

COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND  
Resolution 2017- R-11

**Introduced by:** CM David Lingua

**Date Introduced:** July 3, 2017

**Date Adopted:** July 3, 2017

**Date Effective:** July 3, 2017

**A Proclamation Reaffirming Riverdale Park's Commitment to its Sister City Ipala, Guatemala**

**WHEREAS**, Riverdale Park and Ipala are approaching the tenth anniversary of their sister cities relationship;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the relationship has been active, friendly and fruitful for the two communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the original intension of the agreement to foster friendship and understanding between Riverdale Park and Ipala as well as citizens of the United States and Guatemala continues to be a worthy undertaking;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the towns have sponsored at least one exchange of officials, teachers or other representatives each year since the original proclamation of their sister city agreement in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the Riverdale Park officials have gained a much better understanding of the cultural background of many of the immigrants who live in Riverdale Park; and

**WHEREAS**, dozens of Prince George's County English as Second Language teachers have improved their professional foundation through visiting and teaching in Ipala over the past summers; and

**WHEREAS**, the local group of Ipalteco expatriates "Ipalteco Ausentes" has on numerous occasions contributed significant voluntary labor and assistance to the town to improve and beautify public spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Riverdale Park remains anxious to welcome and host visitors from Ipala to foster cultural, educational and technical exchanges that includes but are not necessarily limited to: music and dance groups; teachers and educational administrators; municipal officials investigating best practices in fire protection, refuse management, recycling refuse, and municipal administration; and others officially sent from the Municipality of Ipala;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it proclaimed that on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2017, the Town of Riverdale Park does officially renew and recommit to actively and faithfully engage in its Sister City Agreement with Ipala, Guatemala and that we look forward to many more years of mutual improvements and benefits with our Guatemalan friends.

**ATTEST:**

  
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John Lestitan, Town Manager

**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF  
RIVERDALE PARK**

  
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Alan K. Thompson, Mayor