

**Rockville Sister City Corporation (RSCC)
Policy on Forming a New Sister City Relationship**

- 1) Goal:** The goal of the Rockville Sister City Corporation is to facilitate the formation and maintenance of Sister and Friendship City relationships on behalf of the City of Rockville through international cooperation between peoples of different cultural and ethnic origins, especially among the youth, both in Rockville and in our Sister and Friendship Cities, through exchanges involving personal contact between peoples, resulting in greater appreciation, respect, empathy, tolerance and understanding of our differences, thereby leading to more peaceful co-existence, relations, and friendship among diverse communities, both domestic and foreign.
- 2) Duty:** The Board shall recommend potential, new Sister City relationships to the Mayor and Council of Rockville.
- 3) Initiation:** A group of 5 or more residents of the City of Rockville (Rockville) or a member of the RSCC Board of Directors (Board) or the Mayor or a City Council Member may propose the formation of a Sister City relationship between Rockville and a foreign city.
- 4) Procedure:** The Board shall establish procedures and criteria to evaluate a proposed relationship with a foreign city as a Sister City with Rockville.
- 5) Mayor and Council:**
 - a) When Mayor and Council receive an expression of interest or proposal from a governing body or official of a foreign city proffering a Sister City relationship with Rockville, the Mayor and Council can refer the matter to the Board for evaluation.
 - b) The Mayor and Council of Rockville are the final authority on forming new Sister City relationships. When the Mayor and Council affirm a recommendation by the Board to form a new Sister City relationship they will instruct the appropriate City department or office and the Board to prepare an agreement to be executed by the Mayor and Council and the governing body or official of the prospective Sister City.

Adopted by the Board of Directors, RSCC, on 01 17 2018. This policy supersedes previous policies on Forming New Sister Cities adopted on August 1, 2011 and March 14, 2012.