

1 **..Title**
2 **Sister City Relationship with the City of Yuzhne in Ukraine** – For the purpose of
3 authorizing a sister city relationship between the City of Annapolis and the City of Yuzhne
4 in Ukraine.

5 **..Body**

6 **CITY COUNCIL OF THE**
7 **City of Annapolis**

8
9 **Resolution 3-24**

10
11 **Introduced by:** Mayor Buckley
12 **Co-sponsored by:**

13
14 **A RESOLUTION** concerning

15
16 **Sister City Relationship with the City of Yuzhne in Ukraine**

17
18 **FOR** the purpose of authorizing a sister city relationship between the City of Annapolis
19 and the City of Yuzhne in Ukraine.

20
21 **WHEREAS,** The City of Annapolis has a long history of fostering international
22 relationships and promoting cultural exchange, understanding, and
23 cooperation;

24
25 **WHEREAS,** The City of Yuzhne in southwestern Ukraine is also a vibrant and resilient
26 community with a rich cultural heritage and a strong commitment to
27 democracy and freedom;

28
29 **WHEREAS,** Yuzhne is located on the Black Sea coast, about 47 kilometers from the
30 regional center of Odesa, and is one of the top three seaports in Ukraine;

31
32 **WHEREAS,** In 1993, the Ukrainian national parliament declared Yuzkne a city of
33 significance in the Oblast province of Ukraine;

34
35 **WHEREAS,** The Sister City Program is a global network of over 1,600 communities in
36 145 countries that are dedicated to building relationships through citizen
37 diplomacy; and

38
39 **WHEREAS,** Establishing a sister city relationship between the City of Annapolis and
40 the City of Yuzhne would provide unique opportunities for both cities to:
41

Explanation:

~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.
Underlining & black indicate copyediting or reformatting of existing law
Underlining & red indicate new matter added to the code.

- 1 a. Promote cultural exchange and understanding by facilitating
2 educational exchanges, artistic collaborations, and other
3 cultural programs;
- 4
- 5 b. Strengthen economic ties by encouraging business
6 partnerships, trade delegations, and joint economic
7 development initiatives;
- 8
- 9 c. Support democratic values and human rights by standing
10 together in the face of challenges and promoting peace and
11 cooperation; and
- 12
- 13 d. Build lasting friendships and connections between the people
14 of Annapolis and Yuzhne, fostering mutual respect and
15 understanding;

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY**
17 **COUNCIL** that the City of Annapolis hereby commits to establishing a sister city
18 relationship with the City of Yuzhne, Ukraine.

19 **BE IT ALSO RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the Mayor
20 of Annapolis is authorized to appoint a Sister City Committee to develop and implement
21 a comprehensive plan for the sister city relationship, including:

- 22 1. **Formalizing the relationship:** through a signed agreement between the two cities;
- 23 2. **Establishing communication channels** to facilitate regular communication and
24 collaboration between city officials;
- 25 3. **Organizing cultural and educational exchanges:** to promote understanding and
26 appreciation of each other's cultures;
- 27 4. **Developing economic partnerships:** to encourage business cooperation and trade;
- 28 5. **Supporting democratic values and human rights** through joint initiatives and
29 advocacy efforts;
- 30 6. **Engaging the community:** by involving citizens in the sister city relationship
31 through cultural events, volunteer opportunities, and educational programs.

32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the
33 City of Annapolis expresses its solidarity with the people of Yuzhne and the Ukrainian
34 people during this challenging time and commits to supporting them in their pursuit of
35 peace, democracy, and freedom.

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- 1 **AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that
- 2 this resolution shall take effect upon passage.

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