

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ALAMEDA OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE
CITY OF DUMAGUETE OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL
OF THE PHILIPPINES REGARDING SISTER CITY RELATIONS**

The City of Alameda of the State of California of the United States of America and the City of Dumaguete of the Province of Negros Oriental of the Philippines, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”;

CONSIDERING that the Parties have previously signed and entered into a Memorandum of Understanding as a stepping board and prelude to the formal establishment of a Sister City agreement between these two great cities;

CONSIDERING LIKEWISE that the recent official visit of the City Mayor of Dumaguete and the members of his delegation was a milestone in the forging of this Sister City relationship between the herein Parties, coupled with the fact that the said official visit was the driving force and impetus in finalizing the conceptualization of this very important relationship between the Parties;

CONSIDERING FURTHER their interest to strengthen the friendship ties and cooperation that join both Parties;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the cities have the intention to develop collaborative activities, under the laws of the United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines, with particular attention to the terms related to tourism, academics, business exchange, commerce, culture, craftsmanship and governance;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that the cities endorse the mission of Sister Cities International, to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation — one individual, one community at a time;

DECLARING their decision to strengthen their relationship of collaboration through the proper legal channels;

CONVINCED of the importance of establishing mechanisms that contribute to the development and strengthening of bilateral cooperation, as well as the necessity to execute projects and actions that are effective in the commercial and social development of both Parties;

Have agreed to the following:

**ARTICLE I
Objective**

The objective of the present Agreement is to formalize the formulation and implementation of various exchange programs between the City of Alameda of the State

of California of the United States of America and the City of Dumaguete of the Province of Negros Oriental of the Philippines, to foster agreement and understanding between them and the institutions in their respective territorial areas, to intensify common efforts, and to promote the exchange of experiences and execution of common activities.

ARTICLE II

Areas of Cooperation

To reach the objective of the present Agreement, the Parties commit themselves to develop cooperative projects, that may include but not limited to the following areas:

- a) Business Investment, Commerce and Trade
 - 1. Facilitate informational exchanges between the two Cities
 - 2. Encourage opportunities for business investment
- b) Tourism, Culture and the Arts
 - 1. Facilitate exchange of information and opportunities to promote Eco-Tourism and Cultural Programs
 - 2. Promote both cities as being desirable retirement locations
- c) Governance
 - 1. Facilitate information exchange on methods and types of tax collection utilized to fund government services
 - 2. Facilitate information exchange on programs directed at disaster preparedness and emergency management
 - 3. Facilitate information exchange on programs directed at environmental protection and climate change mitigation
 - 4. Facilitate information exchange on methods of streamlining the processing of required business permits
- d) Education, Youth and Sports
 - 1. Identify opportunities for youth organizations within both communities, and through local academic institutions, to offer exchange visits between the two cities for socio-cultural education, youth leadership, and community service.
 - 2. Promote student and faculty exchanges in coordination with Silliman University and other educational institutions in Dumaguete City and the different local educational institutions in the City of Alameda and surrounding areas.
- e) Any other area of cooperation that the Parties may agree upon.

ARTICLE III

Modalities of Cooperation

It is the intent of the Parties that each City will designate individuals and/or local non-profit organizations to assume responsibility for implementation of the goals set forth in Article II. The City of Alameda designates the Alameda Sister City Association (ASCA) as its

representative for this purpose. The City of Dumaguete designates the Office of the City Mayor through the City Tourism Officer as its representative for this purpose.

The Parties agree that their representatives shall discuss the best method for prioritizing projects and programs, establishing work plans and timelines, and providing periodic reports of progress to their respective City officials.

ARTICLE IV Competence

The Parties commit themselves to implement the goals set forth in Article II in accordance with all applicable laws.

ARTICLE V Financing

Each of the Parties shall be responsible for paying its own costs and expenses related to implementing this Agreement.

ARTICLE VI Final Provisions

The present Agreement shall go into effect upon the date of its signature and shall remain in effect for up to a five (5) year period, and may be renewed for equal periods, by evaluation and acceptance by both Parties through written communication.

The present Agreement may be modified by mutual consent of the Parties, by formalizing it through written communications and specifying the date of its enforcement.

Either of the Parties may, at any moment, terminate the present Agreement by a written notification given to the other Party sixty (60) days in advance.

The anticipated termination of the present Agreement shall not affect the completion of the activities, formalized while it was in force.

Signed in the City of Dumaguete, Negros Oriental, Philippines, the ____ day of November 2015, in four original and official copies in English language, all texts being equally authentic.

On behalf of the City of ALAMEDA of the State of California, United States of America:

TRISH HERRERA SPENCER

Mayor of Alameda

On behalf of the City of DUMAGUETE of the Province of Negros Oriental, Philippines:

MANUEL T. SAGARBARRIA

Mayor of Dumaguete

HONORARY WITNESS

FOR DUMAGUETE:

FOR ALAMEDA:

WOODROW S. MAQUILING, SR.

City Vice-Mayor

KAREN FONG

ASCA President

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS