

Sister Cities International Mayors Leadership Council

As allowed by the Sister Cities International Bylaws (Article V, Section 1), the Mayors Leadership Council (MLC) has been established as an integral component of the organization's overall global outreach strategy. As part of this strategy, the Mayors Leadership Council serves to validate and advocate the role of current and former elected municipal leaders as citizen diplomats in the context of global diplomacy and peace building as well as to raise the visibility of SCI as the lead global NGO organization supporting this important peace building function.

The Mayors Leadership Council (MLC) seeks to:

- Engage current and former Mayors and City Councilmembers in the activities of Sister Cities International at the grassroots, national and international levels;
- Raise the awareness of Mayors, City Councilmembers and local elected and management officials about the benefits of municipal membership and funding for SCI and their respective local Sister Cities organizations;
- Understand municipal issues as related to Sister Cities International's programs and services, to strengthen programming efforts and outreach activities;
- Serve as a forum to promote, educate and provide resources to local leaders on international diplomacy and related partnerships towards potential economic development and cultural partnerships;
- Promote the SCI mission and expand SCI exposure with municipal, regional, county, state and federal elected and career officials;
- Broaden the base of active SCI partnerships by encouraging new affiliations between domestic and international communities, and;
- Attract local, principal elected officials to serve on the SCI Board of Directors.

It is anticipated that the MLC will hold periodic meetings and receptions, as convened by its Chair. Meetings may coincide with the U.S. Conference of Mayors (Winter Meeting each January in Washington, DC) or the National League of Cities (Annual Congressional City Conference each March in Washington, DC), as well as the SCI Annual Meeting.

Members on the MLC will be by appointment by and serve at the discretion of the SCI Board Chair, who will serve an *ex-officio* member. Terms of appointment are concurrent with each SCI Chair; however, nothing would prevent subsequent Chair from reappointing members. Current and former Mayors or City Councilmembers from a current SCI Member in good standing may be appointed. There is no maximum number of MLC members. MLC members serve without compensation. The Sister Cities International Board Chair may appoint additional SCI Board members as *ex-officio* members at his/her discretion.

The SCI Board of Directors Chair appoints a MLC member to preside as Chair of its meetings/activities and serve as the primary contact for the group. An annual MLC report is normally presented to the Board of Directors at the SCI Annual Meeting.