

COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF WEST MONROE AND
OUACHITA GREEN

This Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (the “Agreement”), is made, entered into and effective as of the 1st day of **February, 2025**, by and between the City of West Monroe (the “City”), a municipality existing under the laws of the State of Louisiana, and Ouachita Green (“Ouachita Green”), a nonprofit organization comprised of members of Keep Monroe Beautiful, Keep Sterlington Beautiful, Keep West Monroe Beautiful, and Keep Ouachita Parish Beautiful.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 14c of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana provides that “For a public purpose, the state and its political subdivisions or political subdivisions or political corporations 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 a legal obligation and right to promote economic development and growth within the corporate limits of the city of West Monroe in Ouachita Parish, as well as, throughout Northeast Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, litter abatement, environmental education, and beautification are areas which have been identified by prospective developers as a critical need for effective economic development in West Monroe, LA; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Monroe is participating in a collaborative effort to address this critical need through regional cooperation with future developers, Keep Monroe Beautiful, Keep Sterlington Beautiful, Keep West Monroe Beautiful, and Keep Ouachita Parish Beautiful which will help address this initiative, and previous collaborations have been very successful.

WHEREAS, it is the mission of Ouachita Green to promote and encourage litter control, beautification project, recycling, waste minimization and proper disposal of hazardous waste, assist with soliciting grants, enlist public and private support and developing ongoing programs focusing on changing personal attitudes; and

WHEREAS, The City of West Monroe, as a regional commercial hub and population center for Northeast Louisiana, supports this collaborative effort and as a leader has demonstrated its investment in the project with a designation of funds for the programs and missions stated above in this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (“CEA”).

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in cause and consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the City and Ouachita Green do hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. Throughout the term of this cooperative endeavor agreement, Ouachita Green will operate as a conduit with the other partners noted herein in reasonable accord with the underlying principles of this agreement;

2. City shall contribute to Ouachita Green the amount of \$27,500 per year, and Ouachita Green shall use the funds provided by the City, together with matching or in-kind funds from the other participants and such additional funds that will be raised by Ouachita Green or by others, to obtain the services of staff to coordinate the activities set out in this CEA. In addition, City will provide Ouachita Green with office space (with utilities provided), currently to be provided at Restoration Park.

3. In addition, for and in exchange for Ouachita Green organizing and administering the annual "Household Hazardous Waste" program, City will pay an additional \$10,000.00 per year to Ouachita Green following completion of the event and receipt of an invoice and report to City on the event. City will provide a location for the event and such assistance as available.

4. Ouachita Green shall fully document the expenditure of the funds provided by the City. The requirement for documentation shall be satisfied by an independent audit and unqualified opinion of the program by a licensed CPA, and shall be submitted annually to the City.

5. The Term of this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement shall be three (3) years from the effective date of February 1, 2025, and all documentation required by this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement must be submitted and approved by the City prior to any funding being released for each subsequent year of the term.

6. Ouachita Green shall provide quarterly reports to the City identifying the services obtained, the source and availability of matching funds, the programs in process and the training and support being provided with the funds used pursuant to this Cooperative Endeavor Agreement.

IN WITNESS whereof, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first set forth above.

THE CITY OF WEST MONROE

OUACHITA GREEN

By: _____
Staci Albritton Mitchell, Mayor

By: _____
Tim McIlvene, President