Resolution authorizing acceptance of an American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Community Challenge grant for the purpose of assisting local businesses accommodate people using wheelchairs.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, La Crosse County has 35,000 people living with a mobility impairment; and

WHEREAS, persons with impairments struggle to access events, businesses, and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The AARP Community Challenge is an initiative that helps communities become great places to live for residents of all ages and is intended to help communities make immediate improvements and jump-start long-term progress in support of residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the City of La Crosse was accepted as a member of AARP's Age Friendly Community Network; and

WHEREAS, the local AARP affiliate, Thriving, Livable, La Crosse assisted the Planning Department to complete the AARP Community Challenge grant application and will collaborate with Planning staff and City of La Crosse Committee for Citizens with Disabilities Members to implement the grant; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse's was chosen as one of only 60 locations in the United States to receive the Community Challenge grant, from a field of 3500 applicants; and

WHEREAS, if accepted this grant will provide portable wheelchair ramps and assistance doorbells to ten businesses or organizations who do not have ADA accessible entrances which will create a more inclusive community for our residents who use a wheelchair or who encounter other mobility issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse that it hereby accepts the AARP Community Challenge grant in the amount of \$11,060 to purchase and arrange for delivery of mobility aids for area businesses or other requesting organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Planning, Development and Assessment and the Director of Finance are hereby authorized to effectuate this resolution.

I, Nikki M. Elsen, certify that this resolution was duly and officially adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse on August 12, 2021.

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Nikki M. Elsen, WCMC, City Clerk City of La Crosse, Wisconsin