

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2013 PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX

WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men aside from skin cancer, and the second leading cause of cancer death in men aside from lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates there will be 238,590 new cases of prostate cancer in the USA in 2013, resulting in an estimated 29,720 deaths, and it is estimate 1 in 6 men will develop this disease in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, in California, prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men in almost all race and ethnic groups and African-American men are over 45% more likely to develop this disease than non-Hispanic white men and over 58% more likely than Hispanic men; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated 20,430 men in California will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and it is estimated 3,085 California men will die from this disease; and

WHEREAS, the survival rate approaches 100% when prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 28% when it spreads to the other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms and advanced prostate cancer commonly spreads to the bones, which can cause pain in the hips, spine, or other areas; and

WHEREAS, recent studies suggest that a diet high in processed meat or dairy foods may be a risk factor, and obesity appears to increase risk of aggressive prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, obesity and smoking are associated with an increased risk of dying from prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends that all men should be given sufficient information about the benefits and limitations of testing and early detection to allow them to make a decision based on their personal values and preferences; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax City Council joins communities across our nation to increase the awareness about the importance for men to make an informed decision with their health care provider about early detection and testing for prostate cancer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Fairfax that September 2013 is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the Town of Fairfax.

John Reed, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM # 15