

Approved
**MINUTES OF THE SISTER CITIES PROGRAM COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

2/17/2026 - Sister Cities Program Committee Minutes

1. Declaration Of A Quorum

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 am.

2. Roll Call

**Present: Chair Cappadona, Vice Chair Tregre, CM Donlon, CM Adams, CM Bolton-Legg, Pam Williams, and Ex-Officio Council Member Sharon Lewis
Mayor Brown, Asst. City Secretary Nellie De La Fuente, Executive Assistant to the City Secretary Martha Alvarez.**

Absent: Ex-Officio Sharon Lewis

3. Consider Approval Of Meeting Minutes

3.a Draft Minutes - January 13, 2026

Motion by CM Bolton-Legg with a correction on Item #8

Second by CM Donlon

Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

N/A

5. Update and Clarification from Mayor Brown on the Sister Cities Ordinance and Committee Appointment Process

Mayor Brown updated and clarified the Appointment Process, the Attendance Process, and the letter from Malaga to the Committee. Mayor Brown also expressed the importance of having Ex-Officio Lewis on the Committee.

6. Update on Sister Cities

6.a Niigata

Chair Cappadona updated the Committee on Niigata and no action was taken.

6.b Macharaviaya

CM Donlon said that Macharaviaya was discussed earlier in the meeting when Mayor Brown discussed Malaga. No action was taken.

6.c Stavanger

No update was provided and no action was taken.

6.d Veracruz

Chair Cappadona stated that he was going to wait for them to respond and if they did, there is a possibility that he is going to assign Veracruz to CM Foreman at the next meeting. No action was taken.

7. Briefing from the Assistant City Secretary on a Potential Partnership Opportunity with Recife, Brazil, per Request from the U.S. Department of State

Assistant City Secretary Nellie De La Fuente stated that she was contacted by Sister Cities International and asked if we would consider Recife, Brazil as a Sister City. Nellie went on to say that she said, she would pass down the information to the Committee.

8. Discussion of Potential Sister City Partnership with Aci Trezza, Italy

Chair Cappadona and CM Donlon expressed how Aci Trezza, Italy is beside themselves wanting to be Sister Cities with us. Chair Cappadona went on to say depending on whether they keep Stavanger or Veracruz it would be a strong recommendation from the Committee to Ex-Officio Lewis to take to Council. Chair Cappadona stated he wanted that on the next Agenda. No action was taken.

9. Additional Input from Ex Officio Sharon Lewis on Previous Items (if applicable)

Ex-Officio Sharon Lewis was absent on this day.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is on March 10, 2026 in Room 204 at 11:30 am.

11. Adjournment

Meeting was adjoured at 1:09 pm



Manuela "Nellie" De La Fuente
Assistant City Secretary

July 22, 2026