

City of Albany

Proclamation

IN HONOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK MAY 3 – 9, 2020

WHEREAS, Public Service Recognition Week is celebrated the first full week in May nationwide, and is a time set aside to honor those who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees; and

WHEREAS, our community is served every day by City of Albany staff including the City's Administration Department, City Clerk Office, Community Development Department, Finance Department, Fire Department, Human Resources Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, and Recreation & Community Services Department; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Department processed a total of 1679 U.S. passport applications in 2019 and provided services for many more customers seeking passport application advice; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Department includes the City's KALB Channel 33 services, providing continuous stream and broadcasting of community media/meetings and the channel has had 17,434 YouTube views and provided 151,680 minutes of YouTube watch time in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Department provides critical public information, promoting City programs and services through City mailers, flyers, posters, banners, the City website and to over 5,000 subscribers to the City's eNews, over 4,000 Facebook followers, over 600 Instagram followers, 656 Twitter followers, almost 7,000 residents registered on Nextdoor, and nearly 10,000 AC Alert contacts; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Department's Neighborhood Services Division coordinates and implements approximately 100 outreach engagements yearly to assist community members navigate City and community services and help foster a resilient and engaged community; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Department implemented the Albany CARES program in January 2019 and the program has assisted 257 of Albany's most vulnerable residents with ongoing assistance and referrals to resources and services; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the City Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and in 2019, the Office processed 8 Ordinances, 102 Resolutions, 19 Proclamations, 30+ submitted bids and proposals, over 100 public records requests, and more than 300 City Council Agenda items; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Community Development Department processed 73 planning applications, 326 encroachment permits, 773 building permits, over 2,000 inspections for building and public right-of-way, and 47 Commission and Committee meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Department's Transportation Division is actively involved in the planning and design of transportation safety improvement projects including improving pedestrian visibility at intersections, bicycle facility signage and striping, the San Pablo Avenue Complete Streets project, and safety improvements for the Ohlone Greenway crossings at Solano and Marin; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Department's Sustainability Division leads environmental programs and outreach, and in 2019 the Division completed a new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, began implementation of actions including hosting electrification and recycling workshops, and helped 113 Albany households reduce a collective 41 tons of carbon dioxide emissions through its Carbon-Free Albany online platform; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Department issued 3,648 checks to 981 vendors in fiscal year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Department issued 2,085 business licenses in calendar year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Department provides service to both citizens, businesses and all City departments; and

WHEREAS the Albany Fire Department maintained an average median response time for all medical calls of 3.40 minutes and the Department responded to over 2000 emergency calls for service in 2019; and

WHEREAS the Albany Fire Department educated over 1100 school aged children in fire prevention and safety in 2019 and hosted the Albany Fire Department Open House during Fire Prevention Week and performed Fire Code Life Safety Inspections for all multifamily housing, schools, and businesses within Albany; and

WHEREAS the Albany Fire Department Water Rescue Team was deployed twice in 2019 from Albany bay shores for dynamic water rescues; and

WHEREAS, the Albany Fire Department continues the City's Disaster Preparedness/Emergency management efforts and works in coordination with other City Departments to further the City's abilities to respond in the event of a disaster; specifically in 2019, graduating 2 new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes, training City Emergency Operation Center (EOC) staff with tabletop scenarios and California Office of Emergency Services certified classes, and held the City of Albany's first Evacuation Drill of the Albany Hill area, evacuating over 250 people from the Albany Hill area to a temporary refuge area with our community partner Golden Gate Fields; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department strives to provide a safe, healthy and positive working environment for City of Albany employees; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department provides services to former City of Albany employees, current City of Albany employees, potential new employees through the recruitment and selection process, and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department received more than 1,000 applications for employment and filled over 30 vacancies in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department organizes the National Night Out event, which is an annual community-building event that promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live and work. in 2019, the Albany Police Department hosted the 14th National Night Out event in the City of Albany for 45 neighborhood blocks; and

WHEREAS, the Albany Police Department dispatch center handled over 39,000 incidents in 2019; and

WHEREAS, continuing our commitment to community outreach and engagement, the Albany Police Department handed out over 600 glow sticks to parents and children during “Operation Glow stick” on Halloween night in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Albany Police Department hosted 6 Coffee with a Cop events in 2019 bringing police officers and the community members they serve together to discuss issues and learn more about each other; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department operates and maintains the City’s buildings, parks, open spaces, sidewalks, urban forest, roadways and infrastructure systems and in 2019, Albany maintenance staff completed more than 2,000 work orders including installing 2 additional water bottle filling stations, cleaning and inspecting sewer and storm drain lines, responding to more than 50 afterhours calls, sealing sidewalk cracks at the City parks and renovating office spaces at City Hall; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Public Works Department completed the second round of sidewalk repairs under the City’s Sidewalk Parcel Tax in a total of more than 22,000 square feet of sidewalk at 121 locations throughout the City have been replaced under this program; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department actively administers the City’s Pavement Management Plan. This plan serves as the basis for increasing the funding for pavement maintenance and rehabilitation to improve pavement condition across the City., and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department increased the rate of sewer rehabilitation, installing more than 10,000 linear feet of new sewer lines, to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department has completed several key projects including renovating restrooms at Memorial Park and trail and access improvement at Albany Hill; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department enhanced the City’s natural resources by planting more than 100 trees in the urban forest and completed vegetation management work

consisting of invasive species removal and planting of native plants at Albany Hill and Cerrito and Codornices Creeks; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation & Community Services Department hosts an average of 45 events annually with a total attendance of over 12,000 people and partnered with over 80 local businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation & Community Services Department's Senior Services at the Albany Senior Center has a monthly average of 2,250 visitors, delivers 400 meals on wheels, transports 280 seniors on shopping, day and hiking trips, and offers 45 classes/socials; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation & Community Services Department each year offers over 900 youth and adult classes for 4,700 participants, provides afterschool care for youth and teens for 800 students and runs adult sports leagues for 2,800 adults; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation & Community Services Department created the Play Like a Girl event to empower 400+ girls in Albany and surrounding communities to play sports in a fun, interactive and supportive environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim the week of May 3 – 9, 2020 as Public Service Recognition Week in the City of Albany, and expresses gratitude to the City of Albany's dedicated employees for their ongoing commitment to serve our City.

Dated: May 4, 2020

NICK PILCH, MAYOR