

*City of Albany*  
*Proclamation*  
CELEBRATION OF ROSA PARKS DAY

**WHEREAS**, On December 1, 1955, our Nation was forever transformed when Rosa Parks, an African-American seamstress in Montgomery, Alabama, refused to give up her seat on a city bus to a white passenger; and

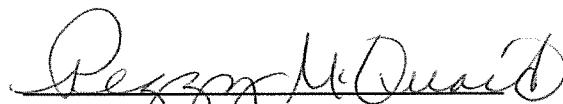
**WHEREAS**, her defiance spurred a movement that advanced our journey toward justice and equality for all; and

**WHEREAS**, her courageous act of civil disobedience sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott -- 381 days of peaceful protest when ordinary men, women, and children sent the extraordinary message that second-class citizenship was unacceptable; and

**WHEREAS**, Rosa Parks' story did not end with the boycott she inspired. A lifelong champion of civil rights, she continued to give voice to the poor and the marginalized among us until her passing on October 24, 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, the principle of equality has always been self-evident, it has never been self-executing. It has taken acts of courage from generations of fearless and hopeful Americans to make our country more just.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE**, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim December 1st as Rosa Parks Day in Albany, honoring those who came before us and continuing the quest for racial justice in our country and our community.

  
Peggy McQuaid, Mayor