

CUPERTINO FRIENDSHIP CITIES PROGRAM APPLICATION

To be completed in English by the requesting organization:

1. Name and Country of the proposed Friendship City and the Friendship City Committee:

Proposed New Friendship City: New Taipei City, Taiwan, Republic of China

Proposed by the Cupertino-New Taipei Friendship Association

2. Today's date: June 6, 2021

3. Name of people requesting relationship: Jerry Liu, Angela Chen, Sharon Lee

Affiliation: Cupertino-New Taipei Friendship City Association

Address: Cupertino (if approved an entity will be formed with a mailing address)

Emails: jerryliu@gmail.com; achenlee8@gmail.com; slee95014@gmail.com

Phone: 408-858-2368

4. City of Cupertino Sponsor:

Mayor Darcy Paul

5. Friendship City Elected Official Sponsor:

Mayor Hou You-Yi

6. RATIONALE: Please explain the rationale and focus of the requested Friendship Cities Designation. Describe why a Friendship City relationship would be beneficial to the City of Cupertino and your local community, organization, and city. Please outline the areas of mutual strength and interest for each of the participants. Limit this section to four pages and attach it to this application. Items to include:

- Names, titles, and affiliations of those who will be involved at the proponent Friendship City and the Friendship City Committee. Be sure to include information for the proponent Friendship City's Mayor as they will have the primary signing authority of the Friendship City.
- Areas of mutual interest upon which the relationship will focus.
- Opportunities for new activities and potential outcomes.
- Benefits and measurable results that the City of Cupertino and proponent Friendship City can expect as a result of the establishment of such a relationship.

The rationale and focus of the requested Friendship Cities Designation.

The proposed establishment of a formal friendship city relationship between the City of Cupertino and the New Taipei City is based on a long history of friendship between the two cities through mutual visits of elected and appointed officials (photo 1) and the continuous exchanges of information on education, culture, city services and economic development.

The desire to establish a formal diplomacy of the two cities was proposed by Mayor Hou You-Yi of the New Taipei City and was supported by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO), the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), and Mayor Darcy Paul of the City of Cupertino.



April, 2018, Angela Chen visited the Department of Education of New Taipei City and discussed student exchange program with Director Lin Yihua (right) and Deputy Director Jiang Weimin (left)

The following two pages (non-enumerated pages 3 and 4 of this application) contain correspondence from the Mayor of New Taipei City followed by return correspondence from the Mayor of Cupertino regarding support for the establishment of a Friendship City relationship.



Mayor Hou Yu-Ih
161, Sec. 1, Zhongshan Rd.
Banqiao Dist., New Taipei City 22001, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

May 24, 2021

Mayor Darcy Paul
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino, CA 95014, USA

Dear Mayor Paul,

At the end of 2020, the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to strengthen and expand cooperation and collaboration between the United States and Taiwan (R.O.C). This MOU expanded investments in existing programs, such as Fulbright exchanges, and established additional cooperation programs, such as the US -Taiwan Economic Prosperity Partnership (EPP) Dialogue. It sets a framework for how cities like ours can promote culture, arts, education, and economic exchanges and partnerships.

In the spirit of this MOU, I'd like to extend an invitation on behalf of New Taipei City to The City of Cupertino to deepen our friendship and promote mutual benefit between our cities through concerted culture, arts, education, and economic exchanges, investments, and partnerships. Our collaboration across these topics will allow the people and businesses in our cities to benefit from programs and investments set in the MOU established by the AIT and TECRO.

Enclosed is a drafted Memorandum of Understanding Between New Taipei City and The City of Cupertino on International Cultural, Educational, and Economic Cooperation to establish our friendship and cooperation. It is my sincere hope to finalize our MOU by the end of May so that we may prepare a press conference for media, government officials, and foreign dignitaries to preside over its signing.

I look forward to forging a stronger and deeper friendship between our cities.

Sincerely,

Hou Yu-Ih
Mayor, New Taipei City

Hou Yu-Ih



MAYOR DARCY PAUL
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May 28, 2021

Mayor Hou You-Yi
161, Sec. 1, Zhongshan Rd.
Banqiao Dist., New Taipei City 22001, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Dear Mayor Hou,

Thank you for your letter dated May 24, 2021. I am very happy to know that AIT and TECRO have entered into a memorandum of understanding that appears to encourage more interactions such as those contemplated between New Taipei City and the City of Cupertino.

The timing could not be better. Given the excellent connections between New Taipei City and Cupertino which already exist, a more active and formal effort to deepen those connections makes good sense. The already-existing synergies will ensure effective and optimized utility of time and resources set forth in the MOU for establishing programs and investments which will in turn allow our residents and businesses to establish increasingly meaningful and mutually beneficial connections.

The City of Cupertino now has an active application put together and submitted by members of our community to establish a Friendship City with New Taipei City. If the application is approved by our City Council, Cupertino will recognize a two-year Friendship City term between New Taipei City and Cupertino. This term is renewable. This item will be considered by our City Council on June 15, 2021. As part of the approval, I will request authorization to enter into the MOU on behalf of Cupertino with New Taipei City.

Thank you once again, and I too look forward to the opportunity to establish healthy connections, and a great Friendship, between our Cities.

Sincerely,

Darcy Paul
Mayor
City of Cupertino

Why a Friendship City relationship would be beneficial to the City of Cupertino and your local community, organization, and city.

A formal Friendship City relationship will encourage mutual exchanges of information and experiences on improving the services and practices in transportation, sustainability, economic development, and the use of technology to achieve more with less resources. The sharing of information and person-to-person contacts supported and facilitated by city governments and city officials will promote mutual respect based on understanding of each other's culture and public services systems. The education exchanges will benefit students in broadening their views and minds and provide opportunities for our students to make lifelong friends in other parts of the world. The more frequent formal exchanges will result in stronger and lasting friendships between cities and between people of the two cities and provide better living environments for residents of both cities.

The areas of mutual strength and interest for each of the participants.

Both the City of Cupertino and the New Taipei City are technology focused and service oriented. The two cities have invested in transportation, education, economic development, sustainability measures, and arts and culture. The formal friendship city relationship will facilitate more discussions and experiences sharing resulting in actions to further improve city services, develop creative financial plans and funding structures and ultimately benefit the residents of the two cities.

Names, titles, and affiliations of those who will be involved at the proponent Friendship City and the Friendship City Committee.

Cupertino Committee Chair: Jerry Liu (jerryliu@gmail.com)

Cupertino Committee Vice Chair and Secretary: Angela Chen (achenlee8@gmail.com)

Cupertino Committee Vice Chair and Treasurer: Sharon Lee (slee95014@gmail.com)

New Taipei City Contact : Ms Yao Chingyu, Director General of the New Taipei City

Areas of mutual interest upon which the relationship will focus.

The two cities will continue sharing experiences on city services through virtual and in-person meetings among city officials and staff. In the first two years of the proposed formal Friendship City relationship, the Friendship City Committee will focus on developing plans to implement teacher and student exchange programs; and form a delegation to formally visit New Taipei City.

Benefits and measurable results that the City of Cupertino and proponent Friendship City can expect as a result of the establishment of such a relationship.

CITY GOVERNMENT

Friendship city programs create connections with international municipal officials, institutions, and businesses. These connections build trust, access, and expertise that help local organizations find new opportunities and resources.

Peer-learning between municipal employees and elected officials through friendship city activities can help cities implement innovative policies and management techniques in sanitation, water, health, transportation, sustainability, economic development, and education. Programs may also raise funds or collect supplies for natural disasters or other emergencies, such as this pandemic, in the friendship cities.

EDUCATIONAL

Student exchange offers broad based benefits and outcomes as listed below:

- International learning and knowledge propels students towards acceptance and understanding of an array of different cultural and community perspectives.
- Language acquisition and practice to communicate with people with different cultural backgrounds.
- Awareness and adoption of alternative, multi-faceted approaches to learning.
- Analytical and problem solving skills.
- Enhanced interest in global issues as well as a broader general knowledge.
- Self-development and awareness leading to enhanced self-confidence and self-esteem. This is often the most noticeable change in returned exchange students.
- Maturity and social poise, fuelled by the necessity to confront challenges outside a familiar support network and comfort zone.
- Integration into another family as well as the development of life-long friendships, fostering an appreciation of home and family.
- A tremendous sense of accomplishment upon completion encourages students to develop independent opinions, make informed decisions and strive to attain fresh goals.

Students who join the exchange program often find themselves more comfortable in 'foreign' environments. The pressure to communicate and relate to others develops an awareness of group dynamics and personal sensitivity towards others.

7. RESOURCES: Please address monetary and in-kind resources that may be necessary to conduct the activities of this relationship, how they are to be obtained, and from whom. If none, state "no funding required". Please note that the City of Cupertino does not currently provide funding for Friendship Cities. Limit this section to one page and attach it to this application.

No funding required. There will be no use of resources from the City of Cupertino required. All activities are contemplated to be supported by community members on a volunteer basis. All in-kind resources utilized, if any, will adhere to applicable Friendship-City policies.

8. PROFILE: Please attach a brief profile of your city and Friendship City Committee including, but not limited to: background, location, nature, size, and relevant programs. Limit the profile to no more than two pages.

Introduction of New Taipei City*

New Taipei City¹ is a [special municipality](#) and the most populous city in [Taiwan](#). Located in [northern Taiwan](#), the city includes a substantial stretch of the island's northern coastline and surrounds the



[Taipei Basin](#), making it the second largest special municipality by area, behind [Kaohsiung](#). New Taipei City is bordered by [Keelung](#) to the northeast, [Yilan County](#) to the southeast, and [Taoyuan](#) to the southwest. It completely surrounds [Taipei](#). [Banqiao District](#) is its municipal seat and biggest commercial area. Until 2010, the area that roughly corresponds to the present New Taipei City was known as **Taipei County**.

Due to its strategic location, New Taipei City is the second major city of business industries after Taipei, with over 250,000 privately owned companies (Including [Acer Computers Inc.](#)) and 20,000 factories scattered around five industrial parks with a total capital of NT\$1.8 trillion. There are also many high technology industry, service industry and tourism industry,

contributing a significant amount of GDP to Taiwan. The five major industries in the city are information technology (IT), telecommunications, digital contents, biotechnology and precision instruments. The city is among the top three cities in the global market in terms of IT product production volume, securing more than 50% of the global market share for products such as motherboards, notebooks, LCD monitors and CRT monitors.

New Taipei City is also filled with many cultural and creative industries, such as pottery in [Yingge District](#), Liuli industry in [Tamsui District](#), drum industry in [Xinzhuang District](#), dye industry in [Sanxia District](#), noble metal processing industry in [Ruifang District](#), sky lantern industry in [Pingxi District](#), etc. The **Taiwan Film Culture Center** is planned to be built in [Xinzhuang District](#) for the key resource of the development of film industries in Taiwan. The **Knowledge Industry Park** is also planned to be built in the same district to encourage the clustering and expansion of digital content companies and will help turn the city into a virtual digital entertainment park.

Logistic industries^[edit]

The [Port of Taipei](#) located in [Bali District](#) has the capability of fitting container ships weighing up to 80,000 tons and transporting more than 2 million TEU annually. The [Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf](#) in [Tamsui District](#) serves as the main port for fishing boats, as well as for sightseeing and leisure.

Power generation

New Taipei City houses two of Taiwan's current active [nuclear power plants](#), which are the [Kuosheng Nuclear Power Plant](#) in [Wanli District](#) and [Jinshan Nuclear Power Plant](#) in [Shimen District](#), Taiwan's first nuclear power plant. The planned fourth nuclear power plant, [Lungmen Nuclear Power Plant](#), located at [Gongliao District](#) has currently been halted due to public opposition. Other power generators in the city are the [Linkou Coal-Fired Power Plant](#) in [Linkou District](#) and [Feitsui Hydroelectric Power Plant](#) in [Shiding District](#).

Green energy, energy saving and sustainability

New Taipei City has been developed towards a *Green Future City*. The city provides a *Carbon Reduction Clinic* for houses and businesses with general consultation and on-site inspections for greener equipment, in which it is helped by the low-carbon community subsidies. The city also implements the *Assist Industries with Cleaner Production Plan* to help businesses adapt to the efforts toward becoming green industries. The [city government is also](#) actively promoting green energy industries and smart electric vehicles.

In January 2016, New Taipei City was the top in terms of electricity saving in Taiwan, in which electricity consumption for the period April–November 2015 was reduced by 1.24%.

Museums and Galleries

There are numerous notable museums and galleries, such as [Drop of Water Memorial Hall](#), [Gold Museum](#), [Jing-Mei White Terror Memorial Park](#), [Jingtong Mining Industry Museum](#), [Ju Ming Museum](#), [Li Mei-shu Memorial Gallery](#), [Li Tien-lu Hand Puppet Historical Museum](#), [Museum of World Religions](#), [New Taipei City Hakka Museum](#), [New Taipei City Yingge Ceramics Museum](#), [Pinglin Tea Museum](#), [Sanxia History Museum](#), [Shisanhang Museum of Archaeology](#), [Taiwan Coal Mine Museum](#), [Taiwan Nougat Creativity Museum](#), [Tamkang University Maritime Museum](#), [Tamsui Art Gallery](#), [Teng Feng Fish Ball Museum](#), [Wulai Atayal Museum](#), [Wulai Forestry Life Museum](#) and [Xinzhuang Culture and Arts Center](#).

Natural

Natural attractions include the [Wulai](#) and [Shifen](#) waterfalls, [Bitan](#), [Wulai hot springs](#), [Stone Sculpture Park](#), [Cape San Diego](#), [Twin Candlestick Islets](#), [Xinhai Constructed Wetland](#), [hoodoo](#) geological formations at the [Yehliu](#) seacoast, and hiking in [Mount Guanyin](#), [Wulai](#), [Pingxi](#) and the [northeast coast](#). [Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf](#) along the [Tamsui River](#) is a popular place for leisure and sightseeing. Popular beaches include [Fulong](#), [Yanliao](#) and [Baisha Bay](#).

*Adapted from wikipedia (last retrieved May 22, 2021)