

Resolution

Suspending Sister City Ties between the
City of Charlotte, North Carolina of the United States of America
and the
City of Voronezh, Voronezh Oblast of the Russian Federation

CONDEMNING the Russian unprovoked invasion of Ukraine that blatantly ignores national sovereignty and deliberate disregard for human lives as well as threatens the ideals of democracy and freedom is unjustifiable and cannot go without baring consequence;

REAFFIRMING our support of the people of Ukraine in our community, in their homeland, or seeking refuge in neighboring countries as they fight courageously against a tyrant to defend their country, their democracy and their freedom;

ACKNOWLEDGING the brave citizens in both Ukraine and Russia who are standing up against this assault on democracy and human life and do not support the attack by the Russian Federation;

BEARING IN MIND the work that will be needed to promote democratic values and create a system that encourages freedom of speech and civil and human rights in Russia and throughout the region;

and now therefore,

BE IT ORDERED THAT THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE shall immediately suspend its sister city ties with the City of Voronezh.

- Sister city status can be reviewed and considered for readmittance in the sister cities program after a period of one year following the declaration of peace, the return of sovereign and territorial integrity to Ukraine and the establishment of democratic systems in Russia.
- At this time, we will not support any exchanges between our governments, businesses, nor residents of Russia.

We are hopeful that a peaceful solution will be found quickly and that we can again join with Voronezh to celebrate the commonalities that bring us together instead of acknowledging the political differences and violence that tarnish a 30-year relationship based on peace, diplomacy and democratic exchange.