



Via Teleconference

AGENDA
VALLEJO SISTER CITY
COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – 4:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 18, 2021

Elissa Shanks-Stewart,
Chairperson
Vernon Williams III, Vice Chair
Emma del Rosario
Diana Dowling
Karen Lowe
Norma Placido
Pelton Stewart

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE OCTOBER 18, 2021 SISTER CITY
COMMISSION MEETING

This meeting is being conducted using teleconference and electronic means consist with the State of California Executive Order N-29-30 regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The live stream of the meeting may be viewed on television or online. Details may be found at www.cityofvallejo.net In accordance with Executive Order N-29-30, the public may only view the meetings on television and/or online and not in the Joseph Room.

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This AGENDA contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. The posting of the recommended actions does not indicate what action may be taken. If comments come to the Sister City Commission without prior notice and are not listed on the AGENDA, no specific answers or response should be expected at this meeting per State law.

Pursuant to the Government Code Section 54954.3 (The Brown Act), members of the public shall be afforded the opportunity to speak on any agenda item of interest to them provided they are first recognized by the presiding officer. The public is encouraged to call into the meeting well ahead of when they wish to speak to address the Commission. When you wish to speak, click on the "Raise Hand Button" or Press *9 if calling by phone. Staff will then move you into the virtual speaker's seat and unmute your microphone when it's your turn to speak. If calling by phone, please press *6 to unmute yourself. Please note the clock begins when you are unmuted, so you must be prepared to speak when called upon.

Notice of Availability of Public Records: All public records relating to an open session item, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the Commission will be available for public inspection at the Mayor's Office, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the Commission. Such documents may also be available on the City of Vallejo website at <http://www.cityofvallejo.net> subject to staff's ability to post the documents prior to the meeting. Information may be obtained by calling (707) 648-4377, TDD (707) 649-3562.

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1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Report from Executive Assistant to the Mayor, Secretary to the Commission
- B. Report from Council Liaison to the Vallejo Sister City Commission
- C. Report from Chair to the Vallejo Sister City Commission

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Due to the current Shelter at Home Order and in conformance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-30, the City of Vallejo has opted to hold the Sister Cities Commission meeting via teleconference. Any interested members of the public desiring to communicate with the Sister Cities Commission as part of the Public Comment Regarding Consent Calendar Items may do so via ZOOM (<https://ZoomRegular.Cityofvallejo.net>) or via phone, by dialing (669)900-6833. Meeting id: 914 0075 0676 followed by # sign. Press *9 to digitally raise your hand when you wish to speak. Press *6 to mute/unmute your microphone.

For additional instructions on how to speak during public comment, please visit, www.cityofvallejo.net/publiccomment. Each speaker is limited to three minutes *pursuant to Vallejo Municipal Code Section 2.02.310*.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Due to the current Shelter at Home Order and in conformance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-30, the City of Vallejo has opted to hold the Sister Cities Commission meeting via teleconference. Any interested members of the public desiring to communicate with the Sister Cities Commission as part of the Public Comment Regarding Consent Calendar Items may do so via ZOOM (<https://ZoomRegular.Cityofvallejo.net>) or via phone, by dialing (669)900-6833. Meeting id: 914 0075 0676 followed by # sign. Press *9 to digitally raise your hand when you wish to speak. Press *6 to mute/unmute your microphone.

For additional instructions on how to speak during public comment, please visit, www.cityofvallejo.net/publiccomment. Each speaker is limited to three minutes *pursuant to Vallejo Municipal Code Section 2.02.310*. *Requests for removal of Consent Items received from the public are subject to approval by a majority vote of the commission. Items removed from the commission will be heard immediately after approval of the Consent Calendar and Agenda.*

- A. **Approval of Minutes**

Recommendation: By motion, approve the Minutes for the August 16, 2021, Vallejo Sister City Commission Regular Meeting.

B. Approval of Agenda

7. OLD BUSINESS

Due to the current Shelter at Home Order and in conformance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29 30, the City of Vallejo has opted to hold the Sister Cities Commission meeting via teleconference. Any interested members of the public desiring to communicate with the Sister Cities Commission as part of the Public Comment Regarding Old Business may do so via ZOOM (<https://ZoomRegular.Cityofvallejo.net>) or via phone, by dialing (669)900-6833. Meeting id: 914 0075 0676 followed by # sign. Press *9 to digitally raise your hand when you wish to speak. Press *6 to mute/unmute your microphone.

For additional instructions on how to speak during public comment, please visit, www.cityofvallejo.net/publiccomment. Each speaker is limited to three minutes *pursuant to Vallejo Municipal Code Section 2.02.310*.

A. Review/accept final draft of new procedures for selection of Friendship City and Sister City

B. Review/accept revisions of timeline on when a Friendship City becomes a Sister City

C. Review Ensenada packet for elevation to Sister City status

8. NEW BUSINESS

Due to the current Shelter at Home Order and in conformance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29 30, the City of Vallejo has opted to hold the Sister Cities Commission meeting via teleconference. Any interested members of the public desiring to communicate with the Sister Cities Commission as part of the Public Comment Regarding New Business may do so via ZOOM (<https://ZoomRegular.Cityofvallejo.net>) or via phone, by dialing (669)900-6833. Meeting id: 914 0075 0676 followed by # sign. Press *9 to digitally raise your hand when you wish to speak. Press *6 to mute/unmute your microphone.

For additional instructions on how to speak during public comment, please visit, www.cityofvallejo.net/publiccomment. Each speaker is limited to three minutes *pursuant to Vallejo Municipal Code Section 2.02.310*.

A. Repair and upgrades to the Sister City Room

1. **Security System**
2. **Door**
3. **IT troubleshooting for Sister City Room connections**

**9. REPORT FROM COMMISSIONERS AND AD HOC COMMITTEES –
COMMISSIONERS WILL PROVIDE IF THEY HAVE ANY UPDATES**

A. Committee Reports

1. Trondheim, Norway
2. Baguio City, Philippines
3. Bagamoyo, Tanzania
4. Jincheon, South Korea
5. La Spezia, Italy
6. Akashi, Japan

B. Friendship Cities Subcommittee Reports

1. Ensenada, Mexico – Ensenada packet is ready for review to elevate to a Sister City status.
2. Muju, South Korea
3. Ennery, Haiti
4. Rota, Northern Mariana Islands (U.S. Commonwealth)
5. Zanzibar, Tanzania
6. Seven Generations Inner Tribal Council
7. Parun, Afghanistan

10. NEXT REGULAR BI-MONTHLY MEETING: December 20, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT

I, Erik Rzomp, Executive Assistant to the Mayor do hereby certify that I have caused a true copy of the above notice and agenda to be delivered to each of the members of the Vallejo Sister City Commission, at the time and in the manner prescribed by law and that this agenda was posted at City Hall, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo CA at 5:00 p.m., October 14, 2021.

Dated: October 14, 2021

Erik Rzomp, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

**SISTER CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BY TELECONFERENCE
AUGUST 16, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shanks-Stewart at 4:33 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Chair Shanks-Stewart, Vice-Chair Williams, Commissioners del Rosario, Dowling, Lowe, Stewart, and Placido

Commissioners Absent: None

City Staff Present: Executive Assistant to the Mayor Rzomp, Councilmember Liaison Verder-Aliga excused

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Report from Executive Assistant to Mayor, staff to Sister City Commission.

B. Report from the Council Liaison to the Sister City Commission.

C. Report from Chair to the Vallejo Sister City Commission.

Executive Assistant to the Mayor, Rzomp reminded commissioners that they may pick up their business cards on the Mayor's office. Reminder to the commissioners to stay within the dictates of the Brown Act when emailing, please send documents, notes, etc. to the staff support to have the item blind copied to the commission by staff.

Council Liaison Verder-Aliga, was unable to attend the meeting.

Chair Shanks-Stewart reported that the Sister City Association canceled their dinner fundraiser because GVRD is doing some renovation even though two months prior it was a go. This is a blow to fundraising activity. The front room of the Sister City room was vandalized. There is a recommendation to replace with riot glass. Sister Cities International has webinars available and it is recommended that commissioners try out the webinars.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. CONSENT CALENDAR AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: By motion, approve the Sister City Commission minutes for the regular meeting of June 21, 2021, Sister City Commission.

Action: Approved minutes. Motion by Commissioner Placido to approve minutes and seconded by Vice Chair Williams. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Agenda

Recommendation: By motion, approve the Sister City Commission Agenda with flexibility for the regular meeting of August 16, 2021, Sister City Commission.

Action: Approved agenda. Motion by Commissioner Stewart to approve agenda and seconded by Commissioner Placido. Motion passed unanimously.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Accept final draft of new procedures for selection of Friendship City and Sister City

Final draft of new procedure not yet complete. At the suggestion of the Chair a sub-committee was formed to complete the final draft. Sub-committee members are Vice-chair Williams, Commissioners del Rosario and Lowe. Ensenada packet is in process and will not be held to new procedural requirements

B. Review revisions of timeline on when a Friendship City becomes a Sister City

Timeline revisions not completed, will be added to sub-committee responsibilities

C. Clarification of Sister City – Sister County relationship

This is an issue because Bagamoyo, Tanzania is not actually a city, but is a district which is analogous to a county in the United States. The commission authorized Commissioner Stewart to reach out to the City of Vallejo to recognize the Sister City-Sister County relationship and to Solano County to recognize a potential Sister County – Sister County relationship. Commissioner del Rosario commented that guidance from Sister Cities International on this matter would be appropriate.

D. Review Ensenada packet for elevation to Sister City status

Thank you to Commissioner del Rosario for preparing the packet. The packet at 101 pages is long and could be pared down. Chair Shanks-Stewart, Commissioners del Rosario and Lowe and the staff support Rzomp will be the subcommittee. Grammar errors to be fixed and text and photo credits to be identified. Common interests are included and must be a part of a Sister City packet. Number of photos to be reduced. A portion of the emails may be excluded because they are historical only and not necessary for a packet. Commissioner del Rosario to bring electronic and hard copy of packet to subcommittee meeting.

The plan is to have the packet ready for the October Sister City Commission meeting so the commissioner may vote on it and it will be ready to go before the Vallejo City Council for approval.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request from Assemblymember Castro Asumadu Addae of Akim Oda, Ghana

Request to become a Sister City sent to Vice Mayor Verder-Aliga. The commission is not

sure why this request came to the Vice Mayor. There are two follow up items for this agenda item. 1. Check in with the Vice Mayor to find out if she has more information, if she knows this person or if this is an unsolicited email. 2. The Chair will respond through the Executive Assistant to Assemblymember Castro Asumadu Addae and tell him that our commission is in the process of setting up guidelines for Friendship Cities and Sister Cities and once finalized we can discuss your intentions further.

B. Furniture expenditure as part of the budget

Because there was no travel or major expense incurred due to COVID, in early June 2021 it was proposed that the budget from the last fiscal year be used to purchase new furniture for the Sister City Room. This was to have presentable furniture for guests and visiting dignitaries instead of the mismatched, old, furniture which is presently in the room. Because the expenditure was not approved before the end of the fiscal year, the commission lost the money. The City Manager's Office and Finance said it was acceptable to make a one-time furniture expenditure for furniture, if the commission wanted to use this year's budget. The furniture is approximately \$12,000 and the budget for this fiscal year is \$16,000 leaving approximately \$4000 for commission business.

After discussion, the commissioners did not want to spend money meant for travel, SCI dues and other commission business on what is maintenance and upkeep of city facilities. A majority of commissioners Stewart, Lowe, del Rosario, and Placido stated they did not want to use the budget for furniture. An email will be sent to the commission liaison requesting that money be made available for furniture outside of the commission budget.

9. REPORT FROM COMMISSIONERS AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

A. Sister City Committee Reports

1. Trondheim, Norway – Commissioner Lowe reported she was in contact with Paul Ligda to find people associated with Norway to help get theme, food and entertainment going in preparation for the dinner auction. Unable to get email response from contacts in Trondheim. Unable to get in contact with Sons of Norway contact in Vacaville. Potential resource in the Norwegian Seaman's Church in San Francisco. Trying to get student exchange going again.
2. Baguio City, Philippines– Commissioner Placido wants to release \$2000 funding to Sister City Association to have them fund the painting of the Baguio Golden Gate Bridge painting. There still has not been receipt of an estimate from Baguio. There is a new mayor there Benjamin Magalo and due to COVID this is delaying the estimate. Madam Chair stated an invoice is needed to get funding not an estimate.
3. Bagamoyo, Tanzania – Focus on Philmore Graham International Science Fair. Going to present to each of the subcommittees a packet to all sister city schools, individuals and groups an invitation to participate in the science fair. Willie Mitchell of Lawrence Livermore Labs and a Vallejo resident is helping. They will mail a robot kit to the participants and the participants will video the assembled robot. The international blue ribbon committee will determine the winners who will get a certificate from the Bagamoyo committee. Also looking at succession planning for

the position of chair for the Bagamoyo committee. Bagamoyo will conduct their independence celebration in December. Traditionally there has been a delegation sent to the celebration.

4. Jincheon, South Korea – no report
5. La Spezia, Italy – Commissioner del Rosario wants to review MOUs
6. Akashi, Japan – Commissioner Del Rosario reported she has been talking to new chair of Akashi committee about resuming youth pen pal activity. She is also looking into home stay sponsors and into a contest for making origami figures. Can we use budget for this. An origami tree would be presented to the Mayor's office. Madam Chair stated invoices would be needed for reimbursement for the contest supplies.

B. Friendship Cities Subcommittee

1. Ensenada, Mexico - Discussed in New Business. Israel Delgado became a member of Association and is willing to work as a part of the Ensenada committee.
2. Muju, South Korea – no report
3. Rota, Northern Mariana Islands (U.S. Commonwealth) - Commissioner Stewart spoke to co-chair of Chamorro people and they are excited about the possibility of a visit in 2022. Also excited about the banner dedication in the Sister City Room. City officials will be invited to a ceremony for the banner dedication.
4. Parun, Afghanistan- We received the letter from Parun Mayor to establish friendship city relationship. The commission accepts the letter of friendship. Commissioner Stewart met with Dr. Zamani. Dr. Zamani is to schedule a meeting with three people from Vallejo and three people from their Northern California group to work on a bigger event of a meeting of leaders from both groups, the commissioners and association board members like a round table to build relationships. No date set yet. Interest in helping people who are leaving Afghanistan and coming to the U.S.
5. Ennery, Haiti - No information regarding possible earthquake damages to this city.
6. Zanzibar, Tanzania – No report
7. Seven Generations Inter Tribal Council – No report. Commissioner Dowling needs contact information. To be provided by Commissioner Stewart.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE: October 18, 2021 4:30 P.M. by Teleconference

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Discussion of Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Items for the October regular meeting:

- Monitor situation in Haiti – anything we can do for our friendship city in Haiti.
- Approval of Sister City procedure to approve Sister city and Friendship city.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 P.M.

ELISSA SHANKS-STEWART, CHAIR

ATTEST:

ERIK RZOMP, SECRETARY

ELEVATE ENSENADA PACKET 2017-2019

Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico
VSCC recommendation for Vallejo Sister City Status
2021



Baja California, Mexico



California, U.S.A.

Vallejo Sister City Commission
Emma del Rosario Cordova
Chair for Ensenada Committee



Sister City Commission



Ensenada is a coastal city in **Mexico**, the third largest in Baja California, 78 miles south of San Diego on Baja California Peninsula.

Ensenada has emerged as a cruise ship destination, aerospace center, and a jumping-off point for Valle de Guadalupe, a local wine region. Ensenada's diversity as a city is in part attributed to Spanish, Russian, and American influences.

Wikipedia



Sister Cities International (SCI) -



Sister Cities International was created at President Eisenhower's 1956 White House Conference on citizen diplomacy, where he envisioned a network that would be a champion for peace and prosperity by fostering bonds between people from different communities around the world. President Eisenhower reasoned that people from different cultures could understand, appreciate, and celebrate their differences while building partnerships that would lessen the chance of new conflicts.

Mission: To promote peace through
mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation
one individual, one community at a time.

SCI: sistercities.org

Current Vallejo Sister Cities:

Trondheim, Norway
Akashi, Japan
La Spezia, Italy
Baguio, Philippines
Bagamoyo, Tanzania
Jincheon, So. Korea

About Sister Cities International: Founded as a Presidential initiative by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for close to 500 individual sister cities, counties; counties and states across the United States with relationships in 1,800 communities in 137 countries on six continents. The sister city network unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers who work tirelessly to promote the organizations' mission of creating world peace and understanding through economic development, youth and education, arts and culture, and humanitarian assistance.

Retrieved 19 November 2019 from SCI: sistercities.org

Vallejo Friendship Cities Plaques



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Vallejo Sister City Commission Charter

Vallejo Sister City Commission Chapter

2.38 Sister City Commission

2.38.010 - Creation and Membership.

2.38.020 - Purposes.

The purpose of the sister city commission shall be:

- A. To plan and recommend to the city council a sister city program.
- B. To stimulate and sustain participation in and community support for an approved sister city program

2.38.030 - Duties.

The duties of the sister city commission shall be to:

- A. Conduct research on Vallejo's sister city or cities and their respective country or countries, existing and proposed;
- B. Establish and maintain liaison with Sister Cities International;
- C. Promote the following activities between Vallejo and its sister city or cities:
 - 1. Relationships and events between cities;
 - 2. Visitor exchange and tour groups and exchange of information, gifts, and articles of cultural and informative value; and
 - 3. Formal and friendly relations between such groups as schools, youth organizations, clubs, chambers of commerce and churches.
- D. Maintain a roster of participants interested in correspondence and maintain a translation committee;
- E. Evaluate relationships with current sister cities and make recommendations to city council; and
- F. Record deliberations and decisions adequately to reveal considerations significant to such decisions.

The Dream. The Vision

In alignment with President Eisenhower's 1956 White House conference on citizen diplomacy, we envision Ensenada as an outstanding Sister City with Vallejo. Vallejo has a Hispanic population of 24%. The two Cities share many traditions and customs which help to build a foundation for peace, prosperity, and cultural understanding. While we appreciate our different cultures and celebrate our commitment to our diplomatic partnerships, we believe that this new partnership with Ensenada would complement our Vallejo diversity. The dream for peace and understanding may no longer be just a dream but a reality.

The Sister Cities International, Vallejo Sister City Commission and the Vallejo Sister City Association are instrumental in the development and strengthening of the diplomatic bond and partnership during our cultural, educational, trade exchanges and humanitarian visits to establish this sisterhood relationship with Ensenada. Our "person to person" interaction in carrying out the vision of President Eisenhower energizes us in doing the right things and doing them well as "citizen diplomats" during our international collaborative and diplomatic visits with Ensenada citizens and Officials of Ensenada.

The Commitment

Our commitment to the values demonstrated by Vallejo Sister City Commission, Vallejo Sister City Association and Sister Cities International in Washington DC, in promoting peace, respect, cooperation and humanitarian efforts will always be the heartbeat by which we as an organization live by, act on and share with our Sister Cities, including Ensenada, Mexico. We, Vallejo Sister City officers and members are committed to be a part of this endeavor, in making the new Vallejo-Ensenada Sister City relationships grow in numbers, create new ideas, projects or programs, and give guidance when necessary, in implementing policies, and practices. We together will "Connect Globally and Thrive Locally".

A committed group of Citizen Diplomats from Vallejo visited La Mision, Ensenada, BC in 2017 to witness first-hand the work of the people of La Mission Educational Day Care in providing care and education to the children of the community. It was during this visit that the Ensenada Director of International Affairs handed a Letter of Intent to become a sister city, signed by Ensenada Mayor Marco Novelo, to the following Vallejo Sister City Officers: Vallejo Sister City Commission Chair Pelton Stewart, Vallejo Sister City Association Vice Chair Dinah Villanueva Ryan, Vallejo Sister City Ensenada Committee Chair Emma del Rosario Cordova, Vallejo, Jincheon, South Korea Chair William Kim, and Vallejo Sister City Association Member Ravi Shankar.

The Mission

On June 9, 2015, Emma del Rosario Cordova, was sworn in as a Commissioner with the Vallejo Sister City Commission. Commissioners are charged with creating a sister city program as required by Chapter 2.38.020 of the Vallejo Municipal Code. Emma focused on youth empowerment and humanitarian programs that could impact the lives of all people, both young and old. In February 2017 Vallejo Sister City Association received a letter of inquiry from Delgado Ariel Sanchez of La Mision, Ensenada, Mexico inquiring about the City of Vallejo and the Vallejo Sister City Organization. In October of 2017, we received a visit from the Director of Open Arms, Heidi Elizarraraz, who wished to learn more about the Vallejo Sister City organizations. She was accompanied by Mrs. Martha Camacho. Mrs. Camacho, a Vallejo resident, was born in Mexico and serves as a youth director at Church on the Hill, a church that regularly sends youth on humanitarian missions to La Mision. Mrs. Camacho and Heidi Elizarraraz serve as Vallejo's liaison to La Mision, Ensenada, Mexico. Vallejo Sister Cities has partnered with the community from Church on the Hill led by Pastor Scott Peterson and the Vallejo Hispanic-American Community led by Mina Loera-Diaz while pursuing a sister city relationship with La Mision, Ensenada.

In June 2017, five Vallejo Citizen Diplomats made their first visit to the City of Ensenada to meet with the Director of International Affairs, Jared Gutierrez. He introduced us to the City of Ensenada's culture, schools and City Officers. It was during this visit that the letter of intent was presented and accepted by the visiting officials from Vallejo Sister City Association. On July 29 to August 6, 2019, a Vallejo delegation traveled a second time to Ensenada and La Mision to continue the Sister City process. The VSCA Ensenada team, led by Emma del Rosario Cordova, continues to work toward completion of the process to "ELEVATE ENSENADA" as a Sister City of Vallejo.

Note: Due to the Covid-19 Protocols, there were no travel visits between the Cities of Vallejo and Ensenada in 2020.

VSC Commission - Pelton Stewart, Chairman

Vallejo Sister City Association - Yolanda Kim, President

Thank you for receiving our letter of Friendship in order to become Sister Cities.

La Mision is a town located 1 hour south of the border between Mexico and the United States with a population of about 5000 inhabitants.

The town is divided by a river, and around you can enjoy a beautiful mountain scenery where the practice of rock climbing is very famous. At the west side of the town we have the very famous "Playa La Mision" where you can enjoy activities such as surfing, horseback riding, fishing and ultralight rides. The beach also has a variety of hotels and restaurants, among them are "La Fonda hotel, restaurant and spa", "Poco Cielo hotel and restaurant", "The Light House Restaurant" and "La Mision hotel and restaurant".

La Mision is a place that has a wonderful charm, the people from the community are very warm, friendly and helpful, and they always make you feel at home. Anyone who visits the town, hardly wants to leave.

The village has two kindergartens, 2 elementary schools, 1 junior high school, and 1 high school. The average education in Mexico is only seventh grade, but now with the facilities of the junior high and high school in our town, we have seen that the level of education has risen.

There are several organizations in our town; one of them is Open Arms, which is well known by the people in the town. It is a ministry in charge of keeping the families of La Mision together by providing free childcare to more than 60 children. They are not only caregivers, but they also help families through parenting classes; provide medical, dental and psychological care; house building projects for the families of the town; they had implemented an adult school program where the people can finish their elementary and junior high school education; they also have a special space called "The Cave" for the teens that graduate from the daycare program. In this place they help them with their homework, speak the word of God so the teens can build a relationship with Him and provide them healthy recreation games. They have a youth center called "High Voltage" where young people from the town gather every Friday afternoon to hang out, play and enjoy a good time with each other and be safe off the streets listening to the word of God. Additionally, they provide microloans to families for their small businesses and a safe place to leave their children while they go to work. They also have a church in their facilities, where the families of children in the daycare and the people from the community can have a spiritual growth and development.

Open Arms priority is to care for the families before a child is abandoned, and that all the people from La Mision know the gospel of Jesus.

Approximately 100 people from the city of Vallejo has visited us in the past year. Their passion to serve and help the families of Open Arms and the community inspires us to continue to provide help to the community.

When Emma del Rosario Cordova contacted us to ask if we wanted to be part of this sisterhood between the city of Vallejo and La Mision, we could not say no, because we saw it as a great opportunity to further help families in our community together. We know that God has great things for La Mision and with your help we believe these things will be possible.

Here are some of the projects that we could work together: youth exchange programs, travel packages for groups, where they can do some kind of community service to the people of the town and to Open Arms; help the families in developing or in poor circumstances; house building projects, food and clothing distribution; provide health care classes, clean parks and streets, participate in recreational activities for children and youth, promote sports and exercise, provide support and training to help people to start their businesses and / or improve the ones they already have; and make a evangelization campaign so that all people can know Jesus.

It is an honor and a privilege to have been nominated to be part of this sisterhood between the City of Vallejo and the village of La Mision.

Together we will achieve more.

At your service.




Ariel Sánchez
Delegado del poblado La Mision



XXI AYUNTAMIENTO
ENSENADA
PIENSA EN GRANDE

C. Adolfo Ariel Sánchez Pérez
Delegado Municipal de La Misión

ariel_sanchezp@hotmail.com
Tel. 155-0361
155-0143

 Carret. Libre TJ - ENS
KM 65.5 "La Misión"



Cities Seeking Cities – Debrief

City: La Mision, Ensenada.

State/Province: Baja California

Country: México

Member Organization Primary contact: Heidi Elizarraraz

Phone: 559-303-2965

Email: heidi@openarmsmexico.org

CSC Contact: Emma del Rosario Córdova

Phone: 707-552-9154

Email: eadelros101@gmail.com

Member Organization Affiliation:

Date of Debrief: 7/13/2015

Time: 8:30 AM

City Overview

Population: 5000

Density:

Area:

Weather: 65°-80°

Predominant languages in the community: Spanish.

Diaspora populations/culturally distinct communities: None.

Neighboring cities/countries: Playas de Rosarito 20 min. north and Ensenada 30 min. south.

Main industry: Agriculture.

Number of primary schools:

Number of colleges/universities: 0

- 3 primary schools, 1 junior high school, 1 high school, 3 kindergartens.

Tourist attractions/points of interest:

-Playa La Mision

-Poco Cielo

-Wine country

-The Light House Restaurant

-La Fonda hotel, restaurant and spa

-La Mision hotel and restaurant



The extent of government interest in your Sister City organization:

100 %

The extent of private groups/affinity organizations interest in the city pairing:

One: Open Arms Childcare Ministries.

Awards or recognitions the city/sister City organization has received:

None.

Personal testimony (helpful information for sister City pairing):

La Mision is a place with a wonderful charm, the people from the community are very warm, friendly and helpful, and they always make you feel at home. Anyone who visits the town, hardly wants to leave.

Cities Seeking Cities Interest

What spurred interest for city pairing?

Approximately 100 people from the city of Vallejo has visited us in the past year. Their passion to serve and help the families of Open Arms and the community inspires us to continue to provide help to the community.

What does your city have to offer to a potential Sister City?

Youth exchange programs, travel packages for groups, where they can do some kind of community service to the people of the town and to Open Arms; help the families in developing or in poor circumstances; house building projects, food and clothing distribution; provide health care classes, clean parks and streets, participate in recreational activities for children and youth, promote sports and exercise, provide financial support and training to help people to start their businesses and / or improve the ones they already have.

Other areas beyond the previous specific interests your city would be willing to pursue?

The following interest for example:

- ☐ Virtual cultural exchanges, festivals and activities.
- ☒ Organizing global travel exchanges
- ☒ Youth / student exchange programs
- ☒ Supporting developing communities
- ☒ Humanitarian projects
- ☒ Economic partnership / business development / trade delegations
- ☐ Virtual classroom partnerships
- ☐ Municipal governance exchanges
- ☐ Hosting Annual / regional conferences

Introducing Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico



Cityscape

Ensenada is predominantly a mid-rise building beach city. The only high-rise building within its city limits is the Villa Marina Hotel, though new buildings and resorts in northwestern Ensenada such as Entremar, La Costa, and Viento add to the city's skyline and form the majority of the city's highrise buildings. Emblematic sites representative of Ensenada such as the Civic Plaza (or Plaza of the Three Heads as commonly known to locals), containing sculptures of Mexican heroes Benito Juarez, Venustiano Carranza and Miguel Hidalgo, the enormous Mexican flag (bandera monumental), and the malecon - and Naval cruise terminal are found on and near the coast of the bay. Several marinas including Ensenada Cruiseport Village, Hotel Coral & Marina, Punta Morro Resort are located on the city's coast. The Bajamar Oceanfront Golf Resort at Baja Mar is also located nearby to the north, and is a prominent seaside resort of Baja California.

Flora and fauna

Many of the terrestrial or marine species inhabiting the surrounding the Greater Ensenada area in the Baja California islands are unique. Guadalupe Island, off the coast of the city, is one of the best places in the world for observing the great white shark. The island has been a wildlife sanctuary since 1975.

The city's offshore is host to an array of aquatic mammals including the gray whale, the Guadalupe fur seal and California sea lion; terrestrial mammals include various squirrel species, otters, the ring-tailed cat, coyote, bobcat, and puma.

Bird species include hawks, pelicans, roadrunners, and various waterfowl and oceangoing species.

Ensenada is backed by small mountain ranges. Proximity to the Pacific and a warm Mediterranean latitude create mild year-round weather. The rainy season during the winter is short and the area is prone to prolonged droughts, which can threaten its grape harvests. The National Park, Constitution of 1857, is nearby as are also the Sierra de Juarez and San Pedro Martir National Park, which maintain one of the best astronomical observatories in the country.

[Wikipedia](#)

At the time the first European explorers arrived in the region, the Yuman people inhabited the region. Yuman tribal groups such as the Kiliwa, Paipai and Kumeyaay still exist. These semi-nomadic indigenous people lived in the bay area and interior valleys of the Sierra de Juárez and San Pedro Mártir. The Kumeyaay had a village where the city is seated on, which was called Pa-tai.^[5]

Bahia Todos Santos, which Ensenada now borders, was first reached by sea by the Spanish explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo on the vessels *El Salvador* and *Victoria*. The city was founded September 17, 1542 under the name San Mateo.^{[6][7]} In 1602, while mapping the coast of the Californias in search of safe harbors for returning Spanish galleons from Manila to Acapulco, Sebastián Vizcaíno renamed the city to Ensenada de Todos Santos.^[6] Ensenada means "bay" or "cove".

The first permanent settlement was established by the Jesuits during the 17th or 18th century. After the expulsion of the Jesuits in 1768, the Dominicans took over the representation of Europe in what is now Ensenada. In 1805, José Manuel Ruiz Carillo obtained permission to establish himself in Ensenada, being appointed governor of Baja California and building in Ensenada a house that survived until the final part of that century, despite being briefly taken by William Walker, the self-declared "president" of the Republic of Lower California, in 1853–54.^[8]

In 1882, Ensenada was designated the capital of Baja California, and attempts at developing the area were made by the English Mexican Land and Colonization Company. These were interrupted by the Mexican Revolution, which left the area devastated. In 1915, the capital was transferred to Mexicali, and in 1930, the population of Ensenada was only 5,000.^[9] During the early part of the twentieth century, the city's name was shortened from Ensenada de Todos Santos to Ensenada, a change made in order to avoid confusion with Todos Santos in Baja California Sur.^[8]

The twentieth-century development of Ensenada was assisted by prohibition, which sent Americans and Canadians south of their border in search of entertainment and alcohol, developing first Tijuana, then Rosarito, and finally Ensenada as tourist destinations. The Hotel Riviera del Pacífico was opened in 1930, briefly placing Ensenada on the international glamor map and was visited several times by President Miguel Alemán, international artists and political personalities; yet unlike the Hotel del Coronado, it was never a sustained success (despite giving rise to the claim that the Margarita was invented there). It really flourished only in the early 1950s, at which time Ensenada's population had risen to 20,000. The hotel finally closed in 1964. It was later reopened as a cultural center and museum.^[9] By this time, other hotels had opened, and the population and economy of Ensenada had grown and diversified towards their present status.

On January 26th, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI created the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ensenada with territory taken from the Archdiocese of Tijuana and Mexicali Diocese, making it a suffragan diocese of

Ensenada (Spanish pronunciation: [enseˈnaða]) is a coastal city in Mexico, the third-largest in Baja California. Lying 125 kilometres (78 mi) south of San Diego on the Baja California Peninsula, it is locally referred to as *La Cenicienta del Pacífico*, "The Cinderella of the Pacific".^[2]

One of the first settlements founded in the Californias, Ensenada has emerged as a cruise ship destination, aerospace center, and a jumping-off point for Valle de Guadalupe, a local wine region. It is said that the first *Vitis vinifera* made it to the region's San Ignacio Mission in 1703, when Jesuit Padre Juan de Ugarte planted the first vineyards there.

Situated on the coastline of Bahía de Todos Santos, the Port of Ensenada is an important commercial, fishing, and tourist port, it's also the most visited tourist port in the Pacific, with more than 700 thousand cruise passengers a year. The city is home to a navy base, army base, and Ensenada Airport, a military airfield.

Ensenada is the municipal seat and cultural and commercial center of Ensenada Municipality, one of five into which the state is divided. As of 2020, the municipality had an estimated population of 557,430.^{[3][1]}

Scuba diving and snorkeling are excellent in the La Bufadora area, and surfing is best north of town at San Miguel Beach, immediately after the toll road ends. Ensenada's downtown waterfront area is generally rocky, but good beaches for swimming are a few miles south of town at Estero Beach and a bit farther at Punta Banda.

Kayaking is popular around La Bufadora, where sea caves and sea lion rookeries exist, and around uninhabited Todos Santos Island, five miles offshore. Look for great camping, trout fishing and wilderness getaways at Laguna Hanson, a little-known, mountain-and-pine escape east of Ensenada. And there are two excellent golf courses, one north and one south of the city. And there are two excellent golf courses, one north at Bajamar and one south of the city at Baja Beach and Tennis Club.

The resident intellectual and university communities bring a different flavor to this diverse city than to other Baja towns, and here a Pro-musica choral ensemble and the Cuban Ballet School are widely supported. Spanish missionaries and groups of Russian settlers brought native vines to the area and then settled, leaving their mark on the cultural mix. Today, there are Russian museums, jail museums and a historic gambling casino to explore. Ensenada also boasts Baja's oldest bar, *Hussong's* (011-52-646-178-3210), one of the most famous drinking establishments in the world. Claims the current owner: "Ain't never charged a cover charge in 110 years, and ain't gonna start now!"

Accommodations

Places to stay run the spectrum, from \$8-a-night campsites to \$130-a-night resort suites. There are probably more camping sites and RV camps near Ensenada and on the highway between Rosarito and Ensenada than any other destination on Baja's Pacific Coast.

Restaurants

Choose from fabulous fish and shrimp tacos and seafood cocktails at inexpensive stands near the fish market, or award-winning French food with impeccable service at several restaurants. Standouts on the upscale-but-not-outrageously-priced side are the award-winning El Rey Sol (011-52-646-178-1733) and the two wine restaurants in the restored Santo Tomas Winery.

Wine

Sample Baja's fine wines at the downtown Santo Tomas Winery. Both its wine cafe, La Esquina (011-52-646-178-3557), and its gourmet wine restaurant, La Embotelladora Vieja (011-52-646-174-0807), offer best-of-Baja, best-of-California and best-of-South America selections by the glass or bottle. La Esquina sells a wide variety of take-home bottles from numerous wineries at low vineyard prices. Make sure you climb the narrow spiral staircase at La Esquina and sip a glass of vino on the second-floor outdoor terrace. And

Hydrography

There are no rivers in the city, only surface runoff streams that flow when there is large amounts of rainfall.

Ensenada has one natural fresh water body, the Lagunita pond, located to the north of El Ciprés military air field, and which has ecological importance.^[10]

Tijuana is big-city hype and hustle, and Rosarito is beach-town easy, Ensenada is something in between. It's a college town, a thriving port, the center of Mexico's wine-growing industry and a commercial fishing center.

The bustling harbor is one of Mexico's fastest growing seaports, and fishing is big business here, from tuna boats the size of tankers to a sport fishing fleet diverse enough to satisfy any ocean angler. But the harbor also hosts an endless armada of international cruise ships, and Ensenada has long been known as Baja's "Love Boat" port.

Ensenada's main downtown area is as tourist-friendly as Mexico gets. The city's merchandise selection is extensive, and most tourist-related shopping is concentrated along a single street - - Boulevard Lopez Mateos. Just a block from the waterfront, this walkable shopping section attracts mostly cruise passengers and day trippers who browse for an afternoon. Many of Tijuana's top stores have Ensenada branches on Lopez Mateos.

But there's far more to do here than shop. Ensenada is the heart of Mexico's wine country, and nine wineries in Baja's "Bordeaux Belt" of sheltered valleys near Ensenada produce almost 90 percent of Mexico's wines. The scenery -- picturesque vineyards surrounded by mountains -- alone merits a trip to Ensenada.

Inexpensive tours and tastings are offered six days a week by several Guadalupe Valley and Ensenada wineries, and the mid-August wine festival, sponsored by the area's Wine Brotherhood, is one of Baja's most popular annual events.

Be sure to check out the popular sportfishing pier area in the heart of downtown. A pair of sea lions (Claudia and Pancho) have been known to leap from the water to the pier to snap a fish from your fingers. Pelicans, hoping for a handout, waddle through the adjacent Mercado Negro, Baja's oldest and largest fresh fish market, where you'll find everything from whole, fresh sharks to brilliant parrot fish. Bring a camera.

The Pacific coast's best deep-fried shrimp tacos are cooked up fresh at colorful stands surrounding the pier. Sit on a stool in the sunshine and enjoy a few, while mariachis serenade you. And while you're there, tour the harbor and see the resident tuna fleet and flotilla of visiting yachts. Small motorboats, with guides, can be rented by the hour for under \$15. Sign up on the spot.

And by all means, make the half-hour drive south to Baja's famous "blowhole." Thunderous La Bufadora, one of only three continuous sea spouts in the world, can shoot a geyser-like spray 60 feet in the air. A quaint village of curio shops has sprouted around the spout and makes for pleasant shopping. Try a juicy mango-on-a-stick or buy a bag of decadent, hip-swelling churros, deep-fried on the spot.

Maritime Industry

The Port of Ensenada has a large influence on the civic economy. Ensenada is home to the only deep-water port in the state of Baja California and on the Baja California Peninsula. The port is part of standard shipping routes that directly link it with the Mexican cities of La Paz, Manzanillo, Mazatlán, Acapulco and Lázaro Cárdenas; the American cities of San Diego, Long Beach and Los Angeles; the Guatemalan city of Puerto Quetzal, the Chilean city of Valparaíso, the Japanese city of Yokohama, and the city of Hong Kong. Ensenada is where the Fender standard series guitars and basses are produced.

Culture

Ensenada's diversity as a city is in part attributed to Spanish, Russian, and American influences. Spanish missionaries and Russian settlers began the growth of the wine industry in the city.^[22] Reminiscent of this time period are Russian museums in the city.

The city is known for its festivities and laid-back atmosphere, the city hosts many events including the Wine Harvest Festival (Fiestas de la Vendimia) and Ensenada Carnaval. The Wine Harvest Festival celebrates the wine harvest season and in the city and nearby Guadalupe Valley, a series of events takes place.

Typical food in Ensenada consists of fish tacos, which originated in the city,^[citation needed] shrimp tacos, and ceviche. These dishes are usually accompanied by avocado and salsa. Another dish characteristic of the port city is carpaccio. The city's Mediterranean climate allows for the cultivation of grapes and olives, which in turn make wine and olive oil, respectively. Development of such foods complement Spanish, Italian, French, and Mexico dishes in Ensenada.

Sports

Ensenada maintains no professional sports teams in association football, basketball, or baseball, but is known for its water sports. The city has sports fishing venues, and swells that are known for drawing professional surfers.^[23] In addition to its water sports scene, the city is known for a place of biking, both cycling and motorsport varieties. The 80 kilometres (50 mi) Rosarito-Ensenada bike race ends in the city. The Baja 500, which starts and ends in the city, and Baja 1000 – both races that take their names from their distance in miles – are motorsport races that begin in the city.^[23] It is also the birthplace of the tennis player Raúl Ramírez.

Transportation

The Port of Ensenada is an international deepwater port and the city's major water port. It maintains commercial, industrial, and tourist terminals. In addition to the port, the coast around Bahia de Todos Santos is dotted with numerous marinas, including Marina Baja Fiesta, Marina Cruiseport Village, Marina Coral, and Marina Baja Naval with docking facilities for pleasure craft and commercial and sport fishing vessels.^[24] In order to comply with United States cabotage laws, many cruise ships operating between Pacific ports in the U.S. call at Ensenada en route.

The city lies at a crossroads of major federal highways on the Peninsula that lead to the northern centers of Los Angeles, San Diego, and Mexicali and south to Cabo San Lucas and La Paz. The junction occurs at the meeting of Federal Highway 1 and Federal Highway 3. The main roads of the city include Bahia de La Paz and Lazaro Cardenas, northwest bound, and southeast bound roads.

[Wikipedia](#)

Sister Cities

Ensenada has three sister cities as designated by Sister Cities International,^[26] including relations formalized between other cities.^[27]

City	State	Country
Parlier	California	USA
Redondo Beach	California	USA
Riverside	California	USA

Ensenada Municipality

Country	Mexico
State	 Baja California
Municipal seat	Ensenada
Largest city	Ensenada
Municipality established	29 December 1953 ^[2]
Government	
• Municipal president	Armando Ayala Robles (MORENA)
Area	
• Total	19,526.8 km² (7,539.3 sq mi)
Population (2020)	
• Total	443,807 ^[1]
Time zone	UTC−8 (Northwest (US Pacific))
• Summer (DST)	UTC−7 (Northwest)
INEGI code	1
Website	(in Spanish) Ayuntamiento de Ensenada

Wikipedia

Municipal Gate de La Mision Delegado

Ariel Sanchez
with VSCA Ensenada Team, 2017



**La Mision
Mayor Ariel
Sanchez**

Chief of
Police
and
Heidi
Elizarrarraz,
Director of
Open Arms

2017 Ensenada City Officials with La Mision Open Arms Director & Vallejo Sister City Representatives



Vallejo Ensenada Delegates
Pelton Stewart, Ravi Shankar,
Dinah Villanueva, William Kim
Emma del Rosario Cordova



**Ensenada Director of
Foreign Affairs**
Jared Gutierrez, Adalberto
Garcia, Rudy Mellado



Open Arms
Heidi Elizarraraz,
OA Director
Lindzee Creech,
Assistant Director

Itinerary June 2017

Team Visit to Ensenada and La Mision

Tuesday 27		
Arrive to Tijuana City	Open Arms will provide transportation for the group	
Departure - Arrive		
Community Work at Open Arms	Community Work at Open Arms building foundation.	
Departure - Arrive		
Dinner	Heidi will provide a Suggestion for the group.	
Departure - Arrive		
Wednesday 28		
8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast at la Mision	Presentation of Letter of Intent to Vallejo Delegation by Jared Gutierrez. Open Arms Presentation
9:00 - 10:00	Departure - Arrive	
10:00 - 11:00	UABC and Science Institutes	UABC will show us the different areas for their students and provide a guided tour.
11:00 - 11:30	Departure - Arrive	
11:00 - 11:30	Museum El Caracol	The Museum is an space to grow and discover, a place for the Children in our City to start their imagination and learn, the direction of the museum will provide a tour for our guest.
11:30 - 12:00	Departure - Arrive	
Thursday 29		
9:00 - 9:30	Departure - Arrive	
9:30 - 10:30	Breakfast at Cocina de Doña Estela	Named the best Breakfast in the world, we will enjoy the delicious and simplicity of this place
10:30 - 11:00	Departure - Arrive	
11:00 - 12:00	Winery visit	Let's taste some Baja Wines to complete our Experience in Ensenada.
12:00 - 5:00	Departure - Arrive	To SD Airport



Ensenada
XXII Ayuntamiento

June 28, Ensenada, B.C.

Dear Mayor Bob Sampayan
City of Vallejo, California

On Behalf of the City of Ensenada, I would like to express our intention to become Sister Cities with the City of Vallejo, Ca.

It is my pleasure to confirm this during the visit and ceremony of the City Delegation.

Our cities have much in common, and we look forward to grow our mutual relationship, promoting good will between our communities in accordance to the Sister Cities Association.

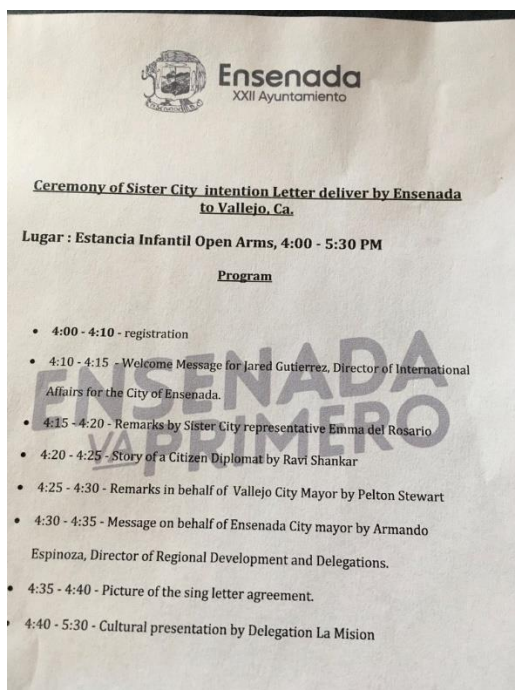
Sincerely

Marco A. Novelo
Mayor

Letter of Intent Presentation Awarded to Vallejo Sister City, 2017



Vallejo & Ensenada Teams 2017 -



left to right:
 Jared Gutierrez
 Armando Espinoza
 Rudy Mellano
 Pelton Stewart
 Emma del Rosario Cordova
 Dinah Villanueva Ryan
 William Kim
 Ravi Shankar

2017 Gift Exchange between Vallejo Delegation & Ensenada Committee



Armando Espinosa, Pelton Stewart, William Kim, Dinah Villanueva, Emma del Rosario, Ravi Shankar



Common Interest - Youth Participation Cultural Dance Presentation La Mision Middle School



Common Interest - Youth Participation Build Leaders and Sustain Training (BLAST) Activity 2019 Trip



Ensenada - Our Host City, July 29 - Aug 2

The Vallejo Sister City delegation will travel to Ensenada and La Mision, Mexico to continue the process of developing their sister city relationship. The goal of this visit is to strengthen the cultural and historical roots that unite the two cities and its citizens. This visit will encourage commerce and business opportunities to enhance trade partnership. Cultural exchange is demonstrated through homestay, sports demo and visits to historical sites. Vallejo's young sports citizen diplomats will interact with the local national Taekwondo team by performing together at one of the city's plaza, "Ventana del Mar Plaza."

DONATE!
Help to
change a life!

La Mision - Humanitarian, Aug 3 – Aug 6



Servant Leadership Center

The Vallejo students and adult citizen diplomats will bring together their energy and roll up their sleeves to work at OPEN ARMS. This organization provides free childcare to more than 75 kids. Their mission is to care for families before a child is abandoned. Some of us will volunteer at the cafeteria, read books to the children and assist in some minor repairs to the facility. We will also visit with the Village of "Delegado Municipal de La Mision". The village has 2 kindergartens, 2 elementary schools, 1 junior high and 1 high school.



November 20, 2019

Dear Honorable Mayor Armando Ayala,

Greetings!

It is always a pleasure and with pride to share with the citizens of Vallejo the beauty of Ensenada, Mexico that resides in its people as well as in its coastline and landscape. We are so blessed to experience this beauty during the July 2019 Vallejo citizen diplomats' visits including the homestay with your people as we continue to build our official sister city relationship.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you our very own Vallejo Council Member Robert McConnell, who is traveling to Ensenada to visit family and friends during this 2019 Thanksgiving week. As part of his support of the Vallejo Sister City movement, he is interested to make an official courtesy call and to personally thank you, Honorable Mayor Ayala, for your kindness that was extended to our Vallejo citizen diplomats during their July 2019 visit. Please help us welcome Vallejo Council Member Robert McConnell as part of our Ensenada family both in Vallejo and in the City Ensenada.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Mayor Bob Sampayan

Common Interest – Trade Grape Vineyards and Wineries

**Vallejo is surrounded by wineries
and vineyards**

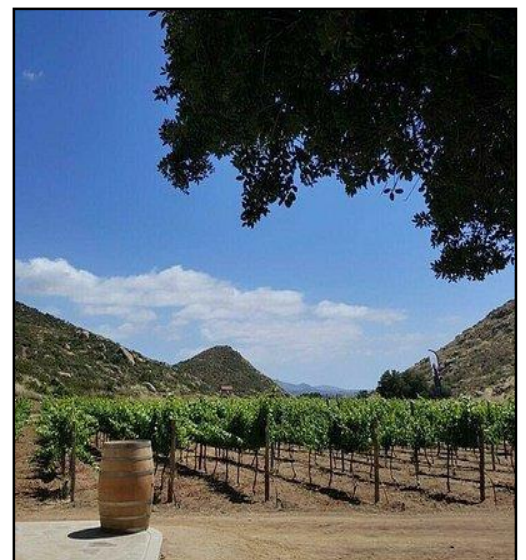


**Vino Godfather
Winery**

**The Wine Country of
Ensenada**



Valle de Guadalupe



Decantos Vinicola



Common Interest – College & University Educational Opportunities



California State University Maritime Academy
The only maritime academy on the United States West Coast.

- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree

Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC) / Marine Science Institute for Oceanographic Research



Common Interest - Tourism

La Bufadora



A marine geyser or blowhole located on Cape Punta Banda. It is one of the largest blowholes in North America.



Carquinez Bridge Reflected on the Carquinez Strait in Vallejo at slack tide.

Wikipedia

Common Interest – Shipbuilding and Seafaring Activities



Productos Procesados / Repair & Re-use

Mare Island Shipyard

- Repair & Reuse
- Ferry Docks
- Passengers' water transport for the Bay Area



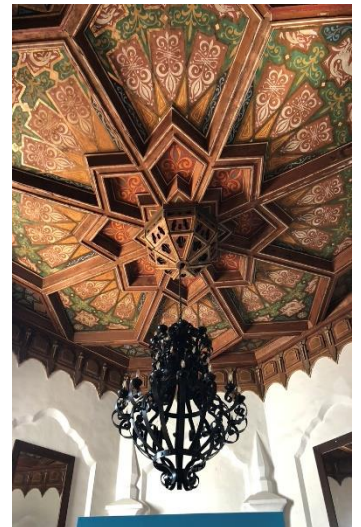
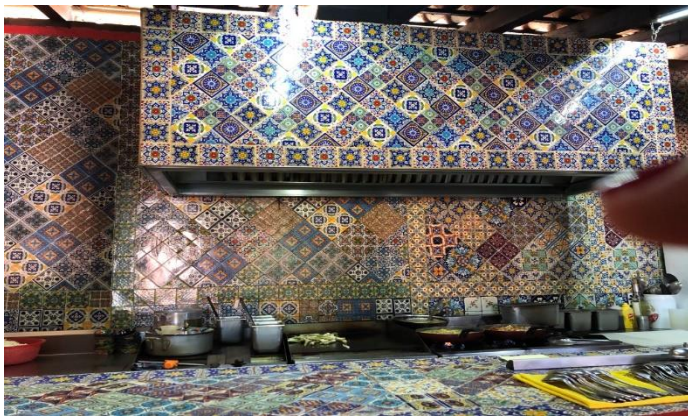
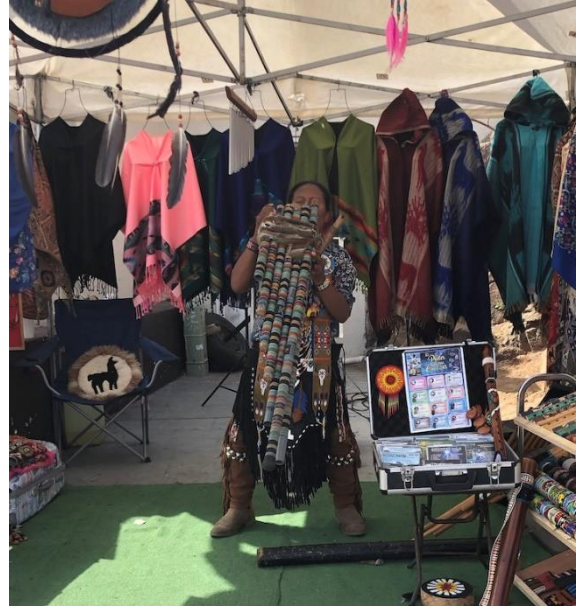
Common Interest – Sports Cultural Exchange

WMK Taekwondo (Vallejo)
and
Instituto Cardenas Taekwondo (Ensenada)



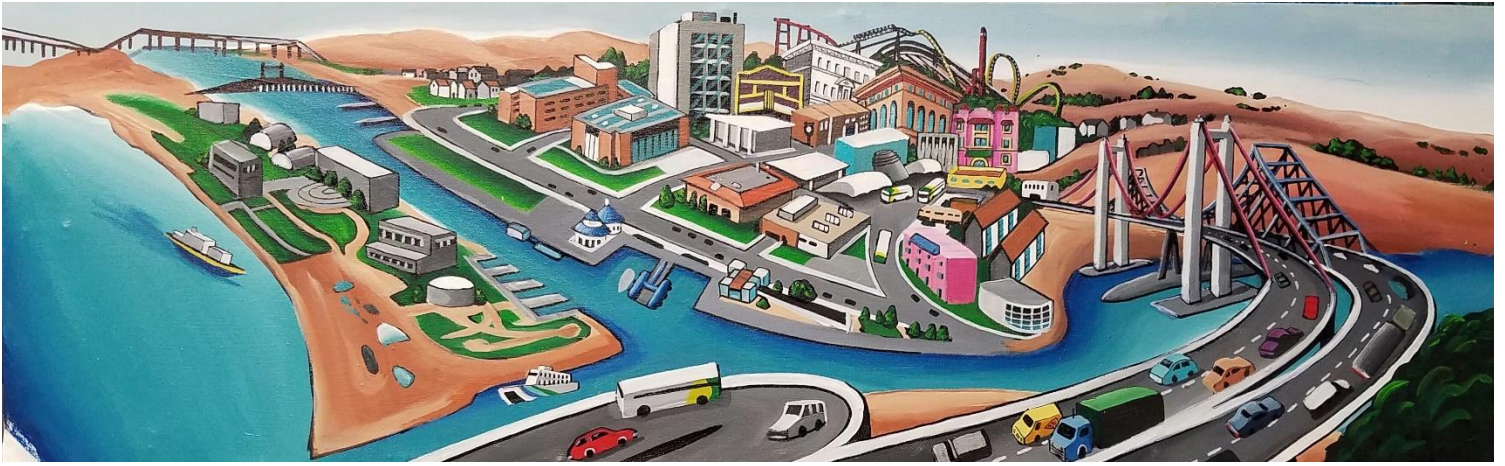
Common Interest - Public Art

Ensenada Arts



Ensenada's Pride in Historical Arts
Kitchen decorated with Mexican motif tiles

Vallejo Arts



Gateway to Vallejo mural on 301 Georgia St., by Andre "Natty Rebel" Jones



"Mother and Child"
Street Sculpture
by Jean Cherie



Utility Box
by C. Trojan



Utility Box by
Sherry Tobin



Sign by Miro Salazar



VSCA Ensenada & La Mision Trip Daily Itinerary

July 29, 2019 – August 6, 2019



Day	Date	Time	Event & Location
1	Monday 7/29/2019 UA Flight #555 SFO	8:05 AM 9:40 AM 12:00 PM	- Depart to San Diego - Arrive San Diego - Office of the Mayor - Meet and greet Home stay host families - Welcome Reception by Ensenada
2	Tuesday 7/30/2019 Ensenada	11:00 AM	- Breakfast with Host family - Taekwondo Practice (Indoors) - Delegation to Review Articles of Resolution Agreement - Lunch - Free Time
3	Wednesday 7/31/2019 Ensenada		- Breakfast with Host family - Tour and Sightseeing - Historical Sites for Education - College and Museums
4	Thursday 8/1/2019 Ensenada	12:00 Noon	- Breakfast with Host family - Youth with Arts and Language Summer Classes
5	Friday 8/2/2019 Ensenada		- Breakfast with Host family - Shopping and Tour - Adios Reception by VSCA
6	Saturday 8/3/2019 Ensenada To La Mision		- Breakfast with Host family - Taekwondo performance at Ensenada Plaza - In the afternoon travel to La Mision La Mision to host Welcome Reception and VSCA delegation to present with gifts.
7	Sunday 8/4/2019		- After Breakfast, Taekwondo Lessons and presentation of Taekwondo Uniforms
	La Mision		- Serve at Open Arms
8	Monday 8/5/2019	9:00am	- After Breakfast - Taekwondo Lessons - Serve at the Village School - Serve at Open Arms - Farewell Dinner Reception
9	Tuesday 8/6/2019	9:00am 3:22 PM	- After Breakfast, will be transported to San Diego by Ensenada Staff - Depart to SFO from San Diego via United #580



**Ensenada Mayor Marco Novelo and Director of
Foreign Affairs Jared Gutierrez**

Elissa S Stewart - VSCC Chair; William Kim - VSCA President;
Emma del Rosario - Commissioner for Ensenada; Members of the
Vallejo Sister Cities Association

**2019 Meet and Greet
With Ensenada Mayor Marco Novelo**



Mayor Marco Novelo
presenting a gift to
Elissa Shanks-Stewart, Commission
Chair and William Kim, VSCA

Ensenada Homestay Sponsors



Lion's Club & Family Members with Vallejo Delegation



Emma del Rosario Cordova, Vallejo Commissioner for Ensenada, speaking about the benefits of a person-to-person cultural exchange experience

Educational Exchange
Open Forum
What is Climate Change? What Can You Do About It?



Participants:
Vallejo delegates, Ensenada youth,
Ensenada college students



Presidente Municipal de Ensenada Armando Ayala Robles

L to R, Dinah Ryan, Commission Chair Elissa Stewart, Mayor Ayala, VSCA President William Kim, Ensenada Committee Chair Emma del Rosario, Yolanda Kim.



La Mision, Open Arms staff and Vallejo delegates, 2019



Person to Person interaction with
La Mision, Ensenada Nationals

The Children of Open Arms,

a humanitarian organization that gives free childcare to more than 75 kids. Their mission is to care for families before a child is abandoned



(left) Students of Open Arms Day Care with VSCA President Kim

(right) Rose Victoria Yolanda and Emma & Bob Cordova.

(below) Vallejo delegates & Taekwondo Grand Master W. Kim

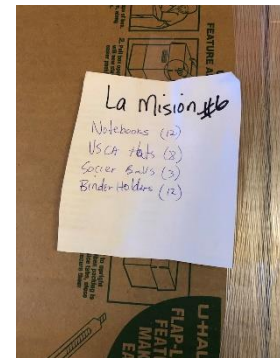
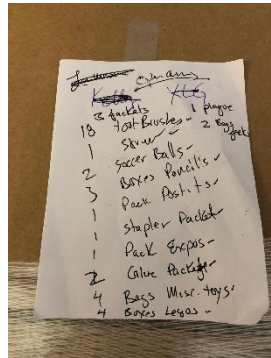
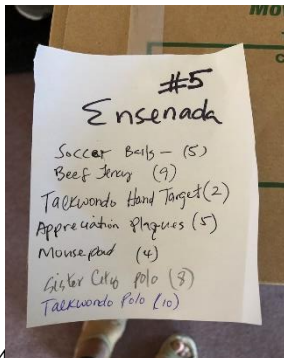
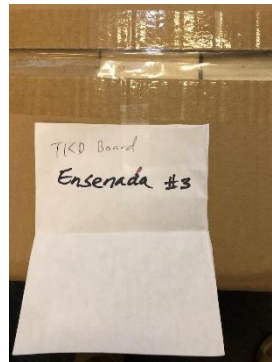
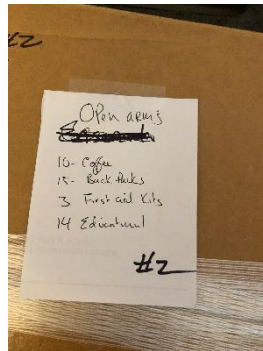
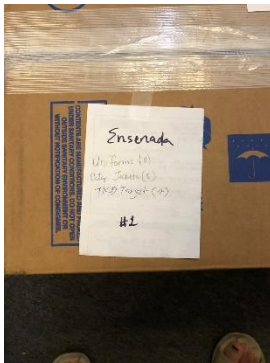


2019 Open Arms Children Shared Stories and Performed



2019 Humanitarian Project

18 boxes of donations: Children's books, sports goods, & school supplies



Universidad Autónoma Baja California
2019 Campus visit with Sr. Adalberto Avelar Garcia, UABC Site Director



Whale skeletons on display



2019 Sampling the Local Food



Gift Presentation to Ensenada

Mural of Various Professions in Vallejo by Artist Miro Salazar

2019 Vallejo Commission Chair, Elissa S. Stewart
gives a VSJA Jacket to Ensenada Sports Director Rudy Mellado



Saying Goodbye

Our last day with our Homestay
Sponsors and Ensenada Friends.



List of Ensenada Volunteers 2017- 2019

1. Ensenada Municipal Office - Dept. of Foreign Affairs
 - Jared Gutierrez - Director
 - Armando Espinoza
 - Rudy Medallo
 - Adalberto Avelar Garcia Rojas
 - Ensenada Lions Club Homestay Sponsors
2. Open Arms - La Mision, Ensenada
 - Heidi Elizarraraz - Director
 - Lindzee Creech -
 - Abril Fonseca
3. Vallejo Sister City Commission
 - Elissa Shanks Stewart*, Commission Vice-Chair 2017/Commission Chair 2019
 - Pelton Stewart*, Commission Chair 2017
 - Emma del Rosario*, Commissioner for Ensenada
 - Norma Placido
 - Diana Dowling
 - Karen Lowe
 - Vernon Williams, Commission Vice-Chair 2019
4. Vallejo Sister City Association - Ensenada Committee
 - Emma del Rosario, Ensenada Committee Chair*
 - Yolanda Kim*
 - William Kim*
 - Pelton Stewart*
 - Christy Gardner
 - Ravi Shankar*
 - Israel Delgado
 - Robert Cordova*
 - Dinah Villanueva Ryan*
5. Participating Vallejo Churches and Communities
 - The Hill Vallejo - Pastor Scott
 - New Song Youth Group Vallejo - Martha Camacho

* Indicates a travel visit delegate



SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL
SISTER CITY AGREEMENT
Narrative



In order to strengthen relations and provide mutual benefit to their communities Robert H. McConnell, Mayor, City of Vallejo and Armando Ayala Robles, Alcalde del Municipio de Ensenada, do hereby join their respective cities in a Sister Cities relationship as part of Sister Cities International.

With the goals of prosperity, cultural understanding, and exchange, the two parties shall explore opportunities to cultivate closer relations with one another through cooperative activities in the areas of economic development, cultural exchanges, educational opportunities at the University, College and K-12 levels, technical exchanges,

Each party shall seek to identify other areas for collaboration, and, in all activities, work for the benefit of both communities. The parties will establish bilateral working committees ("Sister City Committees") to implement this agreement and propose specific activities and means of collaboration, as well as monitoring and evaluation of those activities. The committees will report to each of the parties' representatives whenever appropriate, and at least once a year.

Recognizing the importance of strong and diverse economies, We will encourage our respective chambers of commerce and business communities to foster exchanges of entrepreneurs and business enterprises in areas such as tourism, commerce, and import/export assistance.

Many residents of Vallejo trace their ancestry to Mexico including Ensenada, and over the years they have made many visits and built many friendships. With this agreement we hope to build on this common heritage and these existing relationships to reinforce the strong ties that bind our two communities. We hope to build on preexisting relationships built between their respective communities and acknowledge that these previous exchanges and personal friendships along with the benefits they have brought to each community have served as a foundation for this agreement. We also acknowledge the strong expatriate community of Hispanics currently living in Vallejo as a motivator in deepening the ties between these two communities.

Therefore, by affixing our signatures on behalf of our respective communities, we declare Vallejo, California U.S.A. and Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico Sister Cities, on this _____.

Armando Ayala Robles,
Alcalde del Municipio de Ensenada

Robert H. McConnell,
Mayor, City of Vallejo

Date _____

Date _____



SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL SISTER CITY AGREEMENT Ceremonial



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Armando Ayala Robles,
Alcalde del Municipio de Ensenada

Robert H. McConnell,
Mayor, City of Vallejo

Date _____

Date _____



SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL
SISTER CITY AGREEMENT
Activity Specific



Delegacion La Mision, Ensenada, Baja California, Republic of Mexico and the City of Vallejo, California, USA in accordance with the sister cities movement, do hereby agree to promote, support, and encourage exchanges and cooperative activities between the citizens of each community.

These exchanges and activities shall be based on shared goals of economic development, cultural understanding, and improved municipal governance and administration.

In pursuit of these shared goals, our cities shall

- Encourage study abroad programs between our respective universities
- Explore cooperation and exchange between local development agencies, chambers of commerce, and tourism departments
- Perform inbound/outbound University, College and high school exchanges
- Provide support for exchanges of art and cultural products between our respective museums and galleries
- Prioritize municipal exchanges in the areas of transportation management and water management, economic development, cultural awareness

The aforementioned activities are to be organized and managed by a "sister city committee," that will represent the respective cities. A periodic report of progress and of programs developed may be provided to each city government as deemed necessary.

In all activities each side will endeavor to ensure mutual benefit for each city, and shall draw on its institutions, social organizations, and citizens to promote cooperation. All activities shall also be subject to availability of resources and yearly budgets, and each party understands that this agreement does not constitute a financial commitment on behalf of the cities.

The agreement has been made in two forms, one in English and one in Spanish each one being equally authentic.

We hereby pledge to cooperate with each other as Sister Cities on this _____.

Armando Ayala Robles,
Alcalde del Municipio de Ensenada

Robert H. McConnell,
Mayor, City of Vallejo

Date _____ Date _____



SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL ACUERDO DE COLABORACION CEREMONIAL



Considerando que, el Delegacion La Mision, Ensenada Baja California y ciudad de Vallejo comparten objetivos similares de cooperación internacional, prosperidad mutua, y de paz mundial; y

Considerando que, creen que es en su interés colectivo de expandir y fortalecer lazos entre ambas ciudades; y

Considerando que, tienen valores sobre VALORES, por ejemplo, entendimiento cultural, entrenamiento, liderato de jóvenes, intercambios para educar a ciudadanos, administración ambiental, etc.; y

Considerando que, van a identificar actividades, comunes a todos, que puedan generar nuevas iniciativas para más promover relaciones económicas, sociales y culturales; y

Considerando que, el objetivo de esta relación es de mejorar el desarrollo económico, intercambios culturales, oportunidades educativas, intercambios técnicos, etc. SEAN ESPECIFICOS O GENERALES COMO QUIERAN para ambas ciudades, y de aumentar el conocimiento de las dos ciudades de ser [SIMILITUD NOTABLE, por ejemplo productores textiles, centros de investigación agrícola, ciudades portuarias, etc.; y

Considerando que, ambas ciudades son prometidas al apoyo mutual para organizar y desarrollar las experiencias, actividades comunes, y programas futuros de la relación entre las ciudades hermanas sobre el fundamento de acuerdos anteriores de cooperación mutua e indicaciones descritos en esta declaración;

Ahora, por lo tanto, los alcaldes de Ensenada y Vallejo creen que este acuerdo va a contribuir a la causa de la paz mundial y al desarrollo de relaciones amables entre la gente de Mexico y los Estados Unidos y nuestras dos ciudades; y

Además, fijamos nuestras firmas y nuestros sellos de nuestras ciudades sobre esta declaración para establecer nuestra relación como ciudades hermanas.

Armando Ayala Robles
Alcalde de Ensenada, Baja California
Fecha _____

Robert H. McConnell
Mayor, City of Vallejo
Fecha _____



SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL ACUERDO DE COLABORACION ACTIVIDADES ESPECIFICAS

Delegacion La Mision, Ensenada, Baja California y la Ciudad de Vallejo, según el movimiento de las ciudades hermanas, aceptamos de promover, apoyar e animar intercambios y actividades cooperativas entre los ciudadanos de cada comunidad.

Estos intercambios e actividades estarán basados sobre los objetivos compartidos de desarrollo económico, entendimiento cultural, y una gobernanza municipal y una administración mejorada.

En busca de estos objetivos compartidos, nuestras ciudades van a

- Promover programas de estudios al extranjero entre nuestras universidades respectivas;
- Explorar una cooperación y un intercambio entre agencias de desarrollo local, salas de comercio y departamentos turísticos;
- Ejecutar intercambios de escuelas secundarias entrantes y salientes
- Aportar apoyo para intercambios de arte y productos culturales entre nuestros museos y galerías respectivas
- Priorizar intercambios municipales en los áreas de gestión de transporte y de gestión de agua

Las actividades ya mencionados serán organizadas y gestionadas por un cuerpo formal de miembros o un comité de "ciudades hermanas" que representaran ambas ciudades. Un informe periódico de progreso y de programas desarrollados puede ser provisto a cada gobierno de la ciudad cuando está considerado necesario.

En todas actividades, cada lado intentará de asegurar el beneficio mutuo para cada ciudad, y se basará sobre sus instituciones, organizaciones sociales, y ciudadanos para promover la cooperación. Todas actividades estarán también sujeto a la disposición de recursos y presupuestos anuales, y cada lado entiende que este acuerdo no constituye como un compromiso financiero de parte de las ciudades.

Este acuerdo fue hecho en dos formas, un en inglés y un en español y cada acuerdo es igualmente auténtico.

Nosotros prometemos de colaborar juntos como ciudades hermanas en esta fecha_____.

Armando Ayala Robles
Alcalde de Ensenada, Baja California
Fecha_____

Robert H. McConnell
Mayor, City of Vallejo
Fecha_____



SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL ACUERDO DE COLABORACION DISCURSO

Para fortalecer relaciones y proveer un beneficio mutual a sus comunidades Robert H. McConnell, Mayor, City of Vallejo y Armando Ayala Robles, Alcalde de Ensenada, Baja California nos juntamos a estas ciudades en una colaboración de ciudades hermanas.

Con los objetivos de prosperidad, entendimiento cultural, e intercambio, los dos lados explorarán las oportunidades para cultivar relaciones más íntimas entre ellos a través de actividades cooperativas en las áreas de el desarrollo económico, intercambios culturales, oportunidades educativas en universidad y la escuela preparatoria, intercambios técnicos, etc.

Cada parte buscara de identificar otras áreas para más colaboración, y, en todas actividades, trabajaran para el beneficio de ambas comunidades. Las partes establecerán comités bilaterales (Comités de Ciudades Hermanas) para implementar este acuerdo y sugerir actividades específicas para la colaboración, y también el monitoreo y la evaluación de estas actividades. Los comités informaran a los representantes de cada parte cuando está apropiado, y por lo menos anualmente.

En reconocimiento de la importancia de fuertes y diversas economías, las partes promocionarán las salas de comercio respectivas y comunidades de negocio para fomentar intercambios de empresarios e empresas en áreas como el turismo, el comercio, y asistencia de importaciones y exportaciones.

Muchos de los ciudadanos de Vallejo rastrean sus linajes a Mexico, incluso La Mision y a lo largo de los años visitaron y construyeron muchas amistades. Con este acuerdo, queremos construir sobre esta herencia común y estas relaciones existentes para fortalecer los lazos fuertes que conecta a nuestras comunidades, o Las partes quieren construir sobre relaciones establecidos entre sus universidades respectivas y reconoce que estos intercambios anteriores y amistades personales, con los beneficios que cada comunidad aporte sirve como un fundamento para este acuerdo. Las partes reconocen también la gran comunidad expatriada de Hispanics viviendo en Vallejo como un motivador para continuar y fortalecer los lazos entre ambas comunidades.

Por lo tanto, en fijando nuestras firmas de parte de nuestras comunidades respectivas, declaramos que Vallejo, California, U.S.A son Delegacion La Mision, Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico HERMANAS, en esta _____.

Armando Ayala Robles
Alcalde de Ensenada, Baja California
Fecha _____

Robert H. McConnell
Mayor, City of Vallejo
Fecha _____