

咸宁市人民政府外事办公室

尊敬的达西·保罗先生：

希望您一切安好！

自 2018 年底，经咸宁市驻美国加利福尼亚州友好代表宋敏先生介绍，咸宁市与贵市签署了《友好交流城市合作备忘录》。三年多来，两市进行市领导互访，开展文化、教育、艺术交流，疫情期间携手抗疫、守望相助，情谊不断加深。

4 月 23 日，您致信我市市长王远鹤先生，对今后两市继续加强交往、延续友城情谊表达了良好的愿望。希望贵我两市今后在互相尊重、互惠互利的基础上开展务实合作，造福两市人民！

咸宁市人民政府外事办公室

2021 年 5 月 21 日



Dear Mr. Darcy Paul,

Hope everything is well with you!

Since the end of 2018, as referred by Mr. Song Min, the Representative of Xianning City to California, Xianning and Cupertino signed the *Memorandum of Cooperation on Friendly Exchange Cities*. Over the past three years and more, the two cities have exchanged visits with city leaders and carried out cultural, educational and artistic exchanges. During the outbreak, the two cities have joined hands in fighting the epidemic and offering timely help to each other, establishing an even closer tie between us.

On April 23, a letter from you to Mr. Wang Yuanhe, the mayor of our city, was received, expressing good wishes for the two cities to further strengthen exchanges and continue to promote our friendship as sister cities. I hope our two cities will carry out practical cooperation on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit in the future to the benefit of the people of the two cities!

Foreign Affairs Office, Xianning Municipal People's Government

May 21, 2021

Chronicle of Events for Exchange Between Xianning and Cupertino

In December 2018, He Kaiwen, then member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Xianning Municipal Committee and Executive Vice Mayor, led a delegation to visit Cupertino, California, USA. He held talks with City Councilor Zhang Zhaofu and exchanged views on future cooperation between the two cities in sister cities cooperation, innovation and entrepreneurship and other issues. During the visit, the *Memorandum of Cooperation on Friendly Exchange Cities between Xianning City of Hubei Province of the People's Republic of China and Cupertino City of California of the United States* was signed, which ushered a new chapter for sister city exchanges between Xianning City and San Francisco Bay Area of the United States.

In June 2019, Wang Fanfei, then Vice Mayor, led a delegation to visit Cupertino again. Due to the re-election of the City Council, he re-signed the *Memorandum of Cooperation on Friendly Exchange Cities* with Dr. Zhao Liangfang, Vice Mayor of the City, and entered a cooperation agreement on youth science, technology and culture exchanges with the United States-China Exchange Council, reaching a consensus on strengthening cultural, educational and scientific exchanges between the two cities

in the future.

In September 2019, Vice Mayor Liu Fuxing led a delegation to visit the City of Cupertino and donated 50 simplified Chinese books introducing Chinese culture and celebrities to the Cupertino Library. Ms. Tine, the librarian, expressed her heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the city's readers. She said that the local people had a strong passion to learn Chinese, and these books were urgently needed by the library to help citizens understand Chinese culture.

In October 2019, Cupertino City Councillor Darcy Paul and Xianning City Representative Song Min in California were invited to attend the 2019 "Belt & Road" International Tea Industry Development Forum and the Fifth China Tea Industry Conference. Wang Fanfei, then Vice Mayor, met with the delegation.

In February 2020, as the COVID-19 epidemic raged, Cupertino Mayor Steven Scharf sent a letter of condolence to Mayor Wang Yuanhe, saying, "As a sister city of Xianning, we will always be a strong supporter of the innocent people who have been tragically affected by this outbreak. We will always be with you through thick and thin."

In May 2020, Mr. Song Min, the Representative of

Xianning City to California and President of Cupertino - Xianning Sister City Association, donated 600 pieces of N95 masks to the City of Cupertino on behalf of Xianning Municipal People's Government to support the fight against COVID-19. Mr. Darcy Paul, Vice Mayor of the City of Cupertino, sent a letter of appreciation. In May 2021, in order to deepen the exchanges between teenagers in the two cities in the post-epidemic era, teenagers in Xianning City plan to participate in the activity of "Father in My Eyes: Series Art Exhibition of American and Chinese Teenagers in the Post-epidemic Era in 2021" together with teenagers in the City of Cupertino for online communication. At present, Xianning Wenquan Middle School is organizing its students to actively prepare their paintings for the exhibition.