



LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between the City of Rio Communities, hereinafter referred to as the "City" and NM Local Government Law, LLC. hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor", and is effective as of the date set forth below upon which it is executed by the Board of City Councilors.

IT IS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

1. Scope of Work.

The Scope of work shall consist of the following:

- A. Provide day to day legal services to the City Council and Administration;
- B. Attend City Council Meetings and Administrative Hearings;
- C. Advise the Council on all matters, including but not limited to policies and procedures, Open Meetings Act, Inspection of Public Records Act, Elections, Procurement, Administrative Proceedings and Hearings, Meetings Rules, Personnel Matters, Tort, and criminal matters that may arise;
- D. Draft and review Notices of Contemplated Actions;
- E. Draft and Review Resolutions and Ordinances;
- F. Draft and Review contracts, leases, and Memoranda of Understanding;
- G. Provide written legal opinions and advise the City on methods to avoid civil litigation; and
- H. Advise Elected Officials.

2. Compensation.

A. The City shall pay to the Contractor in full payment for services satisfactorily performed, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 per contract year, plus the applicable New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax and expenses. The Contractor shall bill the City on an hourly basis as fully described in Exhibit "A", on a monthly basis in an amount estimated to be \$6,666.66. If the City requires legal work that the Contractor estimates will be in excess of the monthly estimated hours, the Contractor shall notify the Manager and the parties shall agree on whether

the work is necessary to be engaged in, in that month. If the Contractor and City agree, through the course of a year, that the annual contract amount for legal services is too low to cover the amount of necessary legal services, the City may ask the City Council for a budget adjustment. In no event will the Contractor be paid any amount in excess of the specified total amount payable without this Agreement being amended in writing.

B. Payment is subject to availability of funds pursuant to the Appropriations Paragraph set forth below and to any negotiations between the parties from year to year pursuant to Paragraph 1, Scope of Work. All invoices MUST BE received by the City no later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of the Fiscal Year in which the services were delivered. Invoices received after such date WILL NOT BE PAID.

C. Contractor must submit a detailed statement accounting for all services performed, specified on a minimum of a quarter hour basis, and expenses incurred. If the City finds that the services are not acceptable, within thirty days after the date of receipt of written notice from the Contractor that payment is requested, it shall provide the Contractor a letter of exception explaining the defect or objection to the services and outlining steps the Contractor may take to provide remedial action. Upon certification by the City that the services have been received and accepted, payment shall be tendered to the Contractor within thirty days after the date of acceptance. If payment is made by mail, the payment shall be deemed tendered on the date it is postmarked. However, the City shall not incur late charges, interest, or penalties for failure to make payment within the time specified herein.

D. The payment of taxes due for any money received under this Agreement shall be the Contractor's sole responsibility and shall be reported under the Contractor's Federal and State tax identification number(s).

3. Term.

This Agreement is for one year and shall automatically extend for each subsequent year for a total of four years, unless terminated pursuant to paragraph 4, Termination. In accordance with Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978, no contract term, including extensions and renewals, shall exceed four years, except as set forth in Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978.

4. Termination.

A. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated by either of the parties hereto upon written notice delivered to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination. Except as otherwise allowed or provided under this Agreement, the City's sole liability upon such termination shall be to pay for acceptable work performed prior to the Contractor's receipt of the notice of termination, if the City is the terminating party, or the Contractor's sending of the notice of termination, if the Contractor is the terminating party; provided, however, that a notice of termination shall not nullify or otherwise affect either party's liability for pre-termination defaults under or breaches of this Agreement. The Contractor shall submit an invoice for such work within thirty (30) days of receiving or sending the notice of termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement may be terminated immediately upon written notice to the Contractor if the Contractor becomes unable to perform the services contracted for, as determined by the City or if, during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor or any of its officers, employees or agents is indicted for fraud, embezzlement or other crime due to misuse of government funds or due to the Appropriations paragraph herein. THIS PROVISION IS NOT EXCLUSIVE AND DOES NOT WAIVE THE CITY'S OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS AND

REMEDIES CAUSED BY THE CONTRACTOR'S DEFAULT/BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT.

B. Termination Management. Immediately upon receipt by either the City or the Contractor of notice of termination of this Agreement, the Contractor shall: 1) not incur any further obligations for salaries, services or any other expenditure of funds under this Agreement without written approval of the City; 2) comply with all directives issued by the City in the notice of termination as to the performance of work under this Agreement; and 3) take such action as the City shall direct for the protection, preservation, retention or transfer of all property titled to the City and records generated under this Agreement. Any non-expendable personal property or equipment provided to or purchased by the Contractor with contract funds shall become property of the City upon termination and shall be submitted to the City as soon as practicable.

5. Appropriations.

The terms of this Agreement are contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorization being made by the City Councilors for the performance of this Agreement. If sufficient appropriations and authorization are not made by the City Councilors, this Agreement shall terminate immediately upon written notice being given by the City to the Contractor. The City's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations are available shall be accepted by the Contractor and shall be final. If the City proposes an amendment to the Agreement to unilaterally reduce funding, the Contractor shall have the option to terminate the Agreement or to agree to the reduced funding, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed amendment.

6. Status of Contractor.

The Contractor and its agents and employees are independent contractors performing professional services for the City and are not employees of the City of Rio Communities. The Contractor and its agents and employees shall not accrue leave, retirement, insurance, bonding, use of City vehicles, or any other benefits afforded to employees of the City of Rio Communities as a result of this Agreement. The Contractor acknowledges that all sums received hereunder are reportable by the Contractor for tax purposes, including without limitation, self-employment and business income tax. The Contractor agrees not to purport to bind the City of Rio Communities unless the Contractor has express written authority to do so, and then only within the strict limits of that authority.

7. Assignment.

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement or assign any claims for money due or to become due under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the City.

8. Subcontracting.

The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the services to be performed under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the City Manager or Mayor, including consultation with the City Council. No such subcontract shall relieve the primary Contractor from its obligations and liabilities under this Agreement, nor shall any subcontract obligate direct payment from the City. In all cases, the contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of this Agreement.

9. Release.

Final payment of the amounts due under this Agreement shall operate as a release of the procuring agency of the City, its officers and employees, and the City of Rio Communities from all liabilities, claims and obligations whatsoever arising from or under this Agreement.

10. Confidentiality.

Any confidential information provided to or developed by the Contractor in the performance of this Agreement shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the City.

11. Product of Service -- Copyright.

All materials developed or acquired by the Contractor under this Agreement shall become the property of the City of Rio Communities and shall be delivered to the City no later than the termination date of this Agreement. Nothing developed or produced, in whole or in part, by the Contractor under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright or other claim of ownership by or on behalf of the Contractor.

12. Conflict of Interest; Governmental Conduct Act.

A. The Contractor represents and warrants that it presently has no interest and, during the term of this Agreement, shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance or services required under the Agreement.

B. The Contractor further represents and warrants that it has complied with, and, during the term of this Agreement, will continue to comply with, and that this Agreement complies with all applicable provisions of the Governmental Conduct Act, Chapter 10, Article 16 NMSA 1978. Without in anyway limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Contractor specifically represents and warrants that:

1) in accordance with Section 10-16-4.3 NMSA 1978, the Contractor does not employ, has not employed, and will not employ during the term of this Agreement any City employee while such employee was or is employed by the City and participating directly or indirectly in the City's contracting process;

2) this Agreement complies with Section 10-16-7(B) NMSA 1978 because (i) the Contractor is not a public officer or employee of the City; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the City; (iii) the Contractor is not a business in which a public officer or employee or the family of a public officer or employee has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a public officer or employee of the City, a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the City, or a business in which a public officer or employee of the City or the family of a public officer or employee of the City has a substantial interest, public notice was given as required by Section 10-16-7(B) NMSA 1978 and this Agreement was awarded pursuant to a competitive process;

3) in accordance with Section 10-16-8(C) NMSA 1978, (i) the Contractor is not, and has not been represented by, a person who has been a public officer or employee of the City within the preceding year and whose official act directly resulted in this Agreement and (ii) the Contractor is not, and has not been assisted in any way regarding this transaction by, a former public officer or employee of the City whose official act, while in City employment, directly resulted in the City's making this Agreement;

4) in accordance with Section 10-16-13 NMSA 1978, the Contractor has not directly participated in the preparation of specifications, qualifications or evaluation criteria for this Agreement, or any procurement related to this Agreement; and

5) in accordance with Section 10-16-3 and Section 10-16-13.3 NMSA 1978, the Contractor has not contributed, and during the term of this Agreement shall not contribute, anything of value to a public officer or employee of the City.

C. Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 are material representations of fact upon which the City relied when this Agreement was entered into by the parties. Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the City if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, Contractor learns that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances. If it is later determined that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances, in addition to other remedies available to the City and notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, the City may immediately terminate the Agreement.

D. All terms defined in the Governmental Conduct Act have the same meaning in this Article 12(B).

13. Amendment.

This Agreement shall not be altered, changed or amended except by instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto and all other required signatories.

14. Merger.

This Agreement incorporates all the Agreements, covenants and understandings between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such covenants, Agreements and understandings have been merged into this written Agreement. No prior Agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

15. Penalties for violation of law.

The Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, NMSA 1978, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

16. Equal Opportunity Compliance.

The Contractor agrees to abide by all federal, state and City laws and rules and regulations, pertaining to equal employment opportunity: In accordance with all such laws, the Contractor assures that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, or serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed under this Agreement. If Contractor is found not to be in

compliance with these requirements during the life of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies.

17. Applicable Law.

In any action, suit or legal dispute arising from this Agreement, the Contractor agrees that the laws of the State of New Mexico shall govern, and that venue will lie in the Seventh Judicial District Court in The City of Rio Communities. By execution of this Agreement, Contractor acknowledges and agrees to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New Mexico over any and all lawsuits arising under or out of any term of this Agreement.

18. Workers Compensation.

The Contractor agrees to comply with state laws and rules applicable to workers compensation benefits for its employees. If the Contractor fails to comply with the Workers Compensation Act and applicable rules when required to do so, this Agreement may be terminated by the City.

19. Records and Financial Audit.

The Contractor shall maintain detailed time and expenditure records that indicate the date; time, nature and cost of services rendered during the Agreement's term and effect and retain them for a period of three (3) years from the date of final payment under this Agreement. The records shall be subject to inspection by the City, the Department of Finance and Administration and the State Auditor. The City shall have the right to audit billings both before and after payment. Payment under this Agreement shall not foreclose the right of the City to recover excessive or illegal payments

20. Disclaimer and Hold Harmless.

The City of Rio Communities shall not be liable to the Contractor, or the Contractor's successors, heirs, administrators, or assigns, for any loss, damage, or injury, whether to Contractor's person or property, occurring in connection with Contractor's performance of Contractor's duties according to this Agreement. Contractor shall hold the The City of Rio Communities harmless from all loss, damage, and injury, including court costs and attorney fees, incurred by The City of Rio Communities in connection with the performance by Contractor of Contractor's duties according to this Agreement.

21. Indemnification.

The Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Rio Communities from all actions, proceeding, claims, demands, costs, damages, attorneys' fees and all other liabilities and expenses of any kind from any source which may arise out of the performance of this Agreement, caused by the negligent act or failure to act of the Contractor, its officers, employees, servants, subcontractors or agents, or if caused by the actions of any client of the Contractor resulting in injury or damage to persons or property during the time when the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor thereof has or is performing services pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that any action, suit or proceeding related to the services performed by the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor under this Agreement is brought against the Contractor, the Contractor shall, as soon as practicable

but no later than two (2) days after it receives notice thereof, notify the legal counsel of the City of Rio Communities and the New Mexico Association of Counties by certified mail.

22. Invalid Term or Condition.

If any term or condition of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected and shall be valid and enforceable.

23. Enforcement of Agreement.

A party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not waive or diminish that party's right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision. No waiver by a party of any of its rights under this Agreement shall be effective unless express and in writing, and no effective waiver by a party of any of its rights shall be effective to waive any other rights.

24. Authority.

If Contractor is other than a natural person, the individual(s) signing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor represents and warrants that he or she has the power and authority to bind Contractor, and that no further action, resolution, or approval from Contractor is necessary to enter into a binding contract.

25. Lobbying.

No federal appropriated funds can be paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the CONTRACTOR, or any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any City, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, or the making of any Federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any City, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection of this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the CONTRACTOR shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

26. Approval of Contractor Personnel.

Personnel proposed in the Contractor's written proposal to the City are considered material to any work performed under this Agreement. No changes of personnel will be made by the Contractor without prior written consent of the procuring agency of the City. Replacement of any Contractor personnel, if approved, shall be with personnel of equal ability, experience and qualifications. The Contractor will be responsible for any expenses incurred in familiarizing the replacement personnel to insure their being productive to the project immediately upon receiving assignments. Approval of replacement personnel shall not be unreasonably withheld. The procuring agency of the City shall retain the right to request the removal of any of the Contractor's personnel at any time.

27. Survival.

The agreement paragraphs titled "Patent, Copyright, Trademark, and Trade Secret Indemnification" and "Indemnification" shall survive the expiration of this agreement. Software licenses, leases, maintenance, and any other unexpired agreements that were entered into under the terms and conditions of this agreement shall survive this agreement

28. Succession.

This agreement shall extend to and be binding upon the successors and assigns of the parties.

29. Force Maieure.

A party shall be excused from performance under this agreement for any period that the party is prevented from performing as a result of an act of God, strike, war, civil disturbance, epidemic, or court order, provided that the party has prudently and promptly acted to take any and all steps that are within the party's control to ensure performance. Subject to this provision, such non-performance shall not be deemed a default or a ground for termination.

30. Mediation.

In the event a dispute arises as to the rights and obligations among the parties hereto, the parties agree to attempt to resolve the dispute through mediation as a condition precedent to seeking legal and equitable remedies. The parties agree to evenly split the costs of any such mediation services. The parties shall mutually agree upon the choice of mediator. In the event the parties have not agreed upon a mediator within twenty (20) days of written notice to the other regarding the dispute, then a list of seven potential mediators will be obtained from the New Mexico Association of Counties and the parties shall utilize a striking process until a mediator is agreed upon.

31. Notice to Proceed.

It is expressly understood that this Agreement is not binding upon the City until it is executed by the Board of City Councilors after voting on the contract at a public meeting. Further, the Contractor is not to proceed with its obligations under the Agreement until the Contractor has received a fully signed copy of the Agreement.

32. Attorney's Fees.

In the event this Agreement results in dispute, mediation, litigation, or settlement between the parties to this Agreement, the prevailing party of such action shall NOT be entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and court costs.

33. Cooperation.

All parties hereto will fully cooperate with the other and their respective counsel, accountant, and agents in connection with any steps required to be taken under this Agreement.

34. Patent, Copyright, Trademark and Trade Secret Indemnification.

A. The contractor shall defend, at its own expense, the City of Rio Communities against any claim that any product or service provided under this agreement infringes any patent, copyright or trademark in the United States or Puerto Rico, and shall pay all costs, damages and attorneys' fees that a court finally awards as a result of any such claim. In addition, if any third party obtains a judgment against the City of Rio Communities based upon the contractor's trade secret infringement relating to any product or service provided under this agreement, the contractor agrees to reimburse the City of Rio Communities for all costs, attorneys' fees and the amount of the judgment. To qualify for such defense and/or payment, the City of Rio Communities shall:

- i. give the contractor prompt written notice of any claim;
 - ii. allow the contractor to control the defense or settlement of the claim; and
111. cooperate with the contractor in a reasonable way to facilitate the defense or settlement of the claim.

B. If any product or service becomes, or in the contractor's opinion is likely to become the subject of a claim of infringement, the contractor shall at its option and expense:

- i. provide a procuring agency of the City the right to continue using the product or service;
 - ii. replace or modify the product or service so that it becomes non-infringing; or
111. accept the return of the product or service and refund an amount equal to the depreciated value of the returned product or service, less the unpaid portion of the purchase price and any other amounts which are due to the contractor. The contractor's obligation will be void as to any product or service modified by the procuring agency of the City to the extent such modification is the cause of the claim.

35. Professional Liability Insurance.

Contractor agrees to maintain in full force throughout the duration of the Agreement a lawyers professional liability insurance policy with a minimum coverage of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/ \$2,000,000.00 aggregate.

36. Notices.

Any notice required to be given to either party by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person, by courier service or by U.S. mail, either first class or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, as follows:

To the City: City of Rio Communities
 Attn: City Manager
 360 Rio Communities Blvd.
 Rio Communities, NM 87002

To the Contractor: NM Local Government Law LLC
Randy M. Autio, Manager
6121 Indian School Rd. NE Suite 202
Albuquerque, NM, 87110

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date of signature by the Governing Body of the City of Rio Communities below.

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED on this ____ day of _____ 2022.

THE CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES GOVERNING BODY

JOSHUA RAMSELL
MAYOR

MARGARET R. GUTJAHR
MAYOR PRO-TEM

ARTHUR APODACA
COUNCILOR

LAWRENCE R. GORDON
COUNCILOR

JIMMIE WINTERS
COUNCILOR

ATTEST BY:

ELIZABETH F. ADAIR, MUNICIPAL CLERK

CONTRACTOR

By: _____
Owner/Partner

Date: _____

SEAL

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
)ss.
CITY OF)

SUBSCRIBED before me this ____ day of ____ 2020, by _____

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
