



Irkutsk Sister City Discussion

Eugene City Council Work Session
July 18, 2022



Sister City Program Overview

- Purpose – Cultural and educational exchange to promote greater understanding and appreciation
- Cities
 - Jinju, South Korea (1961)
 - Kathmandu, Nepal (1975)
 - Kakegawa, Japan (1979)
 - Irkutsk, Russia (1988)
 - Ogaki, Japan (2015) (Friendly City)



Sister City Program Overview

- Each city is represented by a local non-profit association
- Funding (\$10,000) allocated annually to support expenditures
- Typical expenditures
 - Delegation visits
 - Youth exchange
 - Interpretation services
 - Cultural & outreach events
 - Program support (website, etc.)



Irkutsk Context

- Previous Council discussion and public testimony regarding Russian invasion of Ukraine
- Ukrainian President Zelensky has asked US cities to terminate sister city relationships with Russia
- Around 100 US cities had sister city relationships in Russia
 - Some have terminated or suspended
 - Some have deliberately maintained



Questions & Discussion