



CITY OF
FORESTPARK

City Council Agenda Item

Subject: Sister Cities International Discussion – Executive Offices

Submitted By: Marc-Antonie Cooper

Date Submitted: March 29, 2023

Work Session Date: March 29, 2023

Council Meeting Date: April 03, 2023

Background/History:

On September 8th, 2020, the Forest Park City Council Approved resolution no. 20-21 authorizing participation in Sister Cities International. This initiative was created at President Eisenhower's 1956 White House conference on citizen diplomacy. It was envisioned as an organization that could be the hub for peace and prosperity by creating bonds between people from different cities around the world. By forming these relationships, it became the hopes of a nation that people of different cultures could celebrate and appreciate their differences and build partnerships that would lessen the chance of new conflict.

One of the key components of these Sister City relationships are Goodwill Missions, which offer opportunities to deepen friendships and cultural understanding between our sister-states. If it is the desire of the City of Forest Park to deepen commitments and relationships with Senegal, Africa it is requested that we discuss and approve sending a diplomatic goodwill delegation to the country.

Cost: \$ 50,000

Budgeted for: _____ **Yes** X **No**

Financial Impact:

If approved would be added into FY 23-24 Budget

Action Requested from Council:

Seeking further direction