



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



### AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF MILPITAS, USA, AND THE COMUNE DI FIGLINE VALDARNO, ITALY

Whereas, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors recognized and commended the City of Milpitas and the Comune di Figline Valdarno on November 8, 2011, for combined efforts to recognize areas of interest through the cultivation of relationships among their peoples, and;

Whereas, city leaders from both cities met in the Comune di Figline Valdarno during October 2011 to discuss mutual interest in starting a sister city relationship, and;

Whereas, the Comune di Figline Valdarno presented its official crest to the City of Milpitas as a symbol of interest in forming a sister city relationship during this visit, and;

Whereas, the Milpitas City Council approved establishing a sister city relationship with Figline Valdarno on December 6, 2011, and;

Whereas, in order to begin a successful sister city relationship between the City of Milpitas and the Comune di Figline Valdarno, both cities agree to the following focus areas and expectations:

1. Encourage and support opportunities for mutually beneficial cultural exchanges. The exchanges do not have to always involve travel and can include informational exchanges and sharing such as art, culture, history, business and commerce, education, and best practices for public health and safety and governmental administration.
2. Develop mutual cooperation to expand culture connections in the areas of education and training for youth, and facilitating communication between young people.
3. Recognize the financial constraints of both cities when planning cultural exchange visits or sharing projects and include innovative and lower-cost options such as individual "pen pal" connections between students and photo exchanges between the cities.
4. Citizens, civic, business and school groups of each city are recognized as ambassadors of goodwill to organize cultural exchanges that may include travel at their own expense.
5. Cultural exchange visit details and activities, including the number of visitors, shall be mutually agreed upon between Milpitas and Figline Valdarno. Activities shall be provided with the objective to deepen cultural awareness and friendship. Planning for visits shall begin at least twelve (12) weeks before the date of travel.
6. City contacts will maintain and facilitate open channels of communication and cooperation on questions of common concern and during planning exchanges.

These two cities hereby execute this Memorandum of Understanding for two years beginning May 8, 2012.

City of Milpitas  
On its behalf

Comune di Figline Valdarno  
On its behalf

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Jose Esteves, Mayor  
May 8, 2012

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Dott. Riccardo Nocentini, Mayor  
8 May 2012