

for cleaning up the property; however based on the last citizen survey and after hearing from the residents of the community, they want us to do things like this. He hears that residents want more open space and parks.

Council Member Townsend had concerns about this project and being fiscally responsible; but Jeff knows what he is doing and feels it is a good deal so he has changed his mind.

Council Member Loban initially was not in favor of the project due to the cost, but they have negotiated a fair price and did their due diligence and that the funds are coming from the cash in lieu fund.

Mayor Bower recognized Teal for his hard work on this for his constituents.

Mayor Gray stated it was hard work and thanked the staff.

No public comment.

Moved by Council Member Teal, seconded by Council Member Townsend, that Resolution 2019-117 be Approved as presented. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Loban, Townsend, Bracken, Bower, Johnson, Gray, Teal

[DIR 2019-030](#)

Discussion/Direction: Potential Sister Cities Program Participation

Kristen Read, Assistant Town Manager, responded to Council's request to provide information on a Sister City program. They spoke with Arvada, Commerce City, Longmont, Brighton, our local schools and the Outlets. Most programs have minimal funding and are mostly supported by strong volunteer participation. They are not hearing much community desire for this program.

Council Member Loban asked why Castle View was not on the list. Read did not hear directly from them, but believes there is a representative here. Loban feels there is potential if there are schools to participate.

Mayor Pro Tem Bower asked if any community had any strong feelings for this program. Read stated there wasn't one particular thing pointed out.

Bracken would like to explore it further.

Townsend asked if this is something the Town would do and manage on an annual basis. Corliss stated that his previous employer had a strong student exchange program and was successful with strong community support.

Individuals that addressed Council:

Ryan Hollingshead, resident, and assistant activities director at Castle View High School. He feels students learn about other cultures, and they see 60-70 students that study abroad or go on cultural trips. The sister city would be something students would experience throughout school. A place they can connect to and build ongoing connections.

Carol Downs, new resident of two years, stated she loves the vibrancy and how people participate in the town her friend is looking at in Italy. She appreciates watching the youth in the town and feels it is a great opportunity for kids to exchange ideas.

Richard Allred, resident, worked for a town in the Pheonix metro area and they had a couple of sister cities in Ireland and China. He feels it is good for students from a cultural standpoint and technology standpoint,

Gayle Stallings, volunteer for sister cities international and state representative. They have 50 programs in Colorado. They had their state conference in Gunnison who formed a relationship with India, and they have gone there twice in two years. The program started in 1956. Alot of programs do student exchanges. They do delegation visits and have cultural events.

Stephen Crawford, played a recording from Castel Di Sasso, Italy and handed out a photo (Attachment A).

Kathy Jackson, current chair for Denver Sister Cities, has been involved since 1998 and lived in Italy when she was a child. She feels this provides economic, cultural and educational opportunities.

Council Member Teal likes that it is more of a volunteer citizen driven program and to see what staff brings back.

Council Member Bracken feels it is all positive. He has been to 33 countries and always learns something about other cultures and people.

Council Member Loban thinks we could put infrastructure in place and support schools to embrace it.

Council Member Townsend has concerns of increasing responsibilities for Town staff. He feels it is best left to the schools and the school district if it is something they are interested in.

Mayor Pro Tem Bower feels it is more work and feels it is the schools responsibility. He was hoping to hear that we would be going over there to study how they do infrastructure projects. Bower feels it should be a volunteer effort.

Council Member Johnson agrees with Townsend and Bower as well. A non-profit organization could do it and report to Council.

Moved by Council Member Loban, seconded by Council Member Teal, to direct staff to produce a report to pursue a sister city relationship. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Loban, Bracken, Johnson, Gray, Teal

No: 2 - Townsend, Bower

**RECESS TO TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK FESTIVAL PARK COMMONS GENERAL
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING**