

Delta Age-Friendly Action Plan



January 2024



Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the individuals and organizations who contributed to the development of the Delta Age-Friendly Action Plan over the past few months. We are extremely grateful to the 709 community members who shared their ideas, experiences and perspectives through the survey, focus groups, and community outreach. Special thanks to the Delta Age-Friendly Advisory Committee – your passion, local knowledge and insights were so valuable throughout the project. This work could not have been completed without the participation of these committee members and Delta residents and we are so grateful for your time and thoughtful contributions to the Action Plan. Moving forward, the implementation of the plan will require continued collaboration and support and we hope you will continue to partner with the City of Delta to ensure an age-friendly community for all.

Age-Friendly Advisory Committee Members

Dave Ayton, Delta Fire Department
Kim Campbell, Delta Police
Diana Cousin, Delta Parks & Rec
Kay Dennison, Resident
Annette Garm, Resident
Allan Holender, Resident

Hattaw Khalid, Fraser Health
Dan Levitt, KinVillage
Kim McLennan, Fraser Health
Lisa Pitman, Deltassist
Dave Quick, Kennedy Senior
Centre

Sarwan Singh Randhawa, FVRL
Courtney Robinson, FVRL
Sepia Sharma, Fraser Health
Kate Steel, Delta Parks & Rec
Cathie Watters, United Way

City of Delta

Olga Shcherbyna, Social Planning Manager

Funding for this Project

PlanH Age-Friendly Grant

Consulting Team

Lavleen Sahota
Victoria Barr
Alex Pysklywec
Celeste Zimmer



Our sincere appreciation to the **hən̓q̓əmi̓n̓əŋ** speaking peoples including the **scəw̓aθən** (Tsawwassen) and **xʷməθkʷəy̓əm** (Musqueam) First Nations. We honour our traditional hosts for this work, and the ancestral, unceded, occupied lands on which it occurred.

Executive Summary

Delta, British Columbia, is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the scəwəθən (Tsawwassen), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and other hən̓qəmin̓əŋ speaking peoples. Delta is a growing community with a diverse population, including a vibrant and active community of seniors coming from many ethnic backgrounds, different ages, and varying degrees of health, well-being, and mobility. These seniors have a wide range of needs and desires related to their quality of life and the City of Delta has many tools and resources that can be used to create an age-friendly community.

The City of Delta has a long history of supporting its senior residents. City initiatives that support seniors in Delta include:

- The Delta Senior's Bus program which provides free transportation to appointments, programs, recreation and senior centres, community amenities, shopping, and social visits within Delta.
- Senior recreation centres available in all three Delta communities which provide various opportunities for seniors to stay connected and fit.
- Free access to recreational activities for residents 75 years and older, and a reduced rate for residents aged 65-74 years old, to encourage seniors to stay active.
- A Seniors' Supports Coordinator who connects seniors to community resources.
- The Snow Angels program which clears seniors' walkways and sidewalks of snow.
- Funding local agencies to provide supports to seniors.
- Compiling a Senior's Services Directory online and in-print.

With funding from the provincial PlanH Age-Friendly grant, The City of Delta set out to develop a five-year Age-Friendly Action Plan to better understand the unique needs and challenges of older people in Delta.

Age-friendly communities help seniors to lead healthy, socially connected and active lives and are designed to meet the needs of people of all ages, including seniors. Age-friendly communities commit to creating environments and services that support healthy and active aging, social inclusion, and enable residents to participate fully in all aspects of community life, no matter their age.

The Age-Friendly Plan aligns with the [WHO Age-Friendly Cities framework](#) which identifies domains of life related to the physical environment, social environment, and social services:

- Outdoor spaces and buildings
- Transportation
- Housing
- Social participation
- Civic participation and employment
- Respect and social inclusion
- Communication and information
- Community supports and health services
- Extreme weather^a

The Delta Age-Friendly Action Plan was developed in consultation with the Delta Age-Friendly Advisory Committee and describes the current state of seniors in Delta, in relation to the age-friendly domains. This information is presented in both a community profile and gap analysis. Finally, in line with emerging practices and what we heard during community engagement, an Age-Friendly Action Plan outlines actions in the following focus areas:

- 1. Age-Friendly Lens**
- 2. Age-Friendly Built Environment**
- 3. Age-Friendly Social Environment**
- 4. Age-Friendly Communication**
- 5. Age-Friendly Advocacy**

An age-friendly community will benefit all residents in Delta but it requires collaboration across all levels of government and many sectors. To continue to ensure optimum health and well-being for all seniors, continued partnerships with senior levels of government, community organizations, and residents will be required.

^[a] Extreme weather: While not a WHO Age-Friendly domain, extreme weather was added as a domain in consultation with the City of Delta and the Delta Age-Friendly Advisory Committee.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
--------------------------	----------

Introduction	6
---------------------	----------

Methodology	10
--------------------	-----------

Community Profile	11
--------------------------	-----------

Gap Analysis	14
Social Participation	14
Outdoor Spaces & Buildings	16
Transportation	18
Housing	20
Respect & Social Inclusion	22
Civic Participation & Employment	23
Communication & Information	25
Community Support & Health Services	27
Extreme Weather	28

Age-Friendly Action Plan	30
Age-Friendly Lens	31
Age-Friendly Built Environment	32
Age-Friendly Social Environment	33
Age-Friendly Communication	34
Age-Friendly Advocacy	35

Recommendations & Next Steps	36
---	-----------

References	37
-------------------	-----------

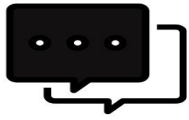
Introduction

Delta is a thriving, intergenerational community with a high quality of life. There are three distinct and geographically separated communities in Delta: North Delta, Tsawwassen, and Ladner, each with its own needs. In 2022, the City of Delta received funding from the provincial government [PlanH Age-friendly communities grant](#) to conduct an age-friendly needs assessment and action plan. The City of Delta contracted [LevelUp Planning Collaborative Inc.](#) to develop an Age-Friendly Action Plan, focusing on adults 65+, that is grounded in the [World Health Organization's \(WHO\) Age-Friendly Cities framework](#).

An Age-friendly city is where the community is designed and adapted to meet the needs and preferences of people of all ages, including seniors. Age-friendly communities commit to creating environments and services that support healthy and active aging, social inclusion, and enable residents to participate fully in all aspects of community life, no matter their age.

The [WHO Age-Friendly Cities Framework](#) identifies eight interconnected domains of life related to the physical environment, social environment, and social service domains:





Social Participation

Offering a variety of social activities and programs to cater to diverse people, taking place at suitable hours, locations and for a low cost will help reduce social isolation. Participating in social, cultural, leisure and spiritual activities in the community will help ensure seniors are engaged and integrated into their community.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings



Having building infrastructure and facilities that are safe and accommodating for seniors, such as wide, flat sidewalks with smooth slopes at intersections, ample rest areas with benches and public bathroom facilities will help reduce barriers for seniors to enjoy the outdoors and the surrounding community.



Transportation

Ensuring various modes of transportation options are safe, parking spots are nearby and public transit is safe, affordable, and accessible. Transit services and parking should accommodate people of diverse mobility needs to help reduce barriers for use.

Housing



Affordable, accessible, and safe housing options with features such as elevators, wide hallways and doorways, automatic doors to accommodate wheelchairs, etc., which allow seniors to live comfortably and independently. Having a range of housing options available (e.g., supportive housing, assisted living, long-term care) in central locations close to transit and facilities frequented by seniors will allow people to age in place and remain close to their family, friends, and community.



Respect and Social Inclusion

As residents age, they are more likely to experience social isolation and ageism. Facilitating multigenerational activities and programs can help people to better appreciate and understand the needs and challenges of seniors. It is important to have a range of opportunities available for all seniors to participate and be heard. Ensuring older people are engaged in the community and connected to others will help them feel valued in their community.



Civic Participation and Employment

Civic participation and employment refers to the volunteer and employment opportunities available for seniors in their community, as well as the way they participate in civic processes such as connecting with decision-makers or voting. Offering a range of volunteer and employment opportunities can help cater to seniors' diverse preferences, needs and skill sets while providing valuable contributions to the community. Providing training opportunities and learnings specific to seniors with special interests may help their comfort levels and ensure their knowledge remains relevant and up to date.



Communication and Information

Communications refers to the way people receive information about what is happening in their community. Communicating information in an accessible and user-friendly manner is critical for seniors, especially those experiencing vision and hearing loss. Considerations for more traditional forms of communication should be available, such as print and broadcast media, and through direct personal contact such as telephone calls, service centres in community facilities and clinics, etc.



Community Support and Health Services

It is essential that a wide range of affordable and accessible community supports and health services are available across the continuum of care to meet the diverse needs of seniors. The continuum of care includes services such as preventive care, geriatric clinics, hospitals, adult day centres, respite care, rehabilitation, residential nursing home care, home care and palliative care services.

Extreme Weather¹



Extreme weather events are more common due to climate change, as evidenced by recent heat dome events, smoke from fires in other parts of BC, flooding, and extreme cold and snow. To be an age-friendly city, it is important to know how to best support all residents, including seniors who are known to be more vulnerable during extreme weather events.

[1] Extreme weather: While not a WHO Age-Friendly domain, extreme weather was added as a domain in consultation with the City of Delta and the Delta Age-Friendly Advisory Committee.



Methodology

Several methods were used to inform the Delta Age-Friendly Action Plan. These included:



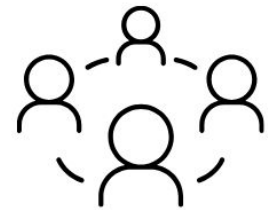
Forming and collaborating with the Delta Age-Friendly Advisory Committee



A background review of key City of Delta documents



A scan of existing services in Delta using [Social Service Directory \(2021\)](#)



Developing a community profile of seniors in Delta



A review of 14 Age-Friendly plans across BC



Community engagement activities



Data analysis and reporting

709 residents participated in community engagement activities which included a community survey, focus groups, and outreach.

Community Profile

Delta is a suburban municipality with a population of 108,455 people located at the mouth of the Fraser River in the Metro Vancouver region.

Delta has three geographically distinct urban communities: Ladner, Tsawwassen and North Delta. These communities are geographically separated by the large area of rural Delta, which only accounts for approximately 2% of the total population of Delta. The Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) is a separate Treaty Nation that is located on the Salish Sea and surrounded by Delta on three sides.



Photo source: United Way of the Lower Mainland. (2016). Community Profile Series: Delta.

Community Profile

The proportion of people aged 65 or older in Delta has increased from 18.7% in 2016 to 20.5% in 2021. That's an increase of 3,115 seniors, with the majority living in North Delta, where 62.9% of the total population is ethnically diverse.

Table 1: Proportion of the Population Aged 65+ in Delta and Metro Vancouver

Population	Ladner	Tsawwassen	Elsewhere in Delta (includes North Delta)	City of Delta	Metro Vancouver
Total population	23,016	23,940	61,499	108,455	2,642,825
Population aged 65+	5,180	6,640	10,455	22,275	460,790
Proportion (%) of the total population aged 65+	22.5%	27.7%	17%	20.5%	17.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population



Community Profile

Below is a table comparing seniors in Delta to the general population of the city. Of note, more seniors were born outside of Canada versus the general population, a higher percentage of seniors do not speak English nor French, and seniors experience low-income at a higher proportion than the total population of Delta.

Table 2: Characteristics of Population Aged 65+ in Delta

		City of Delta Aged 65+	City of Delta, total population
Visible Minority*	Total 'visible minority' population	29.0%	45.3%
	South Asian	16.7%	26.1 %
	Chinese	6.7%	9%
	Filipino	1.8%	3.4%
Indigenous peoples	Indigenous identity	1.4%	3.0%
Place of Birth	Born outside of Canada	46.6%	33.1%
Language	Speak neither English nor French	9.9%	4.1%
Income	Prevalence of low income in 2020, based on the Low-income measure, after tax (LIM-AT)	8.6%	6.9%
Housing	Owner households	85.0%	75.6%
	Renter households	15.1%	24.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population

**To identify racialized populations, Statistics Canada uses the term 'visible minority'. The Government of Canada defines visible minorities as persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour. The term has been rightly criticized as outdated and harmful, in part because racialized residents outnumber other resident groups in many Canadian communities and because it downplays the diversity of racialized communities and assumes whiteness as the norm.*

Gap Analysis

A gap analysis was completed following a review and analysis of background documents, City policies, age-friendly best practices, and community engagement results. Outlined are what the City is doing well to contribute to an age-friendly community, and opportunities for improvement for each age-friendly domain.



Social Participation

Strengths

- Residents report having a strong sense of community and belonging in Delta
- Programming availability and affordability is emphasized in the [Official Community Plan](#) and the [Social Action Plan](#)
- The [Social Services Directory](#) lists programs and services that support social participation
- Seniors have reduced rates or free access to recreation facilities

Opportunities

- Continue to spread awareness of resources/supports for seniors
- Continue to provide a diverse range of inclusive, accessible and affordable programming for all seniors at the Senior Centres and Recreation Centres
- Increased coordination between service providers to enhance community capacity to serve seniors

“Appreciate the opportunity to come to the Friendship group – we can laugh, talk, share issues we are struggling with, receive comfort from one another.
- Focus group participant



Social Participation Considerations for Seniors:

- Retirement can result in a lack of routine and regular social contact
- Seniors are more likely to live alone
- Socially isolated individuals may require additional supports to participate in new activities
- Inclusive spaces are needed for seniors to gather year-round

*“Get together at the park to pass the time but there is no space for us in the winter so we stay home.
- Outreach participant*



Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Strengths

- The [Official Community Plan](#) provides multiple policy directives that work towards an age-friendly built environment
- Delta has a variety of parks, trails, and green spaces available to residents in all 3 communities
- The City adopted an [Accessibility Plan \(2023\)](#) which includes a focus making the built environment more accessible
- The City is [investing in sidewalks and road safety improvements](#) through the Neighbourhood Road Improvements program and Delta's Neighbourhood Livability and Safety Improvements program
- The [Snow Angels program](#) clears snow from walkways and driveways of seniors' homes

Opportunities

- Continue to install and/or improve the condition of sidewalks, walkways, and trails
- Provide more street furniture (e.g., benches, tables, lighting)
- Provide more restrooms and drinking fountains in parks/trails
- Continue to let residents know how they can report built environment concerns to the City in a variety of forms (e.g., some seniors may not have access to or proficiency using technology)

*“ Lots of walking trails in all parts of Delta to exercise and take in all that nature has to offer.
- Survey respondent*

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings Considerations for Seniors:

- There are many active seniors living in Delta who regularly bicycle, walk, jog, play pickleball, etc.
- Need for way-finding as cognition changes occur
- Need for washrooms and drinking water
- Accessibility, walkability, and a focus on universal design should lead planning for an age-friendly built environment

*“There’s nowhere to sit, small benches. No other ones nearby.
- Outreach participant*





Transportation

Strengths

- Both the [Official Community Plan](#) and the [Social Action Plan](#) speak to the need for providing transit services
- The [Delta Senior's Bus program](#) provides a free curbside pick-up and drop-off transportation service for seniors 65+ living in Delta
- [The Delta Cycling Master Plan \(2022\)](#) uses an all ages and abilities approach (AAA)
- Delta is developing a [Vision Zero Strategy](#) which will improve safety and mobility for residents using all modes of transportation

Opportunities

- Continue to improve crosswalk safety
- Install more bike lanes and parking for bikes
- Increased Delta Seniors Buses service hours/days and destinations
- Continue to advocate for more and better public transportation services and infrastructure





Transportation Considerations for Seniors:

- Need for accessible transportation options that suit all levels of ability
- Many seniors prefer active transportation (biking, walking, etc.)
- Some seniors may no longer be driving and are more reliant on other modes of transportation such as public transit

“The seniors bus is amazing, allows seniors to be transported to places they want to go. Gives them independence.

- Survey Participant

“Bus service during the day when I would like to use it, is not frequent enough. Long waits at bus stop without benches in most cases.

- Survey participant



Housing

Strengths

- The [Official Community Plan](#), [Housing Action Plan](#), [Social Action Plan](#), and the [Social Service Directory](#) documents all provide policy direction and/or outlined services aimed at addressing housing and housing affordability for all residents

Opportunities

- Encourage the development of a diverse, affordable, and accessible housing stock (more than just high- and mid-rise condos)

New Affordable Housing Developments in Delta

Evergreen Lane - Affordable Housing Society and Housing Be Mine Society are working together to provide 198 new apartments and townhouses for seniors, families, and people with intellectual disabilities.

KinVillage is a redevelopment project in Tsawwassen that will increase affordable housing units for seniors to accommodate new residents, without displacing existing ones. The first phase of the redevelopment will provide 152 units with rents secured at affordable rates through BC Housing's Community Housing Fund. Phase one of the project is currently under construction.

*“There need to be more small rental units available for low income seniors. These units need to be centrally located for seniors who no longer drive.
- Survey participant*

Housing Considerations for Seniors:

- Accessibility features to accommodate for changes in mobility and cognition
- Close to amenities and transportation
- Places for social connections
- Multigenerational households

*“ We need more places like KinVillage.
- Focus Group participant*





Respect and Social Inclusion

Strengths

- The City of Delta has policy direction, as well as dedicated staff (Social Planner, Seniors Support Coordinator) to assist with meeting the needs of seniors in Delta
- The [Social Action Plan](#) aims to “Foster community connections, place making and sense of belonging in Delta”

Opportunities

- Provide more opportunities for seniors to be heard, especially via outreach activities and a Seniors’ Advisory Committee
- Age-friendly training for City staff, which includes how to combat ageism

Respect and Social Inclusion Considerations for Seniors:

- Many seniors experience ageism
- Residents are more likely to experience social isolation as they age
- It is important to offer a variety of opportunities for seniors to participate or be heard
- Traditional methods of engaging residents might not work for all seniors

“ This is my first time being able to speak about my needs. Nobody asks us.
- Outreach participant

“ People are very friendly and helpful to seniors and anyone else.
- Survey Participant



Civic Engagement and Employment

Strengths

- There are many volunteer opportunities in Delta
- The Seniors Support Coordinator can assist with connecting seniors to potential opportunities

Opportunities

- Develop additional communication about employment and volunteer opportunities available to seniors (not just online)

“ My husband and I are part of a local church so it provides lots of opportunities to volunteer and connect.

- Survey participant



Civic Engagement and Employment Considerations for Seniors:

- Many seniors are choosing to work longer and retiring at a later age
- Seniors have many skills and a wealth of knowledge to share
- Seniors who live in multigenerational homes have family obligations, such as providing child care to grandchildren, limiting their time to work or volunteer
- Newcomer seniors may require supports to fully participate in civic processes (e.g., language, learning about municipal processes, etc.)

“ I did not want to miss this opportunity to advise you of much more influence your planning has on all our lives...We residents have many ideas through our own experience of having lived here thus far.

- Survey participant





Communication and Information

Strengths

- The [Social Action Plan](#) goals encourage improved communication, such as the recent updates to City website
- The libraries in Delta are a source for technology and information for seniors
- Local newspapers (the Delta Optimist and the North Delta Reporter) are a source of information, as are the newsletters from the Senior Centres

Opportunities

- Enhance outreach to underserved and/or historically underrepresented communities
- Provide information in different languages
- Develop a centralized place for information both online and in-print (e.g., City of Delta website, libraries, senior centres, etc.)
- Provide information in a variety of formats, especially non-digital formats (e.g., posters, newsletters, ads in community newspapers)

“ If one knows where to look they will find that there are a good number of social activities and programs for seniors.
- Survey participant

“ Let's Talk Delta is hard to use for seniors.
- Focus group participant

Communication and Information Considerations for Seniors:

- Many seniors do not have access to technology or the skills to use it (digital literacy)
- Need for communications to occur in a variety of methods: print materials, larger font, clear messaging, meeting people where they are at, translate materials in different languages
- More traditional forms of communication should be available, such as print and broadcast media, and through direct personal contact such as telephone calls, service centres in community facilities and clinics, etc.
- In-person supports can provide reassurance and assistance

mckee workshops

HUB CYCLING FOR SENIORS

Get answers to your questions:

- How can I stay safe riding in traffic?
- What rules apply to senior cycling?
- How can I protect my bike from theft?
- How do I know what tools to use?
- What's the deal with a helmet?



THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH

HUB Cycling
Thursday, June 15
2:45 - 3:45pm

Cycling for Seniors
Learn about the rules of the road,
safety, routes and more.

Please register at the front desk.



McKee Seniors Recreation Centre
5155 47 Avenue, Delta, BC
604-946-1411

WiFi ACCESS
NETWORK: mck
PASSWORD: srs

LIFELONG LITERATURE



Monday, June 12
10:30 - 11:30am

Join FVRL staff member in the McKee Lounge
for short story reading and discussion about
the authors and stories read!
(Everyone Welcome!)

Free!

McKee Seniors Recreation Centre
5155 47 Avenue, Delta, BC
604-946-1411

Action For Happiness Webinar
Wednesday, June 28
11am - 12pm

Learn about the key to healthy
mental health & happiness



McKee Seniors Recreation Centre
5155 47 Ave, Delta BC V9K 5A2
604-946-1411

Jammers

Tuesday
June 6 & 27, 3pm

Jammers is more than a jam,
it's a concert!
Come listen, sing along, dance.



Coffee and treats served at intermission for \$1
Admission \$1 - goes towards 50/50 ticket.

Must have a current McKee membership
join us for live music and good times.

McKee Seniors Recreation Centre
5155 47 Avenue, Delta, BC
604-946-1411

Wednesday
June 21, 10 am



Cst. Geoffrey Young
Ladner Community
Liaison Officer, will be
stopping by McKee to
have coffee and visit
with our community
in the Lounge. We
hope you can stop by
and visit.

McKee Seniors Recreation Centre 5155 47 Avenue 604-946-1411

Strawberry Tea

Friday, June 9, 1pm
Tickets on Sale May 15

Join us for
McKee's Annual Strawberry Tea
Pioneer Hall

Complimentary for Members 90+, who have a
current McKee Membership
Members: \$15
Non members: \$17

McKee Seniors Recreation Centre
5155 47 Avenue, Delta, BC
604-946-1411

Foot Care Nurse
30 min appointments / \$40
Please see the front desk

Friday, June 16



Members only. Payment required at time
of booking at Customer Service desk.

McKee Seniors Recreation Centre
5155 47 Avenue, Delta, BC
604-946-1411



Community Support and Health Services

Strengths

- The [Social Service Directory](#) lists many community support and health services
- The [Official Community Plan](#) contains policy directives that commit the City to advocating for community support and health services
- The Delta Senior's Support Coordinator links seniors with community resources

Opportunities

- Expand the Delta Seniors Bus service to include trips to and from Surrey Memorial Hospital
- Develop a senior's visitation program
- Continue to spread awareness about services available to seniors

Community Support and Health Services Considerations for Seniors:

- A range of services and supports should be accessible and available
- Acute issues need to be addressed early to prevent poor health outcomes
- Supports are required to help seniors age in place

“The Delta Hospital is fabulous. It is extremely nice that parking is free, staff are quite friendly.”
- Survey respondent

“Excellent public facilities to support active seniors.”
- Survey respondent



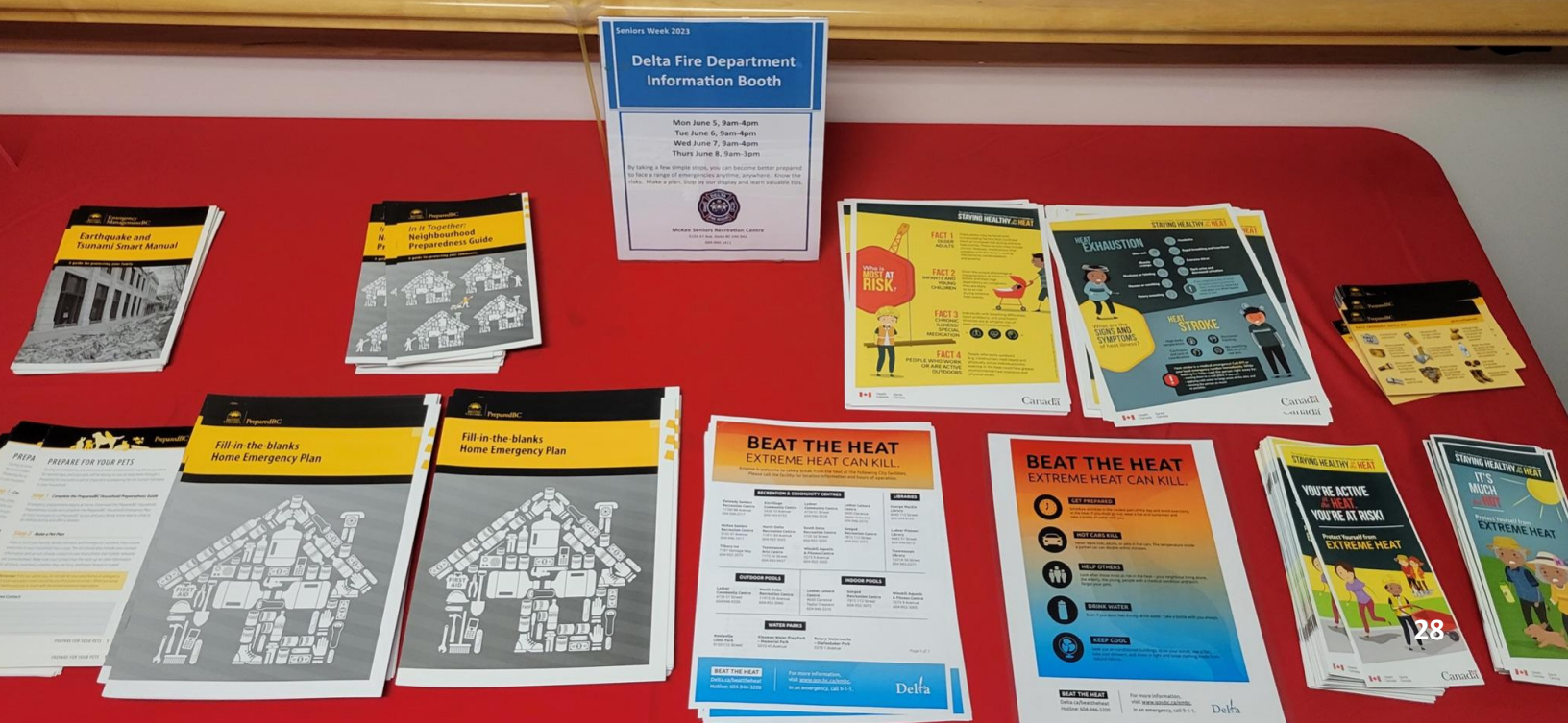
Extreme Weather

Strengths

- The City of Delta provides funding to open three [shelters](#) during extreme weather events for unhoused people
- There are good partnerships between the City, community organizations, emergency response units (e.g., Delta Police and the Fire Department), and Fraser Health
- The City has developed some [climate action](#) initiatives such as heat mapping, [identifying cooling sites](#), and updating the [Delta Heat Response Plan \(2022\)](#)

Opportunities

- Increase emergency preparedness awareness
- Work with the provincial government to ensure AC units, fans, and heaters are provided to seniors in need
- Monitoring and outreach to vulnerable individuals during extreme weather events
- Transportation to/from emergency shelters



Extreme Weather Considerations for Seniors:

- Seniors are vulnerable to health effects of extreme weather events (e.g., dehydration due to heat, breathing issues due to poor air quality, falls due to icy roads, etc.)
- Many seniors are socially isolated and require supports to deal with weather events (e.g., clearing snow, getting groceries, mobilizing to cool spots with air conditioning)
- Older housing units/apartments often do not have air conditioning

“ *Water fountains are needed in parks and playgrounds, especially during heat events.*
- Outreach participant

“ *Community based area, where people look out for one another.*
- Survey participant



Age-Friendly Action Plan

Based on emerging practices and what we heard from community members, a five-year Age-Friendly Action Plan is outlined below. The action plan is meant to be a tool that the City of Delta and key stakeholders can use to collectively work towards creating an age-friendly city where all seniors have their needs met and the opportunity for optimum health and well-being.

Timelines have been assigned for the action items as have potential key actors, such as community partners and departments at the City of Delta. Timeframes are defined as shown below: short-term (under 1 year), medium-term (1-2 years), long-term (over 2 years), and on-going.



1. Age-Friendly Lens

Objective: Seniors’ perspectives are respected, welcomed and centred in policies that affect them.

Action	Potential Key Actors	Timeline
Reconvene the Senior’s Planning Table	Social Planning	Short-term
Age-friendly training for staff which includes ways to combat ageism	Human Resources; all departments	Long-term
Outreach to all segments of the senior population	Social Planning; Senior Centres	On-going
Provide a variety of options for seniors to have their voices heard	All departments	On-going
Promote seniors as valuable members of the community (e.g., social media campaign)	Social Planning; Senior Centres; Parks, Recreation, and Culture; Communications	Short-term



2. Age-Friendly Built Environment

Objective: The physical environment in Delta is inclusive and accessible for seniors to ensure aging in place (e.g., diverse, affordable housing options), optimum mobility, safety, and prevention of injuries.

Action	Potential Key Actors	Timeline
Install and/or improve the condition of sidewalks, walkways, bike lanes, and trails	Planning; Engineering	On-going
Provide more street furniture (e.g., benches, tables, lighting)	Planning; Engineering	On-going
Provide more restrooms and drinking fountains in parks/trails	Planning; Parks, Recreation and Culture	On-going
Encourage the development of a diverse, affordable, and accessible housing stock (more than just high- and mid-rise condos)	Planning	On-going
Adopt and implement the Delta Vision Zero Strategy	Planning; Engineering	Medium-term
Develop a Climate Resilience plan which includes ways that infrastructure, green space, tree canopy cover and amenities can provide seniors with protection from extreme weather events	Planning; Climate Action	Long-term



3. Age-Friendly Social Environment

Objective: Seniors feel a sense of belonging in Delta and have many opportunities to connect with others in their community.

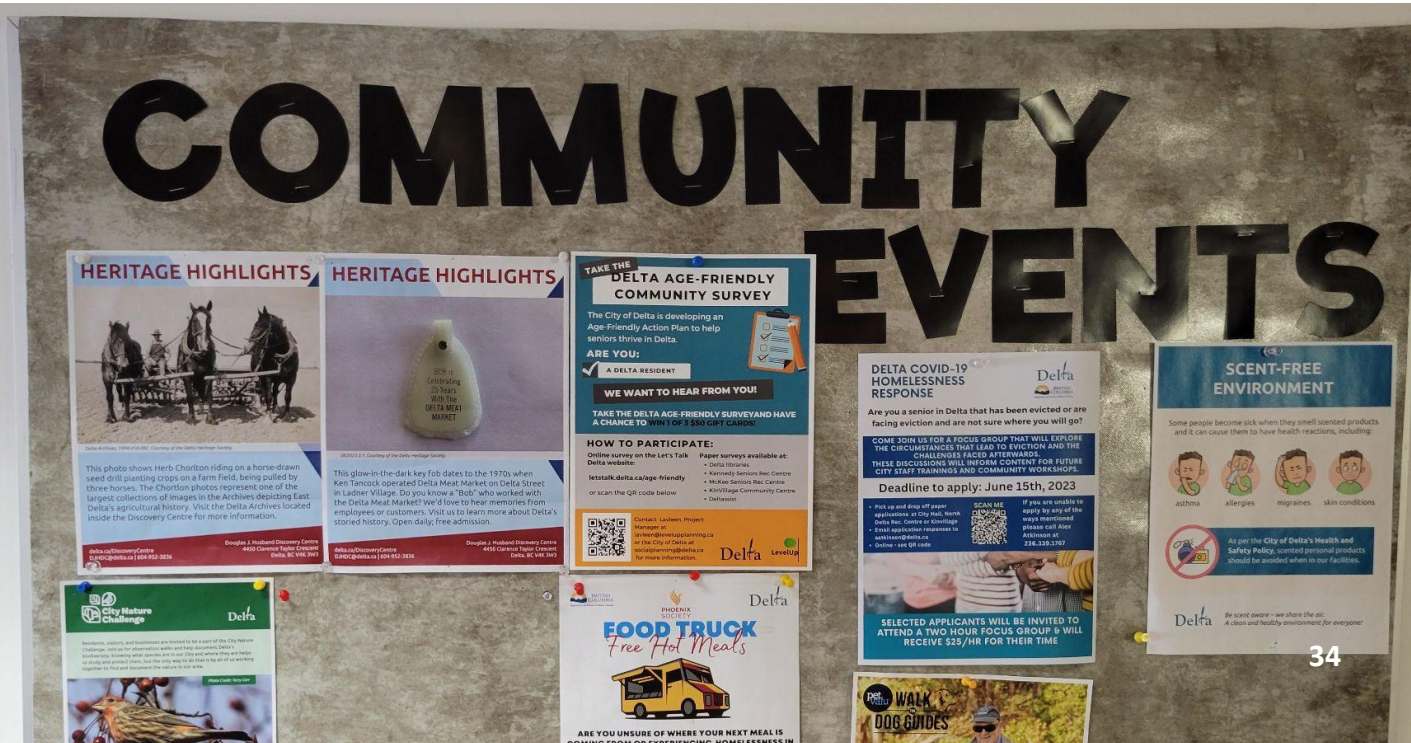
Action	Potential Key Actors	Timeline
Spread awareness of resources/supports for seniors	Communications; Senior Centres; Social Planning	Short-term and on-going
More inclusive, accessible and affordable programming	Parks, Recreation and Culture; Senior Centres	On-going
Spread awareness about volunteer and employment opportunities	Communications, Senior Centres	Short-term and on-going
Ensure a variety of programs for seniors of all demographics (e.g., ages, ethnicities, and abilities), including at different times of day	Parks, Recreation and Culture; Senior Centres	Long-term
Expand hours and scope of the Seniors Bus to include weekends and evenings, and appointments outside of Delta	Parks, Recreation and Culture	Long-term
Continue to work with community partners (e.g., Senior Centres, Deltassist, etc.) to ensure programming and resources meet the evolving needs of seniors	Senior Centres; Social Planning; Parks, Recreation and Culture	On-going



4. Age-Friendly Communication

Objective: Information from the City and community partners is delivered in a way that all seniors are aware of opportunities for civic engagement, social participation, employment/volunteer work, and of resources and amenities available to them (e.g., during extreme weather events, etc.) in Delta.

Action	Potential Key Actors	Timeline
Communications tailored to seniors of diverse ethnicities and abilities	Communications	Short-term and on-going
More outreach to underserved and/or historically underrepresented communities	Social Planning; Communications; Senior Centres	Medium-term and on-going
Create a centralized place for seniors' related information, both online and in-print	Senior Centres; Communications	Medium-term
Provide information in a variety of formats, especially non-digital formats (e.g., posters, newsletters, ads in community newspapers)	Communications	On-going
Increase emergency preparedness awareness	Communications; Fraser Health; Senior Centres; Fire Department; Delta Police	On-going
Spread awareness about volunteer and employment opportunities	Communications	On-going



5. Age-Friendly Advocacy

Objective: Continual advocacy to other organizations and levels of government for an age-friendly Delta.

Action	Potential Key Actors	Timeline
Continue to advocate to TransLink for more public transit options within Delta and to/from other communities in Metro Vancouver	Mayor and Council; Senior's Planning Table (once reconvened)	On-going
Continue to advocate to the provincial and federal governments for more funding for housing options for all residents, including supportive housing options for seniors	Mayor and Council; Senior's Planning Table (once reconvened)	On-going
Continue to advocate to the provincial government for more health care services (primary care, specialized care, urgent care) to be located in all three communities of Delta	Mayor and Council; Fraser Health; Senior's Planning Table (once reconvened)	On-going



Recommendations & Next Steps

Delta is made up of a diverse population of seniors who play a vital role in the community. The Delta Age-Friendly Action Plan provides a set of focus areas and actions that the City can implement to help foster seniors' health and well-being in the community. Through this Plan, the City of Delta can better incorporate the principles of Age-friendly planning to help ensure residents of all ages can stay active and thrive in Delta.

An implementation plan would prove helpful as the next step of the plan to outline how action items will be achieved. In addition, monitoring and evaluation will be required to ensure that the Age-Friendly Action Plan is making a difference in the lives of all seniors living in Delta. Data will need to be collected to answer these basic questions:

- Activities/outputs - How much did we do? How well did we do it?
- Impact/outcomes – What impact did we have? Who is better off? Why and how?

It will be important for all seniors to continue to have their voices heard and to be active participants in shaping a community that meets their needs as they age. Building and fostering respectful relationships with community members and community partners will be key to continue to implement the plan and monitor progress over time.

References

City of Delta (2023 March 02). Item 15 Census 2021 Council Report.

<https://delta.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/217177/>

City of Delta (2022a). Social Action Plan.

<https://www.delta.ca/community-culture/social-planning/social-action-plan>

City of Delta (2022b). DRAFT Technical Report – Supporting Delta Seniors to Age in Place: Municipal roles in serving and supporting seniors. City of Delta

City of Delta (2021a). Housing Action Plan.

<https://letstalk.delta.ca/17005/widgets/66792/documents/70040>

City of Delta (2021b). Social Services Directory.

<https://www.delta.ca/sites/default/files/2021-06/SocialServicesInventory%20CS.pdf>

City of Delta (2005). Official Community Plan.

<https://delta.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/37999/>

Statistics Canada. (2021). Census profile: Delta, City, British Columbia [Census Subdivision].

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1,4&HEADERlist=0&DGUIDlist=2021A00055915011&SearchText=Delta>

Statistics Canada. (2021). Census profile: Ladner, British Columbia [Population Centre].

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Ladner&DGUIDlist=2021S05101559&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0>

References

Statistics Canada. (2021). Census profile: Tsawwassen, British Columbia [Population Centre].

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Tsawwassen&DGUIDlist=2021S05101570&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0>

Statistics Canada. (2023). [Table 98-10-0232-01 Age of primary household maintainer by tenure: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions](#)

Statistics Canada. (2023). [Table 98-10-0387-02 Highest level of education by geography: Census divisions by province or territory](#)

Statistics Canada. (2023). [Table 98-10-0293-01 Indigenous identity population by gender and age: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions](#)

Statistics Canada. (2023). [Table 98-10-0348-02 Immigrant status and period of immigration by gender and age: Census divisions by province or territory](#)

Statistics Canada. (2023). [Table 98-10-0225-01 Knowledge of official languages by age: Canada, provinces and territories and census subdivisions with a population 5,000 or more.](#)

Statistics Canada. (2023). [Table 98-10-0352-02 Visible minority by gender and age: Census divisions by province or territory](#)

United Way of the Lower Mainland. (2016). Community Profile Series: Delta. <https://www.delta.ca/sites/default/files/2021-06/Delta%20Demographic%20Profile%20by%20Neighbourhoods%20CS.pdf>

World Health Organization (2007). Global Age-friendly Cities: A Guide. The WHO Age-friendly Cities Framework. <https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/age-friendly-cities-framework/>