

WHEREAS: In the United States, flu diagnoses are most common during the fall and

winter months, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Influenza activity increases in October and November, peaks between December and February, and can last as late as May; and

WHEREAS: During the 2017-18 flu season, the CDC estimates that influenza viruses

caused 49 million flu illnesses, 960,000 hospitalizations and 79,000

deaths; and

WHEREAS: Although certain immunocompromised groups are at higher risk for

serious flu-related complications – this includes those under age 5 or over age 65, pregnant women, and people with certain chronic health

conditions - anyone can be affected; and

WHEREAS: To help prevent the spread of the influenza virus, annual flu vaccinations

are recommended and approved for most people over the age of 6 months. It can take about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies that protect against flu to develop in the body, so early vaccination is encouraged. However, the CDC still advises that it's never too late to

vaccinate during flu season; and

WHEREAS: The CDC established National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) in 2005

to highlight the importance of continuing flu vaccinations through the

holiday season and beyond; and

WHEREAS: During this national observance, all Northeast Florida residents are

reminded of the importance of vaccination and encouraged to receive the vaccine at any time during flu season. More information can be found at **flu.gov** or via the local Florida Department of Health office at

<u>duval.floridahealth.gov</u>.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim December 2-8, 2018 as

INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to protect our community health by taking preventative measures to avoid the spread of the flu.

TACKSON TO THE PARTY OF THE PAR

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 19th day of November in the year Two Thousand and Eighteen

MAYOR