

## AGENDA REPORT

FOR: City Council May 10, 2018

TO: Dave Zabell, City Manager Workshop Meeting: 5/14/18  
Rick White, CED Director

FROM: Michael Morales, Deputy Director  
Community & Economic Development

SUBJECT: Establishment of Pasco-Colima Sister City Relationship

**I. REFERENCE(S):**

**II. ACTION REQUESTED OF COUNCIL / STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Discussion and consensus to proceed with development of a formal Sister City Agreement.

**III. FISCAL IMPACT:**

None at this time.

**IV. HISTORY AND FACTS BRIEF:**

**V. DISCUSSION:**

The Somos Pasco Economic Development Plan identified a broad range of categories for growth and development in Pasco, including enhancement of our diverse cultural assets. One strategy toward that goal is to establish a “Sister City” relationship with a Mexican community, ideally one from a region where many Pasco residents have their origins. Sister City relationships take on many forms and levels of activity among participants. At the heart of an active and productive Sister City relationship is a steering committee of dedicated residents and businesses with direct interests to serve the goals and strategies of the relationship, including fundraising. Depending on the capacity of each community, typical areas of exchange for sister cities may include:

- Commerce, investment and trade;
- Cultural promotion and exchange;
- Tourism development and promotion;
- Municipal capacity development;
- Health and social resource exchange;

- Educational exchange; and,
- Science and Technology exchange.

While the Port of Pasco spearheaded and funded Somos Pasco, most strategies require significant city participation and leadership. For that reason, this effort is a collaboration among the Port of Pasco, City of Pasco and community members or businesses. The staff workshop presentation represents this collaboration by the participation of Gary Ballew from the Port and Ana Ruiz-Peralta, a member of the Somos Pasco steering committee and Colima native. We have been in consultation with a team from Colima, led by Valeria Perez Manzo, Secretary of Social Development for the State of Colima. The purpose of the workshop presentation is to impart information on the following topics:

- Background of Sister City relationships in Pasco and other cities;
- Outline the proposed terms of the relationship; and,
- Establish expectations for community involvement, organizational development and financing.

With Council support and direction to further develop the relationship, we anticipate that the following items will be developed over the next few months:

- Formal agreement with Colima Pasco Sister City;
- Organizational Framework;
- Calendar/schedule of events; and,
- Assign responsibilities; develop method of evaluation and recruit community members.

Staff requests Council direction regarding this issue.