

## **RESOLUTION NO. 23-087**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SISTER CITY AFFILIATION WITH AWKA, ANAMBRA STATE NIGERIA**

WHEREAS, Awka, Anambra State Nigeria (“Awka”), which is of similar size with shared values as the City of Carson (“Carson”), is an ancient city of about 150,000 people that is the Capital City of Anambra State in Eastern Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, Awka is a thriving administrative and commercial city rich in history where the government of Anambra State, Nigeria has its headquarters and is also a center for industry, commerce and leaning. As one example, the famous Eke open market Awka is located in Awka along with the main campus of the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, named after Sir Nnamdi Azikiwe, Nigeria’s first post-colonial President; and

WHEREAS, through a letter dated May 22, 2023, the Mayor of Awka requested that a sister city relationship be established between Awka and Carson; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the guidelines of Sister Cities International in establishing sister city relationships, the Mayor of Carson is anticipated to undertake an exploratory visit to Awka in December 2023, with the express purpose of meeting with government officials and others to discuss mutual expectations, goals and other matters for establishing a sister city affiliation; and

WHEREAS, a sister city relationship between the Carson and Awka will foster cooperative undertakings as well as mutual friendship and goodwill, strengthen friendship ties, promote a growing awareness and appreciation of each other’s culture and people by fostering friendship, cultural exchanges, economic activities, trade and commerce, and other important aspects of local governance that are beneficial for both local government units; and

WHEREAS, once both governing bodies have sanctioned the sister city relationship, an official joint signing ceremony of the Protocol of Agreement will take place in Carson to be witnessed by official delegates from Awka, Carson officials, representatives of the Carson Sister Cities Association, and community and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, copies of all official letters, resolutions and the Protocol of Agreement will be sent to Sister Cities International and the United States Embassy, thereby completing the affiliation process and authorizing Sister Cities International to recognize the affiliation and to add the sister city affiliation to the current Directory of Sister Cities, Counties, and States.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The recitals above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**SECTION 2.** The City Council of the City of Carson, California, U.S.A., on behalf of its citizens, hereby authorizes establishment of a sister city affiliation with Awka, Anambra State Nigeria, and to enter into a relationship for the purpose of creating a mutual understanding between the respective communities and nations. In connection therewith, the City Council hereby approves and authorizes the City of Carson to enter into a Protocol of Agreement with Awka, substantially similar to that attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference as Exhibit “A,” and authorizes the Mayor to execute such agreement.

**SECTION 3.** The City Manager and his designee(s) are hereby authorized and directed, for and in the name and on behalf of the City, to do any and all things and take any and all other actions, in order to consummate the establishment of a sister city affiliation with Awka, Anambra State Nigeria, and to enter into a relationship for the purpose of creating a mutual understanding between the respective communities and nations.

**SECTION 4.** The City Council declares that, should any provision, section, paragraph, sentence or word of this Resolution be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences or words of this Resolution as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 5.** The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original Resolutions.

**SECTION 6.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 20th day of June, 2023.

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Lula Davis-Holmes, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Dr. Khaleah R. Bradshaw, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Sunny K. Soltani, City Attorney

EXHIBIT “A”

PROTOCOL OF AGREEMENT

SEE ATTACHED