

**THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**RESOLUTION  
NUMBER 2024-006**

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**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND,  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, COMMEMORATING ITS  
SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH  
RIPACANDIDA, ITALY**

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**FRED BILOTTO, Mayor  
RAEANN CANTELO-ZYLMAN, City Clerk  
JAIRO FRAUSTO, Treasurer**

**DEXTER JOHNSON  
LUIZ MONTOYA  
NANCY RITA  
BILL FAHRENWALD  
GABRIEL McGEE  
CANDACE CARR  
JOSH ROLL**

**Alderman**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-006**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS,  
COMMEMORATING ITS SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH  
RIPACANDIDA, ITALY**

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**WHEREAS**, the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois (the “City”) is a duly organized and existing City created under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois and operating under the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, with full powers to enact ordinances and adopt resolutions for the benefits of the residents of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sister Cities concept was inaugurated in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to establish friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and other nations through person-to-person exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, Sister Cities promote economic development and global understanding by assisting and encouraging the citizens of one city to form friendships and contacts with cities throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2006, the City of Blue Island welcomed as its Sister City the town of Ripacandida, located in the Basilicata region of Southern Italy; and

**WHEREAS**, near the turn of the Century, immigrants from across Europe arrived in Blue Island in search of the American Dream. Italian immigrants hailing from the Basilicata region began settling in Blue Island during this time, building homes near the rail roads that brought them, and settling on the East Side and South Side of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, through their first decade in Blue Island, Italian immigrants began making Blue Island their home, building houses, establishing businesses, and starting families. In 1905,

they sought their own place of worship. As such, the community established and built with their own hands St. Donatus Catholic Church, dedicating the new church to the patron saint of Ripacandida, San Donato. The church still sits today on the East Side where it continues to be a cultural centerpiece to Italian descendants of Blue Island;

**WHEREAS**, following World War II, Italian immigration once again swelled and the population of Blue Island became predominant with Italian descendants, many attaining elected office in the City and State. To this day, the cultural imprint of Italy and specifically Ripacandida is strong throughout the City;

**WHEREAS**, this Resolution honors the spirit of the first Italian immigrants that settled in this region and the tremendous contributions Italians and Italian-Americans have made to Blue Island throughout the years;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Blue Island deem it advisable and in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City for the City to commemorate its Sister City relationship with Ripacandida, Italy and to continue to promote cultural and business ties and to provide a cooperative framework to strengthen economic endeavors and foster social activities with this Sister City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and the Aldermen of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

**Section 1.** That the above recitals and legislative findings are found to be true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

**Section 2.** That the Mayor and Aldermen find and determine that the adoption of this Resolution is in the best interests of the City as well as in the best interests of the public.

**Section 3.** That the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, United States of America commemorates its Sister City relationship with Ripacandida, Italy.

**Section 4.** If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Resolution shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution.

**Section 5.** All ordinances, resolutions, motions, or orders in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 6.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

*(Left intentionally blank)*

ADOPTED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY, 2024, pursuant to roll call as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman JOHNSON			X		
Alderman FAHRENWALD	X				
Alderman RITA	X				
Alderman MONTOYA	X				
Alderman MCGEE	X				
Alderman CARR	X				
Alderman ROLL	X				
Mayor BILOTTO					
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APPROVED by the Mayor on FEBRUARY 27, 2024.

FRED BILOTTO  
 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND,  
 COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

ATTESTED and Filed in my office this  
 27<sup>TH</sup> day of FEBRUARY, 2024.

RAEANN CANTELO-ZYLMAN, CITY CLERK

STATE OF ILLINOIS     )  
                                  )  
COUNTY OF COOK     )     ss.

**CERTIFICATION**

**I, RAEANN CANTELO-ZYLMAN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT** I am the duly elected City Clerk of the City of Blue Island, Illinois, as such City Clerk, I am the keeper of the minutes and records of the Proceedings of the City Council of the said City and have in my custody the RESOLUTIONS and BOOKS of the records of said City.


**I DO FURTHER CERTIFY** that the attached and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the certain **RESOLUTION: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, COMMEMORATING ITS SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH RIPACANDIDA, ITALY.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-006** which was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island, Illinois held on the **27<sup>TH</sup> of February, 2024;** that at said meeting **6** Alderman were present; that at said meeting, on motion duly made and seconded that the Resolution did pass and on the roll being called the vote of each Aldermen present on the question of the passage of said Resolution was duly and separately taken by Ayes and Nays and their names and votes recorded in the minutes of **6** Alderman voted Aye and **0** Alderman voted Nay and **0** Alderman voted Abstain and **1** Alderman Absent.

**I DO FURTHER CERTIFY** that the original Resolution which the foregoing is a true copy, is entrusted to my care for safe keeping, and that I am the lawful keeper of the same.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Corporate Seal of the City of Blue Island aforesaid, at the said City in the County and State aforesaid, this **27<sup>th</sup>** day of **February, 2024.**

CORPORATE SEAL

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

