



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Ricardo Noguera, Director, Community and Economic Development
COPY: Economic Development Committee
SUBJECT: Addition of Brovary, Ukraine as Tacoma's 15th Sister City
DATE: August 8, 2017

SUMMARY:

This presentation will provide an overview of the reasons, process and steps taken to date in regards to adding Brovary, Ukraine as Tacoma's 15th Sister City

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, Gypsy and Jews. 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 Dniپر 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.

For the past two years, nine members of the Sister City committee, headed up by Pastor Peter Sayenko of the Slavic Christian Center have been meeting regularly working on this relationship. A letter initiating the Sister City consideration process was received from the Mayor of Brovary in early 2016. Two members of the Formation Committee and Economic Development Director, Ricardo Noguera, visited the Mayor of Brovary and exchanged ideas about forming a Sister City in November of 2016.

Earlier this year, Mayor Strickland sent a letter to invite Mayor Sapozhko to visit Tacoma in 2017.

NEXT STEPS:

- Resolution for adoption of Brovary as a Sister City of Tacoma will be presented for consideration to the City Council on August 8, 2017.
- An official delegation visit to Tacoma from Brovary is scheduled August 7-10, 2017. At that time, official documents will be signed.

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.



RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend the Economic Development Committee give this relationship a do pass so that the process may continue and a resolution may be forwarded to the entire City Council for consideration.

Attachments: Proposal for the creation of a new Sister City Brovary, Ukraine
 Letter from Mayor of Brovary
 Map of Brovary and surrounding communities
 Schedule of itinerary for August 7-10, 2017