

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**AGREEMENT FOR THE CONTINUATION OF A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN THE CITY OF MILPITAS, USA, AND CITY OF TSUKUBA, JAPAN**

This Memorandum of Understanding is an agreement to update and continue a Sister City Relationship between the City of Milpitas, USA, and the City of Tsukuba, Japan.

**WHEREAS**, the continuation of a Sister City relationship between the City of Milpitas and City of Tsukuba will enrich cultural understanding, create adult and student exchange opportunities, as well as informational exchanges, and broaden cooperation to encourage goodwill between the Cities, and;

**WHEREAS**, in order to further develop the long term and successful friendship that exists between Milpitas and Tsukuba, both Cities have agreed to continue the Sister City relationship on the following terms:

1. We agree to support and encourage opportunities for mutually beneficial and practical cultural exchanges. These exchanges do not always necessitate travel and can include informational exchanges and sharing such as art, business, commerce, science, technology, culture, history, education, sports, public health and administration.
2. Citizens, civic and business groups of each city are recognized as ambassadors of goodwill to organize cultural exchanges that may include art, history, education, health and sports interests, study of business and commerce, and other information sharing.
3. At least one cultural exchange visit to each city shall be organized involving adults and junior high and/or high school students, ranging in age from 12 to 18, within the duration of this Memorandum of Understanding. Each visit shall be reviewed in advance between the Milpitas Sister Cities Commission and the City of Tsukuba. It is recommended that a visit from one city would occur every two years, with Tsukuba visiting Milpitas once and Milpitas visiting Tsukuba once within a four-year period.
4. Cultural exchange visit details and activities, including the number of visitors, shall be cooperatively agreed upon between Milpitas and Tsukuba. Activities shall be provided with the objective to deepen cultural awareness and friendship.
5. The Cities will maintain and facilitate open channels of communication and cooperation on questions and issues of common concern.
6. The effective term for this Memorandum of Understanding shall be for 5 years beginning September 1, 2009. Prior to expiration of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Sister City Relationship shall be reviewed by the City of Milpitas Sister Cities Commission and the City of Tsukuba to evaluate the progress of the relationship, as well as recommend whether the relationship shall continue.

7. This agreement represents the entire agreement between the cities. It may not be changed or modified without a signed agreement by the Mayors of both cities.

These two Cities hereby execute this Memorandum of Understanding for five years beginning September 1, 2009.

City of Milpitas

On its behalf:

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Robert Livengood, Mayor

Date Signed:

City of Tsukuba

On its behalf:

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Ken-ichi Ichihara, Mayor

Date Signed: