



NEWS

For more information:
LaMarriol Smith
lamarriol.smith@ci.buda.tx.us
(512) 523-1052 Office
(512) 496-3743 Cell

For Immediate Release

July 26, 2022

Task Force on Aging Elects New Officers and Gains Community Partners

Buda, Texas – The City of Buda Task Force on Aging (TFOA) recently named Jeff Kaufmann as chairman, Rob Faubion, and Rona Walton as secretary. The officer terms run until May 2023. Other TFOA members include Linda Burton, John Byous, Norma Williams and new member Shar-Day Edmond.

Kaufmann recently served as the vice chair of the TFOA and heads up the initiative for Buda to receive the AARP Age-Friendly City designation. Kaufmann retired in 2020 after 44 years in Texas State government. He served as a senior manager with statewide programs serving people who are aging and/or have disabilities. He managed policy development, strategic planning, service delivery and infrastructure. He has lived and been active in Buda since 1984.

As the new TFOA chair, Kaufmann said he plans to continue to lead the Age-Friendly City project by calling for Community Partners to join and help with the work. Age-friendly communities encourage and benefit from diverse citizen engagement by including residents in a process to identify the community's needs and develop and implement an action plan to address those needs. The Buda City Council has endorsed the Age-Friendly initiative. The Task Force on Aging has accepted [Aging is Cool](#), [Age of Central Texas](#), [AARP Texas](#), [Alzheimer's Association of Texas](#), [Area Agency on Aging of the Capital Area](#), and the [Buda United Methodist Church](#) Food Pantry into its Community Partners program.

The Task Force and its community partners will spend the next several months conducting a baseline assessment on the needs of older adults. Then they will develop and deliver to the City Council a three-year plan to address the identified needs and tools to measure progress. Community partners are defined as older residents, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), boards, commissions, businesses and other community members who want a mutually beneficial relationship with the TFOA to make Buda more livable and age-friendly. Those interested in becoming a Community Partner can find information, criteria and an application on the City of Buda website under Task Force on Aging.

According to Kaufmann, "There is much work to do but with the help of Community Partners, I believe we will be successful." The TFOA is interested in forming partnerships that align with its mission, goals and objectives to build a community where people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds have access to services that support Aging in Community.

The City of Buda is home to about 18,000 residents and has earned designations as a "Texas Main Street City," "Tree City USA," "Bee City Affiliate" and "Platinum Level Scenic City." Buda is situated along the Interstate 35 corridor, has 14 parks and a historic downtown district where residents and visitors alike can shop, dine, relax, and breathe easy here.