

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE MIAMI BEACH CITY CODE, ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION," BY AMENDING ARTICLE III, ENTITLED "AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES," BY AMENDING DIVISION 15, ENTITLED "SISTER CITIES PROGRAM," BY AMENDING SECTION 2-181 THEREOF TO RE-ESTABLISH THE CITY'S ADMINISTRATION OF THE SISTER CITIES PROGRAM, BY AND THROUGH A COORDINATING COUNCIL APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION, WITH THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION TO SERVE AS THE SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT OF THE COUNCIL; AND, PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Sister Cities International ("SCI") is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, that serves as the national membership association for individual sister cities, counties and states across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of SCI is "to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation -- one individual, one community at a time"; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is a member of SCI and currently has eleven (11) Sister Cities affiliated with the City; to wit: (1) Almonte, Spain; (2) Basel, Switzerland; (3) Brampton, Canada; (4) Fortaleza, Brazil; (5) Fujisawa, Japan; (6) Ica, Peru; (7) Krumlov, Czech Republic; (8) Nahariya, Israel; (9) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; (10) Santa Marta, Colombia; and (11) Odessa, Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Sister Cities Program (the "Program") offers opportunities for the City to engage with its Sister Cities, establish partnerships, cultural exchange, promote tourism, educational opportunities and collaborative projects; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to April 10, 2019, the Program had been administered by the City, with oversight by a Coordinating Council (the "Council"), with the Office of the Mayor and City Commission serving as the supporting City staff department; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 10, 2019, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Ordinance No. 2019-4257, removing the Coordinating Council structure from the City Code, and contracting with the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce (the "Chamber") as the administrator of the Program; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to provide greater transparency and direct control of the Program, the Mayor and City Commission wish to re-establish the City's administration of the Program, with oversight by a Coordinating Council appointed by the Mayor and City Commission.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Sections 2-181 of Division 15, of Article III, of Chapter 2 of the City Code, entitled "Administration," is hereby amended as follows:

**CHAPTER 2  
ADMINISTRATION**

\* \* \*

**ARTICLE III. AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

\* \* \*

**DIVISION 15. SISTER CITIES PROGRAM**

**Sec. 2-181. Established; purpose; administration, supporting department.**

- (a) *Established.* There is hereby established a Sister Cities Program, whose purposes, power and duties, composition, membership qualification, and general governing regulations are as set forth in this section.
- (b) *Purpose.* The purposes and powers and duties of the Sister Cities Program are as follows:
  - (1) Cause the people of the city and the people of foreign cities to acquire a consciousness of each other, to understand each other as individuals, as members of their community, as citizens of their country and as part of the family of nations;
  - (2) Promote, as a consequence of such knowledge and consciousness, a continuing relationship of mutual concern between the people of the city and the people of its sister cities; and
  - (3) Promote art, cultural, educational and business exchanges between the city and its sister cities.
- (c) *Composition.* The council shall consist of seven (7) members. All of these members shall be direct appointments, one made by the mayor and each commissioner.
- (d) *Knowledge and experience.* The members of the council shall be persons who are interested in furthering the purpose of the program. The council may establish individual sister city committees, and any person interested in furthering the purpose of the program may become a member of an individual sister city committee upon approval by the council. To qualify, the person shall present a resume and a letter of interest to the committee chairperson.
- (e) *Supporting department.* The office of the mayor and city commission shall serve as the supporting department for the program.

(c) ~~Administration of program.~~ The Sister Cities Program shall be administered by the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce pursuant to written agreement between the Chamber of Commerce and the city, and governed pursuant to regulations as may be established by the city commission by resolution.

\* \* \*

## **SECTION 2. CODIFICATION**

It is the intention of the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made part of the Miami Beach City Code. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate word.

## **SECTION 3. REPEALER**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

## **SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected by such invalidity.

## **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance shall take effect on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Meiner, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Laura Dominguez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

12-4-23  
Date