

City Council Work Session

Thursday, August 14, 2025
5:00 p.m.

Council Chambers Conference Room
88 E. Chicago St., Chandler, AZ

CHANDLER arizona
Community of Innovation



Work Session

Pursuant to Resolution No. 4464 of the City of Chandler and to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Chandler City Council and to the general public that the Chandler City Council will hold a WORK SESSION open to the public on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 5 p.m., in the City Council Chambers Conference Room, 88 E. Chicago Street, Chandler, Arizona. One or more members of the Chandler City Council may attend this meeting by telephone.

Persons with disabilities may request a reasonable modification or communication aids and services by contacting the City Clerk's office at 480-782-2181 (711 via AZRS). Please make requests in advance as it affords the City time to accommodate the request.

Agendas are available in the Office of the City Clerk, 175 S. Arizona Avenue.

Agenda

Call to Order

Discussion

1. **Presentation, Overview and Chandler's Participation in the International Sister Cities Program**

Public Comment

Public comments will be heard only for the item(s) on that published meeting agenda. Up to 15 minutes will be allotted for public comments on the agenda item(s) at the end of the agenda and each speaker will be allocated up to three minutes at the discretion of the Presiding Officer or designated parliamentarian.

Adjourn

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City Council Memorandum Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Memo No. N/A

Date: August 14, 2025
To: Mayor and Council
From: Niki Tapia, DEI Program Manager
Subject: International Sister Cities Program

Attachments

Sister Cities Presentation



CHANDLER
SISTER CITIES



History of Chandler Sister Cities

- Partnered with Tullamore, Ireland in 2009
- Added Tainan, Taiwan as a Friendship City in 2016
- Limited activity from 2020–2023
- Revived by local leader Mahfam in 2023
- City resumed support with funding and staff

Board of Directors



Mahfam Moeeni-Alarcon
President



Liz Shipley
Vice President



Ellen Harrington
Treasurer



Julia Peixoto Peters
Secretary



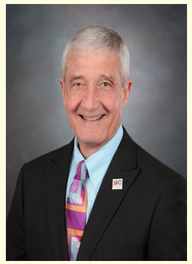
Mayor Kevin Hartke
Ex-Officio



Caroline Pardo
Board Member



Wesley Gaspard
Board Member



Jack Sellers
Board Member



Betty Ramirez
Board Member



Andy Lim
Board Member



Teresa Paz
Board Member



Board Member



Carissa Krausman
Board Member

Sogol Homayoun

Mission

To create lasting relationships between the people of Chandler and our International Sister Cities.

Vision:

- To create Global Awareness: promote economic opportunities.
- To Cultivate People: who will champion humanity, uniqueness, and dignity.
- Operate with Integrity: Embracing professional, ethical behavior and transparent standards.
- Art and Culture: Celebrate the diversity of arts, culture, and stories.



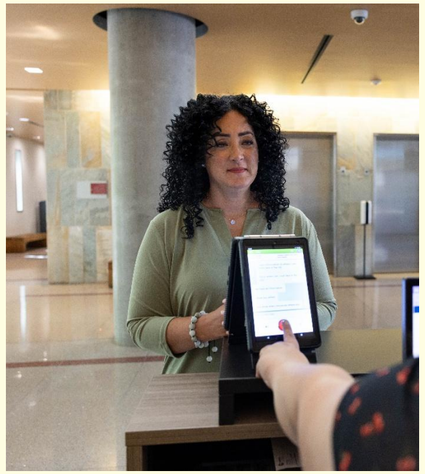


CHANDLER
SISTER CITIES
EST. 2009

Importance

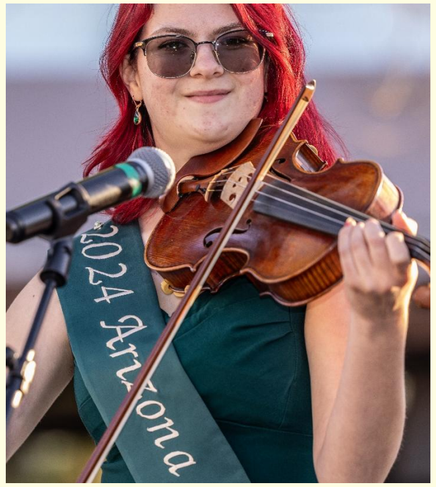
- Foster international goodwill and peace
- Expand global awareness and cultural understanding
- Provide Chandler residents—especially youth—with opportunities to engage globally
- Promote economic development and tourism

Benefits to Chandler



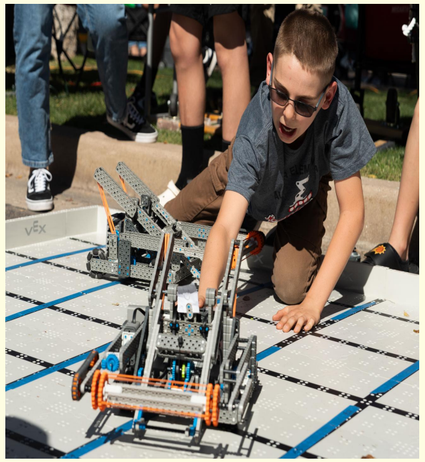
Exposure

- New ideas in education, technology and business



Culture

- Cultural enrichment through events, performances and festivals



International

- Collaboration in STEM, sustainability and leadership



Youth

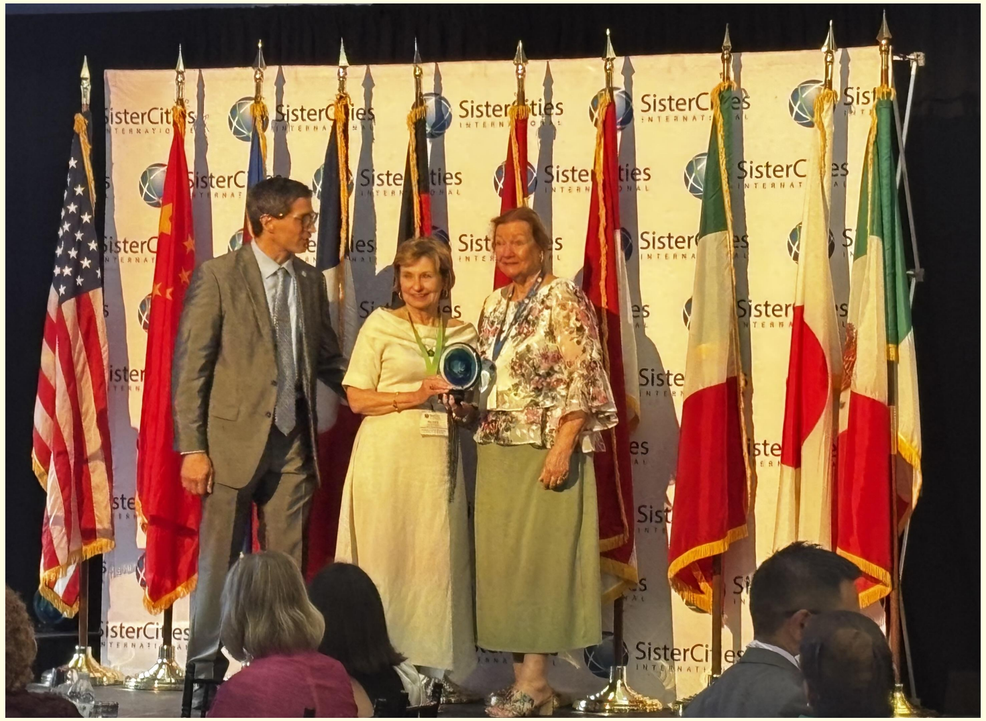
- Engagement through leadership opportunities and scholarships



Chandler Sister Cities Highlights

- Annual Tullamore SW Tea
- Youth art contest: YAAS (Young Artists & Authors Showcase)
- YAAS winners received awards from Tullamore Sister Cities
- (SCI)Tainan hosted Giant Cup Little League with AZ team participation
- Hosted visiting delegates in Chandler
- Booth at 30th Multicultural Festival with cultural games
- Artist exchange with Tullamore
- Initiated Relationship with Global Ties
- Taiwanese community exchange with Mayors Gallego & Hartke
- Joined 2025 Korean War Memorial event
- 2025 Innovation in Arts & Culture Award

Chandler Sister Cities Wins Award



Sister Cities International Annual Conference July 2025

Awards Chandler – Tullamore Sister Cities

Recipient of the Innovation in Arts and Culture Award





International Development Efforts

Sister City

Tullamore, Ireland
(since 2009)

- Chandler's first Sister City
- Ongoing artist exchange program
- 2025 Sister Cities International *Innovation in Arts & Culture* Award recipient

Friendshi

Tainan, Taiwan
(since 2016)

- 6th Giant Cup International Little League Champion
- A sword Lion the guardian of Tainan City, was presented by Mayor Lai Ching of Tainan as a mark of respect and friendship

Establishing New Relationship

- Cheongju, Korea
- Maringa', Brazil

Launching Outreach

- Guanajuato, Mexico
- Vadodara, India
- Singapore
- Maracaibo, Venezuela



Cheongju, South Korea

- **Population:** 853,938
- **Education Hub:** Home to multiple universities, one of the most educated populations globally
- **Technology-forward city** with a growing R&D sector
- **Average age:** 41.5
- **Low unemployment:** 2.8%
- **Cultural richness:** Deep historical roots and a vibrant modern arts scene

Cheongju, South Korea

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Community of Innovation

Kevin Hartke
Mayor

March 27, 2025

Dear Mayor Beom-Seog Lee,

Chandler is a dynamic, diverse community that values international collaboration. Through our Sister Cities program, we seek meaningful relationships that foster cultural exchange, economic development, and educational opportunities. We believe a partnership between our cities could be mutually beneficial.

As a thriving hub for technology employment, Chandler offers a strong business-friendly environment, robust infrastructure, and five designated employment corridors that support thousands of businesses and over 100,000 jobs. Known as the "Community of Innovation," Chandler has deep roots in the semiconductor industry, dating back to Intel's arrival in 1979, and continues to lead in cutting-edge advancements.

Beyond business, Chandler is a vibrant place to call home. Our welcoming neighborhoods, top-rated schools, and commitment to cultural enrichment make it a great place to live and grow. Residents and visitors alike enjoy our expansive parks, museums, art galleries, and diverse community events, fostering a strong sense of connection and belonging.

We'd love the opportunity to connect and discuss how our cities might collaborate. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to your thoughts.

Best Regards,

Kevin Hartke
Mayor, City of Chandler

Office of the Mayor
T: 480 782 2200 | F: 480 782 2233 | Mail Stop 603, PO Box 4008, Chandler, AZ 85224-4008 | Location: 175 S. Arizona Ave, Chandler, AZ 85225 | chandleraz.gov
@ChandlerAZMayor | @kevin.hartke

Maringa', Brazil

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Kevin Hartke
Mayor

June 20, 2025

Dear Mayor Silvio Magalhães Barros II,

Chandler is a dynamic and diverse community that values international collaboration and the meaningful connections it brings. Through our Sister Cities program, we strive to build relationships that promote cultural exchange, educational enrichment, and economic opportunity. We see great potential for a mutually beneficial partnership between Chandler, Arizona and Maringa, Brazil.

As a thriving hub for innovation and technology, Chandler offers a strong business-friendly environment supported by robust infrastructure and five designated employment corridors. Known as the "Community of Innovation," Chandler has a longstanding history in the semiconductor industry—anchored by Intel's presence since 1979—and continues to lead in advanced manufacturing and emerging technologies.

But Chandler is more than just a place to do business—it's a vibrant and welcoming place to call home. With safe neighborhoods, top-ranked schools, and a deep commitment to arts and culture, Chandler offers a high quality of life for residents and visitors alike. Our city hosts a wide range of events, from multicultural festivals to community concerts, which celebrate our shared values of diversity and inclusion.

We would welcome the opportunity to connect and explore ways our communities might collaborate. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to the possibility of building a meaningful relationship between Chandler and Maringa.

Best Regards,

Kevin Hartke
Mayor, City of Chandler

Office of the Mayor
T: 480 782 2200 | F: 480 782 2233 | Mail Stop 603, PO Box 4008, Chandler, AZ 85224-4008 | Location: 175 S. Arizona Ave, Chandler, AZ 85225 | chandleraz.gov
@ChandlerAZMayor | @kevin.hartke

CHANDLER SISTER CITIES

24/25 Accomplishments

Chandler Sister Cities is proud to share an overview of its accomplishments over the past fiscal year. The organization has made significant progress in marketing, community engagement, board development, and goals with sister cities expansion. These accomplishments reflect Chandler Sister Cities' commitment to growth, community involvement, and expanding international relationships.

Arizona Sister Cities

- Marketing and Rebranding Efforts
- Community Engagement
- International Expansion Efforts
- Conferences and Networking
- Board Development

Sister Cities INTERNATIONAL
Connect Globally. Thrive locally.


Board Development

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SISTER CITIES
EST. 2009

Mayor & Council Support

Your support of Chandler Sister Cities connects Chandler to the world—building cultural exchange, educational opportunities, and global partnerships that enrich our community and elevate Chandler’s international presence.



Thank You