

GUIDELINES FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW SISTER CITY

Local residents who advocate establishing a new Sister City relationship may approach the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board. The following guidelines and procedures need to be followed.

Characteristics of Proposed City

1. Proposed city must be compatible with Santa Barbara's population, culture, education, and geographical structure. In this regard the proposed city's characteristics should include items which would be mutually beneficial in the long-term including, but not limited to, educational and cultural institutions, activities and organization, and economic resources and conditions.
2. Proposed city has an interest and the desire to become a Sister City to Santa Barbara.
3. Proposed city should have solid local government and citizen support for the proposed relationship.
4. Proposed city should have an established contact person within the governmental structure.
5. Proposed city should have the potential for exchanging delegates.
6. The Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board must be assured of the political stability and economic stability of the proposed city as well as its potential for a long-term, mutually beneficial relationship.

Requirements for a New Sister City

1. The advocate group must demonstrate sufficient Santa Barbara resident volunteer involvement willing to take full responsibility for establishing a firm relationship. A member of the board should be invited to one or more of the advocate groups meetings to meet the membership and learn about their organization and agenda.
2. The advocate group should select a chair and establish a governing board (typically including a vice-chair, secretary and a treasurer) authorized to carry forward the application for recognition as a Sister City, with a minimum membership of twelve (12).
3. The advocate group would be required to have sufficient funds to be able to finance their first year of operation, including but not limited to revision of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Brochure and contributions to board approved events. The group shall indicate the source of current and future funds.
4. The advocate group must appoint one representative and one alternate to serve on the Sister Cities Board.
5. The advocate group must submit a tentative agenda for the coming year to include, but not limited to, scheduled meetings and specific exchanges or activities designed to further the ties between the cities.
6. The Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board should be assured of the potential for a long-term mutually beneficial relationship with the proposed Sister City.

Modified and Approved by the Board on September 5, 2012