

City of Ithaca Proclamation

Whereas, since 1919 our country has paused at “the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month,” to respect and recognize the diligence, duty, and sacrifice committed faithfully by the people who don the uniforms of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and their reserve components, including the National Guard and Air National Guard; and

Whereas, each Veterans Day provides an opportunity to remember and honor the courage, valor, and dedication of those who paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm’s way for the good of our nation; and

Whereas, the City of Ithaca joins in that commemoration with its leaders conveying our deepest gratitude and paying tribute to all these individuals – especially those who consider Ithaca home – by communicating our sincere appreciation for their extraordinary contributions to our nation and their continued support of community today; and

Whereas, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually, with studies indicating that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during their transition from military to civilian life; and

Whereas, active Military Service Members exiting service to become Veterans are at a high risk for suicide during their first year following military service; and

Whereas, Operation Greenlight is an effort to show support for Veterans of all military conflicts, with a special emphasis on the Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan wars, as well as raise awareness about the many challenges Veterans face and the resources available at the county, state, and federal levels to assist Veterans and their families; and

Whereas, Operation Greenlight seeks to shine a light on the service of Veterans as the color green symbolizes hope, renewal, and wellbeing, and allows our greater community, by switching one public-facing lightbulb to green, to show visible support for our Veterans; and

Whereas, Operation Greenlight’s observation provides a time to salute and honor the service of New York’s Veterans and reminds us of our collective sacred obligations to our Veterans and their families; and

Whereas, Veterans continue to serve our country by focusing locally through involvement with organizations including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans For Peace, Team Red White Blue (RWB), church and other community groups, as well as civil service; and

Whereas, organizations and businesses throughout the City of Ithaca wish to honor our Veterans on November 11, 2022, and beyond;

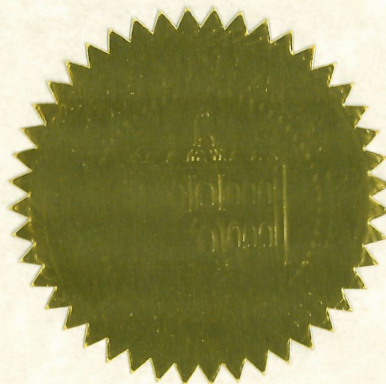
Now, therefore, I, LAURA LEWIS, Acting Mayor of the City of Ithaca, do hereby proclaim November 6-12, 2022, as:

Veterans Week In the City of Ithaca

in celebration of our community of Veterans; and be it

Resolved, that in observance of Operation Green Light, the Mayor and Common Council encourages all residents – in patriotic tradition – to display a green light in a public-facing window or entry of their place of business or residence during Veterans Week with the hopes that, through this simple act of changing one light to green, we can spark meaningful conversations regarding the recognition of Veterans and help “green light” them forward as valued members of our communities,

In Witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Ithaca to be affixed to this proclamation the 2nd day of November in the year 2022.



Laura Lewis

Laura Lewis, Acting Mayor