



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** In October 1981, the American Humane Association founded Adopt A Dog Month in response to the growing number of dogs and puppies entering shelters every year; and
- WHEREAS:** According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), an estimated 3.3 million dogs enter animal shelters nationwide each year. Of those, approximately 1.6 million are adopted; and
- WHEREAS:** Although Jacksonville has proudly been a no-kill community since 2014, thanks to the commitment of the City's Animal Care and Protective Services (ACPS) and partner organizations, maintaining that status is a collaborative effort that requires the assistance of adopters, fosters, volunteers and citizens; and
- WHEREAS:** To be considered no-kill, at least 90 percent of healthy animals that enter a shelter must be either adopted or transferred to a rescue group; and
- WHEREAS:** Adoptable animals in our community are also kept up-to-date on vaccinations and are spayed or neutered prior to adoption, thus preventing the opportunity for more homeless animals; and
- WHEREAS:** ACPS is currently utilizing a "You Pick the Adoption Fee" promotion for its observance of Adopt A Shelter Dog Month, with its nearly 200 dogs and more than 150 cats eligible for the adopter's price. The shelter is currently over capacity, which challenges staff in best meeting each animal's individual needs; and
- WHEREAS:** Jacksonville is committed to the well-being of all members of our community. Through the support of ACPS, its animal welfare partners, and the many citizens who adopt and foster homeless animals each year, we are improving the lives of countless companion animals and communities.

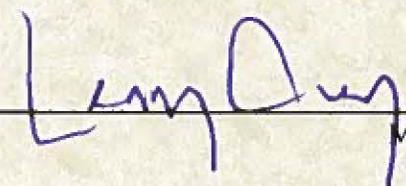
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 2018 as

ADOPT A SHELTER DOG MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to consider welcoming a furry friend into their homes and families.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 1st day of October in the year Two Thousand and Eighteen


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA