



AGENDA

Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, 11 September 2024

**I hereby give notice that a Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting will
be held on:**

Date: Wednesday, 11 September 2024

Time: 5:30 PM

**Location: Council Chambers Darrandirra
Level 1, Civic Centre
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**Simone Saunders
Chief Executive Officer**

SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Kate Heelan

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Committee Member Nerida Hart

Committee Member Chyntia Elsinta Indrawati

Committee Member Siji Issac

Committee Member Sam Kansal

Committee Member Stephanie Lin

Committee Member Tony Miaoudis

Committee Member Paddy Mohan

Committee Member Ninik Stroud

Committee Member Allan Woo

Alternate Councillor Jimmy Bouhori

OFFICERS

Cherry Cai, Manager of Economic Development and International Relations

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1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies

3.2 Leave of Absence

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

4.1 Electronic Attendance

4.2 Electronic Attendance Notified

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting - 24 July 2024

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM Previous Minutes

8 PRESENTATIONS

9 OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 2024-26 SISTER CITIES ACTION PLAN

Author: Manager of Economic Development and International Relations

Authoriser: General Manager Innovation

Attachments: 1. 2024 - 2026 Sister Cities Action Plan [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report entitled 2024-26 Sister Cities Action Plan be received and noted.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Sister City Advisory Committee that Council endorsed the 2024-2026 Sister Cities Action Plan as in **Attachment 1** on 27 August 2024.

BACKGROUND

- City of Darwin's Sister Cities Program currently supports seven Sister City relationships and four Friendship City relationships.
- City of Darwin's Seven Sister Cities include:
 - Ambon (Indonesia)
 - Anchorage (US)
 - Dili (Timor-Leste)
 - Haikou (China)
 - Kalymnos (Greece)
 - Milikapiti (Northern Territory, Australia), and
 - Denpasar (Indonesia).
- City of Darwin's current Sister City Advisory Committee was appointed on 25 June 2024 for a two-year term.
- The Sister City Advisory Committee members were invited to submit project proposals against the Darwin 2030 City for People, City of Colour and [Policy 053 International Relations and Sister City](#).
- Twenty-six (26) new proposals were received from the Sister City Advisory Committee. The project ideas were pitched by the Committee members to be considered in the Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026 on 24 July 2024.

- The Sister City Advisory Committee voted on the project proposals which were then assessed for alignment against the program objectives by City of Darwin officers and programmed in drafting the Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026.
- The Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026 was reported to the International Relations Advisory Committee for their consideration and was subsequently also recommended to be considered by Council on 27 August 2024.

UPDATE

Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026

The Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026 is an updated two-year implementation plan following on from the previous Sister Cities Action Plan 2023-2024 with the purpose to identify initiatives with the key success indicators to measure progress and ensure alignment with strategic objectives.

The first main objective of the 2024-2026 Committee was to provide proposals for City of Darwin to meet the strategic target set in the *Darwin 2030 City for People City of Colour* and the Economic Development Strategy as well as the goals and objectives identified in City of Darwin's [Policy 053 International Relations and Sister City](#).

Our strategic focus is centred on:

- community and cross-cultural development
- economic development, and
- international promotion of City of Darwin.

The most popular proposals as voted by the Sister City Advisory Committee were then reviewed by City of Darwin officers against policy and strategic focus. The proposed initiatives with best alignment and feasibility were then included in the Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026 (**Attachment 1**).

There are 14 initiatives proposed in the Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-2026. Many of the projects focus on supporting all seven Sister City relationships. There are also some initiatives that target one specific Sister City, which have been built into the Action Plan. When this was the case, the initiatives alignment, as well as the budget, were moderated for equity across the program.

The following adjustment was made among the top 12 voted programs:

- Diversities Magazine was not supported based on the capacity and existing mechanisms that City of Darwin has in place.
- Stories celebrating diversity of Darwin can be promoted and delivered via the existing programs, such as the following:
 - City of Darwin's Local Story program in Discover Darwin website
 - City of Darwin Vibrancy Newsletter
 - City of Darwin International Relations Quarterly Update
 - Discover Darwin LinkedIn, and
 - City of Darwin's other marketing initiatives.

- The Photo, Poem and Film competition has been combined into one program as Darwin Sister City Award –Storytelling Competition.
- The multicultural Seniors Christmas Lunch and Soiree at the Civic Park is combined into one program to celebrate Sister Cities culture with all members of the community, including the seniors, working with Darwin Festival. There are also similar programs like Senior Month that City of Darwin participates in and supports.
- The Sister Cities Christmas float is likewise not recommended, as the Sister City Advisory Committee is under the same branding of City of Darwin which already runs a float and not every Sister City celebrates Christmas within their own respective country's key religions. Alternatively, the Sister City Advisory Committee can participate in the Christmas Pageant as desired, and City of Darwin may sponsor a float if there is a request from the community group wishing to represent Sister Cities and the proposal aligns with City of Darwin's Funding Policy.

2025 Darwin Fusion (name to be confirmed)

- The 2025 Darwin Fusion is a three-day event featuring a conference, gala dinner, food celebration, as well as business and cultural exchange activities including an international trade show from 21 May 2025.
- These activities are designed to support, enhance and promote connections between Darwin and its Sister and Friendship Cities, and to showcase Darwin businesses and our diverse culture and communities.

SISTER CITIES

Action Plan 2024 - 2026

1 August 2024



darwin.nt.gov.au



Introduction

As the closest Australian capital city to the rapidly developing region to our north, Darwin is often referred to as the Gateway to Asia. Our city is the social, cultural and economic heart of the Northern Territory.

As Australia's Northern Region continues to integrate further into Asian markets, Darwin is well-positioned to enhance the strategic economic link between global supply chains and trade to drive Australia's future.

We develop culturally rich relationships with our close neighbours and also gather friendships throughout the world as countries become increasingly connected by trade, travel and personal ties.

Our sister city program is another important component of Darwin's international relations. The purpose of this program is to foster and develop international relationships with Sister Cities and promote international understanding through education, cultural exchanges and economic development activities that benefit the community.

Darwin 2030 – City for People. City of Colour

Darwin 2030 – City for People. City of Colour sets out our vision for the next 10 years, drawing on community wisdom, existing Council strategies and plans, our commitments to and with key stakeholders and states clearly where we want Darwin to be by 2030. The Darwin 2030 set the strategic target to be achieved by 2030. It outlined the following:

‘By 2030, Darwin will have attracted and retained more residents and will offer sustainable investment opportunities. To achieve this City of Darwin will deliver the International Relations Program to leverage business growth and economic development opportunities for the city.’

City of Darwin's International Program

City of Darwin's International Relations Program supports a variety of activities within the economic development and tourism area of council.

The International Relations Program is responsible for the strategic management of City of Darwin resources to promote economic development and international strategies.

Projects may be initiated internally, by Council decision, via the Sister City Advisory Committee or as a result of engagement with significant stakeholders.

The program covers three distinct areas:

- Economic development opportunities
- Sister Cities and Friendship Cities
- Delegations/visits.



CoD's international relations efforts contribute to:

- Community and culture - people who visit and settle in Darwin support CoD's vision for a creative, connected, and inclusive city.
- Economy - access to markets, commercial opportunities, international students, and tourists all contribute to Darwin's economic prosperity.

Committees

City of Darwin's International Relations framework is supported by the International Relations Advisory Committee and Sister City Committee.

These committees operate to advocate, inform, and support council with its International Relations framework, while supporting a whole of council approach to community, cultural and economic development.

Sister City Advisory Committee

The Sister City Advisory Committee consists of one Elected Member and ten community members representing the Darwin Community. Its purpose is to provide cross-cultural understanding and build vibrant and connected communities and generate mutual benefits for both cities through educational, cultural, professional, economic, and humanitarian exchange. It is also expected that activities coordinated through the Sister City Program can facilitate the identification and development of business and trade opportunities between Darwin and its Sister Cities.

City of Darwin has one Sister City Advisory Committee for seven sister cities, including Ambon (Indonesia), Anchorage (US), Dili (Timor-Leste), Haikou (China), Kalymnos (Greece), Milikapiti (Northern Territory, Australia) and Denpasar (Indonesia).

Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-26

The Sister Cities Action Plan 2024-26 is an updated two-year implementation plan following previous Sister Cities Action Plan 2023-24 with the purpose to identify the initiatives with Key Performance Indicators to measure progress and ensure alignment with strategic objectives.

The first main objective of the 2024-2026 Committee was to provide proposals for the City of Darwin to meet the strategic target set in the Darwin 2030 City for People City of Colour. Furthermore, the proposals considered should align with the priorities of the Darwin Economic Development Strategy and goals and objectives identified in the CoD [Policy 053 International Relations and Sister City](#) with the following strategic focus:

- Community and cross-cultural development
- Economic development
- International promotion of City of Darwin



Process

This action plan is the result of the initial assessments of the proposals considered against the main objectives of the International Relations and Sister Cities programs. Projects with majority support were then prioritised by the Committee. City of Darwin officers reviewed the proposals and considered resources, budgeting, equity and finalised the plan for endorsement.

Key Success Indicator

The following key success indicators are identified to evaluate the success of the Sister City activities:

- Participation
 - Number of Sister City Governments
 - Number of attendees
- Community and social benefits
- Economic benefits
- Public relations and branding promotion value

Action Plan

Item	Tasks/ Projects Scope/Deliverables	Timeframe	Budget (est)	Sister City
1	<p>Support and deliver the 2025 Darwin Fusion</p> <p>The event brief as in Attachment 2.</p> <p>Strategy & Policy objective alignment: Deliver the International Relations Program to leverage business growth and economic development opportunities for the city, Promote Darwin as a multicultural community that acknowledges, respects, and celebrates cultural diversity; Develop collaborative relationships between cultural and recreational groups and organisations. Increase the number and scale of international events held in Darwin municipality.</p>	2024/25 FY	\$10,000 from the Committee budget	All
2	<p>New business to Darwin Welcome Pack</p> <p>Strategy alignment: Deliver the International Relations Program to leverage business growth and economic development opportunities for the city</p>	2024/25 FY	\$500	All
3	Develop metrics to measure and report on the Sister City relationship activities	2024/25 FY	Nil	NA
4	<p>International Women's Day Walk participation</p> <p>Policy objective alignment: Support and resources community-driven initiatives where appropriate</p>	2024/25 FY	\$1,000	NA
5	<p>2024 Darwin Sister City Committee Christmas Walk and to sponsor the community representing the Sister City countries to make a float or walk based on the request.</p> <p>Policy objective alignment: Support and resources community-driven initiatives where appropriate</p>	2024/25	\$2,500	NA

darwin.nt.gov.au



Item	Tasks/ Projects Scope/Deliverables	Timeframe	Budget (est)	Sister City
6	<p>2025 Darwin Ambon Yacht Rally or similar event hosted in Darwin.</p> <p>Strategy and Policy alignment: Promote Darwin as a multicultural community that acknowledges, respects, and celebrates cultural diversity; Develop collaborative relationships between cultural and recreational groups and organisations. Increase the number and scale of international events held in Darwin municipality</p>	2024/25 FY	\$5,000	Ambon
7	<p>2025 Darwin Dili Yacht Rally</p> <p>Strategy and Policy alignment: Promote Darwin as a multicultural community that acknowledges, respects, and celebrates cultural diversity; Develop collaborative relationships between cultural and recreational groups and organisations. Increase the number and scale of international events held in Darwin municipality.</p>	2024/25 FY	\$5,000	Dili
8	<p>2025 Darwin Sister City Award – Storytelling Competition</p> <p>A competition for the best photo, poem and film from Darwin and Sister Cities to be featured on the website and shared through the Darwin and international network.</p> <p>Policy objective alignment: Rise the profile of Darwin internationally as an attractive city and a great place. promote Darwin as a multicultural community that acknowledges, respects and celebrates cultural diversity</p>	2024/25 FY	\$18,000	All
9	<p>Darwin and Sister Cities' marketing & promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote Darwin and Darwin's Sister Cities programs via the Discover Darwin LinkedIn and Website <p>Policy objective alignment: Rise the profile of Darwin internationally as an attractive city and a great place.</p>	2024/25 FY	Nil	All
	Total		\$42,000	



Item	Tasks/ Projects Scope/Deliverables	Timeframe	Budget (est)	Sister City
10	<p>Darwin Sister Cities Soiree at the Civic Park and Award Ceremony of the 2025 Darwin Sister City Award – Storytelling Competition</p> <p>Policy objective alignment: promote Darwin as a multicultural community that acknowledges, respects and celebrates cultural diversity</p>	2025/26	\$5,000	NA
11	<p>International Women’s Day Walk participation</p> <p>Policy objective alignment: Support and resources community-driven initiatives where appropriate</p>	2025/26FY	Nil	NA
12	<p>2026 Darwin Sister City Award – Storytelling Competition</p> <p>A competition for the best photo/poem and film from Darwin and Sister Cities to be featured on the website and shared through the Darwin and international network.</p> <p>Policy objective alignment: Rise the profile of Darwin internationally as an attractive city and a great place. promote Darwin as a multicultural community that acknowledges, respects and celebrates cultural diversity</p>	2025/26 FY	\$20,000	All
13	<p>Darwin Football Match program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This program will be delivered if the local football clubs are interested in hosting this program <p>Policy objective alignment: Support and resources community-driven initiatives where appropriate</p>	2025/26 FY	\$15,000	All
14	<p>Sister City business delegation and meetings facilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Itinerary arrangement International delegation meeting attendance Gifts Catering 	2025/26 FY	\$1,000	All



Item	Tasks/ Projects Scope/Deliverables	Timeframe	Budget (est)	Sister City
	Policy objective alignment: Foster linkages by providing local businesses with access to new markets and networks; Provide a conduit between local industries and international industries			
	Contingency		\$1,000	
	Total		\$42,000	All

10 MEMBER REPORTS

Nil

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

12 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

THAT pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

15.1 Update on Friendship City Proposal with the City of Ho Chi Minh

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(e) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.



MINUTES

Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 24 July 2024

Date: Wednesday, 24 July 2024

Time: 5:00 PM

**Location: Council Chambers (Darrandirra)
Level 1, Civic Centre
Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY CHAN AVENUE,
DARWIN
ON WEDNESDAY, 24 JULY 2024 AT 5:00 PM**

PRESENT:

Chair Kate Heelan
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris
Committee Member Nerida Hart
Committee Member Chyntia Elsinta Indrawati
Committee Member Siji Issac
Committee Member Stephanie Lin
Committee Member Tony Miaoudis
Committee Member Paddy Mohan
Committee Member Ninik Stroud

OFFICERS:

Cherry Cai, Manager of Economic Development and International Relations

APOLOGY:

Committee Member Allan Woo
Committee Member Sam Kansal

GUESTS:

Bonne Zhao, Councillor and Committee Support Officer

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	Nil	
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	Nil	
12	Next Meeting	7
13	Closure of Meeting.....	7

1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5.10 pm.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

3 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Apologies

Committee Member Allan Woo

Committee Member Sam Kansal

3.2 Leave of Absence

3.3 Leave of Absence Notified

Nil

4 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

5.1 Declaration of Interest by Members

Nil

5.2 Declaration of Interest by Staff

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC012/24

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Committee Member Nerida Hart

THAT the minutes of the Sister City Advisory Committee Meeting held on 12 June 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED 9/0

7 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

9 OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 2024-26 TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC013/24

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Committee Member Ninik Stroud

1. THAT the report entitled 2024-26 Terms of Reference Review be received and noted.
2. THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee endorse the proposed changes of the Terms of Reference at **Attachment 1** and refer these to Council for approval.
3. THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee sets its meeting schedule for 2024 as follows:
 - I. meetings to be held on Wednesdays
 - II. meetings to be held at 5.00 pm
 - III. meetings to be held at Council Chambers (Darrandirra), Civic Centre or electronically via Microsoft Teams
 - IV. meetings to be held on the following dates:
 - a. 20 November 2024
 - b. 5 March 2025
 - c. 25 June 2025
 - d. 17 September 2025
 - e. 26 November 2025
 - f. 11 February 2026

CARRIED 9/0

AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC014/24

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Committee Member Paddy Mohan

THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee recommends the changes to the above meeting time to 5.30 pm and adding one more meeting on 11 September 2024.

CARRIED 9/0

9.2 CULTURA DE TIMOR-LESTE SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC015/24**

Moved: Committee Member Tony Miaoudis

Seconded: Committee Member Ninik Stroud

THAT the report entitled Cultura de Timor-Leste sponsorship proposal be received and noted.

THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee to recommend City of Darwin provide a Bronze level Sponsorship for the Cultura de Timor Leste on 17 August 2024.

CARRIED 9/0**9.3 2024-26 SISTER CITIES ACTION PLAN****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC016/24**

Moved: Committee Member Tony Miaoudis

Seconded: Committee Member Stephanie Lin

1. THAT the report entitled 2024-26 Sister Cities Action Plan be received and noted.
2. THAT Sister City Advisory Committee votes for the following proposals and recommends City of Darwin consider the top ten proposals below in the 2024-26 Sister Cities Action Plan:
 - Sister Cities participation in the International Women's Day Walk, Sister Cities Lunch or Gala Dinner for International Women's Day (11 votes)
 - 2025 Darwin Sister City Award – Visual Storytelling Photography Competition (9 votes)
 - Competition – create a short film (8 votes)
 - Multicultural Seniors Christmas Lunch (8 votes)
 - Soiree at the Civic Park (8 votes)
 - Poem Competition (7 votes)
 - Diversities magazine (7 votes)
 - Sister Cities Football Match (Soccer) (6 votes)
 - Sister Cities officer exchange program (5 votes)
 - Sisters Cities Christmas float (5 votes)

CARRIED 9/0**9.4 DARWIN PLACE AND LIVEABILITY PLAN****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SCAC017/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Committee Member Nerida Hart

1. THAT the report entitled Darwin Place and Liveability Plan be received and noted.
2. THAT the Sister City Advisory Committee share the Darwin Place and Liveability Plan Survey with their networks.

CARRIED 9/0

10 MEMBER REPORTS

Nil

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

11 September 2024 at 5:30 pm

13 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7:04 pm.

Unconfirmed