

**COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
CITY OF HAMMOND  
AND  
THE TANGIPAHOA VOLUNTARY COUNCIL ON AGING, INC.**

**THIS COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT** (the “Agreement”), is made and entered into this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, by and between:

**CITY OF HAMMOND** (hereinafter referred to as “City”), represented herein by its duly authorized Mayor, Pete Panepinto, and

**THE TANGIPAHOA VOLUNTARY COUNCIL ON AGING, INC.** (hereinafter referred to as “COA”), represented herein by its Executive Director, Debi Fleming,

who agree as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Article VII, Section 14(C) of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana provides that, “For a public purpose, the state and its political subdivisions...may engage in cooperative endeavors with each other, with the United States or its agencies, or with any public or private association, corporation, or individual”;

**WHEREAS**, the City has all powers not denied by any charter or general law or inconsistent with the constitution, including but not limited to the authority to exercise general police power, as well as to pass ordinances to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace, and good order of the City;

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the COA is to maintain the nutritional, physical, and emotional well-being of the residents of Tangipahoa Parish and the City of Hammond who are age sixty (60) and older by providing directly or coordinating services and resources of federal, state, and local agencies;

**WHEREAS**, the COA operates the Tangipahoa Parish Transportation as a service of the COA in order to provide safe, courteous, clean, reliable, and effective transportation service to the residents of Tangipahoa Parish and the City of Hammond and this service includes operation of the Hammond City Bus System;

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to provide safe, courteous, clean, reliable, and effective transportation service to the residents of the City; to enhance the quality of life for its residents; to offer convenience to the residents of the City for their educational, employment, medical, and personal needs; and to provide benefit to the economy and potential economic development of the City;

**WHEREAS**, the public purpose of this endeavor is to provide such transportation services and program services (the “Services”);

**WHEREAS**, the City has a reasonable expectation of receiving a benefit or value described in detail that is at least equivalent to or greater than the consideration described in this Agreement;

**WHEREAS**, the transfer or expenditure of public funds or property is not a gratuitous donation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises and the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

**I. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The COA, through the Tangipahoa Parish Transportation, agrees to operate the Hammond City Bus System in locations mutually agreeable to the parties and in a safe, courteous, clean, reliable, and effective manner; and to provide program services and to coordinate federal, state, and local resources that maintain the nutritional, physical, and emotional well-being of the citizens and residents of the City who are age sixty and older in order to benefit the City community.

**II. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY**

The City agrees and obligates itself to pay to the COA \$60,000 in the fiscal year 2021-2022. No additional costs or expenses incurred by the COA in performance of this Agreement shall be reimbursed or paid by the City unless agreed upon in writing by the parties. The financial disbursement under any future cooperative endeavor agreement(s) may decrease or desist altogether.

**III. OBLIGATIONS OF THE COA**

The COA agrees and obligates itself to the Scope of Services as described in Section I and to provide semi-annual updates of its obligations under this Agreement, as well as its program goals, services, outreach/marketing efforts, fundraising efforts, and overall budget. The COA shall have completed an independent financial audit of its books at the end of its fiscal year, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513, and shall present to the City a copy of said audit. The City shall be allowed to audit all aspects of the operations of the COA including expenditures and income. The COA shall maintain accurate books and records of the operations for at least three (3) years and shall deliver such records to the City upon request. The COA shall deliver the past three (3) years of tax records and a past one-year program report to the City prior to April 15, 2022.

**IV. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE**

Either party may terminate this Agreement for cause based upon the failure of the other party to comply with the terms and/or conditions of the Agreement; provided that the party shall give other written notice specifying the other party's failure. If within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice, the party has not either corrected such failure or, in the case which cannot be corrected in thirty (30) days, begun in good faith to correct said failure and thereafter proceeded diligently to complete such correction, then the terminating party may, at its option, place the other party in default and the Agreement shall terminate on the date specified in such notice. The terminating party may exercise any rights available to it under Louisiana law to terminate for cause upon the failure of the other party to comply with the terms and conditions of this Agreement; provided that the terminating party shall give the other party written notice specifying its failure and a reasonable opportunity for the party to cure the defect.

**V. ASSIGNMENT**

The COA shall not assign any interest in this Agreement and shall not transfer any interest in same (whether by assignment or novation), without prior written consent of the City.

Additionally, the COA shall not subcontract the operation of the Hammond City Bus System to any party without the prior written consent of the City.

**VI. AUDIT CLAUSE**

It is hereby agreed that the COA will follow the provisions, as applicable, in the Louisiana Audit Law (Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513). The Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana, and/or the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration auditors shall have the option of inspecting and auditing all data, records, and accounts of the COA which relate to this Agreement, upon request. The COA shall maintain all books and records pertaining to this Agreement for a period of three years after the date of final payment under the prime contract and any subcontract entered into under this Agreement or three years from the date of termination of the prime contract and any subcontract entered into under this Agreement, whichever is later.

**VII. AMENDMENTS IN WRITING**

Any alteration, variation, modification, or waiver of provisions of this Agreement shall be valid only when it has been reduced to writing and executed by all parties.

**VIII. TERM OF AGREEMENT**

The term of this Agreement shall be from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, unless sooner terminated as provided in Section IV.

**IX. DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE**

The COA agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable:

Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Act of 1975, and the COA agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The COA agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, or disabilities. Any act of discrimination committed by the COA, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of this Agreement.

**X. PARTIAL INVALIDITY; SEVERABILITY**

If any term, covenant, condition, or provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall, at any time or to any extent, be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement, or the application of such term, covenant, condition or provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby, and each term, covenant, condition, and provision of this Agreement shall be valid and be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**XI. NOTICES**

All notices and other communications pertaining to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be transmitted either by personal hand-delivery (and receipted for) or deposited in the United States mail, as certified mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, to the other party, addressed as follows:

If to the City:

Pete Panepinto, Mayor  
City of Hammond  
P.O. Box 2788  
Hammond, LA 70404

If to the COA:

Debi Fleming  
Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging  
106 North Bay St  
Amite, LA 70422

**XII. CONTROLLING LAW**

The validity, interpretation, and performance of this Agreement shall be controlled by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Louisiana.

**XIII. LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

The City shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including, specifically, the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics (R.S. 42:1101, *et seq.*) in carrying out the provisions of this Agreement. The COA shall assume responsibility for the operation of the Hammond City Bus System, maintain appropriate liability and casualty insurance, and agree to indemnify the City and all of its agents, servants, officers, and employees from and against any and all claims, demands, suits, causes of action, costs and expenses on account of or in any way arising out of this Agreement or the negligence, fault, or acts of omission or commission of the COA, its agents, employees, servants, trainees, and others with respect to the operation of the Hammond City Bus System, said indemnification to include the furnishing of counsel for defense of any and all claims which may be brought as a result of the operation of the Hammond City Bus System.

**XIV. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTIES; EXCLUSION OF BENEFITS**

The relationship between the COA and the City shall be, and only be, that of an independent contractor, and the COA shall not be construed to be an employee, agent, partner of, or in joint venture with, the City.

**XV. FORCE MAJEURE**

Neither party to this Agreement shall be responsible to the other party hereto for any delays or failure to perform caused by any circumstances reasonably beyond the immediate control of the party prevented from performing, including, but not limited to, acts of God.

**XVI. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; MODIFICATION**

This Agreement, including any attachments that are expressly referred to in this Agreement, contains the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes any and all agreements or contracts previously entered into between the parties. No representations were made or relied upon by either party, other than those that are expressly set forth. This Agreement may be modified or amended at any time by mutual consent of the parties, provided that, before any modification or amendment shall be operative and valid, it shall be reduced to writing and signed by both parties.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED AT \_\_\_\_\_, Louisiana, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day, of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

WITNESSES:

CITY OF HAMMOND

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Panepinto, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESSES:

THE TANGIPAHOA VOLUNTARY COA, INC.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debi Fleming, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_