Protocol Agreement on Cooperation

Between

City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality

and the

City of Washington, D.C
Background:

The City of Washington, D.C. (hereinafter referred to as “District of Columbia”) and the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality (hereinafter referred to as “City of Tshwane”) have mutually agreed to enter into a Protocol Agreement (hereinafter referred to as “Agreement”) that will create closer friendship and cooperation between both cities.

Both cities will exchange information and cooperate on activities in areas of public safety, economic development with a focus on tourism promotion, social development, public administration, and citizens’ participation in public policy.

Under this Agreement, the Executive Mayor of the City of Tshwane, Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, Anthony A. Williams, have agreed to further the mutual interests and goals of both cities to benefit the citizens of Tshwane and the District of Columbia.

General Demographic Information

The City of Tshwane, with an estimated population of 2.2 million is the national capital of South Africa. Under the current local government structure, the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality possesses greater management and oversight responsibility for the operations of the city services.

The City of Washington, D.C. is comprised of approximately 570,000 people and is the capital city of the United States. The District of Columbia is unique in that it operates as a city and a state, and the seat of federal government. When the U.S. Congress chartered the present city government in 1973, it retained the power to review legislation passed by the Council of the District of Columbia, to control policy through a review of the budget; and reserved its own authority to legislate for the District.

Under this Agreement, both Cities hereby agree to the following:
Article 1

Both Cities agree to exchange ideas and joint strategies on public safety issues. Joint discussions may include, but not limited to: (1) ways to utilize existing city police resources to reduce urban crime; (2) sharing best demonstrated practices that enhance the quality of policing services in local communities; (3) facilitation of public-private partnerships with emphasis placed on citizens’ participation. Substantive discussions between key public safety officials, which include police, fire and emergency medical services personnel of the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality and the District of Columbia will be encouraged and supported.

Article 2

Both Cities shall exchange ideas and promote joint economic development strategies for increasing tourism between the City of Tshwane and the District of Columbia. Promotion strategies might include, but are not limited to, meeting with key convention and tourism officials and travel industry experts, and business representatives that monitor and promote general tourism and cultural exchanges. Both cities shall maintain timely and close contacts between their respective representatives, and their chambers of commerce and appropriate business and university groups that have vested interest in increasing tourism. Both Cities shall exchange information and promotional materials between hotel and travel associations in the City of Tshwane and the District of Columbia, for increasing overall tourism, business opportunities, and other travel activities by citizens of both capitals.

Article 3

Both Cities shall exchange information and develop joint strategies in the areas of social development and health policies, as it relates to behavioral and social science research on women, children, and families affected by HIV/AIDS in the City of Tshwane and the District of Columbia. This may include, but not limited to, joint cooperation and partnerships between social scientists and researchers in the City of Tshwane and District of Columbia Department of Health and its affiliate organizations, which are conducting research in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention.

Article 4

Both Cities shall exchange and work collaboratively on information technology issues to promote and enhance public administration and related services. Joint discussions on technology applications and systems might include, but are not limited to: (1) best demonstrated practices for selecting and implementing effective information technologies; (2) electronic government architectures and systems applications for administering government projects and municipal business processes; and (3) information sharing on effective policies and procedures for managing geographic information systems and enhancing our respective cities’ communication centers. Substantive
discussions between key private and public information technology experts in the City of Tshwane and the District of Columbia, including the District’s Office of the Chief Technology Officer will be encouraged and supported.

Article 5

Both Cities will encourage and promote citizens’ participation and involvement through the creation of Neighborhood Action Committees (NAC). The Committees will mobilize and coordinate community outreach activities around citywide, neighborhood, or township’s strategic planning initiatives to improve the quality of life of residents in both cities. This might include, but not limited to: (1) sharing best demonstrated practices to increase citizens’ participation in the public policy and strategic planning processes; (2) establishing partnerships between public, private, non-governmental and non-profit organizations in both cities; and (3) pursuing financial and technical support from public-private partnership resources to achieve citywide, neighbor or township strategic priorities in both cities.

Article 6

Both cities shall cooperate in other endeavors to increase the quality of life in each respective city. These endeavors may include, but not be limited to the following: cultural exchanges, university level exchange, scientific exchange, and sport exchange; or in accordance with other interests, which both parties might recommend.

Article 7

The City of Washington, D.C. designates the Office of the Secretary of the District of Columbia, which is located in the Executive Office of the Mayor, to oversee and monitor the progress of this Agreement and to help facilitate all planned andanticipated actions between both Executive offices. Likewise, the City of Tshwane will designate the International Relations Unit in the Office of the Executive Mayor. The above offices shall provide administrative support for implementation of this Agreement. Key individuals and/or offices to contact regarding this Agreement are attached.

Article 8

Both Cities shall establish a joint Steering Committee under the direction of the offices designated in Article 7 to coordinate, promote and monitor the exchanges of ideas and strategies. This joint Steering Committee will facilitate all planned and anticipated actions between both cities and report directly to the designated offices. Where necessary the Steering Committee shall create subcommittees for specific responsibilities. To the extent possible, representatives from both cities will meet annually and alternately in the City of Tshwane and District of Columbia to report on progress and set new timetables and goals for the coming year. In addition, both cities will also participate periodically in scheduled teleconferences between the respective parties.
This Agreement will be implemented for a period not to exceed five-years and will take effect on the date of its signature.


Anthony A. Williams
Mayor
District of Columbia

Father Smangalisso Mkhathwana
Executive Mayor
City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality
Key individuals and/or offices to contact regarding the Cooperation Agreement

Beverly D. Rivers, Esq.
Secretary of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 419
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 727-6306
(202) 727-6306 (fax)
E-mail: beverly.rivers@dc.gov

Ms. Itumeleng Maake
Manager, International Relations Office
City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality
Room 2002, Second Floor
Munitoria Building
Van Der Walt & Vermoulen Street
Pretoria, South Africa
011-27-12-308-7974
Email: ItumelengM@TSHWANE.Gov.Za