



PROCLAMATION

**SANTA BARBARA-TOBA
SISTER CITIES DAY**

SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

in honor of the

**SANTA BARBARA-TOBA SISTER CITIES
60TH ANNIVERSARY**

***WHEREAS,** Santa Barbara and Toba became Sister Cities in 1966, and this year marks the impressive 60-year anniversary of this treasured relationship; and*

***WHEREAS,** over the past six decades, the two cities have continued to build cross-cultural friendships and strong international bonds through the dedication of the Sister City committees in both countries who continue to nurture people-to-people relationships and celebrate each other's cultures; and*

***WHEREAS,** this year also marks the 30th year of the annual Santa Barbara-Toba Student Exchange that provides the unique opportunity for young community members from each city to meet one another, stay with host families, share each other's cultures, and experience each other's cities in person; and*

***WHEREAS,** the City of Santa Barbara is delighted to welcome Mayor Atsushi Kotake and the delegation from Toba, Japan who join us today in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Santa Barbara-Toba Sister Cities relationship;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, RANDY ROWSE,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, do hereby proclaim September 30, 2026 as **SANTA BARBARA-TOBA SISTER CITIES DAY** in Santa Barbara. May our Sister Cities continue to foster our longstanding friendship for generations yet to come!*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California to be affixed this 30th day of September, 2026.*

MAYOR RANDY ROWSE

