Supplements to the BNSCP Application

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Boulder Nablus Sister City Project (BNSCP), I wish to express our deep appreciation for the support provided by City Council for the community dialogue that took place between May and November, 2016. On April 19, the BNSCP board of directors requested a postponement of the scheduled hearing on the application in order to continue outreach and discussion with residents who opposed the application to designate Nablus, Palestine as the city’s eighth sister city. Without question, the facilitated process has promoted greater understanding about the project by all who participated and observed the discussions. Of course, understanding does not automatically mean total support for a project in a complicated part of the world.

However, with heightened comprehension and awareness of concerns of some members of the working group who opposed the application, the Board of Directors of the Boulder Nablus Sister City Project unanimously adopted the attached BNSCP Statement of Commitments (supplemental #1). In this document, the Board has clearly spelled out actions it will undertake to alleviate many of the concerns expressed during the Dialogues and in letters to Council.

After extensive discussion regarding the activities and projects carried out by the BNSCP, the participants in the working group supported the current and planned activities and encouraged their continuation. However, those participants who oppose official recognition of Nablus as a sister city equate sister city approval as a political endorsement of Palestine over Israel in the international arena. We completely disagree with this position. Only the United States can take a position regarding Israel and it has stated its full support of Israel since 1948. We believe the City Council’s focus should be within Resolution 631 and that the review of this application should be similar to that involving the previous 7 sister city applications.

The position held by the BNSCP regarding the Council’s focus is supported by the recent adoption of two resolutions reaffirming Boulder’s strong value of inclusiveness Resolutions 1178 and 1190 (supplemental #2). On December 15, 2015, Council approved Resolution 1178: Reaffirming Boulder’s status as and Commitment to be an inclusive community, its commitment to working with local partners to improve support for and inclusion of diversity, and encouraging other jurisdictions and their elected leaders to do the same. More recently, the City Council unanimously approved Resolution 1190: Declaring the Second Monday of October of each Year to be Indigenous Peoples’ Day. We believe an inclusive Boulder would welcome Nablus as its eighth sister city.

During the lead up to the scheduled Council hearing on April 19, some members of the community who oppose the application claimed that insufficient outreach had been done. After several months of public, facilitated dialogue, this issue has been resolved. All parties have had the opportunity to observe and make comments to the participants. All issues had a chance to be aired and discussed.

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After the many hours of dialogue and discussion, BNSCP leadership learned much more comprehensively the nature of the concerns that are held by those opposed to this application.

For this reason, we would like to supplement the original application from December 2015 with the following Supplements:

3. Additional information on history of Nablus and the region
4. Two maps showing Nablus and the surrounding region
5. Update on some of our projects, in particular the early reading project, yoga, and Nablus Cultural Festival
6. Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting of Members
7. 2016-17 Budget and Work Plan

We appreciate your consideration of these additional materials along with the remainder of the previously submitted application from last year.

Very sincerely,

Essrea Cherin on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Boulder-Nablus Sister City Project
BNSCP Commitments

Non-Political Commitment:

In accordance with Sister City International guidelines and Resolution 631 of the City of Boulder and in keeping with the legal requirements of being a 501c3 corporation,* Boulder-Nablus Sister City Project (BNSCP) is explicitly committed to being a non-political organization.

In practice this means at a minimum:

• No activities current or planned by BNSCP will advocate for or against particular political positions and/or policies. BNSCP will not take a side on any political question nor candidate in the US, Palestine or any other related political situations.

• The BNSCP board of directors will ensure that all projects will continue to be carefully selected for their humanitarian, cultural, and artistic contribution and exchange.

• BNSCP will provide information about our counterpart organization and members in Nablus.

• BNSCP will explicitly prohibit the use of our modes of communication or resources from being used as a platform for political advocacy. The Board of Directors of BNSCP will monitor the use of BNSCP programs to guard against the manipulation of messages that promote any anti-Israeli or anti-Palestinian perspectives. If such messages are found, the Board of BNSCP will take corrective actions.

• BNSCP board of directors will maintain editorial control over all official communications and monitor posting to BNSCP website and will exclude inappropriate and insensitive materials. BNSCP will avoid the posting of images promoting or glorifying violence.

• Blog and other potential postings on BNSCP website, FaceBook page, or other forums will include the disclaimer: “This letter/report/photo/presentation was prepared or offered by ________________ in her/his personal capacity. The opinions expressed in
this letter/article/presentation/photo are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the views of the Boulder-Nablus Sister City Project.”

- BNSCP will make sensitivity awareness training a prerequisite for delegations to either city to promote understanding of how messages may be interpreted, and thus potentially evoking unintended threat, fear and/or sadness.

- In keeping with the spirit of Boulder Council Resolution 1178 (Inclusive Community) BNSCP will continue to promote inclusivity in all its projects, as well as fostering environments where people of different backgrounds and beliefs feel welcomed. This will include the continued nurturing of relationships and incorporating feedback from those who might feel uncomfortable with the Sister City relationship, it's activities or projects. This will be designed to increase transparency and overcome cultural insensitivities and blind spots. Delegations to either city will be encouraged to interact with each city’s diverse populations of differing faiths and points-of-view.

- BNSCP will amend the application submitted to City Council to ensure it is complete and sensitive to the many populations in the city of Boulder.

- If desired, BNSCP will work with others to build an explicit process and/or governance structure where concerns may be raised and addressed.

Human Rights Commitment:

While Amnesty International, the UN Human Rights Council, and other neutral agencies have not found a systemic pattern of human rights violations by Nabulsis, we are committed to investigating any potential violations associated with our projects and relationships in Boulder or Nablus. We formally state here and in our application an unequivocal support for human rights, and solicit from those with whom we work likewise a declaration of support for human rights.

In practice this means at a minimum:

- In addition to Resolution 631’s requirement that an authorized representative sign a commitment to international human rights standards, the BNSCP Board of Directors and principal counterparts in Nablus will sign the same.
• If desired, the Board of Directors of BNSCP will work with members of the wider Boulder community to develop a set of standards for identifying and assessing potential violations and indicators for progress in human rights and inclusiveness in both Nablus and Boulder.

• In the annual report to City Council, BNSCP will devote a specific section on the relationship of our activities to human rights.

*"Being "501(c)(3)" means that a particular nonprofit organization has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, charitable organization. "Charitable" is broadly defined as being established for purposes that are religious, educational, charitable, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering of national or international amateur sports, or prevention of cruelty to animals and children."
RESOLUTION NO. 1190

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE SECOND MONDAY OF OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR TO BE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ DAY

WHEREAS, Indigenous People in Boulder respect the interdependence of all humanity and living things and celebrate a vast and rich living tradition through ancestral recognition and diversity of knowledge and perspectives; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous People in Boulder have, as in all parts of Americas, endured centuries of cruelty, exploitation and genocide; and

WHEREAS, the Boulder area encompasses ancestral homelands of Indigenous Peoples’ Nations; and

WHEREAS, facing and acknowledging our past, good as well as bad, makes our community stronger and more resilient; and

WHEREAS, Southern Arapaho Chief Left Hand notified a party of Nebraska gold seekers that they could not remain on Indian land at what is now known as Settlers Park, but the gold seekers planned to go into the mountains in the spring in search for gold; and

WHEREAS, after gold was discovered at Gold Run in January of 1859, Boulder City Town Company was founded by settlers on February 10 of 1859, thereby going against the agreement of the 1851 Treaty of Fort Laramie (also known as the Horse Creek Treaty) and

WHEREAS, in August of 1864, nearly 100 Boulder County residents mobilized into Company D of the Third Colorado Cavalry of U.S. Volunteers at Fort Chambers (near 63rd and Valmont Streets), to become ‘Indian Fighters’; and

WHEREAS, under the command of Colonel John Chivington, on November 29 of 1864 an estimated 230 peaceful Arapaho and Cheyenne people were killed along the Big Sandy Creek in southeastern Colorado by the First and Third Colorado Cavalry of U.S. Volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Captain David Nichols, a former Boulder County Sheriff, led the Company D volunteers, including 46 Boulder residents, in what is now known as the Sand Creek Massacre from which the Boulder troops enjoyed a heroes welcome upon their return; and

WHEREAS, Boulder has benefited directly from Indian removal policies that violated human rights, broke government treaties and forced Arapaho People from their homeland; and

WHEREAS, Boulder is honored to be home of several prominent Native organizations including the Native American Rights Fund founded in 1970, which is the largest nonprofit law firm dedicated to asserting and defending the rights of Indian tribes, organizations and individuals nationwide.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOULDER:

Section 1. That those now living on these ancestral lands recognize that harm was done and acknowledge that we have a shared responsibility to forge a path forward to address the past and continuing harm to the Indigenous People and the land.

Section 2. That in the pursuit of shared responsibility and of promoting knowledge about Indigenous Peoples, unifying communities, combating prejudice and eliminating discrimination against Indigenous Peoples, the City of Boulder does hereby resolve the second Monday in October of each year to be Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

Section 3. That on the second Monday in October of each year the City of Boulder will support events that encourage understanding and appreciation of Indigenous Peoples, their traditions, culture and our shared history in these ancestral lands known as the Boulder Valley.

Section 4. That City Council directs its City Manager to work with City departments, Native Americans and historians to correct omissions of the Native American presence in public places, resources and cultural programming.

Section 5. That as a first step, in recognition of a Memorandum of Understanding that the city entered into with Indigenous tribes concerning open space lands, the city requests input from representatives of those tribes and other interested parties regarding a name that commemorates the Indigenous presence on the park land known as Settlers Park and second, the city manager considers any application submitted to rename the park land based on the input of the Indigenous tribes and interested parties.

Section 6. That the City of Boulder, will work together in partnership with Native Americans to encourage all educational institutions in the city to implement accurate curricula relevant to the traditions, history and current issues of Indigenous People inclusive of and as part of our shared history.

APPROVED this 2ND day of AUGUST, 2016

CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk


RESOLUTION NO. 1178

A RESOLUTION RE-AFFIRMING BOULDER'S STATUS AS AND COMMITMENT TO BE AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY, ITS COMMITMENT TO WORKING WITH LOCAL PARTNERS TO IMPROVE SUPPORT FOR AND INCLUSION OF DIVERSITY, AND ENCOURAGING OTHER JURISDICTIONS AND THEIR ELECTED LEADERS TO DO THE SAME.

WHEREAS, the diversity of backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences of the American people – native and immigrant – makes our nation and communities richer and stronger; and

WHEREAS, the City of Boulder is proud of its long history of working to protect the civil rights and liberties of all of our residents, partner with our community leaders to speak out against human injustices and abuses, and welcome immigrants to our community; and

WHEREAS, Boulder has long advocated for public policies at all levels of government that promote inclusion, equity, health, and well-being of all people who live in our community; and

WHEREAS, Boulder strives to be inclusive in our city government through our hiring practices, our recruitment and appointment of diverse members to serve on advisory boards and commissions, and our communications and policies; and

WHEREAS, Boulder established a Human Relations Commission in 1973 to help foster mutual respect, celebrate and promote understanding of the diversity of the city's population, suggest appropriate changes to ordinances and policies, and enforce the City of Boulder's Human Rights Ordinance to prohibit discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Boulder established an Immigrant Advisory Committee in 2005 to advise the city on programs, services and processes that encourage and support immigrants' participation in local government and make recommendations to the city on policies and legislation affecting immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Boulder's past and current work includes numerous examples of efforts to embrace and support diversity and inclusion, including providing services intended to facilitate transition into our community, providing safety net services for our most vulnerable and marginalized residents, supporting Human Rights protections, adopting affordable housing programs, supporting diversity through cultural events such as immigrant heritage celebrations, and providing school-based programs that offer all students the opportunity to succeed; and
WHEREAS, despite our community’s collective efforts to create an inclusive and supportive community, a number of people still do not feel welcome, included, or safe in Boulder; and

WHEREAS, some members of our community continue to experience discrimination, harassment, and intimidation based on their cultural, religious or personal beliefs, identities, and practices; and

WHEREAS, while a large number of us never personally encounter discrimination or acts of hatred directed towards us, those that do suffer greatly because of it; and

WHEREAS, according to recent Community Foundation Trends reports, less than half of Boulder County residents feel we are welcoming to immigrants from other countries or racial and ethnic minorities; and

WHEREAS, recent international incidents of violence and terrorism have triggered a spate of hateful and hurtful rhetoric and actions in America against refugees and people of certain religious faiths and ethnic groups, causing local concerns and triggering a need to explicitly re-confirm our intentions, beliefs and values around inclusivity;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO, that:

Boulder re-affirms its status as, and commitment to be, an inclusive community and explicitly welcome all residents regardless of their age, race, ethnicity, country of origin, sexual preference or gender identity, ability, religion, income, political persuasion, citizenship status, or cultural practices; re-affirms its commitment to working with local partners in continuing to pursue policies and programs that improve our community’s support for and inclusion of diversity; and encourages other jurisdictions and their elected leaders to do the same.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015.

Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk
History of Nablus

In addition to the 2,000 year history that BNSCP has included in the December, 2015 application, we wish to point out that this is merely the history for the Municipality of Nablus. The area itself dates back five millennia.

Nablus is one of the Canaanites cities populated by those who came from Arabia to Palestine in 2500 B.C. Its geographical position on the trade roads made it an important commercial center for most of the successive civilizations as Pharaohs, Crusades, Mongols, Mamlukes, Ottomans and others.

Because of its position among the countries of the ancient world Nablus was influenced by the cultures of ancient Egyptians, Babylonians, Israelites, Assyrians, Persians, Greeks, Romans (who gave it its name Neapolis), Byzantines, the arrival of Islam, crusader invasions and the Ottoman era (all told, historians have said that over two dozen civilizations came and went in this region).

Of particular note, according to the Bible, Jesus stopped in Nablus for a drink at Jacob’s Well.

The Romans demolished the city in the 69AD, and in 72AD Vespasian, the Roman emperor, reconstructed an adjacent city that he called ‘Neapolis’ (the new city); hence the name Nablus.

The remains of the ancient Shechem exist a few kilometers outside the current city of Nablus, with large dry-stone walls, a spectacular testimony of the earliest history of this area.
Supplement 4

Maps of Nablus and the Region
Supplement 5

Project Updates

Early Readers Program

- Collaboration with the Middle East Children’s Alliance (MECA) and Sacramento Bethlehem Sister City to support the Palestine Writing Workshop’s (PWW) Book and Storytelling Project, which has produced 5 new and original children’s books in Arabic using Palestinian writers and illustrators. Training people in Palestine in the art of storytelling started the summer 2016 and continues through the fall of 2016. Other notable supporters of this project include: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Swedish government.

- Supporting the PWW in their training of 60 people in Nablus in the art of storytelling and providing each storyteller with copies of the new children’s books (5 books each, 300 books total), encouraging them to do weekly storytelling with children in libraries, public centers, and in homes and neighborhoods. The Awtar Center for Cultural Creativeness is one such public place where storytelling is taking place in Nablus.

- Currently underway is a collaboration with MECA and Sacramento Bethlehem Sister City to publish the 5 children’s books with English and Arabic (dual language) in order to share these stories with children and families in English-speaking communities (Boulder, for example). Additionally, we are excited about future opportunities to connect book writers/illustrators in Boulder and Nablus.

- Two of PWW’s five books have WON the Etisalat Award for Arabic Children’s Literature (over 151 books from across the Arab world competed). Berkat Al Asela Al Zarqa’a (The Pool of Blue Questions) was awarded Best Illustration. Additionally, Bolqosh won first prize for Best Production.

BNSCP is proud to have played even a small part in the success of these wonderful children’s books and the story telling project.

Pen Pal Program

- The pen pal program continues to be very popular with teachers in the both communities. This year we have more students from multiple schools (elementary, middle, and high school aged) participating in pen pal relationships than ever before.

Yoga Program

- Collaborating with our partners in Nablus, we are planning two weeks of Calming Kids™ yoga workshops to be offered to teachers, social workers, and other professionals who work with children, to be held in Spring 2017.

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Delegations

• In October 2016 BNSCP hosted a very special guest from Askar Refugee Camp in Nablus here in Boulder. Salwa is an English teacher at An Najah University and had much to share with those fortunate enough to have spent time with her.

• Currently underway is planning for the largest delegation from Boulder to Nablus ever. We anticipate bringing 10-15 visitors to spend 10-14 days in Nablus in the Spring of 2017. We are planning with partners in Nablus to create a rich cultural exchange opportunity.

Nablus Cultural Festival

• BNSCP sponsored two modern dancers from Boulder to perform at the Nablus Cultural Festival and offer dance workshops for youth in Nablus in the Spring of 2016.

• We are in conversation with several area artists about sponsoring their attendance at the 2017 Cultural Festival.

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Annual Meeting 2016 Minutes

ATTENDEES: Allison, Brenda, Carl, Claire, Dan, Diane, Doug, Essrea, Gordon, Mary, Andrew, Osie, Rich, Saib, Sergio, Stan, Suzanne, Vern, William, Ryan, Jennifer, Emily, Anastacia,

Proxies: Jane, Barbara, Leslie, Rob, Arnie, Jesse, Maria, Debbie, Julia

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATES FROM ACTIVITY COMMITTEES

Committee and individual reports were given regarding various activities involving Nablus.

MISSION STATEMENT

Motion by Gordon, second by Vern to approve the new mission statement. Approved unanimously. It now reads: The Boulder-Nablus Sister City Project fosters relationships through cultural, educational and professional exchanges, inspiring lifelong friendships that promote understanding and peace through person-to-person “citizen diplomacy”.

WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

The 2016-2017 work plan and budget were developed. Motion by Vern, second by Gordon to approve the work plan and budget. Passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board members Essrea, Stan, Debbie, Carl, Gordon terms were completed. All agreed to continue if requested. Essrea nominated Osie to fill a board position. Vern nominated Allison. Motion by Carl, second by Gordon to accept the slate of 7 for 2 year board terms. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of new members: Allison and Osie

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion by Carl, second by Doug to approve the list of officers. Motion passed unanimously.

Essrea, Chair

Vern, Vice-Chair

Sergio, Treasurer

Gordon, Secretary

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:45 PM

11/5/16

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. City Council</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Hearing Process</td>
<td>June 2016 - October 2016</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Community Town Halls</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Public Relations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Work Group Projects:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Art &amp; Culture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Nablus Festival — send artisans to represent Boulder</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Social / Humanitarian</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Projects, to be developed (such as trauma mitigation)</td>
<td>1st Quarter 2017</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Early Readers Program</td>
<td>Summer 2016</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Pen Pal Program</td>
<td>Sept 2016 - May 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Athletic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Yoga Training Delegation to Nablus</td>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Delegations / Service Visits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Partnerships / needs assessment</td>
<td>2016 - 2017</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>ii. Student or young adult volunteer in Nablus — matching grants up to $1,000 per student</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Guests from Nablus</td>
<td>April 2017</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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# Boulder-Nablus Sister City Project

## 2016 - 2017 Work Plan and Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Funds</th>
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<tr>
<td>4. Outreach</td>
<td></td>
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<td>a. Festival Materials - banners, printing, brochures, pita, etc.</td>
<td>September, 2016 May, 2017</td>
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<td>b. Booth Rental</td>
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<td>c. Presentations</td>
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<td>5. Fundraising</td>
<td>2016 - 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Operating Costs</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
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**Total Budget 2016 - 2017**

$23,000