



City of Chicago



R2016-97

Office of the City Clerk

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Meeting Date:	2/10/2016
Sponsor(s):	Emanuel (Mayor)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Commemoration of Chicago's 10th Sister City anniversary with Belgrade, Serbia
Committee(s) Assignment:	



CONS.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

February 10, 2016

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith resolutions regarding the anniversaries of six of Chicago's Sister Cities.

Your favorable consideration of these resolutions will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Mayor



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Sister Cities International is a nonpartisan national membership organization for cities around the world that unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers to promote world peace through programs and projects focusing on arts and culture, youth and education, economic and sustainable development, and humanitarian assistance; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Sister Cities International seeks to promote global peace and prosperity by providing private citizens from communities around the world, and the leaders of the cities in which they live, with an opportunity to meet face-to-face to celebrate their respective cultures, to appreciate their differences, and to develop mutual understanding, friendships and long-term partnerships to reduce international conflict and secure global prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Since 1960, when the City of Chicago signed its first Sister Cities agreement, Chicago Sister Cities International has established official relationships with 28 Sister Cities in almost every region of the world. Today, Chicago Sister Cities International is the most active Sister Cities Organization in the world; and

WHEREAS, The people-to-people and community relationships formed through the Sister Cities network have produced mutually beneficial city-to-city ties resulting in increased international trade, economic development, tourism, cultural exchanges, and educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, This year marks the tenth anniversary of Chicago's Sister Cities relationship with the City of Belgrade in Serbia; and

WHEREAS, Chicago is proud of the Sister City partnership it has formed with Belgrade, and of its long history of friendship and cooperation with the people of Serbia; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago Metropolitan Area is home to the largest Serbian population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its history, Chicago has benefitted from the many vital contributions the Serbian community has made to the cultural, civic and economic life of our City. To this day, Chicagoans remain in awe of Nikola Tesla, the son of a Serbian orthodox priest, whose award-winning inventions were used to light the site of the historic World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893; and

WHEREAS, Chicagoans have always been cognizant of the similarities between Chicago and Belgrade, two cities which are known worldwide for their elegant and varied architecture, for their vibrant nightlife, and for their warm and friendly people; and

WHEREAS, Chicago looks forward to its own continued participation in Sister Cities International, and to renewing and strengthening Chicago's relationship with Belgrade and its people; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this tenth day of February, 2016, do hereby commemorate the tenth anniversary of Chicago's Sister City relationship with Belgrade, Serbia; acknowledge the many

benefits that this productive relationship has reaped for the people of Chicago; express our desire to continue this relationship; and extend to Belgrade, and to its people, our best wishes for a peaceful and prosperous future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to The Honorable Dejan Radulovic, Acting Consul General, Consulate General of Serbia, and The Honorable Mayor of Prague Sinisa Mali.