



AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

Grants to make communities livable for people of all ages
aarp.org/CommunityChallenge

ATTACHMENT A: APPLICATION

AARP Community Challenge 2020

Grants to make communities more livable for people of all ages

SAMPLE APPLICATION AND BUDGET OUTLINE

All applications must be submitted through the online application at www.aarp.org/communitychallenge by April 1, 2020, 11:59 p.m. ET

NOTE: All fields must be filled out completely in order for the application to be accepted. Please use "n/a" for "not applicable" where appropriate.

BASIC INFORMATION

1. Name of Applicant Organization: Town of Millinocket

2. Amount of this Grant Request: \$5,000.00

NOTE: AARP reserves the right to award less funds than requested, so applicants should be prepared to discuss how they would scale down their proposals **if asked**.

3. Organization Profile (for non-governmental organizations only, governmental organizations enter n/a).

Brief history of the organization: Our municipal leaders formed an Age-Friendly Committee in early 2019. Three town councilors, the fire chief, and two community organization directors started as the core members and are still actively involved. With the assistance and foundational work done by a local thriving in place collaborative, Thrive Penobscot, Millinocket was accepted into AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities on April 26, 2019. Since that time, Age Friendly Millinocket has been meeting regularly to assess and develop plans to make our community more livable according AARP's 8 domains of livability. Thrive Penobscot's project director participates in AARP's Rural Lab on behalf of Age Friendly Millinocket to share ideas and learn from others doing similar work across the country.

Has this organization been involved in work to make this a more livable community? If yes, briefly describe and include the issues.

Age Friendly Millinocket has prioritized its work according to the 8 domains of livability. Our top 4 areas of focus are: Transportation, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Housing and Community Support/Health Services. A transportation study was conducted by Thrive Penobscot and the University of Maine Center on Aging last year. As a result of findings, funds were later granted to the town from the Maine Community Foundation to implement a pilot project in collaboration with Millinocket Memorial Library and Penquis, the regional transportation broker. The purpose is for Penquis to provide no cost rides to community members to food sources, social events, retail shops, etc as part of their general transportation program. In addition, MML received funding from the John T. Gorman Foundation to hire a transportation navigator to establish a volunteer driver program to fill identified gaps in local transit services for older adults. The navigator will also assist in coordination of established services. Other emerging work is around developing a Complete Streets design that would make it safer for all ages to walk and bike in town. We are also working on building a handy helper and phone buddy program to make Millinocket a more livable community for all.

4. Organization Address:

Address: 197 Penobscot Ave

City: Millinocket **State:** ME **Zip:** 04462

5. Organization Tax Status: Please check the one that best applies:

- 501(c)(3) NONPROFIT
- 501(c)(4) NONPROFIT
- 501(c)(6) NONPROFIT
- A MUNICIPALITY**
- ANOTHER UNIT OF GOVERNMENT
- OTHER (PLEASE DESCRIBE) _____

6. Organization Twitter Handle: N/A

(if none, enter n/a)

7. Organization Facebook Name: Town of Millinocket, Maine

(if none, enter n/a)

8. Did your organization apply for a grant in 2017, 2018 or 2019?

- Yes – Selected more than once
- Yes – Selected once

Yes – Not selected

No – did not apply

9. How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

The AARP State Office in my state

The AARP Livable Communities e-newsletter

An organizational newsletter or conference o 880 Cities

A local event or newsletter

Word of mouth in the community

Social Media

Other

POINTS OF CONTACT

10. Grant Application Contact:

Name: John Davis

Title: Town Manager

Address: 197 Penobscot Ave

Phone: 2077237000*5 Email: manager@millinocket.org

11. Project Implementation/Execution Point of Contact (if different from #10):

Name: Cody McEwen

Title: Council Chair

Address: 197 Penobscot Ave

Phone: 2077318023 Email: cody.mcewen@maine.edu

COMMUNITY DETAILS

12. Name of Municipality Where Project Will Be Physically Located/Delivered:

Millinocket, ME

13. Approximate Address Where this Project Will Be Delivered:

NOTE: This information is for AARP’s analysis purposes only and will not be used in award information, etc.

Address: 197 Penobscot Ave

City: Millinocket **State:** ME **Zip:** 04462

14. Approximate population for the city/town/area where this project will be delivered:

NOTE: Please do not enter population ranges.

4400

15. Would you describe this community as:

- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban

PROJECT DETAILS

16. Project Summary

Please provide a summary of your project **in 2,000 characters or less.** **1997**

The Town of Millinocket and Age Friendly Millinocket are seeking to implement traffic calming measures in several areas of town to promote safe mobility through town, via ADA access, walkable streets and crossings, and safe bike routes for both essential services and recreational opportunities. The Town and community partners have a goal to revitalize the downtown to improve overall community safety and well-being. Age Friendly Millinocket is partnering with Millinocket Memorial Library and Thrive Penobscot to address the transportation needs of our aging population and to implement new and improved services.

Members of this group are partnering with stakeholders to develop a Millinocket Community Revitalization plan for the downtown using data from community surveys, committee planning sessions, a revised comprehensive plan, and the Katahdin Gazetteer, a regional vision and action plan. We have big ideas for electricity and lighting improvements, seating, public restrooms, and renovated sidewalks for ADA compliance. Our current project phase includes the assessment of current and future downtown pedestrian and traffic flows. The product will be an overall strategy and engineering plan for priority improvements. Scope of work includes our main route (Central Street), our downtown (Penobscot Ave) including intersecting walkways, public spaces and community facilities – the hospital, library, elementary school and former mill site.

We will consult with Maine DOT, town public works, and Bicycle Coalition of Maine to identify Complete Streets strategies to test out. We realize that this is a small grant award but removable DOT rumble strips, high visibility paint for bike lanes, and/or temporary crossings will give us an opportunity to try out some new traffic flow strategies, especially during busy seasons. Given the recent pandemic, any remaining or additional funding available would be used to support portable hygiene stations to help make community events safer.

17. Project Livability Improvement Statement:

Please specify in **350** characters or less the social impact this grant will bring to the community, especially to individuals aged 50-plus.

For example: This grant will improve (COMMUNITY X) by enhancing public safety through improving the walkability of the area for older residents and all individuals by adding traffic calming elements.

Please see additional examples in Attachment D.

This grant will improve Millinocket by enhancing walking and biking safety of older residents and all individuals by adding traffic calming measures in high traffic areas that lead to both essential services and recreational opportunities.

18. Project Category:

Please select the category below that best describes your project, along with the *primary* corresponding sub-category.

- Create vibrant public places** in the community through permanent or temporary solutions that improve open spaces, parks and access to other amenities.
- Public space activation (e.g., public plaza improvements, parklets, street trees, alleyway activation, seating and games in public spaces, seating along Main Street corridors, signage in neighborhoods)
 - Public art installations that make a space more inviting (e.g. murals and sculptures that are connected to a broader plan for the public space)
 - Park enhancements (e.g., park equipment improvements, new structures, dog parks)
 - Playgrounds (e.g., intergenerational play spaces)
 - Community gardens (e.g., building accessible community garden beds)
 - Activities to engage people in vibrant public places (e.g., open streets events)
 - Accessibility of amenities (e.g., increasing accessibility features of park equipment)
 - Public safety interventions (e.g., proper lighting, landscaping, block revitalization/maintenance)
 - Other (please only select if your project does not fit into one of the above categories and please describe in detail)

- Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options** through permanent or temporary solutions that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability and access to public and private transit and safety.

- Roadway/sidewalks/crosswalk improvement and beautification (e.g., markings for crosswalks, traffic calming pop-ups at intersections)
- Micro-mobility enhancements/management (e.g., parking and training on scooters, e-bikes, etc.)
- Bikeability (e.g., bike sharing options, temporary bike lanes)
- Expansion and enhancement of existing transportation options (e.g., adding volunteer-led transportation programs, enhanced coordination of existing transportation resources)
- Public or private transit access and safety (e.g., transit shelters, activating and improving transit stops)
- Improved wayfinding (e.g., signage and markings)
- Trails (e.g., completing and connecting trails, signage)
- Accessibility of transportation amenities (e.g., increasing accessibility features of transportation options for people of all abilities, including ADA compliance, etc.)
- Other (please only select if your project does not fit into one of the above categories and please describe in detail)

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- Support the availability of a range of housing** in the community through permanent or temporary solutions that increase accessible and affordable housing options.
- Accessory dwelling units and tiny homes
 - Co-housing programming and resources
 - Resources about housing options and available services
 - Innovative or new home maintenance, repair and support services
 - Lifelong housing and accessibility
 - Other (please only select if your project does not fit into one of the above categories and please describe in detail)
- Increase civic engagement with innovative and tangible projects** that bring residents and local leaders together to address challenges and facilitate a greater sense of community inclusion and diversity.
- Developing projects based on residents' priorities (e.g., participatory budgeting efforts)
 - Bringing resident insight and volunteer power into local government (e.g., citizen academies, local volunteers supporting City Hall efforts)
 - Engaging residents alongside thought leaders in problem solving (e.g., hackathons)
 - Other ideas that improve civic engagement in the community (please only select if your project does not fit into one of the above categories and please describe in detail)

Note to Nonprofits: While this new category is targeted to local governments, nonprofits can still apply for and receive a grant in this category, but they must demonstrate that they are working with local governments to solicit and include citizen expertise on the project or to help solve a pressing community challenge.

- Demonstrate the tangible value of “Smart Cities”** by developing and implementing innovative programs that involve residents in accessing, understanding and using data to engage in decision making that increases quality of life for all.
- Tools and programming to capture data and resident feedback
 - Activities that highlight the use of data to improve decision-making in local government
 - Other (please only select if your project does not fit into one of the above categories and please describe in detail)

- Other**
- Connectivity improvements, including broadband access.
 - Activities that increase access to healthcare services
 - Activities that support family caregivers
 - Activities to support entrepreneurship and economic development
 - Other (please only select if your project does not fit into one of the above categories and please describe in detail)

19. Project Deliverables:

Please specify the individual deliverables. Provide as much detail as you can about any **physical structures** (such as benches, lighting, signage, etc.), **dates**, **addresses** and **communications** within 300 characters for each deliverable. See examples in Attachment D. https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/community-challenge/2020/AttachmentD-Deliverables_Challenge2020.pdf

Deliverable 1: Age-Friendly committee will review AARP’s Complete Streets information and resources available on the website to become more knowledgeable of the work of other communities and potential strategies to consider for Millinocket. July 2020. 236

Deliverable 2: Age-Friendly committee will consult with local officials, Maine DOT, and Bicycle Coalition of Maine to assist planning and develop cost centers of project deliverables and determine efficient expenditure of grant funds. Start date: July/August following grant award. 272

Deliverable 3: Implement high visibility bike lanes in town located along main routes and heavy traffic areas. Consult with Bicycle Coalition of Maine and local public safety. Date TBD based on events being held (or not) and recruitment of volunteers to paint lanes, if determined feasible. 279

Deliverable 4: Install temporary-use DOT approved crossings or speed bumps during events or heavy summer traffic in congested pedestrian areas. Consult with Maine DOT and local public safety on implementation and storage of equipment. Dates TBD based on state and local COVID guidelines for community events. 293

Deliverable 5: Provide portable hygiene stations for use during community events for individuals to be able to participate safely. Will be consulting with local public safety to implement according to CDC guidelines. Date: TBD- Status of any community events is unknown at this time while monitoring COVID-19. 296

Deliverable 6: Work with community partners to create a Community Challenge Video, highlighting the Complete Streets projects funded by the grant. Footage to be ongoing and finalized by December 2020 for submission with final report. **220**

Add more as necessary

For example:

- I. Provide suitable lighting in the public space located at (ADDRESS) between Street X and Street Y.
- II. Commission and install ten (10) structures with LED lighting at (ADDRESS) with custom side panels.
- III. Install four (4) benches at (ADDRESS).
- IV. Install signage at (ADDRESS)
- V. Conduct outreach to the community through local media and social platforms owned by the City, Main Street Organization and the Chamber of Commerce and will include at least three (3) published communications promoting the public space improvements.

20. Project Type:

PLEASE NOTE: Proposals for the project types described below will be prioritized over those that support ongoing programming or events.

- Permanent physical fixtures in the community
- Temporary demonstrations that lead to long-term change
- New, innovative programming or services

PROJECT NARRATIVE AND BUDGET

Please complete each section with 2,000 characters or fewer (excluding Question 27)

21. Livable Communities Activities. Please provide a brief summary of the ongoing efforts to make this community more livable for all ages and share how the Community Challenge project will support that effort and have a lasting impact. **1981 characters**

Age Friendly Millinocket (AFM) is making our town more livable through a variety of community partners and initiatives. Currently, the most visible effort is the newly formed coalition, Mobilize Katahdin (MK).

Learn more at [AARP.org/CommunityChallenge](https://www.aarp.org/CommunityChallenge)

Questions? Email CommunityChallenge@AARP.org

(www.mobilizekatahdin.org) Initially established this March by Millinocket Memorial Library (MML) to meet the needs of older adults that are transportation dependent, MK has expanded to also respond to community needs around COVID 19. Volunteer recruitment has been rapid and in addition to delivering food, cleaning supplies, or prescriptions to those homebound or in quarantine, volunteers are also trained to be phone buddies. It is expected that many of the volunteers trained will continue to offer their services once the crisis is over. To our benefit, this partnership with MML to hire a resource coordinator to build a volunteer driver program is also establishing a future volunteer workforce for other age-friendly initiatives.

The Community Challenge project was first conceived before the pandemic and as a result of discussions about how people travel around town to get their basic needs met. What started as a transportation study ended up being so much more. The study created awareness about the segment of our population that walk as their primary means of transportation and about those that borrow a bike from the Katahdin Gear Library because they don't own a vehicle to get around. AFM Committee members discussed the concerns of those walking and biking on busy streets to get essential items at local grocery and retail stores and committed to pursue solutions to make our streets safer for all. Whether one is walking/biking due to lack of transportation or because they want to lead a healthy lifestyle, it has become a priority of the Town to improve walkability/bikeability for all. The Challenge Grant will help support our efforts to test out Complete Street strategies identified by our age friendly committee and community partners.

22. Community engagement. Please describe how residents and local organizations been engaged in the area's livable communities activities to date. **How will you engage the community and involve older adults in the process as you execute this grant?**

Before Millinocket formally established an Age-Friendly committee, work was being done by Thrive Penobscot to connect our older citizens to community resources to thrive in place. Thrive convened a Community Engagement Group and Food Council. These groups were formed to bring resident voices to the table to develop strategies to improve transportation services and food security for all. Going forward, Thrive Penobscot in partnership with Millinocket Memorial Library and Mobilize Katahdin will continue to serve as conveners and connectors to involve older adults in livable community work for the Town.

As we work through the grant process, we will continue to inform the community regarding project deliverables and implementation timeline. We will ask for input along the way through means of our social media platform and in-person with our volunteer base to include our target groups in the planning process.

Specific to this grant, a key partner that will be involved in our Complete Streets demonstration project(s) is the Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM) and the Outdoor Sports Institute (OSI). Millinocket is a designated stop for the BikeMaine2020 event, if it is not cancelled due to the pandemic. According to their website, a decision about the event will be made by June 1. Prior community planning with BCM staff and OSI included holding a Community Spokes advocacy training in Millinocket this spring. The training was to include a walkability/bikeability assessment of specific high traffic areas in town. This training has been postponed due

to COVID 19. While the timing of a future assessment is unknown, the BCM and OSI will be resources for us in our Complete Street planning and implementation phases. 1735

23. Role of Volunteers. Please describe how residents and local organizations been engaged in the area’s livable communities’ activities to date. How will you engage the community and involve older adults in the process as you execute this grant?

a. Do you anticipate volunteers age 50 and older playing a role in the implementation of the Community Challenge project?

Yes

No

b. Please describe the role that volunteers (particularly those 50+) will play in implementing the Community Challenge project.

Thrive Penobscot, Mobilize Katahdin, Millinocket Memorial Library and the Outdoor Sports Institute (OSI) all have access to community volunteers. As we plan and implement our project deliverables, we will engage the community in the planning process as well as in-person volunteering as deemed applicable given COVID-19 social distancing guidelines. Volunteers can assist by painting bike lanes where applicable or have a role at a hygiene station during a community event. 475

24. Multicultural Population. If the primary beneficiaries of this project are from a multicultural population, please select the one or two populations who are primarily served below (Please note: This does not carry weight in the scoring criteria).

- African American/Black
- Hispanic/Latino
- Asian American Pacific Islander
- Native American
- LGBT
- Other, please describe: ____

25. Metrics. Fill in the table with the estimated metrics you will be able to capture over the course of this grant activity and beyond, and include goals for each metric. *For example: number of people served, number of certifications issued, structures achieving ADA-compliance, etc.*

Metric	Goal
<i>Example: Number of People Served</i>	<i>Example: 50 Individuals Served</i>

Community wide, through roughly 54% of our target population is 50+.	4,400 Millinocket Population 2,376 Millinocket 50+ Target Group
(text)	
(text)	
(text)	
(text)	
(text)	

26. Matching Funds and In-Kind Support. Matching funds are not required. However, please detail any matching funds or in-kind support the organization will receive to contribute toward this project.

	Matching Funds (\$)	In-Kind Support
Nonprofit		1) Thrive Penobscot staff time 2) Millinocket Age- Friendly Committee volunteers time 3) Public Works staff time 4) Bicycle Coalition of Maine staff time
Private		
Public		

27. Project Budget. Please specify what expenses will be covered by the grant. Itemize anticipated expenses and income (if any) for this proposal. Include in-kind services, such as donated materials and/or labor. Add explanations if necessary.

	Expense	Additional information
Contracted services costs	\$5,000	Traffic calming measures (TBD), portable hygiene station supplies
Staff costs, if any	\$0	
Office materials & supplies, if any	\$0	
Travel expenses, if any	\$0	

TOTAL REQUESTED	\$5,000	
Are there matching funds or services planned? What is their value?	TBD	

28. How will you use AARP branding?

We will promote Age Friendly Millinocket activities made possible through these grant funds on our town website and Facebook page and include the AARP branding as allowed and/or suggested by our funders/AARP. This project will be a great opportunity to showcase our new Age Friendly Millinocket logo to further brand our local initiative. We will also promote grant progress through our committee minutes and town meetings.

29. Other Funding: AARP might be contacted by other potential funders that could be interested in funding projects that were not granted through the AARP Community Challenge. The potential funders may have additional process steps and funding requirements than those of the AARP Community Challenge. If requested, AARP would like to send your contact information, organization name and a short description of your proposal, including the community where the project would take place (“Project Information”). Please note that these projects will be subject to any potential funder’s own terms, conditions and review. Please indicate in your application whether or not you give permission to AARP to share your contact information and a description of your proposal. If you select “yes,” you agree on behalf of yourself and your organization to release AARP from all liability associated with sharing the Project Information with potential funders. We will alert you before this information is given to potential funders. **Do you give AARP permission to share this information with other organizations that might be interested in funding your project?**

YES

NO

An Opportunity for Other Possible AARP Funding: Please note that by submitting a proposal for the AARP Community Challenge initiative, you and your organization give AARP permission to reach out to you and others at your organization about other possible AARP funding opportunities that your proposal may be eligible for based on the AARP Community Challenge criteria. However, please note that AARP is not obligated in any way to consider your proposal for any additional AARP funding.

NOTIFICATION

Successful applicants will be notified by email. In order to receive funding, selected applicants must execute and return a binding Memorandum of Understanding and completed financial forms to the AARP National office to communitychallenge@aarp.org by 11:59 p.m. June 29, 2020. Noncompliance with this time period may result in disqualification.