


## Join County Executive Leggett in South Korea & China

Soon after taking office, County Executive Leggett suggested Montgomery County should have a Sister Cities program. With one-third of our more than one million people having been board in other countries (now 43% of our population if you include dependent children of our foreign board), it was well past time to begin to build deeper connections with the countries of origin of our new neighbors. Our Sister Cities program is a critical element of our commitment to be one of the nation's most welcoming communities. It strengthens our cultural competence and expands our economic ties across the globe. Having residents who understand every culture and speak nearly every language is Montgomery County's edge in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global marketplace.

County Executive Leggett has led delegations to four of the top countries of origin of our immigrant population to sign Sister City agreements – El Salvador in 2011, Ethiopia in 2012, China in 2013 and India in 2014. This fall, the County Executive is leading a delegation to sign a Sister City agreement with Daejeon, South Korea. The delegation will be traveling to Seoul and Daejeon and then on to Xi'an, our Sister City in China and Shanghai from October 20-29.

Sister City trips are a fabulous way to travel. On a Sister Cities mission trip, you will see the main attractions that all tourists see. You will also meet governmental leaders and go behind the scenes to meet the people who make the city work. These personal exchanges with community activists, doctors and nurses, business leaders, clergy, teachers and artists will enrich your experience beyond what event the best travel companies can provide and a less cost.

I hope you will join County Executive Ike Leggett October 20-29 as we tour South Korea and China. For information on this trip, please contact Diane Vu at [diane.vu@montgomerycounty.gov](mailto:diane.vu@montgomerycounty.gov) or [click here](#). To reserve your space on this mission trip to South Korea and China at the best price, we need a deposit by July 5.



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