

**CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE
CONTRACT #20250115**

This CONTRACT executed this _____ day of _____, 2025, by and between the CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA, a municipal corporation, duly organized under the laws of the State of Florida, hereinafter called "City," and Natures Keeper Inc., 302 S. Brocksmith Rd., Fort Pierce, Florida 34945 (772) 467-1230, hereinafter called "Contractor" or "Proposer." City and Contractor may be referred to herein individually as a "party" or collectively as the "parties."

**SECTION I
RECITALS**

In consideration of the below agreements and covenants set forth herein, the parties agree as follows:

WHEREAS, Contractor is licensed in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to contract with a contractor to Furnish and Install Sod, as well as other tasks more specifically described in this Contract; and

WHEREAS, Contractor is qualified, willing, and able to provide the Work specified on the terms and conditions set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to enter into this Contract with Contractor to perform the Work specified and in the amount as agreed upon below.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants herein, the parties agree as follows:

The Recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated into this Contract and made a part of hereof for reference.

**SECTION II
NOTICES**

All notices or other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given if delivered in person, sent by certified mail with return receipt request, email with red receipt, or by Fed-EX, UPS, courier or other similar and reliable carrier and addressed as follows, unless written notice of a change of address is given pursuant to the provisions of this Contract. Each such notice shall be deemed to have been provided:

- A. The same day, if sent via email with read receipt.
- B. Within one (1) day in the case of overnight hand delivery, courier, or services such as Fed-Ex or UPS with guaranteed next day delivery; or,
- C. Within seven (7) days after it is deposited in the U.S. Mail in the case of registered U.S. Mail.

From time to time, the parties may change the name and address of the person designated to receive notice. Such change of the designated person or their designees and/or address shall be in writing to the other party and as provided herein.

Contractor: Krysten Bieger
Nature's Keeper, Inc.
302 S. Brocksmit RD.
Fort Pierce, Florida 34945
772- 467-1230
krysten@natures-keeper.com

City Contract Administrator: India Barr
Procurement Management Division
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984
(772) 344-4055
ibarr@cityofpsl.com

City Project Manager: Steve Jungjohan
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984
(772) 871-5110
sjungjohan@cityofpsl.com

SECTION III

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

The specific work that the Contractor has agreed to perform pursuant to the IFB #20250115 – Furnish and Install Sod, including all Attachments, Addenda, Construction Plans and all other restrictions and requirements are incorporated by this reference.

1. Specifications and Quality of Sod

- **General:** Sod shall have been mowed at least three (3) times with an approved lawn mower with final mowing not more than seven (7) days before the sod is cut. The typical estimated quantity of sod required each month ranges from 70,000 square feet to 100,000 square feet and is used on City projects including, but not limited to, swale liner installation, drainage right-of-way maintenance, culvert replacement, utility repairs, and projects on City owned properties and right-of-ways. These quantities are approximate only and neither the minimum nor maximum values provided are guaranteed. The City does not assume any responsibility that the actual quantities furnished shall remain in strict accordance with the estimated quantities, nor shall the Contractor plead misunderstanding or deception because of such estimate of quantities or of the character, location of the work, or other conditions pertaining thereto.
- **Infestation:** All sod shall be free of any detrimental infestation (i.e. mole crickets, mold, army worms, parasites, red ants, etc.). Sod shall also be free from fungus, vermin and other diseases. Floratam sod and Certified 419 Bermuda sod shall be free from any weeds. Floratam sod or Certified 419 Bermuda Sod delivered or installed with any weeds will be rejected. The Contractor shall be responsible to remove all rejected Sod at their own expense and provide prompt replacement or punctual credit as desired by the City. Sod found to contain infestations and/or

- diseases prior to installation shall be rejected and replaced at the Contractor's expense. Sod found to contain infestations during the inspection following installation shall, at City's option, shall be chemically treated or replaced at Contractor's expense.
- **Sod Type:** Unless a particular type of sod is called for in the release of desired materials, sod shall be Bahia. It shall be well matted with roots. Where sodding will adjoin, or be in sufficiently close proximity to private lawns, other types of sod may be specified by the City Representative, including Floratam, Centipede, or Certified 419 Bermuda.
 - **Dimensions:** All sod delivered to a location shall be evenly cut and of uniform thickness and size. An acceptable size shall be rectangles measuring 16" x 24" or larger. Grass roots shall be adequately developed and matted, and soil containing grass shall have adequate moisture to allow sod to be handled without objectionable separation during installation. Rolled sod must be at least 16" inches in width and length consistent with the equipment and methods used to handle the rolls and place the sod. Sod shall be a minimum of 1 ¼ inches thick including a ¾ inch thick layer of roots and topsoil. Reducing the width of rolled sod is not permitted after the sod has been taken up from the initial growing location. Any netting contained in the sod shall be certified by the manufacturer to be bio-degradable within a period of three (3) months from installation. Any netting regardless of being bio-degradable will be removed during installation on all sports fields.
 - **Quality Control:** The City retains the right to reject sod which has grown together, falls apart upon handling, is dry, is inconsistent in thickness/size/density/color, or is deemed unsuitable or unlayable. The Contractor shall be responsible to remove all rejected Sod at their own expense and provide prompt replacement or punctual credit as desired by the City. Floratam sod and Certified 419 Bermuda sod is to be of top quality, preferably from a muck field with **no weeds** or foreign infestation. Quality complaints will be addressed by the Contractor within three (3) days. The City retains the right to require replacement of poor-quality installed sod or fertilization in approved cases.
 - **Sod Quality:** The sod shall be sufficiently thick to secure a dense stand of live turf. The sod shall be live, fresh, and uninjured at the time of planting. It shall have a soil mat of sufficient thickness adhering firmly to the roots to withstand all necessary handling.
 - It shall be planted within 48 hours after being cut and kept moist from the time it is cut until planted. No sod which has been cut more than 48 hours may be used unless specifically authorized by the City Representative. A letter of certification from the turf contractor as to when the sod was cut and what type shall be provided to the City Representative upon delivery of the sod to the job site.
 - **Sod Farm:** Contractors shall be aware the City reserves the right to inspect the sod farm where the Contractor proposes to procure sod. The City also reserves the right to determine if the sod proposed is acceptable and is certified as the correct species.

2. Contract Supervisor on behalf of the Contractor

- Contractors are advised that they are responsible for designating a Contract Supervisor acceptable to the City for collaboration of all sod installations. Contractors will be required to list their Contract Supervisor's name and years of experience with this type of work.

3. Specifications of Sod Installation

- **Installation:** When installation is required, installation shall be completed in the following manner:
 - The setting pieces shall be staggered in such a manner as to avoid continuous seams with no over lapping. Sod shall be carefully placed by hand, edge-to-edge in rows at right angles to the slope, commencing at the base of the area to be sodded and working upward. However, extremely wet areas may require flexibility in this installation method. Sod shall be applied without leaving separations or voids between pieces.
- In addition to providing an attractive finished appearance, sod will be laid in a manner which will minimize erosion.
- Rolling of sodded surfaces will only be done when requested by the City. When Rolling is requested, the following operation shall provide a true and even surface and insure knitting without displacement of sod and/or deformation of the surfaces.
- Contractor shall be responsible to supply a Delivery Ticket to the City Representative if material is delivered for installation by City Personnel.
- Contractor shall be responsible to supply a Notice of Performance and a Delivery Ticket to the City department supplied within two (2) hours after sod is laid, when sod is installed by Contractor's personnel. Each department will assume responsibility for watering sod after documentation is received unless the watering option is specifically requested by the City representative.
- The City reserves the right to terminate any Contract after three (3) written notices of performance deficiency have been issued.
- **Watering:** Watering of sodded surfaces will only be done when requested by the City. When watering is required as determined by the City, it shall be completed in the following manner:

- Watering shall be done until sod is properly rooted. The water used in the grassing operations may be obtained from any approved source. The water shall be free of any substance which might be harmful to plant growth. Effluent water shall meet all Federal, State, and local requirements. Watering frequency is at the discretion of the Contractor.
- Watering of sodded surfaces will only be completed when requested by the City representative and shall be quoted as an optional extra in the Bid Reply Sheet.
- Contractor shall be responsible to replace any sod that dies as a result of not being properly maintained.
- **Delivery:** Contractor shall be responsible to deliver sod on pallets.
- Pallets will be removed from delivering vehicle by Contractor and placed on the job site at the locations designated by each Department. Equipment, labor, and supervision necessary to insure safe and proper placement of pallets is the Contractor's responsibility.
- Releases for required material and services will be communicated to the Contractor by facsimile, email, as materials are required. The request will be a Purchase Order or Visa Order. Contractor must deliver and install sod within forty-eight (48) hours (excluding Saturday and Sunday) after receipt of a facsimile/email/phone release from the City Representative.
- When time permits, the City Representative may allow the Contractor more notice than what is stated in the preceding paragraph. However, once a delivery requirement is communicated to the Contractor, the Contractor will be responsible to perform within the time frame specified. The Contractor must have adequate sources of supply to ensure that any temporary inaccessibility of any Contractors source will not cause an interruption to delivery.
- Sod which is not delivered and/or installed within the specified time may, at the City's option, be procured from an alternate source and all costs associated with the procurement including, but not limited to, the cost of sod, installation, and any other cost incurred by the City shall be paid by the Contractor. In the event that untimely delivery and placement of sod results in the need for reworking and/or re-grading of the location, the Contractor shall be invoiced for the cost of the time and materials incurred for the rework and/or re-grading.
- At any time, when inclement weather, equipment breaks down or other unforeseen circumstances, cause the Contractor to be unable to fulfill a delivery requirement, the Contractor must notify the City Representative of said circumstance as quickly as the Contractor becomes aware of the problem. Said notification will not relieve the Contractor of their obligation and/or of penalties as stated in these Specifications but will be considered by the City when weighing appropriate action.

- Upon completion of the work, all debris, pallets, etc. shall be removed from the site. Any paved areas, including driveways and streets, shall be thoroughly swept.

SECTION IV **TIME OF PERFORMANCE**

The Contract Period start date will be _____ and will terminate two (2) years thereafter on _____. The Contractor will be required to commence work under this Contract within ten (10) calendar days after the start date identified in this Contract. In the event all work required in the bid specifications has not been completed by the specified date, the Contractor agrees to provide work as authorized by the Project Manager until all work specified in the bid specifications has been rendered and accepted by the City.

Written requests shall be submitted to the Project Manager for consideration of extension of completion time due to strikes, unavailable materials, or other similar causes over which the Contractor feels he has no control. Requests for time extensions shall be submitted immediately, but in no event, more than two (2) weeks upon occurrence of conditions, which, in the opinion of the Contractor, warrant such an extension, with reasons clearly stated and a detailed explanation given as to why the delays are considered to be beyond the Contractor's control.

SECTION V **RENEWAL OPTION**

The City shall have one (1), two (2) year options to renew, which options shall be exercisable at the sole discretion of the City. Renewal(s), if provided and selected solely by the City, will be accomplished through the issuance of Contract Amendment.

SECTION VI **COMPENSATION**

The total amount to be paid by the City to the Contractor is on a per project basis for the unit prices listed on **Schedule "A"**. Payments will be disbursed in the following manner.

Line Item	Description	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Total
1	Bahia Sod (Furnish and Install)	1	SF	\$.32	\$.32
2	Bahia Sod (Furnish only)	1	SF	\$.25	\$.25

3	Floritam Sod (Furnish and Install)	1	SF	\$.71	\$.71
4	Floritam Sod (Furnish only)	1	SF	\$.65	\$.65
5	Certified Bermuda Celebration (Furnish and Install)	1	SF	\$1.00	\$1.00
6	Certified Bermuda Celebration (Furnish only)	1	SF	\$1.20	\$1.20
Additional Unit Pricing Restoration					
7	Restoration - Certified Bermuda Celebration	1	SF	\$1.49	\$1.49
8	Restoration - Bahia Sod (including all labor)	1	SF	\$1.01	\$1.01
9	Restoration - Floritam Sod (including all labor)	1	SF	\$1.40	\$1.40
Rolling					
10	Rolling - Bahia Sod	1	SF	\$.02	\$.02
11	Rolling - Certified Bermuda Celebration	1	SF	\$.02	\$.02

12	Rolling - Floratam Sod	1	SF	\$.02	\$.02
Watering					
13	Watering	1	1000 GAL.	\$91.00	\$91.00
Hydroseed					
14	Hydro- mulch@ 1000 Lbs./ acre	1	AC	\$871.20	\$871.20
15	Bahia Seed @ 80 Lbs./Acre	1	AC	\$855.60	\$855.60
16	Cover Crop (Winter- Rye)(Summer- Millet)@ 160 Lbs./Acre	1	AC	\$555.00	\$555.00
Bermuda Hydroseed					
17	Hydro Mulch@ 1000 Lbs./ Acre	1	AC	\$871.20	\$871.20
18	Hulled Bermuda Seed@ 120 Lbs./Acre	1	AC	\$915.60	\$915.60
Overseeding					
19	Bahia Seed/ Broadcast Seeder@ 40 Lbs./Acre	1	AC	\$871.20	\$871.20
20	Bahia Seed/ Driller Seeder@ 40 Lbs./Acre	1	AC	\$871.20	\$871.20
21	Cover Crop/ Broadcast	1	AC	\$683.20	\$683.20

	Seeder@ 80 Lbs./Acre				
22	Cover Crop/ Driller Seeder@ 80 Lbs./Acre	1	AC	\$683.20	\$683.20

The Contract Sum – Work to be paid for on the basis of per unit prices: each, lump sum, linear feet, square yards, system, etc.

Progress Payments – Within twenty (20) business days, the City shall pay the Contractor the sum of money due each Progress Payment that is properly allocated to labor, materials, and equipment incorporated in the work for the period covered in the application for progress payment. Retainage will be held at five percent (5%) from each progress payment.

Acceptance and Final Payment – Upon receipt of written notice that the work is ready for final inspection and acceptance, the City will promptly make such inspection. When the City finds the work acceptable under the terms of the Contract and the Contract is fully performed, the entire balance will be due to the Contractor and will be paid to the Contractor within twenty (20) business days. Such final payment of the Contractor shall be subject to the covenants in the Contract's Standard Specifications and any liquidated damages will be assessed against the Contractor at that time.

Before issuance of final payment, the Contractor shall submit evidence that all payrolls, material bills, and other indebtedness connected with the work have been satisfied and paid in full. Final Release of Liens from all contractors, subcontractors, suppliers for materials, and sub-subcontractors are to be attached to the final invoice. In lieu of Final Release, the Contractor may submit a Consent of Surety along with the Final Invoice. All manufacturer's warranty documents must be provided in the format requested by the City prior to final payment.

Invoices for services shall be submitted once per month, by the tenth (10th) day of each month, and payments shall be made within twenty (20) business days, unless the Contractor has chosen to take advantage of the Purchasing Card Program, which guarantees payment within several days. Payments shall be made within twenty (20) business days of receipt of Contractor's valid invoice, provided that the invoice is accompanied by adequate supporting documentation, including any necessary partial release of liens as described above, and is approved by the Project Manager as required under Section XIX of the Contract.

No payment for projects involving improvements to real property shall be due until Contractor delivers to City a complete release of all claims arising out of the Contract or receipts in full in lieu thereof, and an affidavit on his personal knowledge that the releases and receipts include labor and materials for which a lien could be filed.

All invoices and correspondence relative to this Contract must contain the City's Contract number and Purchase Order number, detail of items with prices that correspond to the Contract, a unique invoice number and partial and final release of liens.

All invoices are to be sent to the Project Manager.

The Contractor shall not be paid additional compensation for any loss or damage arising out of the nature of the work, from the action of the elements, or from any delay or unforeseen obstruction or difficulties encountered in the

performance of the work, or for any expenses incurred by or in consequence of the suspension or discontinuance of the work.

In the event the City deems it expedient to perform work which has not been done by the Contractor as required by these Specifications, or to correct work which has been improperly and/or inadequately performed by the Contractor as required in these Specifications, all expenses thus incurred by the City, at the City's option, will be invoiced to the Contractor and/or deducted from payments due to the Contractor. Deductions thus made will not excuse the Contractor from other penalties and conditions contained in the Contract.

All payments not made within the time specified by this section shall bear interest from thirty (30) calendar days after the due date at the rate of one (1) percent per month on the unpaid balance.

SECTION VII **WORK CHANGES**

The City reserves the right to order work changes in the nature of additions, deletions, or modifications without invalidating the Contract, and agrees to make corresponding adjustments in the Contract price and time for completion. Any and all changes must be authorized by a written change order signed by the City's Purchasing Agent, or his designee, as representing the City. Work shall be changed and the Contract price and completion time shall be modified only as set out in the written change order. Any adjustment in the Contract price resulting in a credit or a charge to the City shall be determined by mutual agreement of the parties before starting the work involved in the change. Any dispute concerning work changes which is not resolved by mutual agreement shall be decided by the City Manager who shall reduce the decision to writing. The decision of the City Manager shall be final and conclusive.

SECTION VIII **CONFORMANCE WITH PROPOSAL**

It is understood that the materials and/or work required herein are in accordance with the bid made by the Contractor pursuant to the Solicitation and Specifications on file in the Procurement Management Division of the City. All documents submitted by the Contractor in relation to said bid, and all documents promulgated by the City for inviting proposals are, by reference, made a part hereof as if set forth herein in full.

SECTION IX **INDEMNIFICATION/HOLD HARMLESS**

Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, the City, its officers, agents, and employees from, and against any and all claims, actions, liabilities, losses, and expenses including, but not limited to, attorney's fees for personal, economic, or bodily injury, wrongful death, loss of or damage to property, at law or in equity, which may arise or may be alleged to have risen from the negligent acts, errors, omissions or other wrongful conduct of Contractor, agents, laborers, subcontractors or other personnel entity acting under Contractor's control in connection with the Contractor's performance of services under this Contract. To that extent, Contractor shall pay such claims and losses and shall pay all such costs and judgments which may issue from any lawsuit arising from such claims and losses including wrongful termination or allegations of discrimination or harassment, and shall pay all costs and attorney's fees expended by the City in defense of such claims and losses, including appeals. That the aforesaid hold-harmless agreement by Contractor shall apply to all damages and claims for damages of every kind suffered, or alleged to have

been suffered, by reason of any of the aforesaid operations of Contractor or any agent, laborers, subcontractors, or employee of Contractor regardless of whether or not such insurance policies shall have been determined to be applicable to any of such damages or claims for damages. Contractor shall be held responsible for any violation of laws, rules, regulations, or ordinances affecting in any way the conduct of all persons engaged in or the materials or methods used by Contractor on the work. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Contract.

SECTION X **SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY**

Nothing contained in this Contract shall be deemed or otherwise interpreted as waiving the City's sovereign immunity protections existing under the laws of the State of Florida, or as increasing the limits of liability as set forth in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes.

SECTION XI: **INSURANCE**

The Contractor shall, on a primary basis and at its sole expense, agree to maintain in full force and effect at all times during the life of this Contract, insurance coverage and limits, including endorsements, as described herein. The requirements contained herein, as well as City's review or acceptance of insurance maintained by Contractor are not intended to and shall not in any manner limit or qualify the liabilities and obligations assumed by Contractor under the Contract.

The parties agree and recognize that it is not the intent of the City of Port St. Lucie that any insurance policy/coverage that it may obtain pursuant to any provision of this Contract will provide insurance coverage to any entity, corporation, business, person, or organization, other than the City of Port St. Lucie and the City shall not be obligated to provide any insurance coverage other than for the City of Port St. Lucie or extend its sovereign immunity pursuant to Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, under its self-insured program. Any provision contained herein to the contrary shall be considered void and unenforceable by any party. This provision does not apply to any obligation imposed on any other party to obtain insurance coverage for this project and/or any obligation to name the City of Port St. Lucie as an additional insured under any other insurance policy or otherwise protect the interests of the City of Port St. Lucie as specified in this Contract.

1. Workers' Compensation Insurance & Employer's Liability: The Contractor shall agree to maintain Workers' Compensation Insurance & Employers' Liability in accordance with Section 440, Florida Statutes. Employers' Liability must include limits of at least \$100,000.00 each accident, \$100,000.00 each disease/employee, \$500,000.00 each disease/maximum. A Waiver of Subrogation endorsement shall be provided. Coverage shall apply on a primary basis. Should scope of work performed by Contractor qualify its employee(s) for benefits under Federal Workers' Compensation Statute (for example, U.S. Longshore & Harbor Workers Act or Merchant Marine Act), proof of appropriate Federal Act coverage must be provided.

Commercial General Liability Insurance: The Contractor shall agree to maintain Commercial General Liability insurance issued under an Occurrence form basis, including Contractual liability, to cover the hold harmless agreement set forth herein, with limits of not less than:

Each occurrence	\$1,000,000
Personal/advertising injury	\$1,000,000
Products/completed operations aggregate	\$2,000,000
General aggregate	\$2,000,000
Fire damage	\$100,000 any 1 fire
Medical expense	\$10,000 any 1 person

2. Additional Insured: An Additional Insured endorsement **must** be attached to the certificate of insurance and must include coverage for on-going and Completed Operations (should be ISO CG2037 & CG2010) under the General Liability policy. Products & Completed Operations coverage to be provided for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of possession by City or completion of Contract. Coverage is to be written on an occurrence form basis. Coverage shall apply on a primary and non-contributory basis. A per project aggregate limit endorsement should be attached. Defense costs are to be in addition to the limit of liability. A waiver of subrogation shall be provided in favor of the City. Coverage for the hazards of explosion, collapse and underground property damage (XCU) must also be included when applicable to the work performed. No exclusion for mold, silica or respirable dust or bodily injury/property damage arising out of heat, smoke, fumes, or hostile fire shall apply. Coverage shall extend to independent contractors and fellow employees. Contractual Liability is to be included. Coverage is to include a cross liability or severability of interests' provision as provided under the standard ISO form separation of insurers clause.

Except as to Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability, said Certificate(s) and policies shall clearly state that coverage required by the Contract has been endorsed to include the City of Port St. Lucie, a municipality of the State of Florida, its officers, agents and employees as Additional Insured added to its Commercial General Liability policy and Business Auto policy. The name for the Additional Insured endorsement issued by the insurer shall read: **"City of Port St. Lucie, a municipality of the State of Florida, its officers, employees and agents shall be included as additional insured and shall include Contract # 20250115 – Furnish and Install Sod be listed as additionally insured."** The Policies shall be specifically endorsed to provide thirty (30) days written notice to the City prior to any adverse changes, cancellation, or non-renewal of coverage thereunder. All notices shall be sent to the Procurement Management Division, 121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, Florida 34984. In the event that the statutory liability of the City is amended during the term of this Contract to exceed the above limits, the Contractor shall be required, upon thirty (30) days written notice by the City, to provide coverage at least equal to the amended statutory limit of liability of the City. Copies of the Additional Insured endorsements including Completed Operations coverage shall be attached to the Certificate of Insurance.

3. Business Automobile Liability Insurance: The Contractor shall agree to maintain Business Automobile Liability at a limit of liability not less than \$1,000,000.00 each accident covering any auto, owned, non-owned and hired automobiles. In the event the Contractor does not own any automobiles, the Business Auto Liability requirement shall be amended allowing Contractor to agree to maintain only Hired & Non-Owned Auto Liability. This amended requirement may be satisfied by way of endorsement to the Commercial General Liability, or

separate Business Auto Coverage form. Certificate holder must be listed as additional insured. A waiver of subrogation shall be provided. Coverage shall apply on a primary non-contributory basis.

4. Waiver of Subrogation: The Contractor shall agree by entering into this Contract to a Waiver of Subrogation for each required policy. When required by the insurer, or should a policy condition not permit an Insured to enter into a pre-loss contract to waive subrogation without an endorsement, then Contractor shall agree to notify the insurer and request the policy be endorsed with a Waiver of Transfer of Rights of Recovery Against Others, or its equivalent. This Waiver of Subrogation requirement shall not apply to any policy where a condition to the policy specifically prohibits such an endorsement, or voids coverage should Contractor enter into such a contract on a pre-loss basis.
5. Deductibles: All deductible amounts shall be paid for and be the responsibility of the Contractor for any and all claims under this Contract. Where an SIR or deductible exceeds \$5,000, the City of Port St. Lucie reserves the right, but not obligation, to review and request a copy of the Contractor's most recent annual report or audited financial statement.

It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that all independent contractors and/or subcontractors comply with the same insurance requirements as listed herein, including Products & Completed Operations coverage for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of possession by City or completion of Contract. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to obtain Certificates of Insurance from all contractors and subcontractors listing the City as an Additional Insured, without the language, "when required by written contract." If Contractor, any independent contractors, and/or any subcontractors maintain higher limits than the minimums shown above, the City requires and shall be entitled to coverage for the higher limits maintained by contractor/independent contractor/subcontractor.

The Contractor may satisfy the minimum limits required above for either Commercial General Liability, Business Auto Liability, or Employers' Liability coverage under Umbrella or Excess Liability. The Umbrella or Excess Liability shall have an Aggregate limit not less than the highest "Each Occurrence" limit for either Commercial General Liability, Business Auto Liability, or Employers' Liability. When required by the insurer, or when Umbrella or Excess Liability is written on Non-Follow Form, the City shall be endorsed as an "Additional Insured."

The City, by and through its Risk Management Department, reserves the right, but not obligation, to review, modify, reject, or accept any required policies of insurance including limits, coverages or endorsements, herein from time to time throughout the term of this Contract. All insurance carriers must have an AM Best rating of at least A:VII or better.

SECTION XII: **ACTS OF GOD**

The Contractor shall be responsible for all preparation of the site for Acts of God, including, but not limited to: earthquake, flood, tropical storm, hurricane, or other cataclysmic phenomenon of nature, rain, wind, or other natural phenomenon of normal intensity, including extreme rainfall. No reparation shall be made to the Contractor for damages to the work resulting from these Acts. The City is not responsible for any costs associated with pre or post preparations for any Acts of God.

Emergencies – In the event of emergencies affecting the safety of persons, the work, or property, at the site or adjacent thereto, the Contractor, or his designee, without special instruction or authorization from the City, is obligated to act to prevent threatened damage, injury, or loss. In the event such actions are taken, the Contractor shall promptly give to the City written notice and contact immediately by phone, of any significant changes in work or deviations from the Contract documents caused thereby, and if such action is deemed appropriate by the City, a written authorization signed by the City covering the approved changes and deviations will be issued.

SECTION XIII:
PROHIBITION AGAINST FILING OR MAINTAINING LIENS AND SUITS

Subject to the laws of the State of Florida and of the United States, neither Contractor nor any subcontractor, supplier of materials, laborer, or other person or entity shall file or maintain any lien for labor or materials delivered in the performance of this Contract against the City. The right to maintain such lien for any or all of the above parties is hereby expressly waived.

SECTION XIV:
COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Contractor shall give all notices required by and shall otherwise comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and codes and shall, at his own expense, secure and pay the fees and charges for all permits required for the performance of the Contract. All materials furnished and works done are to comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Contractor will comply with all requirements of 28 C.F.R. § 35.151.

SECTION XV:
PUBLIC RECORDS

Contractor and any subcontractors shall comply with section 119.0701, Florida Statutes. The Contractor and any subcontractors are to allow public access to all documents, papers, letters, or other material made or received by the Contractor in conjunction with this Contract, unless the records are exempt from Article I, section 24(a), Florida Constitution, and section 119.07(1)(a), Florida Statutes. Pursuant to section 119.10(2)(a), Florida Statutes, any person who willfully and knowingly violates any of the provisions of chapter 119, Florida Statutes, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in sections 775.082 and 775.083, Florida Statutes.

RECORDS

The City of Port St. Lucie is a public agency subject to chapter 119, Florida Statutes. The Contractor shall comply with Florida's Public Records Laws. CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES. Pursuant to section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, Contractor agrees to comply with all public records laws, specifically to:

Keep and maintain public records required by the City in order to perform the service.

- A. The timeframes and classifications for records retention requirements must be in accordance with the General Records Schedule GS1-SL for State and Local Government Agencies and GS2 for Criminal Justice Agencies and District Medical Examiners.
- B. During the term of the Contract, the Contractor shall maintain all books, reports, and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and standards for records directly related to this Contract. The form of all records and reports shall be subject to the approval of the City.
- C. Records include all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received pursuant to law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business with the City. Contractor's records under this Contract include, but are not limited to, supplier/subcontractor invoices and contracts, project documents, meeting notes, emails and all other documentation generated during this Contract.
- D. The Contractor agrees to make available to the City, during normal business hours all books of account, reports and records relating to this Contract.
- E. A Contractor who fails to provide the public records to the City within a reasonable time may also be subject to penalties under section 119.10, Florida Statutes.

Upon request from the City's custodian of public records, provide the City with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in chapter 119 or as otherwise provided by law.

Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the Contract term and following completion of the Contract if the Contractor does not transfer the records to the City.

Upon completion of the Contract, transfer, at no cost to the City, all public records in possession of the Contractor or keep and maintain public records required by the City to perform the service. If the Contractor transfers all public records to the City upon completion of the Contract, the Contractor shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the Contractor keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the Contract, the Contractor shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the City, upon request from the City's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the City.

IF THE CONTRACTOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE CONTRACTOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT:

CITY CLERK
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984
(772) 871 5157
pr@cityofpsl.com

TRADE SECRETS

Any material submitted to the City that Contractor contends constitutes or contains trade secrets or is otherwise exempt from production under Florida public records laws (including chapter 119, Florida Statutes) ("Trade Secret Materials"), must be separately submitted and conspicuously labeled: "EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC RECORD PRODUCTION – TRADE SECRET." In addition, simultaneous with the submission of any Trade Secret Materials, the Contractor shall provide a sworn affidavit from a person with personal knowledge attesting that the Trade Secret Materials constitute trade secrets under section 688.002, Florida Statutes, and stating the factual basis to support the attestation. If a third party submits a request to the City for records designated by the Contract as Trade Secret Materials, the City shall refrain from disclosing the Trade Secret Materials, unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction or authorized in writing by the Contractor. Contractor shall indemnify and defend the City, its employees, agents, assigns, successors, and subcontractors from any and all claims, causes of action, losses, fines, penalties, damages, judgments, and liabilities of any kind, including attorney's fees, litigation expenses, and court costs, relating to the nondisclosure of any Trade Secret Materials in response to a records request by a third party.

SECTION XVI: SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES

By entering into this Contract with the City, Contractor certifies that it and those related entities of Contractor, as defined by Florida law, are not on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to section 215.4725, Florida Statutes, and are not engaged in a boycott of Israel. The City may terminate this Contract if Contractor or any of those related entities of Contractor, as defined by Florida law, are found to have submitted a false certification or any of the following occur with respect to the company or a related entity: (i) it has been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, or is engaged in a boycott of Israel, or (ii) for any contract for goods or services of one million dollars or more, it has been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or it is found to have been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria. Notwithstanding the preceding, the City reserves the right and may, in its sole discretion, on a case by case basis, permit a company on such lists or engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria to be eligible for, bid on, submit a proposal for, or enter into or renew a contract for goods or services of one million dollars or more, or may permit a company on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List to be eligible for, bid on, submit a proposal for, or enter into or renew a contract for goods or services of any amount, should the City determine that the conditions set forth in section 287.135(4), Florida Statutes, are met.

SECTION XVII: **CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION**

Amendments. The City and the Contractor agree that they will, from time to time, execute, acknowledge and deliver, or cause to be executed, acknowledged and delivered, such supplements hereto and such further instruments as may reasonably be required for carrying out the expressed intention of the Contract. The Contract may be amended in writing from time to time by mutual consent of the parties. All amendments to the Contract must be in writing and fully executed by duly authorized representatives of the City and the Contractor.

Fiscal Year. All reference to Fiscal Year shall mean the City's Fiscal Year. The City's Fiscal Year is from October 1st through September 30th.

Joint Venture. Nothing in the Contract shall be construed as creating or constituting the relationship of a partnership, joint venture, or other association of any kind or agent and principal relationship, between the vested parties. Each party shall be deemed to be an independent contractor contracting for the services and acting toward the mutual benefits expected to be derived from the mutually agreed upon Contract. Neither Contractor nor any of Contractor's agents, employees, subcontractors or contractors shall become or be deemed to become agents, or employees of the City. Contractor shall therefore be responsible for compliance with all laws, rules and regulations involving its employees and any subcontractors, including but not limited to employment of labor, hours of labor, health and safety, working conditions, workers' compensation insurance, and payment of wages. No party has the authority to enter into any contract or create an obligation or liability on behalf of, in the name of, or binding upon another party to the Contract.

Performance by Industry Standards. The Contractor represents and expressly warrants that all aspects of the Services provided or used by it shall, at a minimum, conform to the standards in the Contractor's industry. This requirement shall be in addition to any express warranties, representations, and specifications included in the Contract, which shall take precedence

Permits, Licenses, and Certifications. The Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining all permits, licenses, certifications, etc., required by Federal, State, County, and Municipal laws, regulations, codes, and ordinances for the performance of the work required in these specifications and to conform with the requirements of said legislation. The Contractor shall be required to complete a **W-9 Taxpayer Identification Form**, provided with the City's contract, and return it with the signed contract and insurance documents.

Use of Name or Intellectual Property. Contractor agrees it will not use the name or any intellectual property, including but not limited to, City trademarks or logos in any manner, including commercial advertising or as a business reference, without the expressed prior written consent of the City.

Waiver. Except as specifically provided for in a waiver signed by duly authorized representatives of the City and the Contractor, failure by either party at any time to require performance by the other party or to claim a breach of any provision of the Contract shall not be construed as affecting any subsequent right to require performance or to claim a breach. Each waiver, if mutually agreed upon, shall be published as a contract amendment.

SECTION XVIII: **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

In the event of any conflict between the terms and conditions, appearing on any purchase order issued relative to this Contract, and those contained in this Contract and the Specifications herein referenced, the terms of this Contract and Specifications herein referenced shall apply.

Implied Warranty of Merchantability – It is understood that the implied warranty of merchantability and fitness for the specified purpose are not disclaimed notwithstanding any representation to the contrary.

Warranty and Guarantee – All products furnished by the contractor shall be supplied with all warranties and guarantees of the manufacturer. All products must be warranted by the Contractor to be free of defects in workmanship and material for a period of not less than three hundred sixty-five (365) calendar days; said period to commence upon the date products are accepted by the City and Contractor has received final payment.

Miscellaneous Testing – The Contractor agrees to reimburse the City for any expenditure incurred by the City in the process of testing products supplied by the Contractor if said products prove to be defective and/or in other manners not in compliance with the specifications. Expenditures as defined therein shall include, but not limited to, the replacement value of products destroyed in testing, the cost paid by the City to testing laboratories and other entities utilized to provide tests, and the value of labor and materials expended by the City in the process of conducting the testing. Reimbursement of charges as specified herein shall not relieve the Contractor from other remedies.

City's Public Relations Image – The Contractor's personnel shall at all times handle complaints and any public contact with due regard to the City's relationship with the public. Any personnel in the employ of the Contractor involved in the execution of work that is deemed to be conducting him/herself in an unacceptable manner shall be removed from the project at the request of the City Manager.

Dress Code – All personnel in the employ of the Contractor shall be appropriately attired. Employees engaged in the course of work shall wear company uniforms neat and clean in appearance, readily identifiable to all City employees and the public. No tee shirts with obscene pictures or writings will be allowed. Swimsuits, tank tops, shorts and sandals are also prohibited. Safety toed shoes shall be worn at all times.

Patent Fees, Royalties, and Licenses – If the Contractor requires or desires to use any design, trademark, device, material or process covered by letters of patent or copyright, the Contractor and his surety shall indemnify and hold harmless the City from any and all claims for infringement in connection with the work agreed to be performed. The Contractor shall indemnify the City from any cost, expense, royalty or damage which the City may be obligated to pay by reason of any infringement at any time during the prosecution of or after completion of the work.

Cooperative Purchasing Agreement - This contract may be expanded to include other governmental agencies. Contractor may agree to allow other public agencies the same items at the same terms and conditions as this contract, during the period of time that this contract is in effect. Each political entity will be responsible for execution of its own requirements with the Contractor.

Discrepancies – If, in the course of performing work resulting from an award under this specification, the Contractor finds any discrepancy between the area defined in these specifications and the actual area where work is being performed, the Contractor shall discontinue work on the subject area and inform the City of the discrepancy. The Contractor shall thereafter proceed as authorized by the City who will document any modification to these specifications that City has authorized in writing as soon as possible.

Permission to Use – The Contractor shall permit any portion of the new work, which is in suitable condition, to be used by the City for the purpose for which it was intended, provided such use does not hinder or make more expensive the work still to be done by the Contractor.

Contractual Relations – The Contractor(s) are advised that nothing contained in the contract or specifications shall create any contractual relations between the City and subcontractor of the Contractor.

Labor and Equipment – The Contractor shall utilize experienced personnel who are thoroughly capable of performing the work assigned to them. The Contractor shall utilize proper equipment in good repair to perform assigned work. Failure on the part of the Contractor to furnish such labor or equipment shall be sufficient cause for annulment of any award resulting from these specifications.

Standard Production Items - All products offered must be standard production items that have been available to the trade for a period of not less than two (2) years and are expected to remain available in future years.

Storage and Stockpiling – All storage or stockpiling of tools or materials (i.e., lumber, pilings, etc.) shall be limited to uplands. Excess lumber, scrap wood, trash, garbage or other types of debris shall be removed from the project site upon completion of the work.

Florida Produced Lumber – The Contractor agrees to comply with the provisions of Section 255.20, Florida Statutes, and as may be amended from time to time.

Erosion and Sediment Control – The Contractor is responsible for all erosion and sediment control in accordance with all local, State and Federal regulatory agency guidelines.

Water Resources – The Contractor shall not discharge without permit into waters of lakes, rivers, canals, waterways and ditches, any fuel, oils, bitumen's, garbage, sewage, or other materials which may be harmful to fish, wildlife, or vegetation, or that may be detrimental to outdoor recreation. The Contractor shall be responsible for investigating and complying with all applicable Federal, State and Local laws and regulations governing pollution of waters. All work under this Contract shall be performed in such a manner that objectionable conditions will not be created in waters through or adjacent to the project areas.

Native Vegetation – No native vegetation shall be removed without written authorization and prior approval by the City.

Sanitary Conditions – the Contractor shall be responsible to permit the City, its inspectors, and other authorized representative of the City to have access to all parts of the work, and to all materials intended for use in the work, and to all factories where such materials are manufactured, at all times. The above designated City personnel shall be permitted during said access to remove materials and make such inspections, as they deem necessary. Materials submitted for approval will be inspected and passed upon as promptly as practical as will work in process. However, failure to reject defective work at the time it is done and/or failure to reject materials shall in no way prevent rejection at any time prior to final acceptance of the work authorized by the City.

Foreman or Superintendent and Workmen – The Contractor shall at all times during progress of the work, have on site a competent foreman or superintendent with authority to act for him and to cooperate with the City. The Contractor shall provide competent, careful and reliable workmen engaged on special work, or skilled work, such as concrete bases, pavements, or structure, or in any trade, with sufficient experience in such work to perform it properly and satisfactorily and to operate the equipment involved. Provide workmen that shall make do and proper effort to execute the work in the manner prescribed in the Contract Documents.

It is prohibited as a conflict of interest for a Contractor to subcontract with a consultant to perform Contractor Quality Control when the consultant is under contract with the City to perform work on any project described in the Contractor's Contract with the City. Prior to approving a consultant for Contractor Quality Control, the Contractor shall submit to the City a certificate from the proposed consultant certifying that no conflict of interest exists.

Adjustments – The Contractor shall be responsible to arrange with utility companies for any adjustment necessary to the valve boxes, manholes, or castings so that they will conform to the new grade after placement of the sidewalk.

The Contractor shall also be responsible to identify and avoid damage to all utilities (publicly and privately owned) within the area where work is being performed.

Exceptions to FDOT Standards – Weather days are defined as that the City will grant time extensions, on a day-to-day basis, for delays caused by the effects of rain or other inclement weather conditions, related adverse soils or suspensions of operations that prevent the Contractor from working. No work requiring inspections / testing may be performed on days granted as weather days. If a Contractor claims a weather day, no work shall be performed.

Conflicts – If there is a conflict between FDOT Specifications and the City's Specifications, the City Specifications will supersede.

Damages – The Contractor shall be responsible for the charge and care of all work from damage by the elements or from any cause whatsoever until the City confirms in writing to the Contractor that said work is, "substantially complete" and/or "accepted". The Contractor shall be responsible until said written notice is received to repair and make good at their expense any such damage.

Damage to Property – The Contractor shall preserve from damage all property along the line of work, or which is in the vicinity of or is in any way affected by the work, the removal, or destruction of which is not called for by the plans. This applies to public and private property, public and private utilities, trees, shrubs, crops, signs, monuments, fences, guardrail, pipe and underground structures, public highways, etc. Whenever such property is damaged due to the activities of the Contractor, it shall be immediately restored to a condition equal to or better than existing before such damage or injury was done by the Contractor, and at the Contractor's sole expense. The Contractor's special attention is directed to protection of any geodetic monument, horizontal, vertical or property corner, located within the limits of construction.

National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929 (NGVD '29) or North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD '88) monuments shall be protected. If in danger of damage, notify:

Geodetic Information Center
6001 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20852
Attn: Maintenance Center (301) 443-8319

City of Port St. Lucie vertical or horizontal datum shall also be protected. In case of damage or if relocation is needed, notify:

City of Port St. Lucie
Engineering Department
121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard
Port St. Lucie, FL 341984-5099 (772) 871-5175

SECTION XIX: **INSPECTION AND CORRECTION OF DEFECTS**

In order to determine whether the required material has been delivered or the required work performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract documents, the Project Manager shall make inspection as soon as practicable after receipt from the Contractor of a Notice of Performance or delivery ticket. If such inspection shows that the required materials has been delivered and required work performed in accordance with terms and conditions of the Contract documents and that the material and work is entirely satisfactory, the Project Manager shall approve the invoice when it is received. Thereafter the Contractor shall be entitled to payment, as described in Section VI. If

upon such inspection the Project Manager is not satisfied, he shall as promptly as practicable inform the parties hereto of the specific respects in which his findings are not favorable. Contractor shall then be afforded an opportunity if desired by him, to correct the deficiencies so pointed out at no additional charge to the City, and otherwise on terms and conditions specified by the Project Manager. Upon failure of the Contractor to perform the work in accordance with the Contract Documents, including any requirements with respect to the Schedule of Completion, and after five (5) days written notice to the Contractor, the City may, without prejudice to any other remedy he may have, correct such deficiencies. The Contractor shall be charged all costs incurred to correct deficiencies. Such examination, inspection, or tests made by the Project Manager, at any time, shall not relieve Contractor of his responsibility to remedy any deviation, deficiency, or defect.

Authority – The Contractor is hereby informed that City inspectors are not authorized to alter, revoke, enlarge, or relax the provisions of these specifications. They are not authorized to approve or accept any portion of the completed work, or instructions contrary to the specifications. An inspector is placed on the project (or sent to the location of materials) to inspect materials being used in the work and to observe the manner in which the work is being performed and to report the progress of the work to the City. The inspector shall have the authority to reject defective materials or suspend any work that is being improperly done subject to the final decision of the City.

Notification – The Contractor shall be responsible to give twenty-four (24) hour notification to the City when field observations are required.

Defective Work – All work and/or materials not meeting the requirements of these specifications shall be deemed as defective by the City, and all such work and/or material, whether in place or not, shall be removed immediately from the site of the work. All rejected materials that have been corrected shall not be used until the City has issued written approval to the Contractor. Without unnecessary delay and without any additional cost to the City, all work that has been rejected shall be remedied or removed and replaced in a manner acceptable to the City. If the Contractor fails to promptly remove and properly dispose of rejected materials and/or work then replaces same immediately after being notified to do so, the City may employ labor to remove and replace such defective work and/or materials. All charges for replacement of defective materials and/or work shall be charged to the Contractor and may be deducted from any monies due to the Contractor or his Surety.

Repair or Replacement – Should any defect appear during the warranty period, the Contractor shall, at their own expense, have repaired or replaced such item upon receipt of written notice from the City of said defect. Said repair or replacement must be accomplished within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of notification from the City of the defect.

Deductions – In the event the City deems it expedient to perform work which has not been done by the Contractor as required by these Specifications, or to correct work which has been improperly and/or inadequately performed by the contractor as required in these Specifications, all expenses thus incurred by the City, in the City's option, will be invoiced to the Contractor and/or may be deducted from payments due to the Contractor. Deductions thus made will not excuse the Contractor from other penalties and conditions contained in the Contract.

SECTION XX: **LICENSING**

Contractor warrants that it and its employees possess all licenses and certifications necessary to perform required work and is not in violation of any laws. Contractor warrants that such licenses and certificates are current and will be maintained throughout the duration of the Contract.

SECTION XXI: **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

Precaution shall be exercised at all times for the protection of persons, including employees, and property. The Contractor shall erect and maintain all necessary safeguards for the protection of the Contractor's employees and subcontractors, City personnel, and the general public; including, but not limited to, posting danger signs, and other warnings against hazards as is prudent and/or required by law to protect the public interest. All damage, injury or loss to persons and/or property caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by the Contractor's employees, or subcontractor(s), or anyone directly or indirectly employed by said parties shall be remedied by the Contractor at the Contractor's sole expense. The safety provisions of all applicable laws and building and construction codes shall be observed.

Safety Data Sheets – The Contractor shall provide SDS's and description literature for each chemical/compound/mixture used in the performance of the Contract to the City before the commencement of any work. All SDS's shall be of the latest version and comply with 29 CFR1910.1200. Hazardous products shall not be used except with prior approval of the City, and must be disposed of properly by the Contractor in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 40-CFR 260-265. The Contractor shall maintain and have readily accessible on-site a complete SDS book of all chemicals, compounds/mixtures used in the execution of the contract.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – All personnel are required to wear PPE in the process of the work including eye protection, hearing protection, respiratory protection as necessary, gloves, approved safety boots with steel or composite toes and any other PPE as necessary for the work.

OSHA Compliance – Contractors must agree that the products furnished, and application methods will comply with applicable provisions of the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. These requirements shall include all primary and refresher training mandated under the OSHA guidelines.

SECTION XXII: **ASSIGNMENT**

Contractor shall not delegate, assign, or subcontract any part of the work under this Contract or assign any monies due him hereunder without first obtaining the written consent of the City. If Contractor sells all or a majority of its shares, merges with, or otherwise is acquired by or unifies with a third party, it shall notify the City within ten (10) days. If after such notice, the City determines in its sole discretion, it may terminate the Contract, without penalty. Any assignment and/or assumption by/through Contractor and a third party via a business transaction is strictly conditioned upon the third party assuming all obligations under the Contract as it exists at the time of the assignment and/or assumption.

SECTION XXIII: **TERMINATION, DELAYS, AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES**

Termination for Cause. The occurrence of any one or more of the following events shall constitute cause for the City to declare the Contractor in default of its obligations under the Contract:

- I. The Contractor fails to deliver or has delivered nonconforming services or fails to perform, to the City's satisfaction, any material requirement of the Contract or is in violation of a material provision of the Contract, including, but without limitation, the express warranties made by the Contractor;
- II. The Contractor fails to make substantial and timely progress toward performance of the Contract;
- III. In the event the Contractor is required to be certified or licensed as a condition precedent to providing the Services, the revocation or loss of such license or certification may result in immediate termination of the Contract effective as of the date on which the license or certification is no longer in effect;
- IV. The Contractor becomes subject to any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding under federal or state law, to the extent allowed by applicable federal or state law, including bankruptcy laws; the Contractor terminates or suspends its business; or the City reasonably believes that the Contractor has become insolvent or unable to pay its obligations as they accrue consistent with applicable federal or state law;
- V. The Contractor has failed to comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, ordinances, regulations, and orders when performing within the scope of the Contract;
- VI. The Contractor has engaged in conduct that has or may expose the City to liability, as determined in the City's sole discretion;
- VII. The Contractor furnished any statement, representation, or certification in connection with the Contract, which is materially false, deceptive, incorrect, or incomplete.

Notice of Default. If there is a default event caused by the Contractor, the City shall provide written notice to the Contractor requesting that the breach or noncompliance be remedied within the period specified in the City's written notice to the Contractor. If the breach or noncompliance is not remedied within the period specified in the written notice, the City may:

- I. Immediately terminate the Contract without additional written notice(s); and/or
- II. Enforce the terms and conditions of the Contract and seek any legal or reasonable remedies; and/or
- III. Procure substitute services from another source and charge the difference between the Contract and the substitute contract to the defaulting Contractor. Such a charge, in the City's option, may be invoiced to the Contractor and/or may be deducted from payments due to the Contractor. Deductions thus made will not excuse the Contractor from other penalties and conditions contained in the Contract.

Termination for Convenience. The City, in its sole discretion, may terminate this Contract at any time without cause, by providing at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice to Contractor. Following termination without cause, the Contractor shall be entitled to compensation upon submission of invoices and proper proof of claim, for services provided under the Contract to the City up to the time of termination, pursuant to Florida law.

Liquidated Damages for Delays. If material is not provided or work is not completed within the time stipulated in this Contract, including any extensions of time for excusable delays as herein provided, the Contractor shall provide to the City one thousand (\$1,690.00) dollars as fixed, agreed, and liquidated damages for each calendar day of delay until the work is completed. The parties agree that this amount represents a good faith estimate on the part of the parties as to the actual potential damages that would occur because of late completion. Contractor hereby expressly waives and relinquishes any right which it may have to seek to characterize the above noted liquidated damages as a penalty, which the parties agree represents a fair and reasonable estimate of City's actual damages at the time of contracting. The Contractor and his sureties shall be jointly and severally liable to the City for the total amount thereof. This shall be the City's sole remedy as to these delays. Any other provision herein that provides for multiple, alternative, discretionary, or cumulative relief, shall not apply to this paragraph.

SECTION XXIV
APPROPRIATION APPROVAL

The Contractor acknowledges that the City of Port St Lucie's performance and obligation to pay under this Contract is contingent upon an annual appropriation by the City Council. The Contractor agrees that, in the event such appropriation is not forthcoming, this Contract may be terminated by the City and that no charges, penalties or other costs shall be assessed.

SECTION XXV:
LAW, VENUE, AND WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL

This Contract is to be construed as though made in and to be performed in the State of Florida and is to be governed by the laws of Florida in all respects without reference to the laws of any other state or nation. The venue of any action taken to enforce this Contract, arising out of this Contract, or related to this Contract, shall be in St. Lucie County, Florida.

The parties to this Contract hereby freely, voluntarily, and expressly, waive their respective rights to trial by jury on any issues so triable after having the opportunity to consult with an attorney.

SECTION XXVI:
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The City hereby acknowledges that the Contractor may be performing professional services for private developers within the Treasure Coast area. Should a conflict of interest arise between providing services to the City and/or other clients, the Contractor shall terminate its relationship with the other client to resolve the conflict of interest. The City Manager shall determine whether a conflict of interest exists. At the time of each Project Proposal the Contractor shall disclose all of its Treasure Coast clients and related Scope of Work.

SECTION XXVII:
PROHIBITION AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

The Contractor warrants that he or she has not employed or retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Contractor, to solicit or secure this Contract and that he has not paid or agreed to pay any person, company, corporation, individual, or firm, other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Contractor, any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or other consideration contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Contract.

SECTION XXVIII:
ATTORNEY'S FEES

Each party is responsible for its own attorney's fees for any action arising from or related to this Contract. Each party expressly waives any right to seek attorney's fees from the other party, regardless of the source of such right.

SECTION XXIX:
CODE OF ETHICS

Contractor warrants and represents that its employees will abide by any applicable provisions of the State of Florida Code of Ethics in Chapter 112.311 et seq., Florida Statutes, and Code of Ethics Ordinances in Section 9.14 of the City of Port St. Lucie Code.

SECTION XXX:
POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Contractor shall not discriminate against any person in its operations, activities, or delivery of services under this Contract. Contractor shall affirmatively comply with all applicable provisions of federal, state, and local equal employment laws and shall not engage in or commit any discriminatory practice against any person based on race, age, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, physical or mental disability, political affiliation, or any other factor which cannot be lawfully used as a basis for service delivery.

SECTION XXXI:
SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Contract shall be deemed severable and if any portion of the Contract is found invalid or unenforceable, it shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions herein.

SECTION XXXII:
AUDITS

The Contractor shall establish and maintain a reasonable accounting system that enables the City to readily identify the Contractor's assets, expenses, costs of goods, and use of funds throughout the term of the Contract for a period of at least seven (7) years following the date of final payment or completion of any required audit, whichever is later. Records shall include, but are not limited to, accounting records, written policies and procedures; subcontract files (including proposals of successful and unsuccessful bidders, bid recaps, etc.); all paid vouchers including those for out-of-pocket expenses; other reimbursement supported by invoices; ledgers; canceled checks; deposit slips; bank statements; journals; original estimates; estimating worksheets; contract amendments and change order files; back charge logs and supporting documentation; insurance documents; payroll documents; timesheets; memoranda; and correspondence. The Contractor shall permit the City's authorized auditor or any authorized representative of the State, and where federal funds are involved, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any other authorized representative of the United States government, to access and examine, audit, excerpt and to make copies of all books, documents, papers, electronic or optically stored and created records, or other records relating or pertaining to this Contract kept by or under the control of the Contractor, including, but not limited to, those kept by the Contractor, its employees, agents, assigns, successors, and subcontractors. Such records shall be made available to the City during normal business hours at the Contractor's office or place of business. The Contractor shall not impose a charge for

audit or examination of the Contractor's books and records. If an audit discloses incorrect billings or improprieties, the City reserves the right to charge the Contractor for the cost of the audit and appropriate reimbursement. Any adjustments and/or payments that must be made as a result of any such audit or inspection of the Contractor's invoices and/or records shall be made within a reasonable amount of time (not to exceed ninety (90) days) from presentation of the City's findings to the Contractor. Evidence of criminal conduct will be turned over to the proper authorities.

The Contractor shall ensure the City has these rights with Contractor's employees, agents, assigns, successors, and subcontractors, and the obligations of these rights shall be explicitly included in any subcontracts or agreements formed between the Contractor and any subcontractors to the extent that those subcontracts or agreements relate to fulfillment of the Contractor's obligations to the City.

SECTION XXXIII: **FORCE MAJEURE**

Any deadline provided for in this Contract may be extended, as provided in this paragraph, if the deadline is not met because of one of the following conditions occurring with respect to that particular project or parcel: fire, strike, explosion, power blackout, earthquake, volcanic action, flood, war, civil disturbances, terrorist acts, hurricanes, and Acts of God. When one of the foregoing conditions interferes with Contract performance, then the party affected may be excused from performance on a day-for-day basis to the extent such party's obligations relate to the performance so interfered with, provided, the party so affected shall use reasonable efforts to remedy or remove such causes of non-performance. The party so affected shall not be entitled to any additional compensation by reason of any day-for-day extension hereunder.

SECTION XXXIV: **CONSTRUCTION**

The title of the section and paragraph headings in this Contract are for reference only and shall not govern, suggest, or affect the interpretation of any of the terms or provisions within each section or this Contract as a whole. The use of the term "including" in this Contract shall be construed as "including, without limitation." Where specific examples are given to clarify a general statement, the specific language shall not be construed as limiting, modifying, restricting, or otherwise affecting the general statement. All singular words and terms shall also include the plural, and vice versa. Any gendered words or terms used shall include all genders. Where a rule, law, statute, or ordinance is referenced, it indicates the rule, law, statute, or ordinance in place at the time the Contract is executed, as well as may be amended from time to time, where application of the amended version is permitted by law.

The parties have participated jointly in the negotiation and drafting of this Contract and agree that both have been represented by counsel and/or had sufficient time to consult counsel, before entering into this Contract. In the event an ambiguity, conflict, omission, or question of intent or interpretation arises, this Contract shall be construed as if drafted jointly by the parties, and there shall be no presumption or burden of proof or persuasion based on which party drafted a provision of the Contract.

SECTION XXXV:
E-VERIFY

The Contractor agrees to comply with section 448.095, Florida Statutes, including the following:

- A. Contractor must register with and use the E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the Contractor. The Contractor must provide the City with sufficient proof of compliance with this provision before beginning work under this Contract.
- B. If Contractor enters into a contract with a subcontractor, Contractor must require each and every subcontractor to provide the Contractor with an affidavit stating that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with an unauthorized alien. The Contractor shall maintain a copy of each and every such affidavit(s) for the duration of the Contract and any renewals thereafter.
- C. The City shall terminate this Contract if it has a good faith belief that a person or an entity with which it is contracting has knowingly violated section 448.09(1), Florida Statutes.
- D. Contractor shall immediately terminate any contract with any subcontractor if Contractor has, or develops, a good faith belief that the subcontractor has violated section 448.09(1), Florida Statutes. If the City has or develops a good faith belief that any subcontractor of Contractor knowingly violated section 448.09(1), Florida Statutes, or any provision of section 448.095, Florida Statutes, the City shall promptly notify the Contractor and order the Contractor to immediately terminate the contract with the subcontractor.
- E. The City shall terminate this Contract for violation of any provision in this section. If the Contract is terminated under this section, it is not a breach of contract and may not be considered as such. If the City terminates this Contract under this section, the Contractor may not be awarded a public contract for at least one (1) year after the date on which the Contract was terminated. A contractor is liable for any additional costs incurred by the City as a result of the termination of the contract.
- F. The City, Contractor, or any subcontractor may file a cause of action with a circuit or county court to challenge a termination under section 448.095(5)(c), Florida Statutes, no later than twenty (20) calendar days after the date on which the Contract was terminated. The parties agree that any such a cause of action must be filed in St. Lucie County, Florida, in accordance with the Venue provision herein.

SECTION XXXVI:
NON-EXCLUSIVITY

The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that this Contract is non-exclusive.

SECTION XXXVII:
DISCRIMINATORY, CONVICTED, AND ANTITRUST VIOLATOR VENDOR LISTS

Contractor certifies that neither it nor any of its affiliates, as defined in the statutes below, have been placed on the discriminatory vendor list under section 287.134, Florida Statutes; the convicted vendor list under section 287.133, Florida Statutes; or the antitrust violator vendor list under section 287.137, Florida Statutes. Absent certain conditions under these statutes, neither contractors nor their affiliates, as defined in the statutes, who have been placed on such lists may submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids, proposals, or replies on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; and may not transact business with any public entity.

**SECTION XXXVIII:
COOPERATION WITH INSPECTOR GENERAL**

Pursuant to section 20.055, Florida Statutes, it is the duty of every state officer, employee, agency, special district, board, commission, contractor, and subcontractor to cooperate with the inspector general in any investigation, audit, inspection, review, or hearing pursuant to this section. Contractor understands and will comply with this statute.

**SECTION XXXIX:
ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Contract sets forth the entire agreement between Contractor and City with respect to the subject matter of this Contract. This Contract supersedes all prior and contemporaneous negotiations, understandings, and agreements, written or oral, between the parties. This Contract may not be modified except by the parties' mutual agreement set forth in writing and signed by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract, the day and year first above written.

CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA

NATURES KEEPER INC.

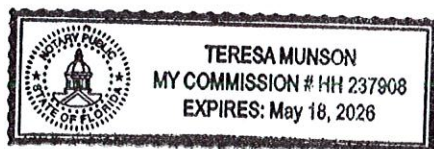
By: _____
Purchasing Agent

By: *[Signature]*
Authorized Representative

NOTARIZATION AS TO AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE'S EXECUTION

STATE OF FLORIDA)
) ss
COUNTY OF St. Lucie)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by [] physical presence or [] online notarization, this 2 day of May, 2025 by Kristen Bieger who is [X] personally known to me, or who has [-] produced the following identification:



[Signature]
Signature of Notary Public

Teresa J. Munson

Print Name of Notary Public
Notary Public, State of Florida
My Commission expires:

NOTARY SEAL/STAMP