FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 26, 2019

CONTACT: Laurie Huelga, Sister City Program Liaison

PHONE: (831) 242-8750

EMAIL: huelga@monterey.org

WELCOME RECEPTION FOR SISTER CITY KUSADASI, TURKEY

Thursday, August 1, 5:30 p.m.

**WHO:** Guests: Ömer Günel, Mayor of Kuşadası; Oğuzhan Turan, Kuşadası Deputy Mayor; Ali Kotan, Kuşadası Municipal Council Member; Levent KÖYLÜ, Kuşadası Municipal Culture Art Consultant; Ada Hasan Günel, Mayor’s son

**Hosts:** The Monterey-Kusadasi Sister City Friendship Association and the City of Monterey

**WHAT:** Kusadasi Sister City Welcome Reception

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 1, 2019, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Few Memorial Hall Patio and Courtyard (outside the Monterey Council Chamber and City Clerk’s Office), 580 Pacific Street, Monterey, CA 93940

**WHY:** To honor and celebrate our sister city tie with Kusadasi, Turkey. Monterey and Kusadasi have formally been sister cities since 2007. The cities have common interests in terms of the development of sustainable tourism and cultural history. Turkey has close working relations with local institutions including the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS), and the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC), and the Turkish-American community contributes to the regional diversity and intercultural understanding in the local community.

(more)
BACKGROUND: The City of Monterey has been involved with twinning programs and sister city relationships since 1963. Monterey currently has seven sister cities from around the world, and is a member of Sister Cities International. Sister Cities International creates relationships based on cultural, educational, information and trade exchanges, creating lifelong friendships that provide prosperity and peace through person-to-person “citizen diplomacy.” Sister City receptions are paid for by the associated friendship associations organized and managed by local community members. No taxpayer funds are used for the receptions or travel.

Learn more at monterey.org/About-Monterey/Community-Partnerships/Sister-Cities

###