

PROCLAMATION
METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY – OCTOBER 13, 2021
AND BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH – OCTOBER 2021

WHEREAS, Each year, 200,000 Americans are diagnosed with breast cancer. Six to ten percent of these diagnoses are metastatic, or stage 4. Another 30% progress from stages 0, 1, 2 and 3 to develop stage 4 – maybe immediately or maybe 30 years down the line; and

WHEREAS, Science has very few answers to the reason why cancer metastasizes and we don't yet have an effective treatment to arrest metastatic growth. What we do know is that a diagnosis of Stage 4 breast cancer is not considered survivable and that almost 40,000 men and women die of it each year; and

WHEREAS, The breast cancer that kills is often forgotten in the numerous pink ribbon campaigns around the world. Every year more than 600,000 people around the world die from breast cancer due to metastatic disease. When you die from breast cancer, you die from metastatic breast cancer. The median survival rate of two-three years for MBC has not changed significantly in decades and scientific advances for MBC have not kept pace with those for other cancers; and

WHEREAS, This is what METAvivor is fighting to change. METAvivor's research mission is two-fold: to increase awareness about the funding discrepancy that shortchanges metastatic research in the cancer world, and to directly fund the kind of research that is currently lacking. With the primary goal of extending life and ending death from MBC, METAvivor awards grants for research projects that have the potential to shift MBC from a terminal disease to a chronic condition with a decent quality of life; and

WHEREAS, **October 13** is recognized as the official **Metastatic Breast Cancer (MBC) Awareness Day**. This year over 100 landmarks in all 50 states in the U.S. as well as in other countries around the world will light up in the metastatic breast cancer colors of green, teal, and pink. This is done to shine a light on MBC, the most advanced stage of breast cancer, where the cancer has spread from the breast to other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, The Pink ribbon is well-known for representing the fight against breast cancer but does not encapsulate the MBC experience. METAvivor designed a base ribbon of green and teal with a thin pink ribbon overlay. The base ribbon of green and teal represents green for the triumph of spring over winter, life over death, renewal, hope, and immortality; teal symbolizes healing and spirituality; and pink to signify the metastatic cancer originated in the breast;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Troy hereby proclaims **October 13 as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day** and **October 2021 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month** in the City of Troy and joins with our local hospitals and health care organizations to honor all Breast Cancer survivors for their strength, courage, and determination; and to honor and remember those who courageously fought but lost their lives to Breast Cancer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of Troy will illuminate City Hall's outside lights from October 1 - 31 at night in the color pink, the color representing **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** and on October 13 at night in the colors of green, teal, and pink, the colors representing **Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Troy applaud the hard work of **METAvivor Research and Support, Inc.** to fund research, raise awareness, advocate for, and provide information and support to people living with MBC.

Presented this 11th day of October 2021.