

City of Cambridge

In City Council March 23, 1987.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton



City of Cambridge

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GRAHAM
COUNCILLOR D. SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR VELLUCCI
COUNCILLOR WOLF

10.

IN CITY COUNCIL
March 23, 1987

- WHEREAS: Cambridge is home to many Salvadorans who have had to flee the political violence in El Salvador; and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge is well known for its support of grassroots democracy and for its efforts to secure peace within our community as well as internationally; and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge has many citizens working for peace and economic and political justice in Central America and who are pained by the suffering and uprooting that has taken place in El Salvador; and
- WHEREAS: Over 1.5 million people including the people of San Jose Las Flores have been driven from their homes and villages by the conflict in El Salvador over the past eight years; and
- WHEREAS: In 1985, the Cambridge City Council, in response to the growing number of Salvadoran refugees in the City, declared Cambridge to be a sanctuary city, or "City of Refuge" for Salvadoran refugees fleeing human rights violations, until such refugees could return safely to their homes; and
- WHEREAS: In June 1986, in the face of danger and hardship, the villagers of San Jose Las Flores in Chalatenango Department, El Salvador returned to rebuild their community, with determination to remain neutral in the ongoing civil war; and
- WHEREAS: The town government of San Jose Las Flores has asked the concerned citizens of Cambridge who recently travelled to El Salvador that the City of Cambridge link with them as a sister community to provide moral support and material aid for their reconstruction efforts; and
- WHEREAS: A Cambridge-San Jose Las Flores Sister City Project has been formed by Cambridge residents to respond to this request and sent a delegation of three citizens to visit the village and to deliver clothing, toys, medical supplies and \$1000 in cash during the Christmas 1986 season; and
- WHEREAS: The City of Madison, Wisconsin has successfully formed a sister city relationship with Arcatao, El Salvador; Berkeley, California with San Antonio Los Ranchos, El Salvador; and other U.S. El Salvador twinnings are under active consideration; and
- WHEREAS: In 1984, 72% of Cambridge voters approved a public policy referendum calling on Congress to withdraw troops, advisors, and military aid from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and to use the funds now expended for those purposes for necessary domestic programs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council supports the efforts of the Cambridge-San Jose Las Flores Sister City Project to develop a sister city relationship with San Jose Las Flores and to provide material aid and moral support in their effort to rebuild their village; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council supports further delegations, including City Councillors and other community leaders, to visit San Jose Las Flores to better inform themselves and the people of Cambridge about the situation of the village and future sister city relationships; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council encourages all Cambridge organizations, churches, businesses, professional, and other groups to respond as generously as possible to the material, health, and education needs of San Jose Las Flores so that the residents can resettle their village quickly; and be it further

RESOLVED: That in the near future the City Council will give due consideration to establishing an official sister city affiliation with San Jose Las Flores; and towards this end it is

ORDERED: That prior to consideration of establishing such a sister city affiliation with San Jose Las Flores, the City Council Committee on Sister Cities, the City Council Committee on Nuclear Disarmament and Peace Education, and the Cambridge Commission on Nuclear Disarmament and Peace Education work with the Cambridge-San Jose Las Flores Sister City Project to provide the following information to the City Council:

- a full report on the history and current situation of San Jose Las Flores, and on how Cambridge citizens can provide moral support and material aid for their reconstruction efforts; and
- a full report on the efforts of the Cambridge-San Jose Las Flores Project to develop channels by which a wide range of citizens and organization of the two cities can communicate, exchange information, and study each other's cultures, histories, social, and governmental organizations, and support reconstruction of the villages; and
- a full report on both the procedures and the legal, technical, and intergovernmental issues involved in establishing a formal sister city affiliation with San Jose Las Flores; and be it further

ORDERED: That all Cambridge City Departments cooperate to the degree possible with the Cambridge-San Jose Las Flores Sister City Project in collecting surplus materials and supplies that may be of vital assistance to the villagers of San Jose Las Flores in rebuilding their village (such as the effort by the Cambridge City Hospital to donate surplus medical supplies to the village); and be it further

ORDERED: That the content of this Council Order be communicated to the government of El Salvador, and to the town government of San Jose Las Flores, and that it be published in a major San Salvador newspaper.

C.'s Duehay, Graham, D. Sullivan, VM Vellucci
& C. Wolf order re: that the City Council
support the efforts fo the Cambridge-San
Jose las Flores Sister City Project to dev-
elop a Sister City relationship with that
town & that in the near future the City
Council give full consideration to estab-
lishing an official Sister City relation-
ship with San Jose las Flores.

In C ity Council,

March 23, 1987

VMV
MS/RF

C. Duehay
C. Graham
C. D. Sullivan
C. Wolf
VMV
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