

WHEREAS: Those with metastatic breast cancer want to be heard. They want others to know that it is possible to enjoy a quality life with the disease, and to live well beyond the two- to three-year span cited in some statistics. They want more and better treatments to prolong their lives. And they want to be accepted and included by the rest of the breast cancer community; and

WHEREAS: Raising awareness of this largely misunderstood disease will help bring about acceptance, support, and solidarity, and will help advocate for medical advances. It is critical to educate the public and to help provide metastatic breast cancer patients with a more supportive and productive environment; and

WHEREAS: The Metastatic Breast Cancer Network is calling for the various institutions in the breast cancer community - support groups, cancer organizations and medical centers around the nation - to do their part to strengthen awareness of this disease; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the members of the Cambridge City Council declare *October 13th* the first annual ***Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day*** and call upon the people of Cambridge to acknowledge this day with appropriate programs and activities to demonstrate a commitment of recognition and acceptance to our friends and neighbors with metastatic breast cancer; and therefore be it further

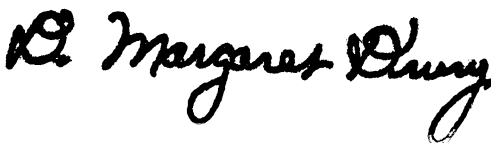
RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the organizers of this important awareness effort on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council July 28, 2008.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;



ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

R-25.

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 28, 2008

MAYOR SIMMONS
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR MAHER
VICE MAYOR MURPHY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SEIDEL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The American Cancer Society reports that in 2008 an estimated 180,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. If detected early, breast cancer patients can have a high rate of recovery. But one-third of those patients will have a frightening conversation with their doctors. They will learn that their cancer has recurred or spread. They are now considered stage IV or metastatic. While treatments for metastatic breast cancer have greatly improved, it remains the cause of death for those diagnosed with breast cancer. New therapies prolong life and greatly improve the quality of life, but the reality is that breast cancer is a disease for which there is no cure; and

WHEREAS: Unlike the millions of women who feel they have beaten the disease, many of those living with metastatic breast cancer do not see themselves as "survivors." Their battle is constant. They are among the 150,000 with stage IV breast cancer who live in fear of disease progression and face a lifetime of ongoing treatments. Despite treatment advances made in the last decade, every year some 40,000 die. Patients with metastatic disease must continually worry they will eventually run out of options and become part of that number; and

WHEREAS: Statistics suggest that those with metastatic breast cancer have a life expectancy of only two to three years from initial diagnosis. In fact, new treatment options have significantly extended that time frame. Many women are beating the odds and living years longer. Still, many are dying too young, and too soon; and

WHEREAS: Every year, October marks Breast Cancer Awareness Month. As the world is seemingly awash in pink ribbons, many who live with stage 4 breast cancer stand on the sidelines watching as cancer "survivors" march, speak out, and rally around the cause. Survivors are applauded and feted for beating the disease, while those whose cancer has metastasized, those who are on the front lines, are often ignored. The metastatic group is left aside, branded as 'failures' in the breast cancer community. They often feel pushed into the shadows, isolated, stigmatized and misunderstood; and

RESOLUTION #25

Declare October 13, 2008 the first
annual Metastatic Breast Cancer
Awareness Day

**Mayor Simmons and entire
membership**

**In City Council
July 28, 2008**

ORDER ADOPTED