

*Proclamation*  
*Lung Cancer Awareness Month*  
*November 2020*

*Whereas*, Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and in West Des Moines in 2020, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined; and

*Whereas*, According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 1,577 new lung cancer cases and 1,092 deaths because of lung cancer between 2013 and 2017 in Polk County; and

*Whereas*, The five-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is approximately 59 percent, yet only approximately 17 percent of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage; 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 percent when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial and reducing the risk of death at ten years by 24 percent in men and 33 percent in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial; 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

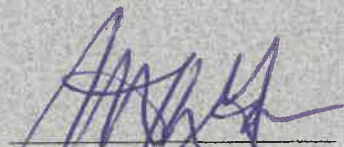
*Whereas*, Women diagnosed with lung cancer are more likely to be younger and never-smokers, lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in women are rising relative to men, more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer every year and by 2035, it is expected that more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

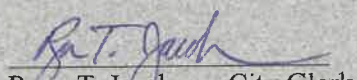
*Whereas*, Organizations working in the West Des Moines community, such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum, are committed to educating about lung cancer and lung cancer screening and working to increase lung cancer screening rates in Iowa.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mayor Steven K. Gaer and the West Des Moines City Council do hereby proclaim November 2020 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month 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.

Signed this 19th day of October, 2020.

ATTEST:

  
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Steven K. Gaer, Mayor

  
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Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk