



DICK MURPHY
MAYOR

July 20, 2004

Mrs. Laura Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Bush:

I am pleased to share the news that on June 28, 2004, the San Diego City Council initiated steps to create a Sister City with Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

The relationship with Jalalabad, Afghanistan is an outgrowth of humanitarian efforts in the wake of 9-11 and the war. This unprecedented sister city effort has brought together distinguished citizens in both cities to develop cultural, business, educational, and scientific exchanges. Over the next few months, members of the San Diego International Sister Cities Committee, Rotary International, and other organizations will be coordinating an official signing ceremony between the Mayors of the two cities to take place this fall.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend your efforts to encourage cities throughout the U.S. to establish and strengthen relationships with cities in Middle East. Our City is very much looking forward to the enrichment of understanding that the blending of our two diverse cultures will engender.

Best regards,

DICK MURPHY
Mayor
City of San Diego