



Memorandum

DATE: 10/22/2014

TO: Mayor & Council

FROM: Brent Stoddard, Intergovernmental Programs Director

SUBJECT: Sister Cities Program – Council Item of Special Interest

At the City Council Workshop on August 20, 2013, as a Council Item of Special Interest, Councilmember Sherwood expressed an interest in finding a citizen group within the City of Glendale to officially become our sister city organization. A majority of the Council supported the idea and directed staff to find an appropriate organization that could take on this additional responsibility.

We are pleased to let you know that we have spoken to the Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors and over a series of discussions and meetings, their Board has officially voted to approve them becoming the official sister cities organization for the City of Glendale.

As you know, the Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors are an organization of citizens with a deep sense of pride in their community dedicated to enhancing the economic, social, and cultural vitality of Glendale. The sister cities program is complimentary to the work they are already doing to represent our city.

Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors will pay the annual dues of \$930 to officially join the program. The Sister Cities program will be the responsibility of Civic Pride and they will staff and administer the program through direction of their Board. The city will provide official resolutions of support at the appropriate time and as needed to meet the requirement of formalizing the sister city relationships the Board has decided to pursue. They anticipate spending the next year exploring which cities might be a good fit for Glendale.

Sister Cities

A Sister City organization is a volunteer group of citizens who, with the support of their local elected officials, form long-term relationships with people and organizations in a city abroad. Each sister city organization is independent and pursues the activities and thematic areas that are important to them and their community including municipal, business, trade, educational and cultural exchanges with their sister city. Sister city organizations promote peace through people-to-people relationships—with program offerings varying greatly from basic cultural exchange programs to shared research and development projects between cities with relationships.