



The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

Date	June 17, 2019	Report No:	C & R 2019 -07
Directed To:	Council	Attachments:	
Department:	Culture and Recreation	Policy References:	
Prepared By:	Director of Culture and Recreation		
Subject:	Louisville Sister City		

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report from the Director of Culture and Recreation dated June 17, 2019 (C&R 2019-07) regarding the recommendation to proclaim Louisville, Kentucky an official Sister City of the Town of LaSalle BE APPROVED;

AND THAT Town of LaSalle staff work with the City of Louisville staff to explore joint ventures to commemorate our shared history and heritage focusing on the French settlement during the 17th and 18th Century and strategic initiatives that strengthen and enhance our community;

AND FINALLY THAT Council extend a formal invitation to the members of the Louisville Metro Council, the Louisville Sister City Board Members and Alliance Francaise de Louisville to attend the Rendez-vous Voyageur event in September.

REPORT:

On June 12, 2019 staff accompanied Mayor Bondy and CAO Milicia on a trip to Louisville, Kentucky to present to the Louisville Metro Council on the becoming Sister Cities. The presentation shared details of the shared history the Town and Louisville have, based on the voyages and exploration of the French Voyageurs during the 17th and 19th century. It was highlighted to the Metro Council that Rene Robert Cavelier Sieur De LaSalle had travelled the Ohio River 350 years ago landing at the falls where Louisville was settled. There were three waves of French migration that helped build the French population in the Louisville area. Similar to the Town of LaSalle there remains a strong French culture and influence from these early settlers and voyageurs. The City of Louisville was officially established in 1778 and named for King Louis the XVI who assisted the French during the 7 Year War in the mid-1700's. The homage to the French history is predominant within the cities branding and logo using the Fleur des Lis on building, signage and logos.

During our visit the City of Louisville staff, partners from the Alliance Francaise de Louisville and Sister Cities Board coordinated a busy agenda including stops at various locations to learn more about the city and Jefferson County. A full day of touring was organized including a visit to a local elementary school, a historic tour of downtown, lunch with Metro Councilman Pat Mulvihill, visits to different local tourist attractions and meetings with staff members. Topics discussed included waterfront re-development, culture, globalization, economic development, urbanization, tourism and much more.

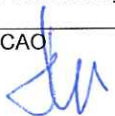
Following the presentation to Council where we shared some history and details of the upcoming Rendez-vous Voyageur event, we were invited to attend the Council Meeting where a proclamation was made. The proclamation was signed by the Executive Director of Sister Cities, Council Members, Mayor Fischer and President James. It was framed and presented to Mayor Bondy by the Metro Council and approved unanimously by their council members.

Moving forward staff would recommend a similar proclamation be made naming the City of Louisville a Sister City of the Town of LaSalle and formal invites be sent to their council, Sister City Board members and Alliance Francaise de Louisville to attend the Rendez-vous Voyageur event in September. Celebrations around the new Sister City can be incorporated into the event.

Joint projects, education and innovation will be explored by staff as the relationship with our first Sister City is recognized and developed. There are many opportunities to share ideas around culture, economic development, strategic initiatives and tourism.



Director of Culture and Recreation

Reviewed by:							
CAO 	Treasury	Clerks	Env. Services	Planning	Parks & Rec	Building	Fire