

**RESOLUTION NO. 915-2022, DESIGNATING DECEMBER AS  
“HIV/AIDS AWARENESS MONTH” IN SUFFOLK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, human immunodeficiency virus (“HIV”) is a virus that attacks the body’s immune system and if HIV is not treated, it can lead to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (“AIDS”); there is currently no cure but with proper care it can often be controlled; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the virus only being identified in 1984, more than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS related illnesses making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history, and presently, there are an estimated 5,773 Long Island residents who are living with the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, many people still do not know the facts about how to protect themselves and others from this virus, and the stigma and discrimination remain a reality for many living with this condition; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 1<sup>st</sup> “World AIDS Day” was established by the World Health Organization in 1988 to facilitate the exchange of information among national and local governments, international organizations and individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, “World AIDS Day” is an opportunity to show solidarity with the millions of people living with HIV worldwide by encouraging people to unite globally to eliminate the disparities and inequities that create barriers to HIV testing, prevention and access to HIV care, and many people do this by wearing a red ribbon; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Suffolk wishes to designate the month of December as “HIV/AIDS Awareness Month” in Suffolk County to increase awareness and support those living with HIV, to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS related illness, to remind the public and government that HIV has not gone away and that there still is a vital need to raise money for this cause; now, therefore be it

**1<sup>st</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that beginning in 2022 and continuing every year thereafter the month of December shall be designated as “HIV/AIDS Awareness Month” in Suffolk County to educate the residents of Suffolk County to encourage early detection and about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe; and be it further

**2<sup>nd</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that the Department of Public Works is hereby authorized, empowered and directed, pursuant to Section C8-2(W) of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER to illuminate the north side of the H. Lee Dennison Executive Office Building facing Veterans Memorial Highway with a red glow on the evening of December 1<sup>st</sup> beginning in 2023 and continuing every year thereafter; and be it further

**3<sup>rd</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) and (33) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW insofar as these actions constitute routine or

continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: December 6, 2022

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone  
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: December 16, 2022