

Friendship Cities Program Policy

Tacoma, WA

Purpose

Friendship Cities exist to strengthen international ties and further strategic exchanges between Tacoma, WA and the world.

City of Tacoma, WA

Tacoma is a port city defined by quality of life and innovation. It is the second largest city in the state of WA with over 200,000 residents, many unique neighborhoods, and people from around the world. Tacoma is an economic powerhouse poised on the Pacific economic rim providing a unique international component to the city's future growth.

Purpose

The Friendship Cities Program (FCP) was developed to support and enhance Tacoma's global identity by seeking to increase global engagements with international cities that share commonalities with the City. These commonalities can include innovation, arts, and culture, science and technology, environmental protection and coastal sustainability, gastronomy and tourism. We also welcome partnerships and sharing of best practices on common challenges including fire and flood prevention, homelessness, and refugees.

Policy and Procedures

1. Friendship Cities will be adopted to advance the needs of the City and promote Tacoma's global identity.
2. The Sister Cities Council is responsible for the initial approval process of a Friendship City after which it will receive endorsement by the City of Tacoma.
3. A Friendship City will require local sponsorship and recommendation by a business, community, organizational leader, or by an existing sister city committee before approval.
4. The sponsoring organization of each Friendship Cities Program Designation must complete an Annual Report of activities and exchanges between Tacoma and the Friendship City and submit it to the Sister Cities Council with copies to the City of Tacoma.

Application

To inquire about establishing a Friendship City, please email: Debbie Bingham, dbingham@cityoftacoma.org