



Pam Iorio, Mayor

## *Affirmation of Partnership*

**Whereas,** the Sister Cities Program, administered by Sister Cities International, was initiated by the President of the United States of America in 1956 to encourage greater friendship and understanding between the United States and other nations through direct personal contact; and

**Whereas,** in order to foster those goals, the people of the City of Tampa, Florida, United States of America, and the City of Ashdod, Israel, in gesture of friendship and goodwill agree to collaborate for the mutual benefit of their communities by exploring educational, economic and cultural opportunities; and

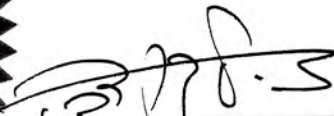
**Whereas,** we agree to support and encourage opportunities for mutually beneficial practical exchanges in the fields of economic and tourism development, culture and arts, education, and sports.

**Now Therefore,** the City of Tampa and the City of Ashdod, Israel do hereby proclaim themselves Sister Cities, and declare their intent to abide by these guidelines indefinitely, according to Sister Cities International policies.

This document shall go into effect on the date of signature.



Pam Iorio  
Mayor, City of Tampa  
6 May 2005



Zvi Zilker  
Mayor, City of Ashdod  
6 May 2005