



# ***Agenda***

## ***Sister Cities Commission***

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March 24, 2016  
Milpitas City Hall, Committee Room 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.  
6:00 PM

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Seating of Alternates**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Approval of Minutes: February 25, 2016**
- V. Approval of Agenda: March 24, 2016**
- VI. Announcements / Correspondence**  
Items directly related to the Sister Cities Commission (SCC) and City of Milpitas business.
- VII. Public Forum**  
Members of the audience are invited to address the commission in any subject not on tonight's agenda. Speakers must supply their name and address for the record. Commissioners cannot respond to issues brought forward, but may request that the matter be added to the agenda of a future meeting.
- VIII. Old Business**
  - 1. Discuss Future of Sister City Program**  
**Background:** The SCC received an announcement from Commissioner Arefi in November 2015 regarding an email response from Mayor Esteves about the commissioner's research into policies and practices of other cities for their sister city relationships. In addition, at the February 25 meeting, the SCC discussed outreach for homestays for the 2016 student visits.  
  
**Recommendation:** Review research, as needed, and current concerns regarding lack of community involvement, and discuss the future of the Sister Cities Program. Discuss 2016 homestays.
  - 2. City Plaza Signs**  
**Background:** The SCC reviewed picture samples of how other cities depict sister city relationships. One style was preferred the sample from Fort Worth, Texas, and staff was asked to research costs.  
  
**Recommendation:** Staff will present potential cost estimates for review.

**3. E-Pal Project with Sister Cities**

**Background:** This project began with 13 students matched with Tsukuba students. Dagupan and Huizhou are now participating this academic year. There are 55 Milpitas High School, Digital Business Academy students participating.

**Recommendation:** Receive staff update.

**6. Tsukuba City, Japan**

**Background:** Milpitas and Tsukuba signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) effective October 7, 2014 for a five-year term, ending October 7, 2019. Vice Chair Arbaugh is the lead commissioner.

**Recommendation:** Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

**7. Dagupan City, Philippines**

**Background:** Milpitas and Dagupan signed an updated MOU in October 7, 2014 for a five-year term, ending October 7, 2019. A lead commissioner is needed for this sister city relationship.

**Recommendation:** Determine a lead commissioner. Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

**8. Huizhou Municipality, China**

**Background:** Milpitas and Huizhou signed an updated MOU on October 15, 2013 for a five-year term, ending October 15, 2018. Chair Grilli is the lead commissioner for this relationship.

**Recommendation:** Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

**VI. Student Liaison Report**

**VII. City Council Liaison Report**

**VIII. School District Liaison Report**

**IX. Future Agenda Items**

- a. Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges
  - i. Tsukuba, Japan
  - ii. Dagupan, Philippines
  - iii. Huizhou, China
- b. Possible Sister City in Latin America

**X. Adjournment**

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