



# Twin Cities – Ramat Gan, Israel

Huntington Beach City Council  
October 15, 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL  
COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: 10/15/2024

Agenda Item No. 10 (24-740)

# Background

On September 17, 2024, the City Council approved a Council Member Item brought forward by Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark and Council Member Tony Strickland directing the City Manager's Office to implement steps to establish a Memorandum of Understanding as Sister Cities with Ramat Gan, Israel.

- Establishment of Committee – Three City Council Members and one City staff (Mayor Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Burns, Council Member Strickland, Jennifer Carey – Acting Deputy City Manager)



# Ramat Gan, Israel

- Population of approximately 200,000 (similar to Huntington Beach)
- Located in Tel Aviv District, known as a Coastal District
- Established in 1914, founded in 1921
- Home to Israel's largest hospital & world's largest diamond exchange
- Both Ramat Gan & Huntington Beach have a history of agriculture
- Both Ramat Gan & Huntington Beach are home to Chabad Centers
- Ramat Gan passed Huntington Beach Twin City Resolution



# Israel Global Foundation

- California Nonprofit Corporation
- Founded in July 2023
- Mission: Secure the existence of Israel by strengthening the relationship between the world & Israel through innovative education, advocacy, delegation & coalition building.
- Hosted numerous advocacy & education events, such as:
  - “Stand with Israel – Commemorating October 7”
  - “Stand with Israel – Testimony from Holocaust & October 7 Witnesses” (In partnership with Orange County Israel Foundation)
  - “Teaching Tolerance at a Young Age – Joseph Alexander”
  - “Exposing Antisemitism & Terrorism”



# Recommendation

Adopt Resolution No. 2024-55, “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach, California Authorizing a Twin City Partnership with the City of Ramat-Gan, Israel.”

- Partnership with Ramat Gan, Israel, with Israel Global Foundation (IGF) acting as non-profit liaison.
  - Similar to a Sister City Association, IGF to oversee fundraising efforts to fund advocacy/education programming in Huntington Beach & Ramat Gan.
  - City to provide meeting & facility space for education programming & ongoing engagement.



# Questions?

