



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action item for the City Council Meeting on September 9, 2025

DATE: September 3, 2025

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Rebecca Huerta, City Secretary
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Resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year service agreement, with four one-year options, with the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, for Sister City services, effective for FY 2026.

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the execution of a one-year service agreement, with four one-year options, with the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, for Sister City services, effective for FY 2026.

SUMMARY:

This agreement transfers management of the Corpus Christi Sister Cities program from the City to the United Chamber of Commerce ("Chamber") for a one-year term with up to four one-year renewals in return for compensation approved in the City's budget each year. The City Secretary's Office FY 2026 proposed budget includes \$20,000 in Professional Services for this agreement. In addition, \$8,000.00 will be provided under the agreement from the remaining FY 2025 fund balance for benefit of the Sister Cities programs. The agreement requires establishment of a Sister City Committee ("Committee") under the Chamber, an annual workplan and budget, semi-annual reports on finances and activities, and allows the Mayor or their designee to serve on the Executive Committee, among other requirements.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

Corpus Christi Sister Cities originated in 1962 and include Yokosuka, Japan (1962), Keelung, Taiwan (1986), Veracruz, Mexico (1986), Toledo, Spain (1988), Monterrey, Mexico (1993), Agen, France (1995), and Playa del Carmen, Mexico (2008). The Corpus Christi Sister City Committee was founded in 1962. Since then, it has been managed by various city and non-city departments, such as Parks and Recreation, Visit

Corpus Christi, Intergovernmental Relations (IGR), and most recently, the City Secretary's Office. During FY 2024, IGR started a discussion with the Chamber to gauge their interest in taking over the management of the committee. They responded positively, and oversight of the City's Sister City Committee was temporarily transferred to the City Secretary's Office in FY 2025, which would oversee their transition to the Chamber.

The Committee aims to build global partnerships through cultural, educational, informational, and trade exchanges, focusing on four key areas: arts and culture, business and trade, youth and education, and community development. The Chamber is uniquely positioned to unite a diverse range of partners to strengthen and grow the Committee's efforts in these areas.

In order to increase engagement with our Sister Cities, the Chamber will establish a Sister City committee to expand its committee size, structure, and engage in fundraising activities. Doing so also requires a staff commitment to facilitate those activities that many city departments are not able to provide. The Chamber has many talented staff members and an involved membership who currently coordinate successful community-wide programs including Leadership Corpus Christi, South Texas Military Taskforce, and Conquer the Coast. The Sister City activities are a natural addition to the Chamber's existing programs and their staff and board members are skilled in managing large, active committees.

If this agreement is approved, an ordinance to amend Council Policies Article IV, Division 13, Sister City Committee, will be brought forth to codify the committee change.

ALTERNATIVES:

The agreement could not be approved. If it is not approved, there needs to be a determination of which department will support the Sister City Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

FY 2026: \$20,000.00

FY 2025: \$8,000.00

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1020

Organization/Activity: 10020

Department: 42

Project # **(CIP Only):**

Account: 530000

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this agreement.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution with attached Agreement for Sister City services