



Sister City Program  
of Gainesville, Inc.

# President Eisenhower



- + Two deeply held convictions unite us in common purpose:
- + First is our belief in effective, responsive local government as a principal bulwark of freedom
- + Second is our faith in the great promise of sister city affiliations in helping build the solid structure of world peace



# Sister Cities International



A GLOBAL CITIZEN  
DIPLOMACY NETWORK

- + Assists cities in every phase of the twinning process by providing guidance, support, programs and exchanges
- + Participates in the Library of Congress' Open World Program, which has sent 15 delegations to Gainesville since 2002





# Gainesville's Sister Cities

- + Manizales, Columbia
- + Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- + Novorossiisk, Russia
- + Matagalpa, Nicaragua
  - + Jacmel, Haiti
- + Kfar Saba and Qalqilya (Trilateral)
  - + Duhok, Iraq
  - + Rzeszow, Poland

# Sister City Program of Gainesville, Inc.



- + [www.gnvsistercities.org](http://www.gnvsistercities.org)
- + Created in 1997
- + Not for Profit Organization
  - + IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt
- + Coordinates sister city programs for the City of Gainesville
- + All volunteer – no paid staff
  - + No government funding

# Duhok, Iraq



- + Founded in 2006 by resolution of the Gainesville City Commission
- + Hosted 25 young Iraqi leaders in Gainesville in 2008 (through Sister Cities International)



# Novorossiisk, Russia



- + Founded in 1982
- + More than 25 delegations exchanged
- + Gainesville mayors who have led delegations:
  - + Court Collier
  - + Jean Chalmers
  - + Cynthia Chestnut
  - + Jim Painter
  - + Mac McEachern
  - + David Coffey
  - + Bruce Delaney
  - + Tom McKnew

# Novorossiisk, Russia



## + Highlights

- + Public Television documentary of the Cross Creek Cloggers and Bucksnot Barndance Band five-city Soviet tour
- + UF School of Theatre and Dance performances in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Novorossiisk
- + Novorossiisk Chamber Orchestra performances in Gainesville
- + Children's Art exchange with Alachua county schools





# Matagalpa, Nicaragua



- + Founded in 1988
- + First delegation to Matagalpa led by Paul Doughty, Robert Hutchinson and Dr. Jape Taylor
- + Dr. Taylor returned with medical students and supplies
- + Water treatment plant built with discarded GRU equipment provided potable water to Matagalpa
- + *Casa Materna* “*Mary Ann Jackman*” clinic and obstetric center has helped over 14,000 poor rural women deliver healthy babies

# Kfar Saba, Israel Qalqilya, Palestine



- + Unique three-way relationship founded in 1998 by resolution of the Gainesville City Commission
- + First delegation to Kfar Saba and Qalqilya led by Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan in 1998
- + Seven delegations from Kfar Saba and Qalqilya have visited Gainesville





# Jacmel, Haiti



- + Founded in 1988
- + 10 delegations from Gainesville to Jacmel
- + "Haiti Week" organized by Santa Fe College in 2012
- + Jacmel artists in Gainesville in November for Downtown Arts Festival



# Rzeszow, Poland



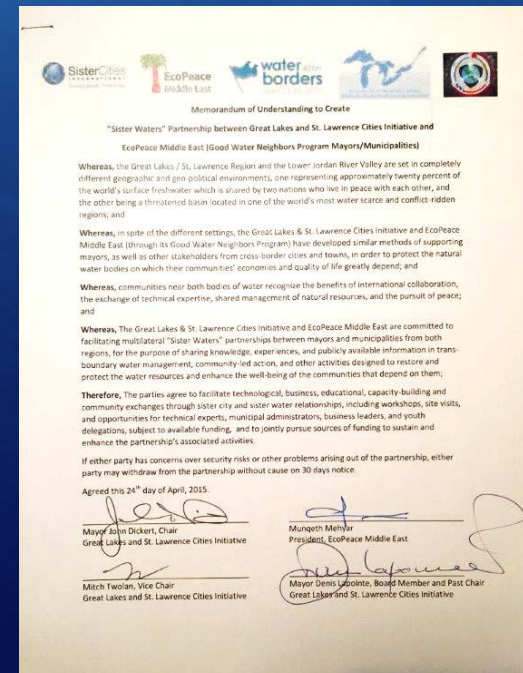
- + Founded in February 2013
- + Mayor Braddy led a delegation to Rzeszow in November 2013
- + “Week of Polish Culture and Business” in Gainesville in September 2014



# Sister Waters Agreement



- At the *Water After Borders* Summit in Chicago in April, 2015, mayors and city officials from the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative sign an agreement with Sister Cities International, EcoPeace Middle East, and Citizen Diplomacy Initiatives to facilitate sister city relationships with Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian cities in the Jordan River Valley.







# Jordan Valley Sister Cities

- + Working to promote multilateral sister city relationships among US, Palestinian, Israeli and Jordanian communities
- + *Four organizations, one goal:* Sister Cities International, EcoPeace Middle East, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and Citizen Diplomacy Initiatives







# Citizen Diplomacy Tours

- + A unique travel experience focusing on citizen diplomacy and relationship building
- + Programs include:
  - + Visits to Gainesville's sister cities with in depth cultural experiences and homestays
  - + Environmental Volunteer Tour (Israel, Palestine, Jordan)
  - + Religious Studies Tour



# Russian-American Sister Cities Summit



- + February 15-17, 2016 in Gainesville
- + Bringing together Russian and American mayors and sister city delegates to discuss innovative ways to foster municipal cooperation and people to people exchanges through the 75 Russian-American Sister City programs.

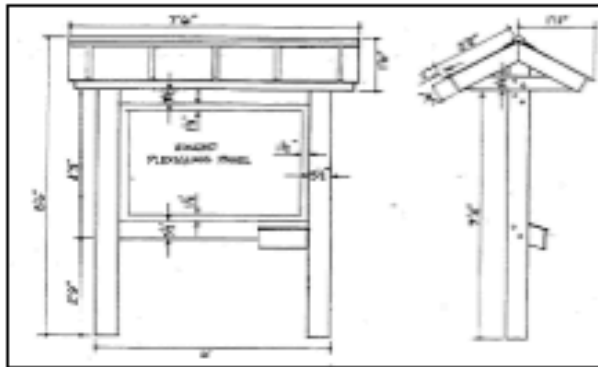




# Sister Cities Pavilion

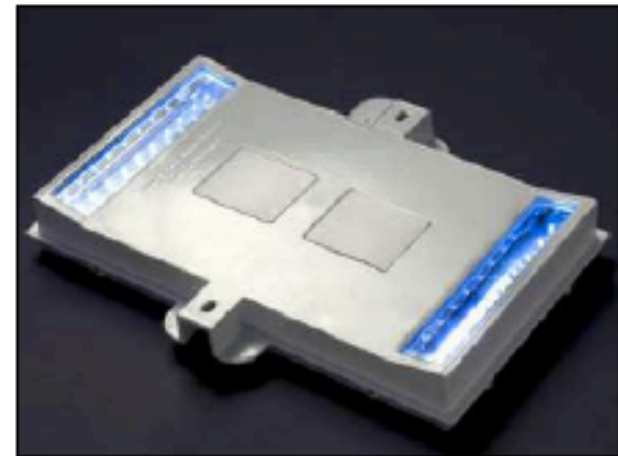






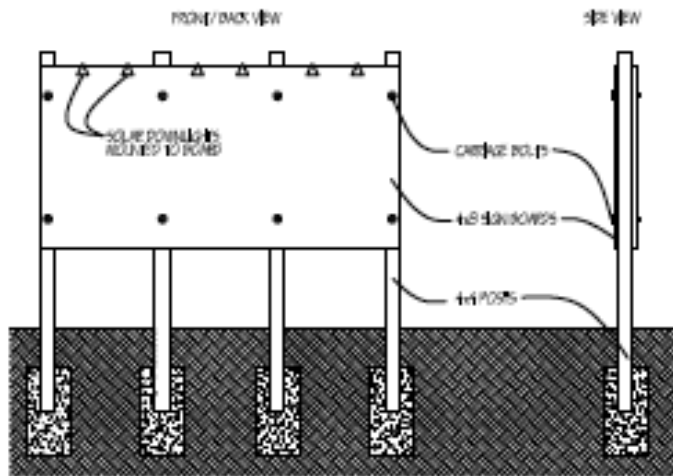
Kiosk (specs by others)

NTS



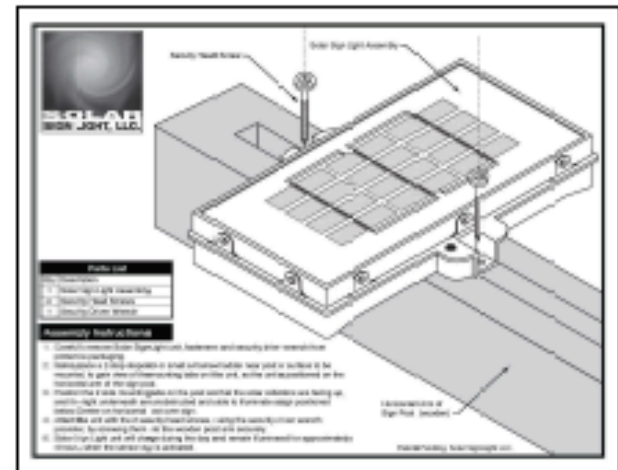
Solar Light for Signs (thesolarlight.com)

NTS



Mural Sign (specs by others)

NTS

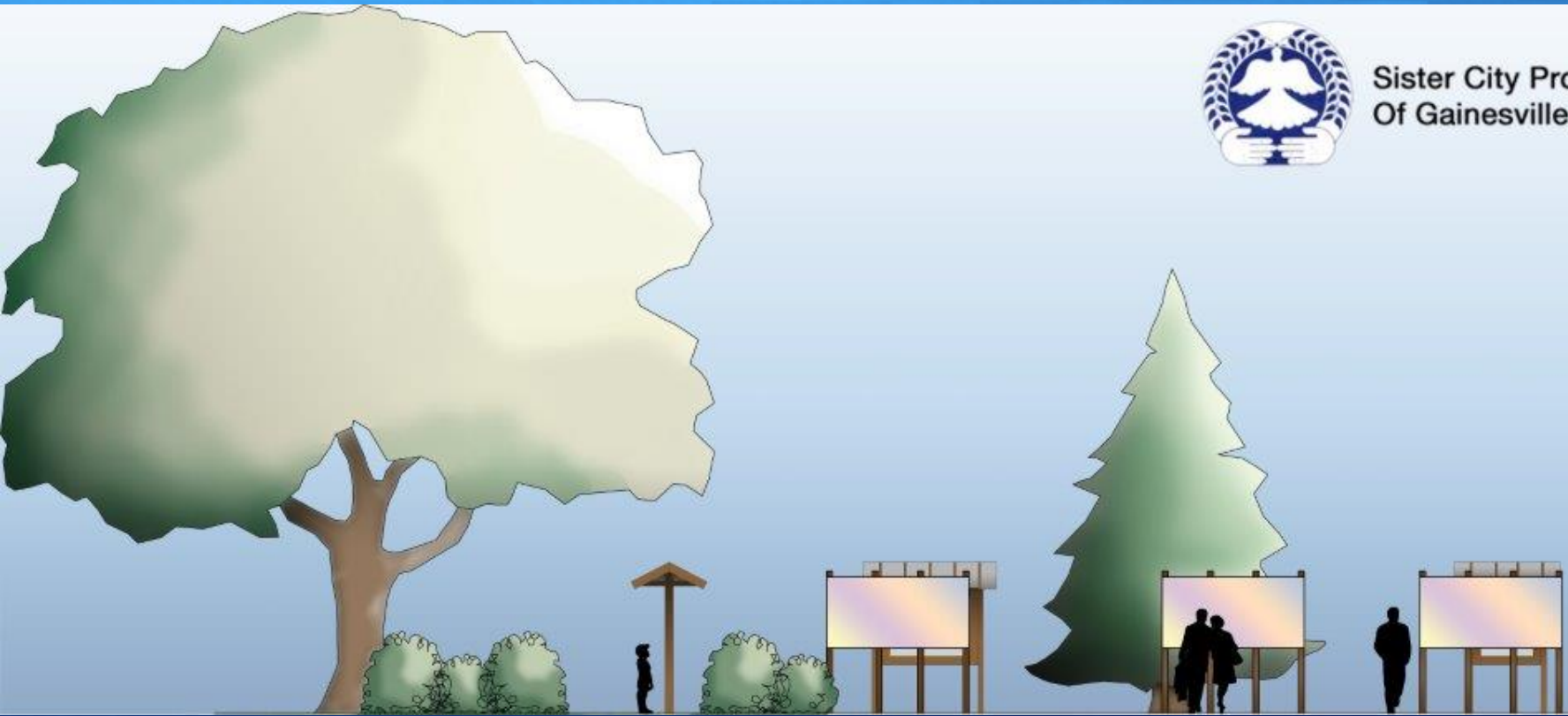


Solar Light Installation

NTS



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# Sister Cities Pavilion (Artist's Rendering)