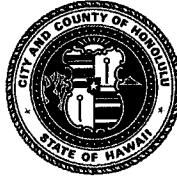


OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 • FAX: (808) 768-4242 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov

'20JUN03 AM 8:00 CITY CLERK

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR.
MANAGING DIRECTOR

GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

June 2, 2020

The Honorable Ikaika Anderson
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Anderson and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Executive Operating Budget Bill 20, CD1

The Office of Economic Development (OED) respectfully requests removal of the proviso in Bill 20, CD1 restricting funding in the Office of the Managing Director – City Management from appropriation for the Sister Cities Programs. The proviso states “No funds shall be appropriated for the Sister Cities Program.” This proviso would prevent OED from fully realizing its mission in FY21 to promote economic growth and enhance the quality of life for the residents of the City and County of Honolulu by cultivating tourism and hospitality, advancing business, assisting agricultural development, and promoting the screen industries.

The City and County of Honolulu enjoys a long and vibrant Sister City Program that not only has enriched cultural exchanges but brings direct economic benefit to Honolulu through donations, investments and business opportunities. Sister City guidelines were established by Resolution 91-240 which requires City funds be “appropriated within two years of the signing of the document establishing the Sister City relationship and every five years thereafter to provide for the exchange of gifts or good will missions to promote the newly established sisterhood and the concept of mutual understanding.” OED shared with the council reports on the Status of Sister Cities of the City and County of Honolulu that detailed recent activities between our city and each Sister City (attached).

Our relationship with sister cities around the world, and especially with China and Japan were strong before the COVID-19 pandemic, but have been strengthened by this global crisis. Before the pandemic, gifts from sister cities totaled over \$100,000 in Fiscal Year 2020. These gifts consist of monetary donations for maintenance of city


The Honorable Ikaika Anderson
Chair and Presiding Officer
June 2, 2020
Page 2

parks and both monetary and in-kind support to include hosting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Our Sister City ties led to OED assisting the setup of retail businesses, like Uniqlo, the start of a new Japanese aviation school and charter airlines, Japan Aviation Academy/Wing Spirit, and inaugurating the new ANA A380 service from Japan to Honolulu. During this pandemic, Sister City relations with several Chinese cities resulted in the sourcing and importing for the purchase and donation of masks and personal protection equipment (PPE) for our first responders.

We continue to maintain beneficial relations with Sister Cities and their respective countries during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing mutual support and reassurance through both giving and receiving donations. The good will that has resulted from keeping these connections vibrant will benefit Honolulu as we and the rest of the world transition to recovery from this pandemic and global economic downturn. Funding support requested for the Sister City program will maintain these important ties and bonds to make Honolulu stronger. The Sister City program is an investment in not just current but future relationships that will result in great benefit to the people of the City and County of Honolulu both culturally and economically.

Should you have any questions please contact me at 768-5764 or Edwin.Hawkins@Honolulu.gov. Thank you for your consideration and support.

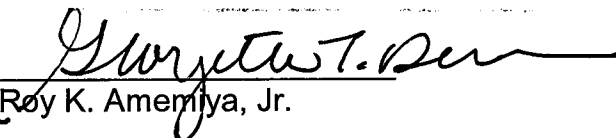
Sincerely,



Edwin P. Hawkins, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

APPROVED:


FOR Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 • FAX: (808) 768-4242 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR.
MANAGING DIRECTOR

GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

January 14, 2020

The Honorable Ikaika Anderson
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Anderson and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Report on the Economic Impact of the Office of Economic
Development (OED)

Attached for your review and information is a report on the economic impact of the Office of Economic Development. In several discussions with the City Council during this past year, the Office of Economic Development's Executive Director was asked several times by Councilmembers how OED's activities impact Hawaii, specifically, the positive impacts on Oahu and Honolulu. Our goal is to present a report to the City Council annually of the economic impact of the Office of Economic Development.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 768-6638.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin P. Hawkins, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

Edwin P. Hawkins, Jr.
Executive Director
Mayor's Office of Economic Development

Attachment

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.
Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Managing Director

MAYOR'S MESSAGE 5

2019/01/16 PM 1:55 CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: Report on Economic Impact of the Office of Economic Development (OED)

The Office of Economic Development consists of five basic functions:

1. International Relations, including managing and promoting Sister City and Friendship City relationships
2. Promoting local business to include tourism and assisting outside investors seeking to do business in Hawaii, specifically on Oahu
3. Assisting Community Groups holding cultural, educational, and business events, and acting as the City's coordinating office for providing various City services
4. Agricultural Liaison office for the City, keeping track of impacts to Oahu's agricultural sector and promoting agriculture and its diversification through training and other support
5. Overseeing the Honolulu Film Office

In 2019, OED contributed to the economic development of Hawaii, specifically Oahu, in the following ways. Where they exist, data and numbers are presented, while other areas that are not readily measurable but have obvious economic benefits are listed.

International Relations/Sister City and Friendship City Relationships:

Report on Sister City activities are being provided by a separate report. This report will cover economic impacts of these relationships and will extend into functions 2 and 3 as these relationships have a direct bearing on how OED is seen as the office of contact for seeking educational and cultural ties, investments, and business starts/expansion on Oahu.

All Nippon Airways (ANA) beginning of A380 Service to Hawaii

- This initiative started from direct contact with ANA's Vice President and General Manager, Honolulu Office, Mr. Hiroshi Shibata during a Japanese-American community event which the OED Director attended in 2018 (OED Director is a Japanese language speaker), followed by an introduction to the ANA Senior Director of First-class Sales, Japan Office in Tokyo.
- ANA had purchased three Airbus A380 aircraft and had decided to dedicate them to the Tokyo-Honolulu route, increasing daily passenger capacity to Hawaii.
- As part of their premium service business, A380 would add first class service.

- For first class service, ANA was interested in providing exclusive arrival services to its Japanese passengers; OED introduced Mr. Shinsuke Miya to a former US Customs agent who became an advisor and worked a special arrangement for processing first class passengers directly in the arrival lounge.
- Partly as a result of this initiative to start A380 service, weekly passenger capacity for ANA has risen from 5,166 in April (just before launch of A380 service) to 7,988 in October, 2019 (data provided by ANA Office), resulting in a greater number of tourists and its related economic impact to Hawaii.

ANA Honolulu Music Week

- ANA's Mr. Shinsuke Miya (who OED helped work the first class passenger reception issue) approached the OED Director to seek advice on launching a signature ANA-sponsored community event in Honolulu for high-end Japanese tourists and locals to be called "ANA Honolulu Music Week," similar to how JAL helped establish the Honolulu Marathon.
- OED arranged for the Mayor to meet with the President and CEO of ANA, Mr. Yuji Hirako, during the visit of the Mayor to Japan during an unrelated business trip, at which time an offer was made to assist ANA with launching this new event in Honolulu.
- OED assisted Mr. Miya and his staff with contacts at Blaisdell Center and local promoters to plan and execute this event; OED assisted with these contacts and visits throughout until the event's launching in November, 2019 (including invitations to community groups).
- Total attendance at the five scheduled events (Opening Gala; Ryu Goto, Leo Pasifika, and Englebert Humperdink performances; Final Concert) totaled 6,100.
- ANA Honolulu Music Week will become an annual event in Honolulu, attracting visitors from Japan and around the world as well as locals, contributing to the economy of Oahu.

Managing Gifts to City from International Sources

- In 2019, OED handled three donations to the City and County of Honolulu from private donors that amounted to a total of \$28,000 that went to benches and trash bins in Foster Botanical Garden, flagpole installation at Kapolei Fire Station, and a Thomas Square upgrade.
- Gifts to the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) in Honolulu 2019. The full report has been reported previously to the City Council, but pointing out two donations directly related to sister city and international outreach; fireworks from Nagaoka City that were launched at Pearl Harbor during the reception aboard the

USS Missouri estimated at \$41,000, and ANA providing complimentary air travel for Japanese mayors attending USCM estimated at \$30,000.

- Each year, the City and County of Honolulu through OED receives donations for international travel from sister cities and other organizations desiring to promote friendly relations with Honolulu. In 2019, OED received seven donations for total of \$27,776 and coordinated these opportunities for the Mayor and Directors who represented Mayor to attend:
 - o Chengdu, China (World Garden City Forum); DPR and DCS Directors: \$5,472
 - o Nagaoka (Sister City Visit); Mayor \$1,400
 - o Nagaoka/Kumamoto/Fukuoka, Japan (Honolulu Festival Foundation); DEM and OED Directors: \$6,820
 - o Seoul, Korea (International Forum for Transforming Cities for Decent Work); DHR Director: \$3,000
 - o Seoul, Korea (International Care Expo and Conference); DCS Director: \$3,784
 - o Zhangjiajie, China (Silk Road Urban Alliance); DFM Deputy Director: \$2,300
 - o Fuzhou, China (Sister Cities Symposium); Chief of Staff and OED Director: \$5,000.

Promoting local business to include tourism and assisting outside investors seeking to do business:

In June/July 2019, Honolulu hosted the United States Conference of Mayors for the first time in over 50 years. The Office of Economic Development with the assistance of the Customer Services Department and the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability & Resiliency (for the Mayor's Climate Summit planned in conjunction) planned and executed this conference. A detailed report was previously submitted to the City Council, but to recapitulate its economic impact to Honolulu and Hawaii, 1,883 total visitors (including 252 mayors) attended this national event, with direct economic impact of \$6.3 million to Hawaii's economy (according to HTA figures).

Other major projects/initiatives that have had direct economic impact to Oahu are listed below.

Japan Aviation Academy/Wing Spirit Inc. Launching in Oahu

- Japan-Aviation Academy (JAA) is the oldest aviation school in Japan (began training pilots in 1932) and today has campuses in Yamanashi, Noto, and Hokkaido and trains pilots, flight attendants, and mechanics for the aviation industry. It also has its own aviation high school.
- Mr. Shigeo Umezawa, Chancellor of JAA, desired to start a "world class aviation school" on Oahu. Mr. Teijiro Handa was made President of JAA of Hawaii, and

was dispatched to Oahu to look at this possibility and locations for the school. Former Japan-America Society of Hawaii Board Chair Sal Miwa was hired to assist as its Chief Operating Officer.

- Mr. Miwa and Mr. Handa approached OED to seek advice and OED assisted with seeking locations and provided advice on permitting and other business start issues.
- OED arranged for the visit of Chancellor Umezawa with Mayor and arranged a visit to his office in Japan during an unrelated business trip to discuss the initiative and support.
- JAA, under its Wing Spirit Inc. business in Hawaii, is bringing up to seven new corporate Hondajets to Hawaii to enter the air ambulance business.
- JAA has signed an agreement with the University of Hawaii on educational collaboration, began the process of locating a place for its school, and set out a plan to hire local employees and recruit students from around the world. Once established, this will provide high paying jobs and directly contribute to the economy of Hawaii through student expenses and taxes.
- Establishing a new industry (aviation training and air ambulance) will assist in diversifying Hawaii's economy.
- To promote its launching in Hawaii, JAA/Wing Spirit Inc. supported the City with hosting the United States Conference of Mayors in June, 2019 with a donation of \$300,000.

Sake Brewing Business Start

- A Japanese entrepreneur approached OED for assistance in starting a sake brewery business on Oahu.
- A location was found in Kakaako but encountered problems in receiving permitting and liquor license because of the entrepreneur's weak English language capability and lack of understanding on Hawaii business start practices, obtaining liquor license, and building permitting requirements and processes.
- OED assisted through contact with the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP), helping to guide the entrepreneur through various permitting stages and follow-ups.
- Liquor license approved; final permitting seems to be cleared, and installation of equipment seems to be underway.
- Potential economic impact, while small, are several jobs and a new business in Oahu, contributing to diversification of the economy.

Aloha Pronto Project

- Assisted local entrepreneur with City permitting to convert the abandoned Chef Sakai project in downtown Waikiki to the "Aloha Pronto" project, bringing a beer garden to Waikiki. DPP was able to work a solution for proper permitting.
- Potential economic impact is to revitalize an abandoned Waikiki property and bring greater business there, including catering to tourists.

Agricultural Liaison:

Future Use/Direction of Sumida Farm

- Advisor to Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology approached OED about a new strain of rice being developed by this university in Japan that results in a better rice kernel for production of sake. OED suggested this rice, if grown in Hawaii, could be used to support a sake brewery such as the one being pursued in Kakaako.
- OED hosted the advisor during a recent visit to Honolulu and arranged a visit to Sumida Farm (at Pearl Ridge, currently cultivating watercress using natural spring water) as a possible location for the rice growing and met with the owners and discussed idea which owners were receptive to.
- President of the University is scheduled to visit Honolulu in Spring 2020; OED is arranging for local meetings to discuss project, including a visit to Sumida Farm.
- Potential Economic impact would be a new agricultural product and business, and direct support to a new sake brewing industry.

New Idea for Crop Control

- During a visit to Sumida Farm, discussion with owners indicated problems encountered with birds that feed on insects in the fields and polluting the water with their excrement that may be harmful to the plants; traditional "scarecrow" methods did not appear effective in scaring off the birds.
- Idea was proposed to use drones that could fly over the field periodically to scare away birds. The Agricultural Liaison will reach out to University of Hawaii to see if such a project could be given to a student to pursue.
- Potential economic impact is that if proved to be practicable and effective, the idea could extend to other farms and other uses.

Support to 2Lady Farmers Business

- Proprietors of 2Lady Farmers, who are pig farmers in Waianae, were struggling with slaughtering pigs for market. The Agricultural Liaison assisted the proprietors to get access to mobile slaughtering machines to be able to market their products.
- OED also suggested reaching out to local foundations, such as the Freeman Foundation whose director is known for wanting to help develop farms and farming methods in Hawaii. OED reached out to Mr. Graeme Freeman of the Freeman Foundation to see if any assistance could be provided to the 2Lady Farmers to increase its business and is currently being assessed.
- Potential economic impact is that a pig farming business in Hawaii could be not only saved but also be expanded through additional funding for equipment.

IAL Mapping

- Since 2013, OED via its Agricultural Liaison has been working with the DPP in developing Important Agricultural Land (IAL) maps for 12,625 acres, out of a total of 45,400 acres of non-Federal or non-State-owned agricultural lands, on Oahu. Hearings of the mapping were held by the Honolulu City Council and finalization of the IAL maps is pending. The next step will be for the Council to inform the Land Use Commission of its decision on the final IAL maps. Work continues.
- Potential economic impact is by helping to preserve agricultural lands through a special designation and the people of Oahu will be able to have locally-produced food that will assist in food security and self-sufficiency. Preserving these lands will also assist local farmers and future farmers to have fields to cultivate in perpetuity.

CRB Eradication

- OED continues to work on coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB) eradication on Oahu since it was first discovered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in December 13, 2013. Since then, the areas, including Pearl City, Iroquois Point, Ewa and Waipio Peninsula, have been marked as the quarantine zone by both USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)-Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) and Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA); prohibiting movement of green waste in and out of this zone. OED is working with the University of Hawaii to test a vacuum steam sterilizer to eliminate CRB in green waste. Work continues.
- Economic impact through eradication of CRBs: help preserve the iconic and omnipresent coconut palm, a symbol of Hawaii's tropical climate. Preservation of these trees will offer coconuts for local consumption and businesses, shade, and a scenery and backdrop that is attractive to visitors and promotes tourism.

Assisting Community Groups:

OED not only coordinates all requests for city services from community groups (in 2019, OED handled requests from 37 non-profit organizations that were approved for support), but also manages funds provided to the City and County of Honolulu through the Hawaii Tourism Office's (HTA) Community Enrichment, Kukulu Ola, and Aloha Aina programs. In 2019, this amounted to 70 programs for a total of \$1.2 million in funding support. HTA's support to these programs are for enhancing visitor experience in Hawaii; therefore, the work done by OED to distribute the funds and assess the effectiveness of these programs contribute to Oahu's tourism industry. Additional impact to the economy came from OED's direct action in the following events:

Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Gannenmono, First Japanese immigration to Hawaii

- OED worked closely with the Gannenmono Committee that consisted of leaders of Japanese-American community in Hawaii to mark the 150th Anniversary of the first Japanese immigrants to Hawaii, the Gannenmono. Events included holding seminars and cultural events throughout Oahu, and hosting the visit of Their Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princess Akishino of Japan. OED planned and held a luncheon that was hosted by the Mayor for the Royal Couple and delegation at the Honolulu Museum of Art, and arranged a planting ceremony of two Shower Trees at Thomas Square. In 2019, OED assisted the Gannenmono Committee to provide a place in the City's Japanese garden for a memorial to the Gannenmono that now sits there.
- Economic impact to Honolulu was the added tourism generated by events surrounding these events as well as future visits by tourists to view these historic locations.

Support to Honolulu Festival

- During an official visit to Zhengzhou, China to attend an international tourism conference hosted by the Zhengzhou City Government, Mayor and OED Director were introduced to Shaolin Kung Fu, where Kung Fu originated in China. Mayor/OED proposed Shaolin Kung Fu would be a popular attraction in the annual Honolulu Festival that brings cultural performances from around the world and invited them to attend a future festival.
- Zhengzhou Government replied positively. OED contacted the Honolulu Festival organizers to propose the concept (which they enthusiastically supported by providing lodging support) and local Chinese Community groups to see if they would assist in hosting the group, which they agreed to, and planning for their performance for 2020.

- Economic impact would be additional tourism and enriching the Festival's cultural offerings.

Honolulu Film Office:

The Honolulu Film Office (HFO) directly impacts the statewide spend of the film and television industry doing business in Hawaii by providing location scouting and securing assistance, requesting and securing permitting for locations, location access and security arrangements, informing neighborhoods of the impact of the activity, and answering questions and complaints from the community. HFO attends a number of industry forums and gatherings annually to promote Hawaii, especially Oahu, as a film/TV shooting location.

- Per DBEDT, estimated 2019 statewide spending from the film and television industry (final figures to be released later) is about \$375M of which Oahu's portion is anticipated to be around \$320M or 85% of the total direct spend.*
- Total economic impacts for the Oahu portion (\$320M) is:
 - o \$552M in economic output
 - o Total jobs impact (job-year) of nearly 3,200
 - o Over \$127M in household income generated

*This represents a nearly \$100M decline in statewide direct spending due to the institution of a cap on the rebate program, or just over a 20% decrease.

- Major projects that contributed to these figures in 2019 are 2 Network Television Series (approximately 40 episodes) and 6 feature films from studios, streamers and international independent production companies):
 - o HAWAII FIVE-0, CBS Television (television series)
 - o MAGNUM PI, CBS Television (television series)
 - o THE WRONG MISSY, NETFLIX
 - o JUMANJI 2, Sony Pictures Studio
 - o SAME TIME, NEXT CHRISTMAS, ABC Television (movie)
 - o FINDING OHANA, NETFLIX
 - o NEXT GOAL WINS (UK,NZ production; Director, Taika Waititi)
 - o PRESS PLAY (CJ Entertainment, Korea)

Economic Related Initiatives under Discussion:

- **DROP Festival in conjunction with World Surfing League: Dec 2020**
 - o DROP is an Australian based company that specializes in holding music events.

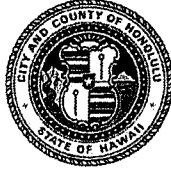
- DROP is proposing to conduct a world-class music event following WSL's VANS surfing competition in Oahu in 2020.
- Assisting DROP with looking for potential venues, perhaps a City park or facility, as well as any permitting requirements.
- Potential economic impact from visitors to Honolulu to attend event.
- **Philippine Kapatid Exchange (Product Show), July 2020**
 - Working with the Filipino Chamber of Commerce and Consulate General of the Philippines to hold a product show in Honolulu, attracting vendors from Philippines to include Cebu and Manila and showcase Filipino products and promote business ties.
 - Potential economic impact from business ties that may result.
- **Honolulu Biennial 2021**
 - Assisting Honolulu Biennial Foundation in planning for this biennial arts event on Oahu with potential venue selection, outreach to community organizations and potential collaborators such as ANA Honolulu Music Festival.
 - Potential economic impact from increased tourism.
- **Wave Pool at Kalaeloa**
 - Assisted entrepreneur from California to create a surfing wave pool in Kalaeloa, with advice on Opportunity Zones and permitting requirements. Proprietor found a location and is now looking to set up a collaborative development.
 - Potential economic impact through new jobs and sport tourism for surfing training/unique experience. Will also assist Hawaii schools with a training facility.
- **Pan Pacific Soccer**
 - OED assisted Pan Pacific Soccer to hold tournament with four professional teams from Japan, Canada, and U.S. on Oahu in 2017 and 2018; organizer canceled 2019 event but is looking to return in 2020.
 - OED will assist in finding practice field through the DPP (at Waipio Soccer Complex), and helping to advertise the event in the community.
 - Economic impact is to bring a professional soccer tournament to Honolulu annually to attract new tourists and generate greater local interest.
 - Additionally, organizers conduct youth clinics with professionals while here and have offered to renovate one or several City soccer fields to professional standards.

- **Race Track on Oahu**

- Assisted entrepreneur to look for a location to reestablish a race track on Oahu.
- Campbell Industrial Park, next to Kalaeloa Community Development District, is the preferred location.
- Assisted entrepreneur with advice on working with community groups such as neighborhood boards to introduce the concept and outreach to City Council representative to address any concerns.
- Potential economic impact: new jobs and bringing new sport tourism to Oahu; could also assist with providing a race track for enthusiasts, helping to alleviate street racing.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 * HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 * FAX: (808) 768-4242 * INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

December 31, 2018

ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR.
MANAGING DIRECTOR

GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Martin and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Report on Status of Sister Cities of the City and County of Honolulu

In accordance with Council Resolution 91-240, Establishing Guidelines for the City and County of Honolulu for the Establishment of Sister City Relationships, stating the Office of the Mayor "...shall submit an annual report to the Council by December 31 of each year which summarizes activities conducted with Honolulu sister cities and identifies the sister cities for which no activity has occurred within five years..." as a way to determine which relationships should result in an "...automatic termination of Honolulu sisterhood affiliation...", the attached report is submitted for your consideration.

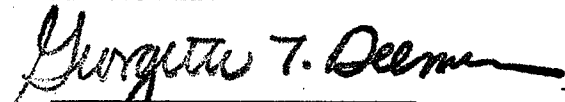
Should you have any questions, please contact me at 808-768-6638, or email at edwin.hawkins@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,


Edwin P. Hawkins, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachments

APPROVED:


Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Managing Director

2018 DEC 31 P 2:27

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL ON HONOLULU'S SISTER CITIES

INTRODUCTION

Council Resolution 91-240 provides that “such protocol officer ...shall submit an annual report to the Council by December 31 of each year which summarizes the activities conducted with Honolulu’s sister cities and identifies the sister cities for which no activity has occurred within five years, thereby resulting in an automatic termination of Honolulu’s sisterhood affiliation....”

LIST OF HONOLULU’S SISTER CITIES

SISTER CITY	COUNTRY	RESOLUTION	DATE OF RESOLUTION
1. Baguio	Philippines (1)	95-349	November 3, 1995
2. Baku	Azerbaijan	98-206	August 5, 1998
3. Bruyeres	France	60-342	November 1, 1960
4. Cali	Columbia	12-311	December 5, 2012
5. Candon	Philippines (2)	15-42	March 11, 2015
6. Caracas	Venezuela	99-10	January 27, 1999
7. Cebu	Philippines (3)	90-01	November 14, 1990
8. Chengdu	China (5)	11-72 CD1	April 20, 2011
9. Chigasaki	Japan (5)	14-178	August 13, 2014
10. Fengxian, Shanghai	China (6)	12-125 CD1	July 11, 2012
11. Funchal, Madeira	Portugal (1)	79-216	September 19, 1979
12. Haikou	China (1)	85-66	February 27, 1985
13. Hiroshima	Japan (1)	59-349	May 19, 1959
14. Hue	Vietnam	95-350	November 3, 1995
15. Incheon	Korea (2)	03-210	October 15, 2003
16. Kaohsiung	Taiwan	62-330	September 4, 1962
17. Laoag	Philippines (4)	69-274	July 15, 1969
18. Majuro Atoll	Marshall Islands	09-282	December 16, 2009
19. Mandaluyong	Philippines (5)	05-268	September 28, 2005
20. Manila	Philippines (6)	80-49	March 19, 1980
21. Mombasa	Kenya	00-148	August 9, 2000
22. Mumbai (Bombay)	India	70-31	January 20, 1970
23. Nagaoka	Japan (4)	12-09 CD1	January 5, 2012
24. Naha, Okinawa	Japan (2)	60-69	March 18, 1960
25. Qinhuangdao	China (4)	10-90 FD1	May 12, 2010
26. Rabat	Morocco	06-229	March 9, 2007
27. Sakaimachi	Japan (6)	18-274	November 26, 2018
28. San Juan	Puerto Rico	85-373	November 20, 1985
29. Seoul	Korea (1)	73-102	May 20, 1973
30. Sintra	Portugal (2)	98-205	August 5, 1985
31. Tokyo*	Japan	82-270	December 8, 1982

32. Uwajima	Japan (3)	04-036	February 18, 2004
33. Vigan	Philippines (7)	03-050	March 19, 2003
34. Zhangzhou	China (3)	12-236	October 3, 2003
35. Zhongshan	China (2)	97-179	June 18, 1997

* (refused by then-Tokyo Governor Ishikawa; since then, continued to decline invitation)

RECENT ACTIVITIES BETWEEN HONOLULU AND EACH SISTER CITY SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS

1. BAGUIO, PHILIPPINES (established November 1995)

The most recent activity between the two cities occurred on February 13, 2014. Mayor Kirk Caldwell visited Baguio City and met with Baguio Mayor Mauricio Domogan.

Here is the link to the news article regarding this visit: <http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28527-2-13-14-city-of-baguio-honolulu-mayor-visits-baguio-city.html>

2. BAKU, AZERBAIJAN (established August 1998)

No activity has been recorded in the files of the Office of Economic Development that occurred between the two cities since inception of relationship. Attempts have been made to locate in Honolulu advocates of this relationship. So far OED has been unsuccessful.

3. BRUYERES, FRANCE (established November 1960)

On October 6, 2011 Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle and Bruyeres Deputy Mayor Ludovic Dorain signed the renewal of the Honolulu-Bruyeres sister city relationship in a ceremony at the courtyard of Honolulu Hale to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the city ties.

Click here to view some photos during the occasion: <http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28530-10-6-11-city-of-bruyeres-honolulu-and-bruyeres-celebrate-50th-anniversary-of-sister-city-ties.html>

Visits by residents of Honolulu and Bruyeres to each other's cities have regularly been made, especially among families in Hawaii of the 442nd RCT that liberated Bruyeres from the Nazis during the Second World War. In fact, Mr. Ross Sasamura, the Director of the city's Department of Facility Maintenance, together with the 100th/442nd US Army Reserve soldiers will be visiting Bruyeres sometime in July 2019 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Bruyeres from the Nazis. Likewise, Mayor Kirk Caldwell and OED Executive Director Ed Hawkins are preparing to visit Bruyeres sometime in October 2019 on the 75th Anniversary of its liberation by Nikkei soldiers, and will meet with municipal officials to foster stronger relationship with between Honolulu and Bruyeres.

4. CALI, COLUMBIA (established December 2012)

No activity has been reported between the two cities since the Council Resolution was passed on December 5, 2012.

5. CANDON, PHILIPPINES (established March 2015)

On October 5, 2018, Mayor Ericson Singson of Candon City, together with some Council members of the Candon City Council and other city officials visited Honolulu Hale and met with Mayor Kirk Caldwell. Here's the link to the news article of Mayor Singson's visit: <http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/32832-10-05-2018-candon-city-mayor-visits-honolulu-hale.html>.

6. CARACAS, VENEZUELA (established January 1999)

No report found of any activity involving Caracas, Venezuela.

7. CEBU, PHILIPPINES (established November 1990)

Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle visited Cebu City on February 12, 2012 and met with Cebu City Mayor Michael Rama in Cebu City Hall. Click here to read more about that visit: <http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28512-2-12-12-city-of-cebu-honolulu-mayor-visits-cebu-city.html>.

Visitors from Cebu City regularly visit Honolulu for business and vacation. Likewise, Honolulu officials who participate in the annual Trade and Goodwill Mission to the Philippines, sponsored by the Filipino Chamber of Commerce, often avail of the opportunity to visit and meet with Cebu City officials. The most recent visit of a Honolulu city official to Cebu City was made by OED Executive Director Ed Hawkins who visited Cebu City and met with Cebu City Mayor Tomas Osmena on October 21, 2017, during the 27th Philippine Trade and Goodwill Trip to the Philippines headed by Hawaii Governor David Ige.

8. CHENGDU, CHINA (established April 2011)

Business, cultural, and educational exchanges between Honolulu and Chengdu are ongoing, thanks to the personal efforts of Jeffrey Lau, a prominent Honolulu attorney, who is the Honolulu-Chengdu liaison in Honolulu. City officials, businessmen, cultural groups and students from both cities regularly visit each other cities. This year 2018 some Honolulu residents attended the China (Chengdu) Global Innovation and Entrepreneur Fair and the 2018 Innovation Forum for Mayors of International sister cities of

Chengdu held in Chengdu on May 18 to 20, 2018. Likewise, a group of Honolulu students attended the Chengdu International Sister Cities Youth Music Festival held on July 25 to July 31, 2018 in Chengdu.

The most recent visit to Honolulu of Chengdu students took place on August 10, 2017. Please click here for the news article on that visit: <http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28419-students-from-chengdu-visit-honolulu-hale.html>.

9. CHIGASAKI, JAPAN (established April 2014)

Due to the strong similarities in topography, attractions, and common issues related to tourism, a very vibrant relationship between city officials and citizens of both cities have developed as a result. Chigasaki is one of the most active sister city relationships as a result of constant outreach by its former Mayor Hattori (deceased October, 2018) and local representative, Ms. Rika Hirata who acts as its "Ambassador." With election of new Mayor in November, it remains to be seen how this relationship will progress, but all indications are that the strong relationship will not diminish. Here are some of the latest activities that have occurred in this sister city relationship:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/29382-9-29-17-mayor-caldwell-addresses-the-chigasaki-city-council.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/29895-12-15-17-chigasaki-citizens-delegation-visits-honolulu-hale.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/30823-3-8-18-chigasaki-mayor-visits-honolulu-hale.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/30876-3-16-2018-mayor-receives-4-elementary-students-from-chigasaki.html>.

10. FENGXIAN, SHANGHAI, CHINA (established July 2012)

Although the formal sister city document is yet to be signed and executed by both Mayors, Fengxian has made it clear it desires to complete this formal signing; Mayor Caldwell has been invited several times to Fengxian to sign the document but have not been able to arrange a visit during his travels in the region. Greater effort will be made in 2019 to finally accomplish this signing. In the meantime, Fengxian officials are actively promoting the relationship with Honolulu. Here are some of the recent activities that took place in the sister city ties between Honolulu and Fengxian:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28475-8-12-13-city-of-fengxian,-shanghai-deputy-mayor-visits-honolulu-mayor.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28806-7-19-17-shanghai-students-meet-with-mayor-caldwell.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28806-7-19-17-shanghai-students-meet-with-mayor-caldwell.html>.

11. FUNCHAL, MADEIRA, PROTUGAL (established September 1979)

No activity has been reported in the sister city relationship between the two cities in the last five years.

The most recent communications from both cities were made in 2013:

<http://citydart/vueAttachment.asp?ID=579840>;

A response letter from Mayor Caldwell: <http://citydart/vueAttachment.asp?ID=590750>.

12. HAIKOU, CHINA (established February 1985)

Ongoing activities between Honolulu and Haikou have been encouraged, initiated, and fostered by Mr. Leigh-Wai Doo, former member of the Honolulu City Council, and Liaison of the sister city relations between Honolulu and Haikou.

In November 6 to 8, 2013, Mr. Leigh-Wai Doo attended the Inter-Islands Tourism Policy Forum (ITOP) in Hainan Province as the representative of Mayor Kirk Caldwell.

Likewise, in November 25 to 27, 2014, Mr. Leigh-Wai Doo represented Mayor Kirk Caldwell in the First Haikou Sister City Mayors' Summit held in Haikou.

In August 8 to 14, 2015, the Haikou International Sister City Exhibition Pavilion was inaugurated where photos, memorabilia, and other exhibit items were sent by the city and county of Honolulu and displayed during the opening of the Exhibition Pavilion.

13. HIROSHIMA, JAPAN (established May 1959)

The City of Hiroshima is the first sister city of Honolulu. In 2019, Honolulu and Hiroshima will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the sister city ties between the two cities. Relations between the two cities have been vibrant, with annual exchange of cultural and educational programs. The local Hiroshima Kenjinkai as well as the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce and the Junior Chamber of Commerce continues to promote this relationship annually with exchange of delegates and the building of business relationships.

Here is the latest activity that has taken place:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/30828-3-8-18-hiroshima-goodwill-delegation-visits-honolulu-hale.html>.

14. HUE, VIETNAM (established November 1995)

Ms. Thanh Lo Sananikone, the Chairperson of the Vietnamese American Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, is the liaison in Honolulu of the sister city relations between Honolulu and Hue.

Ms. Sananikone led a delegation of 20 people from Honolulu to attend the Quintessence of Vietnamese Crafts held in Hue on April 29 to May 14, 2016. Mayor Caldwell requested the delegation to represent him during the Hue Festival.

More recently, in a letter dated October 24, 2018, Mayor Kirk Caldwell has been invited by Mr. Nguyen Van Thanh, the Chairman of the Hue City People's Committee of Vietnam to attend the Hue Traditional Craft Festival that will be held in Hue on April 26 to May 2, 2019.

15. INCHEON, KOREA (established October 2003)

Cultural and Educational relations remain active with annual visits of Incheon City and Inha University officials and students. Proclamations and certificates of accomplishment are passed periodically. Ms. So-Suk Ko is the local "International Advisor" and "Incheon-Honolulu Sister City Representative." Ms. Ko works hard to keep this relationship active and alive, assisting the City with outreach to Incheon and hosting visits of Incheon officials. Most recently (June, 2018), Mayor Caldwell sent a letter of congratulations to the newly-elected Mayor of Incheon, the Honorable Num Chun Park.

Here are some recent activities that have taken place in furthering the sister city relationship between Honolulu and Incheon:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28413-gachon-golden-bell-award-winners.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/30206-1-12-18-incheon-metropolitan-council-delegation-visits-mayor-caldwell.html>.

16. KAOHSIUNG, TAIWAN (established September 1962)

The sister city relationship between Honolulu and Kaohsiung have been strengthened by various business, cultural, educational, and technical exchanges. Close relationship with Kaohsiung is facilitated by the direct involvement and assistance of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. Its Director General and staff have been extremely cooperative in promoting this relationship. Most recently (September, 2018), Mayor Caldwell sent the City's Director of Plans and Permitting, Ms. Kathy Sokugawa, to the Global Harbor Cities Forum hosted by Kaohsiung. Another recent exchanges is the following:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28427-visit-to-kaohsiung-city-in-taiwan.html>.

17. LAOAG, PHILIPPINES (established July 1969)

The liaison of the Honolulu-Laoag sister city relationship is the United Laoagenious of Hawaii, a local community group composed of former residents of Laoag who are now living in Honolulu. This community group arranges and assists Honolulu business, cultural, and educational travelers visiting Laoag and also residents of Laoag visiting Honolulu.

Mayor Peter Carlisle of Honolulu visited Laoag on January 7, 2013 and met with city officials during his trip to the Philippines. Please click here and read about this visit: <http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28518-1-7-13-city-of-laoag-honolulu-mayor-visits-laoag-city.html>.

On October 18, 2017 OED Executive Director Ed Hawkins visited Laoag during the 27th Philippine Trade and Goodwill Mission to the Philippines and met Mayor Chevylle V. Farinas.

18. MAJURO ATOLL, MARSHALL ISLANDS (established December 2009)

OED hosted the visit of the Mayor of Ebeye Island, Kwajalein, Honorable Hirata Kabua in December 2017. Discussions were held on potential collaboration regarding effects of sea level rise that is affecting Ebeye Island. Ebeye and University of Hawaii are collaborating on issues of sea level rise and economic development. Though Majuro Atoll is the official sister city to Honolulu, extension of a relationship with Ebeye seems appropriate as they share similar issues regarding sea level rise and effects of global warming. Furthermore, OED has a healthy relationship with the Consul General of Marshall Islands in Honolulu.

19. MANDALUYONG, PHILIPPINES (established September 2005)

No recent activity has been reported regarding this sister city.

20. MANILA, PHILIPPINES (established March 1980)

The two recent visits of the Mayors of Honolulu to Manila are herein recorded:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28511-2-13-12-city-of-manila-honolulu-mayor-receives-symbolic-key-to-manila.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28528-honolulu-mayor-meets-with-philippine-vice-president-and-manila-mayor.html>.

21. MOMBASA, KENYA (established August 2000)

Discussions in 2017 and most of 2018 were held between OED and Dr. Gilbert Githere, the liaison of the Honolulu-Mombasa sister city relationship, regarding the plan of Governor Ali Joho of Mombasa to lead a delegation to visit Honolulu. Initially the visit was planned for May 6 to 12, 2017, but was cancelled due to municipal elections in Kenya. Later, the visit was planned for December 2018 to coincide with the Honolulu Marathon on December 9, 2018, in which a Kenyan marathoner was the favorite to win, and December 10, 2018 when the Agreement of the Renewal of Sister City relationship between Honolulu and Mombasa would be signed by the Mayors of both cities. The scheduled visit was cancelled due to logistical and financial considerations. A new date has not yet been set at this time; however, interest remains strong to maintain and grow this relationship. Identified areas of collaboration are tourism, cultural exchange, and agriculture.

22. MUMBAI, INDIA (established as BOMBAY, INDIA in January 1970)

The Liaison of the Honolulu-Mumbai sister city relationship is Dr. Raj Kumar, a local Indian community leader. After many discussions with Dr. Raj Kumar, OED prepared a draft of Agreement, later on finalized and agreed upon, for the Renewal of ties between Honolulu and Mumbai. The Agreement, accompanied by the letter of Mayor Kirk Caldwell, was mailed to the Mayor of Mumbai for his comments and approval. Upon the approval of the Indian national government, a mutually convenient date for the visit of the Mumbai Mayor to Honolulu and the formal signing of the agreement would be finalized and set.

23. NAGAOKA, JAPAN (established January 2012)

One of the most vibrant and close relationships that Honolulu has with international cities is that with the city of Nagaoka in Japan. Relationships have been established in educational and cultural exchanges, business, and agriculture. Nagaoka sends its students to Honolulu in January, March, and December each year. These visits strengthen mutual student programs with Honolulu's public and private schools, and educate the students on shared war history (Nagaoka is the home of the architect of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Admiral Yamamoto, and was destroyed by American bombers in the waning stages of WWII). Both Nagaoka City officials (often led by its Mayor) and students attend the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day events in December; Nagaoka also provided the spectacular fireworks for the annual Honolulu Festival in March since inception of the sister city relationship. Most recently, Nagaoka Mayor Isoda and delegation visited during December, 2018; they attended the Pearl Harbor events and were hosted for dinner by Mayor Caldwell.

Some of the activities in this relationship are the following:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28455-12-8-16-city-of-nagaoka-university-and-h-s-students-visit-honolulu.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28457-12-6-16-city-of-nagaoka-mayor-tatsunoba-isoda-visits-honolulu-hale.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28487-3-2-12-nagaoka-and-honolulu-city-mayors-sign-sister-city-agreement.html>;

http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oed/oed_docs/Nagaoka_letter_Aug_18_2017.pdf

24. NAHA, OKINAWA, JAPAN (established March 1960)

Honolulu Mayors, past and present, have visited Naha and met with city officials on many occasions. Mayors Jeremy Harris, Mufi Hannemann, and Kirk Caldwell have, throughout the years, visited this beautiful sister city, from where many Honolulu residents and their ancestors originally came from.

Some activities relating to this sister city are recorded here:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28510-6-24-10-city-of-naha-mayor-mufi-hannemann-visits-naha.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/32975-10-24-2018-okinawan-renowned-dancer-fusako-shida-meets-with-md-roy-amemiya.html>.

25. QINHUANGDAO, CHINA (established March 2010)

No recent activity has been reported on this sister city.

26. RABAT, MOROCCO (established March 2007)

Aside from the following activity, no recent activity has been recorded on this sister city.

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28503-3-9-07-city-of-rabat-mayors-of-rabat-and-honolulu-sign-sister-city-agreement.html>.

27. SAKAIMACHI, JAPAN (established November 2018)

Recently established; awaiting Mayor's decision on executing sister city document

28. SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO (established November 1985)

When hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico on September 16, 2017, it was regarded as the worst natural disaster on record to affect Dominica and Puerto Rico. Total fatalities were 3,057.

Upon the suggestion of Managing Director Roy Amemiya, OED tried to reach out to the local Puerto Rican community in Honolulu to initiate and assist in a fundraising drive for the victims of the disaster, especially in the city of San Juan. OED was able to meet with the leaders of the Puerto Rican Heritage Society, with the help of Nancy Santoni Wysard (Tel. 808-943-1983), to discuss the possibility of a fundraising campaign. The proposed fundraising drive did not materialize due to lack of volunteers from the Puerto Rican community to take up the initiative. Thereafter, Mayor Kirk Caldwell sent a letter of solidarity to the Mayor of San Juan, offering assistance of help.

The last communication between Honolulu and San Juan was in March 2010 when OED tried to update its database on sister cities to which the Vice- Mayor of San Juan, Ms. Lourdes Rovira, responded by letter expressing interest in furthering strengthening sister city relationship. Since then nothing has been heard from San Juan.

29. SEOUL, KOREA (established May 1973)

The Liaison of the Honolulu-Seoul sister city relationship is Ms. Minnie Ko, a local businesswoman and President of MRO (Tel. 808-591-1929). Ms. Ko has kept this relationship alive through her personal efforts involving outreach projects to promote educational and business ties. The Gachon University Golden Bell (student leadership competition) student winners visit Honolulu each year; Ms. Ko arranges for certificates of accomplishment to be presented by our Mayor to the award winners; a discussion round table is scheduled with the Mayor or a representative during these visits. Most recently, Mayor Caldwell sent a letter of congratulations to Honorable Won Soon Park, on his re-election as Mayor of Seoul (June 2018).

Here are some of the activities relating to this sister city:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28458-2-2-17-seoul-city-council-members-visit-honolulu.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28447-2-17-17-city-of-seoul-gachon-students-visit-honolulu-mayor.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28874-6-13-17-city-of-seoul-16-provincial-officials-from-korea-visit-honolulu-hale.html>.

30. SINTRA, PORTUGAL (established August 1985)

No recent activity has been recorded relating to this sister city.

31. TOKYO, JAPAN (established December 1982)

Tokyo Metropolitan Government's then-Governor Ishikawa refused to sign sister city agreement, citing relative size of Tokyo in comparison to Honolulu. Since then, subsequent Tokyo Governor's offices have refused to carry this relationship further, most recent communication with them in 2017. However, Mayor Caldwell visited with Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike in 2017, discussing possible training of Japanese surfers in Oahu in preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Honolulu's Tokyo Tominkai remains an active group promoting Tokyo "Edo Culture" and annual outreach to Tokyo Governor's office.

32. UWAJIMA, JAPAN (established February 2004)

The relationship between Honolulu and Uwajima continues to be strong and is still getting stronger, with numerous exchanges between its city officials, students, and business people. This year, Ehime Prefecture (Sister State with Hawaii) and Uwajima City experienced catastrophic flood damage that resulted in significant loss of life and massive property damage. Organizations in Hawaii, including Uwajima Kenjinkai and Tokyo Tominkai, gathered funds and donated them to Uwajima City. Mayor Caldwell visited Uwajima City in

Here are some activities between the two cities:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28874-6-13-17-city-of-seoul-16-provincial-officials-from-korea-visit-honolulu-hale.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/29114-9-28-17-mayor-kirk-caldwell-visits-sister-city-uwajima,-ehime-prefecture,-japan.html>;

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/1170-may-oed-news/33137-11-5-2018-uwajima-suisan-high-school-students-visit-oed.html>.

33. VIGAN, PHILIPPINES

The liaison of the Honolulu-Vigan sister city relationship is the Vigan Association of Hawaii, a local community organization composed of former residents of the city of Vigan who now reside in Honolulu.

Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle visited the city of Vigan in 2012:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28526-2-14-12-city-of-vigan-honolulu-mayor-visits-vigan-city.html>.

OED Executive Director Ed Hawkins visited Vigan on October 19, 2017 during the 27th Trade and Goodwill mission to the Philippines and met with Vigan Mayor Juan Carlo Medina.

The latest communication to Vigan was a letter on January 23, 2018 sent by Mayor Kirk Caldwell congratulating Vigan for being chosen as one of the New 7 Wonder Cities of the World and for being selected as UNESCO World Heritage site.

34. ZHANGZHOU, CHINA (established October 2003)

After the signing of the sister city agreement between the two cities, not much activity has been reported regarding this sister city.

<http://www.honolulu.gov/cms-oed-menu/site-oed-sitearticles/29398-3-4-13-zhangzhou-and-honolulu-mayors-sign-sister-city-agreement.html>.

35. ZHONGSHAN, CHINA (established June 1997)

A recent visit by a delegation of Zhongshan city officials and citizens to Honolulu Hale was made in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the sister city relationship between the two cities.

<http://www.honolulu.gov/ecodev/intl-relations/194-site-may-oed-cat/28410-zhongshan-delegation-visits-honolulu.html>.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the provisions of Resolution 91-240, the following sister cities are candidates for automatic termination of its sisterhood affiliation with Honolulu:

- Baku, Azerbaijan
- Cali, Columbia
- Caracas, Venezuela
- Funchal, Madeira, Portugal
- Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands
- Mandaluyong, Philippines
- Qinhuangdao, China
- Rabat, Morocco
- San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Sintra, Portugal
- Tokyo, Japan
- Zhangzhou, China

Discussion:

Baku, Azerbaijan: because of lack of activity since inception in August 1998 (over 20 years), and there seems to be little local desire to continue and little prospects for benefits to Honolulu from this relationship, **recommend termination.**

Cali, Columbia: because of lack of activity since inception in December 2012 (over six years), and there seems to be little local desire to continue and little prospects for benefits to Honolulu from this relationship, **recommend termination.**

Caracas, Venezuela: because of lack of activity since inception in 1999 (19 years), and there seems to be little local desire to continue and little prospects for benefits to Honolulu from this relationship, **recommend termination.**

Funchal, Madeira, Portugal: apparently little activity has occurred since inception in 1979; most recent activity was over five years ago in 2013. Nonetheless, Funchal is a culturally-tied city as a result of Portuguese immigration to Hawaii. Recommend keeping this relationship for now; seek a local potential sponsor in the coming year to assess whether to go forward or not.

Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands: Although little direct activity has occurred since initiation in December 2009, contact has been maintained with visits of government officials of the Marshall Islands to Honolulu through a relationship with the local Consul General's office. Furthermore, OED hosted a recent visit by the Mayor of Ebeye Island to discuss potential collaboration on combating sea level rise and effects of global warming. Recommend maintaining this relationship for now.

Mandaluyong, Philippines: No apparent activity since initiation in September 2005. Recommend asking local Filipino community to see if any interest in keeping this relationship. Make a decision at end of 2019 whether to go forward or not.

Qinhuangdao, China: No apparent activity since initiation in March 2010. Recommend asking local Chinese community to see if any interest in keeping this relationship. Make a decision at end of 2019 whether to go forward or not.

Rabat, Morocco: No recent activity since initiation in March 2007. Current Hawaii Dean of the Consular Corps is Honorary Consul for Morocco. Inquire with the Honorary Consul and see if there's any community support for maintaining this relationship. Make a decision at end of 2019 whether to go forward or not.

San Juan, Puerto Rico: Little activity since initiation in 1985. Recent communication after Hurricane Maria aside, little response has been noted to City's outreach. Recommend touching base with local Puerto Rican community to see if interest exists to maintain this relationship. Make a decision at end of 2019 whether to go forward or not.

Sintra, Portugal: No recent activity since initiation in 1985. Similar situation to Funchal, Madeira. Because Sintra is a culturally-tied city as a result of Portuguese immigration to Hawaii, recommend keeping this relationship for now; seek a local potential sponsor in the coming year to assess whether to go forward or not.

Tokyo, Japan: Since sister city agreement was never executed since initiation in 1982, **recommend termination**

Zhangzhou, China: No recent activity since initiation in 2003. Because of close cultural ties with Chinese immigrants, recommend keeping this relationship for now; seek a local potential sponsor in the coming year to assess whether to go forward or not.

FINAL

Terminate following:

Baku, Azerbaijan

Cali, Columbia

Caracas, Venezuela

Tokyo, Japan

Monitor status; assess for potential termination in 2019:

Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

Mandaluyong, Philippines

Qinhuangdao, China

Rabat, Morocco

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Sintra, Portugal

Zhangzhou, China