Whereas, Florida and the City of North Port are becoming increasingly urbanized with steadily increasing traffic and widening roads, and approximately 4,000 vision-impaired pedestrians in Sarasota County face additional challenges completing trips crossing major intersections; and

Whereas, the white cane symbolizes the ability of blind and visually impaired Americans to achieve full and independent lives with the capacity to work productively and contribute to society; and

Whereas, the Florida White Cane Law, Florida Statute 316.1301, requires that all traffic stop when the bearer of a white cane tipped in red or accompanied by a guide dog starts across the street, even if there is a green light for oncoming traffic; and

Whereas, motorists should be aware that yielding to such a pedestrian is not just a courtesy, it's the law.

Now, Therefore, WE, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 16, 2019 as

White Cane Safety Day

and call upon all citizens to join us in observing this day in the City of North Port.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE have hereunto set our hands and seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 3rd day of October 2019.

ATTEST

Heather Taylor, Deputy City Clerk

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

Christopher Hanks, Mayor

Debbie McDoyvell Vice Mover

Vanessa Carusone, Commissioner

Pete Emrich, Commissioner

Jill Luke, Commissioner