

*City of Alexandria, Virginia*

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 5, 2006

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO #82: SISTER CITIES PROGRAM

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This is in response to Councilman Krupicka's request for detailed information on the \$50,000 request to cover half of the cost of a Youth Summit which would bring official delegations and five students from the City's sister cities to Alexandria for a four-day weekend event. Five Alexandria high school students and representatives from the City's sister cities committees would also participate.

Alexandria has four sister cities: Helsingborg, Sweden, Gyumri, Armenia, Caen, France, and Dundee, Scotland. As a sister city event, the City would be responsible for all in-country expenses for visiting participants which include: the official delegations (Mayor and four other persons), the students (five from each city), and their teacher/chaperones (two from each city). In-country expenses include food and lodging (the largest expenditure), transportation, structured classroom experience for the students as well as leisure time activities. A concurrent program would be planned for the members of the official delegations (for times when the students are in a classroom setting). The major portion of the \$50,000 would cover the costs of three meals a day and hotel room costs. The event is projected to cost approximately \$100,000 in total. The other half of the money would be secured through community fundraising.