



RUSSELL W. STAMPER, II
ALDERMAN, 15TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR

- Community and Economic Development Committee

VICE-CHAIR

- Zoning, Neighborhoods, and Development Committee

MEMBER

- Steering and Rules Committee

April 24, 2026

Sister Cities International
1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1400
Washington, D.C. 20005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you today in support of Al Durka and his candidacy to be elected and serve on the Sister Cities International Board of Directors.

Mr. Durka has been an active and current long-standing public member and representative of the International Institute of Wisconsin serving on the City of Milwaukee's Sister Cities Committee since February 28, 2006. Through his professional background and involvement with Sister Cities International, he has been a wonderful asset providing valuable guidance on Sister Cities International, sister city, and friendship city processes and requirements to the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee sister city relationships. Over the years, he has been a part of the committee's oversight over the establishment of numerous sister city and friendship city relationships. Presently, the City of Milwaukee has six active sister city relationships: Abuja (Nigeria), Galway (Ireland), Irpin (Ukraine), Kragujevac (Serbia), Tarime District (Tanzania), and Zadar (Croatia). Additionally, the City of Milwaukee has one active friendship city relationship with Chasse-sur-Rhône (France).

The City of Milwaukee Sister Cities Committee was created to assist the City, through its Common Council, with the establishment and maintenance of sister city relationships pursuant to Sister Cities International regulations through nonprofit, volunteer based organizations that organize and implement cooperative programs in education, arts, business, and municipal and technical exchanges with Milwaukee's sister cities around the world to collaborate on programs of mutual benefit to our city and its partners. We are also members of the Sister Cities International network, one of the largest citizen diplomacy networks in the world.

I appreciate any consideration that you can give to Mr. Durka and would encourage you to contact me if you have any concerns. Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely,

Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Chair
Sister Cities Committee

