



April 11, 2022

Mr. Leroy Allala  
President and CEO  
Sister Cities International  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Allala:

By means of this letter I would like to endorse San Antonio City Councilman Manny Pelaez for a position on the board of directors of Sister Cities International.

Since being elected to office in 2017, Councilman Pelaez has demonstrated his passion and aptitude in the international area especially with sister city relationships. As the City Council Committee Chair for Economic and Workforce Development he has contributed significantly to mutually beneficial partnerships in the fields of education, economic development, trade, and culture. He is currently taking the lead in San Antonio's efforts to create new relationships in Latin America aside from the existing relationships we have in Mexico. He believes in the power of people-to-people engagement and the transformative impact of relationships as the basis for successful outcomes across the board.

I am convinced that, as a board member, Councilman Pelaez will be a knowledgeable and worthy representative of SCI's honorable mission "to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation – one individual, one community at a time."

For this reason, I strongly endorse his candidacy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Shahrzad Dowlatshahi  
Chief Diplomacy & Protocol Officer  
Head of Global Engagement  
Member of Honorary Board of Sister Cities International