

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, in October 1985, National Breast Cancer Awareness began from a week-long campaign by the American Cancer Society in partnership with the Imperial Chemical Industries; and

WHEREAS, this campaign was meant to raise early detection of breast cancer through mammograms; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, and men in 2024 were projected to have over 2,700 diagnoses; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, 2.3% of women with the disease will die from it, and approximately 1 in 8 women in the U.S. (13.1%) will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, as of today, black women have the lowest survival rate for every known stage of breast cancer. Black women are also most likely to be diagnosed with distant-stage or unstaged cancer; and

WHEREAS, due to advances in treatment and promotion of earlier detection, the breast cancer death rate has dropped by 44% since 1989, resulting in over a half a million averted breast cancer deaths; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 67% of women ages 40 and older have had a breast cancer screening in the past two years; and

WHEREAS, we want to encourage all women to begin screening for breast cancer as early as possible. Women who have a strong history of breast cancer in their family should begin screening as early as 30 years old; and

WHEREAS, Breast Cancer Awareness month is an opportunity to honor survivors, support those with the disease, and recommit ourselves to spreading awareness across Alexandria and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2025 as:

“National Breast Cancer Awareness Month”

In the City of Alexandria.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 18th day of October 2025.

MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria Sitton, CMC City Clerk