

Cupertino-Tongxiang

July, 28, 2023

Friendship City Association



Dear Ms. Kapoor,

On behalf of the Cupertino-Tongxiang Friendship City Association, I am writing to request the renewal of the Friendship City status between the City of Cupertino and the City of Tongxiang.

We sincerely hope to continue the formal friendship-city relations between Cupertino and Tongxiang to provide opportunities and encourage culture, trade and education exchanges between the two cities. I believe our friendship will foster positive communication and mutually beneficial activities.

Below is the supporting material to respond to requests outlined in your email of July 12, 2023. Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions or more information is needed.

Sincerely,

Angela Chen  
408-858-2368

## **Cupertino-Tongxiang Friendship City Renewal Application:**

- **Summary of your Friendship delegation visits to Cupertino hosted by the Committee over the last two years. If none, please explain why not.**

All international exchanges and local group gatherings and events were on hold due to the global pandemic. There have been no visiting activities since 2020.

- **Summary of Cupertino delegation visits hosted by the Friendship City Association. If none, please explain why not.**

All international exchanges and local group gatherings and events were on hold due to the global pandemic. There have been no visiting activities since 2020.

- **Description of activities held and Outcomes. If none, please explain why not.**

In the beginning of the global pandemic and during the shelter-in-place period, there was a severe shortage of face masks. Friends of Tongxiang City sent face masks to us as a support for the friendship city. Also, in the past two years, we often met/talked online to discuss future exchange plans.

- **How the relationship has been mutually beneficial for Cupertino and the Friendship Community.**

Since the establishment of the formal Friendship City relationship in 2017, Tongxiang City built a statue of two connected city logos (as pictured in the Letterhead on top of this document), which resides in a popular city park for residents of Tongxiang to view and recognize the importance of the friendship between the two cities. Cupertino city officials attended the annual International Economic and Trade Fair in Tongxiang from 2017 until the Covid hit in 2020. In 2018, a group of Silicon Valley local business owners joined Cupertino city officials to attend Tongxiang's International Trade Conference. They explored business opportunities that could expand the potential for new investments and cooperation. Tongxiang City hopes for further post-pandemic exchanges in all areas with Cupertino and continues the friendship between the two cities .

The activities facilitated by the Cupertino-Tongxiang Friendship City Association enabled both communities to better understand each other's culture and learn best practices from both sides.

- **An Updated Profile of the Friendship City Committee.**

**The Friendship City Committee:** Cupertino-Tongxiang Friendship City Association

**Vision:** Promote mutual understanding and cooperation through direct city-to-city, person-to-person connections.

**Mission:** Work to create friendly relationships based on culture, education, information and trade exchanges.

**Name of person requesting continuation of the friendship city relationship:** Angela Chen

**Title:** President of the Cupertino – Tongxiang Friendship City Association

**Name of person requesting continuation of the friendship city relationship:** Peggy Chien

**Title:** Co-President of the Cupertino – Tongxiang Friendship City Association

**Introduction of Tongxiang Friendship City:**

Name and Country of the Friendship City: Tongxiang City, Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China

Tongxiang is a city located in northern Zhejiang Province at the geographical center of the Shanghai-Hangzhou-Suzhou (Huhangsu) triangle. The Huhangsu triangle is formed by 3 major cities all within one hour of automobile transportation among one another. It is a nationally targeted economic development area.

Thanks to its premium geographical location, the city enjoys a great market potential for development of local industries. The city is focusing on economic growth through high technology development. They would like to learn more from Cupertino and Cupertino can benefit from resources and supplies available from Tongxiang.

**Tongxiang City Profile:**

The Tongxiang area has been known as the land of fish and rice of China. It is the home of the silk industry, and a place of beautiful scenery and rich cultural heritage. The city boasts many historic and cultural sites, including the ancient town-in-water of Wuzhen, the famous Fuyan Temple, the former residence of Mao Dun – a renowned novelist, YuanYuanTang – the former residence of artist Feng Zikai, and the Juntao Art Institute in honor of artist Qian Juntao.

Tongxiang is also known for its splendid legacies of the Majiabang and Liangzhu Cultures of the Neolithic Age and a water town culture nurtured by rivers and canals.

Tongxiang New Industrial Development Zone: The Tongxiang Municipal Government always adopts an enterprise-oriented approach and provides support for businesses in every stage of development through a one-stop administrative system, with

positive actions to implement supporting policies, reduce the burden on enterprises, develop industrial clusters and attract excellent professionals. As the initiator of a three-in-one governance pattern (i.e. a combination of rule by law, rule by morality and self governance) in China, Tongxiang has been trying to involve more civil forces to improve its public services and is growing into an important investment destination with unique competitive advantages in the Yangtze River Delta region. Having retained its historic charm and vigor, Tongxiang is now shining more brilliantly than ever. With the aim of building a city performing excellently in manufacturing, services and internet economy, it has been striving to develop into an influential "city of innovation", enabling business development and entrepreneurship in the Yangtze River Delta region.

**City of Tongxiang's contact information:**

Tongxiang City Bureau of Commerce

No. 6, Zhenxing East Road (East), Wutong Street, Tongxiang City, Zhejiang Province, China

Telephone Number: 0573-88107162 Fax 0573-88110321



Revealing the Statue of Friendship with the two city logos connected together representing friends forever