

Town of Apex, North Carolina

PROCLAMATION

From the Office of the Mayor

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 41,258 new lung cancer cases and 27,124 deaths because of lung cancer between 2014 and 2018 in North Carolina;

WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is ~59%, yet only ~17% of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage;

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 mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial (3) and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial;

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;

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;

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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JACQUES GILBERT, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF APEX, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM November 2022 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month in North Carolina, 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 THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina to be affixed this the 8th day of November 2022.

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor