## **COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

(Project Garnet Urban Renewal Area)

THIS COOPERATION AGREEMENT (the "Cooperation Agreement") is made as of February 14, 2023, by and between the CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, a home rule city and Colorado municipal corporation (the "City"), and the COLORADO SPRINGS URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY, a body corporate and politic of the State of Colorado (the "Authority").

## **RECITALS**

- A. The City is a municipal corporation organized and existing as a home rule city under and pursuant to Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and the charter of the City.
- B. The Authority is an urban renewal authority and a body corporate and politic organized under the Urban Renewal Law, Part 1 of Article 25 of Title 31, C.R.S. (the "Urban Renewal Law" or "Act").
- C. Article XIV, Section 18, of the Colorado Constitution, Section 29-1-201, *et seq.*, C.R.S., as amended and Section 31-25-112 of the Urban Renewal Law, provide for and encourage urban renewal authorities and governmental entities within Colorado to make the most efficient and effective use of their powers and responsibilities by cooperating with each other to accomplish specific public purposes.
- D. The City Council of the City approved an urban renewal plan designated the Project Garnet Urban Renewal Plan (the "Plan") on February 14, 2023 by Resolution No. \_\_\_\_-23, relating to the Project Garnet Urban Renewal Area project (the "Project"), under which it is provided that within the urban renewal area (the "Plan Area"), property tax increment and municipal sales tax increments have been allocated pursuant to Section 31-25-107(9)(a)(II) of the Act to further the purposes of the Plan and the Project and provide financial support therefor from such municipal tax increment revenues, as therein and herein further provided.
- E. Pursuant to the directive in the Act that the Plan afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the City as a whole, for the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the Plan Area, by private enterprise, the Authority anticipates entering into a redevelopment agreement with a private owner for the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the Plan Area for the purpose of reimbursing eligible costs in accordance with the Plan, including, without limitation, environmental remediation and mitigation, drainage improvements, street improvements, utilities, asphalt paving, landscaping, erosion control and other eligible costs (the "Improvements") within the Plan Area.
- F. The Plan implements and allocates property tax increment revenue (the "Property Tax Increment Revenues") in accordance with the provisions of Section 31-25-107(9) of the Act. for a period of twenty-five (25) years as calculated and provided in the Act (the "Duration").

- G. The City, in consideration of the benefits to be derived by the City by the implementation of the Plan, the Project and the Improvements, desires to enter into this Cooperation Agreement.
- H. The Authority, in consideration of its statutory public purpose and in order to carry out the Plan, desires to participate in the activities contemplated by this Cooperation Agreement, and to enter into this Cooperation Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein by reference, and in order to carry out the purposes as set forth above, the City and the Authority agree as follows:

- Section 1. <u>Cooperation Regarding the Project, Plan, and Agreements</u>. The Authority agrees to carry out the Project in accordance with the Act and the Plan. The City agrees to cooperate with the Authority to achieve the timely and successful construction of public improvements required to complete the Project, including, without limitation, the Improvements and the duties and obligations of the Authority pursuant to redevelopment agreements that may from time to time be entered into between the Authority and property owners and developers for redevelopment of the Plan Area in accordance with the Plan.
- Section 2. <u>Project Financing</u>. Pursuant to the Act, the Authority will work with owners and developers, metropolitan districts, business improvement districts and other similar entities to issue financial instruments to finance its and their eligible activities, operations and duties to carry out the Plan and the Project by means of tax allocation financing utilizing Property Tax Increment Revenues. The Property Tax Increment Revenues shall be paid to the Authority or its designated depository as and when collected in accordance with the Act for deposit into a tax increment revenue fund established in accordance with the Act and the Plan (the "Special Fund"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Cooperation Agreement shall be deemed to restrict the Authority from receiving, utilizing or pledging any other available revenues in furtherance of the Project as authorized in the Act and the Plan.
- Section 3. <u>City Property Tax Increment Revenues</u>. In compliance with the requirements of HB 15-1348 and SB 18-248, the City and the Authority have negotiated and agreed as follows:
- (a) <u>City Property Tax Increment Revenues</u>. The City and the Authority agree that the Authority may retain and expend in furtherance of the Project one hundred percent (100%) of the City Property Tax Increment, commencing on the date of approval by the City of the Plan, and lasting for the Duration. For purposes of this Cooperation Agreement, "City Property Tax Increment" means the portion of Property Tax Increment Revenues generated by the City's mill levy received by the Authority from the El Paso County Treasurer and paid into the Special Fund.
- (b) <u>Mill Levy Allocation</u>. If the City's eligible electors approve a new or increased mill levy for any lawful purpose ("Future Mill Levy"), any revenue derived from the Future Mill Levy shall not be considered part of the City Property Tax Increment. Rather, upon approval by the eligible electors of the City of a Future Mill Levy, the City shall provide notification of the same to the Authority. From the date of such notice until the Duration has expired, the Authority

shall annually deduct from the Property Tax Increment Revenue it receives any revenues attributable to the Future Mill Levy, as applicable, and shall remit such revenues to the City.

- Section 4. <u>Property Tax Increment Revenues</u>. The Authority agrees that the Property Tax Increment Revenues shall be utilized at all time in accordance with the Act (as presently in effect) with priority given to design and construction of the Improvements. When all bonds, loans, advances, and indebtedness and other obligations, including interest thereon and any premiums due therewith, have been paid, all taxes upon the taxable property in the Plan Area shall be paid into the funds of the respective public bodies as provided in the Act.
- Section 5. <u>Authority Pledge</u>. In accordance with the terms and conditions as set forth in this Cooperation Agreement, the Authority may pledge to any bond trustee, developer or owner or any metropolitan district, business improvement district or other entity, as applicable, the Property Tax Increment Revenues and other available revenues. In accordance with the Act and the Supplemental Public Securities Act, such pledge by Authority shall create a lien on the Property Tax Increment Revenues received by Authority which shall take effect immediately without any physical delivery, filing, or further act. The lien of such pledge shall have priority over any or all other obligations and liabilities of the Authority and shall be valid, binding, and enforceable as against all persons having claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise against the Authority irrespective of whether such persons have notice of such liens. The Authority hereby consents to the further pledge and assignment of the Property Tax Increment Revenues by (i) any metropolitan district, business improvement district or other entity upon the issuance of such bonds, to the trustee and (ii) by any developer or owner, in accordance with any redevelopment agreement or to any lender or lenders providing financing pursuant to such redevelopment agreement.
- Section 6. <u>Continuing Cooperation</u>. If any further cooperation or other agreements or amendments shall be necessary or appropriate to carry out the Project in accordance with the Plan and the Act, the City agrees to exercise its reasonable best efforts to secure the approval of such additional agreements; provided that such efforts do not require the incurring of any costs or expenses by City unless the same are advanced or paid by Authority.
- Section 7. <u>Amendment of Plan</u>. The City covenants and agrees that it shall cooperate with the Authority in carrying out and continuing to completion, with all practicable dispatch, the Project in accordance with the Plan and the Act. The Plan may be amended, but no amendment shall be approved by the City unless the Authority shall determine that such amendment will not substantially impair the security or tax exemption for any outstanding obligation of the Authority, any metropolitan district, business improvement district or other entity, or any owner as the developer.
- Section 8. <u>Permits and Licenses</u>. Consistent with all applicable laws, codes and ordinances, the City shall cooperate with the Authority and any designated owner or developer or redeveloper in the Plan Area by timely acting upon, from time to time, applications for Cityrequired permits and licenses in accordance with City's Code of Ordinances and law.
- Section 9. <u>Review of Plans</u>. The City shall cooperate with the Authority and any designated owner or developer in the Plan Area by timely reviewing all plans, plats, agreements and other submissions required to be reviewed by the City in connection with the construction of

the public and private improvements contemplated by any applicable redevelopment agreement and the Plan. Where appropriate, the City agrees to implement any applicable procedures for expedited review and approval permitted by applicable law in furtherance of the implementation of the Plan.

Section 10. <u>Vacations</u>; <u>Dedications</u>. The City, subject to applicable laws, will initiate and pursue appropriate action as may be required to vacate streets, alleys, and other rights of way requested by the Authority to carry out the Plan; grant and alter easements or revocable permits in and through public rights of way; and to accept dedication of rights of way, and easements in connection with the Project; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be construed as a limitation upon the exercise of legislative discretion by City nor a delegation of legislative authority.

Section 11. <u>Improvements Bonds and Redevelopment Agreement not to Constitute Debt or Obligation of the City or Authority; No Liability</u>. Any redevelopment agreement, any Bond Indenture, loan agreement, or any other instrument or debt obligation issued by the Authority in connection with the Project, and any such document shall provide that subject obligation shall not constitute a debt, liability or obligation of any nature of the City or the Authority, but shall be payable solely from amounts pledged therefor and received by any owner or developer, any metropolitan district or other entity, or any lender, as applicable.

Section 12. <u>Authorized Representatives</u>. To the extent that an action is required to be taken by any party to this Cooperation Agreement, such action may, subject to the last sentence of this Section, be taken by the following representatives: for the City, the Planning and Development Director, or such other person appointed by the foregoing in writing and furnished to the other parties to this Cooperation Agreement; and for the Authority, the Chairman, or such other person appointed by the foregoing in writing and furnished to the other parties to this Cooperation Agreement.

Section 13. Notice. Any notice required by this Agreement shall be in writing. All notices, demands, requests and other communications required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing, and shall be (a) personally delivered with a written receipt of delivery; (b) sent by a nationally-recognized overnight delivery service requiring a written acknowledgement of receipt or providing a certification of delivery or attempted delivery; (c) sent by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested; or (d) sent by confirmed electronic delivery with an original copy thereof transmitted to the recipient by one of the means described in subsections (a) through (c) no later than five (5) business days thereafter. All notices shall be deemed effective when actually delivered as documented in a delivery receipt; provided, however, that if the notice was sent by overnight courier or mail as aforesaid and is affirmatively refused or cannot be delivered during customary business hours by reason of the absence of a signatory to acknowledge receipt, or by reason of a change of address with respect to which the addressor did not have either knowledge or written notice delivered in accordance with this paragraph, then the first attempted delivery shall be deemed to constitute delivery. All notices shall be sent to the addressee at its address below:

If to the City: City of Colorado Springs
Office of Economic Vitality

30 South Nevada Avenue, Suite 604

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Attn: Robert C. Cope Telephone: 719-385-5561

With a copy to the City Attorney:

City of Colorado Springs 30 South Nevada Avenue, Suite 501 Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Attn: City Attorney Telephone: 719-385-5909

If to the Authority: Colorado Springs Urban Renewal Authority

30 S. Nevada Ave., Suite 603 Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Attn: Executive Director Telephone: 719-385-5714

Each party shall be entitled to change its address for notices from time to time by delivering to the other party notice thereof in the manner herein provided for the delivery of notices.

Section 14. <u>Severability</u>. Any provision of this Cooperation Agreement that is prohibited, unenforceable, or not authorized in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition, unenforceability or lack of authorization without affecting the validity, enforceability, or legality of such provisions in any other jurisdiction. No party to this Cooperation Agreement shall be liable to the other parties with respect to any such provision finally adjudicated in accordance with applicable law to be prohibited, unenforceable, or not authorized by law.

- Section 15. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Cooperation Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Colorado, and the Charter, City Code, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations of the City of Colorado Springs.
- Section 16. <u>Headings</u>. Section headings in this Cooperation Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not constitute a part of this Cooperation Agreement for any other purpose.
- Section 17. <u>Additional or Supplemental Agreements</u>. The parties mutually covenant and agree that they will execute, deliver, and furnish such other instruments, documents, materials, and information as may be reasonably required to carry out this Cooperation Agreement, the Project, and the Plan or the Improvements, provided the same is not inconsistent with law or this Cooperation Agreement.
- Section 18. <u>Incorporation of Recitals.</u> The provisions of the Recitals are incorporated by reference into this Cooperation Agreement as if fully set forth herein.

- Section 19. <u>Exclusive Jurisdiction and Venue</u>. In the event of any litigation arising under this Cooperation Agreement, the exclusive jurisdiction and venue for such litigation shall be in the District Court in and for the Fourth Judicial District, County of El Paso, State of Colorado.
- Section 20. <u>Fiscal Obligations of City</u>. Nothing herein shall constitute, nor be deemed to constitute, the creation of a debt or multi-year fiscal obligation or an obligation of future appropriations by the City Council of Colorado Springs, contrary to Article X, § 20, Colo. Const., or any other constitutional, statutory, or charter debt limitation.
- Section 21. <u>Third Party Beneficiary Clause</u>. It is specifically agreed between the parties that this Cooperation Agreement is not intended by any of its terms, provisions, or conditions to create in the public or any individual member of the public a third party beneficiary relationship, or to authorize any person not a party to this Cooperation Agreement to maintain suit for personal injuries or property damage pursuant to the terms, conditions or provisions of this Cooperation Agreement. In requiring insurance under this Cooperation Agreement, the parties do not waive or intend to waive any protection, immunity, or other provision of the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, Sections 24-10-101 to 120, C.R.S., as now written or amended in the future.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Cooperation Agreement to be duly executed and delivered by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized as of the date first above written.

## CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

	By:
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
Office of the City Attorney	
	COLORADO SPRINGS URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY
	By: