

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

June 9, 2026

Proclaiming October Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Supporting Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Los Angeles Event

Approximately 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, and 1 in 43 women will die from the disease.¹ According to 2026 estimates, breast cancer will account for 32% of all new cancer diagnoses among women and 14% of all cancer-related deaths, making it the second leading cause of cancer death among women in the United States after lung cancer. It is also the leading cause of cancer death among women under the age of 50.²

Breast cancer remains the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in the United States, with more than 320,000 new invasive cases expected this year alone. While mortality rates have declined due to advances in research, early detection, and treatment, these improvements have not been experienced equitably. Black women are 38% more likely to die from breast cancer despite having a 5% lower incidence rate than White women. These disparities underscore the urgent need to close gaps in access to screening, timely diagnosis, patient navigation, and high-quality care through

¹ <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/about/how-common-is-breast-cancer.html>

² Siegel RL, Kratzer TB, Wagle NS, Sung H, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2026. CA Cancer J Clin. 2026;76(1): e70043. doi:10.3322/caac.70043.

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coordinated, community-driven efforts.³

Since 2000, the Los Angeles County (County) Department of Public Health's Office of Women's Health has supported breast cancer awareness, education, and early detection initiatives, while also encouraging community engagement and fundraising efforts. The 2026 American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Los Angeles event will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2026, at The Citadel Outlets, located at 100 Citadel Drive, Commerce, CA 90040. This annual event brings the community together to support survivors, patients, and their families, while raising critical funds for prevention, support services, and lifesaving research aimed at advancing new treatments and improving outcomes.

The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Los Angeles event aligns with the Board's commitment to improving the health of all County residents by encouraging physical activity, promoting preventive health, and advancing health equity. It enhances public awareness of breast cancer risk factors and the importance of regular screening, particularly in communities where disparities are most significant.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Proclaim October 2026 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" to promote prevention, early detection, and support for individuals affected by breast cancer.
2. Direct County departments to support the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Los Angeles event on Saturday, October 17, 2026, by registering to participate and supporting fundraising efforts.
3. Direct the Director of the Department of Public Health to promote the event on social media and disseminate educational materials and infographics on screening guidelines, written in easy-to-understand and plain language for the community.
4. Direct County Department Public Information Officers to promote and distribute materials related to the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Los Angeles event; promote the American Cancer Society's ACS CARES app,⁴ which connects patients and caregivers to quality information and resources and provides

³ <https://www.breastcancer.org/facts-statistics>

⁴ <https://www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/acs-cares.html>

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personalized one-on-one support free of charge; and promote the American Cancer Society's 24/7 Cancer Helpline, at 1-800-227-2345.

5. Direct all County departmental wellness coordinators to promote the 2026 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Los Angeles event and encourage colleagues to participate and support it.

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