RESOLUTION NO. 2018-27

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL
REQUESTING EAST BAY COMMUNITY ENERGY ENROLL CITY OF
ALBANY MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTS IN THE BRILLIANT 100 (100% CARBON
FREE) ELECTRICITY PRODUCT AND DEVELOP A 100% RENEWABLE
PRODUCT OFFERING

WHEREAS, the City of Albany has been a leader in the fight against climate
change, having adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2010, which aims to reduce the City’s
carbon emissions to 25% below 2004 baseline emission levels by 2020 and the City’s
General Plan includes even more ambitious goals of 60% GHG reductions by 2035 and
net zero emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, Albany’s Climate Action Plan identifies Community Choice
Aggregation, or CCA, which allows public agencies to procure a greater percentage of
electrical power from renewable sources on behalf of electricity customers, as a key
strategy to meet local clean energy goals and greenhouse gas reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, City staff and the Sustainability Committee have been evaluating
joining a CCA program since 2012 in an effort to meet the City’s greenhouse gas (GHG)
reduction goals, and the Albany City Council joined the East Bay Community Energy
(EBCE) CCA through Resolution 2016-84 on November 21, 2016 and subsequently
appointed representatives to its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Community Energy Joint Powers Authority (JPA)
agreement commits to providing an electricity product with rates equal or lower than
PG&E that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and increases renewable energy content;
and
WHEREAS, the East Bay Community Energy Board set two initial products at their meeting on February 7th, 2018: an 85% carbon free product called Bright Choice and an 100% carbon free product called Brilliant 100; and

WHEREAS, enrolling in the Brilliant 100 carbon free electricity option is the most cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Albany, and the City would not experience a financial impact from enrolling in the product because it is the same price as PG&E; and

WHEREAS, many cities in California have opted up municipal accounts, including the nearby cities of El Cerrito and Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany will have the option to “Opt Down” to an electrical power portfolio with a lower percentage of carbon free electricity offered at rates at a slight discount to PG&E at a later date; and

WHEREAS, enrolling municipal accounts in a carbon-free default electricity product would allow Albany to showcase its environmental leadership and demonstrate efforts to create a sustainable community in line with the larger goals of the Council Strategic Plan, General Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Economic Development Strategic Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council hereby request that East Bay Community Energy enroll all City of Albany municipal accounts in the Brilliant 100 (100% carbon free) electricity product.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Albany City Council authorizes the City Manager or designee to take the necessary actions to “opt up” all City of Albany municipal accounts in the Brilliant 100 (100% carbon free) electricity product.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Albany City Council requests that EBCE develop a 100% renewable product offering as soon as possible and provide cities an opportunity to opt up to this product when it becomes available.

PEGGY MCQUAID, MAYOR
RESOLUTION NO. 2018-27

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 5th day of March, 2018, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Maass, Nason, Pilch and Mayor McQuaid

NOES: Council Member Barnes

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this
6th day of March, 2018.

Eileen Harrington
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small town ambiance, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable community.