

Proclamation

- Whereas,** Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and
- Whereas,** Parkinson's disease is estimated to affect approximately one million people in the United States and the prevalence will rise to 1.2 million by 2030; and
- Whereas,** Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Whereas,** it is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is at least \$52 billion annually, including direct and indirect costs, including treatment, social security payments and lost income, to patients and family members; and
- Whereas,** research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and
- Whereas,** there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, and there is no cure or drug therapy to halt the progression of the disease; and
- Whereas,** the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include both visible motor symptoms such as tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; and a variety of non-motor symptoms including insomnia, depression, and cognitive impairment and dementia as the disease progresses; and
- Whereas,** volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and
- Whereas,** increased research, education, and community support services such as those provided by the Parkinson's Foundation, the Michael J Fox Foundation, and other organizations are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City Alameda, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

Parkinson's Awareness Month



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Mayor

