

**RESOLUTION No. 21-152**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING A SISTER CITY AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SANTO DOMINGO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND INVITING THE CITIZENS OF BOTH CITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CULTURAL, DIPLOMATIC, EDUCATIONAL AND BILATERAL TRADE ACTIVITIES IN THE HOPE THAT SAID COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES WILL LEAD TO A LASTING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF DORAL AND SANTO DOMINGO; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, Sister Cities International (“Sister Cities”) is non-profit citizen diplomacy network that fosters programs that create relationships between municipalities in the United States and international communities, for the exchange of cultural, educational, business, and other information for the mutual benefit of the linked communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Doral supports the mission of Sister Cities, has participated in the forming of these relationships, and expects to continue to do so in the future through the Doral Sister Cities Program; and

**WHEREAS**, City of Doral Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez sent a Letter of Intent expressing the city’s interest in pursuing a Sister Cities relationship to Santo Domingo Mayor Carolina Mejia de Garrigo which was delivered by City of Doral Councilwoman Digna Cabral, a native of the Dominican Republic, on December 2, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Doral Sister Cities Committee appointed by Mayor Bermudez met on June 24, 2021 and recommended approval of the Sister Cities agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Doral and the City of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, seek to develop a Sister City relationship and formalize the links of friendship between the two cities in order to encourage communication and camaraderie, promote cultural

interaction and stimulate economic benefits to both cities; and

**WHEREAS**, Santo Domingo and Doral are both major international hubs for business and culture, renowned for their robust economies, their cultural richness, commitment to education and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Doral is home to many Dominican families and businesses and is linked to Santo Domingo through commerce, culture, education, tourism, and family ties, facilitated by frequent flights that connect the two cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council wish to invite the citizens of both cities to participate in cultural, diplomatic, educational and trade activities in the hope of creating a lasting friendship between the people of Doral and Santo Domingo; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council believe that this relationship will advance economic development and quality of life and otherwise be in the best interests of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference.

**Section 2. Approval.** The Mayor and City Council, on behalf of the City of Doral, hereby extends an invitation to the government and people of the City of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic to establish and participate in an active Sister City relationship and corresponding cooperative activities for the purpose of stimulating greater trade relations and encouraging increased exchanges in the areas of art, culture, education and municipal cooperation.

**Section 3. Implementation.** The City Manager and City Attorney are hereby

authorized to take such additional action as may be necessary to implement the purpose and provision of this Resolution.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Puig-Corve who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mariaca and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez	Yes
Vice Mayor Pete Cabrera	Yes
Councilwoman Digna Cabral	Yes
Councilwoman Claudia Mariaca	Yes
Councilman Oscar Puig-Corve	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11 day of August, 2021.

  
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JUAN CARLOS BERMUDEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CONNIE DIAZ, MMC  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LUIS FIGUEREDO, ESQ.  
CITY ATTORNEY