

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CITY OF COLUMBUS, MS July 2, 2024

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Court Chambers of the Municipal Complex. Mayor Keith Gaskin presided over the meeting and all Council Members were present, except Councilwoman Stewart, who was absent. Also present were the General Counsel, the COO, CFO, Police Chief, HR Director, and all other Department Heads.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION:

Mayor Gaskin called the meeting to order and called on Vice-Mayor Joseph Mickens to offer the Invocation.

II. CONFIRMATION OF/OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Council Member Jones made a motion to adopt the Agenda as prepared. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

III. APPROVE MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JULY 2, 2024:

Councilwoman DiCicco made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of July 2, 2024. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve request for five (5) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "*Center for Public Safety Excellence Commission Hearing*" be held in Atlanta, GA, and approve payment of lodging, travel, meal expenses, and any other expenses, with an estimate cost of \$2,100.00.

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

- B. Approve request to permit the Human Resources Director to attend the 46th Annual Employment Law Seminar, to be held in Gulfport, MS, and approve payment of \$299.98 for lodging, \$336.34 for travel and meal expenses, with an estimate cost of \$745.02.
- C. Approve request for Fire and Rescue personnel, Dorothea Tompkins, to attend "*Emergency Services Administrative Professional – ESAP Conference*" to be held in Natchez, MS, and approve payment of \$250.00 for registration, \$450.00 for lodging, \$100 for travel, and reimbursement of meal expenses, all expenses estimated to cost \$975.00
- D. Approve request for two (2) Fire and Rescue personnel, Zachary Anderson and Tavonta Macon to attend "*NFPA 1001 – Basic Firefighter class*" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve use of City vehicle and \$400 for travel, \$1,000.00 for registration, reimbursement of meal expenses, all expenses estimated to cost \$3,600.00.
- E. Approve request for five (5) Fire and Rescue personnel to attend "NFPA 1001 Graduation" to be held in Jackson, MS, and approve payment of expenses involved, with an estimated cost of \$150.00.
- F. Approve permit request submitted by Jeff Smith on behalf of the Southside Townsend Blues Festival to host the "Townsend Park Blues Festival 2024" to be held on July 5 & 6, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m., blocking 9th Avenue South and 11th Street South.
- G. Approve permit request submitted by Ray Boltwood and Edward Bishop, on behalf of Muddy Waters Sports Bar, to host "*The Dwarfators (Little People Wrestling)*" to be held on July 25, 2024 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at 171 Moores Creek Road.
- H. Approve permit request submitted by Ray Boltwood and Edward Bishop, on behalf of Muddy Waters Sports Bar, to host "*Rocktoberfest*" to be held on October 12, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. at 171 Moores Creek Road.
- I. Approve permit request submitted by Ray Boltwood and Edward Bishop, on behalf of Muddy Waters Sports bar, to host "The Trouble Notes Benefitting Camp Rising Sun" to be held on October 26, 2024, from 6:45 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. at 171 Moores Creek Road.
- J. Approve permit request submitted by T. J. Tate, Jr., on behalf of the Veterans' Day Parade Committee, to host a "Veterans' Day Parade" to be held on November 9, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. beginning at the Municipal Complex, 1501 Main Street to 6th Street North to 2nd Avenue North to the Lowndes County Courthouse.

- K. Accept letter of resignation from Public Works employee, Tony Colvin, effective June 27, 2024 and authorize the Human Resources Director to begin the normal recruitment process.
- L. Approve request for budgeted \$8,500 Appropriation request of Columbus-Lowndes County Emergency Management.
- M. Approve expenditure request of \$3,000.00 for five (5) sites (\$600.00 per site) for National Night Out on Crime, to be held on August 5, 2024, with the funds to be taken from line item 001-004-695 (Advertising City Resources) pursuant to Section 17-3-2 of the Mississippi Code which funds that the said amount is a legitimate expense that will advertise and bring into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as prepared. Council Member Jones seconded the motion. The Mayor called for discussion, and there being none, all Council Members voted in favor of same, with a unanimous vote, 5/0.

V. APPROVE DOCKET OF CLAIMS:

Council Member Greene made a motion to approve the Docket of Claims for July 2, 2024 in the amount of \$1,114,881.26. Council Member Jones seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion, except Councilwoman DiCicco, who opposed.

The motion carried 4/1.

VI. REPORTS, PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AGENDA:

- A. Mayor Gaskin asked the Council Members if they had any comments or announcements. There were no comments or announcements.

Mayor Gaskin began with the following comments:

- I'd like to remind everyone that, with the exception of Emergency personnel, City of Columbus offices will be closed Thursday, July 4. City staff will be working 8-hour shifts this week. We are asking citizens to be mindful of the "NO Fireworks Ordinance inside the City limits. We wish everyone a safe holiday.

- The Southside Blues Festival will be held this weekend at Townsend Park, beginning Friday evening. We ask everyone to get out and enjoy all the events that have been planned.

B. Presentation of Certificates to five (5) Officers

Chief Daughtry came forward and announced that Sergeant Samuel Jackson is attended a week course and is now a Certified FTO (Field Training Officer) Instructor. The officers listed below have completed three (3) months of FTO Training.

Sgt. Samuel Jackson	Certified Instructor
Melvin Shirley	Completed FTO Training
McKenzie Rogers	Completed FTO Training
Jeremy Fortney	Completed FTO Training
Rodreiuz Porter	Completed FTO Training

Chief Daughtry congratulated these employees and presented them with a Certificate of Completion.

Mayor Gaskin solicited prayers for Councilwoman Ethel Stewart's brother who was involved in an automobile accident.

C. Board Vacancies

Jammie Garrett, COO, announced vacancies on various boards and remarked that two (2) appointments can be made tonight.

COLUMBUS HOUSING AUTHORITY

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Kedgra Gray's Term Expires July 16, 2024.
Appointment will be made July 16, 2024.

APPLICANT:

Kedgra Gray

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

1 Vacancy, 3-Year Term, Elizabeth Terry's Term Expires July 3, 2024.
Appointment will be made July 2, 2024.

APPLICANTS:

Bonita Smith
Elizabeth "Liz" Terry

Council Member Beard made a motion to reappoint Elizabeth "Liz" Terry to the Convention & Visitors Bureau for a 3-Year Term, until July 2, 2027.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

CITY UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 Vacancy, 5-Year Term, Michael Tate's Term Expired June 30, 2024.
Appointment will be made July 2, 2024.

APPLICANTS:

Shane Tompkins
Michael Tate

Council Member Jones recused himself and exited the meeting.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to appoint Shane Tompkins to the City Utilities Commission for a 5-Year Term, until June 30, 2029.
Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 4/0.

Council Member Jones returned to the meeting.

VII. CITIZENS INPUT AGENDA:

Shelly McElveen, FLY Girls Travel Basketball Organization – RE: Financial Support

Ms. Shelly McElveen, on behalf of FLY Girls Travel Basketball Organization came before the Mayor and Council with a request from the Council for financial support for two (2) upcoming tournaments, one in Louisville, Kentucky and one (1) in Atlanta, GA. Ms. McElveen introduced some of the players and remarked that this organization is comprised of approximately 50 girls from area schools that travel and play basketball. This keeps them engaged and motivated to be achievers. The Council discussed such requests and remarked that these matters should be addressed during budget preparation. Following discussion, Council Member Mickens moved to approve the expenditure of \$1,500.00 from 001-004-695 (Advertising City Resources) and find that said amount is a legitimate expense that will advertise and bring into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Columbus. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

Clay Bowen, Unlicensed Landscapers

Mr. Clay Bowen came before the Mayor and Council, distributed information about Landscape Horticulturist Licensing and offered comments about unlicensed landscaping contractors. The Mayor and Council took this information under advisement. No action was taken.

VIII. POLICY AGENDA:

A. Discuss/Approve Derelict Property Docket

EDDIE W. SHELTON, JR.

1220 Ash Street

CASE NUMBER: 24-0195

**Property Maintenance Code Violation
Overgrown Lot**

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0195**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property was in such a state of uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code and asked the Mayor and Council to adjudicate the property as such and that an Order be entered to such effect, requested **immediate abatement** and that an Order be issued for the property. Council Member Jones made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, and for an Order stating the City may remove dilapidated buildings or dilapidated fences up to six (6) more times in the twelve (12) month period immediately following the Order and cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

WALTER AND LUCY WILLIAMS ESTATE

AND/OR ANY HEIRS AT LAW

1106 18th Street North

CASE NUMBER: 24-0200

Abandoned Structure

The General Counsel called cause number **24-0200**. No one appeared. Code Enforcement Officer Sasha James stated the property was in such a state of

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

uncleanliness as to be a menace to the public under Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code and asked the Mayor and Council to adjudicate the property as such and that an Order be entered to such effect, requested **immediate abatement** and that an Order be issued for the property. Council Member Jones made a motion in accordance with Section 21-19-11 of the Mississippi Code, and for an Order stating the City may remove dilapidated buildings or dilapidated fences up to six (6) more times in the twelve (12) month period immediately following the Order and cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris no more than twelve (12) times in a twenty-four (24) month period. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

\$250.00 OR LESS CASES:

Code Enforcement Officer, Sasha James, presented three (3) cases, \$250.00 or less for adjudication. Council Member Beard made a motion to accept the notices for property clean-up of properties \$250.00 and less to be adjudicated according to statute. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE LIST OF PROPERTIES FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

\$250 OR LESS Derelict Properties for July 2, 2024 Mayor and City Council Meeting

Case # and Violation	Ward	Name and Address	Notes
24-0198 <i>Overgrown Lot</i>	4	ETHEL COLISTER ETAL Cherry Street	
24-0208 <i>Overgrown Lot</i>	3	HETTIE EASLEY 729 Cypress Street	
24-0209 <i>Accumulation of Rubbish & Garbage</i>	5	SHARON VALENTINE 621 10 th Street North	

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024



COLISTER ETHEL ETAL
2804 E 233RD ST
SAUK VILLAGE, IL 60441

NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-1(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (EFFECTIVE 7/1/2022)

RE: CHERRY ST
APN: 41WM-03-89500
Case No: CE-24-0198
Officer: Sasha James - Ward 4

Date: June 6, 2024

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus (the "Governing Authority"), having a population over one thousand five hundred (1500), has authorized the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Director and/or her assistant to determine whether the property or parcel of land is in such a state of neglect as to be a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community when the fee or cost to clean property or a parcel of land that is one (1) acre or less does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), excluding administrative costs.

The particular condition(s) as determined by the authorized municipal employee existing as of the date of this notice include one or more of the following:

- (X) The presence of overgrowth of weeds, grass or other vegetation
The presence of rubbish/debris and other debris
The presence of abandoned building
The presence of abandoned or dilapidated fence(s)
The presence of burned structures
The presence of dilapidated building(s), shed or personal property
The presence of property maintenance code violations
The presence of standing water in crevices
The presence of litter(s), standing water and compost

You are hereby advised that by this correspondence a determination has been made that the condition of property or parcel of land as described is a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community, and so such the governing authority of the City of Columbus, if the owner does not do so himself, on or before the 13th day of June, 2024, shall proceed to clean the land, by the use of municipal employees or by contract, by cutting grass and weeds, filling crevices, removing rubbish, abandoned or dilapidated fence, outside refuse, abandoned or dilapidated buildings, sheds, personal property, which removal of personal property shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 21-39-21, and other debris, and draining crevices and standing water/fertilizer.

Code Section	Corrective Action	Compliance Date
363.4 - Overgrown Lot	Clear, trim, and maintain overgrown grass, hedges/shrubs, trees, and other vegetation	June 13, 2024

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT A FINDING BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL THAT THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS IN NEED OF CLEANING WILL AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO REENTER THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AND AT CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH NOTICES ARE GENERALLY POSTED AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS REENTERED FOR CLEANING. A COPY OF THE REQUIRED NOTICE MAILED AND POSTED AS REQUIRED BY MCA SECTION 21-19-1(2) (MCA) SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

Thereafter, the governing authority shall by resolution adjudicate the actual cost of cleaning the property under this provision, provided the same does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may also impose a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost of cleaning the property, whichever is more.

The lien and any penalty imposed may become a civil debt against the property owner, and/or, at the option of the governing authority, an assessment against the property. The "cost assessed against the property" means either the cost to the municipality of using its own employees to do the work or the cost to the municipality of any contract entered by the municipality to have the work done, and additionally may include administrative costs of the municipality not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). For subsequent cleaning within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of land adjudicated in need of cleaning and at city hall or another place in the municipality where such notices are generally posted, and members with the municipal official's determination as adjudicated, a municipality may receive the property or parcel of land to maintain cleanliness without further notice or having to exceed that six (6) times in any twelve-month period with respect to removing abandoned or dilapidated buildings, sheds, dilapidated fences and outside refuse, and no more than twelve (12) times in any twelve-five-month period with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris on the land, and the expense of cleaning of the property shall not exceed an aggregate amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. The governing authority may assess the same civil debt, administrative costs, and penalty for each time the property at land is cleaned so otherwise provided. The penalty provided herein shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 29-1-145, nor shall a municipality claim a period covered by the State of Mississippi without first giving notice. Upon notice received from the Secretary of State's office, for state-owned properties, a municipality may waive the notification process that is prescribed in this subsection and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs as prescribed in this subsection, except that, penalties shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi. A determination made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2) that the state or condition of property or a parcel of land is a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community shall not subsequently be used to replace a hearing if Section 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the provisions of Section 21-19-1(2) are not satisfied.

An appeal of this decision may be made to the Governing Authority of the City of Columbus and such appeal shall be in writing, state the basis for the appeal and be filed with the city clerk no later than seven (7) days from the latest date of notice required under MCA 21-19-1(2).

For any questions, please call: Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-345-5063 or 662-345-5070.

This the 6th day of June, 2024,
Sasha James,
City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

A copy of this notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the governing authority in conjunction with MCA Section 21-19-1(2)

At least seven (7) days before the date of cleaning, this notice is required to be posted on the property or parcel of land identified herein AND at city hall or such other place in the municipality where such notices are posted AND is required to be mailed, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the property or parcel of land identified herein except where the land or structure(s) is apparently vacant. AND to the address where the ad valorem tax notice for the property or parcel of land identified herein is sent by the office charged with collecting ad valorem taxes for the subject property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: June 6, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: June 6, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: June 6, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024



SASLEY HETTEM
729 CYPRESS ST
COLUMBUS, MS 39702

NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-1(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (Effective 7/1/2022)

RE: 729 CYPRESS ST
APN: 03W0604688
Case File: CE-24-0201
Officer: Sasha James - Ward: 3

Date: June 20, 2024

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus (the "Governing Authority"), having a population over one thousand five hundred (1500), has authorized the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Director and/or his assistant to determine whether the property or parcel of land is in such a state of unwholesomeness as to be a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community when the fee or cost to clean property or a parcel of land that is one (1) acre or less does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), excluding administrative costs.

The particular condition(s) is determined by the authorized municipal employee existing as of the date of this notice (one or more of the following):

- (X) The presence of overgrowth of weeds, grass or other vegetation
The presence of rubbish/garbage and other debris
The presence of abandoned building
The presence of abandoned or dilapidated fence(s)
The presence of animal encroachment
The presence of dilapidated building(s), shacks or personal property
The presence of property maintenance code violation
The presence of standing water in cesspools
The presence of clutter(s), standing water and cesspools

We are hereby advised that by this correspondence a determination has been made that the condition of property or parcel of land is described is a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community, and so such the governing authority of the City of Columbus, if the owner does not do so himself, on or before the 25th day of June, 2024, shall proceed to clean the land, by the use of municipal employees or by contract, by cutting grass and weeds, filling drains, removing rubbish, abandoned or dilapidated fence, usable toilets, abandoned or dilapidated buildings, shacks, personal property, which removal of personal property shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 21-39-21, and other debris, and draining cesspools and standing water therefrom.

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT A FINDING BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL THAT THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS IN NEED OF CLEANING WILL AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO REENTER THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AND AT CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH NOTICES ARE GENERALLY POSTED AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS REENTERED FOR CLEANING. A COPY OF THE REQUIRED NOTICE MAILED AND POSTED AS REQUIRED BY MCA SECTION 21-19-1(2) (WHICH SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

Thereafter, the governing authority shall by resolution adjust the actual cost of cleaning the property under this provision, provided the same does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may also impose a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost of cleaning the property, whichever is more.

The cost and any penalty imposed may become a civil debt against the property owner, and/or, at the option of the governing authority, an assessment against the property. The "cost assessed against the property" means either the cost to the municipality of using its own employees to do the work or the cost to the municipality of any contract entered by the municipality to have the work done, and additionally may include administrative costs of the municipality not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). For subsequent cleaning within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of land adjudicated in need of cleaning and at city hall or another place in the municipality where such notices are generally posted, and consistent with the municipal official's determination as authorized, a municipality may reenter the property or parcel of land to maintain cleanliness without further notice or having to more than ten (10) days in any twelve-month period with respect to removing abandoned or dilapidated buildings, shacks, dilapidated fences and usable toilets, and no more than twelve (12) times in any twenty-day-month period with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris on the land, and the expense of cleaning of the property shall not exceed an aggregate amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. The governing authority may impose the same actual costs, administrative costs, and penalty for each time the property or land is cleaned as otherwise provided. The penalty provided herein shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 21-1-405, nor shall a municipality claim a parcel owned by the State of Mississippi without first giving notice (upon written authority from the Secretary of State's office, for state-owned properties, a municipality may forgo the notification process that is prescribed in this subsection and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs reimbursement made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2) that the state or condition of property or a parcel of land is a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community shall not subsequently be used to replace a hearing if Section 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the provisions of Section 21-39-1(2) are not satisfied.

An appeal of this decision may be made to the Governing Authority of the City of Columbus and such appeal shall be in writing, state the basis for the appeal and be filed with the city clerk no later than seven (7) days from the latest date of notice required under MCA 21-19-1(2).

For any questions, please call Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-243-5063 or 662-243-5570.

This the 20th day of June, 2024.

Sasha James,
City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

A copy of this notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the governing authority in conjunction with MCA Section 21-19-1(2).

At least seven (7) days before the date of cleaning, this notice is required to be posted on the property or parcel of land identified herein AND at city hall or such other place in the municipality where such notices are posted AND is required to be mailed, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the property or parcel of land identified herein except where the land or structure(s) is apparently vacant, AND to the address where the ad valorem tax notice for the property or parcel of land identified herein is sent by the office charged with collecting ad valorem taxes for the subject property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: June 18, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was posted in the City Building Inspection Office on: June 18, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: June 20, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024



VALENTINE SHARON
621 18TH ST N
COLUMBUS, MS 39701

NUISANCE PROPERTY NOTICE TO OWNER - PURSUANT TO
SECTION 21-19-1(2) OF THE MISSISSIPPI CODE (Effective 11/1/2023)

RE: 621 18TH ST N
APN: 41W07-45-07391
Case No: CB-24-0299
Officer: Sasha James - Ward 5

Date: June 20, 2024

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus (the "Governing Authority"), having a population over one thousand five hundred (1500), has authorized the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Director and/or his assistant to determine whether the property or parcel of land is in such a state of neglect as to be a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community when the fee or cost to clean property or a parcel of land that is one (1) acre or less does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), excluding administrative costs.

The particular condition(s) as determined by the authorized municipal employee existing as of the date of this notice include one or more of the following:

- (X) The presence of overgrowth of weeds, grass or other vegetation
- The presence of rubbish/debris and other debris
- The presence of abandoned building
- The presence of abandoned or dilapidated fence(s)
- The presence of burned structure
- The presence of dilapidated building(s), slabs or personal property
- The presence of property maintenance code violations
- The presence of standing water in septic(s)
- The presence of vehicle(s), standing water and septic(s)

You are hereby advised that by this correspondence a determination has been made that the condition of property or parcel of land as described is a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community, and as such the governing authority of the City of Columbus, if the owner does not do so himself, on or before the 7th day of June, 2024, shall proceed to clean the land, by the use of municipal employees or by contract, by cutting grass and weeds, filling ditches, removing rubbish, abandoned or dilapidated fences, outside toilets, abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, personal property, which removal of personal property shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 21-39-21, and other debris, and draining septic(s) and standing water therefrom.

Code Section	Corrective Action	Compliance Date
107.1 - Accumulation of Rubbish and Debris	Remove all trash and debris from the property. All equipment, appliances, and/or material must be stored away from public view unless stored in an enclosed structure. Generally, any equipment, materials or furnishings that would ordinarily not be used outdoors may not be stored outdoors.	June 27, 2024

YOU ARE ADVISED THAT A FINDING BY THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL THAT THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS IN NEED OF CLEANING WILL AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO REENTER THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL'S DETERMINATION. WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HEARING OR ACTION IF NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND AND AT CITY HALL OR ANOTHER PLACE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH NOTICE ARE GENERALLY POSTED AT LEAST SEVEN (7) DAYS BEFORE THE PROPERTY OR PARCEL OF LAND IS REENTERED FOR CLEANING. A COPY OF THE REQUIRED NOTICE MAILED AND POSTED AS REQUIRED BY MCA SECTION 21-19-1(2) (AND) SHALL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HEARING REQUIRED BY SAID SECTION.

Thereafter, the governing authority shall by resolution adjudge the actual cost of cleaning the property under this provision, provided the same does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and may also impose a penalty not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost of cleaning the property, whichever is more.

The cost and any penalty imposed may become a civil debt against the property owner, or the agent of the governing authority, as assessed against the property. The "cost assessed against the property" means other than the cost to the municipality of using its own employees to do the work or the cost to the municipality of any contract entered into by the municipality to have the work done, and additionally may include administrative costs of the municipality not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). For subsequent cleaning within the one-year period, upon seven (7) days' notice posted both on the property or parcel of land adjacent to road of cleaning and at city hall or another place in the municipality where such notices are generally posted, and consistent with the municipal official's determination as authorized, a municipality may require the property or parcel of land to maintain cleanliness without further notice or hearing no more than six (6) times in any twelve-month period with respect to recurring abandoned or dilapidated buildings, slabs, dilapidated fences and outside toilets, and no more than twelve (12) times in any twelve-four-month period with respect to cutting grass and weeds and removing rubbish, personal property and other debris on the land, and the expense of cleaning of the property shall not exceed an aggregate amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. The governing authority may assess the same actual costs, administrative costs, and penalty the same time the property or land is cleaned as otherwise provided. The penalty provided herein shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi upon request for reimbursement under Section 20-1-345, nor shall a municipality claim a parcel owned by the State of Mississippi without first giving notice. Upon written authority from the Secretary of State's office, for state-owned properties, a municipality may limit the notification process that is provided in this subsection and proceed to clean the properties and assess costs as prescribed in this subsection, except that, penalties shall not be assessed against the State of Mississippi. A determination made by an appropriate municipal employee under this subsection (2) that the state or condition of property or a parcel of land is a nuisance to the public health, safety and welfare of the community shall not subsequently be used to replace a hearing if Section 21-19-1(1) is later utilized by a municipality when the provisions of Section 21-19-1(2) are not satisfied.

An appeal of this decision may be made to the Governing Authority of the City of Columbus and such appeal shall be in writing, state the basis for the appeal and be filed with the city clerk no later than seven (7) days from the latest date of notice required under MCA 21-19-1(2).

For any questions, please call Sasha James, the Code Enforcement Director for the City of Columbus at 662-343-5953 or 662-243-3078.

This 20th day of June, 2024,
Sasha James,
City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

A copy of this notice shall be recorded in the minutes of the governing authority in conjunction with MCA Section 21-19-1(2).

At least seven (7) days before the date of cleaning, this notice is required to be posted on the property or parcel of land identified herein AND at city hall or such other place in the municipality where such notices are posted AND is required to be mailed, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the property or parcel of land identified herein except when the land or structure(s) is apparently vacant, AND to the address where the oil volume tax notice for the property or parcel of land identified herein is sent by the office charged with collecting oil volume taxes for the property or parcel of land identified herein.

This Notice was posted on the subject property on: June 20, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was posted at the City Building Inspection Office on: June 28, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

This Notice was mailed via United States Mail, postage prepaid, to each address identified above on: June 20, 2024

By: Sasha James, City of Columbus Director of Code Enforcement

B. Discuss/Approve Main Street Presbyterian Church's appeal of the Columbus Historic Preservation Commission's decision not to allow demolition of the Presbyterian Manse at 112 7th Street North.

The Mayor and Council engaged in a lengthy discussion of the request. Attorney J. Gordon Flowers was present to represent the Church and request for certificate of demolition, citing reasons to demolish, which are to have better access to the Sanctuary for disabled or those whose mobility is impaired and additional parking—the church only has 21 parking spaces and only three (3) of those are “handicapped” spaces. The church has also taken extra measures to have the structure moved, i.e. offering it for sale for \$1, publicly advertising the house as a “to be moved” structure and considered alternative architecture plans that utilize the yard without demolishing the main structure. Following discussion, Council Member Jones made a motion to proceed with the process of demolition of the structure. Council Member Beard seconded the motion. General Counsel stated that this is permitted under Section 23-72 of the Municipal Code.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

C. Discuss/Approve hiring six (6) Police Officers, contingent upon successful completion of all preliminary testing.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the request to hire six (6) applicants for entry-level Police Officer: TAVOREON CARTER, CYNTHIA CROWELL, EBONYE JONES, ZACHARY L. PIPPINS, NEOSHA PRATT, AND CAMYA SPANN, pending successful completion of all preliminary testing. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

D. Discuss/Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Mississippi Department of Transportation and the City of Columbus to furnish inmates to pick up litter.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the MOU between the Mississippi Department of Transportation and the City of Columbus to furnish inmates to pick up litter. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE MOU FOLLOWS:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into by and between the Mississippi Transportation Commission, a body corporate of the State of Mississippi ("MTC"), acting by and through the duly-authorized Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation ("MDOT"), and the City of Columbus, Mississippi, ("City"), effective as of the date of latest execution below.

WITNESSTH:

WHEREAS the Mississippi Transportation Commission, through the Mississippi Department of Transportation, is charged with the construction and maintenance of the State Highway System; and,

WHEREAS the City is a Mississippi Municipal Corporation; and,

WHEREAS the Chief of Police is the chief peace officer for the above-named City and is charged with the custody and attendant care of those persons incarcerated in the city jail; and,

WHEREAS the Chief of Police is authorized by statute to provide and the MTC may accept inmate laborers for work on the State Highway System; pursuant to Mississippi Code Section 65-1-8(u) and,

WHEREAS, the City, the Chief of Police and MTC desire to adopt guidelines under which the Chief can provide guarded inmates to the MTC.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the City, Chief of Police, and MTC do agree as follows:

I. DEFINITIONS:

Chief of Police - the individual occupying the office of Chief of Police in the above-named city.

Inmates - persons: a) who are incarcerated in a facility operated by the City, b) who are on probation, or some form of restricted movement monitored by the Chief of Police, or c) who have been ordered to provide community service under the Chief of Police's supervision.

Police Personnel - Those sworn officers assigned to guard the inmates during their participation on the litter removal crew.

II. SPECIFIC RECITALS:

In furtherance of this agreements:

THE MTC WILL:

1. furnish the highway routes and instructions on where inmates will pick up litter.
2. furnish trash bags, safety vests, gloves, and advisory signs; and
3. reimburse the city for costs associated with the execution of this agreement, including reimbursement to the city for the actual cost of the Police personnel assigned to this duty, not to exceed \$15.00 per hour, not to exceed \$50,000 per state fiscal year unless expressly authorized in writing by the MTC, and in addition thereto, reimburse the county for travel expenses calculated at the State of Mississippi current mileage rate for transporting inmates to and from the work site.

THE CHIEF OF POLICE WILL:

1. furnish inmates to pick up litter or perform maintenance activities on the MTC's maintained highway system or other MTC property within the county.
2. furnish supervision of all inmates by Police Personnel.
3. furnish transportation for transporting inmates to and from the work site.
4. furnish lunch for all inmates.
5. furnish a minimum of a seven (7) hour workday which includes all breaks and lunch.
6. place MTC-furnished advisory traffic signs in advance of the work sites pursuant to the MUTCD.
7. be responsible for all MTC-furnished equipment, signs, etc.
8. place filled litter bags along the shoulder of the highway/street, pick up and dispose of same.
9. provide invoices to the District Engineer covering the services outlined in this MOU for review.

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

THE CITY WILL:

1. approve all necessary expenses incurred by the Chief of Police in fulfilling the terms of this MOU.
2. adjust the budget of the Chief of Police to allow for sufficient resources to be available for use in implementing the terms of this agreement.
3. provide MTC with appropriate accounting of all costs incurred in the execution of the terms of this MOU.

III GENERAL RECITALS:

A. NOTICE AND COMMUNICATION:

Any formal notice required under this Agreement shall be made to the appropriate party at the following addresses:

THE COMMISSION: Mississippi Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1850
Jackson, MS, 39125

THE CITY: City of Columbus, Mississippi

THE CHIEF: City of Columbus Police Department

Informal Communication between the Chief of Police and MTC/MDOT shall be directly with each other. There shall be no communication through inmates.

B., AMENDMENTS:

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended in writing as mutually agreed upon by the parties in writing.

C. TERMINATION:

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by any of the parties by giving sixty (60) days prior written notice to the other.

D SEVERABILITY:

Should any provision of this agreement be found to be unconstitutional, or otherwise be contrary to the laws of the State of Mississippi, the United States of America, to the extent that it is reasonably possible to do so, the remainder of this agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

E. LIABILITY:

It is further understood and agreed by both parties that the Chief of Police shall maintain full custody and control of all inmates involved in the above-mentioned maintenance and shall be responsible for all inmate conduct and/or actions. The MTC shall in no way whatsoever be responsible for any such inmate conduct and/or actions.

F. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES:

While performing the duties anticipated by this agreement, the Chief of Police and the Police Personnel, the City, the inmates and the persons performing community service under the supervision of the City, are not officers, agents, or employees of the MTC/MDOT. The said individuals shall not be entitled to any workers compensation, unemployment compensation benefits, personal leave or medical insurance whatsoever. It is further understood that the consideration expressed herein constitutes the full and complete compensation for all services and performances hereunder, and that any sum due and payable to the City shall be paid as a gross sum with no withholdings or deductions being made by MTC/MDOT for any purpose. This agreement shall not inure in any manner to the benefit of any party other than the undersigned.

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

G. AUTHORITY

The undersigned hereby execute this MOU and assure that the authority to execute this agreement has been granted by the appropriate governing bodies.

**MISSISSIPPI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
BY AND THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Brad White.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE

_____, MAYOR,
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

_____
SIGNATURE

July 2, 2024
DATE

_____, CHIEF OF POLICE,
CITY OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

_____
SIGNATURE

2 July 24
DATE

E. Discuss/Approve the advertisement of professional services to complete work related to the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program.

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the request to advertise for engineers services Submission of the Columbus Fire and Rescue Fire and Emergency Services to complete work related to the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

F. Discuss/Approve Acceptance of U. S. Army Corps of Engineer Section 592 Grant for storm water channel improvements and identify funding for the match.

The Mayor and Council engaged in a discussion of this request. Kevin Stafford also came forward and apprised the Mayor and Council of the process. This project will require a city match.. Council Member Beard made a motion to accept the U. S. Army Corps of Engineer Section 592 Grant for storm water channel improvements and identify funding for the match a city match. Mayor Gaskin called for a second. There was none and the motion failed.

G. Discuss/Approve Awarding the 2024 Bituminous Hot Mix Overlay & Street Improvements project to the lowest responsive bidder, Falcon Contracting Company, Inc.

Kevin Stafford, dba Neel-Schaffer, Inc. came forward and remarked that the street paving bids were lower than expected. Four (4) bids were received and based on the evaluation of all bids finds the lowest responsive bidder to be Falcon Contracting Company, Inc., with a Base Bid amount of \$5,579,084.25, Additive Alternate No. 1 (\$25,000.00), Additive Alternate No. 2 (\$108,470.00), Additive Alternate No. 4 (\$40,625.00) and Additive Alternate No. 5 (\$12,250.00). The total amount of the lowest bidder's base bid plus the recommended additive alternates is \$5,765,429.25. Council Member Greene made a motion to award the 2024 Bituminous Hot Mix Overlay & Street Improvements project to the lowest responsive bidder, Falcon Contracting Company. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

H. Discuss/Approve Redistricting Plan

Council Member Greene asked about the status of the Redistricting Plan and encouraged all Council Members to contact Chris Watson as soon as possible. No action was taken.

I. Discuss/Approve the FY2025 Budget Calendar

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the FY2025 Budget Calendar. Council Member Greene seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE CALENDAR FOLLOWS:

City Of Columbus Budget Calendar		
Thursday, July 18th	10:00a.m. City Hall - Public Reception Room	Budget Workshop w/Department Heads
Thursday, July 25th	10:00a.m. City Hall - Public Reception Room	Budget Workshop w/Department Heads
Tuesday, August 6th	The Commercial Dispatch	Publish First Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Tax Levies and Budget for the Upcoming Fiscal Year
Tuesday, August 13th	The Commercial Dispatch	Publish Second Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Tax Levies and Budget for the Upcoming Fiscal Year
Thursday, August 15th	6:00p.m. City Hall - Courtroom	Hold First Public Hearing
Thursday, August 22nd	6:00p.m. City Hall - Courtroom	Hold Second Public Hearing
Tuesday, September 3rd	5:00p.m. Municipal Complex	City Council Meeting - Adopt Tax Levies and Budget
Thursday, September 10th	The Commercial Dispatch	Publish Budget and Adopted Tax Levy Resolution
Tuesday, September 17th	City Hall	File Budget with Municipal Clerk
Thursday, September 19th		Give Public Notice of the Availability of the Budget for Inspection

J. Discuss/Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the City Council and Mayor of Columbus to obligate MS Municipal & County Water Infrastructure Grant Funding.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City Council and Mayor of Columbus to obligate MS Municipal & County Water Infrastructure Grant Funding. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE MOU FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, hereinafter the Parties. In consideration of those mutual undertakings, the Parties agree as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council, is designated to accept and administer funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"), sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor is tasked with overseeing the day to day operations of the Municipality, including but not limited to utilities, specifically drinking water, wastewater and storm water projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board must approve the Municipality's budget and the Mayor executes the expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this MOU to memorialize their understanding of the mutual advantages of this cooperative relationship.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the terms and conditions set forth below:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to memorialize an agreement to obligate the Municipality's ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("Funds") for those purposes set forth in the Subaward Agreement between the City of Columbus and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ"), MDEQ Agreement No. 263-2-SW-5.6 set forth in Attachment "A", hereby adopted and incorporated by reference herein, along with any current or future modifications thereto ("MDEQ Subaward Agreement").

II. CONDITIONS AND SCOPE

The Council agrees to appropriate and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds to perform the "Scope of Work," as set forth in Attachment A and Article 2 of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement, for the "Project" as set forth in Article 2 of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement.

III. AMOUNT

The City Council agrees to provide and obligate the Funds in an amount not to exceed the funds as set forth in Article 7.A.ii of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds in such amount.

IV. TERM

The MOU shall be effective from the date executed below and shall expire on January 1, 2027.

V. BINDING EFFECT

The MOU shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and upon any respective successors and assigns of the

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

Parties.

VI. OBLIGATION OF THE PARTIES

The Parties agree to the following obligations under this MOU:

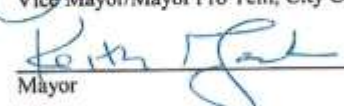
- a. The City Council agrees to provide the Mayor the Funds in an amount not to exceed the amount set forth in Article 7.A.ii of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement.
- b. The Mayor shall expend the Funds in amount not to exceed the amount set forth in Article 7.A.ii of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement to pay for the cost of the Scope of Work necessary to implement the Project.
- c. The Mayor shall follow federal and state procurement and expenditure requirements as required by and set forth in the MDEQ Subaward Agreement.
- d. The Mayor shall ensure a complete procurement file for each contract necessary to perform the Scope of Work in the Subaward is submitted to MDEQ with reimbursement requests in accordance therewith.

VII. Applicable Law

This MOU shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi.

Agreed to this the 2nd day of July, 2024.


Vice Mayor/Mayor Pro Tem, City Council/Board


Mayor

ATTACHMENT "A"

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT**

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS**

MDEQ AGREEMENT NO. 623-2-SW-5.6

SUBAWARD AGREEMENT

This document is a Subaward Agreement (this "Agreement") between the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ"), a Pass-through entity as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, and City of Columbus, UEI Number: GDYKRKGAVS97 ("SUBRECIPIENT", and together with MDEQ, the "Parties", and each, a "Party") to provide grant funds for the Work conducted under the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure ("MCWI") Grant Program (the "Program") as specified in Article 4.

1. SOURCE OF FUNDS

The grant funds provided by this Agreement are made available pursuant to the Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 (Miss. Code Ann. § 49-2-131), provided through funds awarded to the State of Mississippi pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA"), Public Law 117-2 (March 11, 2021), provided through the U.S. Department of Treasury pursuant to Federal Award # SLFRP0003 and CFDA No. 21.027 (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) awarded on May 10, 2021, and subsequently to MDEQ through Mississippi Senate Bill 3056, 2022 Regular Session (April 26, 2022) and Mississippi House Bill 1716, 2023 Regular Session (March 22, 2023).

2. PROJECT

Under this Agreement, MDEQ agrees to disburse funds to SUBRECIPIENT in accordance with the terms herein to reimburse the costs associated with SUBRECIPIENT's implementation of the project entitled "Drainage Improvements Project 4.103 Northside and 5.104 Brickyard" (the "Project").

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Project is to make a necessary investment in an upgrade to SUBRECIPIENT's infrastructure. The Project is not for Research and Development.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

SUBRECIPIENT shall perform the tasks as described and identified in Attachment A, Scope of Work (the "Work").

5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

SUBRECIPIENT is subject to U.S. Treasury's regulations governing ARPA, and all applicable terms and conditions in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 of the Office of Management and Budget

("OMB") Uniform Guidance for Grants and Cooperative Agreements, as amended, including Appendix II to Part 200, and all other OMB circulars, executive orders or other federal laws or regulations applicable to the services provided under this Agreement. All of these terms and conditions of this Agreement apply to SUBRECIPIENT and, as applicable, its Contractors/Contracted Parties.

6. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

The Period of Performance shall commence upon the execution of this Agreement and shall end on **September 30, 2026**. Costs incurred on March 3, 2021, or thereafter, but prior to the commencement of the Period of Performance may be reimbursed provided MDEQ determines such costs are allowable and eligible. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to complete all tasks included in the Scope of Work within this Period of Performance, unless otherwise specified in writing by MDEQ. If, at any time during the Period of Performance of this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT determines, based on the Work performed to date, that the Work cannot be completed within the Period of Performance, SUBRECIPIENT shall so notify MDEQ immediately in writing.

Failure to adhere to the requirements placed on MCWI funds can result in termination of this Agreement and may result in a demand for repayment by MDEQ. Moreover, if MDEQ is required to return any funds as a result of misspending on the part of SUBRECIPIENT, MDEQ reserves the right to seek and receive repayment of the amount of funds in question.

7. **CONSIDERATION AND PAYMENT**

A. *Project Cost.* The total Project cost shall not exceed **\$8,535,000.00**, with said amount broken down as follows:

- i. MCWI Grant Funds shall not exceed **\$3,450,000.00**;
- ii. The Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("LFRF") received by SUBRECIPIENT from the U.S. Treasury or the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration used as matching funds in this Agreement shall not exceed **\$3,000,000.00**;
- iii. Any LFRF transferred to SUBRECIPIENT from a county or municipality ("Transferred LFRF") shall not exceed **\$450,000.00**;
- iv. Any other funds that SUBRECIPIENT obligates(ed) to the project that are not eligible for MCWI match ("Other Funds") shall not exceed **\$1,635,000.00**.

B. Professional fees that will be reimbursed with MCWI Grant Funds shall not exceed **\$341,400.00**. This amount is included in, and is not in addition to, the maximum MCWI Grant Funds specified in Article 7.A.i, above and Article 7.C., below.

SUBRECIPIENT understands and acknowledges that the amount of professional fees, as defined in the MCWI Regulations, Rule 1.1 E. (18), that may be matched with MCWI Grant Funds is limited to no more than 4% of the total amount of costs actually

incurred on the Project, which in no case may be more than the total Project cost set forth in Article 7.A., above.

C. *Consideration.* As consideration for the performance of the tasks included in this Agreement, MDEQ agrees to reimburse SUBRECIPIENT an amount not to exceed **Three Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$3,450,000.00)** (the "Maximum Amount").

MDEQ is under no obligation to provide funds to SUBRECIPIENT if SUBRECIPIENT has not met, or does not continue to meet, minimum federal requirements to receive funds, such as but not limited to, adhering to applicable procurement requirements found in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 *et al.* Moreover, MDEQ bears no responsibility relative to SUBRECIPIENT's expenditure of its own funds. To that end, in the process of review of documentation for reimbursement, as well as compliance monitoring activities associated with the Program, MDEQ is not responsible or liable for any expenditure made by SUBRECIPIENT with its funds. As such, SUBRECIPIENT is solely responsible for compliance with federal and state requirements associated with its LFRF, its LFRF Transferred Funds, and any other funds it uses towards its Project that are not a part of the MCWI Grant Funds. SUBRECIPIENT must substantiate all expenditures in a compliant manner. MDEQ is under no obligation to reimburse costs incurred that are not demonstrably compliant with federal and state law.

D. *Payment.* Subject to available funding, as set forth in the terms and conditions of this Agreement, MDEQ shall pay all properly invoiced amounts due to SUBRECIPIENT within forty-five (45) days after MDEQ's receipt of such invoice, except for any amounts disputed by MDEQ in good faith. Legislative approval may be required where MDEQ receives any claim of payment from SUBRECIPIENT that includes Work performed outside a one (1) year period from receipt of such invoice.

i. *Request for Payment.* SUBRECIPIENT shall request payment of funds hereunder for Project costs on a reimbursement basis (such requests, "Reimbursement Requests"), unless otherwise directed by MDEQ. SUBRECIPIENT shall submit Reimbursement Requests and supporting documentation of costs incurred as required by MDEQ to the MCWI Reimbursement Portal, located at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>. All Reimbursement Requests for time periods ending June 30 of any year, during the Period of Performance under this Agreement, shall be submitted no later than July 31 of that same year. Final invoice(s) shall be submitted to MDEQ no later than September 30, 2026. The Reimbursement Request shall include, at a minimum, breakdowns of personnel, position, dates worked, tasks performed, and totals for contract costs, materials, supplies and equipment, included in the Reimbursement Request. SUBRECIPIENT shall make Reimbursement Requests in accordance with the following procedures and subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. SUBRECIPIENT may make Reimbursement Requests no more frequently than once monthly during the Period of Performance of this Agreement.

2. SUBRECIPIENT shall request payment under this Agreement only for the costs necessary to complete the Scope of Work specifically stated and required under this Agreement.

3. SUBRECIPIENT shall not request payment under this Agreement for other services or other work the SUBRECIPIENT or its contractors may provide under any other Subaward or Contract not related to this Project.

4. SUBRECIPIENT shall provide on each Reimbursement Request the amount of its LFRF, Transferred LFRF and Other Funds expended. SUBRECIPIENT shall also provide the amount requested for professional fees. MDEQ will then determine the amount of MCWI Grant Funds that each Reimbursement Request qualifies for within the Program regulations and procedures.

5. SUBRECIPIENT understands that no payment, including final payment, shall be interpreted as acceptance of defective and incomplete Work, and SUBRECIPIENT shall remain responsible for performance in strict compliance with this Agreement. If MDEQ rejects, condemns or fails to approve any part of the Scope of Work, it may issue a Notice to Cure or terminate this Agreement.

6. MDEQ reserves the right to refuse to pay all or any part of the funds requested in a Reimbursement Request for any of the following reasons: 1) at MDEQ's discretion, the costs SUBRECIPIENT is seeking reimbursement for are not reasonable or necessary for the completion of the Work in this Agreement, 2) at MDEQ's discretion, the costs are ineligible for reimbursement under this Project, 3) at the time the request is submitted SUBRECIPIENT has failed to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement, 4) at the time the request is submitted the SUBRECIPIENT has otherwise failed to perform the Work to date in accordance with the Scope of Work, or 5) at the time the request is submitted the SUBRECIPIENT has otherwise failed to comply with applicable state, federal, or local laws and regulations.

ii. *Indirect Cost Rate.* Reimbursement of indirect costs and/or overhead is not allowed under this Agreement.

E. *Limitations on Expenditures.* MDEQ shall reimburse SUBRECIPIENT only for documented expenditures incurred on or after March 3, 2021: (i) reasonable and necessary to carry out the Scope of Work described in Attachment A; (ii) documented by contracts or other evidence of liability and (iii) incurred in accordance with all applicable requirements for the expenditure of funds payable under this Agreement.

F. *Improper Payments.* Any item of expenditure by SUBRECIPIENT under the terms of this Agreement which is found by auditors, investigators, other authorized

representatives of MDEQ, the U.S. Treasury, the Mississippi State Auditor or other federal or state instrumentality to be improper, unallowable, in violation of federal or state law, or the terms of this Agreement, or involving any fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading representations or activities of SUBRECIPIENT shall become SUBRECIPIENT's liability, and shall be paid solely by SUBRECIPIENT, immediately upon notification of such, from funds other than those provided by MDEQ under this Agreement. This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Any funds that are paid by MDEQ to SUBRECIPIENT that are not necessary for the completion of the Work in this Agreement and/or that are deemed ineligible must be returned to MDEQ immediately upon receiving MDEQ's written notification for return of funds.

G. *Clawback.* If funds are expended improperly or if an expense submitted for reimbursement is disallowed or deemed ineligible under federal, state or local laws and regulations, then payments to SUBRECIPIENT may be subject to clawback by MDEQ, the State of Mississippi or the U.S. Treasury.

8. **AMENDMENTS OR MODIFICATION**

This Agreement may only be amended, modified, or supplemented by written agreement signed by the Parties hereto.

9. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall provide required progress reports during the Period of Performance of this Agreement in a format prescribed by MDEQ. These reports shall be submitted in accordance with the following schedule, which may be amended from time to time:

<u>REPORTING PERIOD</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
October – December	January 15
January – March	April 15
April – June	July 15
July – September	October 15

This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement with respect to any reports which SUBRECIPIENT is required to submit to MDEQ following the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

10. **FAILURE TO TIMELY PERFORM**

SUBRECIPIENT shall take all reasonable measures to ensure MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF used for MCWI matching funds are obligated by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that its failure to obligate MCWI Grant Funds and

LFRF used for MCWI matching funds by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024, may result in MDEQ modifying the MCWI Grant Funds awarded or terminating this Agreement.

If SUBRECIPIENT refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Agreement with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extension thereof authorized by MDEQ or if SUBRECIPIENT otherwise fails to satisfy the Agreement provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Agreement, MDEQ may notify SUBRECIPIENT in writing of the delay or nonperformance. If such delay or nonperformance is not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by MDEQ, MDEQ may terminate SUBRECIPIENT's right to proceed with the Agreement or such part of the Agreement as to which there has been delay or a failure to perform properly.

Notwithstanding termination of the Agreement and subject to any directions by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of SUBRECIPIENT in which the State has an interest.

11. FINAL PAYMENT AND REPORT

When SUBRECIPIENT has performed all the Work, SUBRECIPIENT shall transmit to MDEQ a comprehensive report on the Work in a format prescribed by MDEQ (the "Final Report"). The Final Report shall be provided by SUBRECIPIENT to MDEQ within forty-five (45) days of Project completion in a format prescribed by MDEQ. Upon acceptance of Final Report, MDEQ will process final Reimbursement Request.

Upon satisfactory completion of the Work performed under this Agreement, as a condition before final payment under this Agreement or as a termination settlement under this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall certify to MDEQ, on a form provided by MDEQ, that the final payment amount is the remaining amount that SUBRECIPIENT is owed under this Agreement and that no additional payment for its Work under this Project will be submitted for reimbursement. Unless otherwise provided in the Agreement, by state law or otherwise expressly agreed to by the Parties in this Agreement, final payment under this Agreement or settlement upon termination of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of MDEQ's claims against SUBRECIPIENT or its sureties under this Agreement.

In consideration of the execution of this Agreement by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT agrees that acceptance of final payment from MDEQ will constitute an agreement by SUBRECIPIENT to release and forever discharge MDEQ, its agents, employees, officers, representatives, affiliates, successors and assigns from any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, actions, causes of action or suits of any nature whatsoever, which SUBRECIPIENT has at the time of acceptance of final payment or may thereafter have, arising out of, in connection with or in any way relating to any and all injuries and damages of any kind as a result of or in any way relating to this Agreement.

12. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

MDEQ requires that SUBRECIPIENT have in place, prior to the receipt of funds, a financial management system that will be able to isolate and trace every dollar funded under this Agreement from receipt to expenditure and have on file appropriate support documentation for each transaction. Examples of documentation include but are not limited to copies of checks paid

to vendors, vendor invoices, bills of lading, purchase vouchers, payrolls, bank statements and reconciliations, and real property and easement appraisals. Prior to the submittal of any such documentation to MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall redact, in accordance with the definition of "Protected Personally Identifiable Information" ("Protected PII") as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, all information reflecting an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of types of information, including, but not limited to, social security number, passport number, credit card numbers, clearances, bank numbers, biometrics, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, criminal, medical and financial records, educational transcripts. This does not include PII as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1 that is required by law to be disclosed. SUBRECIPIENT and any Contracted Parties (as such term is defined in Article 13 of this Agreement) are limited to the travel rates of the State of Mississippi, including dining and hotels, in place at the time of the expenditure for which reimbursement is sought; and SUBRECIPIENT shall audit any such invoice for same, clearly indicating the actual expense and the adjustment, if any.

SUBRECIPIENT certifies that all information provided to MDEQ or its representatives as part of the initial risk assessment for this Work is complete and accurate. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to submit to and cooperate with MDEQ in any additional risk assessment evaluation and periodic audit procedures to ensure adequate financial management of all funds. Further, SUBRECIPIENT shall continue to implement any recommendations and/or corrective action plan set forth in the report transmitted to SUBRECIPIENT based on the findings of the systems and processes for financial management, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment B and incorporated herein in its entirety.

13. CONTRACTS

SUBRECIPIENT shall be responsible for accountability of funds, compliance with Project specifications, and Project management by its contractors. MDEQ shall not bear responsibility for any liability caused or incurred by any contractor in performing Work. MDEQ shall not be deemed by virtue of this Agreement to have any contractual obligation to, or relationship with, any of SUBRECIPIENT's contractors, and the Parties agree and acknowledge that, as between MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT, all Work shall be deemed to be the responsibility of, and performed by, SUBRECIPIENT. No contractor or other recipient of funds from MDEQ under this Agreement shall be deemed to be an agent, representative, employee or servant of MDEQ in connection with this Agreement. The parties with whom contracts or subaward agreements are entered into by the SUBRECIPIENT shall be referred to herein as "Contractor", "Contracted Party", or "Contracted Parties". In addition to ensuring that its Contracted Parties follow the applicable terms in this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall require all terms and conditions set forth in Attachments A and C attached hereto to be included in all agreements between the SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Parties, and in all agreements between Contracted Parties and Contracted Parties' contractors/sub-contractors.

14. APPLICABLE LAW

The Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Mississippi and applicable federal law excluding, its conflict of laws provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the State.

SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the following:

A. *Authorizing Statutes.* Section 603 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 803), as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 (Miss. Code Ann. § 49-2-131).

B. *Implementing Regulations.* Subpart A of 31 C.F.R. Part 35 (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds), as adopted in the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds interim final rule (86 Fed. Reg. 26786, applicable May 17, 2021 through March 31, 2022) and final rule (87 Fed. Reg. 4338, applicable January 27, 2022 through the end of the ARP/CSLFRF award term), and other subsequent regulations implementing Section 603 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 803), as well as MDEQ regulations, entitled "Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality Regulations for the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program."

C. *Guidance Documents.* Applicable guidance documents issued from time-to-time by the US Department of Treasury and MDEQ, including the currently applicable version of the *Compliance and Reporting Guidance: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*.¹

D. *Licenses, Certifications, Permits, Accreditation.* SUBRECIPIENT shall obtain and keep current any license, certification, permit, or accreditation required by federal, state, or local law and shall submit to MDEQ proof of any licensure, certification, permit or accreditation upon request.

15. **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

It is expressly understood and agreed that the obligation of MDEQ to proceed under this Agreement is conditioned upon the availability of the funds from state, federal, and/or other funding sources. If the funds anticipated for the continuing fulfillment of the Agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the federal government to provide funds or of the State of Mississippi to appropriate funds or the discontinuance or material alteration of the program under which funds were provided or if funds are not otherwise available to MDEQ, MDEQ shall have the right upon ten (10) working days written notice to the SUBRECIPIENT, to terminate this Agreement without damage, penalty, cost or expenses to MDEQ of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.

16. **REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES**

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it has not retained a person to solicit or secure this Agreement upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

¹ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

17. **REPRESENTATION REGARDING GRATUITIES**

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the *Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board Office of Personal Service Contract Review Rules and Regulations* and Section 9.105 (Gratuities) of the Mississippi Procurement Manual.

18. **UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, 2 C.F.R. Part 200 ("UG"), as adopted by the Department of Treasury at 2 C.F.R. Part 1000 and as set forth in the Assistance Listing for ARP/CSLFRF (21.027). These requirements dictate how SUBRECIPIENT must administer the Subaward and how MDEQ must oversee SUBRECIPIENT. As a condition of receipt of the grant funds authorized in this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to watch the video entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview" found at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>.

The applicable UG provisions are as follows:

- Subpart A, Acronyms and Definitions;
- Subpart B, General Provisions;
- Subpart C, Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Awards (except 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.204, .205, .210, and .213);
- Subpart D, Post Federal Award Requirements (except 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.305(b)(8) and (9), .308, .309, and .320(c)(4));
- Subpart E, Cost Principles;
- Subpart F, Audit Requirements;
- 2 C.F.R. Part 25 (Universal Identifier and System for Award Management);
- 2 C.F.R. Part 170 (Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information); and
- 2 C.F.R. Part 180 (OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement)).

SUBRECIPIENT shall document compliance with UG requirements, including adoption and implementation of all required policies and procedures, within thirty (30) days of the execution of this Agreement and during all subsequent reviews during the term of the Agreement. It is SUBRECIPIENT's responsibility to comply with all UG requirements. Failure to do so may result in termination of the Agreement by MDEQ.

All real property acquired or improved, and equipment or supplies purchased in whole or in part with MCWI Grant Funds and/or LFRF, must be used, insured, managed, and disposed of in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.311 through 2 C.F.R. § 200.316.

19. **SUBAWARDS**

If SUBRECIPIENT is authorized by MDEQ to make a Subaward, SUBRECIPIENT must include and incorporate the terms and conditions of this Agreement and any attachments, in all lower tier Subawards. Further, SUBRECIPIENT, who makes a Subaward, must follow and carry out all the responsibilities of a Pass-through entity described at 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

20. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

SUBRECIPIENT understands that MDEQ is an equal opportunity employer and therefore, maintains a policy which prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, disability, genetic information, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful, and SUBRECIPIENT agrees during the Period of Performance of the Agreement that SUBRECIPIENT will strictly adhere to this policy in its employment practices and work performance under this Agreement. SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with, and all activities under this Agreement shall be subject to, all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and as may be amended or modified.

SUBRECIPIENT along with any sub-grantee, contractor, subcontractor, successor, transferee, and assignee shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from excluding from a program or activity, denying benefits of, or otherwise discriminating against a person on the basis of race, color, or national origin (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*), as implemented by the Department of the Treasury's Title VI regulations, 31 CFR Part 22, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Title VI also includes protection to persons with "Limited English Proficiency" in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance; 42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, as implemented by the Department of the Treasury's Title VI regulations, 31 CFR Part 22, and herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Further, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with the provisions of Attachment D to this Agreement.

Nothing contained in this Agreement may be deemed or construed in any way to stop, limit, or impair MDEQ from exercising or performing any regulatory, legislative, governmental, or other powers or functions.

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under ARPA, including the information provided by the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule.²

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 (Miss. Code Ann. § 49-2-131).³

² <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-01-27/pdf/2022-00292.pdf>

³ <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2023/pdf/SB/2400-2499/SB2444SG.pdf>

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under the Regulations promulgated by MDEQ.⁴

21. **STOP WORK ORDER**

A. *Order to Stop Work:* MDEQ may, by written order to SUBRECIPIENT at any time and without notice to any surety, require SUBRECIPIENT to stop all or any part of the Work called for by this Agreement. This order shall be for a specified period not exceeding ninety (90) days after the order is delivered to SUBRECIPIENT, unless the Parties agree to any further period. Any such order shall be identified specifically as a stop work order issued pursuant to this clause. Upon receipt of such an order, SUBRECIPIENT shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the occurrence of costs allocable to the Work covered by the order during the period of work stoppage. Before the stop work order expires, or within any further period to which the Parties shall have agreed, MDEQ shall either:

- i. cancel the stop work order; or
- ii. terminate the Work covered by such order as provided in the Termination for Default clause or the Termination for Convenience clause of this Agreement.

B. *Cancellation or Expiration of the Order:* If a stop work order issued under this clause is canceled at any time during the period specified in the order or if the period of the order or any extension thereof expires, SUBRECIPIENT shall have the right to resume Work. An appropriate adjustment may be made in the Period of Performance or Maximum Amount, or both, and the Agreement shall be modified in writing accordingly if:

- i. The stop work order results in an increase in the time required for, or in SUBRECIPIENT's cost properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this Agreement; and
- ii. SUBRECIPIENT provides a written claim for such an adjustment within thirty (30) days after the end of the period of work stoppage; provided that MDEQ decides that the facts justify such action and any such claim asserted may be received and acted upon at any time prior to final payment under this Agreement.

C. *Termination of Stopped Work:* If a stop work order is not canceled and the Work covered by such order is terminated for default or convenience, the reasonable costs resulting from the stop work order may be allowed by adjustment or otherwise.

22. **E-PAYMENT**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to accept all payments in United States currency via the State of Mississippi's electronic payment and remittance vehicle. MDEQ agrees to make payment in

⁴ <https://mswaterinfrastructure.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/MCW1-Grant-Program-Regulations-revised-12-16-22.pdf>

accordance with Mississippi law on "Timely Payments for Purchases by Public Bodies," which generally provides for payment of undisputed amounts by the agency within forty-five (45) days of receipt of invoice. Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-305.

23. **INTERVENTIONS**

If MDEQ determines that SUBRECIPIENT is not in compliance with this Agreement, MDEQ may initiate an intervention, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.208 and 2 C.F.R. § 200.339. The degree of SUBRECIPIENT's performance or compliance deficiency will determine the degree of intervention. All possible interventions are listed below and will depend on the degree of deficiency in SUBRECIPIENT's performance or compliance deficiency.

If MDEQ determines that an intervention is warranted, it shall provide written notice to SUBRECIPIENT of the intervention within thirty (30) days of the completion of a report review, desk review, onsite review, audit review, or procedures engagement review, or as soon as possible after MDEQ otherwise learns of a compliance or performance deficiency related to the execution of this Agreement. The written notice shall notify SUBRECIPIENT of the following related to the intervention:

- (1) The nature of the additional requirements;
- (2) The reason why the additional requirements are being imposed;
- (3) The nature of the action needed to remove the additional requirement, if applicable;
- (4) The time allowed for completing the actions if applicable; and
- (5) The method for requesting reconsideration of the additional requirements imposed.

MDEQ may impose, but is not limited to, the following interventions on SUBRECIPIENT, based on the level of the compliance or performance deficiency that MDEQ determines:

Level 1 Interventions. These interventions may be required for minor compliance or performance issues:

- (1) SUBRECIPIENT addresses specific internal control, documentation, financial management, compliance, or performance issues within a specified time period; and/or
- (2) More frequent or more thorough reporting by the SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (3) More frequent monitoring by MDEQ; and/or
- (4) Required SUBRECIPIENT technical assistance or training.

Level 2 Interventions. These interventions may be required for more serious compliance or performance issues:

- (1) Restrictions on funding payment requests by SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (2) Disallowing payments to SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (3) Requiring repayment for disallowed cost items; and/or
- (4) Imposing probationary status on SUBRECIPIENT.

Level 3 Interventions. These interventions may be required for significant and/or persistent compliance or performance issues:

- (1) Temporary or indefinite funding suspension to SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (2) Nonrenewal of funding to SUBRECIPIENT in subsequent year; and/or
- (3) Terminate funding to SUBRECIPIENT in the current year; and/or
- (4) Initiate legal action against SUBRECIPIENT.

Interventions will remain in place until the underlying performance or compliance deficiency is addressed to the sole satisfaction of MDEQ.

24. **E-VERIFICATION**

If applicable, SUBRECIPIENT represents and certifies that it will ensure its compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act of 2008 and will register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 71-11-1, *et seq.* The term "employee" as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work within the State. As used herein, "status verification system" means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain records of such compliance. Upon request of the State of Mississippi and after approval of the Social Security Administration or Department of Homeland Security, when required, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide a copy of each such verification. SUBRECIPIENT further represents and certifies that any person assigned to perform services hereafter meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws.

25. **TRANSPARENCY**

This Agreement, including any accompanying exhibits, attachments, and appendices, is subject to the "Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983" and its exceptions. See Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.* and Miss. Code Ann. § 79-23-1. In addition, this Agreement is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 27-104-151, *et seq.* Unless exempted from disclosure due to a court-issued protective order, a copy of this executed Agreement may be posted to the Department of Finance and Administration's independent agency Agreement website for public access at <https://www.transparency.mississippi.gov>. Information identified by SUBRECIPIENT as trade secrets or other proprietary information, including confidential vendor information, or any other information which is required to be confidential by state or federal law or outside the applicable freedom of information statutes will be redacted.

26. **PAYMODE**

Payments by state agencies using the statewide accounting system shall be made and remittance information provided electronically as directed by MDEQ. These payments shall be deposited into the bank account of SUBRECIPIENT's choice. MDEQ may, at its sole discretion, require SUBRECIPIENT to submit invoices and supporting documentation electronically at any time during the Period of Performance of this Agreement. SUBRECIPIENT understands and

agrees that MDEQ is exempt from the payment of taxes. All payments shall be in United States currency.

27. **TERMINATION**

The Agreement may be terminated as follows:

A. *Termination For Convenience.*

The MDEQ may, when the interests of the State so require, terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. MDEQ shall give written notice of the termination to SUBRECIPIENT specifying the part of the Agreement terminated and when termination becomes effective.

B. *Termination For Default.*

If SUBRECIPIENT refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Agreement with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extension thereof or otherwise fails to satisfy the Agreement provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Agreement, MDEQ may notify SUBRECIPIENT in writing of the delay or nonperformance, and if not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by MDEQ, MDEQ may terminate SUBRECIPIENT's right to proceed with the Agreement or such part of the Agreement as to which there has been delay or a failure to properly perform.

Notwithstanding termination of the Agreement and subject to any directions by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of SUBRECIPIENT in which the State has an interest.

C. *Termination Upon Bankruptcy.*

This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by MDEQ upon written notice to SUBRECIPIENT, if SUBRECIPIENT should become the subject of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the execution by SUBRECIPIENT of an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. In the event of such termination, SUBRECIPIENT shall be entitled to recover just and equitable compensation for satisfactory Work performed under this Agreement, but in no case shall said compensation exceed the total Maximum Amount.

28. **DISPUTES**

Before pleading to any judicial system at any level, SUBRECIPIENT must exhaust all administrative remedies. A written complaint must first be sent to the Executive Director of MDEQ. The decision of the Executive Director shall be reduced to writing and a copy thereof mailed or furnished to SUBRECIPIENT within fourteen (14) days after receipt of information

requested by MDEQ or the Executive Director. If the decision of the Executive Director does not resolve the matter, successive administrative remedies may, at SUBRECIPIENT's option, include bringing the complaint before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §§ 49-17-35 and -41. In the alternative, at SUBRECIPIENT's option, the decision of the Executive Director may be deemed the final agency action on the complaint. Appeals from the decision of the Executive Director or the Commission shall follow procedures outlined in Miss. Code Ann. § 49-17-41.

29. **ANTI-ASSIGNMENT/CONTRACTING**

SUBRECIPIENT shall not assign, contract, or otherwise transfer this Agreement, in whole or in part without the prior written consent of MDEQ, which MDEQ may, in its sole discretion, approve or deny without reason. Any attempted assignment or transfer of its obligations without such consent shall be null and void. No such approval by MDEQ of any contract shall be deemed in any way to provide for the incurrence of any obligation of MDEQ in excess of the Maximum MCWI Grant Fund amount set forth in this Agreement, nor create any contractual relationship between MDEQ and any Contracted Parties. Contracts shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to any conditions of approval that MDEQ may deem necessary. Subject to the foregoing, this Agreement shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of the Parties.

30. **AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AGREEMENT**

SUBRECIPIENT certifies and acknowledges it is a Mississippi county, municipality or public utility, as defined in MCWI regulation, Rule 1.1. E. (17), and that it has LFRF to use as match funding for this grant. SUBRECIPIENT further certifies and acknowledges that its entry into and performance under this Agreement is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

31. **DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION**

SUBRECIPIENT certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it, and its Contracted Parties:

A. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;

B. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or Agreement or Contract under a public transaction;

C. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state

antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

D. are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in Article 31. B. and Article 31. C., above; and

E. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

32. **FAILURE TO ENFORCE**

Failure by MDEQ, at any time, to enforce the provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions. Such failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of this Agreement or any part thereof or the right of MDEQ to enforce any provision at any time in accordance with its terms.

33. **INDEMNIFICATION**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain responsibility for the Project and agrees to provide proper operation and maintenance of all facilities for the life of the Project. SUBRECIPIENT's tort liability, if it is an entity of the State of Mississippi, is determined and controlled in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 11-46-1 *et seq.*, including all defenses and exceptions contained therein. Nothing in this Agreement shall have the effect of changing or altering this liability or of eliminating any defense available to the State under statute.

To the extent allowed by state law, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to indemnify and save, release and hold harmless the State of Mississippi, the Commission on Environmental Quality, MDEQ, all of their employees and officers, and MDEQ's contractors from and against any and all claim, demand, cause of action, liability, loss, damage, injury, suit, judgment, debt and cost, including attorney's fees or expenses on the part of SUBRECIPIENT, their agents or employees or any other parties arising out of or incident to, any and all Work under the terms of this Agreement.

34. **SUBRECIPIENT STATUS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall, during the entire Period of Performance of this Agreement, be construed to be an independent SUBRECIPIENT. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to nor shall be construed to create an employer-employee relationship or a joint venture relationship.

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it is qualified to perform the duties to be performed under this Agreement and that it has, or will secure, if needed, at its own expense, applicable personnel who are qualified to perform the duties required under this Agreement. Such personnel shall not be deemed in any way, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, to be employees of MDEQ.

Any person assigned by SUBRECIPIENT to perform the services hereunder shall be an employee or independent contractor of SUBRECIPIENT, who shall have the sole right to hire and discharge its employees and/or independent contractors under this Agreement.

SUBRECIPIENT shall pay, when due, all salaries and wages of its employees and accepts exclusive responsibility for the payment of federal income tax, state income tax, social security, unemployment compensation and any other withholdings that may be required. This provision is solely for the benefit of MDEQ, and nothing herein shall be construed to create or impose any contractual or agency relationship between MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT'S contractors, subcontractors, employees or agents.

35. **INSURANCE**

SUBRECIPIENT and its Contracted Parties agree to and shall maintain insurance that is required by applicable state, federal, and local laws and regulations.

36. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement, including all attachments, represents the entire and integrated agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, irrespective of whether written or oral. This Agreement may be altered, amended, or modified only by a written document executed by MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges that it has thoroughly read this Agreement and all its attachments and has had the opportunity to receive competent advice and counsel necessary for it to form a full and complete understanding of all rights and obligations herein.

37. **ORAL STATEMENTS**

No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications stated in this Agreement. All modifications to the Agreement must be made in writing by the MDEQ and agreed to by SUBRECIPIENT.

38. **RECORD RETENTION AND ACCESS TO RECORDS**

Provided SUBRECIPIENT is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of SUBRECIPIENT, the Government Accountability Office, MDEQ, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of SUBRECIPIENT's books, documents, papers, and other records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcriptions, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the SUBRECIPIENT's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. All records related to this Agreement shall be retained by SUBRECIPIENT for a minimum of ten (10) years after final payment is made under this Agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the ten (10) year period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the ten (10) year period, whichever is later.

SUBRECIPIENT is not required to retain the above-mentioned records for the ten-year period prescribed in this Article and Article 39 only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

A. SUBRECIPIENT has provided all of the documents described above and in the "Right to Audit" provision to MDEQ prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year retention period and a certification stating the same is simultaneously provided in writing to MDEQ;

B. No audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before SUBRECIPIENT provides the records and corresponding certification to MDEQ, in which case, SUBRECIPIENT shall retain the records until all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved; and

C. SUBRECIPIENT provides MDEQ a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice before providing the above-mentioned records and corresponding certification.

39. **RIGHT TO AUDIT**

SUBRECIPIENT shall maintain all financial records, including electronic financial records, as may be prescribed by the MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. SUBRECIPIENT shall retain these records for a period of ten (10) years after final payment. These records shall be made available during the term of the Agreement and the subsequent ten (10) year period for examination, transcription, and audit by MDEQ, the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies, including the Office of Inspector General. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Agreement or an activity funded under the Agreement is started before the expiration of the ten (10) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

40. **RIGHT TO INSPECT WORK; ACCESS**

MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants shall have access and the right to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits to inspect all Work hereunder. Notwithstanding any review or inspection by MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants, SUBRECIPIENT shall not be relieved of its responsibility for performance of the Work or the submission of reports as expressly set forth in this Agreement solely by virtue of such inspection or review of the Work. SUBRECIPIENT shall provide MDEQ and its representatives, invitees, and consultants with the opportunity to participate in site inspections, meetings, and/or teleconferences, as appropriate, related to SUBRECIPIENT's performance of the Work.

41. **SEVERABILITY**

If any part of this Agreement is declared to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement that can be given effect without the invalid or unenforceable provision, and to this end the provisions hereof are severable. In such event, the Parties shall amend the Agreement as necessary to reflect the original intent of the Parties and to bring any invalid or unenforceable provisions in compliance with applicable law.

42. **THIRD PARTY ACTION NOTIFICATION**

SUBRECIPIENT shall give the MDEQ prompt notice in writing of any action or suit filed, and prompt notice of any claim made against SUBRECIPIENT by any entity that may result in litigation related in any way to this Agreement.

43. **CERTIFICATIONS**

SUBRECIPIENT's execution of this Agreement shall be deemed as acknowledgement, guarantee and certification by SUBRECIPIENT of the following:

A. SUBRECIPIENT has sufficient LFRF in its possession that it will use to match MCWI Grant Funds.

B. SUBRECIPIENT will follow and abide by all ARPA guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations, and other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, by the U.S. Treasury regarding the use of monies under this Agreement.

C. As required in Attachment A, Article (1) a., SUBRECIPIENT's Authorized Representative, or his/her designee has watched the video on the MDEQ <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com> web-page entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview."

D. All of SUBRECIPIENT's LFRF used as MCWI matching funds, as well as MCWI Grant Funds received by SUBRECIPIENT, have been or will be used for the Project detailed in this Agreement.

E. Upon request by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT will provide an Intergovernmental Review Certification as detailed in the MCWI Regulations.

F. SUBRECIPIENT will obligate all MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF funds used for MCWI matching funds by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024.

G. If SUBRECIPIENT does not complete the Project by December 31, 2026, SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees to complete the Project with other funds.

44. **WAIVER**

No delay or omission by either Party to this Agreement in exercising any right, power, or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by Agreement, at law, or in equity shall constitute an acquiescence therein, impair any other right, power or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by any means, or operate as a waiver of such right, power, or remedy. No waiver by either Party to this Agreement shall be valid unless set forth in writing by the Party making said waiver. No waiver of or modification to any term or condition of this Agreement will void, waive, or change any other term or condition. No waiver by one Party to this Agreement of a default by the other Party will imply, be construed as or require waiver of future or other defaults.

45. **COMPLIANCE WITH MISS. CODE ANN. § 31-5-37**

If applicable, SUBRECIPIENT shall ensure that Contracted Parties and bidders solicited for contract awards pursuant to this Agreement comply with the requirements of Miss. Code. Ann. § 31-5-37. SUBRECIPIENT shall require all bidders for any contract of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or more procured or to be procured with funds received pursuant to this Agreement to submit a certification with their bid that said bidder will comply with the provisions of Miss. Code. Ann. § 31-5-37. In addition, within seven (7) days of any such contract award procured or to be procured with funds received pursuant to this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall require the Contracted Party to submit to both SUBRECIPIENT and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security ("MDES") an employment plan which conforms to the requirements contained in Miss. Code. Ann. § 31-5-37(2).

From the date written notice of any such contract award is received and until ten (10) business days after the receipt of the employment plan by MDES, the Contracted Party and any subcontractors shall not hire any personnel to fill vacant positions for the project except residents of the State of Mississippi who are to be verified by MDES and/or those qualified individuals who are submitted by MDES. However, the Contracting Party or contractor is authorized to employ Mississippi residents to begin work immediately if such persons are verified by MDES after employment by the Contracting Party or contractor. SUBRECIPIENT shall vacate the contract award in the event the Contracting Party fails to comply with the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 31-5-37.

46. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

SUBRECIPIENT shall immediately notify MDEQ in writing of any potential conflict of interest resulting from the representation of or service to other clients or otherwise affecting this Agreement in any way. If any such conflict occurs before it is discovered, SUBRECIPIENT shall notify MDEQ of such conflict within five (5) working days of such discovery. If such conflict cannot be resolved to MDEQ's satisfaction, MDEQ reserves the right to terminate this Agreement per the "Termination for Convenience" clause.

47. **SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective permitted successors and permitted assigns.

48. **NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns, and nothing herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any other person or entity any legal or equitable right, benefit or remedy of any nature whatsoever under or by reason of this Agreement.

49. **EVALUATION**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to assist and cooperate with the MDEQ or its duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the Project(s) to which the Agreement relates, and to provide

in form and manner approved by MDEQ such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

Further, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to cooperate with MDEQ or its duly designated representatives by providing timely responses to all reasonable requests for information to assist in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

50. VENUE

Venue for the resolution of any dispute, according to Article 28 of this Agreement, shall be before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality if pursuing an administrative appeal, and venue for any subsequent litigation shall be in the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi.

51. HEADINGS

The headings in this Agreement are for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Agreement.

52. NOTICES

Unless otherwise specified in the Agreement, all notices, requests, consents, claims, demands, waivers and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given (a) when delivered by hand (with written confirmation of receipt); (b) when received by the addressee if sent by a nationally recognized overnight courier (receipt requested); (c) on the date sent by facsimile or e-mail of document(s) (with confirmation of transmission) if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, and on the next business day if sent after normal business hours of the recipient; or (d) on the third day after the date mailed, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. Such communications must be sent to the respective Parties at the following addresses (or at such other address for a Party as shall be specified in a notice given in accordance with this subsection):

If to MDEQ:

Attention:
MCWI Contract Administration
515 East Amite Street
P.O. Box 2249
Jackson, MS 39201
E-mail: MCWIdocuments@mdeq.ms.gov

If to SUBRECIPIENT:

Attention:
Mayor Keith Gaskin
523 Main Street
Columbus, MS 39701
Phone: (662) 328-7021
E-mail: kgaskin@columbusms.org

53. COUNTERPARTS

Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same Agreement. A signed copy of this Agreement delivered by facsimile, e-mail or other means of electronic transmission shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this Agreement.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

For the faithful performance and consideration provided under the terms of this Agreement, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their undersigned authorized representatives.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Chris Wells
Executive Director

7/14/23

Date

CITY OF COLUMBUS



Mayor Keith Gaskin
Signature of Authorized Representative

Keith Gaskin

Keith Gaskin
Printed Name

Mayor

Title

July 12, 2023

Date

ATTACHMENT A

**PROJECT NAME, SCOPE OF WORK AND PROJECT TIMELINE AND
REQUIREMENTS**

PROJECT NAME

Drainage Improvements Project 4.103 Northside and 5.104 Brickyard

SCOPE OF WORK

The Project shall be defined as eligible activities funded in whole or in part under this Agreement as follows:

The Project includes rehabilitating drainage infrastructure and upgrading underground drainage systems within the Northside and Brickyard communities.

The general Scope of Work to be performed by SUBRECIPIENT is limited to that which was submitted in the MCWI Application Portal and approved for funding in accordance with the MCWI Program Regulations. SUBRECIPIENT hereby agrees that no additional eligible scope may be added to this Scope of Work without the express written consent of MDEQ. The Scope of Work eligible for reimbursement is limited to that identified as eligible by MDEQ and further described by plans, specifications, contract documents, and contract change orders approved as eligible by MDEQ.

PROJECT TIMELINE AND REQUIREMENTS

(1) SUBRECIPIENT agrees to the following schedule.

- a. Within 10 days of execution of this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT's Authorized Representative, or his/her designee shall watch the video on the MDEQ <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com> web-page entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview." The web-page will track compliance with this requirement;
- b. On or about March 15, 2024, submit a complete set of plans, specifications, contract documents on each construction contract, and all applicable permits and agency approvals, if not already submitted to MDEQ;
- c. On or about April 15, 2024, advertise each construction contract for bids;
- d. On or about May 30, 2024, but no later than 45 days after advertisement for construction bids on each construction contract, receive bids;

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

- e. No later than 60 days after receipt of bids on each construction contract, execute construction contract;
- f. No later than 15 days after execution of construction contract, submit the entire procurement file (including but not limited to the request for proposals, evidence of publication, MBE/WBE documentation, all received bids, evaluation and selection documentation, executed construction contracts, and professional services contracts);
- g. No later than 60 days after execution of each construction contract, execute and submit a copy of the notice to proceed;
- h. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 25% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- i. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 50% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- j. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 75% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- k. No later than 5 business days after completion of each construction contract, notify MDEQ of construction completion;
- l. No later than 30 days after the contract completion date on each construction contract, submit all change orders which include time extensions, or a request and justification for delaying MDEQ's final construction observation;
- m. Within 45 days of Project completion, but no later than September 30, 2026, whichever is earlier, unless an extension of this date is specifically authorized by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT must submit the following: Final Report, as listed in Article 11, the engineer's certification of compliance with plans, specifications, and contract documents; final professional services contract amendments, if any; and all other administrative forms and documents required by the Agreement.

(2) To the extent any documents required to be submitted in Attachment A, Article (1) above were submitted with the MCWI Grant Application through the Application Portal, the documents do not need to be resubmitted.

(3) All documents required to be submitted in Attachment A, Article (1) above, shall be uploaded to the Documents Portal at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>.

ATTACHMENT B

**SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

An evaluation for the assessment of uncontrolled risks of the SUBRECIPIENT's systems and processes for financial management was performed as of part of the initial subaward process by MDEQ, acting on behalf of the State of Mississippi, as administrator of this Subaward Agreement. MDEQ requests the SUBRECIPIENT provide the following information to MDEQ as part of observations made during the evaluation. MDEQ reserves the right to re-evaluate the assessment of uncontrolled risks upon subsequently identified facts:

1. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide MDEQ with a copy of their annual audited financial statements within 60 days of the report release date throughout the Period of Performance.
2. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to promptly notify MDEQ of any significant changes made to the SUBRECIPIENT's current policies and procedures that would impact financial management systems and processes, specifically those communicated as part of the evaluation, from which the current residual risk levels were derived.
3. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to promptly notify MDEQ of any level of fraud or abuse discovered within the organization without regard to materiality that is related to the operation of the Project, as well as other pervasive deficiencies identified for grant management practices from any source, both external and internal, throughout the program performance period.
4. If deficiencies, significant deficiencies and/or material weaknesses are reported to the SUBRECIPIENT, as part of any assurance, attestation, or monitoring engagement during the program performance period, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide its response(s) and/or corrective action plan(s) to MDEQ so that prompt action can be taken by MDEQ to mitigate any elevated level of uncontrolled risk that could potentially impact MDEQ's or the SUBRECIPIENT's ability to comply with Federal Award and/or subaward requirements.
5. SUBRECIPIENT agrees that MDEQ has the right to perform monitoring procedures as deemed appropriate by MDEQ based on the assessed risk of noncompliance.

ATTACHMENT C

**SUBAWARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FOR CONTRACTED PARTIES**

1. AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AGREEMENT

The Contracted Party certifies that (a) it is either a 1) state agency, 2) a validly organized business that is authorized to do business in the state of Mississippi, 3) a nongovernmental organization, or 4) a political subdivision of the state of Mississippi with valid authority to enter into this agreement and; (b) entry into and performance under this agreement is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and (c) notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this agreement.

2. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

Contractor/Contracted Parties certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it:

A. is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;

B. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction;

C. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

D. is not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in Article 2.B. and Article 2.C., above; and,

E. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

This agreement is subject to 31 C.F.R. Part 19.

3. INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent allowed by state law, Contracted Party agrees to indemnify and save, release and hold harmless the State of Mississippi, the Commission on Environmental Quality, MDEQ, all of their employees and officers, and the Department's contractors from and against any and

claim, demand, cause of action, liability, loss, damage, injury, suit, judgment, debt and cost, including attorney's fees or expenses on the part of any Contracted Party, their agents or employees or any other parties arising out of or incident to, any and all Work under the terms of this Agreement.

4. RELATIONSHIP STATUS

The Contracted Party acknowledges and agrees that MDEQ is not a party, in any manner whatsoever, to any contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and the construction contractor(s), engineer(s), attorney(s), equipment supplier(s), contractor(s), or between any other parties of any kind whatsoever (hereinafter collectively referred to as "vendor"). The SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Party also acknowledge and agree that any benefit to vendors contracting with the SUBRECIPIENT or Contracted Parties arising from or associated with this Agreement is strictly incidental and all such vendors are not and are not intended to be considered as third-party beneficiaries under any agreement between MDEQ and the SUBRECIPIENT.

Upon execution of any contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party in regard to the project, MDEQ does not assume any authorities, duties, responsibilities, or liabilities under such contract. The SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Party shall not have any authority to bind or otherwise obligate MDEQ, directly or indirectly, under any contract or agreement between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party. The SUBRECIPIENT, Contracted Party and its vendors acknowledge and agree that any action taken by MDEQ in its role of grantor, or in its separate and distinct role as regulator shall not in any way change or alter its position as that of grantor.

MDEQ does not have any authority, duty, responsibility, or liability in contract claims or dispute identification, negotiation, resolution, or any other actions regarding contract claims under the contract(s) between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party. The SUBRECIPIENT and the Contracted Party acknowledge and agree that MDEQ is not obligated to review, comment on, approve, or discuss the merits of any contract claims presented by or to any party. Any MDEQ reviews, approvals, observations, presence at meetings, written communications, verbal communications or other actions are not to be interpreted as addressing the merits of any claims, nor are they to be construed as interpreting the contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and the Contracted Party or any other parties.

5. ACCESS TO RECORDS

Provided Contracted Party is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of Contracted Party, then the Government Accountability Office, MDEQ, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of Contracted Party's books, documents, papers, and other records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcriptions, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the Contracted Party's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. All records related to this Agreement shall be retained by Contracted Party for a minimum of ten (10) years after final payment is made under this Agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the ten (10) year period, the

records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the ten (10) year period, whichever is later.

Contracted Party is not required to retain the above-mentioned records for the ten (10) year period prescribed in this Section and the "Right to Audit" provision only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- A. Contracted Party has provided all of the documents described above and in the "Right to Audit" provision to MDEQ prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year retention period and a certification stating the same is simultaneously provided in writing to MDEQ;
- B. No audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before Contracted Party provides the records and corresponding certification to MDEQ, in which case, Contracted Party shall retain the records until all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved; and
- C. Contracted Party provides MDEQ a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice before providing the above-mentioned records and corresponding certification.

6. RECORD RETENTION AND RIGHT TO AUDIT

The Contracted Party shall maintain and retain books, documents, papers, financial records and other records, including electronic records, as may be prescribed by the MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. Contracted Party shall retain these records for a period of ten (10) years after final payment. These records shall be made available during the term of the Agreement and the subsequent ten (10) year period for examination, transcription, and audit by MDEQ, the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies, including the Office of Inspector General. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Agreement or an activity funded under the Agreement is started before the expiration of the ten (10) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

7. RIGHT TO INSPECT WORK; SITE ACCESS

MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants shall have access and the right to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits to inspect all Work hereunder. Upon request by MDEQ, Contracted Party shall provide MDEQ and its representatives, invitees, and consultants with the opportunity to participate in site inspections, meetings, and/or teleconferences, as appropriate, related to the performance of the Work.

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Contracted Party covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest direct or indirect in the Project that is the subject to this Agreement or any parcels therein, where applicable, or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of his services hereunder. The Contracted Party further covenants that, in the performance of this agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

The Contracted Party agrees to establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using positions for a purpose that is or gives the appearance of being motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have a family, business, or other tie.

9. COOPERATION AND EVALUATION

The Contracted Party agrees to assist and cooperate with the MDEQ or its duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the Project(s) to which the Agreement relates, and to provide in form and manner approved by MDEQ such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

Further, the Contracted Party agrees to cooperate with MDEQ or its duly designated representatives by providing timely responses to all reasonable requests for information to assist in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

ATTACHMENT D

ASSURANCES OF COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS REQUIREMENTS

ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE

CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

As a condition of receipt of federal financial assistance from the Department of the Treasury, SUBRECIPIENT provides the assurances stated herein. The federal financial assistance may include federal grants, loans and contracts to provide assistance to SUBRECIPIENT's beneficiaries, the use or rent of Federal land or property at below market value, Federal training, a loan of Federal personnel, subsidies, and other arrangements with the intention of providing assistance. Federal financial assistance does not encompass contracts of guarantee or insurance, regulated programs, licenses, procurement contracts by the Federal government at market value, or programs that provide direct benefits.

The assurances apply to all federal financial assistance from or funds made available through the Department of the Treasury, including any assistance that SUBRECIPIENT may request in the future.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 provides that the provisions of the assurances apply to all of the operations of SUBRECIPIENT's program(s) and activity(ies), so long as any portion of SUBRECIPIENT's program(s) or activity(ies) is federally assisted in the manner prescribed above.

1. SUBRECIPIENT ensures its current and future compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits exclusion from participation, denial of the benefits of, or subjection to discrimination under programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance, of any person in the United States on the ground of race, color, or national origin (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*), as implemented by the Department of the Treasury Title VI regulations at 31 CFR Part 22 and other pertinent executive orders such as Executive Order 13166, directives, circulars, policies, memoranda, and/or guidance documents.

2. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges that Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," seeks to improve access to federally assisted programs and activities for individuals who, because of national origin, have Limited English proficiency (LEP). SUBRECIPIENT understands that denying a person access to its programs, services, and activities because of LEP is a form of national origin discrimination prohibited under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Department of the Treasury's implementing regulations. Accordingly, SUBRECIPIENT shall initiate reasonable steps, or comply with the Department of the Treasury's directives, to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities. SUBRECIPIENT understands and agrees that meaningful access may entail providing language assistance services, including oral interpretation and written translation where necessary, to ensure effective communication in SUBRECIPIENT's programs, services, and activities.

3. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to consider the need for language services for LEP persons when SUBRECIPIENT develops applicable budgets and conducts programs, services, and activities. As a resource, the Department of the Treasury has published its LEP guidance at 70 FR 6067. For more information on taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access for LEP persons, please visit <http://www.lep.gov>.

4. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that compliance with the assurances constitutes a condition of continued receipt of federal financial assistance and is binding upon SUBRECIPIENT and SUBRECIPIENT's successors, transferees, and assignees for the period in which such assistance is provided.

5. SUBRECIPIENT understands and agrees that if any real property or structure is provided or improved with the aid of federal financial assistance by the Department of the Treasury, this assurance obligates SUBRECIPIENT, or in the case of a subsequent transfer, the transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits. If any personal property is provided, this assurance obligates SUBRECIPIENT for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property.

6. SUBRECIPIENT shall cooperate in any enforcement or compliance review activities by the Department of the Treasury of the aforementioned obligations. Enforcement may include investigation, arbitration, mediation, litigation, and monitoring of any settlement agreements that may result from these actions. SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with information requests, on-site compliance reviews and reporting requirements.

7. SUBRECIPIENT shall maintain a complaint log and inform the Department of the Treasury of any complaints of discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, and limited English proficiency covered by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and implementing regulations and provide, upon request, a list of all such reviews or proceedings based on the complaint, pending or completed, including outcome. SUBRECIPIENT also must inform the Department of the Treasury if SUBRECIPIENT has received no complaints under Title VI.

8. SUBRECIPIENT must provide documentation of an administrative agency's or court's findings of non-compliance of Title VI and efforts to address the non-compliance, including any voluntary compliance or other agreements between the SUBRECIPIENT and the administrative agency that made the finding. If SUBRECIPIENT settles a case or matter alleging such discrimination, SUBRECIPIENT must provide documentation of the settlement. If SUBRECIPIENT has not been the subject of any court or administrative agency finding of discrimination, please so state.

K. Discuss/Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the City Council and Mayor of Columbus to obligate funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan Act.

Council Member Beard made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City Council and Mayor of Columbus to obligate funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan Act. Councilwoman DiCicco seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE MOU FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, hereinafter the Parties. In consideration of those mutual undertakings, the Parties agree as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council, is designated to accept and administer funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"), sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor is tasked with overseeing the day to day operations of the Municipality, including but not limited to utilities, specifically drinking water, wastewater and storm water projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board must approve the Municipality's budget and the Mayor executes the expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this MOU to memorialize their understanding of the mutual advantages of this cooperative relationship.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the terms and conditions set forth below:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to memorialize an agreement to obligate the Municipality's ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("Funds").

II. CONDITIONS AND SCOPE

The Council agrees to appropriate and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds to perform the "Scope of Work," as set forth in Attachment A.

III. AMOUNT

The City Council agrees to provide and obligate the Funds and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds.

IV. TERM

The MOU shall be effective from the date executed below and shall expire on January 1, 2027.

V. BINDING EFFECT

The MOU shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and upon any respective successors and assigns of the Parties.

VI. OBLIGATION OF THE PARTIES

The Parties agree to the following obligations under this MOU:

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

- a. The City Council agrees to provide the Mayor the Funds.
- b. The Mayor shall expend the Funds in an amount to pay for the cost of the Scope of Work necessary to implement the Project.
- c. The Mayor shall follow federal expenditure requirements.
- d. The Mayor shall ensure a complete procurement file for each contract necessary to perform the Scope of Work.

VII. Applicable Law

This MOU shall be governed by and construed in accordance with federal laws.

Agreed to this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Vice Mayor/Mayor Pro Tem, City Council/Board

Mayor

ATTACHMENT "A"

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT**

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS**

MDEQ AGREEMENT NO. 623-2-SW-5.6

SUBAWARD AGREEMENT

This document is a Subaward Agreement (this "Agreement") between the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ"), a Pass-through entity as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, and City of Columbus, UEI Number: GDYKRKGAVS97 ("SUBRECIPIENT", and together with MDEQ, the "Parties", and each, a "Party") to provide grant funds for the Work conducted under the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure ("MCWI") Grant Program (the "Program") as specified in Article 4.

1. SOURCE OF FUNDS

The grant funds provided by this Agreement are made available pursuant to the Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 (Miss. Code Ann. § 49-2-131), provided through funds awarded to the State of Mississippi pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA"), Public Law 117-2 (March 11, 2021), provided through the U.S. Department of Treasury pursuant to Federal Award # SLFRP0003 and CFDA No. 21.027 (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) awarded on May 10, 2021, and subsequently to MDEQ through Mississippi Senate Bill 3056, 2022 Regular Session (April 26, 2022) and Mississippi House Bill 1716, 2023 Regular Session (March 22, 2023).

2. PROJECT

Under this Agreement, MDEQ agrees to disburse funds to SUBRECIPIENT in accordance with the terms herein to reimburse the costs associated with SUBRECIPIENT's implementation of the project entitled "Drainage Improvements Project 4.103 Northside and 5.104 Brickyard" (the "Project").

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Project is to make a necessary investment in an upgrade to SUBRECIPIENT's infrastructure. The Project is not for Research and Development.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

SUBRECIPIENT shall perform the tasks as described and identified in Attachment A, Scope of Work (the "Work").

5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

SUBRECIPIENT is subject to U.S. Treasury's regulations governing ARPA, and all applicable terms and conditions in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 of the Office of Management and Budget

("OMB") Uniform Guidance for Grants and Cooperative Agreements, as amended, including Appendix II to Part 200, and all other OMB circulars, executive orders or other federal laws or regulations applicable to the services provided under this Agreement. All of these terms and conditions of this Agreement apply to SUBRECIPIENT and, as applicable, its Contractors/Contracted Parties.

6. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

The Period of Performance shall commence upon the execution of this Agreement and shall end on **September 30, 2026**. Costs incurred on March 3, 2021, or thereafter, but prior to the commencement of the Period of Performance may be reimbursed provided MDEQ determines such costs are allowable and eligible. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to complete all tasks included in the Scope of Work within this Period of Performance, unless otherwise specified in writing by MDEQ. If, at any time during the Period of Performance of this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT determines, based on the Work performed to date, that the Work cannot be completed within the Period of Performance, SUBRECIPIENT shall so notify MDEQ immediately in writing.

Failure to adhere to the requirements placed on MCWI funds can result in termination of this Agreement and may result in a demand for repayment by MDEQ. Moreover, if MDEQ is required to return any funds as a result of misspending on the part of SUBRECIPIENT, MDEQ reserves the right to seek and receive repayment of the amount of funds in question.

7. **CONSIDERATION AND PAYMENT**

A. *Project Cost.* The total Project cost shall not exceed **\$8,535,000.00**, with said amount broken down as follows:

- i. MCWI Grant Funds shall not exceed **\$3,450,000.00**;
- ii. The Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("LFRF") received by SUBRECIPIENT from the U.S. Treasury or the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration used as matching funds in this Agreement shall not exceed **\$3,000,000.00**;
- iii. Any LFRF transferred to SUBRECIPIENT from a county or municipality ("Transferred LFRF") shall not exceed **\$450,000.00**;
- iv. Any other funds that SUBRECIPIENT obligates(ed) to the project that are not eligible for MCWI match ("Other Funds") shall not exceed **\$1,635,000.00**.

B. Professional fees that will be reimbursed with MCWI Grant Funds shall not exceed **\$341,400.00**. This amount is included in, and is not in addition to, the maximum MCWI Grant Funds specified in Article 7.A.i, above and Article 7.C., below.

SUBRECIPIENT understands and acknowledges that the amount of professional fees, as defined in the MCWI Regulations, Rule 1.1 E. (18), that may be matched with MCWI Grant Funds is limited to no more than 4% of the total amount of costs actually

incurred on the Project, which in no case may be more than the total Project cost set forth in Article 7.A., above.

C. *Consideration.* As consideration for the performance of the tasks included in this Agreement, MDEQ agrees to reimburse SUBRECIPIENT an amount not to exceed **Three Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$3,450,000.00)** (the "Maximum Amount").

MDEQ is under no obligation to provide funds to SUBRECIPIENT if SUBRECIPIENT has not met, or does not continue to meet, minimum federal requirements to receive funds, such as but not limited to, adhering to applicable procurement requirements found in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 *et al.* Moreover, MDEQ bears no responsibility relative to SUBRECIPIENT's expenditure of its own funds. To that end, in the process of review of documentation for reimbursement, as well as compliance monitoring activities associated with the Program, MDEQ is not responsible or liable for any expenditure made by SUBRECIPIENT with its funds. As such, SUBRECIPIENT is solely responsible for compliance with federal and state requirements associated with its LFRF, its LFRF Transferred Funds, and any other funds it uses towards its Project that are not a part of the MCWI Grant Funds. SUBRECIPIENT must substantiate all expenditures in a compliant manner. MDEQ is under no obligation to reimburse costs incurred that are not demonstrably compliant with federal and state law.

D. *Payment.* Subject to available funding, as set forth in the terms and conditions of this Agreement, MDEQ shall pay all properly invoiced amounts due to SUBRECIPIENT within forty-five (45) days after MDEQ's receipt of such invoice, except for any amounts disputed by MDEQ in good faith. Legislative approval may be required where MDEQ receives any claim of payment from SUBRECIPIENT that includes Work performed outside a one (1) year period from receipt of such invoice.

i. *Request for Payment.* SUBRECIPIENT shall request payment of funds hereunder for Project costs on a reimbursement basis (such requests, "Reimbursement Requests"), unless otherwise directed by MDEQ. SUBRECIPIENT shall submit Reimbursement Requests and supporting documentation of costs incurred as required by MDEQ to the MCWI Reimbursement Portal, located at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>. All Reimbursement Requests for time periods ending June 30 of any year, during the Period of Performance under this Agreement, shall be submitted no later than July 31 of that same year. Final invoice(s) shall be submitted to MDEQ no later than September 30, 2026. The Reimbursement Request shall include, at a minimum, breakdowns of personnel, position, dates worked, tasks performed, and totals for contract costs, materials, supplies and equipment, included in the Reimbursement Request. SUBRECIPIENT shall make Reimbursement Requests in accordance with the following procedures and subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. SUBRECIPIENT may make Reimbursement Requests no more frequently than once monthly during the Period of Performance of this Agreement.

2. SUBRECIPIENT shall request payment under this Agreement only for the costs necessary to complete the Scope of Work specifically stated and required under this Agreement.

3. SUBRECIPIENT shall not request payment under this Agreement for other services or other work the SUBRECIPIENT or its contractors may provide under any other Subaward or Contract not related to this Project.

4. SUBRECIPIENT shall provide on each Reimbursement Request the amount of its LFRF, Transferred LFRF and Other Funds expended. SUBRECIPIENT shall also provide the amount requested for professional fees. MDEQ will then determine the amount of MCWI Grant Funds that each Reimbursement Request qualifies for within the Program regulations and procedures.

5. SUBRECIPIENT understands that no payment, including final payment, shall be interpreted as acceptance of defective and incomplete Work, and SUBRECIPIENT shall remain responsible for performance in strict compliance with this Agreement. If MDEQ rejects, condemns or fails to approve any part of the Scope of Work, it may issue a Notice to Cure or terminate this Agreement.

6. MDEQ reserves the right to refuse to pay all or any part of the funds requested in a Reimbursement Request for any of the following reasons: 1) at MDEQ's discretion, the costs SUBRECIPIENT is seeking reimbursement for are not reasonable or necessary for the completion of the Work in this Agreement, 2) at MDEQ's discretion, the costs are ineligible for reimbursement under this Project, 3) at the time the request is submitted SUBRECIPIENT has failed to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement, 4) at the time the request is submitted the SUBRECIPIENT has otherwise failed to perform the Work to date in accordance with the Scope of Work, or 5) at the time the request is submitted the SUBRECIPIENT has otherwise failed to comply with applicable state, federal, or local laws and regulations.

ii. *Indirect Cost Rate.* Reimbursement of indirect costs and/or overhead is not allowed under this Agreement.

E. *Limitations on Expenditures.* MDEQ shall reimburse SUBRECIPIENT only for documented expenditures incurred on or after March 3, 2021: (i) reasonable and necessary to carry out the Scope of Work described in Attachment A; (ii) documented by contracts or other evidence of liability and (iii) incurred in accordance with all applicable requirements for the expenditure of funds payable under this Agreement.

F. *Improper Payments.* Any item of expenditure by SUBRECIPIENT under the terms of this Agreement which is found by auditors, investigators, other authorized

representatives of MDEQ, the U.S. Treasury, the Mississippi State Auditor or other federal or state instrumentality to be improper, unallowable, in violation of federal or state law, or the terms of this Agreement, or involving any fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading representations or activities of SUBRECIPIENT shall become SUBRECIPIENT's liability, and shall be paid solely by SUBRECIPIENT, immediately upon notification of such, from funds other than those provided by MDEQ under this Agreement. This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Any funds that are paid by MDEQ to SUBRECIPIENT that are not necessary for the completion of the Work in this Agreement and/or that are deemed ineligible must be returned to MDEQ immediately upon receiving MDEQ's written notification for return of funds.

G. *Clawback.* If funds are expended improperly or if an expense submitted for reimbursement is disallowed or deemed ineligible under federal, state or local laws and regulations, then payments to SUBRECIPIENT may be subject to clawback by MDEQ, the State of Mississippi or the U.S. Treasury.

8. **AMENDMENTS OR MODIFICATION**

This Agreement may only be amended, modified, or supplemented by written agreement signed by the Parties hereto.

9. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall provide required progress reports during the Period of Performance of this Agreement in a format prescribed by MDEQ. These reports shall be submitted in accordance with the following schedule, which may be amended from time to time:

<u>REPORTING PERIOD</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
October – December	January 15
January – March	April 15
April – June	July 15
July – September	October 15

This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement with respect to any reports which SUBRECIPIENT is required to submit to MDEQ following the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

10. **FAILURE TO TIMELY PERFORM**

SUBRECIPIENT shall take all reasonable measures to ensure MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF used for MCWI matching funds are obligated by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that its failure to obligate MCWI Grant Funds and

LFRF used for MCWI matching funds by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024, may result in MDEQ modifying the MCWI Grant Funds awarded or terminating this Agreement.

If SUBRECIPIENT refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Agreement with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extension thereof authorized by MDEQ or if SUBRECIPIENT otherwise fails to satisfy the Agreement provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Agreement, MDEQ may notify SUBRECIPIENT in writing of the delay or nonperformance. If such delay or nonperformance is not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by MDEQ, MDEQ may terminate SUBRECIPIENT's right to proceed with the Agreement or such part of the Agreement as to which there has been delay or a failure to perform properly.

Notwithstanding termination of the Agreement and subject to any directions by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of SUBRECIPIENT in which the State has an interest.

11. FINAL PAYMENT AND REPORT

When SUBRECIPIENT has performed all the Work, SUBRECIPIENT shall transmit to MDEQ a comprehensive report on the Work in a format prescribed by MDEQ (the "Final Report"). The Final Report shall be provided by SUBRECIPIENT to MDEQ within forty-five (45) days of Project completion in a format prescribed by MDEQ. Upon acceptance of Final Report, MDEQ will process final Reimbursement Request.

Upon satisfactory completion of the Work performed under this Agreement, as a condition before final payment under this Agreement or as a termination settlement under this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall certify to MDEQ, on a form provided by MDEQ, that the final payment amount is the remaining amount that SUBRECIPIENT is owed under this Agreement and that no additional payment for its Work under this Project will be submitted for reimbursement. Unless otherwise provided in the Agreement, by state law or otherwise expressly agreed to by the Parties in this Agreement, final payment under this Agreement or settlement upon termination of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of MDEQ's claims against SUBRECIPIENT or its sureties under this Agreement.

In consideration of the execution of this Agreement by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT agrees that acceptance of final payment from MDEQ will constitute an agreement by SUBRECIPIENT to release and forever discharge MDEQ, its agents, employees, officers, representatives, affiliates, successors and assigns from any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, actions, causes of action or suits of any nature whatsoever, which SUBRECIPIENT has at the time of acceptance of final payment or may thereafter have, arising out of, in connection with or in any way relating to any and all injuries and damages of any kind as a result of or in any way relating to this Agreement.

12. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

MDEQ requires that SUBRECIPIENT have in place, prior to the receipt of funds, a financial management system that will be able to isolate and trace every dollar funded under this Agreement from receipt to expenditure and have on file appropriate support documentation for each transaction. Examples of documentation include but are not limited to copies of checks paid

to vendors, vendor invoices, bills of lading, purchase vouchers, payrolls, bank statements and reconciliations, and real property and easement appraisals. Prior to the submittal of any such documentation to MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall redact, in accordance with the definition of "Protected Personally Identifiable Information" ("Protected PII") as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, all information reflecting an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of types of information, including, but not limited to, social security number, passport number, credit card numbers, clearances, bank numbers, biometrics, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, criminal, medical and financial records, educational transcripts. This does not include PII as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1 that is required by law to be disclosed. SUBRECIPIENT and any Contracted Parties (as such term is defined in Article 13 of this Agreement) are limited to the travel rates of the State of Mississippi, including dining and hotels, in place at the time of the expenditure for which reimbursement is sought; and SUBRECIPIENT shall audit any such invoice for same, clearly indicating the actual expense and the adjustment, if any.

SUBRECIPIENT certifies that all information provided to MDEQ or its representatives as part of the initial risk assessment for this Work is complete and accurate. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to submit to and cooperate with MDEQ in any additional risk assessment evaluation and periodic audit procedures to ensure adequate financial management of all funds. Further, SUBRECIPIENT shall continue to implement any recommendations and/or corrective action plan set forth in the report transmitted to SUBRECIPIENT based on the findings of the systems and processes for financial management, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment B and incorporated herein in its entirety.

13. CONTRACTS

SUBRECIPIENT shall be responsible for accountability of funds, compliance with Project specifications, and Project management by its contractors. MDEQ shall not bear responsibility for any liability caused or incurred by any contractor in performing Work. MDEQ shall not be deemed by virtue of this Agreement to have any contractual obligation to, or relationship with, any of SUBRECIPIENT's contractors, and the Parties agree and acknowledge that, as between MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT, all Work shall be deemed to be the responsibility of, and performed by, SUBRECIPIENT. No contractor or other recipient of funds from MDEQ under this Agreement shall be deemed to be an agent, representative, employee or servant of MDEQ in connection with this Agreement. The parties with whom contracts or subaward agreements are entered into by the SUBRECIPIENT shall be referred to herein as "Contractor", "Contracted Party", or "Contracted Parties". In addition to ensuring that its Contracted Parties follow the applicable terms in this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall require all terms and conditions set forth in Attachments A and C attached hereto to be included in all agreements between the SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Parties, and in all agreements between Contracted Parties and Contracted Parties' contractors/sub-contractors.

14. APPLICABLE LAW

The Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Mississippi and applicable federal law excluding, its conflict of laws provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the State.

SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the following:

A. *Authorizing Statutes.* Section 603 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 803), as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 (Miss. Code Ann. § 49-2-131).

B. *Implementing Regulations.* Subpart A of 31 C.F.R. Part 35 (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds), as adopted in the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds interim final rule (86 Fed. Reg. 26786, applicable May 17, 2021 through March 31, 2022) and final rule (87 Fed. Reg. 4338, applicable January 27, 2022 through the end of the ARP/CSLFRF award term), and other subsequent regulations implementing Section 603 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 803), as well as MDEQ regulations, entitled "Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality Regulations for the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program."

C. *Guidance Documents.* Applicable guidance documents issued from time-to-time by the US Department of Treasury and MDEQ, including the currently applicable version of the *Compliance and Reporting Guidance: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*.¹

D. *Licenses, Certifications, Permits, Accreditation.* SUBRECIPIENT shall obtain and keep current any license, certification, permit, or accreditation required by federal, state, or local law and shall submit to MDEQ proof of any licensure, certification, permit or accreditation upon request.

15. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

It is expressly understood and agreed that the obligation of MDEQ to proceed under this Agreement is conditioned upon the availability of the funds from state, federal, and/or other funding sources. If the funds anticipated for the continuing fulfillment of the Agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the federal government to provide funds or of the State of Mississippi to appropriate funds or the discontinuance or material alteration of the program under which funds were provided or if funds are not otherwise available to MDEQ, MDEQ shall have the right upon ten (10) working days written notice to the SUBRECIPIENT, to terminate this Agreement without damage, penalty, cost or expenses to MDEQ of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.

16. REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it has not retained a person to solicit or secure this Agreement upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

¹ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

17. REPRESENTATION REGARDING GRATUITIES

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the *Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board Office of Personal Service Contract Review Rules and Regulations* and Section 9.105 (Gratuities) of the *Mississippi Procurement Manual*.

18. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, 2 C.F.R. Part 200 ("UG"), as adopted by the Department of Treasury at 2 C.F.R. Part 1000 and as set forth in the Assistance Listing for ARP/CSLFRF (21.027). These requirements dictate how SUBRECIPIENT must administer the Subaward and how MDEQ must oversee SUBRECIPIENT. As a condition of receipt of the grant funds authorized in this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to watch the video entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview" found at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>.

The applicable UG provisions are as follows:

- Subpart A, Acronyms and Definitions;
- Subpart B, General Provisions;
- Subpart C, Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Awards (except 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.204, .205, .210, and .213);
- Subpart D, Post Federal Award Requirements (except 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.305(b)(8) and (9), .308, .309, and .320(c)(4));
- Subpart E, Cost Principles;
- Subpart F, Audit Requirements;
- 2 C.F.R. Part 25 (Universal Identifier and System for Award Management);
- 2 C.F.R. Part 170 (Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information); and
- 2 C.F.R. Part 180 (OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement)).

SUBRECIPIENT shall document compliance with UG requirements, including adoption and implementation of all required policies and procedures, within thirty (30) days of the execution of this Agreement and during all subsequent reviews during the term of the Agreement. It is SUBRECIPIENT's responsibility to comply with all UG requirements. Failure to do so may result in termination of the Agreement by MDEQ.

All real property acquired or improved, and equipment or supplies purchased in whole or in part with MCWI Grant Funds and/or LFRF, must be used, insured, managed, and disposed of in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.311 through 2 C.F.R. § 200.316.

19. **SUBAWARDS**

If SUBRECIPIENT is authorized by MDEQ to make a Subaward, SUBRECIPIENT must include and incorporate the terms and conditions of this Agreement and any attachments, in all lower tier Subawards. Further, SUBRECIPIENT, who makes a Subaward, must follow and carry out all the responsibilities of a Pass-through entity described at 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

20. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

SUBRECIPIENT understands that MDEQ is an equal opportunity employer and therefore, maintains a policy which prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, disability, genetic information, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful, and SUBRECIPIENT agrees during the Period of Performance of the Agreement that SUBRECIPIENT will strictly adhere to this policy in its employment practices and work performance under this Agreement. SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with, and all activities under this Agreement shall be subject to, all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and as may be amended or modified.

SUBRECIPIENT along with any sub-grantee, contractor, subcontractor, successor, transferee, and assignee shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from excluding from a program or activity, denying benefits of, or otherwise discriminating against a person on the basis of race, color, or national origin (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*), as implemented by the Department of the Treasury's Title VI regulations, 31 CFR Part 22, which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Title VI also includes protection to persons with "Limited English Proficiency" in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*, as implemented by the Department of the Treasury's Title VI regulations, 31 CFR Part 22, and herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this Agreement. Further, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to comply with the provisions of Attachment D to this Agreement.

Nothing contained in this Agreement may be deemed or construed in any way to stop, limit, or impair MDEQ from exercising or performing any regulatory, legislative, governmental, or other powers or functions.

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under ARPA, including the information provided by the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule.²

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022 (Miss. Code Ann. § 49-2-131).³

² <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-01-27/pdf/2022-00292.pdf>

³ <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2023/pdf/SB/2400-2499/SB2444SG.pdf>

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under the Regulations promulgated by MDEQ.⁴

21. **STOP WORK ORDER**

A. *Order to Stop Work:* MDEQ may, by written order to SUBRECIPIENT at any time and without notice to any surety, require SUBRECIPIENT to stop all or any part of the Work called for by this Agreement. This order shall be for a specified period not exceeding ninety (90) days after the order is delivered to SUBRECIPIENT, unless the Parties agree to any further period. Any such order shall be identified specifically as a stop work order issued pursuant to this clause. Upon receipt of such an order, SUBRECIPIENT shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the occurrence of costs allocable to the Work covered by the order during the period of work stoppage. Before the stop work order expires, or within any further period to which the Parties shall have agreed, MDEQ shall either:

- i. cancel the stop work order; or
- ii. terminate the Work covered by such order as provided in the Termination for Default clause or the Termination for Convenience clause of this Agreement.

B. *Cancellation or Expiration of the Order:* If a stop work order issued under this clause is canceled at any time during the period specified in the order or if the period of the order or any extension thereof expires, SUBRECIPIENT shall have the right to resume Work. An appropriate adjustment may be made in the Period of Performance or Maximum Amount, or both, and the Agreement shall be modified in writing accordingly if:

- i. The stop work order results in an increase in the time required for, or in SUBRECIPIENT's cost properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this Agreement; and
- ii. SUBRECIPIENT provides a written claim for such an adjustment within thirty (30) days after the end of the period of work stoppage; provided that MDEQ decides that the facts justify such action and any such claim asserted may be received and acted upon at any time prior to final payment under this Agreement.

C. *Termination of Stopped Work:* If a stop work order is not canceled and the Work covered by such order is terminated for default or convenience, the reasonable costs resulting from the stop work order may be allowed by adjustment or otherwise.

22. **E-PAYMENT**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to accept all payments in United States currency via the State of Mississippi's electronic payment and remittance vehicle. MDEQ agrees to make payment in

⁴ <https://mswaterinfrastructure.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/MCW1-Grant-Program-Regulations-revised-12-16-22.pdf>

accordance with Mississippi law on "Timely Payments for Purchases by Public Bodies," which generally provides for payment of undisputed amounts by the agency within forty-five (45) days of receipt of invoice. Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-305.

23. **INTERVENTIONS**

If MDEQ determines that SUBRECIPIENT is not in compliance with this Agreement, MDEQ may initiate an intervention, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.208 and 2 C.F.R. § 200.339. The degree of SUBRECIPIENT's performance or compliance deficiency will determine the degree of intervention. All possible interventions are listed below and will depend on the degree of deficiency in SUBRECIPIENT's performance or compliance deficiency.

If MDEQ determines that an intervention is warranted, it shall provide written notice to SUBRECIPIENT of the intervention within thirty (30) days of the completion of a report review, desk review, onsite review, audit review, or procedures engagement review, or as soon as possible after MDEQ otherwise learns of a compliance or performance deficiency related to the execution of this Agreement. The written notice shall notify SUBRECIPIENT of the following related to the intervention:

- (1) The nature of the additional requirements;
- (2) The reason why the additional requirements are being imposed;
- (3) The nature of the action needed to remove the additional requirement, if applicable;
- (4) The time allowed for completing the actions if applicable; and
- (5) The method for requesting reconsideration of the additional requirements imposed.

MDEQ may impose, but is not limited to, the following interventions on SUBRECIPIENT, based on the level of the compliance or performance deficiency that MDEQ determines:

Level 1 Interventions. These interventions may be required for minor compliance or performance issues:

- (1) SUBRECIPIENT addresses specific internal control, documentation, financial management, compliance, or performance issues within a specified time period; and/or
- (2) More frequent or more thorough reporting by the SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (3) More frequent monitoring by MDEQ; and/or
- (4) Required SUBRECIPIENT technical assistance or training.

Level 2 Interventions. These interventions may be required for more serious compliance or performance issues:

- (1) Restrictions on funding payment requests by SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (2) Disallowing payments to SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (3) Requiring repayment for disallowed cost items; and/or
- (4) Imposing probationary status on SUBRECIPIENT.

Level 3 Interventions. These interventions may be required for significant and/or persistent compliance or performance issues:

- (1) Temporary or indefinite funding suspension to SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (2) Nonrenewal of funding to SUBRECIPIENT in subsequent year; and/or
- (3) Terminate funding to SUBRECIPIENT in the current year; and/or
- (4) Initiate legal action against SUBRECIPIENT.

Interventions will remain in place until the underlying performance or compliance deficiency is addressed to the sole satisfaction of MDEQ.

24. **E-VERIFICATION**

If applicable, SUBRECIPIENT represents and certifies that it will ensure its compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act of 2008 and will register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 71-11-1, *et seq.* The term "employee" as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work within the State. As used herein, "status verification system" means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain records of such compliance. Upon request of the State of Mississippi and after approval of the Social Security Administration or Department of Homeland Security, when required, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide a copy of each such verification. SUBRECIPIENT further represents and certifies that any person assigned to perform services hereafter meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws.

25. **TRANSPARENCY**

This Agreement, including any accompanying exhibits, attachments, and appendices, is subject to the "Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983" and its exceptions. See Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.* and Miss. Code Ann. § 79-23-1. In addition, this Agreement is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 27-104-151, *et seq.* Unless exempted from disclosure due to a court-issued protective order, a copy of this executed Agreement may be posted to the Department of Finance and Administration's independent agency Agreement website for public access at <https://www.transparency.mississippi.gov>. Information identified by SUBRECIPIENT as trade secrets or other proprietary information, including confidential vendor information, or any other information which is required to be confidential by state or federal law or outside the applicable freedom of information statutes will be redacted.

26. **PAYMODE**

Payments by state agencies using the statewide accounting system shall be made and remittance information provided electronically as directed by MDEQ. These payments shall be deposited into the bank account of SUBRECIPIENT's choice. MDEQ may, at its sole discretion, require SUBRECIPIENT to submit invoices and supporting documentation electronically at any time during the Period of Performance of this Agreement. SUBRECIPIENT understands and

agrees that MDEQ is exempt from the payment of taxes. All payments shall be in United States currency.

27. **TERMINATION**

The Agreement may be terminated as follows:

A. *Termination For Convenience.*

The MDEQ may, when the interests of the State so require, terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. MDEQ shall give written notice of the termination to SUBRECIPIENT specifying the part of the Agreement terminated and when termination becomes effective.

B. *Termination For Default.*

If SUBRECIPIENT refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Agreement with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extension thereof or otherwise fails to satisfy the Agreement provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Agreement, MDEQ may notify SUBRECIPIENT in writing of the delay or nonperformance, and if not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by MDEQ, MDEQ may terminate SUBRECIPIENT's right to proceed with the Agreement or such part of the Agreement as to which there has been delay or a failure to properly perform.

Notwithstanding termination of the Agreement and subject to any directions by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of SUBRECIPIENT in which the State has an interest.

C. *Termination Upon Bankruptcy.*

This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by MDEQ upon written notice to SUBRECIPIENT, if SUBRECIPIENT should become the subject of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the execution by SUBRECIPIENT of an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. In the event of such termination, SUBRECIPIENT shall be entitled to recover just and equitable compensation for satisfactory Work performed under this Agreement, but in no case shall said compensation exceed the total Maximum Amount.

28. **DISPUTES**

Before pleading to any judicial system at any level, SUBRECIPIENT must exhaust all administrative remedies. A written complaint must first be sent to the Executive Director of MDEQ. The decision of the Executive Director shall be reduced to writing and a copy thereof mailed or furnished to SUBRECIPIENT within fourteen (14) days after receipt of information

requested by MDEQ or the Executive Director. If the decision of the Executive Director does not resolve the matter, successive administrative remedies may, at SUBRECIPIENT's option, include bringing the complaint before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §§ 49-17-35 and -41. In the alternative, at SUBRECIPIENT's option, the decision of the Executive Director may be deemed the final agency action on the complaint. Appeals from the decision of the Executive Director or the Commission shall follow procedures outlined in Miss. Code Ann. § 49-17-41.

29. **ANTI-ASSIGNMENT/CONTRACTING**

SUBRECIPIENT shall not assign, contract, or otherwise transfer this Agreement, in whole or in part without the prior written consent of MDEQ, which MDEQ may, in its sole discretion, approve or deny without reason. Any attempted assignment or transfer of its obligations without such consent shall be null and void. No such approval by MDEQ of any contract shall be deemed in any way to provide for the incurrence of any obligation of MDEQ in excess of the Maximum MCWI Grant Fund amount set forth in this Agreement, nor create any contractual relationship between MDEQ and any Contracted Parties. Contracts shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to any conditions of approval that MDEQ may deem necessary. Subject to the foregoing, this Agreement shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of the Parties.

30. **AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AGREEMENT**

SUBRECIPIENT certifies and acknowledges it is a Mississippi county, municipality or public utility, as defined in MCWI regulation, Rule 1.1, E. (17), and that it has LFRF to use as match funding for this grant. SUBRECIPIENT further certifies and acknowledges that its entry into and performance under this Agreement is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

31. **DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION**

SUBRECIPIENT certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it, and its Contracted Parties:

A. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;

B. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or Agreement or Contract under a public transaction;

C. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state

antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

D. are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in Article 31, B. and Article 31, C., above; and

E. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

32. **FAILURE TO ENFORCE**

Failure by MDEQ, at any time, to enforce the provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions. Such failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of this Agreement or any part thereof or the right of MDEQ to enforce any provision at any time in accordance with its terms.

33. **INDEMNIFICATION**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain responsibility for the Project and agrees to provide proper operation and maintenance of all facilities for the life of the Project. SUBRECIPIENT's tort liability, if it is an entity of the State of Mississippi, is determined and controlled in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 11-46-1 *et seq.*, including all defenses and exceptions contained therein. Nothing in this Agreement shall have the effect of changing or altering this liability or of eliminating any defense available to the State under statute.

To the extent allowed by state law, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to indemnify and save, release and hold harmless the State of Mississippi, the Commission on Environmental Quality, MDEQ, all of their employees and officers, and MDEQ's contractors from and against any and all claim, demand, cause of action, liability, loss, damage, injury, suit, judgment, debt and cost, including attorney's fees or expenses on the part of SUBRECIPIENT, their agents or employees or any other parties arising out of or incident to, any and all Work under the terms of this Agreement.

34. **SUBRECIPIENT STATUS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall, during the entire Period of Performance of this Agreement, be construed to be an independent SUBRECIPIENT. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to nor shall be construed to create an employer-employee relationship or a joint venture relationship.

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it is qualified to perform the duties to be performed under this Agreement and that it has, or will secure, if needed, at its own expense, applicable personnel who are qualified to perform the duties required under this Agreement. Such personnel shall not be deemed in any way, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, to be employees of MDEQ.

Any person assigned by SUBRECIPIENT to perform the services hereunder shall be an employee or independent contractor of SUBRECIPIENT, who shall have the sole right to hire and discharge its employees and/or independent contractors under this Agreement.

SUBRECIPIENT shall pay, when due, all salaries and wages of its employees and accepts exclusive responsibility for the payment of federal income tax, state income tax, social security, unemployment compensation and any other withholdings that may be required. This provision is solely for the benefit of MDEQ, and nothing herein shall be construed to create or impose any contractual or agency relationship between MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT'S contractors, subcontractors, employees or agents.

35. **INSURANCE**

SUBRECIPIENT and its Contracted Parties agree to and shall maintain insurance that is required by applicable state, federal, and local laws and regulations.

36. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement, including all attachments, represents the entire and integrated agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, irrespective of whether written or oral. This Agreement may be altered, amended, or modified only by a written document executed by MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges that it has thoroughly read this Agreement and all its attachments and has had the opportunity to receive competent advice and counsel necessary for it to form a full and complete understanding of all rights and obligations herein.

37. **ORAL STATEMENTS**

No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications stated in this Agreement. All modifications to the Agreement must be made in writing by the MDEQ and agreed to by SUBRECIPIENT.

38. **RECORD RETENTION AND ACCESS TO RECORDS**

Provided SUBRECIPIENT is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of SUBRECIPIENT, the Government Accountability Office, MDEQ, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of SUBRECIPIENT'S books, documents, papers, and other records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcriptions, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the SUBRECIPIENT'S personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. All records related to this Agreement shall be retained by SUBRECIPIENT for a minimum of ten (10) years after final payment is made under this Agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the ten (10) year period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the ten (10) year period, whichever is later.

SUBRECIPIENT is not required to retain the above-mentioned records for the ten-year period prescribed in this Article and Article 39 only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

A. SUBRECIPIENT has provided all of the documents described above and in the "Right to Audit" provision to MDEQ prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year retention period and a certification stating the same is simultaneously provided in writing to MDEQ;

B. No audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before SUBRECIPIENT provides the records and corresponding certification to MDEQ, in which case, SUBRECIPIENT shall retain the records until all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved; and

C. SUBRECIPIENT provides MDEQ a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice before providing the above-mentioned records and corresponding certification.

39. **RIGHT TO AUDIT**

SUBRECIPIENT shall maintain all financial records, including electronic financial records, as may be prescribed by the MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. SUBRECIPIENT shall retain these records for a period of ten (10) years after final payment. These records shall be made available during the term of the Agreement and the subsequent ten (10) year period for examination, transcription, and audit by MDEQ, the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies, including the Office of Inspector General. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Agreement or an activity funded under the Agreement is started before the expiration of the ten (10) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

40. **RIGHT TO INSPECT WORK; ACCESS**

MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants shall have access and the right to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits to inspect all Work hereunder. Notwithstanding any review or inspection by MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants, SUBRECIPIENT shall not be relieved of its responsibility for performance of the Work or the submission of reports as expressly set forth in this Agreement solely by virtue of such inspection or review of the Work. SUBRECIPIENT shall provide MDEQ and its representatives, invitees, and consultants with the opportunity to participate in site inspections, meetings, and/or teleconferences, as appropriate, related to SUBRECIPIENT's performance of the Work.

41. **SEVERABILITY**

If any part of this Agreement is declared to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement that can be given effect without the invalid or unenforceable provision, and to this end the provisions hereof are severable. In such event, the Parties shall amend the Agreement as necessary to reflect the original intent of the Parties and to bring any invalid or unenforceable provisions in compliance with applicable law.

42. **THIRD PARTY ACTION NOTIFICATION**

SUBRECIPIENT shall give the MDEQ prompt notice in writing of any action or suit filed, and prompt notice of any claim made against SUBRECIPIENT by any entity that may result in litigation related in any way to this Agreement.

43. **CERTIFICATIONS**

SUBRECIPIENT's execution of this Agreement shall be deemed as acknowledgement, guarantee and certification by SUBRECIPIENT of the following:

A. SUBRECIPIENT has sufficient LFRF in its possession that it will use to match MCWI Grant Funds.

B. SUBRECIPIENT will follow and abide by all ARPA guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations, and other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, by the U.S. Treasury regarding the use of monies under this Agreement.

C. As required in Attachment A, Article (1) a., SUBRECIPIENT's Authorized Representative, or his/her designee has watched the video on the MDEQ <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com> web-page entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview."

D. All of SUBRECIPIENT's LFRF used as MCWI matching funds, as well as MCWI Grant Funds received by SUBRECIPIENT, have been or will be used for the Project detailed in this Agreement.

E. Upon request by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT will provide an Intergovernmental Review Certification as detailed in the MCWI Regulations.

F. SUBRECIPIENT will obligate all MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF funds used for MCWI matching funds by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024.

G. If SUBRECIPIENT does not complete the Project by December 31, 2026, SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees to complete the Project with other funds.

44. **WAIVER**

No delay or omission by either Party to this Agreement in exercising any right, power, or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by Agreement, at law, or in equity shall constitute an acquiescence therein, impair any other right, power or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by any means, or operate as a waiver of such right, power, or remedy. No waiver by either Party to this Agreement shall be valid unless set forth in writing by the Party making said waiver. No waiver of or modification to any term or condition of this Agreement will void, waive, or change any other term or condition. No waiver by one Party to this Agreement of a default by the other Party will imply, be construed as or require waiver of future or other defaults.

45. **COMPLIANCE WITH MISS. CODE ANN. § 31-5-37**

If applicable, SUBRECIPIENT shall ensure that Contracted Parties and bidders solicited for contract awards pursuant to this Agreement comply with the requirements of Miss. Code. Ann. § 31-5-37. SUBRECIPIENT shall require all bidders for any contract of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or more procured or to be procured with funds received pursuant to this Agreement to submit a certification with their bid that said bidder will comply with the provisions of Miss. Code. Ann. § 31-5-37. In addition, within seven (7) days of any such contract award procured or to be procured with funds received pursuant to this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall require the Contracted Party to submit to both SUBRECIPIENT and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security ("MDES") an employment plan which conforms to the requirements contained in Miss. Code. Ann. § 31-5-37(2).

From the date written notice of any such contract award is received and until ten (10) business days after the receipt of the employment plan by MDES, the Contracted Party and any subcontractors shall not hire any personnel to fill vacant positions for the project except residents of the State of Mississippi who are to be verified by MDES and/or those qualified individuals who are submitted by MDES. However, the Contracting Party or contractor is authorized to employ Mississippi residents to begin work immediately if such persons are verified by MDES after employment by the Contracting Party or contractor. SUBRECIPIENT shall vacate the contract award in the event the Contracting Party fails to comply with the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 31-5-37.

46. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

SUBRECIPIENT shall immediately notify MDEQ in writing of any potential conflict of interest resulting from the representation of or service to other clients or otherwise affecting this Agreement in any way. If any such conflict occurs before it is discovered, SUBRECIPIENT shall notify MDEQ of such conflict within five (5) working days of such discovery. If such conflict cannot be resolved to MDEQ's satisfaction, MDEQ reserves the right to terminate this Agreement per the "Termination for Convenience" clause.

47. **SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective permitted successors and permitted assigns.

48. **NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns, and nothing herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any other person or entity any legal or equitable right, benefit or remedy of any nature whatsoever under or by reason of this Agreement.

49. **EVALUATION**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to assist and cooperate with the MDEQ or its duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the Project(s) to which the Agreement relates, and to provide

in form and manner approved by MDEQ such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

Further, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to cooperate with MDEQ or its duly designated representatives by providing timely responses to all reasonable requests for information to assist in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

50. **VENUE**

Venue for the resolution of any dispute, according to Article 28 of this Agreement, shall be before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality if pursuing an administrative appeal, and venue for any subsequent litigation shall be in the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi.

51. **HEADINGS**

The headings in this Agreement are for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Agreement.

52. **NOTICES**

Unless otherwise specified in the Agreement, all notices, requests, consents, claims, demands, waivers and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given (a) when delivered by hand (with written confirmation of receipt); (b) when received by the addressee if sent by a nationally recognized overnight courier (receipt requested); (c) on the date sent by facsimile or e-mail of document(s) (with confirmation of transmission) if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, and on the next business day if sent after normal business hours of the recipient; or (d) on the third day after the date mailed, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. Such communications must be sent to the respective Parties at the following addresses (or at such other address for a Party as shall be specified in a notice given in accordance with this subsection):

If to MDEQ:

Attention:
MCWI Contract Administration
515 East Amite Street
P.O. Box 2249
Jackson, MS 39201
E-mail: MCWIdocuments@mdeq.ms.gov

If to SUBRECIPIENT:

Attention:
Mayor Keith Gaskin
523 Main Street
Columbus, MS 39701
Phone: (662) 328-7021
E-mail: kgaskin@columbusms.org

53. **COUNTERPARTS**

Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same Agreement. A signed copy of this Agreement delivered by facsimile, e-mail or other means of electronic transmission shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this Agreement.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

For the faithful performance and consideration provided under the terms of this Agreement, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their undersigned authorized representatives.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

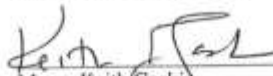


Chris Wells
Executive Director

7/14/23

Date

CITY OF COLUMBUS



Mayor Keith Gaskin
Signature of Authorized Representative

Keith Gaskin

Keith Gaskin
Printed Name

Mayor

Title

July 12, 2023

Date

ATTACHMENT A

**PROJECT NAME, SCOPE OF WORK AND PROJECT TIMELINE AND
REQUIREMENTS**

PROJECT NAME

Drainage Improvements Project 4.103 Northside and 5.104 Brickyard

SCOPE OF WORK

The Project shall be defined as eligible activities funded in whole or in part under this Agreement as follows:

The Project includes rehabilitating drainage infrastructure and upgrading underground drainage systems within the Northside and Brickyard communities.

The general Scope of Work to be performed by SUBRECIPIENT is limited to that which was submitted in the MCWI Application Portal and approved for funding in accordance with the MCWI Program Regulations. SUBRECIPIENT hereby agrees that no additional eligible scope may be added to this Scope of Work without the express written consent of MDEQ. The Scope of Work eligible for reimbursement is limited to that identified as eligible by MDEQ and further described by plans, specifications, contract documents, and contract change orders approved as eligible by MDEQ.

PROJECT TIMELINE AND REQUIREMENTS

(1) SUBRECIPIENT agrees to the following schedule.

- a. Within 10 days of execution of this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT's Authorized Representative, or his/her designee shall watch the video on the MDEQ <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com> web-page entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview." The web-page will track compliance with this requirement;
- b. On or about March 15, 2024, submit a complete set of plans, specifications, contract documents on each construction contract, and all applicable permits and agency approvals, if not already submitted to MDEQ;
- c. On or about April 15, 2024, advertise each construction contract for bids;
- d. On or about May 30, 2024, but no later than 45 days after advertisement for construction bids on each construction contract, receive bids;

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

- e. No later than 60 days after receipt of bids on each construction contract, execute construction contract;
- f. No later than 15 days after execution of construction contract, submit the entire procurement file (including but not limited to the request for proposals, evidence of publication, MBE/WBE documentation, all received bids, evaluation and selection documentation, executed construction contracts, and professional services contracts);
- g. No later than 60 days after execution of each construction contract, execute and submit a copy of the notice to proceed;
- h. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 25% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- i. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 50% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- j. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 75% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- k. No later than 5 business days after completion of each construction contract, notify MDEQ of construction completion;
- l. No later than 30 days after the contract completion date on each construction contract, submit all change orders which include time extensions, or a request and justification for delaying MDEQ's final construction observation;
- m. Within 45 days of Project completion, but no later than September 30, 2026, whichever is earlier, unless an extension of this date is specifically authorized by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT must submit the following: Final Report, as listed in Article 11, the engineer's certification of compliance with plans, specifications, and contract documents; final professional services contract amendments, if any; and all other administrative forms and documents required by the Agreement.

(2) To the extent any documents required to be submitted in Attachment A, Article (1) above were submitted with the MCWI Grant Application through the Application Portal, the documents do not need to be resubmitted.

(3) All documents required to be submitted in Attachment A, Article (1) above, shall be uploaded to the Documents Portal at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>.

ATTACHMENT B

**SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

An evaluation for the assessment of uncontrolled risks of the SUBRECIPIENT's systems and processes for financial management was performed as of part of the initial subaward process by MDEQ, acting on behalf of the State of Mississippi, as administrator of this Subaward Agreement. MDEQ requests the SUBRECIPIENT provide the following information to MDEQ as part of observations made during the evaluation. MDEQ reserves the right to re-evaluate the assessment of uncontrolled risks upon subsequently identified facts:

1. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide MDEQ with a copy of their annual audited financial statements within 60 days of the report release date throughout the Period of Performance.
2. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to promptly notify MDEQ of any significant changes made to the SUBRECIPIENT's current policies and procedures that would impact financial management systems and processes, specifically those communicated as part of the evaluation, from which the current residual risk levels were derived.
3. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to promptly notify MDEQ of any level of fraud or abuse discovered within the organization without regard to materiality that is related to the operation of the Project, as well as other pervasive deficiencies identified for grant management practices from any source, both external and internal, throughout the program performance period.
4. If deficiencies, significant deficiencies and/or material weaknesses are reported to the SUBRECIPIENT, as part of any assurance, attestation, or monitoring engagement during the program performance period, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide its response(s) and/or corrective action plan(s) to MDEQ so that prompt action can be taken by MDEQ to mitigate any elevated level of uncontrolled risk that could potentially impact MDEQ's or the SUBRECIPIENT's ability to comply with Federal Award and/or subaward requirements.
5. SUBRECIPIENT agrees that MDEQ has the right to perform monitoring procedures as deemed appropriate by MDEQ based on the assessed risk of noncompliance.

ATTACHMENT C

**SUBAWARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FOR CONTRACTED PARTIES**

1. AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AGREEMENT

The Contracted Party certifies that (a) it is either a 1) state agency, 2) a validly organized business that is authorized to do business in the state of Mississippi, 3) a nongovernmental organization, or 4) a political subdivision of the state of Mississippi with valid authority to enter into this agreement and; (b) entry into and performance under this agreement is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and (c) notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this agreement.

2. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

Contractor/Contracted Parties certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it:

A. is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;

B. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction;

C. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

D. is not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in Article 2.B. and Article 2.C., above; and,

E. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

This agreement is subject to 31 C.F.R. Part 19.

3. INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent allowed by state law, Contracted Party agrees to indemnify and save, release and hold harmless the State of Mississippi, the Commission on Environmental Quality, MDEQ, all of their employees and officers, and the Department's contractors from and against any and all

claim, demand, cause of action, liability, loss, damage, injury, suit, judgment, debt and cost, including attorney's fees or expenses on the part of any Contracted Party, their agents or employees or any other parties arising out of or incident to, any and all Work under the terms of this Agreement.

4. RELATIONSHIP STATUS

The Contracted Party acknowledges and agrees that MDEQ is not a party, in any manner whatsoever, to any contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and the construction contractor(s), engineer(s), attorney(s), equipment supplier(s), contractor(s), or between any other parties of any kind whatsoever (hereinafter collectively referred to as "vendor"). The SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Party also acknowledge and agree that any benefit to vendors contracting with the SUBRECIPIENT or Contracted Parties arising from or associated with this Agreement is strictly incidental and all such vendors are not and are not intended to be considered as third-party beneficiaries under any agreement between MDEQ and the SUBRECIPIENT.

Upon execution of any contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party in regard to the project, MDEQ does not assume any authorities, duties, responsibilities, or liabilities under such contract. The SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Party shall not have any authority to bind or otherwise obligate MDEQ, directly or indirectly, under any contract or agreement between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party. The SUBRECIPIENT, Contracted Party and its vendors acknowledge and agree that any action taken by MDEQ in its role of grantor, or in its separate and distinct role as regulator shall not in any way change or alter its position as that of grantor.

MDEQ does not have any authority, duty, responsibility, or liability in contract claims or dispute identification, negotiation, resolution, or any other actions regarding contract claims under the contract(s) between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party. The SUBRECIPIENT and the Contracted Party acknowledge and agree that MDEQ is not obligated to review, comment on, approve, or discuss the merits of any contract claims presented by or to any party. Any MDEQ reviews, approvals, observations, presence at meetings, written communications, verbal communications or other actions are not to be interpreted as addressing the merits of any claims, nor are they to be construed as interpreting the contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and the Contracted Party or any other parties.

5. ACCESS TO RECORDS

Provided Contracted Party is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of Contracted Party, then the Government Accountability Office, MDEQ, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of Contracted Party's books, documents, papers, and other records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcriptions, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the Contracted Party's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. All records related to this Agreement shall be retained by Contracted Party for a minimum of ten (10) years after final payment is made under this Agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the ten (10) year period, the

records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the ten (10) year period, whichever is later.

Contracted Party is not required to retain the above-mentioned records for the ten (10) year period prescribed in this Section and the "Right to Audit" provision only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- A. Contracted Party has provided all of the documents described above and in the "Right to Audit" provision to MDEQ prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year retention period and a certification stating the same is simultaneously provided in writing to MDEQ;
- B. No audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before Contracted Party provides the records and corresponding certification to MDEQ, in which case, Contracted Party shall retain the records until all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved; and
- C. Contracted Party provides MDEQ a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice before providing the above-mentioned records and corresponding certification.

6. RECORD RETENTION AND RIGHT TO AUDIT

The Contracted Party shall maintain and retain books, documents, papers, financial records and other records, including electronic records, as may be prescribed by the MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. Contracted Party shall retain these records for a period of ten (10) years after final payment. These records shall be made available during the term of the Agreement and the subsequent ten (10) year period for examination, transcription, and audit by MDEQ, the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies, including the Office of Inspector General. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Agreement or an activity funded under the Agreement is started before the expiration of the ten (10) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

7. RIGHT TO INSPECT WORK; SITE ACCESS

MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants shall have access and the right to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits to inspect all Work hereunder. Upon request by MDEQ, Contracted Party shall provide MDEQ and its representatives, invitees, and consultants with the opportunity to participate in site inspections, meetings, and/or teleconferences, as appropriate, related to the performance of the Work.

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Contracted Party covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest direct or indirect in the Project that is the subject to this Agreement or any parcels therein, where applicable, or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of his services hereunder. The Contracted Party further covenants that, in the performance of this agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

The Contracted Party agrees to establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using positions for a purpose that is or gives the appearance of being motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have a family, business, or other tie.

9. COOPERATION AND EVALUATION

The Contracted Party agrees to assist and cooperate with the MDEQ or its duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the Project(s) to which the Agreement relates, and to provide in form and manner approved by MDEQ such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

Further, the Contracted Party agrees to cooperate with MDEQ or its duly designated representatives by providing timely responses to all reasonable requests for information to assist in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

ATTACHMENT D

ASSURANCES OF COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS REQUIREMENTS

**ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE
CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964**

As a condition of receipt of federal financial assistance from the Department of the Treasury, SUBRECIPIENT provides the assurances stated herein. The federal financial assistance may include federal grants, loans and contracts to provide assistance to SUBRECIPIENT's beneficiaries, the use or rent of Federal land or property at below market value, Federal training, a loan of Federal personnel, subsidies, and other arrangements with the intention of providing assistance. Federal financial assistance does not encompass contracts of guarantee or insurance, regulated programs, licenses, procurement contracts by the Federal government at market value, or programs that provide direct benefits.

The assurances apply to all federal financial assistance from or funds made available through the Department of the Treasury, including any assistance that SUBRECIPIENT may request in the future.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 provides that the provisions of the assurances apply to all of the operations of SUBRECIPIENT's program(s) and activity(ies), so long as any portion of SUBRECIPIENT's program(s) or activity(ies) is federally assisted in the manner prescribed above.

1. SUBRECIPIENT ensures its current and future compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits exclusion from participation, denial of the benefits of, or subjection to discrimination under programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance, of any person in the United States on the ground of race, color, or national origin (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*), as implemented by the Department of the Treasury Title VI regulations at 31 CFR Part 22 and other pertinent executive orders such as Executive Order 13166, directives, circulars, policies, memoranda, and/or guidance documents.

2. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges that Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," seeks to improve access to federally assisted programs and activities for individuals who, because of national origin, have Limited English proficiency (LEP). SUBRECIPIENT understands that denying a person access to its programs, services, and activities because of LEP is a form of national origin discrimination prohibited under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Department of the Treasury's implementing regulations. Accordingly, SUBRECIPIENT shall initiate reasonable steps, or comply with the Department of the Treasury's directives, to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities. SUBRECIPIENT understands and agrees that meaningful access may entail providing language assistance services, including oral interpretation and written translation where necessary, to ensure effective communication in SUBRECIPIENT's programs, services, and activities.

3. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to consider the need for language services for LEP persons when SUBRECIPIENT develops applicable budgets and conducts programs, services, and activities. As a resource, the Department of the Treasury has published its LEP guidance at 70 FR 6067. For more information on taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access for LEP persons, please visit <http://www.lep.gov>.

4. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that compliance with the assurances constitutes a condition of continued receipt of federal financial assistance and is binding upon SUBRECIPIENT and SUBRECIPIENT's successors, transferees, and assignees for the period in which such assistance is provided.

5. SUBRECIPIENT understands and agrees that if any real property or structure is provided or improved with the aid of federal financial assistance by the Department of the Treasury, this assurance obligates SUBRECIPIENT, or in the case of a subsequent transfer, the transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the federal financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits. If any personal property is provided, this assurance obligates SUBRECIPIENT for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property.

6. SUBRECIPIENT shall cooperate in any enforcement or compliance review activities by the Department of the Treasury of the aforementioned obligations. Enforcement may include investigation, arbitration, mediation, litigation, and monitoring of any settlement agreements that may result from these actions. SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with information requests, on-site compliance reviews and reporting requirements.

7. SUBRECIPIENT shall maintain a complaint log and inform the Department of the Treasury of any complaints of discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, and limited English proficiency covered by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and implementing regulations and provide, upon request, a list of all such reviews or proceedings based on the complaint, pending or completed, including outcome. SUBRECIPIENT also must inform the Department of the Treasury if SUBRECIPIENT has received no complaints under Title VI.

8. SUBRECIPIENT must provide documentation of an administrative agency's or court's findings of non-compliance of Title VI and efforts to address the non-compliance, including any voluntary compliance or other agreements between the SUBRECIPIENT and the administrative agency that made the finding. If SUBRECIPIENT settles a case or matter alleging such discrimination, SUBRECIPIENT must provide documentation of the settlement. If SUBRECIPIENT has not been the subject of any court or administrative agency finding of discrimination, please so state.

L. Discuss/Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the City Council, Mayor and Planning and Community Development Department Administrator of Columbus, MS to obligate funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan Act for the Blight Elimination Program.

Council Member Greene made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City Council, Mayor and Planning and Community Development Department Administrator of Columbus, MS to obligate funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan Act for the Blight Elimination Program. Council Member Mickens seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE MOU FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between the City Council the Mayor of the City of Columbus, Mississippi, and the Planning and Community Development Department Administrator hereinafter referred to as the Parties. In consideration of those mutual undertakings, the Parties agree as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council, is designated to accept and administer funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"), sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor is tasked with overseeing the day to day operations of the Municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Community Development Department Administrator is tasked with overseeing the administration of the Blight Elimination Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board must approve the Municipality's budget and the Mayor executes the expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this MOU to memorialize their understanding of the mutual advantages of this cooperative relationship.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the terms and conditions set forth below:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to memorialize an agreement to obligate the Municipality's ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("Funds") for those purposes set forth in the Grant Agreement between the City of Columbus and the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), FY 23 Community Project Funding Grant Agreement No. B-23-CP-MS-0917 and set forth in Attachment "A" hereby adopted and incorporated by reference herein, along with any current or future modifications thereto ("HUD Grant Agreement").

II. CONDITIONS AND SCOPE

The Council agrees to appropriate and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds to perform the "Scope of Work," as set forth in Attachment "A" the HUD Grant Agreement, for the "Project" as set forth in HUD Grant Agreement.

III. AMOUNT

The City Council agrees to provide and obligate the Funds in an amount not to exceed the funds as set forth in the HUD Grant Agreement, the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds in such amount and the Planning and Community Development Administrator agrees to administer the Blight Elimination Program.

IV. TERM

The MOU shall be effective from the date executed below and shall expire on January 1, 2027.

V. BINDING EFFECT

The MOU shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and upon any respective successors and assigns of the Parties.

VI. OBLIGATION OF THE PARTIES

The Parties agree to the following obligations under this MOU:

- a. The City Council shall provide the Mayor the Funds set forth in HUD Grant Agreement.
- b. The Mayor shall expend the Funds in amount to pay for the cost of the Scope of Work necessary to implement the Project.
- c. The Mayor shall follow federal and state procurement and expenditure requirements as required by and set forth in the HUD Grant Agreement.
- d. The Mayor shall ensure a complete procurement file for each contract necessary to perform the Scope of Work in the Grant Agreement is submitted to HUD with reimbursement requests in accordance therewith.
- e. The Planning and Community Development Department Administrator shall administer the Blight Elimination Program.

VII. Applicable Law

This MOU shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi.

Agreed to this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Planning & Community Development, Administrator

Vice Mayor/Mayor Pro Tem, City Council/Board

Mayor

ATTACHMENT "A"

**FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917**

Grantee Name: City of Columbus
Grantee Address: 523 Main St. Columbus, MS 39701
Grantee's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):
Grantee's Employer Identification Number (EIN) 64-6000273
Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN) B-23-CP-MS-0917
Assistance Listing Number and Name 14.251 Economic Development Initiative,
Community Project Funding, and Miscellaneous Grants
Period of Performance/Budget Period Start Date Date of grant obligation
Period of Performance/Budget Period End Date August 31, 2031

This Grant Agreement between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and City of Columbus (the Grantee) is made pursuant to the authority of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) and the Explanatory Statement for Division L of that Act, which was printed in the Senate section of the Congressional Record on December 20, 2022 (Explanatory Statement).

In reliance upon and in consideration of the mutual representations and obligations under this Grant Agreement, HUD and the Grantee agree as follows:

ARTICLE I. Definitions

The definitions at 2 CFR 200.1 apply to this Grant Agreement, except where this Grant Agreement specifically states otherwise.

Budget period is defined in 2 CFR 200.1 and begins and ends on the dates specified above for the Period of Performance/Budget Period Start Date and Period of Performance/Budget Period End Date.

Period of Performance is defined in 2 CFR 200.1 and begins and ends on the dates specified above for the Period of Performance/Budget Period Start Date and Period of Performance/Budget Period End Date.

ARTICLE II. Total Grant Amount

Subject to the provisions of the Grant Agreement, HUD will make grant funds in the amount of \$3,000,000 available to the Grantee.

ARTICLE III. Award-Specific Requirements

A. Federal Award Description. The Grantee must use the Federal funds provided under this Grant Agreement (Grant Funds) to carry out the Grantee's "Project." Unless changed in accordance with Article III, section C of this Grant Agreement, the Grantee's Project shall be as described in the Project Narrative that is approved by HUD as of the date that HUD signs this Grant Agreement. For reference, HUD will attach this approved Project Narrative as Appendix I to the Grant Agreement on the date that HUD signs this Grant Agreement.

" A "

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

B. **Approved Budget.** The Grantee must use the Grant Funds as provided by the Approved Budget. Unless changed in accordance with Article III, section C of this Grant Agreement, the Approved Budget shall be the line-item budget that is approved by HUD as of the date that HUD signs this Grant Agreement. For reference, HUD will attach this approved line-item budget as Appendix 2 to this Grant Agreement on the date that HUD signs this Grant Agreement.

C. **Project and Budget Changes.** All changes to the Grantee's Project or Approved Budget must be made in accordance with 2 CFR 200.308 and this Grant Agreement. To request HUD's approval for a change in the Project or Approved Budget, the Grantee must submit a formal letter to the Director of HUD's Office of Economic Development - Congressional Grants Division through the assigned Grant Officer. The letter must be submitted by email to the assigned Grant Officer and must provide justification for the change. The email submitting the letter must also include a revised project narrative or revised line-item budget, as applicable, that includes the requested change. The Grantee is prohibited from making project or budget changes that would conflict with the Applicable Appropriations Act Conditions described in Article III, section D of this Grant Agreement. The assigned Grant Officer for this grant is provided in the Award Letter for this grant and found on HUD's website. The HUD Office of Economic Development - Congressional Grants Division will notify the Grantee in writing, by email, whether HUD approves or disapproves the change. Before the Grantee expends Grant Funds in accordance with any change approved by HUD or otherwise allowed by 2 CFR 200.308, the Grantee must update its grant information in Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting (DRGR) to reflect that change.

D. **Applicable Appropriations Act Conditions.** The conditions that apply to the Grant Funds as provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 and the Explanatory Statement are hereby incorporated and made part of this Grant Agreement. In the event of a conflict between those conditions, the conditions provided by the Act will govern. The Grant Funds are not subject to the Community Development Block Grants regulations at 24 CFR part 570 or Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

E. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.307(b), costs incidental to the generation of program income may be deducted from gross income to determine program income, provided these costs have not been charged to the grant. As authorized under 2 CFR 200.307(e)(2), program income may be treated as an addition to the Federal award, provided that the Grantee uses that income for allowable costs under this Grant Agreement. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.307(b), costs incidental to the generation of program income may be deducted from gross income to determine program income, provided these costs have not been charged to the grant. Any program income that cannot be expended on allowable costs under this Grant Agreement must be paid to HUD before closeout of the grant, unless otherwise specified by an applicable Federal statute.

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

F. The Grantee must use the Grant Funds only for costs (including indirect costs) that meet the applicable requirements in 2 CFR part 200 (including appendices). The Grantee's indirect cost rate information is as provided in Appendix 3 to this Grant Agreement. Unless the Grantee is an Institution of Higher Education, the Grantee must immediately notify HUD upon any change in the Grantee's indirect cost rate during the Period of Performance, so that HUD can amend the Grant Agreement to reflect the change if necessary. Consistent with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix III (C.7), if the Grantee is an Institution of Higher Education and has a negotiated rate in effect on the date this Grant Agreement is signed by HUD, the Grantee may use only that rate for its indirect costs during the Period of Performance.

G. The Grantee must comply with any specific award conditions that HUD may attach to this Grant Agreement as provided by 2 CFR 200.208. If applicable, these conditions will be listed or added as Appendix 5 to this Grant Agreement.

H. The Grantee is responsible for managing the Project and ensuring the proper use of the Grant Funds. The Grantee is also responsible for ensuring the completion of the Project, the grant closeout, and compliance with all applicable federal requirements. The Grantee may subaward all or a portion of its funds to one or more subrecipients, as identified in the Project Narrative (Appendix 1) or as may be approved by HUD in accordance with 2 CFR 200.308. All subawards made with funding under this Grant Agreement are subject to the subaward requirements under 2 CFR Part 200, including 2 CFR 200.332, and other requirements provided by this Grant Agreement. The Grantee is responsible for ensuring each subrecipient complies with all requirements under this Grant Agreement, including the general federal requirements in Article IV. A subaward may be made to a for-profit entity only if HUD expressly approves that subaward and the for-profit entity is made subject to the same Federal requirements that apply to all other subrecipients, including the requirements 2 CFR part 200 provides for a "non-Federal entity" that receives a subaward.

ARTICLE IV. General Federal Requirements

A. If the Grantee is a unit of general local government, a State, an Indian Tribe, or an Alaskan Native Village, the Grantee is the Responsible Entity (as defined in 24 CFR part 58) and agrees to assume all of the responsibilities for environmental review and decision-making and action, as specified and required in regulations issued by the Secretary pursuant to section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994 and published in 24 CFR Part 58.

B. If the Grantee is a housing authority, redevelopment agency, academic institution, hospital or other non-profit organization, the Grantee shall request the unit of general local government, Indian Tribe or Alaskan Native Village, within which the Project is located and which exercises land use responsibility, to act as Responsible Entity and assume all of the responsibilities for environmental review and decision-making and action as specified in paragraph A above, and the Grantee shall carry out all of the responsibilities of a grantee under 24 CFR Part 58.

C. After December 29, 2022, neither the Grantee nor any of its contractors, subrecipients and other funding and development partners may undertake, or commit or expend Grant Funds or local funds for, project activities (other than for planning, management, development and administration activities), unless a contract requiring those activities was already executed on or before December 29, 2022, until one of the following occurs: (i) the Responsible Entity has completed the environmental review procedures required by 24 CFR part 58, and HUD has approved the environmental certification and given a release of funds; (ii) the Responsible Entity has determined and documented in its environmental review record that the activities are exempt under 24 CFR 58.34 or are categorically excluded and not subject to compliance with environmental laws under 24 CFR 58.35(b); or (iii) HUD has performed an environmental review under 24 CFR part 50 and has notified Grantee in writing of environmental approval of the activities.

D. Following completion of the environmental review process, the Grantee (recipient) shall exercise oversight, monitoring, and enforcement as necessary to assure that decisions and mitigation measures adopted through the environmental review process are carried out during project development and implementation.

E. The Grantee must comply with the generally applicable HUD and CPD requirements in 24 CFR Part 5, subpart A, including all applicable fair housing, and civil rights requirements. If the Grantee is a Tribe or a Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE) as established under 24 CFR 1000.206, the Grantee must comply with the nondiscrimination requirements in 24 CFR 1000.12 in lieu of the nondiscrimination requirements in 24 CFR 5.105(a). The Grantee must report data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households who are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of the Grantee's Project, consistent with the instructions and forms provided by HUD in order to carry out its responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 562 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (e.g. HUD-27061).

F. The Grantee must comply with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements in 2 CFR part 200, as may be amended from time to time. If 2 CFR part 200 is amended to replace or renumber sections of part 200 that are cited specifically in this Grant Agreement, the part 200 requirements as renumbered or replaced by the amendments will govern the obligations of HUD and the Grantee after those amendments become effective.

G. The Grantee must comply with the Award Term in Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 25 ("System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements") and the Award Term in Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 170 ("Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation"), which are hereby incorporated into and made part of this Grant Agreement.

H. If the Total Grant Amount, as provided in Article II of this Grant Agreement, is greater than \$500,000, the Grantee must comply with the Award Term and Condition for Grantee Integrity and Performance Matters in Appendix 4 to this Grant Agreement.

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

I. Unless the Grantee is exempt from the Byrd Amendment as explained below, the Grantee must comply with the provisions of Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, 31 U.S.C. 1352, (the Byrd Amendment) and 24 CFR Part 87, which prohibit recipients of Federal contracts, grants, or loans from using appropriated funds for lobbying the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. The Grantee must include in its award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements), the requirements for the certification required by Appendix A to 24 CFR Part 87 and for disclosure using Standard Form- LLL (SF-LLL), "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." In addition, the Grantee must obtain the executed certification required by Appendix A and an SF-LLL from all covered persons. "Person" is as defined by 24 CFR Part 87. Federally recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established by Federally recognized Indian tribes as a result of the exercise of the tribe's sovereign power are excluded from coverage of the Byrd Amendment. State-recognized Indian tribes and TDHEs established only under state law must comply with this requirement.

J. The Grantee must comply with drug-free workplace requirements in Subpart B of 2 CFR Part 2429, which adopts the governmentwide implementation (2 CFR Part 182) of sections 5152-5158 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, Pub. L. 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D (41 U.S.C. 701-707).

K. The Grantee must comply with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (URA) as implemented by regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. The URA applies to acquisitions of real property and relocation occurring as a direct result of the acquisition, rehabilitation, or demolition of real property for Federal or Federally funded programs or projects. Real property acquisition that receives Federal financial assistance for a program or project, as defined in 49 CFR 24.2, must comply with the acquisition requirements contained in 49 CFR part 24, subpart B. Unless otherwise specified in law, the relocation requirements of the URA and its implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24, cover any displaced person who moves from real property or moves personal property from real property as a direct result of acquisition, rehabilitation, or demolition for a program or project receiving HUD financial assistance.

L. If Grant Funds are used for purchase, lease, support services, operation, or work that may disturb painted surfaces, of pre-1978 housing, you must comply with the lead-based paint evaluation and hazard reduction requirements of HUD's lead-based paint rules (Lead Disclosure; and Lead Safe Housing (24 CFR part 35)), and EPA's lead-based paint rules (e.g., Repair, Renovation and Painting; Pre-Renovation Education; and Lead Training and Certification (40 CFR part 745)).

M. The Grantee must comply with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (Section 3), 12 U.S.C. 1701u, and HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 75, as applicable, including the reporting requirements in 24 CFR 75.25. Grants made to Tribes and TDHEs are subject to Indian Preference requirements in Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5307(b)). As stated in 24 CFR 75.3(c), grants to Tribes and TDHEs are subject to Indian Preference requirements in lieu of Section 3. Grantees that are not exempt from Section 3 must submit annual reports of Section 3

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-AIS-0917

accomplishment Performance Measures in DRGR in January of the calendar year. This report reflects Section 3 accomplishments for the previous calendar year.

N. The Grantee must not use any Grant Funds to support any Federal, state, or local project that seeks to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use. Public use includes use of funds for mass transit, railroad, airport, seaport, or highway projects, and utility projects which benefit or serve the general public (including energy-related, communication-related, water-related, and waste water-related infrastructure), other structures designated for use by the general public or with other common-carrier or public-utility functions that serve the general public and are subject to regulation and oversight by the government, and projects for the removal of an immediate threat to public health and safety or brownfields, as defined in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (Pub. L. 107-118). Public use does not include economic development that primarily benefits private entities.

O. The Grantee must not use any Grant Funds to maintain or establish a computer network that does not block the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography. This requirement does not limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

P. The Grantee must administer its Grant Funds in accordance with the Conflict of Interest requirements set forth in Appendix 6 of this Grant Agreement.

Q. The Grantee must comply with the governmentwide debarment and suspension requirements in 2 CFR part 180 as incorporated and supplemented by HUD's regulations at 2 CFR part 2424.

R. The Grantee must comply with the award term and condition regarding trafficking in persons in Appendix 7 of this Grant Agreement.

S. The assurances and certifications the Grantee has made and submitted to HUD are incorporated by this reference and made part of this Grant Agreement.

ARTICLE V. Drawdown Requirements

A. The Grantee may not draw down Grant Funds until HUD has received and approved any certifications and disclosures required by 24 CFR 87.100 concerning lobbying, if applicable.

B. The Grantee must use HUD's Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting (DRGR) system to draw down Grant Funds and report to HUD on activities.

C. The Grantee must enter activity and budget information in DRGR that is consistent with the Grantee's Project and Approved Budget as described in Article III, sections A and B of this Grant Agreement and complies with HUD's instructions for entering information in DRGR found in the document titled "Grant Award Instructions" that accompanies the Grant Agreement.

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

D. The Grantee must only enter activities in DRGR that are described in the Approved Budget.

E. The Grantee must expend all Grant Funds in accordance with the activity and budget information in DRGR.

F. Each drawdown of Grant Funds constitutes a representation by the Grantee that the funds will be used in accordance with this Grant Agreement.

G. The Grantee must use DRGR to track the use of program income and must report the receipt and use of program income in the reports the Grantee submits to HUD under Article VI of this Grant Agreement. The Grantee must expend program income before drawing down Grant Funds through DRGR.

H. Notwithstanding any other provision of this grant agreement, HUD will not be responsible for payment of any Grant Funds after the date Treasury closes the account in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 1552. Because Treasury may close the account up to one week before the September 30 date specified by 31 U.S.C. § 1552, the Grantee is advised to make its final request for payment under the grant no later than September 15, 2031.

ARTICLE VI. Program-Specific Reporting Requirements

In addition to the general reporting requirements that apply under other provisions of this Agreement, the following program-specific reporting requirements apply to the Grantee:

A. The Grantee must submit a performance report in DRGR on a semi-annual basis and must include a completed Federal financial report as an attachment to each performance report in DRGR. Performance reports shall consist of a narrative of work accomplished during the reporting period. During the Period of Performance, the Grantee must submit these reports in DRGR no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the 6-month reporting period. The first of these reporting periods begins on the first of January or June (whichever occurs first) after the date this Grant Agreement is signed by HUD.

B. The performance report must contain the information required for reporting program performance under 2 CFR 200.329(c)(2) and (d), including a comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives of the Project as described in Article III, section A of this Grant Agreement, the reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate, and additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

C. Financial reports must be submitted using DRGR or such future collections HUD may require and as approved by OMB and listed on the Grants.gov website (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html>).

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

D. The performance and financial reports will undergo review and approval by HUD. If a report submission is insufficient, HUD will reject the report in DRGR and identify the corrections the Grantee must make.

E. No drawdown of funds will be allowed through DRGR while the Grantee has an overdue performance or financial report.

F. The Grantee must report and account for all property acquired or improved with Grant Funds as provided by 2 CFR part 200 using the applicable common forms approved by OMB and provided on the Grants.gov website (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html>). This reporting obligation includes submitting status reports on real property at least annually as provided by 2 CFR 200.330, accounting for real and personal property acquired or improved with Grant Funds as part of Project Closeout, and promptly submitting requests for disposition instructions as provided by 2 CFR 200.311(c), 200.313(e), and 200.314(a).

ARTICLE VII. Project Closeout

A. The grant will be closed out in accordance with 2 CFR part 200, as may be amended from time to time, except as otherwise specified in this Grant Agreement.

B. The Grantee must submit to HUD a written request to closeout the grant no later than 30 calendar days after the Grantee has drawn down all Grant Funds and completed the Project as described in Article III, section A of this Grant Agreement. HUD will then send the Closeout Agreement and Closeout Certification to the Grantee.

C. At HUD's option, the Grantee may delay initiation of project closeout until the resolution of any findings as a result of the review of semi-annual activity reports in DRGR. If HUD exercises this option, the Grantee must promptly resolve the findings.

D. The Grantee recognizes that the closeout process may entail a review by HUD to determine compliance with the Grant Agreement by the Grantee and all participating parties. The Grantee agrees to cooperate with any HUD review, including reasonable requests for on-site inspection of property acquired or improved with Grant Funds.

E. No later than 120 calendar days after the Period of Performance, Grantees shall provide to HUD the following documentation:

1. A Certification of Project Completion.
2. A Grant Closeout Agreement.
3. A final financial report giving the amount and types of project costs charged to the grant (that meet the allowability and allocability

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

requirements of 2 CFR part 200, subpart E); a certification of the costs; and the amounts and sources of other project funds.

4. A final performance report providing a comparison of actual accomplishments with the objectives of the Project, the reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met and additional pertinent information including explanation of significant cost overruns.
5. A final property report, if specifically requested by HUD at the time of closeout.

ARTICLE VIII. Default

A default under this Grant Agreement shall consist of any use of Grant Funds for a purpose other than as authorized by this Grant Agreement, any noncompliance with statutory, regulatory, or other requirements applicable to the Grant Funds, any other material breach of this Grant Agreement, or any material misrepresentation in the Grantee's submissions to HUD in anticipation of this award. If the Grantee fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement, HUD may adjust specific conditions of this Grant Agreement as described in 2 CFR part 200, as may be amended from time to time. If HUD determines that noncompliance cannot be remedied by imposing additional conditions, HUD may take one or more of the remedies for noncompliance described in 2 CFR part 200, as may be amended from time to time. HUD may also terminate all or a part of this award as provided by 2 CFR 200.340 and other applicable provisions of 2 CFR part 200, as may be amended from time to time. Nothing in this Grant Agreement shall be construed as creating or justifying any claim against the Federal government or the Grantee by any third party.

ARTICLE IX. HUD Contact Information

Except where this Grant Agreement specifically states otherwise, all requests, submissions, and reports the Grantee is required to make to HUD under this Grant Agreement must be made in writing via email to CPFGGrants@hud.gov.

This agreement is hereby executed on behalf of the Grantee and HUD as follows:

GRANTEE

(Name of Organization)

BY: _____
(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Typed Name and Title of Authorized Official)

(Date)

HUD

BY: _____
Robin J. Keegan,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development

(Date)

APPENDIX 1 – Project Narrative

APPENDIX 2 – Approved Budget

APPENDIX 3 – Grantee's Indirect Cost Rate Information

Subject to the applicable requirements in 2 CFR part 200 (including its appendices), the Grantee will use an indirect cost rate as represented by the Grantee below:

- ☐ The Grantee will not use an indirect cost rate to charge its indirect costs to the grant.
- ☐ The Grantee will use the indirect cost rate(s) identified in the table below to charge its indirect costs to the grant.

Agency/Dept./Major Function	Indirect cost rate	Direct Cost Base
	%	
	%	

[PLEASE NOTE: The grantee must check one of the two boxes above. If the second box is checked, the corresponding table must be filled out as described below.

The table must include each indirect cost rate that will be used to calculate the Grantee's indirect costs under the grant. The table must also specify the type of direct cost base to which each included rate applies (for example, Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)). Do not include indirect cost rate information for subrecipients.

For government entities, enter each agency or department that will carry out activities under the grant, the indirect cost rate applicable to each department/agency (including if the de minimis rate is used per 2 CFR 200.414), and the type of direct cost base to which the rate will be applied.

For nonprofit organizations that use the Simplified Allocation Method for indirect costs or elects to use the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs in accordance with 2 CFR 200.414, enter the applicable indirect cost rate and type of direct cost base in the first row of the table.

For nonprofit organizations that use the Multiple Allocation Base Method, enter each major function of the organization for which a rate was developed and will be used under the grant, the indirect cost rate applicable to that major function, and the type of direct cost base to which the rate will be applied.]

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

(ii) It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on the Grantee's part; and

(iii) The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

3. Reporting Procedures

During any period of time when the Grantee is subject to the requirement in paragraph 1 of this award term and condition, the Grantee must enter in the SAM Entity Management area the information that SAM requires about each proceeding described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. The Grantee does not need to submit the information a second time under assistance awards that the Grantee received if the Grantee already provided the information through SAM because the Grantee was required to do so under Federal procurement contracts that the Grantee was awarded.

4. Reporting Frequency

During any period of time when the Grantee is subject to the requirement in paragraph 1 of this award term and condition, the Grantee must report proceedings information through SAM for the most recent five-year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) that the Grantee has not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report. If the Grantee has Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000, the Grantee must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.

5. Definitions

For purposes of this award term and condition:

a. Administrative proceeding means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order to make a determination of fault or liability (e.g., Securities and Exchange Commission Administrative proceedings, Civilian Board of Contract Appeals proceedings, and Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals proceedings). This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.

b. Conviction, for purposes of this award term and condition, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.

c. Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes—

(1) Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a cost share or match requirement; and

(2) The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

APPENDIX 5 – Specific Award Conditions
NONE.

APPENDIX 6 – Conflict of Interest Requirements

1. *Conflicts Subject to Procurement Regulations.* When procuring property or services, the grantee and its subrecipients shall comply with the applicable conflict-of-interest rules in 2 CFR 200.317 and 2 CFR 200.318(c). In all cases not governed by 2 CFR 200.317 and 2 CFR 200.318(c), the Grantee and its subrecipients must follow the requirements contained in paragraphs 2-5 below.

2. *General prohibition.* No person who is an employee, agent, consultant, officer, or elected or appointed official of the Grantee or subrecipient and who exercises or has exercised any functions or responsibilities with respect to assisted activities, or who is in a position to participate in a decision making process or gain inside information with regard to such activities, may obtain a financial interest or benefit from the activity, or have a financial interest in any contract, subcontract, or agreement with respect thereto, or the proceeds thereunder, either for himself or herself or for those with whom he or she has immediate family or business ties, during his or her tenure or for one year thereafter. Immediate family ties include (whether by blood, marriage or adoption) the spouse, parent (including a stepparent), child (including a stepchild), sibling (including a stepsibling), grandparent, grandchild, and in-laws of a covered person.

3. *Exceptions.* HUD may grant an exception to the general prohibition in paragraph (ii) upon the Grantee's written request and satisfaction of the threshold requirements in paragraph (iv), if HUD determines the exception will further the Federal purpose of the award and the effective and efficient administration of the Grantee's Project, taking into account the cumulative effects of the factors in paragraph (v).

4. *Threshold requirements for exceptions.* HUD will consider an exception only after the Grantee has provided the following documentation:

a. A disclosure of the nature of the conflict, accompanied by an assurance that there has been public disclosure of the conflict and a description of how that disclosure was made; and

b. An opinion of the Grantee's attorney that the interest for which the exception is sought would not violate state or local law.

5. *Factors to be considered for exceptions.* In determining whether to grant a requested exception after the Grantee has satisfactorily met the threshold requirements in paragraph (iii), HUD will consider the cumulative effect of the following factors, where applicable:

a. Whether the exception would provide a significant cost benefit or an essential degree of expertise to the program or project that would otherwise not be available;

b. Whether an opportunity was provided for open competitive bidding or negotiation;

c. Whether the person affected is a member of a group or class of low- or moderate-income persons intended to be the beneficiaries of the assisted activity, and the exception

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

will permit such person to receive generally the same interests or benefits as are being made available or provided to the group or class;

d. Whether the affected person has withdrawn from his or her functions or responsibilities, or the decision-making process regarding the assisted activity in question;

e. Whether the interest or benefit was present before the affected person was in a position as described in paragraph (ii);

f. Whether undue hardship will result either to the Grantee or the person affected when weighed against the public interest served by avoiding the prohibited conflict; and

g. Any other relevant considerations.

6. *Disclosure of potential conflicts of interest.* The Grantee must disclose in writing to HUD any potential conflict of interest.

APPENDIX 7 – Award Term and Condition Regarding Trafficking in Persons

The following award term and condition, which is required by 2 CFR part 175, applies as written:

a. Provisions applicable to a grantee that is a private entity:

1. You as the grantee, your employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not—

- i. Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;
- ii. Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or
- iii. Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

2. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity:

- i. Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or
- ii. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—

A. Associated with performance under this award; or

B. Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR Part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)," as implemented by HUD at 2 CFR 2424.

b. Provision applicable to a grantee other than a private entity:

We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity—

- 1. Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or
- 2. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either:

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

- i. Associated with performance under this award; or
- ii. Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement)," as implemented by HUD at 2 CFR 2424.

c. Provisions applicable to any grantee.

- 1. You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term.
- 2. Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this section:
 - i. Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), and
 - ii. Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.
- 3. You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this award term in any subaward you make to a private entity.

d. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:

- 1. "Employee" means either:
 - i. An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or
 - ii. Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.
- 2. "Forced labor" means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services; through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

FY 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING
GRANT AGREEMENT NO. B-23-CP-MS-0917

3. "Private entity":

i. Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 CFR 175.25.

ii. Includes:

A. A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 CFR 175.25(b).

B. A for-profit organization.

4. "Severe forms of trafficking in persons," "commercial sex act," and "coercion" have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102).

M. Discuss/Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Mayor and City Council and Columbus Light and Water Department.

Council Member Mickens made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Mayor and City Council and Columbus Light and Water Department. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

THE MOU FOLLOWS:

(THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbus
and
Columbus Light and Water Department

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between City of Columbus through its Mayor and City Council and the Columbus Light and Water Department, hereinafter the Parties. In consideration of those mutual undertakings, the Parties agree as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus through its Mayor and City Council, is designated to accept and administer funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"), sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the "Act"), Pub. L. No. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor is tasked with overseeing the day to day operations of the Municipality, excluding utilities, specifically drinking water and wastewater, which operations are overseen day to day by Columbus Light and Water Department; and

WHEREAS, the City Council must approve the Municipality's budget and the Mayor executes the expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this MOU to memorialize their understanding of the mutual advantages of this cooperative relationship.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the terms and conditions set forth below:

I. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to memorialize an agreement to obligate the Municipality's ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("Funds") for those purposes set forth in the Subaward Agreement between Columbus Light and Water Department and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ"), MDEQ Agreement No. 82-1-CW-5.5 set forth in Attachment "A", hereby adopted and incorporated by reference herein, along with any current or future modifications thereto ("MDEQ Subaward Agreement").

II. Conditions and Scope

The City of Columbus through its Mayor and City Council agrees to appropriate and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds to perform the "Scope of Work," as set forth in Attachment A and Article 2 of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement, for the "Project" as set forth in Article 2 of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement.

III. Amount

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

The City of Columbus through its Mayor and City Council agrees to provide and obligate the Funds in an amount not to exceed the funds as set forth in Article 7.A.ii of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement and the Mayor agrees to expend the Funds in such amount.

IV. Term

The MOU shall be effective from the date executed below and shall expire on January 1, 2027.

V. Binding Effect

The MOU shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and upon any respective successors and assigns of the Parties.

VI. Obligation of the Parties

The Parties agree to the following obligations under this MOU:

- a. The City of Columbus through its Mayor and City Council agrees to provide the Mayor the Funds in an amount not to exceed the amount set forth in Article 7.A.ii of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement.
- b. The Columbus Light and Water Department shall expend the Funds in amount not to exceed the amount set forth in Article 7.A.ii of the MDEQ Subaward Agreement to pay for the cost of the Scope of Work necessary to implement the Project.
- c. The Columbus Light and Water Department shall follow federal and state procurement and expenditure requirements as required by and set forth in the MDEQ Subaward Agreement.
- d. The Columbus Light and Water Department shall ensure a complete procurement file for each contract necessary to perform the Scope of Work in the Subaward is submitted to MDEQ with reimbursement requests in accordance therewith.

VII. Applicable Law

This MOU shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi.

Agreed to this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

City Council

Agreed to this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Mayor

ATTACHMENT "A" ; ORIGINAL EXECUTED MCWI SUBAWARD

ATTACHMENT A

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
MISSISSIPPI MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT**

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS**

MDEQ AGREEMENT NO. 82-1-CW-5.5

SUBAWARD AGREEMENT

This document is a Subaward Agreement (this "Agreement") between the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality ("MDEQ"), a Pass-through entity as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, and Columbus Light & Water Department, UEI Number: NUAMW4C99HZ6 ("SUBRECIPIENT", and together with MDEQ, the "Parties", and each, a "Party") to provide grant funds for the Work conducted under the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure ("MCWI") Grant Program (the "Program") as specified in Article 4.

1. SOURCE OF FUNDS

The grant funds provided by this Agreement are made available pursuant to the MCWI Grant Program Act of 2022, Mississippi Senate Bill 2822, 2022 Regular Session (April 26, 2022), provided through funds awarded to the State of Mississippi pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA"), Public Law 117-2 (March 11, 2021), provided through the U.S. Department of Treasury pursuant to Federal Award # SLFRP0003 and CFDA No. 21.027 (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) awarded on May 10, 2021, and subsequently to MDEQ through Mississippi Senate Bill 3056, 2022 Regular Session (April 26, 2022).

2. PROJECT

Under this Agreement, MDEQ agrees to disburse funds to SUBRECIPIENT in accordance with the terms herein to reimburse the costs associated with SUBRECIPIENT's implementation of the project entitled "Sanitary System Sewer Improvements, Part A - 22nd St. S. Lift Station Renovation, Part B - Sewer System Lining – Older City Sections, Part C - MLK Jr. Dr. Lift Station Force Main Relocation" (the "Project").

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Project is to make a necessary investment in an upgrade to SUBRECIPIENT's existing wastewater infrastructure. The Project is not for Research and Development.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

SUBRECIPIENT shall perform the tasks as described and identified in Attachment "A", Scope of Work (the "Work").

5. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

SUBRECIPIENT is subject to U.S. Treasury's regulations governing ARPA, and all applicable terms and conditions in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 of the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") Uniform Guidance for Grants and Cooperative Agreements, as amended, including Appendix II to Part 200, and all other OMB circulars, executive orders or other federal laws or regulations applicable to the services provided under this Agreement. All of these terms and conditions of this Agreement apply to SUBRECIPIENT and, as applicable, its Contractors/Contracted Parties.

6. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

The Period of Performance shall commence upon the execution of this Agreement and shall end on **September 30, 2026**. Costs incurred on March 3, 2021, or thereafter, but prior to the commencement of the Period of Performance may be reimbursed provided MDEQ determines such costs are allowable and eligible. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to complete all tasks included in the Scope of Work within this Period of Performance, unless otherwise specified in writing by MDEQ. If, at any time during the Period of Performance of this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT determines, based on the Work performed to date, that the Work cannot be completed within the Period of Performance, SUBRECIPIENT shall so notify MDEQ immediately in writing.

Failure to adhere to the requirements placed on MCWI funds can result in termination of this Agreement and may result in a demand for repayment by MDEQ. Moreover, if MDEQ is required to return any funds as a result of misspending on the part of SUBRECIPIENT, MDEQ reserves the right to seek and receive repayment of the amount of funds in question.

7. **CONSIDERATION AND PAYMENT**

A. *Project Cost.* The total Project cost shall not exceed **\$2,277,000.00**, with said amount broken down as follows:

i. MCWI Grant Funds shall not exceed **\$1,013,500.00**;

ii. The Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("LFRF") received by SUBRECIPIENT from the U.S. Treasury or the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration used as matching funds in this Agreement shall not exceed **\$0.00**;

iii. Any LFRF transferred to SUBRECIPIENT from a county or municipality ("Transferred LFRF") shall not exceed **\$1,013,500.00**;

iv. Any other funds that SUBRECIPIENT obligates(ed) to the project that are not eligible for MCWI match ("Other Funds") shall not exceed **\$250,000.00**.

B. Professional fees that will be reimbursed with MCWI Grant Funds shall not exceed **\$91,080.00**. This amount is included in, and is not in addition to, the maximum MCWI Grant Funds specified in Article 7.A.i, above and Article 7.C., below.

SUBRECIPIENT understands and acknowledges that the amount of professional fees, as defined in the MCWI Regulations, Rule 1.1 E. (18), that may be matched with MCWI Grant Funds is limited to no more than 4% of the total amount of costs actually incurred on the Project, which in no case may be more than the total Project cost set forth in Article 7.A., above.

C. *Consideration.* As consideration for the performance of the tasks included in this Agreement, MDEQ agrees to reimburse SUBRECIPIENT an amount not to exceed **One Million Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,013,500.00)** (the "Maximum Amount").

MDEQ is under no obligation to provide funds to SUBRECIPIENT if SUBRECIPIENT has not met, or does not continue to meet, minimum federal requirements to receive funds, such as but not limited to, adhering to applicable procurement requirements found in 2 C.F.R. Part 200 *et al.* Moreover, MDEQ bears no responsibility relative to SUBRECIPIENT's expenditure of its own funds. To that end, in the process of review of documentation for reimbursement, as well as compliance monitoring activities associated with the Program, MDEQ is not responsible or liable for any expenditure made by SUBRECIPIENT with its funds. As such, SUBRECIPIENT is solely responsible for compliance with federal and state requirements associated with its LFRF, its LFRF Transferred Funds, and any other funds it uses towards its Project that are not a part of the MCWI Grant Funds. SUBRECIPIENT must substantiate all expenditures in a compliant manner. MDEQ is under no obligation to reimburse costs incurred that are not demonstrably compliant with federal and state law.

D. *Payment.* Subject to available funding, as set forth in the terms and conditions of this Agreement, MDEQ shall pay all properly invoiced amounts due to SUBRECIPIENT within forty-five (45) days after MDEQ's receipt of such invoice, except for any amounts disputed by MDEQ in good faith. Legislative approval may be required where MDEQ receives any claim of payment from SUBRECIPIENT that includes Work performed outside a one (1) year period from receipt of such invoice.

i. *Request for Payment.* SUBRECIPIENT shall request payment of funds hereunder for Project costs on a reimbursement basis (such requests, "Reimbursement Requests"), unless otherwise directed by MDEQ. SUBRECIPIENT shall submit Reimbursement Requests and supporting documentation of costs incurred as required by MDEQ to the MCWI Reimbursement Portal, located at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>. All Reimbursement Requests for time periods ending June 30 of any year, during the Period of Performance under this Agreement, shall be submitted no later than July 31 of that same year. Final invoice(s) shall be submitted to MDEQ no later than September 30, 2026. The Reimbursement Request shall include, at a minimum, breakdowns of personnel, position, dates worked, tasks performed, and totals for contract costs, materials, supplies and equipment, included in the Reimbursement Request. SUBRECIPIENT shall make Reimbursement Requests in accordance with the following procedures and subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. SUBRECIPIENT may make Reimbursement Requests no more frequently than once monthly during the Period of Performance of this Agreement.

2. SUBRECIPIENT shall request payment under this Agreement only for the costs necessary to complete the Scope of Work specifically stated and required under this Agreement.

3. SUBRECIPIENT shall not request payment under this Agreement for other services or other work the SUBRECIPIENT or its contractors may provide under any other Subaward or Contract not related to this Project.

4. SUBRECIPIENT shall provide on each Reimbursement Request the amount of its LFRF, Transferred LFRF and Other Funds expended. SUBRECIPIENT shall also provide the amount requested for professional fees. MDEQ will then determine the amount of MCWI Grant Funds that each Reimbursement Request qualifies for within the Program regulations and procedures.

5. SUBRECIPIENT understands that no payment, including final payment, shall be interpreted as acceptance of defective and incomplete Work, and SUBRECIPIENT shall remain responsible for performance in strict compliance with this Agreement. If MDEQ rejects, condemns or fails to approve any part of the Scope of Work, it may issue a Notice to Cure or terminate this Agreement.

6. MDEQ reserves the right to refuse to pay all or any part of the funds requested in a Reimbursement Request for any of the following reasons: 1) at MDEQ's discretion, the costs SUBRECIPIENT is seeking reimbursement for are not reasonable or necessary for the completion of the Work in this Agreement, 2) at MDEQ's discretion, the costs are ineligible for reimbursement under this Project, 3) at the time the request is submitted SUBRECIPIENT has failed to comply with any term or condition of this Agreement, 4) at the time the request is submitted the SUBRECIPIENT has otherwise failed to perform the Work to date in accordance with the Scope of Work, or 5) at the time the request is submitted the SUBRECIPIENT has otherwise failed to comply with applicable state, federal, or local laws and regulations.

ii. *Indirect Cost Rate.* Reimbursement of indirect costs and/or overhead is not allowed under this Agreement.

E. *Limitations on Expenditures.* MDEQ shall reimburse SUBRECIPIENT only for documented expenditures incurred on or after March 3, 2021: (i) reasonable and necessary to carry out the Scope of Work described in Attachment A; (ii) documented by

contracts or other evidence of liability and (iii) incurred in accordance with all applicable requirements for the expenditure of funds payable under this Agreement.

F. *Improper Payments.* Any item of expenditure by SUBRECIPIENT under the terms of this Agreement which is found by auditors, investigators, other authorized representatives of MDEQ, the U.S. Treasury, the Mississippi State Auditor or other federal or state instrumentality to be improper, unallowable, in violation of federal or state law, or the terms of this Agreement, or involving any fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading representations or activities of SUBRECIPIENT shall become SUBRECIPIENT's liability, and shall be paid solely by SUBRECIPIENT, immediately upon notification of such, from funds other than those provided by MDEQ under this Agreement. This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

Any funds that are paid by MDEQ to SUBRECIPIENT that are not necessary for the completion of the Work in this Agreement and/or that are deemed ineligible must be returned to MDEQ immediately upon receiving MDEQ's written notification for return of funds.

G. *Clawback.* If funds are expended improperly or if an expense submitted for reimbursement is disallowed or deemed ineligible under federal, state or local laws and regulations, then payments to SUBRECIPIENT may be subject to clawback by MDEQ, the State of Mississippi or the U.S. Treasury.

8. **AMENDMENTS OR MODIFICATION**

This Agreement may only be amended, modified, or supplemented by written agreement signed by the Parties hereto.

9. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall provide required progress reports during the Period of Performance of this Agreement in a format prescribed by MDEQ. These reports shall be submitted in accordance with the following schedule, which may be amended from time to time:

<u>REPORTING PERIOD</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
October – December	January 15
January – March	April 15
April – June	July 15
July – September	October 15

This provision shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement with respect to any reports which SUBRECIPIENT is required to submit to MDEQ following the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

10. **FAILURE TO TIMELY PERFORM**

SUBRECIPIENT shall take all reasonable measures to ensure MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF used for MCWI matching funds are obligated by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024.

SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees that its failure to obligate MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF used for MCWI matching funds by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024, may result in MDEQ modifying the MCWI Grant Funds awarded or terminating this Agreement.

If SUBRECIPIENT refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Agreement with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extension thereof authorized by MDEQ or if SUBRECIPIENT otherwise fails to satisfy the Agreement provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Agreement, MDEQ may notify SUBRECIPIENT in writing of the delay or nonperformance. If such delay or nonperformance is not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by MDEQ, MDEQ may terminate SUBRECIPIENT's right to proceed with the Agreement or such part of the Agreement as to which there has been delay or a failure to perform properly.

Notwithstanding termination of the Agreement and subject to any directions by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of SUBRECIPIENT in which the State has an interest.

11. FINAL PAYMENT AND REPORT

When SUBRECIPIENT has performed all the Work, SUBRECIPIENT shall transmit to MDEQ a comprehensive report on the Work in a format prescribed by MDEQ (the "Final Report"). The Final Report shall be provided by SUBRECIPIENT to MDEQ within forty-five (45) days of Project completion in a format prescribed by MDEQ. Upon acceptance of Final Report, MDEQ will process final Reimbursement Request.

Upon satisfactory completion of the Work performed under this Agreement, as a condition before final payment under this Agreement or as a termination settlement under this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall certify to MDEQ, on a form provided by MDEQ, that the final payment amount is the remaining amount that SUBRECIPIENT is owed under this Agreement and that no additional payment for its Work under this Project will be submitted for reimbursement. Unless otherwise provided in the Agreement, by state law or otherwise expressly agreed to by the Parties in this Agreement, final payment under this Agreement or settlement upon termination of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of MDEQ's claims against SUBRECIPIENT or its sureties under this Agreement.

In consideration of the execution of this Agreement by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT agrees that acceptance of final payment from MDEQ will constitute an agreement by SUBRECIPIENT to release and forever discharge MDEQ, its agents, employees, officers, representatives, affiliates, successors and assigns from any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, actions, causes of action or suits of any nature whatsoever, which SUBRECIPIENT has at the time of acceptance of final payment or may thereafter have, arising out of, in connection with or in any way relating to any and all injuries and damages of any kind as a result of or in any way relating to this Agreement.

12. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

MDEQ requires that SUBRECIPIENT have in place, prior to the receipt of funds, a financial management system that will be able to isolate and trace every dollar funded under this Agreement from receipt to expenditure and have on file appropriate support documentation for

each transaction. Examples of documentation include but are not limited to copies of checks paid to vendors, vendor invoices, bills of lading, purchase vouchers, payrolls, bank statements and reconciliations, and real property and easement appraisals. Prior to the submittal of any such documentation to MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall redact, in accordance with the definition of "Protected Personally Identifiable Information" ("Protected PII") as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, all information reflecting an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of types of information, including, but not limited to, social security number, passport number, credit card numbers, clearances, bank numbers, biometrics, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, criminal, medical and financial records, educational transcripts. This does not include PII as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1 that is required by law to be disclosed. SUBRECIPIENT and any Contracted Parties (as such term is defined in Article 13 of this Agreement) are limited to the travel rates of the State of Mississippi, including dining and hotels, in place at the time of the expenditure for which reimbursement is sought; and SUBRECIPIENT shall audit any such invoice for same, clearly indicating the actual expense and the adjustment, if any.

SUBRECIPIENT certifies that all information provided to MDEQ or its representatives as part of the initial risk assessment for this Work is complete and accurate. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to submit to and cooperate with MDEQ in any additional risk assessment evaluation and periodic audit procedures to ensure adequate financial management of all funds. Further, SUBRECIPIENT shall continue to implement any recommendations and/or corrective action plan set forth in the report transmitted to SUBRECIPIENT based on the findings of the systems and processes for financial management, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "B" and incorporated herein in its entirety.

13. CONTRACTS

SUBRECIPIENT shall be responsible for accountability of funds, compliance with Project specifications, and Project management by its contractors. MDEQ shall not bear responsibility for any liability caused or incurred by any contractor in performing Work. MDEQ shall not be deemed by virtue of this Agreement to have any contractual obligation to, or relationship with, any of SUBRECIPIENT's contractors, and the Parties agree and acknowledge that, as between MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT, all Work shall be deemed to be the responsibility of, and performed by, SUBRECIPIENT. No contractor or other recipient of funds from MDEQ under this Agreement shall be deemed to be an agent, representative, employee or servant of MDEQ in connection with this Agreement. The parties with whom contracts or subaward agreements are entered into by the SUBRECIPIENT shall be referred to herein as "Contractor", "Contracted Party", or "Contracted Parties". In addition to ensuring that its Contracted Parties follow the applicable terms in this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall require all terms and conditions set forth in Attachments "A" and "C" attached hereto to be included in all agreements between the SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Parties, and in all agreements between Contracted Parties and Contracted Parties' contractors/sub-contractors.

14. APPLICABLE LAW

The Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Mississippi and applicable federal law excluding, its conflict of laws

provisions, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the State. SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the following:

A. *Authorizing Statutes.* Section 603 of the *Social Security Act* (42 U.S.C. § 803), as added by section 9901(a) of the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and Mississippi Senate Bill No. 2822, entitled the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022, Regular Session 2022 (April 26, 2022).

B. *Implementing Regulations.* Subpart A of 31 C.F.R. Part 35 (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds), as adopted in the *Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds* interim final rule (86 Fed. Reg. 26786, applicable May 17, 2021 through March 31, 2022) and final rule (87 Fed. Reg. 4338, applicable January 27, 2022 through the end of the ARP/CSLFRF award term), and other subsequent regulations implementing Section 603 of the *Social Security Act* (42 U.S.C. § 803), as well as MDEQ regulations, entitled "Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality Regulations for the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program."

C. *Guidance Documents.* Applicable guidance documents issued from time-to-time by the US Department of Treasury and MDEQ, including the currently applicable version of the *Compliance and Reporting Guidance: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*.¹

D. *Licenses, Certifications, Permits, Accreditation.* SUBRECIPIENT shall obtain and keep current any license, certification, permit, or accreditation required by federal, state, or local law and shall submit to MDEQ proof of any licensure, certification, permit or accreditation upon request.

15. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

It is expressly understood and agreed that the obligation of MDEQ to proceed under this Agreement is conditioned upon the availability of the funds from state, federal, and/or other funding sources. If the funds anticipated for the continuing fulfillment of the Agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, either through the failure of the federal government to provide funds or of the State of Mississippi to appropriate funds or the discontinuance or material alteration of the program under which funds were provided or if funds are not otherwise available to MDEQ, MDEQ shall have the right upon ten (10) working days written notice to the SUBRECIPIENT, to terminate this Agreement without damage, penalty, cost or expenses to MDEQ of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.

¹ <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

16. **REPRESENTATION REGARDING CONTINGENT FEES**

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it has not retained a person to solicit or secure this Agreement upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

17. **REPRESENTATION REGARDING GRATUITIES**

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it has not violated, is not violating, and promises that it will not violate the prohibition against gratuities set forth in Section 6-204 (Gratuities) of the *Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board Office of Personal Service Contract Review Rules and Regulations* and Section 9.105 (Gratuities) of the Mississippi Procurement Manual.

18. **UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, 2 C.F.R. Part 200 ("UG"), as adopted by the Department of Treasury at 2 C.F.R. Part 1000 and as set forth in the Assistance Listing for ARP/CSLFRF (21.027). These requirements dictate how SUBRECIPIENT must administer the Subaward and how MDEQ must oversee SUBRECIPIENT. As a condition of receipt of the grant funds authorized in this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to watch the video entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview" found at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>.

The applicable UG provisions are as follows:

- Subpart A, Acronyms and Definitions;
- Subpart B, General Provisions;
- Subpart C, Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Awards (except 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.204, .205, .210, and .213);
- Subpart D, Post Federal Award Requirements (except 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.305(b)(8) and (9), .308, .309, and .320(c)(4));
- Subpart E, Cost Principles;
- Subpart F, Audit Requirements;
- 2 C.F.R. Part 25 (Universal Identifier and System for Award Management);
- 2 C.F.R. Part 170 (Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information); and
- 2 C.F.R. Part 180 (OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement)).

SUBRECIPIENT shall document compliance with UG requirements, including adoption and implementation of all required policies and procedures, within thirty (30) days of the execution of this Agreement and during all subsequent reviews during the term of the Agreement. It is SUBRECIPIENT's responsibility to comply with all UG requirements. Failure to do so may result in termination of the Agreement by MDEQ.

All real property acquired or improved, and equipment or supplies purchased in whole or in part with MCWI Grant Funds and/or LFRF, must be used, insured, managed, and disposed of in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.311 through 2 C.F.R. § 200.316.

19. **SUBAWARDS**

If SUBRECIPIENT is authorized by MDEQ to make a Subaward, SUBRECIPIENT must include and incorporate the terms and conditions of this Agreement and any attachments, in all lower tier Subawards. Further, SUBRECIPIENT, who makes a Subaward, must follow and carry out all the responsibilities of a Pass-through entity described at 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

20. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

SUBRECIPIENT understands that MDEQ is an equal opportunity employer and therefore, maintains a policy which prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, disability, genetic information, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful, and SUBRECIPIENT agrees during the Period of Performance of the Agreement that SUBRECIPIENT will strictly adhere to this policy in its employment practices and work performance under this Agreement. SUBRECIPIENT shall comply with, and all activities under this Agreement shall be subject to, all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, as now existing and as may be amended or modified.

Nothing contained in this Agreement may be deemed or construed in any way to stop, limit, or impair MDEQ from exercising or performing any regulatory, legislative, governmental, or other powers or functions.

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under ARPA, including the information provided by the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule.²

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under Mississippi Senate Bill 2822 of the 2022 Legislative Session.³

SUBRECIPIENT is required to review and understand the requirements, limitations and restrictions placed upon them under by the Regulations promulgated by MDEQ.⁴

21. **STOP WORK ORDER**

A. *Order to Stop Work:* MDEQ may, by written order to SUBRECIPIENT at any time and without notice to any surety, require SUBRECIPIENT to stop all or any part of the Work called for by this Agreement. This order shall be for a specified period not exceeding ninety (90) days after the order is delivered to SUBRECIPIENT, unless the Parties agree to any further period. Any such order shall be identified specifically as a stop

² <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-01-27/pdf/2022-00292.pdf>

³ <https://mswaterinfrastructure.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Mississippi-Senate-Bill-2822.pdf>

⁴ <https://mswaterinfrastructure.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/MCWI-Regulations-Final.pdf>

work order issued pursuant to this clause. Upon receipt of such an order, SUBRECIPIENT shall forthwith comply with its terms and take all reasonable steps to minimize the occurrence of costs allocable to the Work covered by the order during the period of work stoppage. Before the stop work order expires, or within any further period to which the Parties shall have agreed, MDEQ shall either:

- i. cancel the stop work order; or
- ii. terminate the Work covered by such order as provided in the Termination for Default clause or the Termination for Convenience clause of this Agreement.

B. *Cancellation or Expiration of the Order:* If a stop work order issued under this clause is canceled at any time during the period specified in the order or if the period of the order or any extension thereof expires, SUBRECIPIENT shall have the right to resume Work. An appropriate adjustment may be made in the Period of Performance or Maximum Amount, or both, and the Agreement shall be modified in writing accordingly if:

- i. The stop work order results in an increase in the time required for, or in SUBRECIPIENT's cost properly allocable to, the performance of any part of this Agreement; and
- ii. SUBRECIPIENT provides a written claim for such an adjustment within thirty (30) days after the end of the period of work stoppage; provided that MDEQ decides that the facts justify such action and any such claim asserted may be received and acted upon at any time prior to final payment under this Agreement.

C. *Termination of Stopped Work:* If a stop work order is not canceled and the Work covered by such order is terminated for default or convenience, the reasonable costs resulting from the stop work order may be allowed by adjustment or otherwise.

22. E-PAYMENT

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to accept all payments in United States currency via the State of Mississippi's electronic payment and remittance vehicle. MDEQ agrees to make payment in accordance with Mississippi law on "Timely Payments for Purchases by Public Bodies," which generally provides for payment of undisputed amounts by the agency within forty-five (45) days of receipt of invoice. Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-305.

23. INTERVENTIONS

If MDEQ determines that SUBRECIPIENT is not in compliance with this Agreement, MDEQ may initiate an intervention, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.208 and 2 C.F.R. § 200.339. The degree of SUBRECIPIENT's performance or compliance deficiency will determine the degree of intervention. All possible interventions are listed below and will depend on the degree of deficiency in SUBRECIPIENT's performance or compliance deficiency.

If MDEQ determines that an intervention is warranted, it shall provide written notice to SUBRECIPIENT of the intervention within thirty (30) days of the completion of a report review, desk review, onsite review, audit review, or procedures engagement review, or as soon as possible after MDEQ otherwise learns of a compliance or performance deficiency related to the execution of this Agreement. The written notice shall notify SUBRECIPIENT of the following related to the intervention:

- (1) The nature of the additional requirements;
- (2) The reason why the additional requirements are being imposed;
- (3) The nature of the action needed to remove the additional requirement, if applicable;
- (4) The time allowed for completing the actions if applicable; and
- (5) The method for requesting reconsideration of the additional requirements imposed.

MDEQ may impose, but is not limited to, the following interventions on SUBRECIPIENT, based on the level of the compliance or performance deficiency that MDEQ determines:

Level 1 Interventions. These interventions may be required for minor compliance or performance issues:

- (1) SUBRECIPIENT addresses specific internal control, documentation, financial management, compliance, or performance issues within a specified time period; and/or
- (2) More frequent or more thorough reporting by the SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (3) More frequent monitoring by MDEQ; and/or
- (4) Required SUBRECIPIENT technical assistance or training.

Level 2 Interventions. These interventions may be required for more serious compliance or performance issues:

- (1) Restrictions on funding payment requests by SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (2) Disallowing payments to SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (3) Requiring repayment for disallowed cost items; and/or
- (4) Imposing probationary status on SUBRECIPIENT.

Level 3 Interventions. These interventions may be required for significant and/or persistent compliance or performance issues:

- (1) Temporary or indefinite funding suspension to SUBRECIPIENT; and/or
- (2) Nonrenewal of funding to SUBRECIPIENT in subsequent year; and/or
- (3) Terminate funding to SUBRECIPIENT in the current year; and/or
- (4) Initiate legal action against SUBRECIPIENT.

Interventions will remain in place until the underlying performance or compliance deficiency is addressed to the sole satisfaction of MDEQ.

24. **E-VERIFICATION**

If applicable, SUBRECIPIENT represents and certifies that it will ensure its compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act of 2008 and will register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 71-11-1, *et seq.* The term "employee" as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work within the State. As used herein, "status verification system" means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain records of such compliance. Upon request of the State of Mississippi and after approval of the Social Security Administration or Department of Homeland Security, when required, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide a copy of each such verification. SUBRECIPIENT further represents and certifies that any person assigned to perform services hereafter meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws.

25. **TRANSPARENCY**

This Agreement, including any accompanying exhibits, attachments, and appendices, is subject to the "Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983" and its exceptions. See Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-61-1 *et seq.* and Miss. Code Ann. § 79-23-1. In addition, this Agreement is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Accountability and Transparency Act of 2008. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 27-104-151, *et seq.* Unless exempted from disclosure due to a court-issued protective order, a copy of this executed Agreement may be posted to the Department of Finance and Administration's independent agency Agreement website for public access at <https://www.transparency.mississippi.gov>. Information identified by SUBRECIPIENT as trade secrets or other proprietary information, including confidential vendor information, or any other information which is required to be confidential by state or federal law or outside the applicable freedom of information statutes will be redacted.

26. **PAYMODE**

Payments by state agencies using the statewide accounting system shall be made and remittance information provided electronically as directed by MDEQ. These payments shall be deposited into the bank account of SUBRECIPIENT's choice. MDEQ may, at its sole discretion, require SUBRECIPIENT to submit invoices and supporting documentation electronically at any time during the Period of Performance of this Agreement. SUBRECIPIENT understands and agrees that MDEQ is exempt from the payment of taxes. All payments shall be in United States currency.

27. **TERMINATION**

The Agreement may be terminated as follows:

A. *Termination For Convenience.*

The MDEQ may, when the interests of the State so require, terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. MDEQ shall give

written notice of the termination to SUBRECIPIENT specifying the part of the Agreement terminated and when termination becomes effective.

B. Termination For Default.

If SUBRECIPIENT refuses or fails to perform any of the provisions of this Agreement with such diligence as will ensure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extension thereof or otherwise fails to satisfy the Agreement provisions or commits any other substantial breach of this Agreement, MDEQ may notify SUBRECIPIENT in writing of the delay or nonperformance, and if not cured in ten (10) days or any longer time specified in writing by MDEQ, MDEQ may terminate SUBRECIPIENT's right to proceed with the Agreement or such part of the Agreement as to which there has been delay or a failure to properly perform.

Notwithstanding termination of the Agreement and subject to any directions by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT shall take timely, reasonable, and necessary action to protect and preserve property in the possession of SUBRECIPIENT in which the State has an interest.

C. Termination Upon Bankruptcy.

This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by MDEQ upon written notice to SUBRECIPIENT, if SUBRECIPIENT should become the subject of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the execution by SUBRECIPIENT of an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. In the event of such termination, SUBRECIPIENT shall be entitled to recover just and equitable compensation for satisfactory Work performed under this Agreement, but in no case shall said compensation exceed the total Maximum Amount.

28. DISPUTES

Before pleading to any judicial system at any level, SUBRECIPIENT must exhaust all administrative remedies. A written complaint must first be sent to the Executive Director of MDEQ. The decision of the Executive Director shall be reduced to writing and a copy thereof mailed or furnished to SUBRECIPIENT within fourteen (14) days after receipt of information requested by MDEQ or the Executive Director. If the decision of the Executive Director does not resolve the matter, successive administrative remedies may, at SUBRECIPIENT's option, include bringing the complaint before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §§ 49-17-35 and -41. In the alternative, at SUBRECIPIENT's option, the decision of the Executive Director may be deemed the final agency action on the complaint. Appeals from the decision of the Executive Director or the Commission shall follow procedures outlined in Miss. Code Ann. § 49-17-41.

29. **ANTI-ASSIGNMENT/CONTRACTING**

SUBRECIPIENT shall not assign, contract, or otherwise transfer this Agreement, in whole or in part without the prior written consent of MDEQ, which MDEQ may, in its sole discretion, approve or deny without reason. Any attempted assignment or transfer of its obligations without such consent shall be null and void. No such approval by MDEQ of any contract shall be deemed in any way to provide for the incurrence of any obligation of MDEQ in excess of the Maximum MCWI Grant Fund amount set forth in this Agreement, nor create any contractual relationship between MDEQ and any Contracted Parties. Contracts shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to any conditions of approval that MDEQ may deem necessary. Subject to the foregoing, this Agreement shall be binding upon the respective successors and assigns of the Parties.

30. **AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AGREEMENT**

SUBRECIPIENT certifies and acknowledges it is a Mississippi county, municipality or public utility, as defined in MCWI regulation, Rule 1.1. E. (17), and that it has LFRF to use as match funding for this grant. SUBRECIPIENT further certifies and acknowledges that its entry into and performance under this Agreement is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

31. **DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION**

SUBRECIPIENT certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it, and its Contracted Parties:

A. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;

B. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or Agreement or Contract under a public transaction;

C. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

D. are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in Article 31. B. and Article 31. C., above; and

E. have not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

32. **FAILURE TO ENFORCE**

Failure by MDEQ, at any time, to enforce the provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver of any such provisions. Such failure to enforce shall not affect the validity of this Agreement or any part thereof or the right of MDEQ to enforce any provision at any time in accordance with its terms.

33. **INDEMNIFICATION**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to maintain responsibility for the Project and agrees to provide proper operation and maintenance of all facilities for the life of the Project. SUBRECIPIENT's tort liability, if it is an entity of the State of Mississippi, is determined and controlled in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 11-46-1 *et seq.*, including all defenses and exceptions contained therein. Nothing in this Agreement shall have the effect of changing or altering this liability or of eliminating any defense available to the State under statute.

To the extent allowed by state law, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to indemnify and save, release and hold harmless the State of Mississippi, the Commission on Environmental Quality, MDEQ, all of their employees and officers, and MDEQ's contractors from and against any and all claim, demand, cause of action, liability, loss, damage, injury, suit, judgment, debt and cost, including attorney's fees or expenses on the part of SUBRECIPIENT, their agents or employees or any other parties arising out of or incident to, any and all Work under the terms of this Agreement.

34. **SUBRECIPIENT STATUS**

SUBRECIPIENT shall, during the entire Period of Performance of this Agreement, be construed to be an independent SUBRECIPIENT. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to nor shall be construed to create an employer-employee relationship or a joint venture relationship.

SUBRECIPIENT represents that it is qualified to perform the duties to be performed under this Agreement and that it has, or will secure, if needed, at its own expense, applicable personnel who are qualified to perform the duties required under this Agreement. Such personnel shall not be deemed in any way, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, to be employees of MDEQ.

Any person assigned by SUBRECIPIENT to perform the services hereunder shall be an employee or independent contractor of SUBRECIPIENT, who shall have the sole right to hire and discharge its employees and/or independent contractors under this Agreement.

SUBRECIPIENT shall pay, when due, all salaries and wages of its employees and accepts exclusive responsibility for the payment of federal income tax, state income tax, social security, unemployment compensation and any other withholdings that may be required. This provision is solely for the benefit of MDEQ, and nothing herein shall be construed to create or impose any contractual or agency relationship between MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT'S contractors, subcontractors, employees or agents.

35. **INSURANCE**

SUBRECIPIENT and its Contracted Parties agree to and shall maintain insurance that is required by applicable state, federal, and local laws and regulations.

36. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement, including all attachments, represents the entire and integrated agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or agreements, irrespective of whether written or oral. This Agreement may be altered, amended, or modified only by a written document executed by MDEQ and SUBRECIPIENT. SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges that it has thoroughly read this Agreement and all its attachments and has had the opportunity to receive competent advice and counsel necessary for it to form a full and complete understanding of all rights and obligations herein.

37. **ORAL STATEMENTS**

No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise affect the terms, conditions, or specifications stated in this Agreement. All modifications to the Agreement must be made in writing by the MDEQ and agreed to by SUBRECIPIENT.

38. **RECORD RETENTION AND ACCESS TO RECORDS**

Provided SUBRECIPIENT is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of SUBRECIPIENT, the Government Accountability Office, MDEQ, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of SUBRECIPIENT's books, documents, papers, and other records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcriptions, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the SUBRECIPIENT's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. All records related to this Agreement shall be retained by SUBRECIPIENT for a minimum of ten (10) years after final payment is made under this Agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the ten (10) year period, the records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the ten (10) year period, whichever is later.

SUBRECIPIENT is not required to retain the above-mentioned records for the ten-year period prescribed in this Article and Article 39 only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

A. SUBRECIPIENT has provided all of the documents described above and in the "Right to Audit" provision to MDEQ prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year retention period and a certification stating the same is simultaneously provided in writing to MDEQ;

B. No audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before SUBRECIPIENT provides the records and

corresponding certification to MDEQ, in which case, SUBRECIPIENT shall retain the records until all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved; and

C. SUBRECIPIENT provides MDEQ a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice before providing the above-mentioned records and corresponding certification.

39. **RIGHT TO AUDIT**

SUBRECIPIENT shall maintain all financial records, including electronic financial records, as may be prescribed by the MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. SUBRECIPIENT shall retain these records for a period of ten (10) years after final payment. These records shall be made available during the term of the Agreement and the subsequent ten (10) year period for examination, transcription, and audit by MDEQ, the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies, including the Office of Inspector General. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Agreement or an activity funded under the Agreement is started before the expiration of the ten (10) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

40. **RIGHT TO INSPECT WORK; ACCESS**

MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants shall have access and the right to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits to inspect all Work hereunder. Notwithstanding any review or inspection by MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants, SUBRECIPIENT shall not be relieved of its responsibility for performance of the Work or the submission of reports as expressly set forth in this Agreement solely by virtue of such inspection or review of the Work. SUBRECIPIENT shall provide MDEQ and its representatives, invitees, and consultants with the opportunity to participate in site inspections, meetings, and/or teleconferences, as appropriate, related to SUBRECIPIENT's performance of the Work.

41. **SEVERABILITY**

If any part of this Agreement is declared to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement that can be given effect without the invalid or unenforceable provision, and to this end the provisions hereof are severable. In such event, the Parties shall amend the Agreement as necessary to reflect the original intent of the Parties and to bring any invalid or unenforceable provisions in compliance with applicable law.

42. **THIRD PARTY ACTION NOTIFICATION**

SUBRECIPIENT shall give the MDEQ prompt notice in writing of any action or suit filed, and prompt notice of any claim made against SUBRECIPIENT by any entity that may result in litigation related in any way to this Agreement.

43. **CERTIFICATIONS**

SUBRECIPIENT's execution of this Agreement shall be deemed as acknowledgement, guarantee and certification by SUBRECIPIENT of the following:

A. SUBRECIPIENT has sufficient LFRF in its possession that it will use to match MCWI Grant Funds.

B. SUBRECIPIENT will follow and abide by all ARPA guidelines, guidance, rules, regulations, and other criteria, as may be amended from time to time, by the U.S. Treasury regarding the use of monies under this Agreement.

C. As required in Attachment A, Article (1) a., SUBRECIPIENT's Authorized Representative, or his/her designee has watched the video on the MDEQ <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com> web-page entitled "American Rescue Plan Act State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Procurement Overview."

D. All of SUBRECIPIENT's LFRF used as MCWI matching funds, as well as MCWI Grant Funds received by SUBRECIPIENT, have been or will be used for the Project detailed in this Agreement.

E. Upon request by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT will provide an Intergovernmental Review Certification as detailed in the MCWI Regulations.

F. SUBRECIPIENT will obligate all MCWI Grant Funds and LFRF funds used for MCWI matching funds by 11:59 p.m. on August 30, 2024.

G. If SUBRECIPIENT does not complete the Project by December 31, 2026, SUBRECIPIENT acknowledges and agrees to complete the Project with other funds.

44. **WAIVER**

No delay or omission by either Party to this Agreement in exercising any right, power, or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by Agreement, at law, or in equity shall constitute an acquiescence therein, impair any other right, power or remedy hereunder or otherwise afforded by any means, or operate as a waiver of such right, power, or remedy. No waiver by either Party to this Agreement shall be valid unless set forth in writing by the Party making said waiver. No waiver of or modification to any term or condition of this Agreement will void, waive, or change any other term or condition. No waiver by one Party to this Agreement of a default by the other Party will imply, be construed as or require waiver of future or other defaults.

45. **COMPLIANCE WITH MISS. CODE ANN. § 31-5-37**

If applicable, SUBRECIPIENT shall ensure that Contracted Parties and bidders solicited for contract awards pursuant to this Agreement comply with the requirements of Miss. Code Ann. § 31-5-37. SUBRECIPIENT shall require all bidders for any contract of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or more procured or to be procured with funds received pursuant to this Agreement to

submit a certification with their bid that said bidder will comply with the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 31-5-37. In addition, within seven (7) days of any such contract award procured or to be procured with funds received pursuant to this Agreement, SUBRECIPIENT shall require the Contracted Party to submit to both SUBRECIPIENT and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security ("MDES") an employment plan which conforms to the requirements contained in Miss. Code Ann. § 31-5-37(2).

From the date written notice of any such contract award is received and until ten (10) business days after the receipt of the employment plan by MDES, the Contracted Party and any subcontractors shall not hire any personnel to fill vacant positions for the project except residents of the State of Mississippi who are to be verified by MDES and/or those qualified individuals who are submitted by MDES. However, the Contracting Party or contractor is authorized to employ Mississippi residents to begin work immediately if such persons are verified by MDES after employment by the Contracting Party or contractor. SUBRECIPIENT shall vacate the contract award in the event the Contracting Party fails to comply with the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 31-5-37.

46. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

SUBRECIPIENT shall immediately notify MDEQ in writing of any potential conflict of interest resulting from the representation of or service to other clients or otherwise affecting this Agreement in any way. If any such conflict occurs before it is discovered, SUBRECIPIENT shall notify MDEQ of such conflict within five (5) working days of such discovery. If such conflict cannot be resolved to MDEQ's satisfaction, MDEQ reserves the right to terminate this Agreement per the "Termination for Convenience" clause.

47. **SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective permitted successors and permitted assigns.

48. **NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns, and nothing herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any other person or entity any legal or equitable right, benefit or remedy of any nature whatsoever under or by reason of this Agreement.

49. **EVALUATION**

SUBRECIPIENT agrees to assist and cooperate with the MDEQ or its duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the Project(s) to which the Agreement relates, and to provide in form and manner approved by MDEQ such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

Further, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to cooperate with MDEQ or its duly designated representatives by providing timely responses to all reasonable requests for information to assist

in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

50. **VENUE**

Venue for the resolution of any dispute, according to Article 28 of this Agreement, shall be before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality if pursuing an administrative appeal, and venue for any subsequent litigation shall be in the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi.

51. **HEADINGS**

The headings in this Agreement are for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Agreement.

52. **NOTICES**

Unless otherwise specified in the Agreement, all notices, requests, consents, claims, demands, waivers and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given (a) when delivered by hand (with written confirmation of receipt); (b) when received by the addressee if sent by a nationally recognized overnight courier (receipt requested); (c) on the date sent by facsimile or e-mail of document(s) (with confirmation of transmission) if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, and on the next business day if sent after normal business hours of the recipient; or (d) on the third day after the date mailed, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. Such communications must be sent to the respective Parties at the following addresses (or at such other address for a Party as shall be specified in a notice given in accordance with this subsection):

If to MDEQ:	Attention: MCWI Contract Administration 515 East Amite Street P.O. Box 2249 Jackson, MS 39201 E-mail: MCWIdocuments@mdeq.ms.gov
-------------	---

If to SUBRECIPIENT:	Attention: Angela C. Verdell, PhD 420 4 th Avenue South Columbus, MS 39703 Phone: (662) 328-7192 E-mail: averdell@columbus-lw.com
---------------------	---

53. **COUNTERPARTS**

Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same Agreement. A signed copy of this Agreement delivered by facsimile, e-mail or other means of electronic transmission shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this Agreement.

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

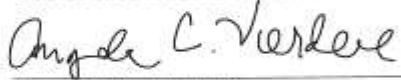
For the faithful performance and consideration provided under the terms of this Agreement, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their undersigned authorized representatives.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Chris Wells
Executive Director

Date

COLUMBUS LIGHT & WATER DEPARTMENT



Angela C. Verdell, PhD
Signature of Authorized Representative

Angela C. Verdell

Angela C. Verdell, PhD
Printed Name

General Manager

Title

1/31/2023

Date

in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

50. **VENUE**

Venue for the resolution of any dispute, according to Article 28 of this Agreement, shall be before the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality if pursuing an administrative appeal, and venue for any subsequent litigation shall be in the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi.

51. **HEADINGS**

The headings in this Agreement are for reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Agreement.

52. **NOTICES**

Unless otherwise specified in the Agreement, all notices, requests, consents, claims, demands, waivers and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given (a) when delivered by hand (with written confirmation of receipt); (b) when received by the addressee if sent by a nationally recognized overnight courier (receipt requested); (c) on the date sent by facsimile or e-mail of document(s) (with confirmation of transmission) if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, and on the next business day if sent after normal business hours of the recipient; or (d) on the third day after the date mailed, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. Such communications must be sent to the respective Parties at the following addresses (or at such other address for a Party as shall be specified in a notice given in accordance with this subsection):

If to MDEQ:	Attention: MCWI Contract Administration 515 East Amite Street P.O. Box 2249 Jackson, MS 39201 E-mail: MCWIdocuments@mdeq.ms.gov
-------------	---

If to SUBRECIPIENT:	Attention: Angela C. Verdell, PhD 420 4 th Avenue South Columbus, MS 39703 Phone: (662) 328-7192 E-mail: averdell@columbus-lw.com
---------------------	---

53. **COUNTERPARTS**

Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall be deemed to be one and the same Agreement. A signed copy of this Agreement delivered by facsimile, e-mail or other means of electronic transmission shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this Agreement.

MEETING OF THE
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
JULY 2, 2024

- d. On or about October 18, 2023, but no later than 45 days after advertisement for construction bids on each construction contract, receive bids;
- e. No later than 60 days after receipt of bids on each construction contract, execute construction contract;
- f. No later than 15 days after execution of construction contract, submit the entire procurement file (including but not limited to the request for proposals, evidence of publication, MBE/WBE documentation, all received bids, evaluation and selection documentation, executed construction contracts, and professional services contracts);
- g. No later than 60 days after execution of each construction contract, execute and submit a copy of the notice to proceed;
- h. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 25% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- i. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 50% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- j. No later than 5 business days after the estimated completion of 75% of construction, submit a notice to MDEQ of such milestone;
- k. No later than 5 business days after completion of each construction contract, notify MDEQ of construction completion;
- l. No later than 30 days after the contract completion date on each construction contract, submit all change orders which include time extensions, or a request and justification for delaying MDEQ's final construction observation;
- m. Within 45 days of Project completion, but no later than September 30, 2026, whichever is earlier, unless an extension of this date is specifically authorized by MDEQ, SUBRECIPIENT must submit the following: Final Report, as listed in Article 11, the engineer's certification of compliance with plans, specifications, and contract documents; final professional services contract amendments, if any; and all other administrative forms and documents required by the Agreement.

(2) To the extent any documents required to be submitted in Attachment A, Article (1) above were submitted with the MCWI Grant Application through the Application Portal, the documents do not need to be resubmitted.

(3) All documents required to be submitted in Attachment A, Article (1) above, shall be uploaded to the Documents Portal at <https://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com>.

ATTACHMENT B

**SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

An evaluation for the assessment of uncontrolled risks of the SUBRECIPIENT's systems and processes for financial management was performed as of part of the initial subaward process by MDEQ, acting on behalf of the State of Mississippi, as administrator of this Subaward Agreement. MDEQ requests the SUBRECIPIENT provide the following information to MDEQ as part of observations made during the evaluation. MDEQ reserves the right to re-evaluate the assessment of uncontrolled risks upon subsequently identified facts:

1. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide MDEQ with a copy of their annual audited financial statements within 60 days of the report release date throughout the Period of Performance.
2. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to promptly notify MDEQ of any significant changes made to the SUBRECIPIENT's current policies and procedures that would impact financial management systems and processes, specifically those communicated as part of the evaluation, from which the current residual risk levels were derived.
3. SUBRECIPIENT agrees to promptly notify MDEQ of any level of fraud or abuse discovered within the organization without regard to materiality that is related to the operation of the Project, as well as other pervasive deficiencies identified for grant management practices from any source, both external and internal, throughout the program performance period.
4. If deficiencies, significant deficiencies and/or material weaknesses are reported to the SUBRECIPIENT, as part of any assurance, attestation, or monitoring engagement during the program performance period, SUBRECIPIENT agrees to provide its response(s) and/or corrective action plan(s) to MDEQ so that prompt action can be taken by MDEQ to mitigate any elevated level of uncontrolled risk that could potentially impact MDEQ's or the SUBRECIPIENT's ability to comply with Federal Award and/or subaward requirements.
5. SUBRECIPIENT agrees that MDEQ has the right to perform monitoring procedures as deemed appropriate by MDEQ based on the assessed risk of noncompliance.

**ATTACHMENT C
SUBAWARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FOR CONTRACTED PARTIES**

1. AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AGREEMENT

The Contracted Party certifies that (a) it is either a 1) state agency, 2) a validly organized business that is authorized to do business in the state of Mississippi, 3) a nongovernmental organization, or 4) a political subdivision of the state of Mississippi with valid authority to enter into this agreement and; (b) entry into and performance under this agreement is not restricted or prohibited by any loan, security, financing, contractual, or other agreement of any kind; and (c) notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, that there are no existing legal proceedings, either voluntary or otherwise, which may adversely affect its ability to perform its obligations under this agreement.

2. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

Contractor/Contracted Parties certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it:

A. is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transaction by any federal department or agency or any political subdivision or agency of the State of Mississippi;

B. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction;

C. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for a violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

D. is not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of these offenses enumerated in Article 2.B. and Article 2.C., above; and,

E. has not, within a three (3) year period preceding this Agreement, had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

This agreement is subject to 31 C.F.R. Part 19.

3. INDEMNIFICATION

To the extent allowed by state law, Contracted Party agrees to indemnify and save, release and hold harmless the State of Mississippi, the Commission on Environmental Quality, MDEQ, all of their employees and officers, and the Department's contractors from and against any and all

claim, demand, cause of action, liability, loss, damage, injury, suit, judgment, debt and cost, including attorney's fees or expenses on the part of any Contracted Party, their agents or employees or any other parties arising out of or incident to, any and all Work under the terms of this Agreement.

4. RELATIONSHIP STATUS

The Contracted Party acknowledges and agrees that MDEQ is not a party, in any manner whatsoever, to any contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and the construction contractor(s), engineer(s), attorney(s), equipment supplier(s), contractor(s), or between any other parties of any kind whatsoever (hereinafter collectively referred to as "vendor"). The SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Party also acknowledge and agree that any benefit to vendors contracting with the SUBRECIPIENT or Contracted Parties arising from or associated with this Agreement is strictly incidental and all such vendors are not and are not intended to be considered as third party beneficiaries under any agreement between MDEQ and the SUBRECIPIENT.

Upon execution of any contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party in regard to the project, MDEQ does not assume any authorities, duties, responsibilities, or liabilities under such contract. The SUBRECIPIENT and Contracted Party shall not have any authority to bind or otherwise obligate MDEQ, directly or indirectly, under any contract or agreement between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party. The SUBRECIPIENT, Contracted Party and its vendors acknowledge and agree that any action taken by MDEQ in its role of grantor, or in its separate and distinct role as regulator shall not in any way change or alter its position as that of grantor.

MDEQ does not have any authority, duty, responsibility, or liability in contract claims or dispute identification, negotiation, resolution, or any other actions regarding contract claims under the contract(s) between the SUBRECIPIENT and any other party. The SUBRECIPIENT and the Contracted Party acknowledge and agree that MDEQ is not obligated to review, comment on, approve, or discuss the merits of any contract claims presented by or to any party. Any MDEQ reviews, approvals, observations, presence at meetings, written communications, verbal communications or other actions are not to be interpreted as addressing the merits of any claims, nor are they to be construed as interpreting the contract between the SUBRECIPIENT and the Contracted Party or any other parties.

5. ACCESS TO RECORDS

Provided Contracted Party is given reasonable advance written notice and such inspection is made during normal business hours of Contracted Party, then the Government Accountability Office, MDEQ, the State or any duly authorized representatives shall have unimpeded, prompt access to any of Contracted Party's books, documents, papers, and other records which are maintained or produced as a result of the Project for the purpose of making audits, investigations, examinations, excerpts, transcriptions, and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the Contracted Party's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. All records related to this Agreement shall be retained by Contracted Party for a minimum of ten (10) years after final payment is made under this Agreement and all pending matters are closed; however, if any audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before the end of the ten (10) year period, the

records shall be retained for one (1) year after all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved or until the end of the ten (10) year period, whichever is later.

Contracted Party is not required to retain the above-mentioned records for the ten (10) year period prescribed in this Section and the "Right to Audit" provision only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

A. Contracted Party has provided all of the documents described above and in the "Right to Audit" provision to MDEQ prior to the expiration of the ten (10) year retention period and a certification stating the same is simultaneously provided in writing to MDEQ;

B. No audit, litigation or other action arising out of or related in any way to this Project is commenced before Contracted Party provides the records and corresponding certification to MDEQ, in which case, Contracted Party shall retain the records until all issues arising out of the action are finally resolved; and

C. Contracted Party provides MDEQ a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice before providing the above-mentioned records and corresponding certification.

6. RECORD RETENTION AND RIGHT TO AUDIT

The Contracted Party shall maintain and retain books, documents, papers, financial records and other records, including electronic records, as may be prescribed by the MDEQ or by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. Contracted Party shall retain these records for a period of ten (10) years after final payment. These records shall be made available during the term of the Agreement and the subsequent ten (10) year period for examination, transcription, and audit by MDEQ, the Mississippi State Auditor's Office, its designees, or other authorized bodies, including the Office of Inspector General. If any litigation, claim, investigation, or audit relating to this Agreement or an activity funded under the Agreement is started before the expiration of the ten (10) year period, the records must be retained until all litigation, claims, investigations, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

7. RIGHT TO INSPECT WORK; SITE ACCESS

MDEQ and their representatives, invitees, and consultants shall have access and the right to conduct announced and unannounced onsite and offsite physical visits to inspect all Work hereunder. Upon request by MDEQ, Contracted Party shall provide MDEQ and its representatives, invitees, and consultants with the opportunity to participate in site inspections, meetings, and/or teleconferences, as appropriate, related to the performance of the Work.

8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Contracted Party covenants that he presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest direct or indirect in the Project that is the subject to this Agreement or any parcels therein, where applicable, or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of his services hereunder. The Contracted Party further covenants that, in the performance of this agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

The Contracted Party agrees to establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using positions for a purpose that is or gives the appearance of being motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have a family, business, or other tie.

9. COOPERATION AND EVALUATION

The Contracted Party agrees to assist and cooperate with the MDEQ or its duly designated representatives in the monitoring of the Project(s) to which the Agreement relates, and to provide in form and manner approved by MDEQ such monitoring reports, progress reports, and the like as may be required and to provide such reports at the times specified.

Further, the Contracted Party agrees to cooperate with MDEQ or its duly designated representatives by providing timely responses to all reasonable requests for information to assist in evaluation of the accomplishments of the Project and the agreement for a period of ten (10) years after the date on which the Final Reports are provided.

N. Discuss/Approve the 2021 Audit

Council Member Jones made a motion to approve the 2021 Audit. Council Member Beard seconded the motion.

All Council Members voted in favor of the motion.

The motion carried 5/0.

IX. CLOSED DETERMINATION:

ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor then asked if there was any other business to come before the Mayor and City Council. There being none, the Mayor announced that the meeting was ADJOURNED.

Approved by: _____
Keith Gaskin, Mayor

James "Jim" Brigham
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer/Clerk