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**RESOLUTION to Authorize Establishment of a Sister City Partnership
with Huehuetenango, Guatemala**

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville Sister Cities Commission (CSCC), a member of Sister Cities International, received authorization by resolution approved by the City Council on December 7, 2020, to initiate a sistering partnership between the City of Charlottesville, USA, and Huehuetenango City, Guatemala; and

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2021, the Mayor of Huehuetenango, Gustavo Adolfo Cano, accepted the invitation for the two cities to partner as "Friendship Cities," and since then, both cities have remained actively engaged in the process of mutual discovery, including an exploratory visit by a Huehuetenango delegation to Charlottesville in November 2023, followed by a reciprocal visit from a Charlottesville delegation to Huehuetenango in October 2025; and

WHEREAS, in response to community interest in establishing a Spanish-speaking Sister City, the CSCC conducted a robust selection process with significant community engagement and recommended Huehuetenango as Charlottesville's newest candidate for a Sister City partnership; and

WHEREAS, Huehuetenango and Charlottesville are well-matched as Sister Cities, based on shared values, cultural similarities, and strong support from individuals and organizations in both communities, including ongoing collaboration with the local advocacy group, GuateMaya Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville Sister Cities Commission has formally approved the advancement of the partnership between the two cities;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, USA, that a Sister City partnership between Charlottesville and Huehuetenango is hereby officially established; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the two cities, which formalizes the terms, goals, and commitments of the Sister City partnership.

Date Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council