

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PLACERVILLE DECLARING MAY, 2024, AS
LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS: Lyme disease is an often-misunderstood illness that can cause serious health problems if it is not caught early and properly treated; and

WHEREAS: Lyme disease is a bacterial infection primarily transmitted by the bite of an infected tick. The disease was first identified in North America in the 1970s in Lyme, Connecticut, for which it was named, and since that time, the disease has since been found in all 50 states in the United States and worldwide; and

WHEREAS: Lyme disease is a complex, multisystem illness. Early signs of infection may include rash and flu-like symptoms, including fever, muscle aches, headaches, and fatigue. Usually, the disease responds well to prompt treatment with appropriate antibiotics. If untreated or inadequately treated, however, Lyme disease can invade multiple organs of the body, including the brain and nervous system; and

WHEREAS: Since there is no reliable form of testing that can accurately pinpoint Lyme disease, getting a proper diagnosis and prompt treatment is often extremely difficult; and

WHEREAS: Patients with Lyme disease are frequently misdiagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, multiple sclerosis, and various psychiatric illnesses, including depression. Misdiagnosis of these other diseases often delays the correct diagnosis and treatment, while the underlying infection progresses; and

WHEREAS: Lyme disease affects people of all ages but is most common in children and older adults, and in people who spend time outdoors in wooded, grassy areas, including park rangers and firefighters; and

WHEREAS: Ticks attach themselves to host animals such as deer, rodents, and birds, and as the host animals migrate to new areas, so do the ticks. Most people who contract Lyme disease get it from the bite of a nymphal tick and because nymphs are as small as poppy seeds and their bite is painless, many people do not notice or remove them. The longer a tick is attached to the body, the more likely it will transmit whatever diseases it carries; and

WHEREAS: In California, the Lyme disease bacterium is transmitted by the western blacklegged tick. Ticks are active year-round, especially when it is wet. Thus, this tick is most common in the coastal regions and along the western slope of the Sierra Nevada range:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jackie Neau, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Placerville, hereby proclaim May, 2024, as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

Dated: April 23, 2024

Mayor Jackie Neau