

TO: Mr. Chris Holden, Mayor of Pasadena

From: Pasadena Sister Cities – Vanatzor Subcommittee

Date: February 8, 1999

RE: March 15, 1999 presentation to the City Council of Pasadena Sister Cities Committee Student Exchange Program with Vanatzor, Armenia.

The Pasadena Sister Cities Committee has been chosen to take part in a special project to help build greater understanding between the people of the United States and people of the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

The project entitled “High Schools on the Super Highway” is funded by the United States Information Agency and under the auspices of Sister Cities International based in Washington D.C.

The project awarded to Pasadena will link two Pasadena high schools with two high schools in Vanatzor, Armenia via internet and students will communicate with each other using the theme “Volunteerism and Community”. Pasadena schools chosen to take part in this program are Marshall and Pasadena High Schools.

The program has two phases. After several months of internet activity, twenty students from Vanatzor will visit Pasadena on March 5, 1999 for a period of 21 days, attending classes at Marshall and Pasadena High Schools as well as take part in volunteer activities in the city. Several community groups have indicated interest in taking part in this phase of the program. During the second phase of the program, twenty students from Marshall and Pasadena High Schools will visit Vanatzor, Armenia. They will attend

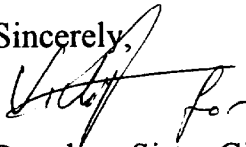
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classes and take part in such volunteer projects as are available in their host city. The departure date for the Pasadena students will be in early April 1999.

This is the second such project for Pasadena. In 1994, Pasadena hosted ten students from Vanatzor for six weeks. At that time, the students were paired with Pasadena students and were involved in the many cultural activities in Pasadena and the surrounding area. Pasadena is one of the only two cities selected for this current project. The other city is Tuscon, Arizona.

The Pasadena Sister Cities Vanatzor Subcommittee would very much appreciate the opportunity for a presentation of this exchange program to the City Council at its meeting on March 15, 1999.

Sincerely,



Pasadena Sister Cities Vanatzor Subcommittee

Cc: Vice-mayor Joyce Streater
Councilmember Paul Little
Councilmember William Papanian
Councilmember William Crowfoot
Councilmember Ann Marie Villacana
Councilmember Sid Tyler
Cynthia J. Kurtz, City Manager ✓