WHAT MATTERS TO OUR COMMUNITY?



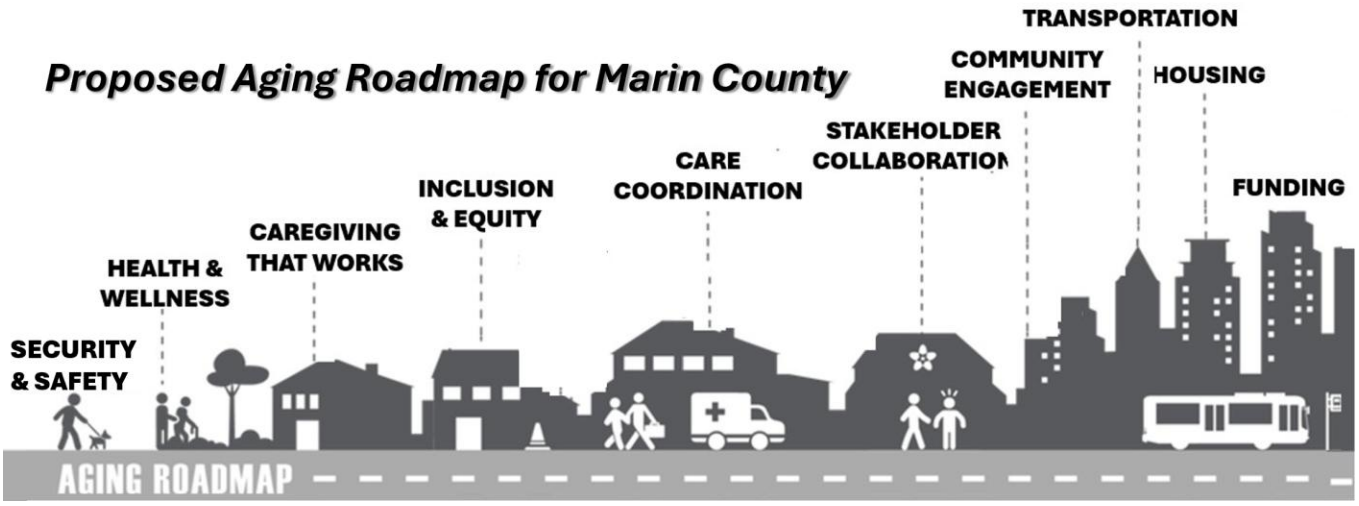
As we move through the seasons of life — childhood, adolescence, early adulthood, midlife, and later years — our priorities naturally shift. Each season brings its own challenges, goals, and perspectives, shaped by our age, experiences, relationships, responsibilities as well as each person's health and financial wellbeing.

Older adults 60+ years old currently represent over 30% of Marin County's population and projections indicate that percentage will reach 40% within the next decade. The greatest growth in older adults is those over the age of 80, which is also expected to double during the next decade.

Medical breakthroughs have extended life spans and the savings older adults expected to last a lifetime may not be enough to cover an extra 10 to 20 years to support quality of life for living and medical care expenses as older adults age, especially for older adults whose income levels exclude them from qualifying for government assistance programs.

As people age and require more assistance with daily living and health needs, there are a growing number of seniors whose incomes are too high to qualify for government subsidized program like Medicaid, but oo little to comfortably afford private-pay assisted living or long-term medical care.

The following provides a brief overview of concerns for older adults.



SECURITY – Basic needs (housing, food, health, utilities, clothing, care, transportation) to be affordable and attainable and the opportunity to stay engaged in the community through paid work.

SAFETY – Being safe in their homes and community (Elder abuse prevention & awareness, protection for vulnerable adults, fall prevention, scammers, and fraud) and prepared to be safe during disasters (fire at home or in community, earthquake, excessive heat).

HEALTH & WELLNESS – Timely access to resources and support that will maintain & improve physical, mental, social, and emotional health & well-being today and for future decades.

CAREGIVING THAT WORKS – Access to the support & resources necessary to provide responsive & manageable care while also tending to their own well-being.

INCLUSION & EQUITY – Improving access to all information, resources, and opportunities for greater social connection and feeling connected, included, supported that can be easily found and accessed especially for those socially isolated, digitally challenged, English as second language, or facing financial challenges.

CARE COORDINATION – Collaboration between medial & social services to provide proactive, seamless, prevention-focused, and person-centered support for age friend health systems, improving care, supporting providers, and maximizing independence.

STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION – Identify & address existing resources, services, synergies, and collaboration opportunities to enhance services–

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – Identify and address challenges & barriers to participation to ensure access to range of social community engagement opportunities that promote active living, reduce isolation, and provide enriching experiences with others across all groups & generations. And utilize proven outreach & engagement strategies in decision making process.

TRANSPORTATION - Accessible & safe transportation to quality-of-life activities & services being available for older adults & people with disabilities regardless of where they live.

FUNDING – A key driver that will directly impact outcomes when funding is focused on targeted actionable objectives.