



City of Grand Rapids, Michigan

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ROSALYNN C. BLISS
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in Grand Rapids and across the United States, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 1,956 new lung cancer cases and 1,259 deaths because of lung cancer between 2015 and 2019 in Kent County; and

WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is around 60%, yet only 24% of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage. Screening for lung cancer in high-risk individuals using low-dose computed tomography can lead to the earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray as shown in the National Lung Screening Trial, also reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as indicated in separate trial; and

WHEREAS, while 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, it is likely that more women will die from lung cancer than men; 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 never smokers is the 7th leading cause of cancer-related death and accounts for 17,000-26,000 deaths in the US every year. Between 60-70% of never smokers diagnosed with lung cancer are women, and the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed in never smokers is increasing in the US;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month and recognize the American Lung Cancer Screening Institute for their commitment to spreading awareness and education about lung cancer and the importance of lung cancer screening.




Rosalynn Bliss