

**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 CITY OF
BAGUIO, PHILIPPINES.**

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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, five in Asia and one in Africa; and

WHEREAS, as part of the objective to build a stronger link to the Philippines, San Antonio hosted a delegation from Baguio in October 2022, which included the city's mayor and city administrator as well as the president of Saint Louis University in Baguio and the hospital administrator of Saint Louis University Hospital of the Sacred Heart. The delegates enjoyed meetings and exchanges in the areas of cultural heritage, healthcare education and administration, waste management, sustainability, and senior citizen engagement; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 140,000 Filipinos who call Texas home, with more than 10,000 Tagalog (including Filipino) speakers in the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area, making Tagalog the second most common non-English language spoken in the area. A large proportion of healthcare workers in the area are Filipino; and

WHEREAS, San Antonio is a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy, and Baguio is a UNESCO Creative City of Crafts and Folk Arts; and

WHEREAS, execution of a Sister City Agreement supports the desire of Baguio City and San Antonio to strengthen relations, as well as promote economic cooperation and bilateral and cultural, scientific and educational exchanges in fields including tourism, healthcare, creative industries, sustainability, civil-military relations and emergency management. **NOW THEREFORE:**

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

SECTION 1. A Sister City Agreement with Baguio, Philippines, 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 11th day of May, 2023.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

Debbie Racca-Sittre, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney

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ATTACHMENT I

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