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MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

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February 22, 2005

www.cityofsacramento.org

**Mayor & City Council Members
Sacramento, California**

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: SISTER CITIES COUNCIL REPORT

LOCATION/COUNCIL DISTRICT: All Districts

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Receive Information

**CONTACT PERSON: Bonita Roznos, Mayor/Council Operations Manager
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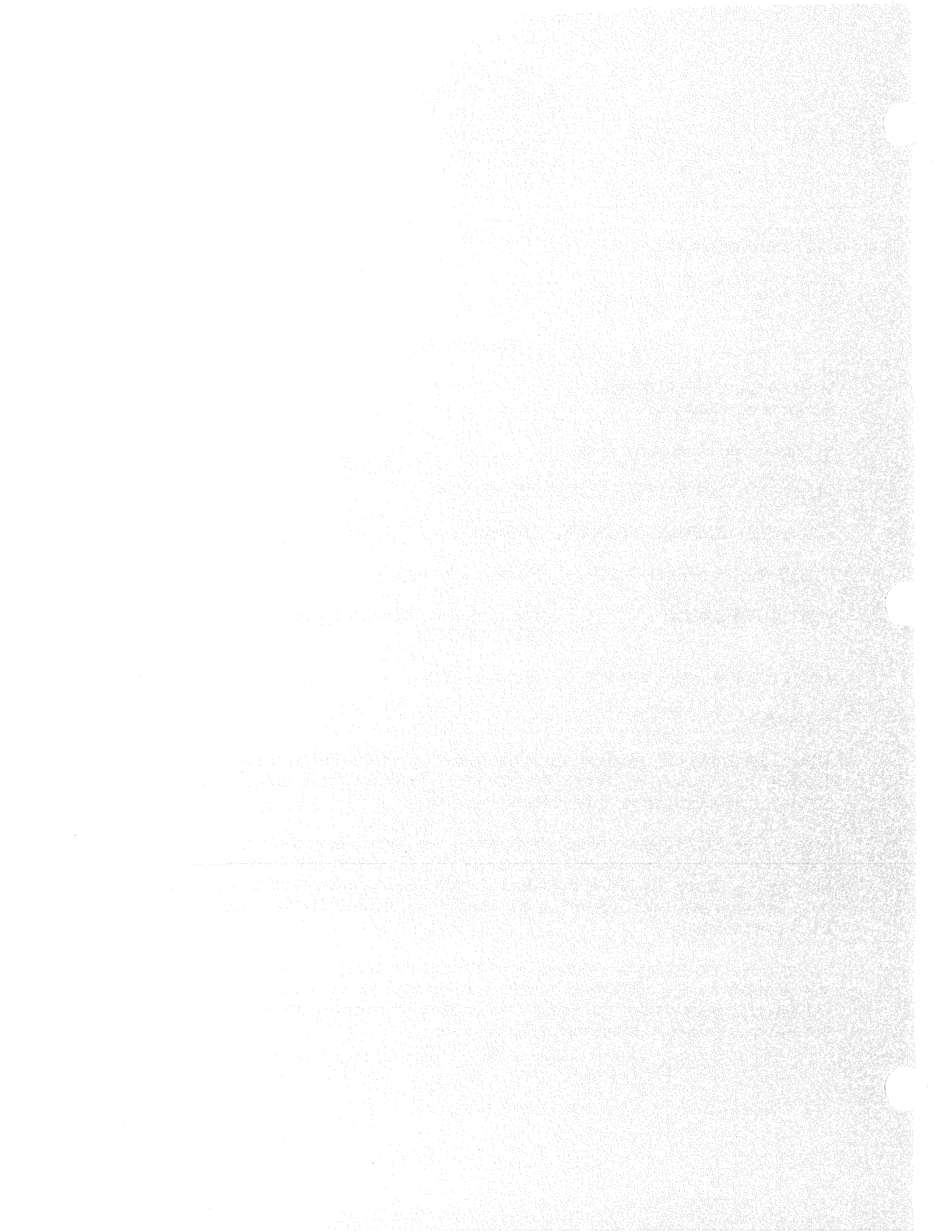
FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: March 1, 2005

SUMMARY:

This is the annual information report presented to you by the Sacramento Sister Cities Council. As you know, the Sister Cities Council is comprised of at least one representative of each of our seven sister cities and meets monthly.

Starr Hurley, Sister Cities Council Chairperson, will make a brief oral report. You will also hear from Peggy Bohl, Jinan, China, Sister City President and from Ralph Sugimoto, Matsuyama, Japan, Sister City President. Activity reports, giving a summary of events that have occurred since our last report, are attached for your review from some of the sister city representatives.

There is ever-increasing community support and participation for our Sister Cities program. We regularly receive expressed interest and inquiries about establishing new sister city relationships from all over the world. Those involved sincerely appreciate the support of the Mayor and Council members for this program.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The first regular Sister Cities Council information report was presented to you in January 2002. This is the 4th report. The Sister Cities Council plans to bring you regular informational updates in an effort to keep you informed of sister city activities and encourage our city's active involvement in this program. Sacramento's Sister Cities program began with the signing of our first sister city, Manila, in 1961. The next five sister cities signings were in the 1980's. Our most recent sister city signing was with Yongsan-Gu, Korea which occurred in July of 1977.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no financial considerations to be applied to this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no environmental considerations to be applied to this report.

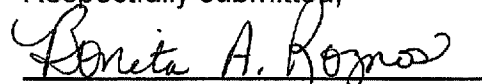
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no policy considerations to be applied to this report.

ESBD ISSUES:

Not applicable to this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonita A. Roznos

Mayor/Council Operations Manager

- Attachments: Sister Cities Council Reports:
- Hamilton, New Zealand pg. 3 - 4
- Jinan, China , pg. 5 - 8
- Matsuyama, Japan , pg 9 - 10
- Chisinau, Moldova pg 11

March 1, 2005
Sacramento-Hamilton, New Zealand
Sister City Report

The purpose of the Sacramento-Hamilton Sister City Corporation is to explore and identify potential trade and business opportunities, to organize exchanges, develop contacts in the business community and to liaison with the Chambers of Commerce, service clubs and the New Zealand Trade Office. Our educational goals are to develop exchanges of professors, visiting scholars and students between the University of Waikato, Hamilton, and California State University, Sacramento.

Since our inception in 1988, we have welcomed a delegation of dignitaries from Hamilton for the official Signing Ceremony in Sacramento; hosted a Hamilton Jazz Choir; sent a delegation to Hamilton to solidify relations and explore trade and business opportunities and we continue to work hard to strengthen the important people-to-people bond that has been established between our two cities.

Our ties are strengthened with the presence of the Consul General of New Zealand in Los Angeles and with the Honorary Consul of New Zealand in Sacramento. The future plans are to have a business and trade mission to our sister city.

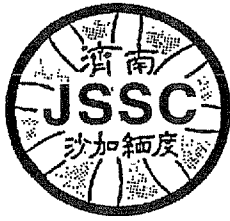
SACRAMENTO-HAMILTON, NEW ZEALAND
SISTER CITY REPORT
January 24, 2005

The Senate delegation visit to New Zealand and Australia was most successful. Most of the participates wish to return to New Zealand for a longer visit.

The Consul General of New Zealand in Los Angeles is extending an invitation to Governor Schwarzenegger and family to visit the land of the "Lord of the Rings"!

Last month I met with the Honorable Chris Carter, Minister of Conservation, Minister of Local Government and Minister of Ethnic Affairs in New Zealand's Parliament. He was here to meet with various Senate representatives and the Honorable Edward Hurley, Consul for New Zealand Sacramento!!!

I am working on a Zoo relationship between the Hamilton Zoo and the Sacramento Zoo. More to follow.



濟南沙加細度姊妹市協會

JINAN-SACRAMENTO SISTER CITIES CORPORATION

P.O. Box 221238

Sacramento, CA 95822-9998

TO: Sacramento City Council
FROM: Jinan Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation – Peggy Bohl, President
RE: Annual Report
DATE: March 1, 2005

The Jinan Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation celebrated its 20th Anniversary on January 31, 2005. The well attended dinner was a testimony to the two decade mission of our organization.

The mission of the Jinan Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation is to foster mutual awareness and understanding between the peoples of Jinan, Shandong, PRC and Sacramento, California, USA. Our mission is achieved through intensive cultural, academic and economic exchange, providing the bridge whereby the people of Sacramento and the people of Jinan enjoy business relationships, friendship and respect for each other from both sides of the world.

As we enter our 21st year of exchange, we have maintained a solid treasury which enables us to accomplish our goals and objectives. Our twenty one member Board of Directors has great depth and diversity in its constitution. Each member is dedicated to creating awareness of our Sister City in Sacramento (and the nation of the People's Republic of China), as both Jinan and the nation continue to grow and make great achievements in the community of nations of the world.

We are grateful to the City of Sacramento for encouraging the activities of our Sister Cities and the seven others that Sacramento maintains. We know that the next twenty years will bring additional productivity in economic, academic and cultural exchange to both cities.

(calendar of activities of 2004 attached)

**JINAN SACRAMENTO SISTER CITIES CORPORATION
1985-2004**

**Activities of 2004
President Peggy Bohl**

January 31, 2004

- **Annual General Meeting**
 1. **Held at the home of founding JSSCC member Ruby Fong**
 2. **Delicious Chinese culinary treats were provided by The Eastern Empire, Daniel Gouw, owner.**

February 19, 2004

- **Chinese New Year Celebration at California State University at Sacramento**
 1. **JSSCC was one of seventeen sponsoring organization of this highly successful all day event to celebrate Chinese New Year.**

March 2004

- **Sister Cities International**
 1. **An art piece was submitted from Jinan to participate in The Children's Art Contest at the Sister Cities International Conference in Houston, Texas**
 2. **The student has been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for their participation**

May 23, 2004

- **Pacific Rim Festival in Old Sacramento**
 1. **JSSCC was a sponsoring member of the Pacific Rim Street Festival, an annual event showcasing Asian and Pacific Islander culture**
 2. **Because most of the garlic grown in world is grown in Jinan, we sold garlic and supplemented the garlic with crafts made in Jinan**

July 12, 2004

- **Reception and Dinner to honor Consul General Peng Keyu**
 1. **A well attended dinner was held to honor the new Consul General in San Francisco at the Eastern Empire Restaurant. Consul General Peng delivered a keynote address on US – China Relations**
- **Membership Drive**
 1. **New members were recruited into the organization**

August 2004

- **Student Exchange Competition was undertaken by the Foreign Affairs Office in Jinan to select a student from Shandong Experimental Middle School to come to Mira Loma for six months of study. Many students competed for this opportunity**
 1. **The competition was well received in Jinan and Wang Xinqin, an academically talented female, was selected**
 2. **Wang Xinqin is attempting to procure a visa to travel to Sacramento**
 3. **It is a goal that a student from Mira Loma will be sponsored by JSSCC to study in Jinan at a later date**

September 23, 2004

- **Reception at the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco hosted by Consul General Peng Keyu**
 1. **Several members of the Board of Directors attended the event and were recognized by the Consul General, as being from JSSCC**

September 29, 2004

- **Sacramento Asian Chamber of Commerce Seminar “China Trade Today” featured Margaret Wong, McWong International, as the Keynote Speaker**
 1. **JSSCC was one of eight sponsoring organizations**

October 2004

- **JSSCC has issued a letter of invitation for an official delegation from Jinan to come to Sacramento to celebrate The Twentieth Anniversary of JSSCC**
- **It is hoped that an economic and goodwill delegation from Sacramento, led by Mayor Heather Fargo, will travel to Jinan in 2005 to celebrate the event. A letter from Jinan was delivered to the Office of the Mayor extending an invitation for her to travel to Jinan in 2005**

November 2004

- **Wang Xinqin was denied a visa by the US Embassy in Beijing for study abroad. JSSCC has appealed this decision through Congressman Robert Matsui's office**
- **Members of the Board of Directors attended a reception in San Francisco to honor the service of Deputy Consul Tian Chunyan**
- **A schedule of events to celebrate the Twentieth Anniversary of JSSCC was adopted by the board.**

December 2004

- **Wang Xinqin was denied a visa for a second time. We are very disappointed that the American Embassy would not grant a visa to this qualified student.**
- **Ed Rucker and new board member Dr. Yan Xiong attended a reception at the PRC consulate in San Francisco hosted by Ambassador Peng Keyu, Consul General of The People's Republic of China.**

Matsuyama-Sacramento Sister City Corporation 2004 Events Summary

January:

- Welcomed and provided support for Mr. Masaharu Iekushi, a Matsuyama city staff member, who came to intern at the City of Sacramento, Economic Department, for 40 days.
- Attended and supported the Boy Scout Troop 50 Crab Feed Fund Raiser.

February:

- Attended and supported the JACL's Day of Remembrance Program at Crocker Art Museum with a Matsuyama Exhibit and Calligraphy demonstration.

March:

- Hosted and welcomed a special Matsuyama delegation with a welcome dinner and a formal signing ceremony establishing a Sister Elementary School relationship between Sakura Elementary School, Matsuyama, and Matsuyama Elementary School, Sacramento, at the DoubleTree Hotel.
- Donated and planted a cherry tree and an apple tree to commemorate the sister elementary schools relationship at the Matsuyama Elementary School.
- Supported and participated at Matsuyama Elementary School Cherry Blossom Festival.
- Supported and participated at the Camellia Show held by Camellia Society of Sacramento (Matsuyama Exhibit) with the special Matsuyama delegation.
- Supported and promoted the kick-off of the US-Japan 150-year relationship at the reception held at California State Capitol Rotunda, second floor, which exhibited the historic landing of Commodore Perry in Japan for the entire month of April.

April:

- Participated at the San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival exhibit held at the Japan Pavilion of Miyako Radisson Hotel in San Francisco.

May:

- Sponsored a welcome dinner for the new consul general of Japan, Mr. Makoto Yamanaka, at Fuji Restaurant in Sacramento.
- Participated in the Pacific Rim Street Fest at Old Sacramento with the Matsuyama Exhibit and Calligraphy and Origami demonstration.

June:

- Had the annual MSSCC general membership meeting dinner at May Flower Restaurant.

July:

- Hosted the annual Matsuyama Jr. High School students visit with a welcome dinner and a tour of the City of Sacramento.
- Supported and promoted the biennial Boy Scout Exchange program trip to Matsuyama, Japan.

August:

- Welcomed and hosted the Matsuyama Teachers' Study Group, consisting of elementary and Jr. High school teachers led by three Ehime University professors.
- Participated at the California State Fair held at Cal Expo with an exhibition booth for the entire 18 days.
- Supported Mr. Sashu Higashi, Art Calligrapher, who had his special calligraphy demonstrations at the State Fair.
- Participated in Origami 1,000-Crane Project made at State Fair, telling Sadako's 1,000-Crane story for promoting world peace.
- Supported the Japanese Samurai Country Rock group, Jinbaori Rock, from Kochi, Japan, which performed at the State Fair for 2 days.

September:

October:

November:

- Held our biennial Sacramento Delegation Japan trip covering two weeks. We had an official visit to the City of Shimoda, where Commander Perry arrived in Japan 150 years ago to begin US and Japan relationship. We attended Japan-US Cities Summit in Hiroshima with Sacramento Mayor Heather Fargo and presented 1,000 origami-cranes made by citizens of Sacramento at the California State Fair to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. We attended Dogwood Project Planting ceremony with Mayor Fargo as one of the keynote speakers to promote the world peace project initiated by Hiroshima Mayor Akiba. We also visited Matsuyama, our sister city, for three days, Kyoto, the old capital of Japan, and the ancient capital of Nara.

December:

- Had the annual MSSCC holiday dinner at May Flower Restaurant.

Chisinau Sister City Report
February 4, 2005

After a lengthy hiatus, Chisinau/Sacramento Sister Cities activities are expected to take off during 2005. Business activities involving the importation of Moldova's renowned fine cognacs is being explored through newly-developed contacts in Moldova, who are motivated to do business with Sacramento. If this venture proves successful, other trade and business opportunities will be explored. Tentative plans are being made for Sister Cities representatives to visit Chisinau later this Fall, after Moldova's upcoming Parliamentary and Mayoral elections, to re-establish contacts with government and business leaders. And in the Spring of 2006, a cultural exchange is planned to bring two Moldovan musicians to Sacramento to perform Moldovan Folk music and classical music at a Sister Cities reception.

Submitted by:

Phil Chechowitz
Vice President
Chisinau/Sacramento Council