



Sister City and Friendship City Selection and Maintenance Policy

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| Function: | | Responsible Officer: | General Manager, Community Development |

A - PREAMBLE

The City of Salisbury enters into Sister City and Friendship City relationships to promote economic development, educational, cultural and friendship exchanges between cities. This enables the citizens of the City of Salisbury to participate and benefit from such exchanges.

It takes time and effort to establish and maintain relationships and contacts that promote social and cultural exchanges, economic development and learning between cultures. To build and maintain such relationships requires the support and participation of Council, administration, community, local industries, educational institutions and other organisations within the City of Salisbury.

B - SCOPE

This policy and its related procedures apply to all Sister City and Friendship City relationships that the City of Salisbury seeks to develop or is invited to develop. It extends to all parties to Sister City and Friendship City invitations, proposals and agreements, including the Strategic and International Partnerships Sub Committee members, elected members, Council staff and community and business organisations with interest or involvement in Sister City and Friendship City relationships.

C – POLICY PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES

Sister City and Friendship City relationships should offer many benefits to the City of Salisbury including enhancing economic development, cross cultural community development, international cooperation and

educational exchanges and learning. While the objectives of individual relationships may differ, all Sister City and Friendship City relationships should align with the City of Salisbury's strategic priorities as outlined in Council's City Plan.

The objectives of this policy are:

- to ensure that Sister City and Friendship City relationships are relevant and effective in delivering long term economic, cultural and social benefits for the City of Salisbury;
- to clearly identify Council's level of involvement in Sister City and Friendship City relationships; and
- to outline processes for initiating, establishing and reviewing Sister City and Friendship City relationships.

Assessment and review of Sister City and Friendship City invitations, prospective relationships (whether invited or sought), and ongoing relationships will be managed in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Strategic and International Partnerships - Sister City / Friendship City Selection and Maintenance Procedure.

D - DEFINITIONS

Sister City – is a formal agreement between two cities that is broad-based and long-term. A Sister City relationship becomes official with a signing ceremony of the top-elected officials of the two cities. Sister City partnerships have the potential to carry out the widest possible diversity of activities, including every type of municipal, business, professional, educational and cultural exchange.

Friendship City (or Friendship Cooperative Agreement) – is a partnership between two cities that is more limited in scope and sometimes created when there is already a Sister City relationship established with another city.

E - POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Salisbury supports the development of Sister City and Friendship City relationships with other cities to:

- promote and encourage economic, trade, education, technology and social exchanges and liaison between local government, business and community;
- increase and improve understanding and exchange of information of international, national, state and local government issues;
- enhance and promote the City of Salisbury and foster close civic relationships with other local authorities internationally;
- foster the sharing of ideas, knowledge, values, tolerance and goodwill; and
- promote understanding and enhance awareness of the respective regions and their cultures, customs and traditions.

H - ASSOCIATED PROCEDURES

Strategic and International Partnerships – Sister City / Friendship City Selection and Maintenance Procedures.

Document Control

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