

Sister City Program

Canby, Oregon & Bắc Giang, Vietnam



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March 4, 2026 | Canby City Council



Sister City International

- **Sister City International** was formed in 1956 by President Eisenhower as a “People-to-People” program.
- **Mission:** *To promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, cooperation – one individual, one community at a time.*
- Focuses on creating global relationships based on cultural, educational, informational, and trade exchanges.



SisterCities
INTERNATIONAL
Connect globally. Thrive locally.



Creation of Sister City Relationship

Sister City Relationships can be formed a number of ways:

- Cities can join Sister City International as member and be paired with an international city,
- Municipalities can seek pairing with an international city due to historical/demographic connections,
- Community organization/business can recommend the sister city relationship due to trade and cultural relationships.



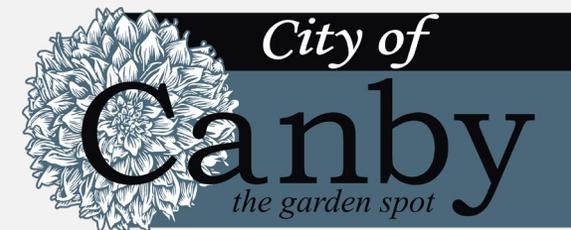
Creation of Sister City Relationship

- Sister city relationships are “recognized” when the mayor or highest elected official from two communities sign an agreement to become sister cities – this occurs after each city approves an agreement, resolution, or proclamation at the municipal level.
- Management of local sister city organizations is varied.
 - Sister City organizations can be run by groups of volunteers, representatives from local institutions, the municipality, or a combination of these.
 - Most are incorporated as 501 © 3 nonprofits, although the municipal government may have representation or a formal relationship.



Initiating a Sister City in Canby

- Canby was approached to consider initiating a Sister City relationship with Bắc Giang, Vietnam.
- Bắc Giang is the capital of Bắc Ninh Province in Vietnam.
- The request was received through Senator Christine Drazan's office – after meeting between Senator Drazan, Amy Nguyen (owner, Dragonberry Produce INC, & President of the United Vietnam Alliance) & Daniel Wong (Vice President of the UVA).
- Dragonberry Produce INC has deep cultural and professional connections to Vietnam – both of which serve as foundational pieces for a Sister City relationship.



Dragonberry Produce INC.

- Dragonberry Produce INC was founded in 2004 on a vision to champion local farmers and introduce the vibrant flavors of the East to a wider audience.
- Dragonberry opened in the Canby Pioneer Industrial park in 2013; Phase 2 opened in 2023; and a future Phase 3 is planned.
- Dragonberry has worked to build “a company position not just as a distributor of extraordinary produce, but as a bridge between Vietnam’s agricultural potential and the world’s most discerning markets”.



United Vietnam Alliance (UVA)

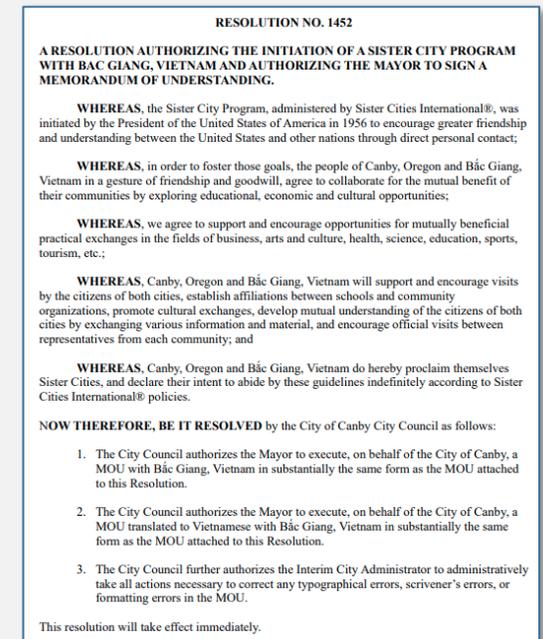
The **United Vietnam Alliance (UVA)** is a non-profit organization established on December 9th, 2024, under the laws of the State of Oregon as a 501(c)(3) entity. Our mission is to serve as a united global platform committed to fostering an alliance for prosperity and exchange with Vietnam. Through collaborative efforts, we aim to promote economic growth, cultural understanding, and mutual development between the United States and Vietnam.

Mission: *To serve as a united global platform committed to fostering a strategic alliance for peace, prosperity and exchange with Vietnam. Through collaboration, we promote economic growth, cultural understanding, and mutual development between the United States and Vietnam.*



Process for Canby & Bắc Giang

- Sister City International recommended to Canby, Oregon and Bắc Giang, Vietnam:
 - Both cities to adopt resolutions, or the appropriate corresponding action, affirming their commitment
 - *Resolution 1452*
 - A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would then be signed by the Mayors of both cities
 - *English and Vietnamese MOU to be signed*
- Senator Drazan plans to visit Vietnam with Amy Nguyen and has graciously offered to be the conduit between the cities bringing the signed MOU from Canby, OR to Bắc Giang, Vietnam for signing.



What Are Your Questions?

