

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

This agreement ("Agreement") is made as of November 19, 2019 by and between the **City of Commerce**, a municipal corporation ("City") and HdL Software ("Consultant"). City and Consultant are sometimes hereinafter individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively referred to as the "Parties."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, City desires to utilize the services of Consultant as an independent contractor to provide business license tax administration and local tax compliance services as set forth in the Scope of Services attached hereto as **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, Consultant represents that it is fully qualified to perform such consulting services by virtue of its experience and the training, education and expertise of its principals and employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of performance by the parties of the covenants and conditions herein contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Company's Scope of Services. The nature and scope of the specific services to be performed by Consultant are as described in **Exhibit A**.

2. Term of Agreement. This Agreement shall commence on November 19, 2019 (the "Commencement Date") and shall remain in effect unless sooner terminated pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement.

3. Compensation.

A. City agrees to compensate Consultant for services under this Agreement in compliance with the schedule set forth in **Exhibit A**. Consultant shall submit proper monthly invoices in the form and manner specified by City. Each invoice shall include a monthly breakdown of all monthly services performed together with the hours spent on each service. Consultant shall maintain appropriate and necessary documentation supporting the monthly invoices detailing the type of service provided. It shall be available for review by the City at all reasonable times upon request.

B. If at the request of the City, Consultant is required to incur out of pocket expenses (including but not limited to, out-of-town travel and lodging) which are above and beyond the ordinary expenses associated with performance of this Agreement, Consultant shall be entitled to reimbursement of such expenses. Consultant shall only be reimbursed for those expenses which: (I) appear on Consultant's monthly invoices; (II) are accompanied by a copy of the City's written authorization for Consultant to incur such expenses; and (III) receipts documenting such expenses.

4. General Terms and Conditions. The General Terms and Conditions set forth in **Exhibit B** are incorporated as part of this Agreement. In the event of any inconsistency between the General Terms and Conditions and any other exhibit to this Agreement, the General Terms and Conditions shall control unless it is clear from the context that both parties intend the provisions of the other exhibit(s) to control.

5. Addresses.

City of Commerce

City of Commerce
2535 Commerce Way
Commerce, CA 90040
Attn: Edgar P. Cisneros, City Administrator

Company

HdL Software
Attn: George Bonnin
120 S. State College Blvd., Suite 200
Brea, CA 92821

6. Exhibits. All exhibits referred to in this Agreement are listed here and are incorporated and made part of this Agreement by this reference.

Exhibit A – Scope of Services and Compensation Schedule

Exhibit B – General Terms and Conditions

SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the dates written below.

CITY

CITY OF COMMERCE

By: _____
John Soria, Mayor Date _____

CONSULTANT

HdL Software

By: _____
Robert Gray, President Date _____

ATTEST:

By: _____
Lena Shumway, City Clerk Date _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Noel Tapia, City Attorney Date _____

EXHIBIT A

SCOPE OF WORK AND COMPENSATION

A. Scope of Work:

1. Business Tax Administration Services

- 1.1. **Tax Registration Database Management** – HdL will transfer the City's existing databases as they relate to business license into HdL's internal administration tools. HdL will maintain the data and provide copies of data or reports at the City's request. City will not be required to use or maintain any software in house for managing the business license registry.
- 1.2. **Renewal Processing** – Send active business license accounts a renewal notice within 30 days of the renewal period end date. Accounts will receive all applicable forms necessary to complete the renewal process.
- 1.3. **New Account Processing** – HdL will process any new business license applications and complete the new account registration process in a timely fashion.
- 1.4. **Payment Posting/Processing** – HdL will process all payments for new and renewal accounts. License accounts will be updated with payment information and revenues will be remitted to the City net banking and related processing fees on no less than a monthly basis.
- 1.5. **Business Support Center** – HdL will provide businesses with multiple support options for registering, renewing, making payments and for general inquiries. Businesses will have access to our license specialists Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm Pacific, via phone, mail, e-mail, fax, and the Business Support Center On-Line.
- 1.6. **On-Line Filing & Payment Processing** – HdL will make available options for businesses to visit a website, linked to the City's website, to submit online transactions.

2. Local Tax Compliance Services – HdL will ensure a level playing field for the business community and maximize revenues to the City. Discovery services will be conducted to identify and register businesses which are subject to licensure or taxation. Audit services will identify under reported tax liability for business and lodging providers. Collections Services will collect known debt from businesses that did not pay in full during the registration or renewal process. The scope of work to be performed will be mutually agreed upon by HdL and City prior to implementation.

- 2.1. **Discovery** – Discovery services are designed to identify entities subject to licensure/taxation that are not currently registered or otherwise non-compliant.
 - 2.1.1. **Lead Identification** – Develop a list of entities subject to licensure/taxation within the City.
 - 2.1.2. **Exception Resolution** – Compare the list to City registration databases to remove properly registered businesses and identify and remove other potential exceptions.
 - 2.1.3. **Compliance Communication Process** – Initiate contact with confirmed entities through a series of City approved communication methods. HdL will make every effort to simplify the process for taxpayers, utilizing a variety of mediums for communication including mail, telephone, email, and web-site access. Potential non-compliant entities are notified of their options to comply or dispute their non-

compliant status. HdL offers extended office hours for support via our Business Support Center available to taxpayers 8:00am – 5:00pm Monday - Friday.

- 2.1.4. **Document Submission / Processing** – Review Taxpayer submissions such as applications for completion and accuracy prior to processing. Collect additional documentation such as a home occupation permit and forward to other City departments either as a pre-requisite or as a courtesy for the taxpayer and other departments. All submissions are filed and stored electronically and made available to the City upon request.
- 2.1.5. **Invoicing** – Once application has been approved, invoice entity indicating detailed tax calculations and balances owed. Taxpayers are given the opportunity to pay their balances via mail, online, and other methods. HdL will provide Taxpayers continued access to the Business Support Center for any questions or disputes arising from the invoice process.
- 2.1.6. **Remittance** – Upon collection of all requirements including payment, application and other prerequisites, HdL will prepare a remittance package including payment documentation as well as copies of all taxpayer correspondence and relevant information. Remittances are done on no less than a monthly basis. Remittances packages done electronically via the HdL electronic remittance process will include Applications and other relevant information an electronic format. Revenues received are deposited into an HdL trust account and funds are distributed to the City in one payment net HdL's fees.
- 2.2. **Audit** – Audit services are designed to identify businesses that are registered but not properly reporting or paying the correct amounts. Services to be performed may include:
 - 2.2.1. Identify potential underreporting and/or misclassified businesses by comparing City records with HdL business inventories.
 - 2.2.2. Review/audit entities mutually agreed to by City and HdL that are identified as potential underreporting businesses or other entities requiring review.
 - 2.2.3. Submit audit summaries to City staff and meet with staff to review and discuss further actions.
 - 2.2.4. Educate businesses on proper reporting practices.
 - 2.2.5. Invoice and collect identified deficiencies.
- 2.3. **City's responsibilities**
 - 2.3.1. Data – City will provide its relevant business databases, such as the business license registry (registrations and payments), and any other information necessary for the compliance process or to facilitate HdL's invoicing of services, to HdL according to a schedule acceptable to both HdL and the City. City agrees to provide the data as long as this Agreement is active, and thereafter for so long as HdL's right to invoice for services rendered continues.
 - 2.3.2. City agrees to use reasonable and diligent efforts to collect, or to assist HdL in the collection of, deficiencies identified by HdL pursuant to this Agreement.

B. Compensation

1. Business License Tax Administration Services

- 1.1. **Compensation** - HdL's compensation for performing the Business License Tax Administration Services related to business license is a fee of \$15.00 per new registration or processed account. City will be invoiced monthly or quarterly for activity during the prior period. For the purpose of compensation calculation, processed account means any account for which renewals/returns are processed or which were sent a renewal notice.

- 1.2. **CPI Adjustment** – Fees for Operations Management Services are adjusted at the beginning of each calendar year by the change in the Consumer Price Index – West Urban (CPI-WU) as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Each annual adjustment will not be less than two percent (2%) or greater than ten percent (10%).
- 1.3. **Travel Expenses** – Travel and lodging expenses are billed at cost and apply to all meetings; including process, pre-installation, installation, training, and support. HdL is dedicated to conserving public funds and ensures any travel costs are indeed required and reasonable.
2. **Local Tax Compliance Services**
 - 2.1. **Discovery** – HdL's fee for performing discovery services shall be a contingency fee of 35% of the revenues received as a result of the service. This fee applies to monies received for the current tax/license period and any other prior period collected, including monies received for taxes, penalties, interest, and fees.
 - 2.1.1. **City Discovery Discount** – HdL's fee for following up on accounts that are identified and confirmed as non-compliant by the City shall be a contingency fee of 25% of the revenues received as a result of the service. This fee also applies to delinquent business license tax accounts referred by the City as failing to make payment or properly renew an existing license.
 - 2.2. **Audit** – HdL's fee for performing Audit services shall be a contingency fee of 35% of the revenues received as a result of the service. This fee applies to monies received for the current tax/license period and any other prior period collected, including monies received for taxes, penalties, interest, and fees.
 - 2.3. **Collection** – HdL's fee for performing collections services shall be a contingency fee of 25% of the revenues received as a result of the service. This fee applies to monies received for the current tax/license period and any other prior period collected, including monies received for taxes, penalties, interest, and fees.
 - 2.4. **Option to waive tax recovery** – City may, at its discretion, elect to waive or reduce the tax recovery for a business. Should the City elect to waive either all or a portion of the deficiency identified by HdL, HdL shall be entitled to compensation in the amount of one half (1/2) of the compensation HdL would have otherwise earned on the waived/reduced amount. Deficiencies which are uncollectable due to insolvency or dissolution of the customer, or for deficiencies which are otherwise incapable of collection (e.g. statute of limitations or other legal defense) shall not be considered a voluntary election to waive by the City, and thus HdL would not be entitled to compensation for these amounts.
 - 2.5. **Travel Expenses** – Travel and lodging expenses are billed at cost and apply to all meetings; including process, pre-installation, installation, training, and support. HdL is dedicated to conserving public funds and ensures any travel costs are indeed required and reasonable.
3. **Payment**

HdL will provide detailed invoices for all work completed. City will submit payment to HdL within 30 days of receiving the invoice.

EXHIBIT B
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Status as Independent Contractor.

A. Consultant is, and shall at all times remain as to City, a wholly independent contractor. Consultant shall have no power to incur any debt, obligation, or liability on behalf of the City of Commerce or otherwise act on behalf of Commerce as an agent. Neither the City of Commerce nor any of its agents shall have control over the conduct of Consultant or any of Consultant's employees, except as set forth in this Agreement. Consultant shall not, at any time, or in any manner, represent that it or any of its agents or employees are in any manner agents or employees of the City of Commerce.

B. Consultant agrees to pay all required taxes on amounts paid to Consultant under this Agreement, and to indemnify and hold City harmless from any and all taxes, assessments, penalties, and interests asserted against City by reason of the independent Consultant relationship created by this Agreement. In the event that City is audited by any Federal or State agency regarding the independent status of Consultant and the audit in any way fails to sustain the validity of a wholly independent Consultant relationship between City and Consultant, then Consultant agrees to reimburse City for all costs, including accounting and attorney's fees, arising out of such audit and any appeals relating thereto.

C. Consultant shall fully comply with the workers' compensation law regarding Consultant and Consultant's employees. Consultant further agrees to indemnify and hold City harmless from any failure of Consultant to comply with applicable worker's compensation laws. City shall have the right to offset against the amount of any fees due to Consultant under this Agreement any amount due to City from Consultant as a result of Consultant's failure to promptly pay to City any reimbursement or indemnification arising under this Section 1.

D. Consultant represents to the City, and City relies on Consultant's representations, that Consultant shall serve solely in the capacity of an independent contractor to the City. Neither the City nor any of its agents will have control over the conduct of Consultant or any of Consultant's employees, except as otherwise set forth in the Agreement. Consultant may not, at any time or in any manner, represent that it or any of its agents or employees are in any manner agents or employees of the City. The City has no duty, obligation, or responsibility to the Consultant's agents or employees, including the Affordable Care Act coverage requirements. Consultant is solely responsible for any tax penalties associated with the failure to offer affordable coverage to its agents and employees under the Affordable Care Act with respect to Consultant's agents and employees. Consultant warrants and represents that the City will not be responsible and will not be held liable for issues related to Consultant's status as an independent contractor, including Consultant's failure to comply with Consultant's duties, obligations, and responsibilities under the Affordable Care Act. Consultant further agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold the City harmless for any and all taxes, claims, and penalties against the City related to Consultant's obligations under the Affordable Care Act.

2. Standard of Performance

Consultant shall perform all work to the highest professional standards and in a manner reasonably satisfactory to the City Administrator or his/her designee. No additional or different tasks or services shall be performed by Consultant other than those specified in **Exhibit A**.

3. Indemnification.

A. Consultant is skilled in the professional calling necessary to perform the services and duties agreed to be performed under this Agreement, and City is relying upon the skill and knowledge of Consultant to perform said services and duties.

B. City and its respective elected and appointed boards, officials, officers, agents, employees and volunteers (individually and collectively, "Indemnities") shall have no liability to Consultant or any other person for, and Consultant shall indemnify, defend, protect and hold harmless Indemnities from and against, any and all liabilities, claims, actions, causes of action, proceedings, suits, damages, judgments, liens, levies, costs and expenses of whatever nature, including reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements (collectively "Claims"), which Indemnities may suffer or incur or to which Indemnities may become subject by reason of or arising out of any injury to or death of any person(s), damage to property, loss of use of property, economic loss or other loss occurring as a result of or allegedly caused by Consultant's performance of or failure to perform any services under this Agreement or by the negligent or willful acts or omissions of Consultant, its agents, officers, directors, subcontractor, sub consultant or employees, committed in performing any of the services under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to Claims occurring as a result of the City's sole negligence or willful acts or omissions.

C. Consultant agrees to obtain executed indemnity agreements with provisions identical to those set forth in this Section from each and every subcontractor, sub consultant or any other person or entity involved by, for, with or on behalf of Consultant in the performance of this Agreement. In the event Consultant fails to obtain such indemnity obligations from others as required in this Section, Consultant agrees to be fully responsible according to the terms of this Section. Failure of the City to monitor compliance with these requirements imposes no additional obligations on City and will in no way serve as a waiver of any rights hereunder. This obligation to indemnify and defend Indemnities as set forth herein shall survive the termination of this Agreement and is in addition to any rights which City may have under the law. This indemnity is effective without reference to the existence or applicability of any insurance coverage which may have been required under this Agreement or any additional insured endorsements which may extend to City.

4. Insurance.

A. Without limiting Consultant's indemnification of Indemnities pursuant to Section 3 of this Agreement, Consultant shall obtain and provide and maintain at its own expense during the term of this Agreement the types and amounts of insurance as described below:

(I) Consultant shall maintain Commercial General Liability Insurance with coverage at least as broad as Insurance Services Office Commercial General Liability Form CG 00 01 in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 general aggregate, for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage. Defense costs must be paid in addition to limits. There shall be no cross liability exclusion for claims or suits by one insured against another. The policy must include contractual liability that has not been amended. Any endorsement restricting standard ISO "insured contract" language will not be accepted.

(II) Consultant shall maintain Business Auto Coverage on ISO Business Auto

Coverage Form CA 00 01 covering bodily injury and property damage for all activities of the Consultant arising out of or in connection with Work to be performed under this Agreement, including coverage for any owned, hired, non-owned or rented vehicles, in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit for each accident.

(III) Consultant shall maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance (Statutory Limits) and Employer's Liability Insurance with on a state approved policy form providing statutory benefits as required by law with employer's liability limits no less than \$1,000,000 per accident for all covered losses;

(IV) Consultant shall maintain Professional Liability or Errors and Omissions Insurance that covers the services to be performed in connection with this Agreement, in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per claim and in the aggregate. Any policy inception date, continuity date, or retroactive date must be before the effective date of this Agreement and Consultant agrees to maintain continuous coverage through a period no less than three (3) years after completion of the services required by this Agreement.

B. City, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers shall be named as additional insureds on the policy(ies) as to commercial general liability and automotive liability.

C. All insurance policies shall be issued by an insurance company currently authorized by the Insurance Commissioner to transact business of insurance or is on the List of Approved Surplus Line Insurers in the State of California, with an assigned policyholders' Rating of A- (or higher) and Financial Size Category Class VI (or larger) in accordance with the latest edition of Best's Key Rating Guide, unless otherwise approved by the City's Risk Manager.

D. All insurance policies shall provide that the insurance coverage shall not be non-renewed, canceled, reduced, or otherwise modified (except through the addition of additional insureds to the policy) by the insurance carrier without the insurance carrier giving City thirty (30) days' prior written notice thereof. Any such thirty (30) day notice shall be submitted to CITY via certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to "Director of Human Resources & Risk Management," City of Commerce, 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, California, 90040. Consultant agrees that it will not cancel, reduce or otherwise modify said insurance coverage.

E. Consultant shall submit to City (I) insurance certificates indicating compliance with the minimum worker's compensation insurance requirements above, and (II) insurance policy endorsements indicating compliance with all other minimum insurance requirements above, not less than one (1) day prior to beginning of performance under this Agreement. Endorsements shall be executed on City's appropriate standard forms entitled "Additional Insured Endorsement".

F. Consultant's insurance shall be primary as respects the City, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the City, its officers, officials, employees and volunteers shall be excess of Consultant's insurance and shall not contribute with it.

G. Consultant agrees that if it does not keep the aforesaid insurance in full force and effect, and such insurance is available at a reasonable cost. City may take out the necessary insurance and pay the premium thereon, and the repayment thereof shall be deemed an

obligation of Consultant's and the cost of such insurance may be deducted, at the option of City, from payments due Consultant.

5. Release of Information/Confidentiality.

A. Consultant in the course of its duties may have access to confidential data of City, private individuals, or employees of the City. Consultant covenants that all data, documents, discussion, or other information developed or received by Consultant or provided for performance of this Agreement are deemed confidential and shall not be disclosed by Consultant without written authorization by City. City shall grant such authorization if disclosure is required by law. All City data shall be returned to City upon the termination of this Agreement. Consultant, its officers, employees, agents, or subconsultants, shall not without written authorization from the City Administrator, voluntarily provide declarations, letters of support, testimony at depositions, response to interrogatories, or other information concerning the work performed under this Agreement or relating to any project or property located within the City. Response to a subpoena or court order shall not be considered "voluntary" provided Consultant gives City notice of such court order or subpoena. Consultant's covenant under this section shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

B. Consultant shall promptly notify City should Consultant, its officers, employees, agents, or subconsultants be served with any summons, complaint, subpoena, notice of deposition, request for documents, interrogatories, request for admissions, or other discovery request, court order, or subpoena from any person or party regarding this Agreement and the work performed thereunder. City retains the right, but has no obligation, to represent Consultant and/or be present at any deposition, hearing, or similar proceeding. Consultant agrees to cooperate fully with City and to provide the opportunity to review any response to discovery requests provided by Consultant. However, City's right to review any such response does not imply or mean the right by City to control, direct, or rewrite said response

6. Ownership of Work Product.

A. Consultant shall maintain complete and accurate records with respect to sales, costs, expenses, receipts, and other such information required by the City that relate to the performance of services under this Agreement. Consultant shall maintain adequate records of services provided in sufficient detail to permit an evaluation of services. All such records shall be maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and shall be clearly identified and readily accessible. Consultant shall provide free access to the representatives of the City or its designees at reasonable times to such books and records; shall give the City the right to examine and audit said books and records; shall permit the City to make transcripts therefrom as necessary; and shall allow inspection of all work, data, documents, proceedings, and activities related to this Agreement. Such records, together with supporting documents, shall be maintained for a period of three (3) years after receipt of final payment.

B. Upon completion of, or in the event of termination or suspension of this Agreement, all original documents, designs, drawings, maps, models, computer files, surveys, notes, and other documents prepared in the course of providing the services to be performed pursuant to this Agreement shall become the sole property of the City and may be used, reused, or otherwise disposed of by the City without the permission of the Consultant. With respect to computer files, Consultant shall make available to the City, at the Consultant's office and upon reasonable written request by the City, the necessary computer software and hardware for purposes of accessing, compiling, transferring, and printing

computer files.

C. **Proprietary Information of Consultant.** As used in this Section, the term “proprietary information” means any information that relates to Consultant’s computer or data processing programs; data processing applications, routines, subroutines, techniques or systems; or business processes. City shall hold in confidence and shall not disclose to any other party any of Consultant’s proprietary information in connection with this Agreement, or otherwise learned or obtained by City in connection with this Agreement, unless disclosure is required under federal or state law, including without limitation the Freedom of Information Act or the Public Records Request Act. Consultant shall retain ownership and rights to all proprietary information. The obligations imposed by this Section shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement.

7. Conflict of Interest.

A. Consultant covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which may be affected by the services to be performed by Consultant under this Agreement, or which would conflict in any manner with the performance of its services hereunder. Consultant further covenants that, in performance of this Agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed by it. Furthermore, Consultant shall avoid the appearance of having any interest which would conflict in any manner with the performance of its services pursuant to this Agreement.

B. Consultant covenants not to give or receive any compensation, monetary or otherwise, to or from the ultimate vendor(s) of services to City as a result of the performance of this Agreement, or the services that may be procured by the City as a result of the recommendations made by Consultant’s covenants under this section shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

8. Termination. Notwithstanding any other provision, this Agreement may be duly terminated at any time by the City at its sole discretion with or without cause by serving upon the consultant at least ten (10) days prior written notice (“Notice of Termination”). Upon receipt of said notice, the Consultant shall immediately cease all work under this Agreement, unless the notice provides otherwise. Unless expressly agreed upon in writing by the City, the City shall not be obligated to pay for any services rendered nor any costs or expenses paid or incurred after the date of termination. The effective date of termination shall be upon the date specified in the written Notice of Termination. Consultant agrees that in the event of such termination, Consultant must refund the City its prorated share, except for services satisfactorily rendered prior to the effective date of termination. Immediately upon receiving written Notice of Termination, Consultant shall discontinue performing services, preserve the product of the services and upon payment for services, turn over to City the product of the services in accordance with written instructions of City.

In the event this Agreement is terminated pursuant to this Section, the City shall pay to Consultant the actual value of the work performed up to the time of termination, provided that the work performed is of value to the City. Upon termination of the Agreement pursuant to this Section, the Consultant will submit an invoice to the City.

9. Personnel. Consultant represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under this Agreement. All of the services required

under this Agreement will be performed by Consultant or under its supervision, and all personnel engaged in the work shall be qualified to perform such services. Consultant reserves the right to determine the assignment of its own employees to the performance of Consultant's services under this Agreement, but City reserves the right, for good cause, to require Consultant to exclude any employee from performing services on City's premises.

10. Non-Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity.

A. Consultant shall not discriminate as to race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental handicap, medical condition, or sexual orientation, in the performance of its services and duties pursuant to this Agreement, and will comply with all rules and regulations of City relating thereto. Such nondiscrimination shall include but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfers, recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship.

B. Consultant will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of Consultant state either that it is an equal opportunity employer or that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental handicap, medical condition, or sexual orientation.

C. Consultant will cause the foregoing provisions to be inserted in all subcontracts for any work covered by this Agreement except contracts or subcontracts for standard commercial supplies or raw materials.

11. Assignment. Consultant shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement nor the performance of any of Consultant obligations hereunder, without the prior written consent of City, and any attempt by Consultant to assign this Agreement or any rights, duties, or obligations arising hereunder shall be void and of no effect.

12. Performance Evaluation. For any Agreement in effect for twelve months or longer, the City Administrator may require a written annual administrative performance evaluation within ninety (90) days of the first anniversary of the effective date of this Agreement, and each year thereafter throughout the term of this Agreement. The work product required by this Agreement shall be utilized as the basis for review, and any comments or complaints received by City during the review period, either orally or in writing, shall be considered. City shall meet with Consultant prior to preparing the written report. If any noncompliance with the Agreement is found, City may direct Consultant to correct the inadequacies, or, in the alternative, may terminate this Agreement as provided herein.

13. Compliance with Laws. Consultant shall keep itself informed of State, Federal and Local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations which in any manner affect those employed by it or in any way affect the performance of its service pursuant to this Agreement. Consultant shall at all times comply with such laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. The City, its officers and employees shall not be liable at law or in equity occasioned by failure of Consultant to comply with this Section.

14. Licenses. At all times during the term of this Agreement, Consultant shall have in full force and effect all licenses (including a City business license) required of it by law for performance of the services hereunder.

15. Non-Waiver of Terms, Rights and Remedies. Waiver by either party of any one or more of the conditions of performance under this Agreement shall not be a waiver of any other condition of performance under this Agreement. In no event shall the making by City of any payment to Consultant constitute or be construed as a waiver by City of any breach of covenant, or any default which may then exist on the part of Consultant, and the making of any such payment by City shall in no way impair or prejudice any right or remedy available to City with regard to such breach or default.

16. Attorney's Fees. In the event that either party to this Agreement shall commence any legal or equitable action or proceeding to enforce or interpret the provisions of this Agreement, the prevailing party in such action or proceeding shall be entitled to recover its costs of suit, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs, including costs of expert witnesses and Consultant.

17. Notices. Any notices, bills, invoices, or reports required by this Agreement shall be deemed received on (a) the day of delivery if delivered by hand during Consultant regular business hours or by facsimile before or during Consultant regular business hours; or (b) on the third business day following deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid, to the addresses heretofore set forth in the Agreement, or to such other addresses as the parties may, from time to time, designate in writing pursuant to the provisions of this section.

18. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted both as to validity and to performance of the Parties in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Legal actions concerning any dispute, claim or matter arising out of or in relation to this Agreement shall be instituted in the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, State of California. However, the Parties may agree to submit any dispute to non-binding arbitration.

19. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be the original, and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

20. Severability. If any provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the balance of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

21. Entire Agreement. This Agreement, and any other documents incorporated herein by specific reference, represents the entire and integrated agreement between Consultant and City. This Agreement supersedes all prior oral or written negotiations, representations or agreements. This Agreement may not be amended, nor any provision or breach hereof waived, except in a writing signed by the Parties which expressly refers to this Agreement. Amendments on behalf of the City will only be valid if signed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk.

22. Authority. The person or persons executing this Agreement on behalf of Consultant warrants and represents that he/she has the authority to execute this Agreement on behalf of Consultant and has the authority to bind Consultant to the performance of its obligations hereunder.4817-0577-5983, v. 1