Sister City Policy Discussion

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION – October 8, 2024

City Staff Representative: Alicia Calderón, City Attorney
Department: City Attorney's Office

Background

- Brighton is a member of Sister Cities International, an organization committed to promoting peace, respect, and mutual understanding across borders.
- Brighton Sister Cities is a nonprofit that formed in 1995.
- Brighton and Ziebice, Poland have been sister cities since March 1996.

What is the City of Brighton's Process?

Brighton does not have a policy for the formation of sister city relationship but has received an inquiry regarding a new sister city affiliation.

- Is there a non-profit organization that wants to support a new sister city affiliation application?
- Does City Council want another sister city?

Draft Policy for New Sister City Partnerships: Process

- An organization advocating a new sister city affiliation submits documentation to the City Manager demonstrating compliance with the Sister City Policy.
- The City Manager advises the City Council whether the specified criteria and standards for affiliation have been met, and presents the proposed affiliation, and any additional information regarding the affiliation to the City Council.
- The City Council approves sister city recognition.

Draft Policy: Proposed Criteria

- The proposed sister city is similar in size, population, demographics, vision, mission, or goals.
- The proposed sister city has relevant sustainability, cultural, or economic goals.
- The proposed sister city has existing local connections with significant community or business interests.
- The proposed sister city currently participates in an on-going exchange program with an organization in the City.

Council Input and Questions