



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#16-0656**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** June 7, 2016

**TITLE:** Annual Funding for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Sister Cities International, Inc.

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended the City Commission approve a motion authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to execute an agreement with Greater Fort Lauderdale Sister Cities International, Inc. (Sister Cities) to allow for the approved Fiscal Year 2016 funding allocation of \$19,000. Under the agreement, the City will also provide Sister Cities with storage space at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport on an “as available” basis and without cost.

**Background**

Since 2008, the City Commission has approved a funding allocation agreement with Sister Cities providing annual funding of \$19,000 for the City's financial contribution to the Sister Cities programs. In the past, the City also provided Sister Cities with office space, for which Sister Cities paid the City a monthly rent plus pro-rata share of all additional expenses charged by the property management company (taxes, insurance, and operation costs). Providing office space is specifically prohibited in this current contract.

The National Sister Cities International Foundation has played an active role around the world since 1956 and represents communities in many states, districts, and territories. Serving Fort Lauderdale since 1990, Sister Cities is a nonprofit citizen diplomacy network creating and strengthening partnerships between Fort Lauderdale and international communities in an effort to increase global cooperation at the municipal level. This Passport to the world promotes cultural understanding and humanitarian programming and stimulates economic development. Sister Cities leads the movement for local community development and volunteer action by motivating and empowering private citizens, municipal officials, and business leaders to conduct long-term programs of mutual benefit. The Sister Cities program includes:

- Developing municipal partnerships between U.S. cities, counties, and states, as well as similar jurisdictions in other nations.

- Providing opportunities for City officials and citizens to experience and explore other cultures through long-term community partnerships.
- Creating an atmosphere in which economic and community development can be implemented and strengthened.
- Stimulating environments through which communities will creatively learn, work, and solve problems together through reciprocal cultural, educational, municipal, professional, and technical exchanges and projects.
- Collaborate with organizations in the United States and other countries which share similar goals.

### **Resource Impact**

There will be a fiscal impact to the City in the amount of \$19,000.

<b><i>Funds available as of May 18, 2016:</i></b>					
<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>INDEX NAME (Program)</b>	<b>CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET</b>	<b>AVAILABLE BALANCE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
001-GEN010101-4210	Other General Government – Social/Cultural	Other Operating Expenses/ Social Contributions	13,973,742	5,925,494	19,000
				<b>TOTAL ►</b>	<b>\$19,000</b>

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Business Development Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 7: Be a well-positioned City within the global economic and tourism markets of the South Florida region, leveraging our airports, port, and rail connections.
- Objective 2: Facilitate a responsive and proactive business climate.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan*: We are Prosperous.

### **Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Agreement

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Prepared by: Michael Chen, Economic & Business Development Manager

Department Director: Al Battle Jr., Department of Sustainable Development