

Proclamation

Whereas, October 2022 marks the 77th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), established in 1945, and the 32nd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), established in 1990; and

Whereas, the purpose of NDEAM is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions that America's workers with disabilities have on the workplace and economy; and

Whereas, while historically this month was intended to highlight people with physical disabilities, since 1962, the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities have been recognized, including people with hidden or invisible disabilities; and

Whereas, this year, the Center for Independent Living (CIL) is also celebrating its 50th anniversary. The CIL is working with Alameda resident, disability activist, and illustrator Vanessa Castro to create a mural in honor of its anniversary at the Oakland Airport; and

Whereas, 2022's NDEAM theme is "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation," in recognition of the important role people with disabilities play in a diverse and inclusive American workforce; and

Whereas, Disability Awareness and Acceptance Month affirms the progress the City of Alameda has made in improving employment opportunities, government services, public accommodations and transportation, while recognizing there is still work to be done to remove all barriers, physical and social, that unreasonably prevent the full participation of people with disabilities; and

Whereas, in 1974, the Alameda City Council established a committee to provide a public forum to address local disability issues. Today, the Commission on Persons with Disabilities advises the City Council, City Departments, and other Boards and Commissions on issues affecting people with disabilities, and actions the City can take to achieve an environment where people with disabilities have equal access to programs, housing, facilities and services; and to foster attitudes and promote behaviors that respect and value people with disabilities throughout our community.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, do hereby proclaim October 2022 as

Disability Awareness and Acceptance Month

in the City of Alameda and recommit to promoting equal opportunity and enthusiastic acceptance for all.



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft

Mayor

