

# ALBANY CALIFORNIA



CITY OF ALBANY  
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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2018

## MAYOR'S STATEMENT CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

The City of Albany sends our heartfelt condolences to all those who have lost family, friends, homes or businesses in the ongoing wildland fires ravaging California. This disaster strikes close to home as a member of our fire department lost his home as did several City recent retirees.

A strike team from the Albany Fire Department has joined other brave men and women on the fire lines in Northern California. We send all of them our gratitude for a job well done and wish them a speedy and safe return to Albany and to their homes wherever they may be.

Albany is not immune to the risk of wildland fire or other disasters. The City is committed to both short and long term disaster preparedness and recognizes the heightened concern of residents at this time. We have recently updated our Emergency Operations Plans as well as Hazardous Mitigation Plans to increase our ability to both plan for and respond to emergencies and will continue to share information about these plans and their implementation. We are committed to strengthening our ability to respond and increasing our capacity to support our community in the event of any disaster.

The Fire Department website has good information about disaster preparedness, <https://www.albanyca.org/departments/fire-department/disaster-preparedness>.

The next Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will begin in the spring of 2019. Completion of this class not only helps you prepare your family it also strengthens our city's ability to become more resilient during and after a disaster. I recently attended the final exam of the current CERT class which included victims dripping "blood" and with "impaled objects" strategically placed. This amazing group of community members will be ready and able to help in the event of a disaster and I hope more of you decide to take a future class. Thank you all for your commitment to this community.

Each of us has a role to play to keep our City safe and to care for each other before, during and after a disaster. Let's work together to ensure we have the tools and knowledge necessary for this herculean task.