

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

EXPLORING OPTIONS TO MITIGATE IMPACTS OF THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN ON ALAMEDA RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, a partial shutdown of the United States Government began on December 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, by shutting down portions of the federal government, hundreds of thousands of federal employees missed two paychecks in January 2019. While some families relied on assistance to make ends meet, other families unable to pay their rent were at risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of federal workers and their families live on our island and were directly affected by the shutdown; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda City Council recently approved funding to provide free legal services to support tenants in the City of Alameda with termination and or eviction notices, especially critical during the shutdown, when working federal employees living in Alameda were not receiving their pay; and

WHEREAS, during the shutdown, assistance was made available to federal employees through local, state, and national organizations, but it was clear those organizations needed support too; and

WHEREAS, many local businesses offered their support through donation drives of dry goods and gift cards, including The Local, Alameda Island Brewing Company, Rock Wall Wine Company, and the Friends of the Alameda Animal Shelter; and

WHEREAS, during the shutdown, the Alameda Food Bank opened their doors to federal employees living in Alameda; All Good Living organized a fundraiser t-shirt with sales spreading to dozens of states; Alameda Municipal Power placed customers affected by the shutdown on an automatic payment extension with no penalties; and the Alameda Police and Fire Departments are hosting appreciation lunches for Coast Guard and federal employees and their families; and

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2019, legislation was passed to end the government shutdown until February 15, 2019; and

WHEREAS, while temporarily ending the shutdown ensures that January's paychecks will be issued, families are still behind, and great uncertainty remains.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alameda City Council hereby directs staff to develop an action plan based on Council direction that address a future government shutdown and the impacts on Alameda residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alameda City Council hereby directs staff to include in the action plan all possible options for a moratorium on evictions for tenants affected by the shutdown, in the event that the government is shutdown at any time in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City stands ready to proactively explore additional ways to best protect Alameda residents affected by a shutdown, ensuring our community that your City government will step up if the federal government is shutdown.

* * * * *

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in a regular meeting assembled on the 5th day of February, 2019, by the following vote to wit:

AYES

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said City this 6th day of February, 2019.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael H. Roush, Interim City Attorney
City of Alameda