



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Huyen Hare, Manager of Economic Development

Date: August 7, 2025

Re: **Markham Delegation to Nördlingen Germany, September 2025**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the memorandum dated August 7, 2025 entitled "Markham Delegation to Nördlingen Germany, September 2025" be received; and,
2. That the Markham Delegation to attend the Historisches Stadtmauerfest (Historical City Wall Festival) in Nördlingen Germany, September 12-14, 2025, be approved for Mayor Scarpitti (or designate) and Councillor Keith Irish; and,
3. That the total cost of the delegation to Nördlingen, Germany does not exceed \$13,000 and be funded from the Economic Development budget; and further,
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

BACKGROUND:

On June 26, 2001, the City of Markham entered into an Alliance Agreement with the City of Nördlingen, Germany, to formalize cultural and heritage ties. Nördlingen is where William Berczy and 220 German immigrants originated. The Berczy group settled in and founded what is now the City of Markham, in 1794.

The warm and active relations between Markham and Nördlingen have been enhanced through regular visits, opportunities for cultural and student exchanges, and learning opportunities between the two cities. Most recently in 2024, the City of Markham welcomed the Knabenkapelle Nördlingen orchestra band to perform with the Markham Concert Band at the Unionville Bandstand and celebrated the orchestra's 100th anniversary and the 230th anniversary of the William Berczy Settlement in Markham.

Every 3 years the City of Nördlingen holds the Historisches Stadtmauerfest (Historical City Wall Festival) and invites the participation of its Sister Cities (including Markham) for the festivities. The City of Markham participated in the 2016, 2019, and 2022 Historical City Wall Festivals.

This year the City of Nördlingen will celebrate the Historical City Wall Festival for the 15th time from September 12th to 14th, 2025 and will feature several events, including speeches, concerts

and parades as visitors journey back in time to the Middle Ages and look into Nördlingen's rich history.

Staff recommends that this significant celebration of the 15th Historical City Wall Festival warrants official delegation status for those representing the City of Markham. The attendance will represent opportunities for sustained positive relationship and provide pathways for continued potential cultural, social and economic linkages between communities.

Staff further recommends that an expenditure of up to \$13,000 be approved, to cover the costs to be incurred by the two City representatives at the Nördlingen Stadtmauerfest. The costs are based on current estimates for air fare, ground travel, accommodation (4 nights), food, and any promotional and ancillary expenses to support a successful delegation.

ATTACHMENTS:

[15th Historisches Stadtmauerfest Program](#) (Cover Page)