



JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING AGENDA

December 16, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Zoom Only

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/81491760970?pwd=bkFwWk42Mllmazl0aFdMS3ArTG5qZz09>

Or Call In: 1-253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 814 9176 0970; Passcode:858248

- A. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**
- B. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**
- C. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- D. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 1. **2025-11-18_JCOA_Minutes - Draft**
- E. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
- F. **AGENDA TOPICS**
 - 2. **Election of Co-Chairs & Secretary**
 - a. Nomination of Linda Kruger for Co-Chair & Barb Murray for Secretary
 - b. Nomination of Deborah Craig for Co-Chair
 - c. Additional Nominations
 - 3. **2026 Strategy & Priority Identification - *see attached reports***
 - 4. **Outreach**
 - a. Follow up on CBJ Assembly HRC Annual Report Presentation from December 15
 - b. Presentation to Rotary - Deb Craig
 - c. AARP Presentation to Rotary - Linda Kruger
 - d. Website, KTOO & "Senior Moments" Monthly Article
 - 5. **Standing Agenda Topics - Main Projects/Subcommittee Updates**
 - a. Housing Subcommittee Updates
 - b. Recreation/Fitness Subcommittee Update — Marie Drake Gym Use
 - c. Age-Friendly Planning Report Updates — Submitted to AARP & CBJ
 - 6. **AARP Update - Linda Kruger**
- G. **COMMITTEE MEMBER / ASSEMBLY LIAISON COMMENTS & QUESTIONS**
- H. **NEXT MEETING DATE**
 - 7. **2026 Meeting Dates (January - March)**

JCOA Workgroups are canceled: January through March

January 20, 2026 - Regular JCOA Meeting (Guest: Minta Montalbo, CBJ CDD Senior Planner)

February 17, 2026 - Regular JCOA Meeting (Proposed Guest: Scott Ciambor CBJ CDD Planning Manager, Housing)

March 17, 2026 - Regular JCOA Meeting (Proposed Guest: SAIL w/ program reports from CCS, BRH & SEARHC)

I. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

J. ADJOURNMENT

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's Office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's Office telephone number is (907) 586-5278, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.

JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING
Meeting Minutes-Draft
November 18, 2025-ZOOM MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL-Chair Deborah Craig called the meeting to order at 3:01pm.

Present: Deborah Craig, Linda Krueger, Carol Ende, Laura Revels, Rhonda Ward, Jennifer Garrison, Barb Murray, Paul Kelly CBJ Assembly Liaison

Absent: Diane Kyser

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA-Chair Craig asked for the following amendments:

- ~**AGENDA TOPICS**-the elections will be moved to December 15
 - the guest speaker is unavailable and will be rescheduled
 - move the assembly presentation to December 15
 - add Pioneer Home Project update

~**OTHER**-approve documents

The agenda was approved as amended.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-Linda Krueger moved to accept 10-21-2025 JCOA draft meeting minutes.

Approved unanimously.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OF NON-AGENDA ITEMS-None

E. AGENDA TOPICS

1. Introduction of New JCOA Members

2. Housing Subcommittee Updates-Presentation will be rescheduled

3. Recreation/Fitness Subcommittee-Update on Marie Drake Gym Use

a. **The Marie Drake gym** usage is unclear at this point with budget changes. JCOA will continue to work with CBJ on this issue.

b. **Pioneer Home Project Update**-Chair Craig has been collaborating with the Pioneer Home and others to host residents of the Pioneer Home at the upcoming Juneau Holiday Symphony. Five residents and volunteers have been identified to attend the event. Volunteers will pay for the tickets and accompany the residents to the event. JCOA members should contact Chair Craig if they are interested in participating in any way. The event is December 15, 2pm at Thunder Mountain Middle School. Capital AKcess will provide transportation to and from the event. Chair Craig is working out the details with all of the different entities.

Paul Kelly asked about ADA cards needed for transportation with Capital AKcess. Chair Craig reported all of the participants will have their ADA cards.

4. Age-Friendly Planning Report Update-Report Due in December

~Chair Craig and Linda Krueger have worked hard with input from members to develop this progress report. The report needs to be approved by JCOA, then to CBJ for approval, once approved by CBJ the report will be submitted to AARP who will issue an extended Age Friendly Certificate. Linda proposed presenting the certificate to CBJ at the JCOA presentation/update the CBJ assembly on 12/15.

The report focuses on JCOA priority areas housing and recreation and other areas such as social participation and highlights JCOA accomplishments in the last 6 months to a year. The report educates people on Age-Friendly planning and how Juneau has become an Age-Friendly Community.

~Linda commended Bartlett Regional Hospital on being a strong age-friendly partner in the community, for employing and serving

seniors.

~Chair Craig was instrumental in starting a monthly broadcast on KTOO's a Juneau Afternoon and a monthly column in the Juneau Independent focused on communicating with the community about Senior activities and issues. This was included as an important part of the plan.

~Carol Ende commented on how well written the update/report is.

~CBJ Liaison Paul Kelly asked that Chair Craig work with CBJ on scheduling as meeting scheduling is tight. Chair Craig will work with CBJ and Liaison Kelly.

5. **Outreach: Web, KTOO and "Senior Moments"**

Chair Craig presented the Senior Moments article that Linda Krueger did a great deal of work on.

Carol Ende appreciated the acknowledgement at the end of the article for National Care Giving Day.

Carol Ende asked how can we sustain the outreach and information sharing started by Chair Craig and Linda Krueger. Ideas on sustainability include: reaching out to senior/elder writers in the community about JCOA's goals/priorities to see if they would be interested in writing articles; Information about JCOA in newsletters such as Bartlett's, Catholic Community Services, SEARHC, etc.; reinforce to elders through various communication resources that JCOA is trying to reach out and collaborate on senior services and needs; possible JCOA newsletter through CBJ.

6. **AARP Update from Linda Krueger**

*AARP is hosting a 1/2 day program in May focused on aging in Juneau.

What do we need to think about to stay in Juneau as we age?

The program will offer information, lunch and will celebrate seniors in Juneau.

*Last year AARP sponsored a workshop on accessible housing, this year AARP will shift the focus to the missing middle housing. CBJ has done a wonderful job focusing on low income housing and housing the homeless. There is a need for seniors who want to downsize or smaller homes for working class.

*AARP will host a two day workshop on alzheimers and dementia in late summer or early fall with speaker from Alzheimers of Alaska in Anchorage. One day focused on caregivers one day focused on medical professionals.

*Continue to work with Park and Recreation to schedule library walks.

F. COMMITTEE MEMBER/LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Paul Kelly, CBJ Assembly liaison provided this report:

- Lands Committee met and forwarded a slate of 5 projects to be considered by the full assembly for the Affordable Housing project.
- Committee of the Whole discussed West Douglas Master Plan and Goldbelt Dock. The committee opted not to enter into Memorandum of Agreement with Goldbelt on workforce housing and public infrastructure at this time.
- Finance Committee at last meeting reviewed the CBJ budget, no cuts at this time for city services. CBJ will look at cost saving measures in the future and will engage with community to hold interactive budget discussions.

G. OTHER ITEMS

- Chair Craig asked if there were any objections to approval of CBJ Assembly report. No objections. Approved
- Chair Craig asked if there were any objections to presenting AARP Age Friendly Plan at December 15 Assembly meeting. No objections. Approved
- Chair Craig asked for approval of Senior Moment article. No objections. Approved.

H. NEXT MEETING

December 16: JCOA Regular Meeting-Elections

2026 Strategy and Priority Identification

CHAIR CRAIG ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 4:01PM



JUNEAU AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN Progress Report December 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Juneau joined the Age Friendly Network in late 2022 and submitted their plan June 2025 as a joint effort between the Juneau Commission on Aging and the AARP Juneau Community Action Team, as well as engaging many community partners. This plan was submitted to the City and Borough of Juneau for consideration during their multiyear Comprehensive Planning process that began this year. Our goal is to weave senior/elder considerations into all phases of our community planning processes as we implement this Age Friendly Plan.

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LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM MAYOR OF JUNEAU



Office of the Mayor
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
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Beth.Weldon@juneau.gov

Ms. Teresa Holt
AARP Alaska State Director
3601 C Street Suite 1420
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

November 20, 2025

Dear Ms. Holt,

As Mayor of the City and Borough of Juneau, I am writing to support the Juneau Commission on Aging and AARP Community Action Team's efforts to implement an Age Friendly Community Plan, as well as acknowledge the attached Juneau Age Friendly Community Plan Progress Report.

The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) is currently engaged in a community wide Comprehensive Plan, and we welcome these additional efforts to complement and ensure we develop a Comprehensive Plan that is inclusive to all, including our fastest growing age cohort in Alaska: seniors.

In our effort to be a more livable community, we support efforts to ensure Juneau remains a great place to live for people of all ages. We strive to ensure safe, walkable streets, affordable housing, safe transportation options, access to needed services and opportunities so that residents of all ages can participate in an active, welcoming, supportive and enriching community.

Thank you for the opportunity to join the Age Friendly Network and promote these efforts through the Age Friendly Juneau Community Plan.

Sincerely,

Beth Weldon
Mayor

WELCOME TO JUNEAU

Alaska's capital is a land locked southeast coastal rainforest community located in a unique geographical area surrounded by glaciers, mountains, and tidal waters. The Tlingit people and their clans were well established and actively trading in Southeast Alaska when European explorers made their first advances into the Gastineau Channel in the 1700s. The A'akw and T'aaiu Kwáan maintained thriving villages in the Juneau, Auke Bay, Douglas and Taku River area for over 750 years.



In the late 1800s rumors of gold findings lured prospectors to the Gastineau Channel and in 1880 and 1881 Juneau and Douglas were founded as townships. Soon Douglas was operating one of the world's largest hard rock gold mines. By the mid-1900s, Juneau was operating three mines and became the capital of the territory. It was also a travel and trading hub in and out of Alaska with regular Canadian Pacific Steamship arrivals and departures. In the 1920s Filipino workers were brought to Juneau to work in the mines, and the canneries and many stayed and married contributing to our community and cultural fabric.

Alaska achieved statehood in 1959 and Juneau became the capital of the 49th state. Today, the City and Borough of Juneau is the second largest (square miles) municipality in the United States and is a vibrant and diverse multicultural city of about 32,000 people. Our Capitol conducts state business and houses the legislature from January-May.



Alaska has always experienced surging economic periods: fur trade, gold, fisheries, military, oil and gas and now tourism. Over a million summer visitors contribute to the tourism industry and experience our rich wilderness and cultural experiences. Regional and local Native Corporations headquartered in Juneau benefit tribal citizens and share native culture and history. Two productive mines operate outside the city.



The University of Alaska Juneau offers advanced education with about 3000 students actively attending classes. Additionally, Juneau has an active parks and recreation program, a robust boating community with four harbors and houses the third largest fishing fleet in Southeast Alaska.

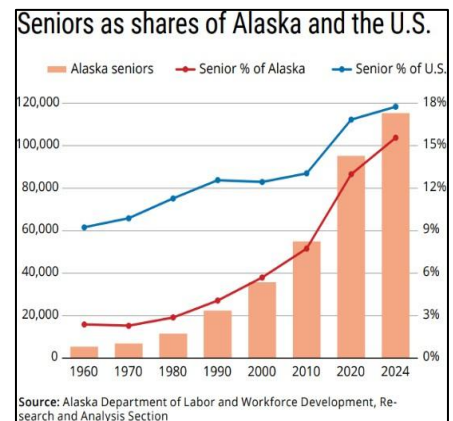
Juneau continues to be home to a diverse community of Alaska Natives, Filipinos, South Pacific Islanders, African Americans, as well as a magnet for young people seeking adventure and has become the home of a high number of active,

healthy seniors. Almost 30% of Juneau’s residents are over 55. Juneau’s seniors tend to be homeowners, active in the community and contribute to the community both financially and as volunteers.



COMMUNITY PROFILE

The number of Alaskans 65 and older has skyrocketed over the last decade and a half, continuing to rise even as youth and working-age populations have declined. Today, seniors play a bigger role in Alaska than they ever have. Alaska has always been a young state and this shift toward an older population is one of the ways Alaska has begun to look more like the rest of the country. The highest concentration of seniors is in Southeast Alaska and Juneau is the largest Southeast community. Juneau’s Senior population (60+) has steadily grown 39% (3.3% annually) between 2012 and 2021. There are 11,494 seniors 50+ living in Juneau and 3,997 are AARP members.



Juneau Commission on Aging 2020 SENIOR SURVEY FINDINGS

Seniors are healthier and better off than in previous survey years:

- 28.7% of Juneau residents are 55 and older**
- 84% own their own homes and pay taxes
- 80-90% (depending on age) drive their own cars
- 63% volunteer in the community
- 95% over 65 have Medicare Insurance
- 66% over 65 have State of Alaska Retirement
- 40% have Long Term Care Insurance
- 42-46% (depending on age) take continuing education classes (UAS/CS)
- 72 – 84% (depending on age) recreate weekly (walking, hiking, swimming, biking, gyms, skiing)

** AKDOL has updated this figure to 30% in 2023

The City and Borough of Juneau provides funding for a Senior Survey every decade via the Juneau Commission on Aging. In 2020, the JCOA reached out to a broad swath of the community for the fourth Senior Survey in 40 years and found that seniors are a growing demographic and are doing generally well due to a number of factors. This data was critical to understanding our status, issues and needs in community.

JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING (JCOA)

The City and Borough of Juneau Assembly appoints the Juneau Commission on Aging with nine volunteers representing elders and relevant senior organizations in the community. The JCOA is charged with advocating for Seniors within the community and reporting to the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly at least annually.

JCOA VALUE STATEMENTS

- ❖ **Inclusion:** We value our community’s diversity and strive to create a welcoming environment where all residents, regardless of age or ability, can thrive.
- ❖ **Equity:** We are committed to addressing systemic disparities and ensuring that resources, opportunities, and programs are accessible to all, particularly marginalized and underserved groups.
- ❖ **Collaboration:** We believe in the power of partnerships and work collectively with residents, organizations, and policymakers to create sustainable solutions.
- ❖ **Empowerment:** We aim to empower individuals through education, resources, and opportunities, enabling them to lead fulfilling, independent, and connected lives.
- ❖ **Innovation:** We embrace creative approaches and adaptive strategies to address the evolving needs of our community.
- ❖ **Sustainability:** We prioritize long-term impact and resilience, ensuring the success of age- and *ability-friendly initiatives for generations to come.*

The JCOA had been proactive about reaching out to the community via a website (see sample right), a monthly radio show highlighting senior activities and a monthly newspaper article entitled “Senior Moments”.



JUNEAU AGE FRIENDLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HOW DID YOUR ORGANIZATION FACILITATE AGE FRIENDLY?

How was the AF process structured and organized? Detail leadership team and how it evolved. Identify organizations and stakeholders, and how residents engaged. Describe methods used to implement.

The JCOA represents and collaborates with both volunteer seniors and senior oriented community organizations. Organizations represented included the senior services grantee, Catholic Community Services, tribal representative Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) and AARP. Stakeholders included SE Alaska Regional Health Consortium and Bartlett Regional Hospital (who later joined the JCOA as appointed members).

The JCOA 2020 Annual Senior Survey (see Page 5) provided a robust picture of senior status and needs. The AARP provided additional outreach to seniors that complemented the Survey and provided up to the minute data, as well as including AARP Age Friendly Senior Data Sets describing Age Friendly elements of our specific community.

The AARP CAT and the Juneau Commission on Aging teamed up to write the Juneau Age Friendly Community Plan and then submitted the plan to the City and Borough of Juneau for consideration and inclusion in the CBJ Comprehensive Plan currently in the process of being written. This partnership has resulted in meetings with the CBJ Planning Team and discussion of how our recommendations fit into the overall plan of the CBJ going forward.

The Juneau Commission on Aging and the AARP Juneau Community Action Team welcome everyone in the community to join with us as we advance these priority action items. Becoming an Age-Friendly Community provides an opportunity and a responsibility for each of us to do what we can to promote the ideas described in the following pages. That said, our overarching philosophy is that inclusion of our recommendations into the long term CBJ Comprehensive Plan would assure increased likelihood of continuation of Age Friendly concepts into the future.

WHAT DID AGE FRIENDLY PLANNING ACCOMPLISH?

What are you most proud of This Year?

Name three key accomplishments. Of the Eight Domains of Livability, we are focusing on Housing, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, and Respect and Social Inclusion as our highest priorities but also played a role in contributing in many ways to the other domains.

One of our key accomplishments that we are most proud of is that the Age Friendly Plan was prepared and submitted to both the AARP and the CBJ Community Planning Department. This required gathering information and input from a large array of resources and community members, culminating in a document that comprehensively represents Juneau seniors.

DOMAIN: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Concept: Availability of safe, public, recreational facilities.

Community members have long expressed the continuing need for a Community Senior Activity Center with fitness center/gym and meeting spaces for classes and gatherings in a central location. To that end, the JCOA and AARP strongly advocated for use of the Marie Drake Complex with an indoor walking track. This effort is ongoing and has resulted in improved access at a valley location but we continue to work toward a more centralized Center that will serve a broader population. Community members expressed interest in the Dimond Park Fieldhouse and CBJ responded by adding an ADA compliant elevator. AARP completed a Walk Audit and facilitated Walks to the Library

DOMAIN: Transportation

Concept: Safe and affordable modes of private and public transportation.

Community members long expressed a desire for improved Capital AKcess (Care-A-Van) and, unfortunately, the contract for this service changed in November 2025 resulting in reduced service. While out of our control, we used our media resources to ensure the public was aware of this change in service.

DOMAIN: Housing

Concept: Availability of home modification programs for aging in place, as well as range of Age-Friendly housing options.

Community members expressed a desire for Age Friendly, affordable, first floor or accessible units. The AARP CAT successfully obtained a grant for RL Mace Universal Design Institute who provided a community forum In August 2025 on Universal Design and Multigenerational Housing that included CBJ Community Development Staff. In light of our advocacy for Senior Age Friendly Housing JCOA and AARP Leads were also invited to a CBJ Housing Forum in November of 2025 to ensure senior needs were included in planning for Code Changes to the CBJ Building Code. At this meeting, the CBJ revealed that permits related to Accessory Dwelling Units had been upgraded and expanded to further assist seniors (and others) with adding ADU's to their home.

It is noteworthy that Juneau voted to lower property taxes which is a benefit for seniors who own homes but unfortunately, it may eliminate funding for other housing and recreational opportunities. AARP also distributed copies of the AARP Home Fit Guide at many of these venues.

DOMAIN: Social participation

Concept: Access to leisure and cultural activities, including opportunities for older residents to socialize and engage with their peers as well as with younger people.

Community members expressed interest in both an Office of Aging within CBJ, a Community Senior Activity Center (discussed above Outdoor Spaces). Despite the difficulty with having a permanent space, we sponsored or co facilitated several senior activities. AARP co-sponsored Walk Southeast and Walk to the Library, the Piano Music Series, Juneau Community Band Concerts. JCOA

sponsors a Monday Mah Jongg Meeting and facilitated a Senior Friend Project with the Juneau Pioneer's Home with a several Pioneer Home resident matched and hosted by a volunteer community members at the Juneau Holiday Symphony.

DOMAIN: Respect and Inclusion

Concept: Programs that promote ethnic and cultural diversity, as well as multigenerational interaction and dialogue.

Community members expressed a desire for an Office of Aging within CBJ to promote and advance inclusive senior programs and issues. This remains a future priority for consideration.

DOMAIN: Communication and Information

Concept: Access to communications technology and other resources so older residents can connect with their community, friends and family.

Over the last year, JCOA and AARP have increased outreach and mechanisms for information sharing by developing a JCOA Website <https://juneau.org/clerk/boards-committees/jcoa> that has become a focal point for referring to during our monthly radio slot on Juneau's Public Radio Station - KTOO Juneau Afternoon Program. JCOA are hosting a monthly column in the local newspaper "Senior Moments" to highlight our activities and issues of concern. JCOA and AARP have also made presentations to local Rotary Groups.

DOMAIN: Community and Health Services

Concept: Access to home-based care services, health clinics and programs that promote wellness and active aging.

It is noteworthy that Bartlett Regional Hospital (BRH) became to first community hospital in Alaska to receive Age-Friendly Health Care System Level 1 Designation from the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*, the *Institute of Healthcare Improvement*, and the *American Hospital Association Collaboration* by adopting Age-Friendly Health Care concept. JCOA is also working with Catholic Community Services in light of their challenges in providing Senior Meals and Meals on Wheels. There is a need for an upgraded commercial kitchen and we are advocating for use of space at the Marie Drake Complex that is currently not available to the public.

DOMAIN: Work and Civic Engagement

Concept: Paid work and volunteer activities for older residents and opportunities to engage in formulation of policies relevant to their lives.

While not one of our top priorities, the JCOA maintains a space on our website for volunteer opportunities for seniors. Bartlett Regional Hospital also signed the AARP Employer Pledge - affirming the value of experienced workers and a commitment to developing a diverse organization.

WHAT WAS LEARNED?

What were your challenges, benefits, successful practices, opportunities to leverage and outreach to diverse partners?

The first challenge was to ensure the community was engaged in the process of planning and the JCOA/AARP team effected a robust outreach process that included developing a website, providing regular presentations on the radio, providing presentations to local groups such as Rotary and writing a monthly newspaper column to ensure Seniors 1) are aware of the activities and 2) have an opportunity to participate. We also learned that being nimble is an important quality to ensure we can adjust to unexpected opportunities or challenges. These practices were found to be both beneficial for the public and a successful practice for our team. These opportunities also allowed us to connect to diverse partners across the community.

WHAT ARE NEXT STEPS?

How will you build upon accomplishments, share new opportunities to tackle, have your mission vision and values evolved? Describe future aspirations.

We are continuing to use our outreach venues to connect to the public and with our newfound visibility, we are able to expand on our original mission and be more inclusive as issues arise. For example, Transportation was not one of our priorities until the senior transportation system was changed and we were able to use our outreach to ensure seniors across the community were made aware of the changes that would impact their access to transportation.

We have also accomplished one of our key goals – creating the Juneau Age Friendly Community Plan and we will continue to ensure it is integrated into our CBJ Comprehensive Plan while also refocusing on other key issues such as housing, wellness/recreation and transportation. Lastly, we will continue to work collaboratively with AARP, as well as our community stakeholders to ensure that senior voices are heard throughout our community.



JUNEAU AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN JUNE 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Juneau joined the Age Friendly Network in late 2023 and we are proud to submit our plan. The plan has been prepared as a joint effort of the Juneau AARP Community Action Team and the Juneau Commission on Aging, who engaged many community partners. This plan will be submitted to the City and Borough of Juneau for consideration during their five-year Comprehensive Planning process that began this year. Our goal is to weave senior/elder considerations into all phases of our community planning processes as we implement this Age Friendly Plan.

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Office of the Mayor
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Ms. Teresa Holt
AARP Alaska State Director
3601 C Street Suite 1420
Anchorage, Alaska, 99503

June 10, 2025

Dear Ms. Holt,

As Mayor of the City and Borough of Juneau, I am writing to support the Juneau Commission on Aging and AARP Community Action Team's efforts to implement an Age Friendly Community Plan. The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) is currently engaged in a community wide Comprehensive Plan, and we welcome these additional efforts to complement and ensure we develop a Comprehensive Plan that is inclusive to all, including our fastest growing age cohort in Alaska: seniors.

Every ten years, the CBJ, in partnership with the Juneau Commission on Aging, completes a Senior Survey to help us better understand our Seniors' status and needs. Our latest Survey, in 2020, affirmed that Seniors are robust, contributing partners in our community but there are several areas in which we could help make our community more Age Friendly. The AARP CAT Team also reached out to the Senior community on multiple occasions to further assess our ongoing needs. These multiple efforts resulted in the attached Plan.

In our effort to be a more livable community, we support efforts to ensure Juneau remains a great place to live for people of all ages. We strive to ensure safe, walkable streets, affordable housing, safe transportation options, access to needed services and opportunities so that residents of all ages can participate in an active, welcoming, supportive and enriching community.

Thank you for the opportunity to join the Age Friendly Network and promote these efforts through the Age Friendly Juneau Community Plan.

Sincerely,

Beth Weldon
Mayor

WELCOME TO JUNEAU

Alaska's capital is a land locked southeast coastal rainforest community located in a unique geographical area surrounded by glaciers, mountains, and tidal waters.

The Tlingit people and their clans were well established and actively trading in Southeast Alaska when European explorers made their first advances into the Gastineau Channel in the 1700s. The A'akw and T'aaiu Kwáan maintained thriving villages in the Juneau, Auke Bay, Douglas and Taku River area for over 750 years.



In the late 1800s rumors of gold findings lured prospectors to the Gastineau Channel and in 1880 and 1881 Juneau and Douglas were founded as townships. Soon Douglas was operating one of the world's largest hard rock gold mines. By the mid-1900s, Juneau was operating three mines and became the capital of the territory. It was also a travel and trading hub in and out of Alaska with regular Canadian Pacific Steamship arrivals and departures. In the 1920s Filipino workers were brought to Juneau to work in the mines, and the canneries and many stayed and married contributing to our community and cultural fabric.



Alaska achieved statehood in 1959 and Juneau became the capital of the 49th state. Today, the City and Borough of Juneau is the second largest (square miles) municipality in the United States and is a vibrant and diverse multicultural city of about 32,000 people. Our Capitol conducts state business and houses the legislature from January-May.

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and now tourism. Over a million summer visitors contribute to the tourism industry and experience our rich wilderness and cultural experiences. Regional and local Native Corporations headquartered in Juneau benefit tribal citizens and share native culture and history. Two productive mines operate outside the city. The University of Alaska Juneau offers advanced education with about 3000 students actively attending classes. Additionally, Juneau has an active parks and recreation program, a robust boating community with four harbors and houses the third largest fishing fleet in Southeast Alaska.

Juneau continues to be home to a diverse community of Alaska Natives, Filipinos, South Pacific Islanders, African Americans, as well as a magnet for young people seeking adventure and has become the home of a high number of active, healthy seniors. Almost 30% of Juneau’s residents are over 55. Juneau’s seniors tend to be homeowners, active in the community and contribute to the community both financially and as volunteers.



CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK General Information Boards & Committees MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS Contact Us

JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING – JCOA

Empowering Juneau's Seniors

JCOA's mandate is to advise the CBJ Assembly on actions and policies that improve the quality of life for seniors. Our mission is to provide CBJ with proactive, coordinated, culturally sensitive and holistic strategies to support Juneau seniors' unique needs as we age in this community we love and call home.

- SENIOR SERVICES IN ALASKA & JUNEAU
- JCOA PRIORITIES
- JUNEAU SENIOR SURVEY
- AGE-FRIENDLY PLANNING
- SENIOR PROFILES
- COMMISSIONERS
- CALENDAR / CONTACT US
- VOLUNTEERS
- ACTIVITIES

Get out and play! Visit a friend!

Aging! So cool, everyone is doing it!

The City and Borough of Juneau reinstated the Juneau Assembly appointed Commission on Aging (JCOA) in 2017 to continue the early work of advocating for Seniors within the community and to provide a dedicated website for disseminating senior-specific news:

<https://juneau.org/clerk/boards-committees/jcoa>

The JCOA also provides monthly updates to the community on the local Public Radio Station, KTOO-FM, during the “Juneau Afternoon” Radio show.

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES



MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to support a community where all people live with dignity and purpose and are able to fulfill their goals and dreams in an inclusive, equitable, age- and ability-friendly Juneau.

VISION: Juneau is a livable vibrant community that is safe and accessible, and supports age- and ability-friendly actions by empowering residents, fostering collaboration, and implementing innovative strategies that enhance accessibility, social connection, and quality of life for individuals of all ages and abilities.



VALUE STATEMENTS



Inclusion: We value our community's diversity and strive to create a welcoming environment where all residents, regardless of age or ability, can thrive.

Equity: We are committed to addressing systemic disparities and ensuring that resources, opportunities, and programs are accessible to all, particularly marginalized and underserved groups.

Collaboration: We believe in the power of partnerships and work collectively with residents, organizations, and policymakers to create sustainable solutions.

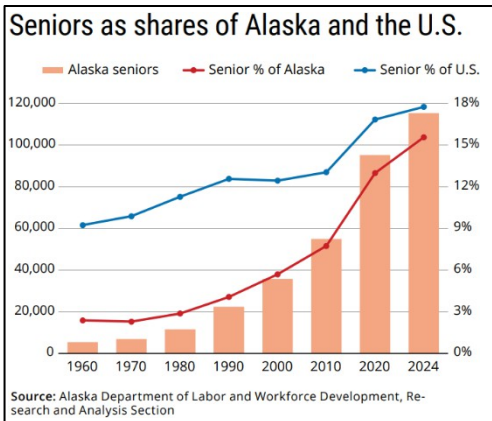
Empowerment: We aim to empower individuals through education, resources, and opportunities, enabling them to lead fulfilling, independent, and connected lives.

Innovation: We embrace creative approaches and adaptive strategies to address the evolving needs of our community.

Sustainability: We prioritize long-term impact and resilience, ensuring the success of age- and ability-friendly initiatives for generations to come.



COMMUNITY PROFILE



The number of Alaskans 65 and older has skyrocketed over the last decade and a half, continuing to rise even as youth and working-age populations have declined. Today, seniors play a bigger role in Alaska than they ever have. Alaska has always been a young state and this shift toward an older population is one of the ways Alaska has begun to look more like the rest of the country. The highest concentration of seniors is in Southeast Alaska and Juneau is the largest Southeast community. Juneau’s Senior population (60+) has steadily grown 39% (3.3% annually) between 2012 and 2021. There are 11,494 seniors 50+ living in Juneau and 3,997 are AARP members.

Juneau Commission on Aging 2020 SENIOR SURVEY FINDINGS

Seniors are healthier and better off than in previous survey years:

- 28.7% of Juneau residents are 55 and older**
- 84% own their own homes and pay taxes
- 80-90% (depending on age) drive their own cars
- 63% volunteer in the community
- 95% over 65 have Medicare Insurance
- 66% over 65 have State of Alaska Retirement
- 40% have Long Term Care Insurance
- 42-46% (depending on age) take continuing education classes (UAS/CS)
- 72 – 84% (depending on age) recreate weekly (walking, hiking, swimming, biking, gyms, skiing)

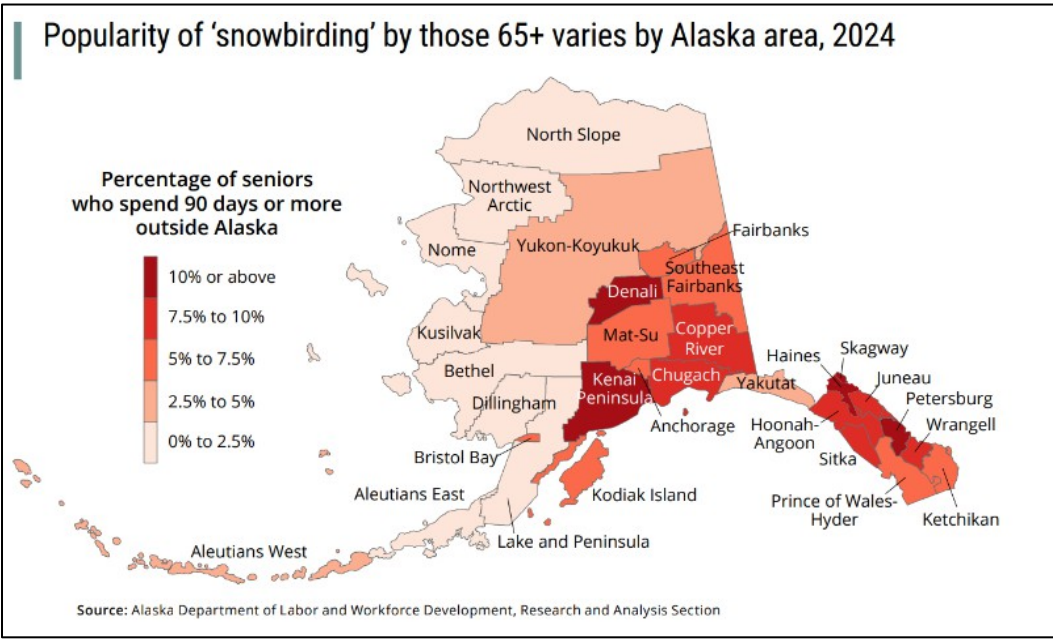
** AKDOL has updated this figure to 30% in 2023



The City and Borough of Juneau facilitates a Senior Survey every decade via the Juneau Commission on Aging. In 2020, the JCOA reached out to a broad swath of the community for the fourth Senior Survey in 40 years and found that seniors are a growing demographic and are doing generally well due to a number of factors.

“It’s a common perception that Alaska retirees move south for warmer weather or the services they can’t get in Alaska. The massive growth in the 65-plus population puts to rest the idea that they all flee after retirement — but given Alaska’s 12-year streak of negative net migration, that raises the

question: How much has the larger elder population contributed to the overall outflow? People relocate less as they get older and while seniors have always been a low percentage of movers, they have increasingly influenced net migration numbers in recent years.” (Alaska DOLWD)

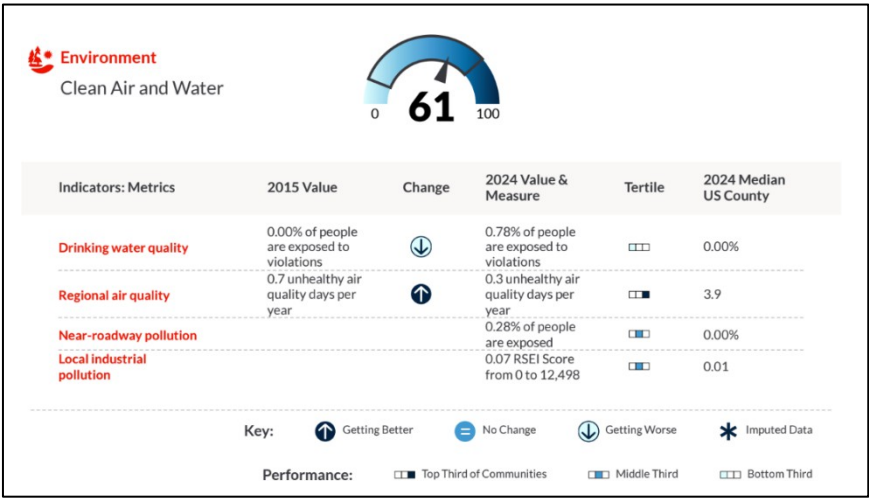


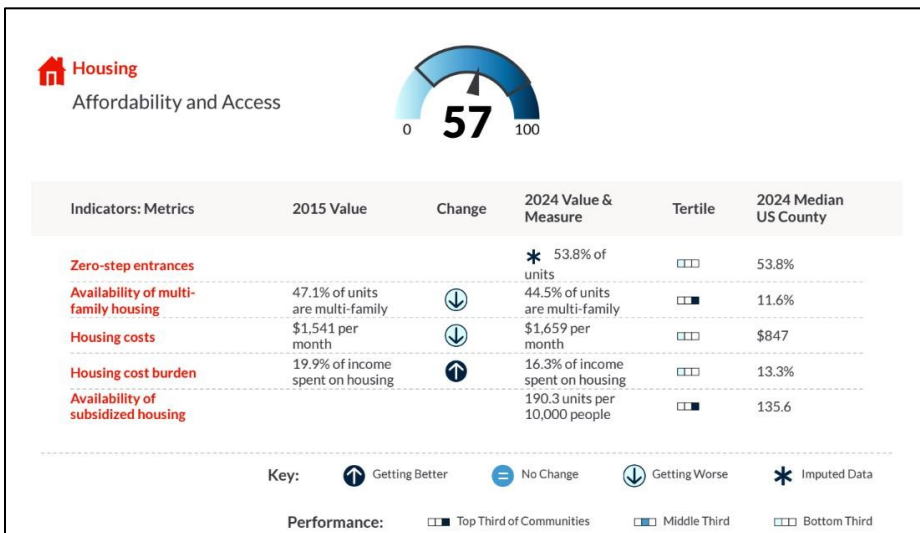
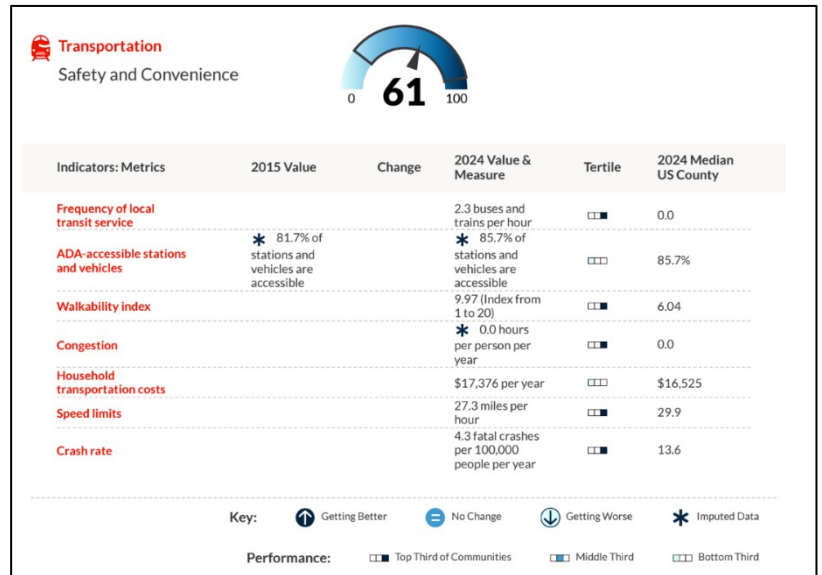
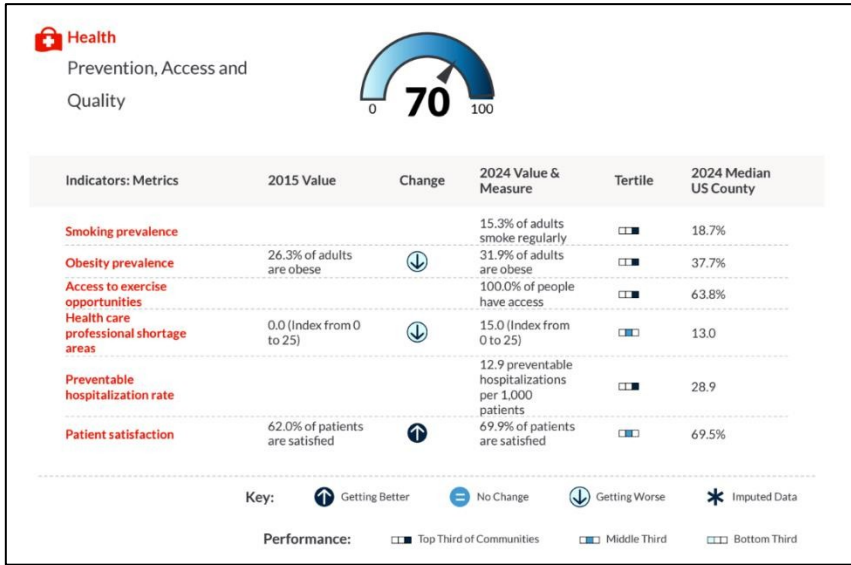
Even though outflow continues to increase, the senior population continues to grow in Alaska, particularly in Southeast but senior outflow has “created an undertow to the state’s migration numbers that didn’t exist before, which has baked in a steady net loss.” Southeast Seniors continue to bring significant value to the region, and especially to Juneau,

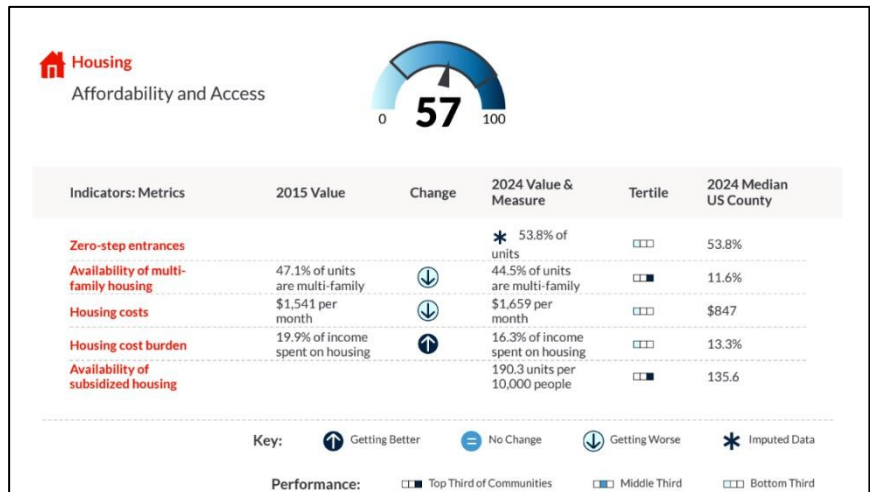
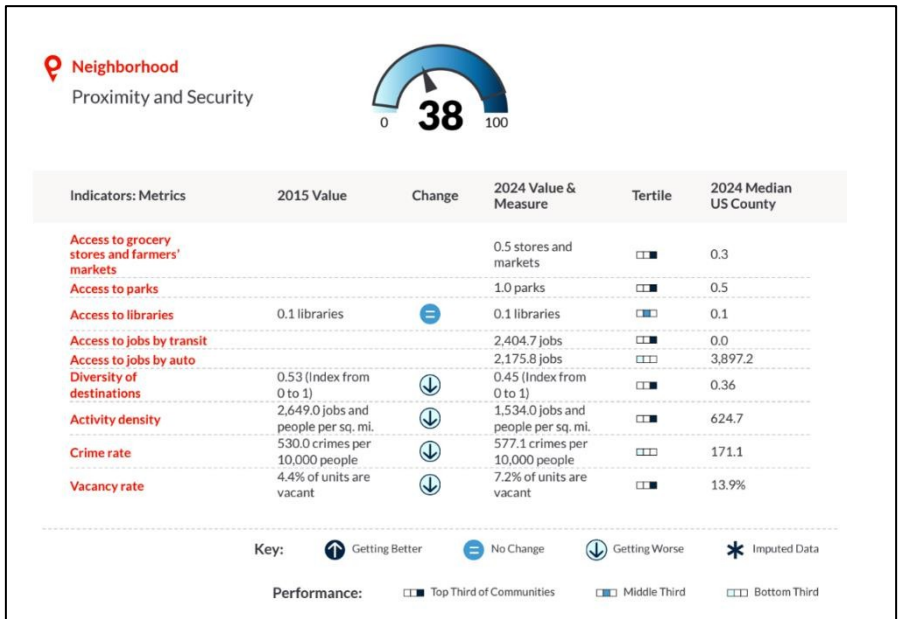
and are a resource that the Juneau Commission on Aging has focused on ensuring that the community recognizes and works to keep Seniors in community. This will be accomplished by ensuring Age Friendly Community values are recognized and promoted.

AARP PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE LIVABILITY SCORES FOR JUNEAU AREA

Characteristics of Juneau Borough, Alaska					
Demographics					
Total Population:					
32,108					
Black/African American: 1%			Age 50+: 35%		
Asian American: 7%			Age 65+: 15%		
Hispanic/Latino: 7%			% of the population with a disability: 12%		
White: 64%			Life Expectancy: 81 years old		
American Indian/Alaska Native: 9%			Households Without a Vehicle: 9%		
Hawaiian: 1%			Median Household Income: \$98,191		
Two or More Races: 15%			% of the population with income below poverty: 7%		
Some Other Race: 2%			Upward Mobility : 76		
Climate					
2023 Temperature	January	July	2023 Avg. Precipitation	January	July
Lowest	21°	43°		19"	4"
Average	26°	50°			
Highest	30°	57°			



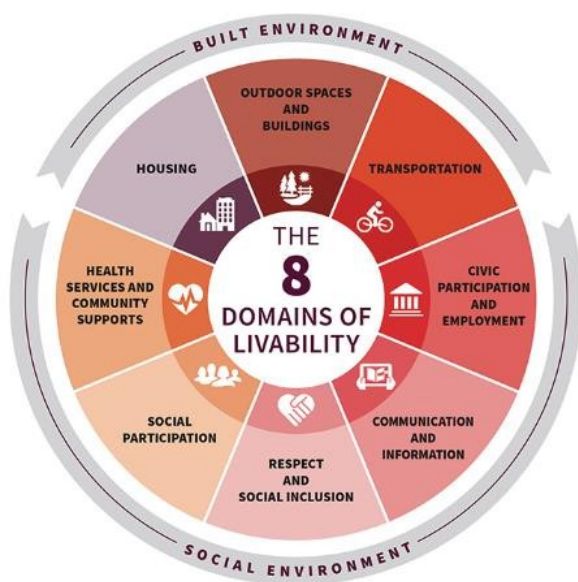




SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Survey and Listening Sessions 2023 and 2025

In celebration of National Older Americans Month in **May 2023**, the Juneau AARP Community Action Team (CAT) and the Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA) co-sponsored three listening sessions to gather information for Age-Friendly Juneau planning. In early 2023 Juneau became the second Age-Friendly community in Alaska. The co-chairs of Age-Friendly Juneau at the time, Dr. Emily Kane (Chair of the Juneau Commission on Aging) and Linda Kruger (Lead for the AARP Juneau CAT), announced the kick-off of Age-Friendly Juneau and the listening sessions on KTOO Radio's Juneau Afternoon program. The listening sessions were held on consecutive Tuesdays at the three local libraries.



Eight flip charts, representing each of the Age-Friendly domains were posted around the room. A ninth flip chart welcomed comments that didn't fit any of the eight categories or applied to more than one. Participants wrote comments and suggestions on post-it notes and posted them on the appropriate flip chart pages. Several participants completed a long questionnaire providing detailed suggestions for improving Juneau for seniors.

In addition to JCOA and CAT members (who had lots of ideas!) around twenty-five members of the public participated in the sessions. Several people who could not attend in person submitted comments by email or completed online surveys.

After a short introduction about the AARP Age-Friendly Network, the AARP-CAT and Juneau COA, there were lively discussions of how Juneau could become more Age-Friendly. Comments and suggestions from the listening sessions, completed questionnaires (hard copies and online), and other comments that were received provided the background for this five-year plan for moving Age-Friendly Juneau forward. Suggestions included: a dedicated senior center for presentations, information (with a navigator), social events, activities and games, and senior exercise classes; transportation to senior events and congregate meals and provision of transportation services out past the ferry terminal; an affordable, pedestrian friendly, small-scale co-housing village for seniors; CBJ support for home modifications to help seniors stay in their homes; more in-person social activities and programs for seniors; an Age-Friendly Community Day; increased Hospice and Homecare services; and additional affordable and accessible senior apartments.

To be more inclusive the Age-Friendly Juneau co-chairs reached out to groups in the community who may not have participated in the listening sessions. Several individuals completed an online or paper questionnaire. The most responses received related to the Age-Friendly Domains of Social Participation, Communication and Information, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Civic Participation and Employment, and Health Services and Community Supports. Housing and Transportation, were

close behind, leading us to include all of these domains in our workplan. We decided it is also important to include Respect and Social Inclusion since these are key foundations of whatever is implemented. We also recommend working with other community groups to address Community Emergency Preparedness.

AARP held additional listening sessions in **February of 2025** using a similar model of data gathering. The following represents the input from the 2023 Listening Sessions first, followed by input from the 2025 Listening Sessions.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Concept: Availability of safe, public, recreational facilities.

2023: Community members expressed the continuing need for a Community Senior Activity Center with fitness center/gym and meeting spaces for classes and gatherings in a central location; community gardens – Mendenhall Valley Library; group walks and socials; indoor and outdoor walking opportunities (recovery from surgeries, fitness, socializing); complete the Vintage Park Trail to connect to the Brotherhood Bridge Trail; publish a directory of places people with limited mobility can connect with nature/accessible trails; more trails for seniors and mobility impaired people, and more benches on trails; improve rain canopies (2nd and Seward St., by the courthouse on Seward St.), add lights on walking trails near Thunder Mountain Middle School, Vintage Park – Brotherhood Bridge Trail; add indoor senior walking hours at area schools, walking track downstairs around the turf at Dimond Park – a new elevator will eliminate this need in the future.

2025: Community members expressed interest in the Dimond Park Fieldhouse and use of the Marie Drake Gym, safe and accessible public spaces, especially more covered areas (corner of 2nd and Seward St., next to the Court House, etc., more indoor meeting spaces – (community center), more community gardens (near the Valley Library), more indoor and outdoor walking opportunities for all abilities and completion of the Brotherhood Bridge Trail Loop.

Transportation

Concept: Safe and affordable modes of private and public transportation.

2023 Community members expressed a desire for improved cross walk safety – need more flashing cross walk lights (like at the Egan Drive-- Glacier Ave access to Juneau Seawalk); bus stop needed near Global Credit Union and Petro One gas station; more weatherproof bus shelters; transportation for events such as the Juneau Symphony, Perseverance Theatre, etc.; improve Capital AKcess (Care-A-Van) and bus service for seniors, including past DeHarts and Lena Loop; easier access to obtain a senior pass; Senior Days with bus service to pools, libraries, grocery stores, Bartlett, etc.; Improve sidewalks and crossings, especially around Riverview Senior Living, Trillium Landing and Vintage Park; and help with snow removal on sidewalks and driveways.

2025 Community members expressed interest in: safe and accessible public spaces, especially more covered areas, many crosswalks need flashing lights (like the Egan to Seawalk crossing) – at Four Points Hotel, Cordova and Douglas Highway and others, bus stop is needed near the Global Credit Union and Petro One gas station across from Fred Meyers and transportation to events.

Housing

Concept: Availability of home modification programs for aging in place, as well as range of Age-Friendly housing options.

2023: Community members expressed a desire for: Affordable, first floor senior units; update code to include universal design features; small scale affordable co-housing, tiny homes, cottages, or apartments for seniors, including the unhoused (Riverview is “too expensive for many” and Fireweed Place and Trillium Landing are “too industrial.”); lower property taxes, grandfather in lower tax rates, or have a ceiling for seniors; home modifications are needed – SAIL has done home evaluations for senior safety features; home modification stipends are desired.

2025 Community members emphasized the continuing need for affordable, accessible senior housing.

Social participation

Concept: Access to leisure and cultural activities, including opportunities for older residents to socialize and engage with their peers as well as with younger people.

2023: Community members expressed a desire for: Community Senior Activity Center with movie nights, music nights, game nights, daytime events for seniors who don’t drive at night, card game clubs, senior lunches, transportation to events and book clubs; geocaching, movies for grown-ups, share your love and talents campaign, partner with senior living facilities for events, art classes, music events; JACC hosted senior events; senior movies at Goldtown Theater; tiny homes or cottages that would promote social engagement; AARP driver’s safety and other classes; scheduled activities at public libraries; arts and craft classes, AARP events, community gatherings and celebrations, and counseling services.

2025 Community members expressed interest in: an Office of Aging within CBJ, a Community Senior Activity Center with art classes, exercise, movie nights, card and game nights, music nights and events during the day for seniors who don’t drive at night, free senior lunch programs, book clubs, group walks, multicultural events and celebrations, geocaching for seniors, movies for grownups, share your love and talents campaign, publish (print and online) a directory of places people with mobility challenges can experience nature.

Respect and Inclusion

Concept: Programs that promote ethnic and cultural diversity, as well as multigenerational interaction and dialogue.

Community members expressed a desire for: An Office of Aging within CBJ to promote and advance senior programs, activities, priorities across CBJ departments and an updated webpage with schedules and news for seniors; Community Senior Activity Center open to all (multigenerational) with regular schedule of activities; flowers for homebound residents, like meals on wheels; safe and accessible public spaces for walking and gathering; multi-cultural events and celebrations (Festival of Holi in March, Sons of Norway, Filipino holidays, etc.); Social events; Age-Friendly Days; work across community groups; support prison-release programs to support re-entry.

Communication and Information

Concept: Access to communications technology and other resources so older residents can connect with their community, friends and family.

Community members expressed a desire for: Juneau Seniors Facebook Page; semi-annual senior expo; online senior events calendar, also posted around town; fliers for concerts and other events posted at senior living facilities; share information on seniors' contributions to the community; Age-Friendly Juneau webpage; write articles for Senior Voice and AARP publications; an Emergency Directory.

2025 Community members expressed interest in: Facebook posts for seniors, semi-annual expo highlighting senior oriented information, monthly fliers for concerts, plays, other events (online calendar).

Community and Health Services

Concept: Access to home-based care services, health clinics and programs that promote wellness and active aging.

2023 Community members expressed a desire for: Community Senior Activity Center; group workshops and information sessions; geriatric care (encourage Bartlett to recruit a gerontologist, rheumatologist, cardiologist, gastroenterologist, and neurologist); Meals-on Wheels and congregate meals at Senior activity centers; encourage CAN and nursing programs at UAS; Friends of Seniors – help with small projects like changing smoke alarm batteries, etc.; support Bartlett Home Health and Hospice; develop a directory of Medicare/Medicaid providers; and promote wellness talks and activities (libraries, Bartlett, and senior housing).

2025 Community members expressed interest in: group informational sessions and workshops on health-related topics; flowers for the homebound (like Meals on Wheels).

Work and Civic Engagement

Concept: Paid work and volunteer activities for older residents and opportunities to engage in formulation of policies relevant to their lives.

2023 Community members expressed a desire for: Community Senior Activity Center, financial and home assistance (car maintenance, banking, bill paying, household chores, senior helper, etc.), share information on the Department of Labor "Return to Work Programs" and directory of volunteer opportunities. A matchup service to connect seniors who need assistance with others willing to provide assistance (Friends of Seniors).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

AGE FRIENDLY PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS

- Linda Kruger, Jane Lindsey and Jeff Gnass,
AARP Juneau Community Action Team
- Deborah Craig, Chair,
Juneau Commission on Aging
- Barbara Murray and Carol Ende,
Juneau Commission on Aging

AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

1. City and Borough of Juneau
 - a. Juneau Assembly
 - b. Juneau City Manager's Office
 - c. Bartlett Regional Hospital
 - d. Juneau Parks and Recreation
 - e. Juneau Public Libraries
 - f. Juneau Commission on Aging
2. Catholic Community Services – Senior Services Southeast
3. SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC)
4. University of Alaska Southeast
5. Local Community Organizations (KTOO, Rotary, etc.)

DATA SOURCES

Age-Friendly Juneau Data Sources (4/10/2025)

2019-2021 Community Needs Assessment Six Month Update, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

Juneau Assembly Goals 2025 (Approved 2/3/2025)

Alaska's Community Capacity Review: 2019 Statewide Public Health System Assessment, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

<https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/search/Juneau%20Borough,%20Alaska,%20United%20States>

<https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/search/Juneau,%20Juneau%20Borough,%20Alaska,%20United%20States>

<https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/search/99824,%20Douglas,%20Juneau%20Borough,%20Alaska,%20United%20States>

Juneau Surveys and Listening Sessions

2020 Juneau Senior Needs Survey -

<https://juneau.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2020-Juneau-Senior-Survey-Final.pdf>

2023 Listening Sessions: 5/9 Downtown Library; 5/16 Valley Library; 5/23 Douglas Library

Participants and other residents also were encouraged to submit written comments.

2025 Juneau AARP Reception Listening Session 2/25

AGE AND ABILITY FRIENDLY PRIORITY AREA ACTION ITEMS

The following matrices provide input on each of the Eight Domains of Livability. We are focusing on Housing, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, and Respect and Social Inclusion as our highest priorities.

The Juneau Commission on Aging and the AARP Juneau Community Action Team welcome everyone in the community to join with us as we move these priority action items forward. Becoming an Age-Friendly Community provides an opportunity and a responsibility for each of us to do what we can to promote and move forward with the ideas described in the following pages.

Housing Action Plan Matrix

Vision for this Domain: Assure adequate and affordable housing for all CBJ residents

Objectives/ Actions	By Whom	By When	Resources and Support		Potential barriers or resistance	Outputs	Outcomes – Impact	
			Available	Needed			Short- and Medium-Term	Long-Term
Information packet to CBJ planning staff: AARP HomeFit Guide JCOA-Building Age Friendly Housing in Juneau	Chair Craig Linda Kruger JCOA and AARP CAT	July 2026	Resources developed CBJ Planning Dept Local Builders	Packets made for distribution	Resistance to current practices	Regulation changes	Awareness: Community Assy Planning Comm Realtors Developers Support development of the CBJ Comp Plan	Improved building design and regulations in support of universal age friendly housing
AARP HomeFit Guide distributed to Public	Linda Kruger AARP CAT	July 2026 ongoing	Contact AARP	Need to order additional materials	None	Community Awareness	Community awareness Information for development of CBJ Comprehensive Plan	Support for universal design and age friendly home environs
Develop team of Lifelong Housing Certificate Reviewers Using HomeFit Guide	CBJ JCOA Experienced community members to be trained as reviewers CBJ Office of Aging	April 2026	Affordable Housing Fund Tax Abatement Other loan and grant programs	Experienced Community members to be trained Oversite of the project	Think differently about home design Resources CBJ support	Low, no cost- and cost- effective measures to ensure most homes are accessible for all ages and mobility needs	Certificate holders assess homes to ensure they are free of common barriers to mobility for everyone from toddlers to seniors	Juneau will develop a Lifelong Housing Certificate training program

Explore code/ regulations that could encourage universal, age friendly housing	AARP funded grant, CBJ Assembly, CBJ Planning Commission, Realtors, Designers, Builders, Community	June 2026	Explore current regulations to identify those that can be more age friendly	Collaboration to review and modify regulations	Potential cost Resistance to change	Housing is safe and convenient for everyone of all ages	Collaborative meetings between community, builders, designers and CBJ on regulation changes	Improved senior-friendly housing
Coordinate current 911 support system to support seniors living at home Check Alert One availability	CCS Fire Department Police	April 2026	911 system currently in place	Develop protocol and support for individuals who have mobility issues in their home, frequent users of 911	Cost coordination	With CCS the team identify and assist individuals who call 911 due to in home fall	Identify individuals in need of home modifications to keep them safe from falls	People of all ages can live in their homes safe from falls

Who is responsible for maintaining and updating information: Office of Aging Coordinator in concert with AARP and JCOA

Frequency of Meetings: Standing JCOA Monthly Committee Meeting

Buildings and Outdoor Spaces Action Plan Matrix

Vision for this Domain: Create availability for those over 50 to engage socially, physically and to obtain information.

Objectives/Actions	By Whom	By When	Resources and Support		Potential barriers or resistance	Outputs	Outcomes – Impact	
			Available	Needed			Short- and Medium-Term	Long-Term
Promote development of a Senior Community Center (proposed use of Marie Drake Gym/complex)	CBJ, JCOA, AARP and interested community orgs	FY 2025 - ongoing	CBJ Marie Drake Complex via Parks and Recs	Support to use space – Juneau Empire, KTOO	Support and funding	A Senior Center open for year-round use	Determine availability of space for 2026	Open and usable space
Ensure outreach regarding Outdoor and Indoor Space Availability	JCOA, AARP, CBJ PCR	FY25 Ongoing	CBJ PCR Web and JCOA Web senior specific activities	More resources JCOA Website	Funding	Websites	More opportunity for Senior use of available resources	More Senior use of available resources
Support Thunder Mt Bike Park	CBJ	Trial Mix	Trail Mix	Community support	None	Under Thunder Bike trail	Bike Trail	Bike Trail
Support Pickle Ball Court at Jackie Renninger Park	JCOA, AARP, CBJ PCR	FY25 Ongoing	CBJ PCR, Pickleball Community	Outreach and community understanding of need	Funding	Pickleball Opportunities	More opportunities for Senior use of available resources	More Senior use of available resources
Disc Golf capacity at Sandy Beach	JCOA, AARP, CBJ PCR	FY25 Ongoing	CBJ PCR, Disc Golf Community	Outreach and community understanding of need	Funding	Disc Golf Opportunities	More opportunities for Senior use of available resources	More Senior use of available resources
Indoor Walking Track Availability	National Guard/ UAS Rec Center, Sr Community Center	FY25 Ongoing	Natl Guard and UAS	Natl Guard and UAS	Public Awareness	Additional indoor/ fitness rec opportunities	More opportunities for Senior use of available resources	More Senior use of available resources

Who is responsible for maintaining and updating information: Office of Aging, AARP and JCOA

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly JCOA Meetings Ongoing Agenda Item

Social Participation and Inclusion Action Plan Matrix

Vision for this Domain: Improve Opportunities for and Actual Community Engagement

Objectives/Actions	By Whom	By When	Resources and Support		Potential barriers or resistance	Outputs	Outcomes – Impact	
			Available	Needed			Short, Medium-Term	Long-Term
Increase opportunities for senior engagement and awareness of opportunities	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA and AARP Juneau	2027	Juneau Public Libraries, Juneau Parks and Recreation, UAS, Community Schools, Cooperative Extension	Community Support Creative ideas	Creativity, facilities	Age Friendly activities	Increased information about senior activities and new offerings	Increased participation in senior activities
Host more senior events – music events, art classes, senior movies, book clubs, walks, arts and crafts classes	CBJ Parks C Recreation, UAS, Community Schools, Cooperative Extension, Juneau Public Libraries, Bartlett Hospital	2025-ongoing	Existing programs, New Programs, Community Members, AARP, UAS/UAF	Community Support and engagement	Competition for time, facilities	Reduction in mortality related to social determinants of health; reduction in isolation	Focused efforts to improve social determinants of health and provide more opportunities for seniors	Reduction in preventable/avoidable mortality and isolation
Coordinate efforts to establish a Community Senior Activity Center <i>See Outdoor Space & Buildings</i>	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA, AARP Juneau, CBJ, others	2025-ongoing	Enthusiastic support	A physical space and funding	Funding, lack of available space	A location to have movie nights, daytime events, social lunches, music events, classes, physical activities like yoga and Tai Chi	Increased socially engaged, more active seniors	Improved mental and physical health

Reach out to Tlingit and Haida, the Filipino Community and others	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA, AARP Juneau Riverview Senior Living, Juneau Pioneer Home, others	2025-ongoing	Interest	Interest	Lack of interest, already overcommitted	More inclusive events	More diverse offerings and participants	Greater variety of programming
Partner with senior living facilities and agencies for events and classes		2025-ongoing	Interest in working together with all providers in Juneau	Time and attention, ideas	Funding, ideas for collaboration	More offerings reaching more people in varied locations	Increased activity	Increased services and participation
Establish a Senior Legacy Project	UAS, AARP, JCOA, others	2025-ongoing	Framework and interest	Time, coordination and interest	Fear of the unknown or of working with others	Increased understanding across generations	Increased socializing	Improved mental health, reduced isolation
Increase courses for Seniors at UAS, Coop Extension and Comm Schools	Office of Aging, JCOA, AARP Juneau, UAS, Coop Extension	2025-ongoing	Interest and support for programs	Funding	Funding	Oppty for engagement, social activity and learning	Mental Health Brain health, social cohesion	Improved mental health, reduced isolation

Who is responsible for maintaining and updating information: Office of Aging, AARP and JCOA

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly JCOA Meetings Standing Agenda Item

Transportation Action Plan Matrix

Vision for this Domain: Promote safe and affordable transportation

Objectives/Actions	By Whom	By When	Resources and Support		Potential barriers or resistance	Outputs	Outcomes – Impact	
			Available	Needed			Short- and Medium-Term	Long-Term
Encourage public transportation use	City and Borough of Juneau	ongoing	AARP, federal and state funding	Publicity of available options	Reluctance or lack of knowledge	Increased use of services	More seniors ride buses AKcess	Better services and increased ridership
Additional bus stops and improved facilities	City and Borough	ongoing	Federal, state and local funding	Community engagement	Lack of understanding of what is needed	Improved service	Weatherproof bus stop shelters	Routes convenient to services for seniors
Vintage Park Trail Improvements	Southeast Alaska Land Trust, Trail Mix, local businesses and residents	2026	Community support, willing partners	Funding for purchase of land and trail renovation and development	Funding, permitting, river course changing	2 miles of improved trail	Transfer of land to SEALT and work with Trail Mix to improve the trail	Loop trail is used by all-ages to access local facilities and for recreation
Improve sidewalks, crossings, parking, etc at Vintage Park	Alaska Dept of Trans and CBJ	2025-26	Funding is available, planning is underway	Community Support	River flooding, changing course	Improved traffic flow, parking, pedestrian crossings and sidewalks	Increased, safe pedestrian use of area	Increased pedestrian use of the area and safety for all users
Improved crossings throughout the City and Borough	CBJ and DOT-PF	ongoing	DOT and CBJ have highway/road funds for improvements	Community support to help identify needs	Continued funding	Safe streets	Safe pedestrian and car access	Safe pedestrian and car access

Who is responsible for maintaining and updating information: Office of Aging, AARP and JCOA

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly JCOA Meeting Standing Agenda Item

Health Services and Community Supports Action Plan Matrix

Vision for this Domain: Improve Community Health Opportunities for those over 50

Objectives/Actions	By Whom	By When	Resources and Support		Potential barriers or resistance	Outputs	Outcomes – Impact	
			Available	Needed			Short- and Medium-Term	Long-Term
Establish CBJ Office of Aging with a Coordinator to represent and serve Seniors in Juneau	JCOA and AARP	FY27	CBJ, JCF	Community Support	Funding for office and Coordinator	Oversee advocacy for Seniors and Activities of the Office of Aging	Improved Senior Services and activities	Improved Senior Services and activities
Work toward Age-Friendly status for Bartlett Hospital	Rhonda Ward	2027	Bartlett Board and Staff	Community Support	Time to process	Age Friendly recognition and implementation of processes	Improved senior services and care	Improved Senior Services and care
Reduce preventable/avoidable mortality Measured via State Statistics	CBJ Office of Aging, BRH, SEARHC, ACOA, Local Medical Providers	2028	Bartlett Staff and Community Members	Community Support and engagement	Competition for time	Reduction in mortality related to social determinants of health and lack of community preparedness	Focused efforts: improve awareness of and actions toward improving social determinants of health and community preparedness	Reduction in preventable/avoidable mortality
Provide resources and classes through partnerships	Bartlett Hospital Staff, UAS, AARP, CCS, SEARHC, ACOA, others	2025-ongoing	Bartlett Hospital Staff, AARP Volunteers,	Community support and participation	Lack of imagination for what could be	Educational programs	Improved knowledge and individual and community action	Improved community health and well-being

Encourage recreational, social programs – indoor and outdoor opportunities	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA, Bartlett Hospital, Juneau Parks and Recreation, AARP, UAS, CCS, SAIL, SEAHRC and others	2025-ongoing	Staff at Bartlett Hospital, Juneau Parks and Rec, AARP, UAS, Juneau Public Libraries, others	Community engagement and dedicated funding	Shortage of creative ideas, lack of adequate facilities and community engagement	Increased cultural and recreational opportunities and programs	Increased participation by older adults	Improved health and longevity
Identify community health risks	CBJ Office of Aging, Bartlett Hospital, JCOA, UAS, AARP, CBJ, CCS, SAIL	2025-ongoing	Bartlett Hospital, AARP, Alaska Public Health, Community Groups	Community Engagement	Lack of understanding, knowledge and commitment	Listing of health risks	Efforts to address risks	Reduced Risk
Fall prevention/ Better Bones and Balance Classes	UAF, community instructors, SEARHC	2025-ongoing	BRH, SEARHC, UAF Cooperative Extension, Juneau Parks and Recreation, community instructors	Community Engagement	Lack of knowledge, interest and funding	Community classes	Reduced injuries from falls	Reduced injuries from falls
Advocate for Home Health Care Workforce enhancements (See previous efforts re SREC)	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA, Bartlett Hospital, UAS, AARP, AKDOLWD, CCS, SAIL	2025 - ongoing	Systems to support in place	Funding for Recruitment, training and placement of Home Health Providers and Wage Supp	\$2.5Million grant in place (SREC) but not being used for this purpose	“Boots on the ground” – Home health Care providers to ensure elders stay at home as long as possible	Seniors are able to stay at home as long as possible – more cost effective than institution and more desired by elders	Seniors are able to stay at home as long as possible – more cost effective than institution and more desired by elders

Who is responsible for maintaining and updating information: Office of Aging in concert with AARP and JCOA

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly Meetings

Communication and Information Action Plan Matrix

Vision for this Domain: Improve Communication and Information for and about those over 50

“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.” -Maya Angelou

Objectives/ Actions	By Whom	By When	Resources and Support		Potential barriers or resistance	Outputs	Outcomes – Impact	
			Available	Needed			Short- and Medium-Term	Long-Term
Improve communication of senior events and services	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA and AARP Juneau	2025-ongoing	Juneau Empire, JCOA Web, KTOO, and other radio stations, postering	Community Support and funding for the Office of Aging	Time to administer efforts	Distribution of information on a regular basis, senior WEBPAGE	Improved access to senior information	Improve access to info important to Seniors resulting in increased engagement
Expand partnerships with organizations and businesses serving seniors	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA, AARP Juneau	2025-ongoing	Existing groups	Collaboration plans, outreach to define possibilities	Competition for time, lack of understanding of benefits	Focused efforts to improve awareness of information important to seniors	Improved access to senior information and understanding of senior needs	Improved Info/outreach of important info for Seniors and understanding of senior needs
Expand understanding what seniors ad the community	CBJ Office of Aging, JCOA and AARP Juneau	2025-ongoing	JCOA CAARP and other resources	Attention to getting materials out into the community	Competition for funding and time to collect and organize info	Materials to describe benefits seniors contribute	Increased understanding of the benefits seniors bring to the community	Increased appreciation of benefits seniors bring to the community
Provide classes for seniors	UAS, BRH Juneau Parks and Rec, Juneau Public Libraries, others	2025-ongoing	AARP classes, Senior Planet, UAS curriculum, Cooperative Extension	Understanding of what information is needed/helpful and funding for programs	Time, commitment and funding	Increased understanding, actionable information	Better educated seniors, improved brain health and empowered seniors	Better educated seniors, improved brain health and empowered seniors

Who is responsible for maintaining and updating information: Office of Aging in concert with AARP and JCOA

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly Meetings



Juneau Commission on Aging Annual Report to the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly December 2025

The Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA) is charged with advising the Assembly on matters related to seniors. Seniors over 55 now comprise **30% of Juneau's population**. Juneau's elders buy goods and services, volunteer extensively, and provide support to family members in our community. Many are retired with good benefits, contribute significantly and have a desire to remain in our community while contributing to its well-being. To focus our efforts effectively, the JCOA identified three priorities to support for 2025 – 1) AARP Age Friendly Juneau Community Planning, 2) Recreation and Wellness, and 3) Age Friendly Housing.

"We need to challenge outdated stereotypes and attitudes about getting older and spark new solutions that help people live better as they age. Today more people are embracing age as a period of continued growth and finding purpose in their lives." Former AARP CEO Ann Jenkins

After analyzing the data from the most recent CBJ Senior Survey, JCOA also began to focus on aging as a natural process that effects everyone with more robust community outreach via presentations to local organizations, monthly slots on KTOO Juneau Afternoon, contributing "Senior Moments" editorial regularly and via our website highlights: <https://juneau.org/clerk/boards-committees/jcoa>.

Juneau Commission On Aging 2020 Senior Survey Findings

Seniors are healthier and better off than in previous survey years:

- 28.7% of Juneau residents are 55 and older**
- 84% own their own homes and pay taxes
- 80-90% (depending on age) drive their own cars
- 63% volunteer in the community
- 95% over 65 have Medicare Insurance
- 66% over 65 have State of Alaska Retirement
- 40% have Long Term Care Insurance
- 42-46% (depending on age) take continuing education classes (UAS/CS)
- 72 – 84% (depending on age) recreate weekly (walking, hiking, swimming, biking, gyms, skiing)

** AKDOL has updated this figure to 30% in 2023

Priority 1: Sustainable, Age-Friendly Community Planning.

"Master planning is a valid and necessary first step to creating a unified vision that is then represented in the CBJ's budget. Our city's amenities continue to be grossly undervalued in economic terms, as well as having impact on the city's population, school enrollment, demographics, socioeconomic status, employment, business-friendliness, etc. Juneau has a ton to offer and with investments in recreation and community amenities, could attract the households, workers, and tax base we need". John S. Juneau Age 35

Age-Friendly Community Planning was developed by the World Health Organization and adopted by the AARP to provide mechanisms to gauge community livability. The CBJ joined the *Age-Friendly Network* in 2023 and was recently recertified to 2028. This planning tool looks at eight (8) domains of "livability" that make a community viable for *all ages*, as well as how to successfully age in place. It uses observable, measurable factors that allow comparability with other communities, as well as determining areas for improvement.

The JCOA, in collaboration with AARP completed the Juneau AARP Age-Friendly Community plan and recommends consideration of these planning components within the scope of the CBJ Comprehensive Plan. Our plan is a) driven by data b) in alignment with community values, and c) helps Juneau be more "livable" for people of all ages. JCOA members are also participating in various workshops and events in support of the comprehensive planning process to ensure Juneau seniors are well represented. See attached Plan.

Aging! So cool, everyone is doing it!



Juneau Commission on Aging Annual Report to the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly December 2025

Priority 2: Promoting community wellness, safety and healthy aging *for all ages* with a Senior Community Center.

"I'm 73 years old and I've lived in Juneau since 1978. I started playing pickle ball about 5 years ago... and it really helps my physical and mental coordination. Roughly half of the people I play with are seniors but at least half are middle age people and high school students. It's a great venue for intergenerational activity... more people would play if there were more playing times available regularly". Mary Alice M, Juneau Age 73



The JCOA continues to actively promote the concept of a CBJ Senior Community Center using the Marie Drake Complex to provide recreational opportunities, wellness classes, informational courses, as well as collaborating with local Senior Services providers such as Catholic Community Services, BRH and SEARHC. The concept of a multi-generational CBJ Community Center is on the CBJ Comprehensive Planning radar and remains a viable mechanism to support healthy maturing for people of all ages, while targeting our elders. People of all ages are enabled to continue to contribute by striving to be as healthy as possible.

The JCOA recommends that the CBJ Assembly promote use of the Marie Drake Complex via the Department of Parks and Recreation to the uses outlined above to promote physical, emotional and mental health activities that help all community members attain and maintain good health by dedicating.

Elements of Universal Design

- Low/No Step Entry Thresholds
- One Story Living or straight line stairs
- Wider doorways, halls and bathrooms
- Non slip surfaces
- Good lighting/rocker light switches
- Lever door handles

Priority 3: Prioritizing *Universal Design* to build age friendly housing for people of all ages.

I am retired, healthy and want to stay in Juneau but the maintenance of my home and yard will inevitably become daunting. I'm not interested in institutional living but would move to an accessible, affordable, age friendly dwelling that would allow me to age in place". Lynn C Juneau Age 72

84% of Seniors own their own homes in Juneau. Many would downsize if more age friendly housing was available - potentially opening up more housing units for working age families. The JCOA also continues to promote the concept of Universal Design that meets the needs of community members of all ages and abilities, while allowing aging at home and in community with minimal assistance. JCOA has participated in multiple housing events to ensure the needs of seniors are considered including AARP and CBJ Housing Forums. The JCOA acknowledges the significant contribution made by the CBJ to make Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) easier to build and the loan programs that assist seniors in adding units to their homes to improve housing availability, as well as providing opportunities for seniors to stay in their homes longer by adding ADU's for family members or home health care providers.

The JCOA recommends that the CBJ Assembly consider 1) requiring Universal Design element/Age Friendly components for a percentage of any housing project obtaining funding through the CBJ and 2) prioritizing affordable age friendly housing developments that would attract/retain seniors, as well as give Juneau seniors an option to downsize, further opening up community housing availability.

Aging! So cool, everyone is doing it!



Juneau Commission on Aging Annual Report to the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly December 2025

ATTENDANCE: Each board shall submit to the Assembly a brief annual report setting forth the activities and accomplishments of the committee and the attendance record of each committee member during the preceding twelve months.

The following only reflects attendance at monthly required meetings. The JCOA also holds workgroup meetings on a regular basis.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Deborah Craig, Chair	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Linda Kruger, Secy	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Carol Ende	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	
Jennifer Garrison	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	
Barb Murray	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	
Diane Kyser	P	A	P	A	A	A	A	A	A	P	A	
Ann Stepetin	A	P	A	A	A	A	A	P	R			
Laura Revels										New	P	
Kimberly Atkison	P	P	A	A	P	A	A	R				
Chris Schapp	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	R		
Rhonda Ward										New	P	
John Brett										New	A	
Assy Liaison (no vote)												
Maureen Hall	P	A	P	A	P	A	A	P	A	P		
Paul Kelly												

Key: P- Present, A – Absent, R – Resign

NOTES: Ms. Stepetin represents CCTHITA and was replaced by Ms. Revels who attended meetings prior to being appointed by the CBJ Assembly providing for a smooth transition. Mr. Schapp moved unexpectedly out of state. New Commissioners include Ms. Ward from BRH and Mr. Brett from SEARHC.

Ms. Hall was very active in attending both Workgroup and Full JCOA Meetings while also bringing substantial information to our meetings regarding CBJ Assembly activities. Her work with the Commission was very appreciated.



***Aging! So cool,
everyone is doing it!***

JCOA SETTING PRIORITIES

2020 Senior Survey Findings

Seniors are healthier and better off than previous survey years:

- ▶ 28.7% of Juneau residents are 55 and older**
- ▶ 84% own their own homes and pay taxes
- ▶ 80-90% (depending on age) drive their own cars
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- ▶ 40% have Long Term Care Insurance
- ▶ 42-46% (depending on age) take continuing education classes (UAS/CS)
- ▶ 72 – 84% (depending on age) recreate weekly (walking, hiking, swimming, biking, gyms, skiing)

** AKDOL has updated this figure to 30% in 2023



Juneau Commission On Aging Current Priorities

Represent Juneau's Senior Population – 30%

- 1. DEVELOP JUNEAU'S AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PLAN**
- 2. PROMOTE AGE FRIENDLY/UNIVERSAL HOUSING**
- 3. DEVELOP CBJ SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER**

Juneau Commission on Aging OUTREACH

1. Logo and Website creation
2. KTOO Juneau Afternoon 1st Thurs of Month 3PM
3. News column “SENIOR MOMENTS”
4. AARP Partnership
5. Outreach Community Orgs: Elder Conferences, Rotary
6. Focus on Commissioners as Partner and Stakeholders: CCS, BRH, SEARHC, CCHITA AND ELDER COMMUNITY Members engaged and willing to work on priorities.

<https://juneau.org/clerk/boards-committees/jcoa>
OR GOOGLE JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING

The screenshot shows the website for the Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA). The header includes the City and Borough of Juneau logo and navigation links for 'General Information', 'Boards & Committees', 'MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area features a section titled 'JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING — JCOA' with the tagline 'Empowering Juneau's Seniors'. Below this is a list of links for various services and activities. The central focus is a large article titled 'WINTER WALKING SAFETY DO'S AND DON'TS' with a background image of people walking in winter weather. The article includes two columns of safety tips and a call to action to click for more information. At the bottom, there is a notice about transportation changes and a footer with the slogan 'AGING! SO COOL, EVERYONE IS DOING IT!'.

JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING — JCOA
Empowering Juneau's Seniors
JCOA's mandate is to advise the CBJ Assembly on actions and policies that improve the quality of life for seniors. Our mission is to provide CBJ with proactive, coordinated, culturally sensitive and holistic strategies to support Juneau seniors' unique needs as we age in this community we love and call home.

- SENIOR SERVICES IN ALASKA & JUNEAU
- JCOA PRIORITIES
- JUNEAU SENIOR SURVEY
- AGE-FRIENDLY PLANNING
- SENIOR MOMENTS
- COMMISSIONERS
- JCOA AGENDAS/MINUTES
- VOLUNTEERS
- ACTIVITIES

WINTER WALKING SAFETY DO'S AND DON'TS

Winter Walking Do's – Can You See Me?

- Pay Attention
- Wear Bright Colors & Reflective Gear
- Use Crosswalks & Crosswalk Flags
- Wear Waterproof Clothes & Shoes
- Use a Walking Pole & Grippers

Winter Walking Don'ts – Don't Expect Drivers to SEE You!

- No Dark Clothes
- No Obstructive Hats
- No Cotton Clothes
- No Silly Shoes

CLICK HERE FOR WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR OLDER ADULTS!

IMPORTANT TRANSPORTATION CHANGES TO CAPITAL AKcess!
Be sure to check your eligibility and changes due to a new transport contractor.
Call: 844-425-2377 or [CLICK HERE](#) for more info!

AGING! SO COOL, EVERYONE IS DOING IT!

Juneau Commission On Aging

Priority 1: Age-Friendly Community Planning

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

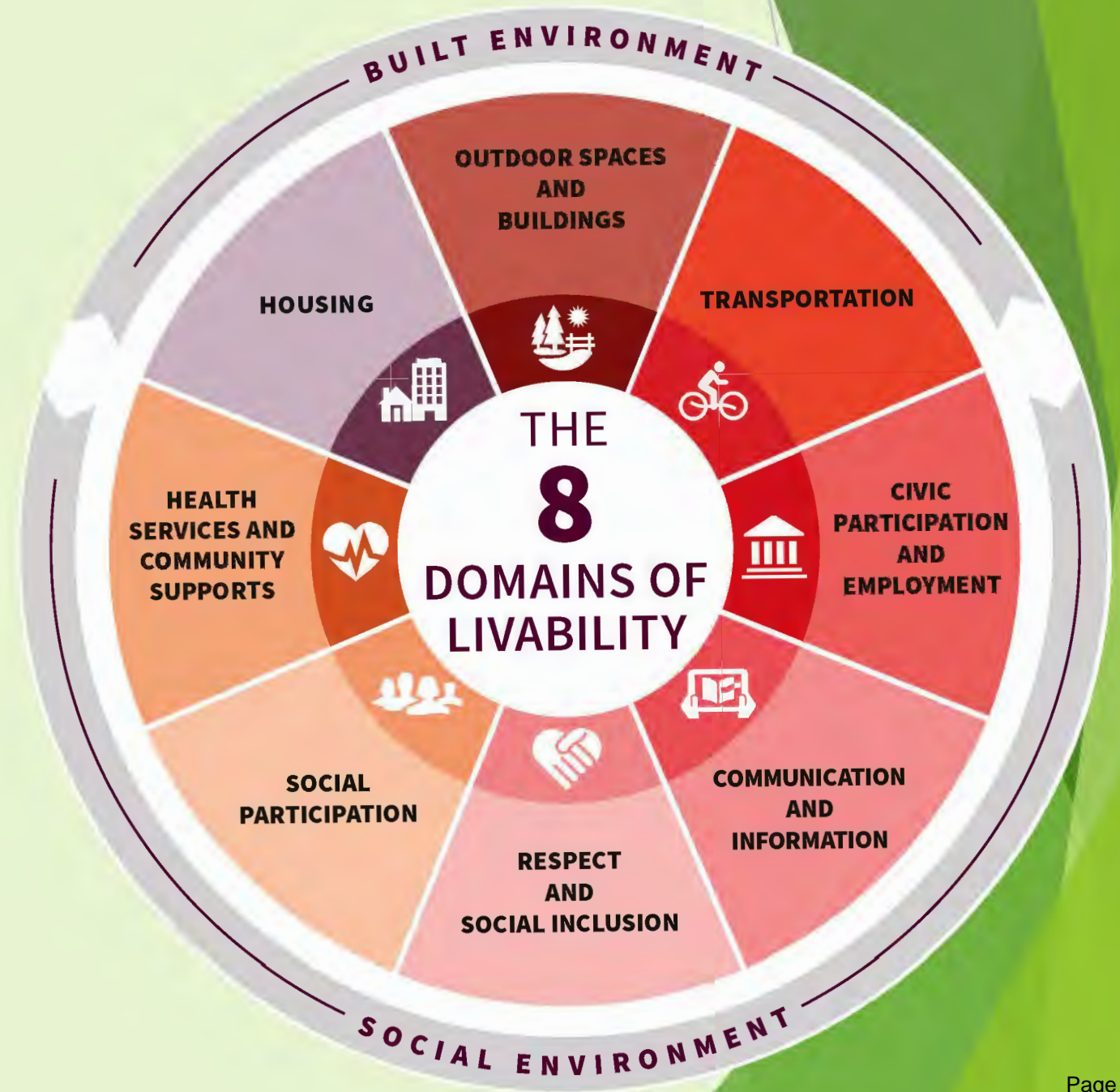


- ▶ *Dec 2022 CBJ Assembly approved joining the Age-Friendly Network*
- ▶ Developed by World Health Organization for global assessment & comparability of community well being
- ▶ Livability Planning that serves community of all ages
- ▶ Developed Eight Domains of Livability to explore and identify areas of focus for plan

Age Friendly Community Planning

Organize and prioritize the availability and quality of these community features for the well being of all.

Determine the vision of the future of your age friendly community.



Is Juneau Age-Friendly?

Are there adequate volunteer, social, civic and work opportunities?



Are there adequate, safe and accessible public spaces?



Is there adequate access to health care services?

Are there ways to remain mobile once driving is no longer an option?




Is there housing that is affordable, accessible and varied in type?



Age Friendly Juneau **AARP Alaska**

JUNEAU AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PLAN and Year End Progress Report: COMPLETED

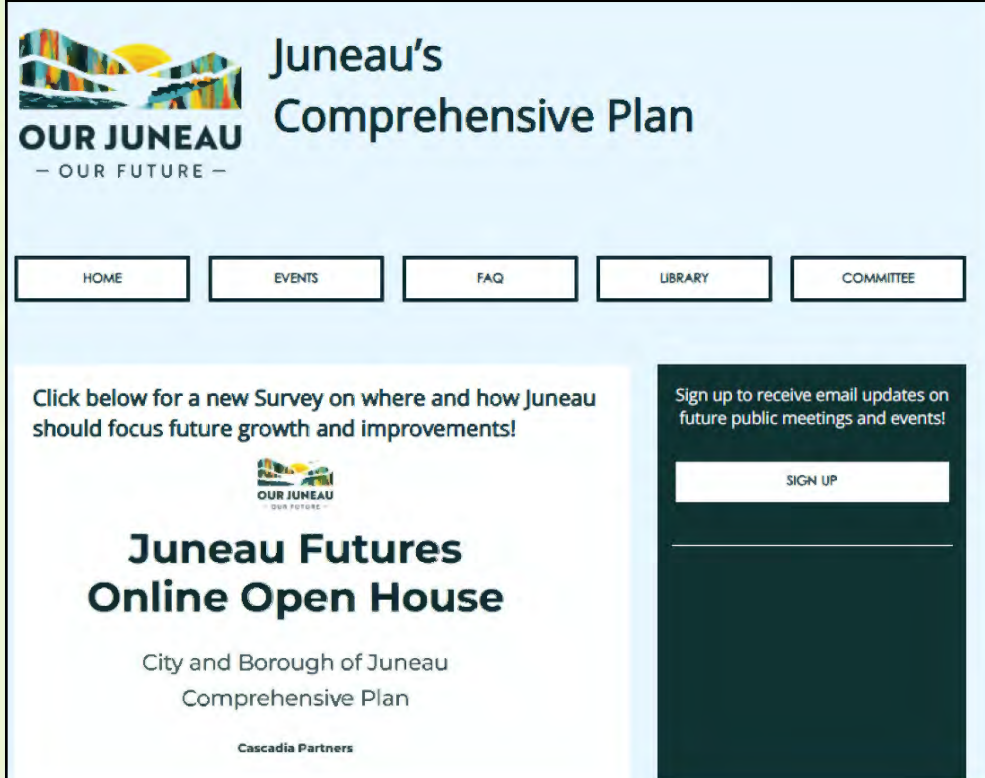
Google:
Juneau Commission on Aging



**JUNEAU
AGE FRIENDLY
COMMUNITY
ACTION PLAN
Progress Report
December 2025**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Juneau joined the Age Friendly Network in late 2022 and submitted their plan June 2025 as a joint effort between the Juneau Commission on Aging and the AARP Juneau Community Action Team, as well as engaging many community partners. This plan was submitted to the City and Borough of Juneau for consideration during their multiyear Comprehensive Planning process that began this year. Our goal is to weave senior/elder considerations into all phases of our community planning processes as we implement this Age Friendly Plan.



**Juneau's
Comprehensive Plan**

OUR JUNEAU
- OUR FUTURE -

HOME EVENTS FAQ LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Click below for a new Survey on where and how Juneau should focus future growth and improvements!

**Juneau Futures
Online Open House**

City and Borough of Juneau
Comprehensive Plan

Cascadia Partners

Sign up to receive email updates on future public meetings and events!

SIGN UP

<https://juneau.org/community-development/our-juneau-comp-plan>

Juneau Commission On Aging

Priority 2: Age Friendly “Universal” Housing

UNIVERSAL HOUSING

- ▶ Secure and safe neighborhoods
- ▶ Accessible – Easy to modify, support services nearby, proximity to transportation
- ▶ Affordable – Rent \leq 30% of Income, Rent adjustment possible, Purchase price reasonable
- ▶ Available to all - race, gender, sexual orientation, income, nationality, immigration status, etc

AGE FRIENDLY HOUSING – EASY/LOWER EXPENSE MODIFICATIONS

- ▶ Low or no thresholds – one story or straight stairs for chair lifts
- ▶ Wider doors and halls, bigger bathrooms, walk in shower or tub
- ▶ Levered handles and good lighting
- ▶ Community based – part of a multigenerational community

Aging World: Livability=Multigenerational

Communities want to retain seniors AND attract a younger workforce. Can we meet the needs of a multigenerational community? How can we attract a workforce for a vibrant livable community?

▶ HOUSTON TEXAS

- ▶ **Downside:** 2.3 million people, extreme heat and humidity (summers > 100), hurricanes common and damage property, bugs thrive (2nd worst city in country for cockroaches), public transport limited – you need a car (3rd worst city for traffic), most people are indoors - AC 24/7 part of the year & water shortages coming.
- ▶ **Benefit:** Texas has *booming in-migration* due to no income tax, high paying jobs, affordable homes, schools and childcare

▶ JUNEAU ALASKA

- ▶ **Benefit:** High level community engagement, clean air & water, expanding regional medical care, easy access to “mainland”, environmentally oriented (electric cars run on hydro), exceptional recreation (indoor track, pools, hiking, biking, ski area, hockey rink), low density/no traffic, world class culture (museum, theater, symphony, Jazz and Classics, Folk Fest, etc)
- ▶ **Viable workforce - focus on high paying year-round professional and blue-collar jobs, affordable housing, good schools and childcare.**

The Good News: We're Making Headway...

MOVING IN RIGHT DIRECTIONS - HIGH PAYING JOBS

- Government jobs **UP** – SOA added workers for 1st time in 12 yrs.
- Healthcare, retail, finance, and mining sectors also added workers.
- Plumbers and electricians perpetually needed.

BUT

HOUSING REMAINS THE ISSUE – DEMOGRAPHICS

- Single family housing driving current housing crisis
- More houses built but smaller family sizes impacts availability
- Housing scarcity and costs partially driving this dynamic, leaving young families and workers unable to move to the region, or stay longer term — *despite near record job levels.*

SOA, CBJ AND OTHER COMPANIES REPORT THAT RECRUITED WORKERS LEAVE DUE TO LACK OF HOUSING



More Housing Challenges

More People – Especially Seniors – Living Alone

13,549 Housing Units in CBJ - 45% Juneau Rentals and 27% of Homeowners **Live Alone**

84% of Seniors own homes in Juneau – Almost 1,600 Seniors Living Alone

Population projections – *BY 2030 Juneau will need addl 530 housing for seniors living alone*

Juneau Residents Living Alone 2015-2022			
Year	Total Juneau Residents Living Alone	Total Juneau Seniors Living Alone	% of Juneau "Living Alone" Households
2022	4,366	1,597 (2/3rds are women)	34%
2015	3,173	706	26%
Change 2015-2022	1,193		38%



JCOA PROMOTING MORE AGE FRIENDLY, SMALLER, COMMUNITY BASED, UNIVERSAL HOUSING TARGETING THE ‘MISSING MIDDLE’

- Housing for working families...
- Housing seniors can “downsize” to...
- Low income can move up to....

Juneau Commission On Aging

Priority 3: Recreation and Socialization



Keeping seniors healthy and
in the community we love.*

*All persons in these photos are
Juneau-ites over 65!

Recreation and Socialization

Survey's and Outreach: Seniors Told Us They Wanted

▶ SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER – Marie Drake Gym

- ▶ Data Point: Senior Center use declined in our last survey - because it's not meeting the needs of healthier seniors
- ▶ “Zach Gordon-ish Center for Seniors” with gym, classroom and office space particularly in the downtown, Lemon/Salmon Creek, North and South Douglas corridors.
- ▶ Marie Drake Gym: currently unused and available and ADA Compliant

▶ MORE SENIOR SOCIAL EVENTS

- ▶ Increased recreational and age friendly activities: pickleball, indoor walking, hiking, biking, swimming, regular and chair yoga classes, weight training, tai chi, skiing (alpine/cross country).
- ▶ Shared themed meals, learning & classroom/lecture opportunities, book clubs, Mah Jongg Monday and Senior Holiday Symphony
- ▶ Widow/Widower Workshops, Grief and Caregiver Support Groups

Juneau Commission On Aging

Continue to represent Juneau's Seniors

1. Ensure Juneau's Age Friendly Community Plan included in CBJ Comprehensive Plan
2. Promote Age Friendly Housing
3. Develop a CBJ Community Senior Center using space already available



If you build a community great for
an **older adult** you build a
community great for **everyone**

Aging! So cool, everyone is doing it!



Juneau Commission On Aging
Keeping seniors healthy
in the community we love*

