

Resolution No. 1019-2023

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

By Council Member Griffin and Mayor Bibb

Declaring this Council's desire that Cleveland and Tema, Ghana establish a sister city relationship and authorizing the Mayor to enter into such agreement and execute such documents that are necessary to implement the relationship.

WHEREAS, located adjacent to the capital city of Accra, the metropolis of Tema, Ghana, serves as a thriving industrial hub commissioned by Ghana's first president, Kwame Nkrumah, and is home to approximately 292,000 people, contributing to its dynamic economic, cultural, and educational landscape; and

WHEREAS, Tema boasts a diverse range of industries, including an oil refinery, a harbor, and numerous factories, producing key industrial products such as aluminium, steel, processed fish, refined petroleum, textile, chemicals, food products, and cement. Notable companies such as Volta Aluminium (VALCO), Tema Oil Refinery (TOR), Nestlé Ghana Ltd., Wahome Steel Ltd, and Tema Shipyard operate within the city, along with a Free zone enclave, fostering economic growth and employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Tema Port, the largest of the two ports in Ghana, underwent a remarkable expansion worth \$1.5 billion in 2020, establishing itself as one of Africa's largest container ports. This strategic location provides access to national organizations and government offices based in Ghana, promoting trade and facilitating international connections; and

WHEREAS, Tema is in close proximity to prestigious educational institutions such as the University of Ghana, Central University College, and the Accra Technical University, attracting students from various regions and fostering academic exploration and research. These institutions offer a wide array of disciplines, preparing the next generation of leaders and innovators; and

WHEREAS, Tema's vibrant industrial landscape, coupled with its educational and cultural vibrancy, positions it as an ideal "Sister City" for Cleveland, forging opportunities for cultural exchange, educational collaboration, and mutual growth. This partnership will strengthen ties between our cities, fostering economic and cultural cooperation; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland recognizes its vibrant Ghanaian community, which represents the State of Ohio's second largest Ghanaian population. Acknowledging the importance of diplomatic, economic, and cultural collaboration, Cleveland and Tema commit to deepening their relationship as a sign of respect and to warmly embrace this community; and

WHEREAS, this resolution serves as a measure to enhance public peace, property, health, and safety through the strengthening of relationships among global communities, acknowledging that fostering peace in the world requires robust connections between people; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council, desiring that the City of Cleveland and Tema, Ghana, establish a sister city relationship, authorize the Mayor to enter into such agreement and execute such documents that are necessary to implement the sister city relationship on such terms and conditions as the Director of Law determines are in the best interest of the general public.

Section 2. That this resolution is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

JHO:
9-18-2023
For: Councilmember Griffin

