WHEREAS, The American Red Cross Bay Area was founded in 1898; and

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross, a leading voluntary agency chartered and authorized by Congress to act in times of need, provides compassionate assistance to people afflicted by personal, local or national disasters; and

WHEREAS, the lifeblood of the American Red Cross is its volunteers; and

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross helped 1,563 families with temporary housing, clothing, food and mental health counseling during 824 local disasters last year alone; and

WHEREAS, people have counted on the Red Cross for the information and skills they need to be safe at home, at work, at school and at play, and last year the American Red Cross trained 93,183 people in lifesaving CPR, First Aid, and water safety; and

WHEREAS, through the Pillowcase Project and the Home Fires Campaign, 20,629 local individuals and families received fire prevention training, supplies and/or smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, the Red Cross staff deployed with the U.S. Military to provide emergency communications, counseling, financial assistance and a caring presence to 12,453 local military families; and

WHEREAS, American Red Cross Blood Services supports Bay Area hospitals, providing them with more than 74,228 units of red cells, platelets and plasma in 2019 to patients in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim the month of March 2020 as American Red Cross Month in the City of Albany in support of all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies.

Dated: March 2, 2020

NICK PILCH, MAYOR

City of Albany Proclamation No. 2020-01