Space Above This Line for Recorder's Use

After recording return to:

Aaron M. Kappler Thompson, O'Brien, Kappler & Nasuti, P.C. 100 Timber Trail Suite 201 Richmond Hill, Georgia 31324

STATE OF GEORGIA	)
	)
COUNTY OF EFFINGHAM	)

## EXCLUSIVE PERMANENT SEWER EASEMENT FOR WATER, SEWER, AND ACCESS

THIS **EXCLUSIVE**-PERMANENT **SEWER** EASEMENT **FOR WATER**, **SEWER**, **AND ACCESS** ("Easement") is made as of the <u>day of June</u>, 2023 by and between **EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia ("Grantor") and **BRYAN COUNTY, GEORGIA**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (together with its successors and assigns, "Grantee").

#### WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Grantor owns certain real property by Limited Warranty Deed dated June 6, 2023 and recorded in Deed Book 2852, Pages 427-429, in the records of the Clerk of Effingham County, and comprised of approximately 10.245 acres +/-, being described by legal metes and bounds and being more fully shown and identified as "Tract 2" comprising 7.424 acres+/-, and "Tract 3" comprising 2.821 acres +/1 on the Survey for Effingham County, dated June 6, 2023 and prepared by M. Jerry Tomberlin recorded at Plat Book 29, Page 614 in the records of the Clerk of Effingham County (the "Property"), and attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by such reference; and

<u>WHEREAS, Grantee requires certain temporary and permanent easement rights for the construction and</u> maintenance of the project identified as the I-16 Regional Sewer Improvements Project/I-16 Force Main Improvements/PI Number 29088.0000 (the "Project"); and <u>WHEREAS</u>, as set forth herein, Grantor <u>desires agrees</u> to grant and convey to Grantee <u>such exclusive</u> easement rights over a portion of <u>the Property identified as "Tract 2" at Exhibit "A"</u>, <u>real property owned by</u> Grantor and being described <u>by legal metes and bounds and being more fully shown and identified on the</u> <u>Easement Plat for Bryan County, dated May 18, 2023 and prepared by Thomas & Hutton at Exhibit "A"</u>, attached hereto <u>at Exhibit "B"</u>, and incorporated herein by <u>such</u> reference;

WHEREAS, Grantor and Grantee have entered into that certain Intergovernmental Agreement Between Effingham County and Bryan County as of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023 ("IGA"), relating to the issuance of certain development and building permits, inspections, final plats and certificates of occupancy and collection of fees thereof for the Project and for the provision of emergency services on property located in the jurisdiction of Effingham County;

<u>NOW THEREFORE</u>, for and in consideration of the premises, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Grantor grants and conveys an easement as set forth herein:

## Article 1 Definitions

1.1 "Easement Area" shall mean and refer to that <u>the area comprised of 5.021 acres +/- (218,726 square feet) and as more fully described by metes and bounds description and as shown and labeled as "Exclusive Permanent Water, Sewer, and Access Easement Area" on the Easement Plat attached hereto as on Exhibit "B", and incorporated herein by such reference.</u>

1.2 "Easements" shall mean and refer to collectively, (i) the Temporary Construction and Access Easement, and (ii) the Required-Permanent Water, Sewer, and Access Easement.

1.3 "<u>Pump Station" Water/Sewer Facilities"</u>, "Utilities Facilities", or "Water, Sewer" shall mean and refer to collectively, the <u>pump station with related water</u>, sewer, reuse water and wastewater infrastructure and equipment, <u>meter</u>, manholes, sampling stations, fire hydrants, utility piping and equipment useful for such purposes and other water and sewer infrastructure, to be constructed within the Easement Area and operated and maintained by the Grantee, <u>all as more fully shown on the Force Main Plan and Profile</u>, <u>Sheet C1.24</u>, <u>dated</u> January 18, 2022 prepared by Thomas & Hutton, attached hereto as Exhibit "C" and incorporated and made a part hereof by such reference.

1.4 "Easement Plat" shall mean and refer to that plat entitled "Easement Plat", attached hereto as Exhibit "<u>B</u>A" and incorporated and made a part hereof by such reference.

#### Article 2 Grant of Easements

2.1 Grantor hereby grants and conveys unto the County, its agents, employees and contractors (collectively, the "Grantee Agents"), a temporary non-exclusive <u>access and</u> construction easement (the "Temporary Construction <del>and Access Easement</del>") for the purpose of installing and constructing the <u>Pump Station</u> Water/Sewer Facilities, and access thereto, in, on, over, under, upon, across, and through the Easement Area; together with the right of ingress and egress over adjacent lands owned by the Grantor using the shortest route to/from the existing I-16 right of way adjacent to the Property as may be reasonably necessary to accomplish the aforesaid purposes while preserving the existing wetlands located in the Easement Area. The right of access does not include any areas of the Property outside the Easement Area. All work conducted under the Temporary

<u>Construction Easement shall be subject to and in compliance with applicable federal, state and local requirements</u> for preservation of wetlands. Upon the earlier of (a) two (2) years from the date of this Agreement or (b) completion and final acceptance of the initial <u>Pump Station Water/Sewer Facilities</u> by the Grantee, the Temporary Construction and Access Easement shall automatically terminate. Grantee will provide written notice to Grantor upon completion and final acceptance as set forth in subsection (b) above. If Grantee needs additional time beyond two (2) years from the date of this Agreement, Grantee shall request such additional time in writing from Grantor, and Grantor will promptly provide such additional time, at no additional cost to Grantee, so long as the request is reasonably necessary to complete the installation and construction of the Water/Sewer FacilitiesPump Station as described herein. Any access over lands of Grantor outside the Easement Area shall be coordinated in advance and in writing by Grantee with Grantor.

2.2 Grantor hereby grants and conveys unto the Grantee, the Grantee Agents and the Grantee's successors and assigns, a perpetual exclusive access and sewer utility easement (the "Required Permanent Water, Sewer, and Access Easement") for the purpose of utilizing, testing, operating, maintaining, repairing, renewing, expanding and improving the Water/Sewer FacilitiesPump Station, and for access thereto, in, on, over, under, upon, across, and through the Easement Area, using the shortest route to/from the existing I-16 right of way adjacent to the Property together with the right of ingress and egress over other adjacent land of Grantor as may be reasonably necessary to accomplish the aforesaid purposes while preserving the existing wetlands located in the Easement Area. The right of access does not include any areas of the Property outside the Easement Area. All work conducted pursuant to the Sewer Easement shall be subject to and in compliance with applicable federal, state and local requirements for preservation of wetlands.

2.3 The grant of the rights herein includes (and Grantor hereby acknowledges and consents to the Grantee's grant of) the right at all times deemed necessary by Grantee for the Grantee Agents to exercise the rights herein granted to the Grantee, including, without limitation, to access said Easement Area, together with the Grantor Property and other adjacent land of Grantor, as necessary to obtain access to-maintain and operate the <u>Pump Station Water/Sewer Facilities</u>, and for the purpose of exercising the rights herein granted and for no other uses or purposes; provided, however, that Grantor reserves the right to use the Easement Area in common with Grantee, \_-and may cross and recross said Easement Area with persons, equipment, vehicles, fences, landscaping and similar uses, provided that such reservation of rights do not <u>unreasonably</u> interfere with Grantee's rights hereunder. Grantor further shall have the right at any time to access the Easement Area for fire protection and emergency medical services and other rights and obligations enumerated in the IGA. The failure of the Grantee to exercise any of the rights herein granted shall not be construed as a waiver or abandonment of the right hereafter at any time, and from time-to-time to exercise any or all of the same. Any waiver shall be in writing and signed by the party granting such waiver.

2.4 Grantor warrants that nNo building, vertical improvement, shed, mobile home, swimming pool, berms or other such permanent structures shall be erected or constructed within the Easement Area, without Grantee's express written consent (which shall not unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed). Grantor shall have the right to furthermore warrants that noinstall and maintain fencing, crops, trees, large shrubs, or any other vegetation and landscaping features shall be erected or planted-within the Easement Area so long as such installation and maintenance does not in such manner as materially and adversely interferes with Grantee's exercise of its rights pursuant to the Sewer Easement.granted herein, including, without limitation, access to and/or use or enjoyment of the Easement Area. -No other utilities shall be permitted within the Easement Area without prior written consent and encroachment approval issued by Grantee and by Grantor. In no case shall utilities encroachments approved by Grantee be installed within five feet of the Pump Station Water/Sewer Facilities. No fill material or paving shall be placed within the Easement Area unless approved in writing by the Grantee (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed). Any of the foregoing items placed upon or planted within the Easement Area in contradiction or violation of this Section 2.4 shall be promptly removed at the Grantor's expense.

2.5 Grantee shall have the right to cut away and keep clear, remove and dispose of all trees and to remove and dispose of all obstructions now or in the future on the Easement Area <u>that directly interfere with the</u>

<u>maintenance and operation of the Pump Stationby any person, which removal isas</u> necessary for the Grantee's use of the Easement Area; provided, however, that the Grantee shall <u>minimize any such clearing and removal of</u> <u>existing trees and natural areas and wetlands located in the Easement Area; and further shall restore all the</u> <u>surface disturbed areas and all wetlands existing in the Easement Area permitted landscaping, paving and other</u> <u>permitted improvements</u> to the same condition, <u>cut and contour</u> as existed <u>immediately</u> before such disturbance <u>in compliance with federal, state and local requirements for preservation of wetlands of the surface area; and,</u> <u>further provided that, if the affected area within the Easement Area is natural and has not been improved with</u> <u>landscaping, such areas shall be smoothed to commercial lawn grade and seeded with grass following such</u> <u>disturbances</u>. Except for the rights, privileges, benefits and easements granted herein, Grantor hereby reserves all its right, title and interest in and to the Easement Area incident to the fee simple estate thereof and for any and all purposes not inconsistent with Grantor's grant of rights herein.

2.6 Limitation of Easement Rights. The Grantor does not convey fee simple title to the Easement Area, but merely grants the rights, privileges and <u>Ee</u>asement<u>rights</u> herein above set out. <u>No rights granted in</u> this Sewer Easement or in the Easement Area can be assigned to any party without the express consent of <u>Grantor</u>. Grantee shall not be liable for, or bound by, any statement, agreement or understanding not herein expressed.

2.7 Encumbrances. Grantor herein by these presents warrants there are no liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances affecting title to the Easement Area and that Grantor shall at its cost and expense obtain any subordinations, releases or quit claims to the Grantee required by the Grantor or the Grantee in order to grant, accept or exercise the rights, privileges and Easements herein above set out. Grantor warrants that it is legally qualified and entitled to grant the Easements herein granted with respect to the land described herein.

[Signatures on next page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has executed this instrument, under seal, after being duly authorized to do so, and delivers the same to Grantee.

GRANTOR:	
EFFINGHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia,	
By:	
Name:	
Title:	
Attest:	
Name:	
P]	

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:	GRANTEE:
-	BRYAN COUNTY, GEORGIA, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia,
Witness	
Print Name:	By:
	Name:
	Title:
Notary Public	Attest:
My commission expires:	Name:
[AFFIX NOTARIAL SEAL OR STAMP]	Title:

# Exhibit "A"

(Plat)

The said Exhibit "A" being incorporated in this easement for all purposes.

Exhibit "B"

Exhibit "C"