



BALTIMORE – XIAMEN SISTER CITY COMMITTEE
PRESS RELEASE

Baltimore’s Sister City In China Donates 50,000 Surgical Masks to Baltimore

May 29th, 2020

On May 28th, 2020, a shipment of 50,000 surgical masks valued at nearly US\$ 25,000 was delivered to Baltimore City Hall. This is a gift from Baltimore’s sister city of Xiamen, China to the City of Baltimore to assist in the city’s COVID-19 response efforts. It follows an April letter of support from Xiamen Mayor Jiahua Zhuang to Baltimore Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young. The masks will be kept at the Baltimore City Emergency Operations Center and distributed based on requests received from local health care institutions to meet critical shortages of this equipment.

2020 marks the 35th anniversary of the Baltimore - Xiamen sister city relationship. Situated on the southeast coast of China, Xiamen is an island city with a population of 4.29 million. Its temperate weather and beautiful scenery make it one of China’s top tourist destinations. In 1980, Xiamen was designated as one of China’s four original ‘Special Economic Zones’ for trade and investment with western countries. As a result they have a dynamic economy and a thriving port and airport. Over the years, Baltimore and Xiamen have engaged in numerous business, education, cultural and medical projects and exchanges.

The Baltimore - Xiamen Sister City Committee is one of eight international sister city relationships managed by Baltimore Sister Cities, Inc., an all-volunteer non-profit corporation. Also contributing their time and effort on this transaction were Benjamin L. England & Associates, LLC | FDAImports.com, LLC of Glen Burnie and Columbia, Maryland and the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Washington, D.C.

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