

Proclamation

- Whereas,** in 1987, Congress designated March as Women’s History Month to commemorate and encourage the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history; and
- Whereas,** women courageously serve our country in the military, in both the enlisted forces and officer corps, and are also veterans; and
- Whereas,** in 1916, Jeanette Rankin was the first woman elected to Congress. In 1981, Sandra Day O’Connor was the first woman appointed to serve on the US Supreme Court. Today there are 3 female Supreme Court Justices - Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. In 1997, Madeline Albright became the first female US Secretary of State, and in 2007, Nancy Pelosi became the first woman Speaker of the US House of Representatives. Today, a record number of women serve in both the House and Senate; and
- Whereas,** in 2020, wage and opportunity gaps continue to exist, with women earning \$.80 for every dollar earned by a man, and African-American and Latina women earning even less; and
- Whereas,** in 2020, an imbalance of unpaid work exists in our country, with women spending more time than men performing unpaid household work and providing child and elder care; and
- Whereas,** in Alameda, 37% of all City employees, 34% of mid-level managers, and 50% of department heads are women. Women have held elected offices of Mayor and Councilmember since Alameda’s first woman Mayor, Anne B. Diament, was elected in 1983; and
- Whereas,** the very timely 2020 Women’s History Month theme is “Valiant Women of the Vote,” honoring the brave women who fought to win suffrage rights for women, and women who continue to fight for the voting rights of others, including the League of Women Voters.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, hereby declare March 2020 as

Women’s History Month

in the City of Alameda and encourage our community to observe and celebrate this month and all trailblazing women, past and present.



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Mayor

