

Resolution No. 1017-2023

By Council Member Griffin and Mayor
Bibb

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Declaring this Council's desire that Cleveland and Cape Town, South Africa 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, situated in the Western Cape province along the coastline bordering the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, the city of Cape Town, South Africa is the second largest city in the country with a population of approximately four million seven hundred thousand residents and stands as the legislative capital of the country; and

WHEREAS, Cape Town serves as a prominent cultural hub, encompassing a diverse range of museums, galleries, and educational institutions that provide immersive experiences of South African history, art, and culture. Institutions such as the Iziko South African Museum, the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, and the District Six Museum enrich Cape Town's cultural landscape, offering insights into the nation's heritage and artistic expressions; and

WHEREAS, Cape Town stands as an educational powerhouse, hosting renowned academic institutions that foster intellectual growth and innovation. The University of Cape Town, Stellenbosch University, and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology are esteemed universities that attract students from all over the world, providing opportunities for academic exploration and research across a wide array of disciplines; and

WHEREAS, Cape Town's vibrant arts scene is showcased through its acclaimed theaters, including the Artscape Theatre Centre, Baxter Theatre Centre, and Fugard Theatre. These venues provide captivating performances that celebrate South Africa's theatrical prowess and contribute to the city's cultural vibrancy; and

WHEREAS, Cape Town serves as a vibrant economic center, driving South Africa's economy with a diverse range of industries and a thriving entrepreneurial spirit. The city's economy is anchored by sectors such as finance, technology, manufacturing, tourism, and creative industries. Cape Town is home to major financial institutions, including regional headquarters of leading banks and investment firms, fostering a robust financial sector that supports local and international businesses; and

WHEREAS, Cape Town's tech sector is rapidly expanding, with a growing number of innovative startups and tech companies making their mark in the city. The presence of technology hubs, incubators, and accelerators fosters a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation, positioning Cape Town as a hub for technological advancements and digital solutions; and

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WHEREAS, Cape Town, with its vibrant sports culture and diverse population, can harness the power of sports to foster communication and understanding. The city's love for sports extends beyond its renowned rugby and cricket teams, with a growing interest in football, athletics, and other sports. By utilizing sports as a platform, Cape Town can bring together individuals from different communities, backgrounds, and cultures, facilitating dialogue and promoting social cohesion. Sports can serve as a common language, promoting friendship, tolerance, and respect among Cape Town's residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Cape Town's picturesque landscapes, thriving educational institutions, rich cultural heritage, growing economic power, and history of loving all kinds of sport, make it an ideal candidate for a sister city partnership, fostering opportunities for cultural exchange, collaboration in education and business, and mutual growth between Cape Town and its potential sister city; 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 Cape Town, South Africa, establish a sister city relationship, authorizes 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

