

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**  
**POLICY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,**  
**AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE**

October 19, 2018

**Committee**  
**Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Policy, Economic Development, and Agriculture Committee, having met on October 1, 2018, makes reference to County Communication 18-274, from the Mayor, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled "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.

Your Committee notes the Maui County Sister Cities Foundation is a nonprofit organization certified by Sister Cities International. The goal of the Foundation is to promote activities and programs providing and facilitating communication, education, economic development, mutual understanding, and aid between the people of Maui County and the people of cities in other nations, including but not limited to, cultural, professional, technical, governmental, youth, and trade and commerce exchanges.

Your Committee further notes Maui County has established 24 sister-city relationships with various cities around the world, since 1964. Ten of the 24 sister-city relationships are with cities in the Philippines.

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A representative from the University of Hawaii, Maui College ("UH Maui College") said government representatives from Maui County traveled to the City of San Juan in 2013 to learn about the City's government and programs. The trip was coordinated through the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce. The City of San Juan entered into a sister-city relationship with Maui County, and Maui County reciprocated with a friendship-city relationship with the City of San Juan as a result of that trip. Since then, government representatives from the City of San Juan have made several trips to Maui to participate in Maui Fair festivities and connect with local residents with roots in the City of San Juan.

In the summer of 2018, a delegation from the UH Maui College traveled to the Philippines through the I.M. ("International Mobility") Ready study abroad program, which provides students with opportunities to gain global experiences, expand their network, and build lasting relationships beyond Maui County. The delegation visited with partner universities in the Philippines to learn about educational programs. The visit also included a meeting with the Mayor of the City of San Juan to learn about governance, global innovation, and self-discovery.

Your Committee discussed the commonalities between the City of San Juan and Maui County. While the City of San Juan is much more urbanized than Maui County, the two share similar views in education, government, programs for seniors, and ideas for implementing renewable energy. Formalizing a sister-city relationship with the City of San Juan will help to promote the exchange of ideas and information in such areas as hospitality and tourism, social justice, business, information technology, and workforce development.

The Mayor's representative said the Administration is in full support of the proposed resolution.

Your Committee agreed that establishing ties of friendship, understanding, and goodwill through the Sister Cities program will bring

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about a greater bond and bridge of understanding between residents of the City of San Juan and Maui County.

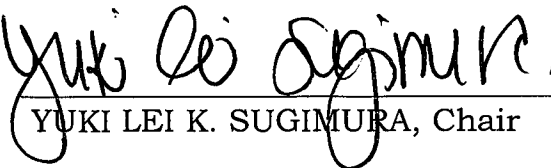
Your Committee voted 6-0 to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution and filing of the communication. Committee Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Crivello, and members Atay, Cochran, Hokama, and King voted "aye." Committee members Carroll, Guzman, and White were excused.

Your Committee is in receipt of a revised proposed resolution, approved as to form and legality, incorporating nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Policy, Economic Development, and Agriculture Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That Resolution \_\_\_\_\_, as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled "ESTABLISHING A SISTER-CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA, REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES" be ADOPTED; and
2. That County Communication 18-274 be FILED.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

  
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YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair

# 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 delegations 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 a 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 with opportunities to gain global experiences, expand their network, and build lasting relationships beyond 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 of Maui 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; 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; Luis Salaveria, Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, State of Hawaii; 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, Office of Economic Development, County of Maui.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

  
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JERRIE L. SHEPPARD  
Department of the Corporation Counsel  
County of Maui  
2018-0781/2017-0098  
2018-10-09 Resolution