

**PROCLAMATION
TO DECLARE JULY 22, 2021
WORLD FRAGILE X DAY IN THE CITY OF TROY**

WHEREAS, Fragile X is the most common inherited cause of autism and intellectual disabilities worldwide and affects 1 in 4,000 males and 1 in 6,000 females. The FRAXA Research Foundation is an international 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to find effective treatments and ultimately a cure for Fragile X syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding in 1994, FRAXA has funded over \$30 million in Fragile X research. The Foundation funds scientific research at universities worldwide. Breakthroughs in Fragile X research are also likely to help people affected by Autism, Alzheimer's disease, and other brain disorders; and

WHEREAS, Fragile X syndrome is the most common cause of inherited intellectual disability and the most common known genetic cause of autism or autism spectrum disorders. Over 1.5 million Americans are carriers of a Fragile X mutation and thus have, or are at risk for developing, a Fragile X-associated disorder, and over 100,000 Americans have Fragile X syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Fragile X disorders are also associated with tremor/ataxia syndrome, causing tremors, balance deficiencies, and memory problems, ovarian insufficiency, causing reduced fertility or infertility, menstrual deficiencies, and early menopause; and

WHEREAS, Fragile X is a powerful research model for neuropsychiatric disorders, such as autism, schizophrenia, pervasive developmental disorders, and similar conditions including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, reproductive problems in women, and other genetically-based medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, Although the genetic defect causing Fragile X has been discovered and is easily identified by DNA testing, Fragile X frequently goes undetected due to its recent discovery and the lack of awareness about the syndrome, even within the medical community; and

WHEREAS, Raising awareness of Fragile X with the public and the medical community will help patients with the Fragile X gene make better informed medical decisions and help those living with Fragile X syndrome to adapt into society and provide significant contributions towards better understanding autism and other Fragile X-associated conditions; and

WHEREAS, On July 22, 2020 more than 60 buildings, bridges, monuments, and entire downtown regions were illuminated in teal to spread the word about Fragile X and celebrate the FRAXA researchers working hard to find effective treatments and ultimately a cure for Fragile X. This year they are working with partners at Harvard University and other Fragile X international organizations to broaden their reach in 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Troy City Council declares **Thursday, July 22, 2021** to be **World Fragile X Day in the City of Troy** and encourages all citizens to work together to raise awareness of the need for early diagnosis and treatment for the disorder as well as continued research to find a cure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Troy will illuminate City Hall's outside lights teal on **July 22, 2021** to bring awareness to Fragile X syndrome not only because it is a rare disease but because we need more people to understand the important role Fragile X plays in the autism spectrum – it is a single gene that has been identified.

Presented the 12th Day of July 2021