



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Debbie Bingham, Economic Development Specialist, Community and Economic Development
Ricardo Noguera, Director, Community and Economic Development
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Request for resolution designating Brovary, Ukraine as a Sister City- August 8, 2017
DATE: July 17, 2017

SUMMARY:

Resolution to have Brovary, Ukraine become Tacoma’s 15th Sister City.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

The following strategic policy priorities are best aligned to this action:

- Cultivate a vibrant cultural sector that fosters a creative, cohesive community.
- Foster neighborhood, community, and economic development vitality and sustainability.

BACKGROUND:

There are thousands of Ukrainian born immigrants living in Tacoma and its suburbs. Brovary is located within 7km from the capital of Ukraine Kyiv. Ukraine is a diverse country with many ethnic backgrounds: Ukrainians, Russians, Belorussians, Moldovian, Crimean Tatar, Bulgarians, Hungarians, Romanians, Poles, Jews, and Roma. Brovary’s population is over 100,000 and is made up of the previously stated ethnicities. The city of Brovary is characterized by a great geographical location with access to natural resources, economic advantages, and access to main national and international highways including railroads. Brovary just like Tacoma, is located near a waterway – the Dniper River which gives economic advantages to businesses. Brovary has many parks and is located in among mixed forests. It borders Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine similar to how Tacoma borders Seattle, a major metropolitan area. Brovary is home to a railway station, broadcasting center, and various industries and factories such as knitting, woodworking, machine tools, plastic materials, and a large Coca Cola company plant. It is a shoe making capital and a sport center as well.

A Sister City committee, headed up by Pastor Peter Sayenko of the Slavic Christian Center has been working hard to move this relationship forward.

ISSUE:

To have Brovary, Ukraine become Tacoma’s 15th Sister City.

ALTERNATIVES:

If the resolution is not adopted, the committee will not move forward in pursuing Brovary as Tacoma’s Sister City at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Council approve this resolution.



FISCAL IMPACT: There are no budget impacts to the City of Tacoma as work will fall within the work scope of the Sister City Program Coordinator and any associated costs would come out of the Department of Community and Economic Development's budget.