



Proclamation

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO Recognizing the 40th Anniversary of the Establishment Of the Sister City Program between Warabi, Japan and El Dorado County

WHEREAS, the city of Warabi, Japan has been a sister city to El Dorado County and its communities since 1975, and 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of this designation; and,

WHEREAS, El Dorado County has a special historical connection to Warabi through the Japanese settlers and colonists who traveled to El Dorado County to establish a tea and silk colony under the direction of John Henry Schnell and raise families thus creating strong bonds between El Dorado County and the citizens of Japan; and,

WHEREAS, through the “People to People International Program,” many citizens and groups of students have exchanged visits to host families in El Dorado County and to host families in Warabi effectively demonstrating the principles its founder, President Eisenhower, believed – that “people will make friends across, around, over and under all the natural and man-made barriers which separate them.”; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of “People to People International” is to enhance international understanding and friendship through educational, cultural, and humanitarian activities involving the exchange of ideas and experiences directly among people of different countries and diverse cultures and promotes peace through understanding; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Warabi is hosting a contingent of visitors from El Dorado County to celebrate and mark this milestone 40th Anniversary. Among these visitors will be Board Chair, Supervisor Brian K. Veerkamp, an elected official representing citizens of El Dorado County, and his family; all of whom will act as ambassadors of friendship and emissaries for renewed commitment to the Sister City Program. Supervisor Veerkamp is a 5th generation decedent of the Veerkamp family that in 1871 provided a home and employment for two Japanese immigrants on their Gold Hill Ranch in El Dorado County, CA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Supervisors, of the County of El Dorado, does hereby recognize our county’s unique and important sister city relationship with Warabi, Japan, and extends thanks and appreciation to the citizens of Warabi for the spirit of friendship and sharing they have demonstrated to our citizens in these past 40 years; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FUTHER PROCLAIMED, that El Dorado county holds its sister city designation with Warabi, Japan in high regard and pledges to continue this sharing program of friendship and cultural sharing for the benefit of future generations.

Passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 20th day of October, 2015.

Attest:

James S. Mitrisin

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

by:

Deputy Clerk

Brian K. Veerkamp, Chair, Board of Supervisors