



## Cover Memorandum/Staff Report

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**File #:** 22-539

**Agenda Date:** 5/3/2022

**Item #:** 6.H.11.

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**TO:** Mayor and Commissioners  
**FROM:** Katerri Johnson, City Clerk, Office of the City Clerk  
**THROUGH:** Terrence R. Moore, ICMA-CM  
**DATE:** May 3, 2022

### HEPATITIS AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

#### **Recommended Action:**

Motion to proclaim May as Hepatitis Awareness Month.

#### **Background:**

Millions of Americans are impacted by the Hepatitis A Virus (HAV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), which cause infection of the liver, including an estimated 806 new cases of HCV was reported in Florida in 2019, an increase of over 50% from 2018 and approximately over 2 out every 100,000 are living with HBV in Palm Beach County. Greater than half of people living with viral hepatitis are unaware they are infected, thereby increasing their risk for severe health problems such as cirrhosis, liver cancer and death. With immunizations, access to clean syringes, and early detection, Hepatitis B and C can be prevented, Hepatitis B can be treated, and Hepatitis C can be cured, thereby saving lives.

The current epidemic of opioid and other substance use in the state is increasing transmission of these viruses that are spread through sexual intercourse, blood, primarily intravenous, inclusive of intranasal drug use. The CDC recommends all individuals over the age of 18 and pregnant women be screened for the Hepatitis C Virus, at-risk populations and all people born in regions of the world where HBV is common be screened for Hepatitis B Virus, and routine vaccination against Hepatitis A and B.

#### **City Attorney Review:**

N/A

#### **Funding Source/Financial Impact:**

N/A

#### **Timing of Request:**

N/A