

WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and in Jackson County in 2021, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 2,817 new lung cancer cases and 1,881 deaths because of lung cancer between 2013 and 2017 in Jackson County; 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; and

WHEREAS, funding for lung cancer research trails far behind funding for research of many other cancers; 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

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 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of cancer-related death and accounts for 17,000-26,000 deaths in the US every year, and the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed in never smokers is increasing in the US; and

WHEREAS, organizations working in the Independence community, 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 in Independence.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Eileen N. Weir, Mayor of Independence, Missouri hereby proclaim November 2021 as

## **Lung Cancer Awareness Month**

in Independence, 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 Independence, Missouri, to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.

MAYOR

Attest:

CITY CLERK