

Councilman Rod Tam's Council  
City Council Trip To Guilin, China

CITY COUNCIL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

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Purpose of Council trip:

Fostering international relationships and action plans for a possible sister city relationship between the City & County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii and Guilin, China. Also, to study the economic development and cultural exchange possibilities between the two cities. Although the physical size of Guilin is much larger than that of the City and County of Honolulu, it is similar in population, climate and environmental beauty. Its major source of revenue is also through tourism.

As a past State Legislator and a current City Councilmember, I have learned through my experiences that our City and County of Honolulu, in order to create a strong and vibrant economy, must continue to develop and expand our ability to attract international businesses to our shores. Currently, China has one of the world's fastest growing economies and is very interested in investing capital outside of its own county. Hawaii's geographic location, between China and the mainland USA, makes it an ideal point to establish such business interests.

Through my relationships with businessman Kent Jiang, a native of Guilin, and realtor Scott Lu, both of whom now reside in Hawaii, I was able to initiate contact with the Guilin government who invited me as their guest.

Dates of Council trip:

September 10, 2007 to September 17, 2007

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The following experiences and observations were accomplished:

- Received informational and historical briefings on the heritages and cultures of Guilin City.
- Observed the lifestyles of the Chinese, foreigners, and tourists and their interactions.
- Established relationships with various government officials, businessmen and businesswomen from Guilin City.
- Discussed possible sister-city relationship goals, objectives, and action plans with government officials of Guilin.
- Observed their method of urban planning which does not allow for high-rise development.
- Guilin City officials expressed a desire to work with the City and County of Honolulu to promote Guilin's tourism industry and their wish to attract foreign businesses to invest in the further economic development occurring in Guilin.
- Meetings with construction companies and financial institutions confirmed their desire to invest in Hawaii's economy.
- The business cards of the various government officials and businessmen I met on my trip are attached.

I will continue to be in contact with the government officials and business people I met while in Guilin, China in order to further the goals of this trip which were to foster international and economic relationships and research the establishment of a possible sister-city relationship with Guilin, China.

City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

# CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: November 1, 2007

Traveler: Rod Tam, Councilmember, District 6

Event: Guilin, China Trip (Sister City Proposal)

Location: Guilin, China

Dates: From: September 10, 2007

To: September 17, 2007

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee	\$0.00	
2. Airfare	\$1,339.90	receipt attached ("Passenger Receipt" boarding pass with amount noted)
3. Hotel	\$480.00	6 days @ \$75/day + service fee of \$30; signed certification form--attached
4. Meals	\$79.93	receipts attached
5. Ground Transportation		
6. Tips		
7. Other (telephone cards)	\$18.91	receipts attached
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
<b>TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>	<b>\$1,918.74</b>	<b>Total Travel Reimbursement: \$1,918.74</b>

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Traveler

11/6/07  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date