

# *City of Albany*

## *Proclamation*

### **IN RECOGNITION OF MARY D'ELIA'S RETIREMENT FROM THE ALBANY YMCA**

**WHEREAS**, Mary D'Elia began her career at the Albany YMCA (Albany Y) in 1987 as the preschool dance and kindergym instructor; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary taught adult fitness classes and became the Y Fitness Director in 1996, overseeing all the adult programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary was instrumental in the planning of the Albany Y's first fitness center in 1998 and the planning and expansion of it in 2014 and 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary started the Brown Bag Speakers Forum at the Albany Y and later collaborated with the Albany Library to open the forum to the entire Albany community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary became the Executive Director of the Albany Y in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary increased membership from 2,000 in 2017 to 3,000 in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Albany Y received "Best of Albany" fitness recognition under her leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary spearheaded the annual community giving campaigns that raised well over \$1,000,000, providing financial assistance for kids, teens, families, and seniors to be able to participate in Albany Y programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Mary's creativity, ingenuity, and persistence kept the Albany Y accessible during the pandemic years by implementing online classes, and reorganizing the facility to provide safe workout spaces; and

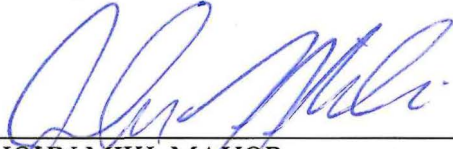
**WHEREAS**, Mary has demonstrated a strong commitment to the Albany community, organizing Red Cross bloodmobile donations, food drives, book drives, and through her service with Albany Rotary; and

**WHEREAS**, for 37 years, Mary has demonstrated outstanding leadership and vision to the Albany Y and community, improving and maintaining the health and wellness of thousands of members.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Albany City Council thanks Mary D'Elia for her many years of service to our community and wishes her well in her retirement.

Dated: May 20, 2024

*City of Albany Proclamation No. 2024-11*

  
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JOHN MIKI, MAYOR