

**THIS IS A DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL, SIGNED
ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL**

ORDINANCE

**AUTHORIZING A SISTER CITY AGREEMENT WITH THE ISLAND OF
LANZAROTE, CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN.**

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WHEREAS, the Sister City Program was initiated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956 and has resulted in San Antonio having two sister cities in Mexico, three in Europe, six in Asia and one in Africa; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1730 families from the Canary Island relocated to the Villa de Bejar creating the Plaza de Las Islas Canarias on what is now known as Main Plaza and established the first civil municipal government in the Texas, founding what is now known as San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, more recently, extensive collaborative work has been done with input by architects from the Canary Islands on the redesign of Main Plaza; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, a six-member delegation from Lanzarote, led by the President of the Lanzarote Island Council, visited San Antonio in 2024 to leverage historic ties and to explore and form new strategic partnerships and in March of 2025, Mayor Ron Nirenberg will visit the Canary Islands marking the first visit by a San Antonio Mayor to the region; and

WHEREAS, in approaching the 300th Anniversary of the founding of San Antonio's first civil government, over 1,100 registered descendants of the Canary Islands Descendants Association have proposed that San Antonio's ties to the Island of Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain be recognized as an integral part of our history by entering into a Sister City Agreement; and

WHEREAS, execution of a Sister City Agreement supports the desire of San Antonio and Querétaro to collaborate for the mutual benefit of our communities **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. A Sister City Agreement with Island of Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain, is hereby approved. The mayor is authorized to execute the Agreement, a copy of which is set out in **Attachment I**.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage by eight (8) votes or more and upon ten (10) days following its passage if approved by fewer than eight (8) votes.

PASSED AND APPROVED this ____th day of December, 2024.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney

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ATTACHMENT I

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