

RESOLUTION NO. 180831

Ratifying the creation of a Friendship City relationship with the city of Kabul, Afghanistan.

WHEREAS, Kansas City, Missouri, USA and Kabul, Afghanistan, in accordance with Sister Cities International guidelines, seek to establish a Friendship City relationship that will establish close cultural and commercial relations between the two cities; and

WHEREAS, the Friendship City Program is a cardinal tool to promote and foster international cooperation, human understanding between peoples of different cultures and backgrounds, enhance mutual respect for human dignity, and to share prosperity among nations; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City and Kabul desire to formally establish this Friendship City relationship to develop cultural, educational, and economic ties between these two great cities; and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2018, the Mayors of Kansas City, Missouri, and Kabul, Afghanistan, executed a Memorandum memorializing their intent to enter into a Friendship City relationship; and

WHEREAS, each respective city will establish an organization or committee to address the development of the sister-city program and to establish mutual goals between both cities and with the support of their respective city governments, will strive to facilitate the most favorable conditions in all areas of desired cooperation; and

WHEREAS, both cities, through their respective organizations, will endeavor to promote official visits between city officials and community and business leaders; to support and encourage tourism; to develop business and commercial opportunities; to boost exchanges and ideas in the fields of arts, natural resources, housing and education; and to enhance cultural exchanges; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby ratify the establishment of a Friendship City relationship with Kabul, Afghanistan, under the terms of the agreement signed by both Mayors on May 15, 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to Melinda Minks, Vice-President, Sister City Association of Kansas City, with the anticipation of the Mayor and Council for a fruitful and prosperous relationship between Kansas City and Kabul through the Sister City Program.

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