PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Slips and falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among Arizona residents 65 and older. It is estimated that one in four adults will suffer a serious fall, and it accounts for the highest mortality rate for men over 85; and,

WHEREAS, Falls can result in sizeable personal and financial tolls that greatly affect a person's quality of life. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), depression, loss of mobility, and loss of functional independence are frequent challenges impacting those that are injured; and,

WHEREAS, The total cost for unintentional slips and falls, excluding costs associated with physician care, EMS services, rehabilitation, or long-term disability, exceeds three billion dollars annually; and,

WHEREAS, Falling is NOT an inevitable result of aging. Prevention programs can assist with everyday strategies to improve mobility and stability and reduce risks; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Tempe urges all older adults, family members and caregivers, healthcare providers, medical centers, first responders, law-enforcement, and community partners to join the Arizona Falls Prevention Coalition and routinely assess older adults, including our veterans and those with disabilities for fall risks and strategies to improve mobility and stability.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Corey Woods, Mayor of the City of Tempe, Arizona, do hereby declare:

*September 2022*

as

Falls Prevention Awareness Month

in Tempe, Arizona

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 21st day of September, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

Corey D. Woods