For Immediate Release
January 22, 2019

San Bernardino- Mayor John Valdivia met with key community leaders for the second Education Bridge Committee meeting on Thursday, January 9th. Thirteen people were in attendance of which included, San Bernardino City Unified Superintendent Dr. Marsden, Southern California Sister Cities President Anthony Al-Jaime, Councilmembers Nickel and Mulvihill, Pastors from The Way World Outreach Church, and Chief Joseph Paulino of the San Bernardino City Unified School District Police Department.

These community leaders discussed important topics for the educational growth and safety of students and families in San Bernardino. Some of the topics included community engagement plans, quality of life, student safety, and implementing local child care and youth resources. The primary focus of the meeting was student safety, students departing from the City after graduation, and job placement.

“Our youth are the future of San Bernardino. It is critically important we help prepare and provide students with the resources and programs to help them succeed after graduation,” said Mayor John Valdivia.

Another initiative the Committee discussed to encourage educational opportunities of San Bernardino students, is the relationship of exchange programs in our schools. “There are a lot of potential and benefits with the existing relationship between the City of San Bernardino and our Sister Cities said
President Al-Jaime. “The exchange of economic and cultural ideas has helped countries prosper and I know it can provide significant opportunities for career pathways of our youth in San Bernardino”.

Councilman Nickel couldn’t agree more with the reinstatement of a student foreign exchange program and followed by saying, “We need to see ourselves as the Global City that we are.”

The Education Bridge Committee was established to interface with education leaders in the community and provide recommendation to the full Council on opportunities to advance learning throughout the City. The goal for the January 9th meeting was to bridge the gap for our youth between graduation and employment and encourage entrepreneurship opportunities in San Bernardino. The next Education Bridge Committee will be held on Thursday March 12, 2020 and are scheduled every three months.

###