

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, lung cancer, also known as lung carcinoma, is a malignant tumor characterized by uncontrolled cell growth in the lung tissues, and it is the number one cause of cancer death individuals in the United States, claiming over 400 lives per day with a higher percentage of them women; and

**WHEREAS**, lung cancer is considered the “invisible cancer” because of the late onset of symptoms when the cancer is in advanced stages, low survival rate and lack of knowledge by the public, and the disease often requires laboratory testing or imaging to diagnose, and although it is the least federally funded of the top cancers, new screenings, treatments and therapies have improved the five-year survival rate by 17.2 percent over the past decade; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to increase funding for scientific lung cancer research to ensure advancements in early diagnosis, and to improved technology and treatments so the survival rates continue to improve, and the National Lung Cancer Awareness Month campaign helps to bring attention to this disease, the importance of lung cancer screenings, and the need for promoting optimum lung health; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1904, the American Lung Association has led the fight for healthy lungs and healthy air, and its mission is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease, and the organization is committed to its goals through advocacy and increased awareness, and its “State of Lung Cancer” reporting that examines promising trends, what needs to be done to save lives, and it provides a state specific understanding of the burden of and opportunities to address lung cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, Florida will have approximately 16,590 new cases of lung cancer diagnosed with an estimated 868 of them located in Hillsborough County, and along with the **American Lung Association**, many organizations are dedicated to lung cancer advocacy in our community and throughout the nation including the **American Lung Cancer Screening Association** whose mission is to promote lung cancer screenings for high risk people, **Women’s Lung Cancer Forum**, a community of lung cancer patients, survivors, physicians, researchers, friends and supporters, and **Prelude to a Cure**, a local Tampa group committed to pursuing and supporting innovative lung cancer research focused on prevention, early screenings, improved treatment options and higher survival rates; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of November as

## **“NATIONAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to become educated about lung health and to join me in thanking the dedicated organizations, members of the medical community, and all those who are committed to the health and well-being of American citizens.



*Jane Castor*  
Mayor