ALAN M. ARAKAWA Mayor

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Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793-2155 Telephone (808) 270-7855 Fax (808) 270-7870

e-mail: mayors.office@mauicounty.gov

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Keʻena O Ka Meia COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

July 12, 2018

OFFICE OF THE

Honorable Mike White, Chair Maui County Council 200 S. High Street Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair White:

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SISTER-CITY

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA,

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

I am transmitting the following proposed resolution:

"ESTABLISHING A SISTER-CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA, REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES"

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to formalize a sister-city relationship between the County of Maui and the City of San Juan, Metro Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the purpose of strengthening the bonds initiated through cultural, business, education, and economic exchanges, furthering the ties of friendship and promoting enduring goodwill between the people of Maui County and the people of the City of San Juan, Metro Manila, Republic of the Philippines.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my Chief of Staff, Lynn Araki-Regan, at 270-7855.

Sincerely,

ALAN M. ARAKAWA Mayor, County of Maui

Attachment (1)

CC:

Keith Regan, Managing Director

Teena Rasmussen, Economic Development Director Tiffany Iida, President, Maui County Sister Cities Foundation The Honorable Guia G. Gomez, Mayor, City of San Juan

Resolution

No.	

ESTABLISHING A SISTER-CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA, REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Section 46-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, United States of America, to establish ties of friendship, understanding and goodwill with Sister Cities by resolutions duly adopted by the Council of the County of Maui; and

WHEREAS, the County of Maui is pleased and honored to receive steadfast intent by officials from the City of San Juan, Metro Manila, Republic of the Philippines, and support from County of Maui residents with roots in San Juan to establish sisterhood ties, to mutually promote and enhance trade, tourism, culture, agriculture, and education; and

WHEREAS, after an official visit to the City of San Juan by a delegation from the County of Maui in 2013, both parties agreed to establish a Friendship City relationship, which has elevated tremendously in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the highly-urbanized, historic City of San Juan is located at the center of Metro Manila and boasts of its dense-yet-efficient predominantly residential and scattered commercial areas, including the famous shopping center Greenhills; and

WHEREAS, official delegation from the City of San Juan, including their Mayor Guia Gomez, have paid official visits to the County of Maui on multiple occasions to connect with local residents with roots in their City and help strengthen our Friendship City status; and

WHEREAS, after learning about impressive community work, City of San Juan Mayor Guia Gomez was personally touched and made a scholarship contribution to local nonprofit Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation, whose current president is a native of the City of San Juan; and

Resolution	

WHEREAS, in October 2017, a delegation from the University of Hawaii Maui College visited the City of San Juan and met with officials at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) to establish a study abroad program; and

WHEREAS, in January 2018, City of San Juan Mayor Guia Gomez sent a representative to the County of Maui to attend the official launch of UH Maui College's I.M. Ready Study Abroad program, which stands for 'International Mobility,' and aims to empower students by providing them opportunities to gain global experiences, expand their network and build lasting relationships beyond the islands of Maui County; and

WHEREAS, at the same event, official partnerships were penned by UH Maui College's chancellor and the City of San Juan's representative; and

WHEREAS, in June 2018, four UH Maui College students visited the PUP in the City of San Juan as part of the I.M. Ready Study Abroad program to learn about global innovation and self-discovery; and

WHEREAS, City of San Juan officials have participated in annual Maui County Fair festivities, and UH Maui College students, faculty and staff of the I.M. Ready program have participated in San Juan's annual festival; and

WHEREAS, plans for future student exchanges are being discussed, which would involve practical training for PUP culinary students at Tante's Island Cuisine Restaurant in Kahului and Maalaea, and with local partner hotels for an international hospitality program; and

WHEREAS, these plans, along with the inaugural I.M. Ready program trip in June shall have deeper meaning among the municipalities involved upon the establishment of a sister-city relationship, which will facilitate beneficial exchanges of information, ideas and skills to promote business opportunities in such areas as hospitality and tourism, social justice, business, information technology and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a sister-city relationship with the City of San Juan, Metro Manila, will bring about a greater bond and bridge of understanding between the people of the City of San Juan and the County of Maui; now, therefore,

Resolution	

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

- 1. That it hereby authorizes the Mayor of the County to formalize a sister-city relationship between the County and the City of San Juan, Metro Manila, Republic of the Philippines for the purpose of strengthening the bonds initiated through cultural, business, education and economic exchanges, furthering the ties of friendship and promoting enduring goodwill between the people of Maui County and the people of the City of San Juan, Metro Manila, Republic of the Philippines; and
- 2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Guia Gomez, Mayor, City of San Juan, Metro Manila, Republic of Philippines; the Honorable Vincent Pacheco, Councilor, City of San Juan, Metro Manila; the Honorable David Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui; Mr. Luis Salaveria, Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism; Jorge Tirona, President, Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Debra Nakama, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, University of Hawaii Maui College; Tiffany Iida, President, Maui County Sister Cities Foundation; and Teena Rasmussen, Director of the Office of Economic Development, County of Maui.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

JERRIE L. SHEPPARD

Department of the Corporation Counsel

County of Maui 2018-0781

2018-07-11 Resolution