

# GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS, INC.

## Consulting & Municipal Advisory Firm

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June 20, 2023

Mayor and City Council City of Tupelo, Mississippi 71 E. Troy Street Tupelo, Mississippi

Re: Tupelo, Mississippi

Not to Exceed \$20,000,000 City of Tupelo, Mississippi General Obligation Bonds, in one or more taxable or tax-exempt series; OR

Not to Exceed \$20,000,000 Mississippi Development Bank Special Obligation Bonds (Tupelo, Mississippi General Obligation Bond Project), in one or more taxable or tax-exempt series (collectively, the "Bonds")

Disclosure and Engagement Letter (the "Letter")

Dear Mayor and City Council,

We are writing to provide certain disclosures to you as representative of the City of Tupelo, Mississippi (the "Issuer" or "Obligor") as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB"). Government Consultants, Inc. ("GCI" or the "Municipal Advisor") is an Independent Registered Municipal Advisor and welcomes the opportunity to provide municipal advisory services to you relative to the issuance of the above referenced Bonds.

## Disclosures Concerning our Role as Municipal Advisor

- (i) The Municipal Advisor has a fiduciary duty to you. This is different than an underwriter, if any, who only has an obligation to deal fairly with you. The underwriter, if any, has financial and other interests that differ from yours, unlike the Municipal Advisor who has no financial or other interests that differ from your own.
- (ii) We shall provide advice concerning the structure, timing, terms, sizing and other similar matters related to any potential bond or debt issuance.
- (iii) We shall make a reasonable inquiry to the relevant facts that help determine which course of action best suits your interests. A reasonable analysis will be conducted to determine that all advice and/or recommendation(s), are not based on materially inaccurate or incomplete information.
- (iv) We shall evaluate possible material risks, benefits and alternatives related to the Bonds.
- (v) Our duties are limited to this transaction and the above-mentioned disclosures.
- (vi) In the event the Bonds are issued by the Mississippi Development Bank, we will be likewise engaged as Municipal Advisor to the Mississippi Development Bank as the "Issuer" and you as the "Obligor" under the documents related to the Bonds.

The MSRB provides a brochure covering information for municipal advisory client protections and appropriate regulatory authority contact information on the MSRB homepage at http://www.msrb.org.

## **Disclosure Concerning Conflicts of Interest and Other Information**

MSRB Rule G-42 requires that GCI provide in writing any disclosures relating to actual or potential material conflicts of interest, including certain categories of potential conflicts of interest identified in MSRB Rule G-42, if applicable. After reasonable due diligence by GCI, there are no known material conflicts of interest that may affect GCI's ability to serve as a municipal advisor to you. In the event the Bonds are issued by the Mississippi Development Bank, GCI will be engaged as the Municipal Advisor to the Mississippi Development Bank as Issuer and to you as Obligor, which represents a potential conflict of interest during the issuance of the Bonds. In accordance with MSRB Rule G-42, GCI will follow its fiduciary duty, that includes the duty of loyalty and the duty of care, to both the Issuer and Obligor, if applicable, and to disclose our role and duties as a Municipal Advisor. Our primary obligation is to always act in your best interest. There are no other known material conflict(s) of interest at the time of engagement.

If any new or additional material conflict(s) of interest occurs after the delivery and execution of this Letter, GCI will disclose all new material conflict(s) of interest to the you.

## **Disclosure Concerning the Compensation**

Our compensation for serving as municipal advisor will be contingent on the issuance of the Bonds and is based, in part, on the size of the bonds. We will negotiate with you as to compensation and will be paid upon closing of the transaction(s). The Municipal Advisor will abide by its fiduciary duty to you and provide unbiased and independent advice as required by the MSRB.

#### Disclosure of Information Regarding Legal Events and Disciplinary History

GCI recommends potential clients to undertake its own evaluation of GCI's regulatory history, professional qualifications, and other material issues. Such information, whether material or not, must be reported on Form MA and/or MA-I filed with the SEC. There are no recent changes made on any Form MA or Form MA-I, which are available and can be viewed on the SEC's EDGAR system website at http://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch.html.

### **Disclosure Relating to Issuing Bonds**

As with any issuance of debt, your obligation to pay principal and interest when due, will be a contractual obligation that will require that these payments be made no matter what budget restraints may be encountered. Your failure to pay principal and interest when due, could cause you to be in default. A default may negatively impact your credit ratings and may effectively limit your ability to publicly offer other debts at market rate levels.

Please be aware of the following basic aspects of the Bonds:

Fixed rate debt is an interest-bearing obligation that contains rates specified at closing and will not change while the bonds are outstanding. Maturity dates are fixed at the time of the closing and may include serial maturities (specified principal amounts are payable on the same date each year until final maturity) or a term maturity (specified principal amounts are payable on each term maturity date) or a combination of serial and term maturities. Interest on fixed rate bonds is typically paid semiannually at a stated fixed rate or rates for each maturity.

General obligation debt is an obligation to which your full faith and credit is pledged to pay principal and interest. This pledge is in the form of a millage, without limitation, to be collected within your jurisdiction in order to provide for the timely payment of general obligation debt. If needed, you promise to collect the taxes and repay the debt to which this obligation is pledged.

Additionally, the Bonds may be offered as federally taxable obligations.

Additionally, the Bonds may be offered as federally tax-exempt obligations. This requires that you comply with various Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") requirements and restrictions relating to how you use and invest the proceeds of the bond issue, how you use any facilities constructed with the proceeds of the bond issue and other restrictions throughout the term of the Bonds.

It is recommended that you consult with bond counsel on such tax matters related to the issuance of the Bonds.

### **Disclosure Concerning the Term of Engagement**

The Term of Engagement is effective on the execution date of the document that employed GCI as your appointed municipal advisor and ends upon the closing and delivery of the Bonds. The Engagement may be terminated with or without cause by either party. A written notice must be delivered to the other party, specifying the effective date of the termination.

## Acknowledgement

We must seek your acknowledgement that you have received this Letter. Accordingly, please acknowledge receipt of this Letter on in the space provided below. If you are not authorized to execute this Letter, please notify GCI immediately so the correct individual may be contacted. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Government Consultants, Inc.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nick Schorr

RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

BY: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

Todd Jordan, Mayor, City of Tupelo, Mississippi
Authorized Representative's Name