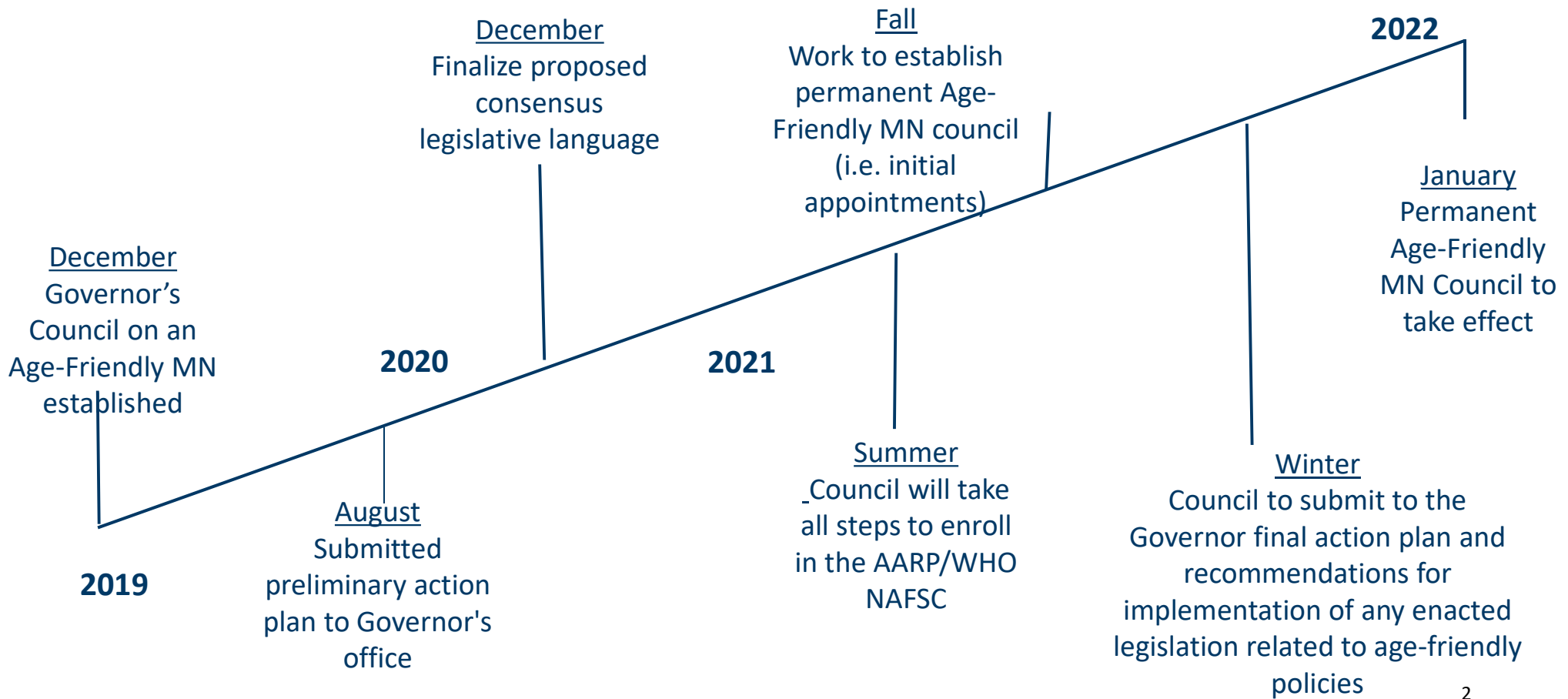
Governor's Council for an Age-Friendly MN

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AGE FRIENDLY
minnesota

Path to a Permanent Age-Friendly MN





The Promise of MN's Commitment

Subject: RELEASE: Governor Walz Signs Executive Order, Commits to Making Minnesota an 'Age-Friendly State'



Office of Governor Tim Walz &
Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Governor Walz Signs Executive Order, Commits to Making Minnesota an 'Age-Friendly State'

[ST. PAUL, MN] – Governor Tim Walz today signed [Executive Order 19-38](#), establishing the Governor's Council on an Age Friendly Minnesota and formalizing his commitment to making Minnesota the best state to live in at any age.

"Aging is a reality that we all face, whether it's our parents and grandparents, our friends and neighbors, or ourselves," said Governor Walz. **"Everyone wants to live in a community that is respectful, inclusive, and supportive of our contributions and needs. This executive order coordinates efforts across agencies and sectors to move us all toward an age-friendly Minnesota."**

There are one million older adults in Minnesota, and by 2020, the number of older adults over age 65 will exceed the number of children under age 18 living in Minnesota.

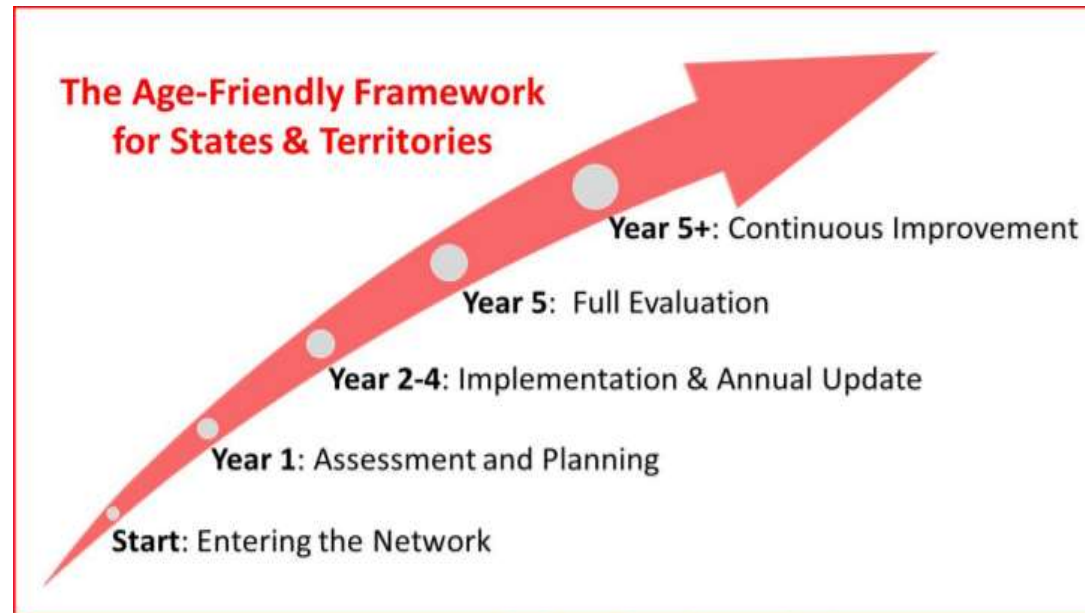


State Agencies in Age-Friendly Efforts



Recommendation #1

Support efforts for the State of Minnesota to enroll in the WHO/AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.



Recommendation #2

Champion diversity, equity, and inclusion in all age-friendly work at the outset of all issues

- Create policy and intervention strategies needed to ensure that conditions allow everyone to experience optimal health and aging.
- Recognize and treat broadband as a basic need, including for older adults
- Support the growth and statewide expansion of work with older adults across various cultural and ethnic communities, including translation services.

Recommendation #3

Provide resources and support to local communities to adopt age-friendly policies, plans, and practices.

- Communities can accomplish significant work with small seed funding to spur action.
- Create a streamlined mini-grant program.

Recommendation #4

Create a sustainable, ongoing infrastructure within the administration to support Age-Friendly Minnesota work.

- Entity whose sole purpose is to focus on Age-Friendly Minnesota must be established.
- Lead the state's overall strategy and efforts, including working across agencies to help ensure aging is being incorporated into the planning and funding decisions

Recommendation #5

Support the development of a framework and/or analytical tool that State agencies can use to analyze their policies and programs through an age-friendly lens—both an initial evaluation and ongoing analysis.

Create a mechanism designed to help State agencies ensure that age-friendly considerations are consistently integrated into policies, systems, and programs going forward.

- Opportunity to establish a “report card”.
- Establish a dashboard in year 2 of the enrollment.
- Establish metrics/dashboard comprehensively.

Recommendation #6

Establish a repository of resources to inform the Age-Friendly Minnesota process and initiative for policymakers, the public, and professionals in the world of aging

Recommend a central inventory housed at the Age-Friendly Minnesota website.

Stakeholders such as policymakers, State agencies, the public, tribal liaisons and cultural navigators, to access topics related to services, policies, research, and the Age-Friendly Minnesota initiative itself, among others.

Recommendation #7

Add emergency preparedness as a unique domain in Age-Friendly Minnesota's ongoing work.

- Assess State's current emergency plans to determine gaps, weaknesses, and opportunities in planning specifically for vulnerable older adults.

Recommendation #8

Develop a plan to integrate age-friendly work into the legislature and relevant committees

Identify how legislative proposals/priorities align and intersect with Age-Friendly Minnesota.

Any policy, budget, or other legislative support should address how it will help to reduce disparities and promote equitable conditions for all.

Supporting Livable Communities for an Age-friendly MN



Thank You!

<https://mn.gov/dhs/age-friendly-mn/>