Proclamation

Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, individuals who are blind or visually impaired contribute fully to the civic, cultural, economic, and community life of Manatee County and deserve equal opportunities to live independently and participate fully in their communities; and

WHEREAS, National White Cane Day, observed annually on October 15, honors the achievements and independence of people who are blind or visually impaired and raises awareness about the importance of accessibility, safety, mobility, and inclusion for all individuals with vision loss; and

WHEREAS, the white cane serves as a symbol of independence and a vital mobility tool, enabling individuals who are blind or visually impaired to navigate their communities safely and confidently; and

WHEREAS, Manatee County is committed to fostering accessibility, promoting public awareness and supporting individuals who are blind or visually impaired through resources, services and inclusive community partnerships.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that October 15, 2026, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

NATIONAL WHITE CANE DAY

in Manatee County, Florida, and all residents are encouraged to celebrate the independence of individuals with vision loss and work toward a more inclusive, accessible community.

ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this Tuesday, October 20, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Tal Siddique

Tal Siddique, Chairperson

October 20, 2026 -Regular Meeting

Subject
National White Cane Day

Category
AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Briefings
None

Contact and/or Presenter Information
Board of County Commissioners

Action Requested
Adoption of Proclamation designating October 15, 2026, as “National White Cane Day.”

Enabling/Regulating Authority
None

Background Discussion
Lighthouse Vision Loss Center provides rehablilitative training services to individuals who are blind or have low vision. These services help them live active, independent lives. Lighthouse has been serving Manatee County residents for more than 40 years. White Cane Day brings awareness to residents who are blind/have low vision and their rights and safety.

Attorney Review
Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Instructions to Board Records
None

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name
N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs
N/A