

**CONTRACT FOR
Landscape Maintenance for Streetscapes and Stormwater Bioretention Facilities**

**WETLAND STUDIES AND SOLUTIONS, INC.
CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

THIS AGREEMENT, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement," is made this 14 day of July 2022, by and between the **CITY OF TAKOMA PARK**, a municipal corporation of the State of Maryland, located at , 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, hereinafter referred to as "the City," and **WETLAND STUDIES AND SOLUTIONS, INC.**, a landscape maintenance company located at 1131 Benfield Boulevard Suite L, Millersville MD 21108, hereinafter referred to as "Contractor," and both collectively referred to hereinafter as "the Parties."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the City desires to retain Contractor to assist it in the maintenance of landscaped streetscapes and bioretention facilities herein after referred to as the "Project;" and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council, by enacting Ordinance No. 2022-23, have authorized the City Manager to enter into this Agreement in pursuit of the Project.

TERMS

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises of the Parties, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt, adequacy, and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

SECTION 1. SCOPE OF SERVICES

1.1. During the term of this Agreement, Contractor agrees that it will have the following responsibilities with respect to the Project, as described in the Request for Proposal (RFP) issued on May 19, 2022 including:

1.1.1. Maintenance

Maintenance shall consist of regularly scheduled visits to each site between the months of March and January. Maintenance activities include weed control, plant grooming, litter removal, and rock grooming. The Contractor must use mechanical methods to remove weeds, including 2/3rds of the root (hand pull, hand tools), chemical control is not permitted. Herbaceous material shall be groomed/pruned to not extent into the sidewalk or driving lane of the road. To the extent possible, herbaceous plants should be left intact from November-March (cut back in spring), otherwise cut down to 8" in height. Plant debris from maintenance activities must be removed from the site. Mulch layer should be left smooth at the conclusion of weeding/debris removal.

1.1.2. Shrub care

Shrubs should not be pruned except to remove broken branches or if conflicting with safe clearance for pedestrians or vehicles.

1.1.3. Leaf Removal

Leaves and fallen tree debris shall be removed from sites, including planted area and curb line 20' in either direction.

1.1.4. Debris disposal

All debris resulting from the maintenance must be removed from the public right of way, and disposed of by the contractor.

1.1.5. Silt

Removal of silt, sediment, and debris from the inlet and sediment box of BMPs. Confirm the inlet is unobstructed. Sediment must also be removed from curb line adjacent to facilities, 20' in either direction.

1.1.6. Trash

Pick up trash from the sites, including 20 feet in either direction.

1.2. Maintenance Reports

Contractor shall complete inspection reports for sites designated as TYPE 1 upon completion of maintenance. Reports shall be returned with the invoice.

1.3. Frequency of Service

The City has elected to procure maintenance services on a six (6) times a year basis for sites listed in Appendix A of the RFP. The service visits should occur in March, May, July, September, November and January. The contractor shall notify the City a minimum of 3 days prior to the visit to confirm date.

1.4. The Project shall also include all other work as reasonably and additionally required by the City and agreed to by Contractor. Any such work shall be reduced to written form and will require the Parties to execute a modification to this Agreement as set forth in Section 5 of this Agreement.

SECTION 2. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

2.1. The effective term for this Agreement is for 2 years, commencing upon the execution of this Agreement.

2.2 By agreement of the Parties, this Agreement may be renewed or extended for up to two (2) additional one-year terms following the expiration of the initial term of this Agreement. Continuation of Contractor's performance under this Agreement beyond the initial term is contingent upon, and subject to, the appropriation of funds and encumbrance of those appropriated funds for payments under this Agreement. If funds are not appropriated and encumbered to support continued Contractor's performance in a subsequent fiscal period, Contractor's performance must end, without further cost to the City, upon the receipt of notice from the City. Contractor acknowledges that the City Manager has no obligation to recommend, and the City Council has no obligation to appropriate, funds for this Agreement in subsequent fiscal years. Furthermore, the City has no obligation to encumber funds to this Agreement in subsequent fiscal years, even if appropriated funds may be available. Accordingly, for each subsequent contract term, Contractor must not undertake any performance under this Agreement until Contractor receives a purchase order or contract amendment from the City that authorizes Contractor to perform work for any subsequent term of this Agreement.

2.3 Contractor agrees to perform all services required by this Agreement, including any modifications agreed to by the Parties, as expeditiously as is consistent with good professional skill and best industry practice.

2.4 Time is of the essence and a critical factor in the successful execution of the terms of this Agreement.

2.5 Contractor must not commence work under this Agreement until all conditions for commencement are met, including execution of this Agreement by the Parties, compliance with insurance requirements, and the issuance of any required notice to proceed.

SECTION 3. FEE FOR SERVICES

3.1. In exchange for these good and valuable services, Contractor will receive a total annual fee in the amount of twenty-four thousand eight hundred and ninety-three dollars (\$24,893) for TYPE 1 facilities and thirteen thousand six hundred forty-one dollars (\$13,641) for TYPE 2 facilities. Payment will be provided in six installments, after the completion of each service visit as set forth in Subsection 3.2. Additional services on an hourly call in basis, when and if requested by the City, will be performed by the Contractor at a rate of \$65.00/hour per crew member per hour. Additional mulching services, when and if requested by the City, will be provided by the Contractor at a rate of \$8,230 for TYPE 1 facilities (materials included) and \$5,052 for TYPE 2 facilities (materials supplied by the City). The Parties may agree to an equitable adjustment of this fee as set forth in Section 5 of this Agreement.

3.2. The City agrees to pay the fee contemplated in Subsection 3.1 to Contractor in six (6) installments in the amount of Four Thousand One Hundred Forty Eight Dollars and Eighty Three Cents (\$4,148.83 per installment for TYPE 1 facilities and Two Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Three Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2,273.50) for TYPE 2 facilities. Each installment shall be paid within 30 days after receipt of invoice for each service visit.

3.3. Contractor shall submit invoices to the City upon completion of the service visits. Invoices shall be based on the agreed upon task rate by Contractor to complete the tasks required under this Agreement. Invoices shall include the name of the assignment (TYPE 1 and TYPE 2 Site Visits); completion of the maintenance report for TYPE 1 facilities, the date of service; and the amount of time expended in providing the services. Payment will be made to Contractor within thirty (30) calendar days after the City's receipt of an invoice in a form deemed acceptable by the City. Payment will be contingent upon the City's verification that the work has been satisfactorily performed as determined by the City in its reasonable discretion. The City reserves the right to verify and approve the work represented by the invoice prior to payment of the invoice.

3.4. No payment by the City may be made, or is due, under this Agreement, unless funds for the payment have been appropriated and encumbered by the City.

SECTION 4. PRIORITY OF DOCUMENTS

4.1. The terms and conditions of this Agreement supersede any prior proposals or agreements.

4.2. The following documents are incorporated herein by reference into and made a part of this Agreement and are enumerated herein in the order of their legal precedence in the event of a conflict in their terms: (i) RFP Public Works 051922 Landscape Maintenance for Streetscapes and Stormwater Bioretention Facilities and any addenda thereto; (ii) Proposal from Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. In the event of a conflict in language between this Agreement and any of said documents, the terms of this Agreement shall control.

SECTION 5. CHANGES

5.1. Within the general scope of services, the City may unilaterally change the work, materials and services to be performed. The change must be in writing and within the general scope of this Agreement. In such cases, this Agreement will be modified to reflect any time or money adjustment Contractor is entitled to receive. Contractor shall not proceed with these changes (either additions or deletions) without a change order or amendment being signed by both the City and Contractor and an order or amendment stating, as applicable, the change in the work and an estimate of the time and/or cost involved in the change.

5.2. Any claim of Contractor for an adjustment in time or money due to change must be made in writing within thirty (30) days from the date the City notified Contractor of the change, or the claim is waived. Any failure to agree upon a time or money adjustment must be resolved under Section 11 of this Agreement. Contractor must proceed with the prosecution of the work as changed, even if there is an unresolved claim. No charge for any extra work, time or material will be allowed, except as provided in this Section.

5.3. The amount of any adjustment to this Agreement under this Section shall be a negotiated cost and fee.

5.4. This Agreement may only be amended or modified by a writing signed by the Parties.

SECTION 6. NOTICES

6.1. Any required notices or other communications under this Agreement shall be in writing and personally delivered, mailed, delivered by a reputable overnight delivery service, or emailed. Notice via email may be considered official notice only if the receiving party acknowledges receipt via return email or email read receipt. Notices shall be addressed as follows:

If to Contractor:

Matt Elliott
5300 Wellington Branch, Suite 100
Gainesville, VA 20155
Telephone: (703) 679-5675
E-Mail: MElliott@wetlands.com

If to the City:

Anna Mische John, Vegetation Maintenance Supervisor
Public Works Department
31 Oswego Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
3901 891-7622
AnnaMJ@takomaparkmd.gov

6.2 Either party may change the person or address for notices by written notice to the other party. Notices shall be deemed given when received or three business days after the notice is deposited, properly addressed and postage prepaid, in the United States mail or one business day after the notice is sent by a reputable overnight mail delivery service (such as, but not limited to, FedEx or UPS Next Day Delivery). For notices by email, the notice shall be deemed given on the day the recipient acknowledges receipt of the notice via return email or email read receipt. Rejection or other refusal to accept or inability to deliver because of changed address, of which no Notice has been given, shall constitute receipt of the Notice.

SECTION 7. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

7.1. For Contractor, Matt Elliott is Contractor's Authorized Representative for this Agreement. Contractor's Authorized Representative shall act on behalf of Contractor on all matters pertaining to this Agreement. All matters and correspondence to Contractor pertaining to this Agreement shall be directed to the attention of Contractor's Authorized Representative. Contractor's Authorized Representative shall not be changed without prior written notice to and the agreement of the City.

7.2. For the City, Anna Mische John, is the City Manager's designee for purposes of this Agreement and shall act as the Contract Administrator in connection with this Agreement. The City's Contract Administrator may be changed at any time or from time to time by written notice to Contractor. The City's Contract Administrator is not authorized to make determinations (as opposed to recommendations) that alter, modify, terminate or cancel the contract, interpret ambiguities in the language of this Agreement, or waive any of the City's rights hereunder. The City's Contract Administrator is authorized to:

- 7.2.1.** Serve as liaison between the City and Contractor;
- 7.2.2.** Give direction to Contractor to ensure satisfactory and complete performance;
- 7.2.3.** Monitor and inspect Contractor's performance to ensure acceptable timeliness and quality;
- 7.2.4.** Serve as records custodian for this Agreement, including wage and prevailing wage requirements;
- 7.2.5.** Accept or reject Contractor's performance;
- 7.2.6.** Furnish timely written notice of Contractor's performance failures to the City Council, City Manager, and/or City Attorney, as appropriate;
- 7.2.7.** Approve or reject invoices for payment;
- 7.2.8.** Recommend modifications or terminations of this Agreement; and
- 7.2.9.** Issue notices to proceed and task and purchase orders.

SECTION 8. TERMINATION.

8.1. This Agreement may be terminated by the City, in whole or in part, upon written notice to Contractor, when the City determines that such termination is in its best interest. A termination for convenience is effective on the date specified in the City's written notice or, if the notice does not specify an effective date, then five (5) days after notice of termination is given by the City. Termination for convenience may entitle Contractor to payment for reasonable costs allocable to this Agreement for work or costs incurred by Contractor up to the date of termination. Contractor must not be paid compensation as a result of a termination for convenience that exceeds the amount encumbered to pay for work to be performed under this Agreement.

8.2. In the event of any of the circumstances set forth below, hereinafter referred to as "Default," the City may terminate the Agreement, in whole or in part, and from time to time:

8.2.1. Any fraudulent representation in an invoice or other verification required to obtain payment under this Agreement or other dishonesty on a material matter relating to the performance of services under this Agreement; and

8.2.2. Non-performance, incomplete service or performance, failure to make satisfactory progress in the prosecution of this Agreement, failure to satisfactorily perform any part of the work required under this Agreement or to comply with any provision of this Agreement, as determined by the City's Contract Administrator in his or her sole discretion, including:

8.2.2.1. Failing to commence work when notified.

8.2.2.2. Abandoning the work. Visual inspection by the City's Contract Administrator will serve as evidence of abandonment.

8.2.2.3. Subcontracting any part of work without the City's prior approval.

8.2.2.4. Receiving two written warnings of unsatisfactory or incomplete work or any other violation of the terms of this Agreement.

8.2.2.5. Failing to adhere to the required specifications for the work required under this Agreement.

8.2.3 Contractor, or any partner, member, principal or officer of Contractor, being criminally charged with an offense involving fraud, dishonesty or moral turpitude.

8.2.4 Contractor being adjudged bankrupt or making a general assignment for the benefit of creditor or if a receiver shall be appointed on account of Contractor's insolvency.

8.2.5 Failure to adhere to the terms of applicable city, county, state, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations, or stated public policy pertaining to the subject matter and performance of this Agreement, including but not limited to the following: the payment of all applicable taxes and withholding, compliance with equal opportunity employment and labor laws, and/or failure to obtain and/or comply with the terms and conditions of any required permits.

8.3. In the event of a Default, the City shall provide Contractor with a written notice to cure the Default. The termination for Default is effective on the date specified in the City's written notice. However, if the City determines that Default contributes to the curtailment of an essential service or poses an immediate threat to life, health, or property, the City may terminate this Agreement immediately upon issuing oral or written notice to Contractor without any prior notice or opportunity to cure. In addition to any other remedies provided by law or this Agreement, Contractor must compensate the City for additional costs that foreseeably would be incurred by the City, whether the costs are actually incurred or not, to obtain substitute performance.

8.4. Notice of any termination must be in writing, state the reason or reasons for the termination, and specify the effective date of the termination.

8.5. In the event of termination under Subsections 8.1 or 8.2, Contractor consents to the City's selection of another contractor of the City's choice to assist the City in any way in completing the Project. Contractor further agrees to cooperate and provide any information requested by the City in connection with the completion of the Project, including assignment of any contracting rights the City may require.

Contractor consents to and authorizes the making of any reasonable changes to the design of the Project by the City and such other contractor as the City may desire.

8.6. Any termination of this Agreement for cause that is later deemed to be unjustified shall be deemed a termination for convenience under Subsection 8.1.

SECTION 9. CERTIFICATIONS OF CONSULTANT

9.1. Contractor, and the individual executing this Agreement on Contractor's behalf, warrants it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent working for it, to solicit or secure this Agreement, and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent, any fee or other consideration contingent on making this Agreement.

9.2. Contractor and the City represent and warrant that: (a) they have the full right and authority to enter into, execute, and perform the obligations required under this Agreement and that no pending or threatened claim or litigation known by them would have a material adverse impact on their ability to perform as required under this Agreement; (b) they have accurately identified themselves and have not provided any inaccurate information about themselves or the Project; and (c) they are entities authorized under the laws of the State of Maryland to do business within the State.

9.3. Contractor certifies that it is not now, and shall not so long as this Agreement remains in effect, engage in the development, research, testing, evaluation, production, maintenance, storage, transportation, and/or disposal of nuclear weapons or their components, or the sale of merchandise produced by companies so involved. Contractor's Certification of Non-Involvement in the Nuclear Weapons Industry is attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of this Agreement.

9.4. This Agreement is subject to the living wage requirements under *The City of Takoma Park Code*, hereinafter referred to as the "Code," Sections 7.08.150–7.08.210. Contractor and any subcontractor retained or employed on Contractor's behalf agree to pay each employee assigned to perform services under this Agreement a living wage, subject to exemptions from coverage for particular contracts set forth in Code Section 7.08.160 and for particular employees as set forth in Code Section 7.08.180(F). The current living wage is Sixteen US Dollars (\$16.00) per hour through June 30, 2023. The living wage rate is adjusted on July 1st of each year to reflect the most current Montgomery County living wage rate and said adjustments shall be applicable to this Agreement unless otherwise exempt. Contractor's Living Wage Requirements Certification is attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of this Agreement.

9.5. Contractor warrants and represents: that it is the sole entity, directly or indirectly, interested in compensation for the delivery of the services and work product awarded, and to be performed under this Agreement; that any proposal upon which this Agreement was based was made without any connection with or common interest in the profits with any undisclosed persons or entity; that this Agreement is fair and made without collusion or fraud; that no employee or official of the City is directly or indirectly interested therein; that none of its officers, directors, or partners or employees directly involved in obtaining contracts or performing any part of the work required under this Agreement has been convicted of bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe under any federal, state, or local law.

9.6. Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable City, county, state, and federal laws and regulations regarding employment discrimination. Contractor assures the City that it does not, and agrees that it will not, discriminate in any manner on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

9.7. Contractor certifies that all information Contractor has provided or will provide to the City is true and correct and can be relied upon by the City in awarding, modifying, making payments, or taking any other action with respect to this Agreement including resolving claims and disputes. Any false or misleading information is a ground for the City to terminate this Agreement for cause and to pursue any other appropriate remedy. Contractor certifies that Contractor's accounting system conforms with generally accepted accounting principles, is sufficient to comply with Contractor's budgetary and financial obligations and is sufficient to produce reliable financial information.

SECTION 10. INDEMNIFICATION

10.1. Contractor is responsible for any loss, personal injury, death and any other damage (including incidental and consequential) arising out of, incident to, or caused by reason of Contractor's negligence, malfeasance or failure to perform any contractual obligations. Contractor must indemnify and hold the City harmless from any loss, cost, damage, and other expenses, including attorney's fees and litigation expenses, arising out of, incident to, or caused by Contractor's negligence, malfeasance or failure to perform any of its contractual obligations. If requested by the City, Contractor must defend the City in any action or suit brought against the City arising out of Contractor's negligence, errors, acts or omissions under this Agreement. The negligence or malfeasance of any agent, subcontractor or employee of Contractor is deemed to be the negligence or malfeasance of Contractor. For the purposes of this Subsection, City includes its commissions, departments, agencies, agents, officials, and employees.

10.2. If Contractor will be preparing, displaying, publicly performing, reproducing, or otherwise using, in any manner or form, any information, document, or material that is subject to a copyright, trademark, patent, or other property or privacy right, then Contractor must: obtain all necessary licenses, authorizations, and approvals related to its use; include the City in any approval, authorization, or license related to its use; and indemnify and hold harmless the City related to Contractor's alleged infringing or otherwise improper or unauthorized use. Accordingly, Contractor must protect, indemnify, and hold harmless the City from and against all liabilities, actions, damages, claims, demands, judgments, losses, costs, expenses, suits, or actions, and attorneys' fees and the costs of the defense of the City, in any suit, including appeals, based upon or arising out of any allegation of infringement, violation, unauthorized use, or conversion of any patent, copyright, trademark, or trade name, license, proprietary right, or other related property or privacy interest in connection with, or as a result of, this Agreement or the performance by Contractor of any of its activities or obligations under this Agreement.

10.3. Contractor further agrees to notify the City in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of any claim or notice of any claim made by third parties against Contractor or any subcontractor regarding the services and work provided to the City under this Agreement. Contractor shall provide the City copies of all claims, notices of claims, and all pleadings and motions filed therein as the matter progresses. This Section 10 shall survive termination of this Agreement for a period of three (3) years and six (6) months after the termination date.

SECTION 11. DISPUTES

11.1. Any dispute arising under this Agreement which is not resolved by an agreement between the Parties shall be decided by the City Manager, after reasonable opportunity is provided for the Parties to provide written documentation supporting their position. Pending final resolution of a dispute, except for a termination of this Agreement by the City, Contractor must proceed diligently with performance under this Agreement. A claim must be in writing, for specific relief, or for a sum certain if the claim is for money, and any requested money or other relief must be fully supported by all relevant calculations, including cost and pricing information, records, and other information.

11.2. A decision by the City Manager or his or her designee under the dispute procedure set forth in this Section shall be a condition precedent to suit being filed by any party. For purposes of any litigation involving this Agreement, exclusive venue and jurisdiction shall be in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland or in the District Court of Maryland sitting in Montgomery County.

SECTION 12. INSURANCE

12.1. Contractor shall obtain and maintain liability insurance coverage at Contractor's own expense. Contractor shall, within thirty (30) days of the execution of this Agreement, file with the City Manager, the Certificate from an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Maryland and satisfactory to the City showing issuance of liability insurance coverage as set forth more fully herein below with a deductible no greater than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$ 10,000). Contractor shall be fully and completely responsible to pay the deductible. Unless waived in writing by the City, the Certificate shall bear and endorsement in words exactly as follows:

The insurance company certifies that the insurance covered by this Certificate has been endorsed as follows: "The insurance company agrees that the coverage shall not be canceled, changed, allowed to lapse, or allowed to expire until thirty (30) days after notice to: 'City Manager, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912.'"

Contractor shall, throughout the term of this Agreement, maintain commercial general liability insurance, automobile liability insurance, professional liability insurance, and workers' compensation insurance in the following amounts and shall submit an insurance certificate, as set forth above, as proof of coverage prior to the final approval of this Agreement:

12.1.1. Commercial general liability insurance with a minimum combined single limit of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) for bodily injury and property damage per occurrence including contractual liability, premises and operations, and independent contractors and products liability.

12.1.2. Automobile liability insurance with coverage for bodily injury of at least One Hundred Dollars (\$100,000) per person, at least Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) per occurrence, and coverage for property damage of at least Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) per occurrence.

12.1.3. Workers' compensation insurance with coverage limits of at least One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) per bodily injury by accident and coverage for disease of at least One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) per employee and at least Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) in the aggregate.

12.2. All policies of insurances shall be underwritten by companies licensed to do business in the State of Maryland.

12.3. The City is not responsible for any damage or loss of property or materials stored on or within facilities owned by the City. Contractor shall provide necessary insurance coverage for such losses or shall assume full risk for replacement cost for its own property or materials and that owned by its subcontractors.

12.4. Contractor shall assure that all subcontractors carry identical coverage as required by this Section 12, either individually or as an additional insured on Contractor's policies. Exceptions may be made only with the written approval of the City.

SECTION 13. SET OFF

13.1. In the event that Contractor shall owe an obligation of any type whatsoever to the City at any time during the term of this Agreement, or after the termination of the relationship created hereunder, the City shall have the right to offset any amount so owed to Contractor against any compensation due to Contractor for the provision of goods and services covered by the terms of this Agreement.

SECTION 14. APPLICABLE LAW

14.1. The laws of the State of Maryland, excluding conflicts of law rules, shall govern this Agreement as if this Agreement were made and performed entirely within the State of Maryland. Any suit to enforce the terms hereof or for damages or other relief as a consequence of the breach or alleged breach hereof shall be brought exclusively in the courts of the State of Maryland in Montgomery County, and the Parties expressly consent to the jurisdiction thereof and waive any right that they have or may have to bring such elsewhere.

SECTION 15. RECORD AND AUDIT

15.1. Contractor shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence directly pertinent to costs, estimates and performance under this Agreement or required under any federal, state, or local rule or regulation, in accordance with accepted professional practice, appropriate accounting procedures, and practices. The City, or any of its duly authorized representatives, shall have access to such books, records, documents, and other evidence for the purpose of inspection, audit and copying. Contractor will provide proper facilities for such access and inspection.

15.2. Records referred to under Subsection 15.1 shall be maintained and made available during performance under this Agreement and until six (6) years from the date of final completion of the Project. In addition, those records that relate to any dispute or litigation, to the settlement of claims arising out of such performance, or to costs or items to which an audit exception has been taken shall be maintained and available until six (6) years after the date upon which any such dispute, litigation, claim, or exception is resolved.

15.3. Contractor shall include the provisions of this Section 15 in every subcontract Contractor enters into relating to this Project.

15.4. All proprietary information furnished by Contractor in connection with this Agreement, but not developed as a result of work under this Agreement or under prior agreements between the City and Contractor, shall be held confidential by the City, and returned to Contractor within thirty (30) days of the completion of the services or the conclusion of litigation wherein Contractor's services were provided. All inventions, techniques, and improvements held by Contractor to be proprietary or trade secrets of Contractor prior to any use on behalf of the City, as well as all inventions, techniques, and improvements developed by Contractor, independent of the services rendered to the City under this Agreement, remain the property of Contractor.

SECTION 16. MISCELLANEOUS

16.1. The recitals above are hereby incorporated into this Agreement.

16.2. If any term or provision of this Agreement or applications thereof to any person or circumstance shall, to any extent, be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining terms and provisions of this Agreement, or the application of such term or provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby, and each term and provision of this Agreement shall be valid and enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.

16.3. This Agreement and any rights or obligations under this Agreement may not be assigned or subcontracted by Contractor without the prior written consent of the City and any attempted assignment or subcontracting without such prior written consent shall be void.

16.4. All representations, warranties, covenants, conditions, and agreements contained herein which either are expressed as surviving the expiration and termination of this Agreement or, by their nature, are to be performed or observed, in whole or in part, after the termination or expiration of this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

16.5. This Agreement represents the entire and integrated Agreement between the City and Contractor and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, either written or oral. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in any contract terms or conditions unilaterally supplied by Contractor, the terms of this Agreement supersede Contractor's terms and conditions, in the event of any inconsistency.

16.6. All section and paragraph captions, marginal references, and table of contents in this Agreement are inserted only as a matter of convenience, and in no way amplify, define, limit, construe, or describe the scope or intent of this Agreement nor in any way affect this Agreement.

16.7. Neither the City nor Contractor has made any representations or promises with respect to the Project except as expressly set forth herein.

16.8. The neuter, feminine, or masculine pronoun when used herein shall each include each of the other genders and the use of the singular shall include the plural.

16.9. This Agreement shall not be construed in favor or against either party on the basis that it was drafted by the City.

16.10. The waiver of any breach of this Agreement shall not be held to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach. Any waiver by the City of a requirement of this Agreement, including without limitation, any requirement that a notice be made in writing or that a notice or submission be made within a certain time, shall not operate as a waiver of the same or any other requirement of this Agreement, in any other circumstance or at any other time.

16.11. This Agreement shall not confer any rights or remedies upon any person other than the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

16.12. Contractor agrees to perform its services under this Agreement in such manner and at such times that the City and/or any Contractor who has work to perform, or contracts to execute, can do so without unreasonable delay. Contractor further agrees to coordinate its work under this Agreement with any and all other contractors that may be deemed necessary by the City.

16.13. Contractor shall be considered, for all purposes relating to this Agreement, an independent Contractor. Contractor agrees that it is not an agent of the City and shall have no right or authority to enter into any agreements or otherwise bind the City or create any obligations on behalf of

the City with any other parties. Nothing contained in this Agreement will be construed to create the relationship of employer and employee, principal and agent, partnership or joint venture, or any other fiduciary relationship between the City and Contractor.

16.14. This Agreement may be executed electronically and in counterparts. All such counterparts will constitute the same agreement and the signature of any party to any counterpart will be deemed a signature to, and may be appended to, any other counterpart. Executed copies hereof may be delivered by email and, upon receipt, will be deemed originals and binding upon the Parties hereto, regardless of whether originals are delivered thereafter.

[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank—signature page follows.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City and Contractor have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Witness:

[Contractor]:

By: Ryan Harris

By: Matt Elliott Date 7/14/22
Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.

Witness:

City of Takoma Park:

By: Russell Gandy

By: J. P. Fox Date 7/19/22
Jamal Fox
City Manager

Approved as to form and
legal sufficiency:

19th day of July, 2022

E.I. Cornbrooks, IV
E.I. Cornbrooks, IV
City Attorney
City of Takoma Park