# Resolution No. 616-2023

**By Mayor Bibb**

**AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION**
Declaring this Council's desire that Cleveland and Novi Sad, Serbia 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.

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WHEREAS, located on the meander of the river Danube, the municipality of Novi Sad, Serbia, is a major economic, industrial, financial and cultural hub and is home to approximately three hundred sixty eight thousand inhabitants, the second largest city in Serbia; and

WHEREAS, the Novi Sad is the economic center of Vojvodina, the most fertile agricultural region in Serbia.  The city also represents one of the largest economic and cultural hubs of Serbia. The significance of Novi Sad as a financial center has already been proven, by being home to the national headquarters of numerous banks, such as Erste Bank, Vojvodanska Banka and Credit Agricole as well as the third largest insurance company in Serbia, DDOR Novi Sad. The city is also home to major energy companies like Naftna Industrija Srbije oil company and Srbiagas gas company; and

WHEREAS, Novi Sad is the second largest cultural center in Serbia, after Belgrade. The Municipal officials have made the city more attractive with numerous events and music concerts. Since 2000, the number of tourists visiting Novi Sad each year has steadily risen. Novi Sad has been home to the EXIT festival, one of the largest summer music festivals in Europe. The city has several museums and galleries, both public and privately owned. Besides the Serbian National Theatre, the other playhouses consist of the Novi Sad Theatre and Youth Theatre; and

WHEREAS, Novi Sad, with its location on the Danube river, cultural institutions, a youth theater, public transportation, information technology, tourism, banking, manufacturing and insurance economy makes it a wonderful "Sister City" for Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, the cities acknowledge an enduring security cooperation partnership between the Ohio National Guard and the Serbian Armed Forces has contributed to

broadening the overall state to state cooperation to include education and economic development; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure providing for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health or safety in that peace in the world can only be assured through a strengthening of relationships among the world's 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 Novi Sad, Serbia, establish a sister city relationship, authorize the Mayor to enter into such agreements 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.

SM:nl
5-15-2023
FOR:  Mayor Bibb

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### AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

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**READ FIRST TIME on MAY 15, 2023**
**and referred to DIRECTORS of Law;**
**COMMITTEE on Finance Diversity Equity and Inclusion**

REPORTS

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CITY CLERK

READ SECOND TIME

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CITY CLERK

READ THIRD TIME

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PRESIDENT

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CITY CLERK

APPROVED

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MAYOR

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PASSAGE RECOMMENDED BY
COMMITTEE ON
**FINANCE, DIVERSITY, EQUITY**
**and INCLUSION**

FILED WITH COMMITTEE