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Dear Honorable Ames City Council,

Two years ago, the Ames International Partner Cities Association (AIPCA) opened a dialogue with Podujevo, Kosovo about forming a sister city relationship. This initiative was put on hold, mostly due to the pandemic. A couple of weeks ago, the Consulate General to Kosovo reached out to me about renewing the discussion. Governor Reynolds has invited 27 mayors from across Kosovo to visit Iowa, November 14-16. The mayor of Podujevo is one of those coming to Iowa and the Consulate asked if Ames would be willing to meet with him. The goal is to determine if our cities might be a good fit as sister cities and to learn about what benefits and opportunities might come from such a relationship. That meeting will take place from 2-4pm on November 14. We also plan to show the mayor around Ames on November 15. The AIPCA has spoken with Mr. Brian Phillips and Mayor Haila, both of whom can provide you with more information. I think you will be interested in the ties Podujevo already has to Ames and the extent of the relationship that has formed between Iowa and Kosovo. I wanted to make sure you were informed about this visit and invited to attend the meeting if your schedule allows. Please reach out to me if you have any comments, questions, or concerns.

With Warmest Regards,

Cindy Hicks

AIPCA Board President