

2023-2024 Sister City Relationship Milestone Celebrations

Strategic Alignment - Dynamic City Culture

Public

Tuesday, 21 March 2023
**City Community Services and
Culture Committee**

Program Contact:
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Approving Officer:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Adelaide has three Sister Cities relationships with milestone anniversaries coming in the 2023-2024 financial year:

- 11 July 2023 marks the 40th Anniversary of the relationship with Austin, Texas, USA
- 8 December 2023 marks the 50th Anniversary of the relationship with George Town, Penang, Malaysia
- April 2024 marks the 10th Anniversary of the relationship with Qingdao, Shandong, China.

This report outlines civic events planned to commemorate and celebrate these milestones, and which enable the community to celebrate and mark these important relationships.

The events recommended are consistent with previous events held to celebrate similar milestone anniversaries with our other Sister Cities and the estimated expenditure can be met from the proposed operating budget for 2023-24.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURE COMMITTEE:

1. Notes a Civic Event will be held in Adelaide in July 2023 for the community to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of our Sister City Relationship with Austin, USA.
 2. Notes a Civic Event will be held in Adelaide in December 2023 for the community to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our Sister City Relationship with George Town, Malaysia.
 3. Notes a Civic Event will be held in Adelaide in April 2024 for the community to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of our Sister City Relationship with Qingdao, China.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Dynamic City Culture Global connections and collaborations
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Each of the Civic Receptions affords an opportunity to cast a spotlight on the relationships, benefit from a renewed enthusiasm for the relationship, and leverage discussions and opportunities to share knowledge and connect city-to-city.
22/23 Budget Allocation	The costs can be met within existing budget allocations.
Proposed 23/24 Budget Allocation	Costs can be met within the proposed operating budget which is unchanged from the 2022-23 budget.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
22/23 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Ongoing costs of our international engagement are met within existing budget and resource allocations
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

Background

1. The City of Adelaide has a strong history of international partnerships through sister city and friendly city connections, dating back to 1972 when we entered our first sister city agreement with Christchurch, New Zealand.
2. As a proudly multicultural community, the City of Adelaide has seven formalised sister and friendly city relationships. The focus of these relationships remains largely on providing opportunities for cultural and economic development and promoting civic diplomacy and goodwill at local levels.
3. Broader information on our Sister Cities can be found on the City of Adelaide website ([LINK 1](#))

Austin, Texas, USA

4. Austin and Adelaide will celebrate the 40th anniversary of their sister city relationship on 11 July 2023.
5. A civic event is proposed, with the guest list covering the relevant communities of interest, expatriates, dignitaries, and politicians.
 - 5.1. Budget will be \$12,000 for an event for around 100 people which reflects the significance of this milestone and allows for the hiring of external parties to highlight the linkages between the two cities.
 - 5.2. This is consistent with the event held in 2022 to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Adelaide's Sister City relationship with Himeji, Japan.
6. Further information about the relationship can be found here ([LINK 2](#))

George Town, Penang, Malaysia

7. George Town and Adelaide will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of their sister city relationship on 8 December 2023.
8. A civic event is proposed, with the guest list covering the relevant communities of interest, expatriates, dignitaries, and politicians.
 - 8.1. Budget will be \$15,000 for an event for around 100 people and an appropriate gift to present to George Town.
 - 8.2. This is consistent with the event planned in 2022 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Adelaide's Sister City relationship with Christchurch, NZ, noting that the Christchurch event was scaled-down due to the impacts of the COVID-19 Omicron wave.
9. An invitation to visit George Town for a trade, investment, and tourism expo as part of a delegation is expected. When this invite arrives, a report will come to Council to approve the proposed travel and itinerary.
10. Further information about the relationship can be found here ([LINK 3](#))

Qingdao, Shandong, China

11. Qingdao and Adelaide will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of their sister city relationship in April 2014.
12. A civic event is proposed, with the guest list covering the relevant communities of interest, expatriates, dignitaries, and politicians.
 - 12.1. Budget will be \$10,000 for an event for around 100 people.
 - 12.2. This is consistent with previous 10th Anniversary Events held to celebrate the milestone anniversaries with other Sister Cities.
13. Further information about the relationship can be found here ([LINK 4](#))

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – Information on Sister Cities

Link 2 - Information on the City of Adelaide Sister City Relationship with Austin, Texas

Link 3 - Information on the City of Adelaide Sister City Relationship with George Town, Penang

Link 4 – Information on the City of Adelaide Sister City Relationship with Qingdao, Shandong

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

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