

AN ORDINANCE 2017-05-18-0347

**AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO ENTER INTO A
SISTER CITY AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF DARMSTADT,
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.**

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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, two in Europe, five in Asia and one in Africa; and

WHEREAS, as part of a long-term objective to build a stronger link to Germany, San Antonio has hosted numerous delegations over many decades stemming from historic ties dating back to the 19th century, during which time San Antonio experienced large-scale German immigration, and on April 29, 2016, Mayor Taylor signed a Friendship City Agreement with Jochen Partsch, Lord Mayor of Darmstadt; and

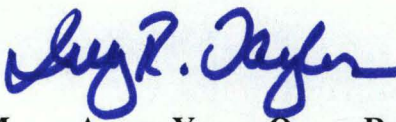
WHEREAS, execution of a Sister City Agreement supports the desire of the City of Darmstadt and San Antonio to strengthen relations, as well as promote economic cooperation and bilateral trade and cultural, scientific and educational exchanges in fields including IT/cybersecurity, heritage tourism, aerospace, biomedical/health care and renewable energy; **NOW THEREFORE:**

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

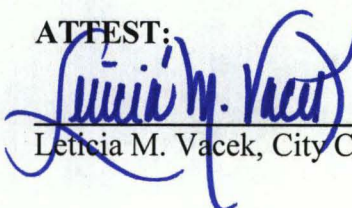
SECTION 1. A Sister City Agreement with Darmstadt, Germany is hereby approved. The Mayor is authorized to sign the Agreement, a copy of which is set out in **Attachment I**.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage by eight (8) affirmative votes of the City Council.

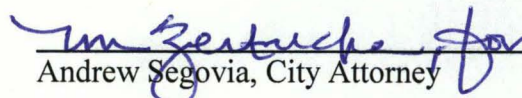
PASSED AND APPROVED this 18th day of May, 2017.


M A Y O R
Ivy R. Taylor

ATTEST:


Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Andrew Segovia, City Attorney

Agenda Item:	20						
Date:	05/18/2017						
Time:	10:11:13 AM						
Vote Type:	Motion to Approve						
Description:	An Ordinance authorizing the City of San Antonio to enter into a Sister City Agreement with the City of Darmstadt, Federal Republic of Germany. [Carlos J. Contreras, Assistant City Manager, Rene Dominguez, Director, Economic Development]						
Result:	Passed						
Voter	Group	Not Present	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Motion	Second
Ivy R. Taylor	Mayor		x				
Roberto C. Treviño	District 1		x				
Alan Warrick	District 2		x				
Rebecca Viagran	District 3		x				x
Rey Saldaña	District 4		x				
Shirley Gonzales	District 5		x				
Ray Lopez	District 6		x			x	
Cris Medina	District 7		x				
Ron Nirenberg	District 8		x				
Joe Krier	District 9		x				
Michael Gallagher	District 10		x				

ATTACHMENT I



City of Science
Darmstadt



Sister City Agreement
between
San Antonio, Texas, United States of America
and
Darmstadt, Federal Republic of Germany

Building on the Friendship City Agreement signed April 29, 2016 by Jochen Partsch, Lord Mayor of Darmstadt, and Ivy R. Taylor, Mayor of San Antonio, and seeking to further consolidate and develop mutual friendly cooperation and to strengthen the understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two countries, and in line with town twinning practices of Germany and in accordance with the regulations of Sister Cities International, initiated by the President of the United States in 1956, the City of Darmstadt, Germany and the City of San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A. have reached agreement concerning the establishment of Sister City relations between the two cities through the below activities:

1. Both parties agree to further strengthen friendly exchanges and to expand cooperation and promote friendship between the peoples of both cities and carry out various friendly activities.
2. Both parties will make joint efforts to promote economic collaboration and bilateral trade and to enhance bilateral exchange and cooperation in the fields of, but not limited to:
 - Educational, Cultural and Scientific Exchange
 - Information and Communication Technologies/Cybersecurity
 - Aerospace/Aviation
 - Innovative Urban Development
 - Healthcare and Bioscience
 - Sustainability and Renewable Energy
 - Start-ups and Entrepreneurial Development
 - Heritage Tourism and Travel
 - Immigration and Society
 - Online/Digital Journalism
3. It is decided by both parties that the International Relations Office of San Antonio and the Office of Intercultural and International Affairs of Darmstadt will conduct concrete liaisons, arrangements and implementation of the friendly exchange and cooperation programs between the two cities on behalf of its respective municipal government, while including other departments, such as the respective Economic Development Departments, and community partners as appropriate.
4. As for the matters that were not mentioned in the Agreement, the two municipal governments will decide upon them through friendly negotiation under the conditions of mutual understanding and friendship.

This Agreement is an expression of cooperative relations and understanding only. It does not establish a joint venture, partnership or any other business between the Parties nor does it commit or obligate either Party to take any of the actions contemplated by this Agreement. Also, it is not intended to create any legal obligations under domestic or international law between the Parties.

In witness whereof, authorized representatives of the respective parties hereto sign this Agreement in two original copies, duplicated both in English and German, each text being equally authentic.

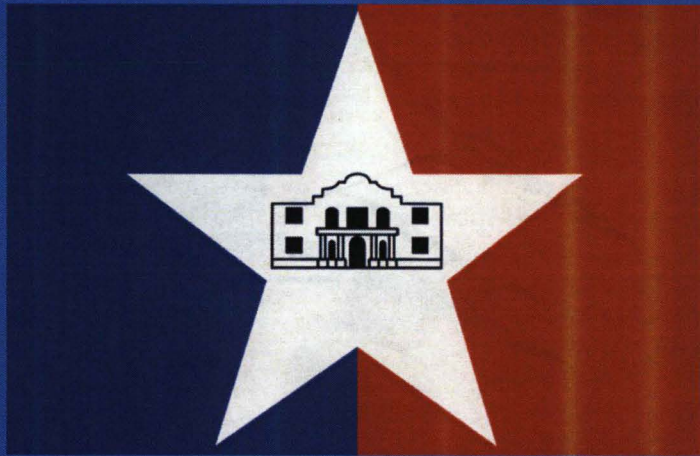
Ivy R. Taylor
Mayor of San Antonio

October 27, 2017

Jochen Partsch
Lord Mayor of Darmstadt

Darmstadt, Germany

SISTER CITY AGREEMENT



May 18, 2017



Council Action:

- Authorizing the City to enter into a Sister City Agreement between the City of Darmstadt, Germany and the City of San Antonio, Texas.

CITY PROFILE

- “City of Science”
- Darmstadt hosts the Center for Advanced Security Research Darmstadt (CASED), a cybersecurity research facility with over \$50 million in government funding.
- Important activities in aerospace, pharmaceuticals, IT, biotech, and engineering.
- 30 research institutions including the European Space Operations Centre.



SAN ANTONIO & DARMSTADT

- Mutual promotion of economic cooperation, bilateral trade and cultural, scientific, and educational exchanges in, among other fields: IT/Cybersecurity, Heritage Tourism, Aerospace, Biomedical/Health Care & Renewable Energy.
- UTSA and the Technical University of Darmstadt hope to sign a cooperative MOU during Mayor's October, 2017 trade mission to Darmstadt.



SISTER CITY AGREEMENT



- Sister Cities International (SCI) was initiated in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.
- San Antonio currently has 10 Sister Cities.
- SCI requires the signatures of both Mayors and ratification by their city governments.
- Darmstadt City Council passed their San Antonio Sister City ordinance in October 2016.
- A trade and cultural mission is planned for October 25, 2017 with participation by SA Chamber of Commerce.



Staff recommends approval of an ordinance authorizing a Sister City Agreement between the City of Darmstadt, Germany and the City of San Antonio, Texas.

