

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH NOVEMBER 2023

- WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined; and
- WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is ~60%, yet only ~24% of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage; and
- WHEREAS, funding for lung cancer research trails far behind funding for research of many other cancers, and additional research is needed in early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for lung cancer as well as in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities; and
- WHEREAS, 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, the stigma surrounding lung cancer creates barriers to early diagnosis, treatment, and funding for research, has a detrimental impact on the quality of life of people diagnosed with lung cancer, and hinders awareness of and research into lung cancer risk factors other than smoking; and
- WHEREAS, organizations 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, Lora Vitek, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, do hereby proclaim November 2023 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month in St. Charles, 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.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lora A. Vitek".

Lora A. Vitek, Mayor