



Proclamation

WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and Florida, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 2,362 new lung cancer cases and 1,417 deaths because of lung cancer between 2015 and 2019 in Marion County; and

WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is ~60%, yet only ~24% of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage. Lung cancer incidence is decreasing twice as fast in men as it is in women. Each year more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer and by 2035, more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

WHEREAS, screening for lung cancer for high-risk individuals using low-dose computed tomography can lead to the earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing the mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have the highest lung cancer incidence and mortality of all races, and disparities in lung cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment, and mortality are well characterized among African Americans and other racial minorities; and

WHEREAS, lung cancer in individuals who never smoked is the 7th leading cause of cancer-related death and accounts for 17,000-26,000 deaths in the US. Every year, 60-70% of individuals diagnosed with lung cancer who never smoked are women, and the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed in people who never smoked is increasing in the US; and

WHEREAS, organizations working in Florida such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum are committed to educating about lung cancer and lung cancer screening and working to increase lung cancer screening rates.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as

"LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

In Ocala and recognize the need for research in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities, and encourage all citizens to learn about lung cancer and early detection through lung cancer screening.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 29th day of August 2022.





Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala