

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DISTRICT

August 9, 2024

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**PUBLIC HEARINGS,
REGULAR MEETING AND
AUDIT COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

AGENDA
LETTER

Varrea North Community Development District
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W•Boca Raton, Florida 33431
Phone: (561) 571-0010•Toll-free: (877) 276-0889•Fax: (561) 571-0013

August 2, 2024

Board of Supervisors
Varrea North Community Development District

Dear Board Members:

The Board of Supervisors of the Varrea North Community Development District will hold Public Hearings, a Regular Meeting and Audit Committee Meeting on August 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610. The agenda is as follows:

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comments
3. Administration of Oath of Office to Anne Mize [Seat 2] *(the following will be provided in a separate package)*
 - A. Updates and Reminders: Ethics Training for Special District Supervisors and Form 1
 - B. Membership, Obligation and Responsibilities
 - C. Guide to Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees
 - D. Form 8B: Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal and other Local Public Officers
4. Acceptance of Resignation of Brian Janek (Seat 4); *Term Expires November 2026*
5. Consider Appointment of Ethen Broadwater to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 4
 - Administration of Oath of Office
6. Acceptance of Resignation of Ryan Hoppe (Seat 3); *Term Expires November 2026*
7. Consider Appointment of Kyle Keenan to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 5
 - Administration of Oath of Office
8. Acceptance of Resignation of Cody You (Seat 5); *Term Expires November 2026*

ATTENDEES:

Please identify yourself each time you speak to facilitate accurate transcription of meeting minutes.

9. Consider Appointment of Michelle Guerrier to Fill Unexpired Term of Seat 5
 - Administration of Oath of Office
10. Consideration of 2024-35, Electing and Removing Officers of the District and Providing for an Effective Date
11. Public Hearing to Hear Public Comments and Objections to the Adoption of the Rules of Procedure, Pursuant to Sections 120.54 and 190.035, Florida Statutes
 - A. Affidavits of Publication
 - B. Consideration of Resolution 2024-30, Adopting Rules of Procedure; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date
12. Public Hearing to Hear Public Comments and Objections to the Adoption of the Joint Rules, Policies, and Fees Regarding Amenity Facilities, Pursuant to Sections 120.54 and 190.035, Florida Statutes
 - A. Affidavits of Publication
 - B. Consideration of Resolution 2024-31, Adopting Joint Rules and Policies Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date
13. Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget
 - A. Affidavit of Publication
 - B. Consideration of Resolution 2024-32, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budget(s) for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2024; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date
14. Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget
 - A. Affidavit of Publication
 - B. Consideration of Resolution 2024-33, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budget(s) for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2024, and Ending September 30, 2025; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date
15. Consideration of Resolution 2024-34, Amending Resolution 2024-24 to Re-Set the Date, Time and Location of the Public Hearing Regarding the District's Intent to Use the Uniform Method for the Levy, Collection, and Enforcement of Non-Ad Valorem Special

Assessments as Authorized by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date

16. Recess Regular Meeting/Commencement of Audit Selection Committee Meeting
17. Review of Response to Request for Proposals (RFP) for Annual Audit Services
 - A. Affidavit of Publication
 - B. RFP Package
 - C. Respondents
 - I. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
 - II. Grau & Associates
 - D. Auditor Evaluation Matrix/Ranking
18. Termination of Audit Selection Committee Meeting/Reconvene Regular Meeting
19. Consider Recommendation of Audit Selection Committee
 - Award of Contract
20. Consideration of Goals and Objectives Reporting [HB7013 - Special Districts Performance Measures and Standards Reporting]
21. Consideration of Resolution 2024-20, Designating the Location of the Local District Records Office and Providing an Effective Date
22. Acceptance of Unaudited Financial Statements as of June 30, 2024
23. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - A. June 5, 2024 Landowners' Meeting
 - B. June 5, 2024 Organizational Meeting
24. Staff Reports
 - A. District Counsel: *Kutak Rock, LLP*
 - B. District Engineer: (Interim): *Ardurra Group, Inc.*
 - C. District Manager: *Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC*
 - NEXT MEETING DATE: September 13, 2024 at 10:00 AM

○ QUORUM CHECK

SEAT 1	RYAN ZOOK	☐ IN PERSON	☐ PHONE	☐ NO
SEAT 2	ANNE MIZE	☐ IN PERSON	☐ PHONE	☐ NO
SEAT 3	KYLE KEENAN	☐ IN PERSON	☐ PHONE	☐ NO
SEAT 4	ETHEN BROADWATER	☐ IN PERSON	☐ PHONE	☐ NO
SEAT 5	MICHELLE GUERRIER	☐ IN PERSON	☐ PHONE	☐ NO

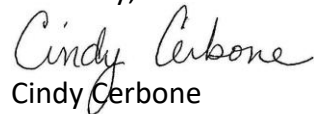
25. Board Members' Comments/Requests

26. Public Comments

27. Adjournment

If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (561) 346-5294 or Andrew Kantarzhi at (415) 516-2161.

Sincerely,



Cindy Cerbone
District Manager

FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF TO ATTEND BY TELEPHONE

CALL-IN NUMBER: 1-888-354-0094

PARTICIPANT PASSCODE: 801 901 3513

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

3A

Daphne Gillyard

From: Kutak Rock Development and Improvement Districts Group
<communications@kutakrock.com>
Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 4:49 PM
To: Cindy Cerbone
Subject: Ethics Training 2024

You don't often get email from communications@kutakrock.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

KUTAKROCK

Development and Improvement Districts Practice Group



ABOUT US

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District Managers,

As of January 1, 2024, all Board Supervisors of Florida Community special districts are required to complete four (4) hours of ethics training each year that addresses at a minimum, s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution, the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, and the public records and public meetings laws of Florida. The purpose of this email is to notify you of free, on-demand resources available to Board Supervisors to satisfy this requirement. Further information regarding the requisite training is available on the [Florida Commission on Ethics' \("COE"\) website](#).

Please share this information with Board Supervisors or include in the next available agenda package. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Kutak Rock attorney.

Free Training Resources

The COE has produced several free, online training tutorials that will satisfy the ethics component of the annual training. The on-demand videos are available at the link below. Further, the website provides additional links to resources that Supervisors can access to complete the training requirements.

Florida Commission on Ethics Training Resources

Please note that the COE-produced content only provides free training for the ethics component of the annual training. However, the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Florida offers a free, two-hour online audio course that covers the Sunshine Law and Public Records Act components of the requisite training. The on-demand audio course is available at the link below.

Office of the Attorney General Training Resources

Compliance

Each year when Supervisors complete the required financial disclosure form (Form 1 Statement of Financial Interests), Supervisors must mark a box confirming that he or she has completed the ethics training requirements. At this time there is no requirement to submit a certificate; however, the COE advises that Supervisors keep a record of all trainings completed (including date and time of completion), in the event Supervisors are ever asked to provide proof of completion. The training is a calendar year requirement and corresponds to the form year. So, Supervisors will not report their 2024 training until they fill out their Form 1 for the 2025 year.

We have received multiple inquiries as to whether Board Supervisors are required to annually file Form 6 in addition to Form 1. Currently, Board Supervisors continue to be exempt from the requirement to file Form 6.

Finally, with respect to the annual filing of Form 1, beginning this year the Commission on Ethics will be requiring electronic submission of Form 1. Filers, including Board Supervisors, should be receiving an email directly from the Commission on Ethics, providing detailed information about the electronic filing process and the upcoming deadline of July 1, 2024. Note the submission of the forms will no longer be handled through county Supervisor of Election's offices.

Kutak Rock's Development and Improvement Districts Practice Group

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107 W College Ave, Tallahassee, Florida 32301



2023 Form 1 - Statement of Financial Interests

General Information

Name: DISCLOSURE FILER

Address: SAMPLE ADDRESS

County: SAMPLE COUNTY

PID SAMPLE

AGENCY INFORMATION

Organization	Suborganization	Title
SAMPLE	SAMPLE	SAMPLE

Disclosure Period

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS YOUR FINANCIAL INTERESTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 .

Primary Sources of Income

PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME (Over \$2,500) (Major sources of income to the reporting person)
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

Name of Source of Income	Source's Address	Description of the Source's Principal Business Activity

Secondary Sources of Income

SECONDARY SOURCES OF INCOME (Major customers, clients, and other sources of income to businesses owned by the reporting person) (If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

Name of Business Entity	Name of Major Sources of Business' Income	Address of Source	Principal Business Activity of Source

Real Property

REAL PROPERTY (Land, buildings owned by the reporting person)
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

Location/Description

Intangible Personal Property

INTANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY (Stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc. over \$10,000)
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

Type of Intangible	Business Entity to Which the Property Relates

Liabilities

LIABILITIES (Major debts valued over \$10,000):
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

Name of Creditor	Address of Creditor

Interests in Specified Businesses

INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESSES (Ownership or positions in certain types of businesses)
(If you have nothing to report, write "none" or "n/a")

Business Entity # 1

Training

Based on the office or position you hold, the certification of training required under Section 112.3142, F.S., is not applicable to you for this form year.

Signature of Filer

Digitally signed:

Filed with COE:

E-FILING SAMPLE

2023 Form 1 Instructions

Statement of Financial Interests

Notice

The annual Statement of Financial Interest is due July 1, 2024. If the annual form is not submitted via the electronic filing system created and maintained by the Commission September 3, 2024, an automatic fine of \$25 for each day late will be imposed, up to a maximum penalty of \$1,500. Failure to file also can result in removal from public office or employment. [s. 112.3145, F.S.]

In addition, failure to make any required disclosure constitutes grounds for and may be punished by one or more of the following: disqualification from being on the ballot, impeachment, removal or suspension from office or employment, demotion, reduction in salary, reprimand, or a civil penalty not exceeding \$10,000. [s. 112.317, F.S.]

When To File:

Initially, each local officer/employee, state officer, and specified state employee must file **within 30 days** of the date of his or her appointment or of the beginning of employment. Appointees who must be confirmed by the Senate must file prior to confirmation, even if that is less than 30 days from the date of their appointment.

Candidates must file at the same time they file their qualifying papers.

Thereafter, file by July 1 following each calendar year in which they hold their positions.

Finally, file a final disclosure form (Form 1F) within 60 days of leaving office or employment. Filing a CE Form 1F (Final Statement of Financial Interests) does not relieve the filer of filing a CE Form 1 if the filer was in his or her position on December 31, 2023.

Who Must File Form 1

1. Elected public officials not serving in a political subdivision of the state and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in such office, unless required to file full disclosure on Form 6.
2. Appointed members of each board, commission, authority, or council having statewide jurisdiction, excluding those required to file full disclosure on Form 6 as well as members of solely advisory bodies, but including judicial nominating commission members; Directors of Enterprise Florida, Scripps Florida Funding Corporation, and Career Source Florida; and members of the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys; the Executive Director, Governors, and senior managers of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; Governors and senior managers of Florida Workers' Compensation Joint Underwriting Association; board members of the Northeast Fla. Regional Transportation Commission; board members of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc; board members of Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.; and members of the Technology Advisory Council within the Agency for State Technology.
3. The Commissioner of Education, members of the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, the local Boards of Trustees and Presidents of state universities, and the Florida Prepaid College Board.
4. Persons elected to office in any political subdivision (such as municipalities, counties, and special districts) and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in such office, unless required to file Form 6.
5. Appointed members of the following boards, councils, commissions, authorities, or other bodies of county, municipality, school district, independent special district, or other political subdivision: the governing body of the subdivision; community college or junior college district boards of trustees; boards having the power to enforce local code provisions; boards of adjustment; community redevelopment agencies; planning or zoning boards having the power to recommend, create, or modify land planning or zoning within a political subdivision, except for citizen advisory committees, technical coordinating committees, and similar groups who only have the power to make recommendations to planning or zoning boards, and except for representatives of a military installation acting on behalf of all military installations within that jurisdiction; pension or retirement boards empowered to invest pension or retirement funds or determine entitlement to or amount of pensions or other retirement benefits, and the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board.
6. Any appointed member of a local government board who is required to file a statement of financial interests by the appointing authority or the enabling legislation, ordinance, or resolution creating the board.
7. Persons holding any of these positions in local government: county or city manager; chief administrative employee or finance director of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision; county or municipal attorney; chief county or municipal building inspector; county or municipal water resources coordinator; county or municipal pollution control director; county or municipal environmental control director; county or municipal administrator with power to grant or deny a land development permit; chief of police; fire chief; municipal clerk; appointed district school superintendent; community college president; district medical examiner; purchasing agent (regardless of title) having the authority to make any purchase exceeding \$35,000 for the local governmental unit.

8. Officers and employees of entities serving as chief administrative officer of a political subdivision.
9. Members of governing boards of charter schools operated by a city or other public entity.
10. Employees in the office of the Governor or of a Cabinet member who are exempt from the Career Service System, excluding secretarial, clerical, and similar positions.
11. The following positions in each state department, commission, board, or council: Secretary, Assistant or Deputy Secretary, Executive Director, Assistant or Deputy Executive Director, and anyone having the power normally conferred upon such persons, regardless of title.
12. The following positions in each state department or division: Director, Assistant or Deputy Director, Bureau Chief, and any person having the power normally conferred upon such persons, regardless of title.
13. Assistant State Attorneys, Assistant Public Defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, and assistant criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, Public Counsel, full-time state employees serving as counsel or assistant counsel to a state agency, administrative law judges, and hearing officers.
14. The Superintendent or Director of a state mental health institute established for training and research in the mental health field, or any major state institution or facility established for corrections, training, treatment, or rehabilitation.
15. State agency Business Managers, Finance and Accounting Directors, Personnel Officers, Grant Coordinators, and purchasing agents (regardless of title) with power to make a purchase exceeding \$35,000.
16. The following positions in legislative branch agencies: each employee (other than those employed in maintenance, clerical, secretarial, or similar positions and legislative assistants exempted by the presiding officer of their house); and each employee of the Commission on Ethics.
17. Each member of the governing body of a "large-hub commercial service airport," as defined in Section 112.3144(1)(c), Florida Statutes, except for members required to comply with the financial disclosure requirements of s. 8, Article II of the State Constitution.

ATTACHMENTS: A filer may include and submit attachments or other supporting documentation when filing disclosure.

PUBLIC RECORD: The disclosure form is a public record and is required by law to be posted to the Commission's website. Your Social Security number, bank account, debit, charge, and credit card numbers, mortgage or brokerage account numbers, personal identification numbers, or taxpayer identification numbers are not required and should not be included. If such information is included in the filing, it may be made available for public inspection and copying unless redaction is required by the filer, without any liability to the Commission. If you are an active or former officer or employee listed in Section 119.071, F.S., whose home address or other information is exempt from disclosure, the Commission will maintain that confidentiality *if you submit a written and notarized request.*

QUESTIONS about this form or the ethics laws may be addressed to the Commission on Ethics, Post Office Drawer 15709, Tallahassee, Florida 32317-5709; physical address: 325 John Knox Road, Building E, Suite 200, Tallahassee, FL 32303; telephone (850) 488-7864.

Instructions for Completing Form 1

Primary Sources of Income

[Required by s. 112.3145(3)(b)1, F.S.]

This section is intended to require the disclosure of your principal sources of income during the disclosure period. You do not have to disclose any public salary or public position(s). The income of your spouse need not be disclosed; however, if there is joint income to you and your spouse from property you own jointly (such as interest or dividends from a bank account or stocks), you should disclose the source of that income if it exceeded the threshold.

Please list in this part of the form the name, address, and principal business activity of each source of your income which exceeded \$2,500 of gross income received by you in your own name or by any other person for your use or benefit.

"Gross income" means the same as it does for income tax purposes, even if the income is not actually taxable, such as interest on tax-free bonds. Examples include: compensation for services, income from business, gains from property dealings, interest, rents, dividends, pensions, IRA distributions, social security, distributive share of partnership gross income, and alimony if considered gross income under federal law, but not child support.

Examples:

- If you were employed by a company that manufactures computers and received more than \$2,500, list the name of the company, its address, and its principal business activity (computer manufacturing).
- If you were a partner in a law firm and your distributive share of partnership gross income exceeded \$2,500, list the name of the firm, its address, and its principal business activity (practice of law).
- If you were the sole proprietor of a retail gift business and your gross income from the business exceeded \$2,500, list the name of the business, its address, and its principal business activity (retail gift sales).
- If you received income from investments in stocks and bonds, list each individual company from which you derived more than \$2,500. Do not aggregate all of your investment income.

- If more than \$2,500 of your gross income was gain from the sale of property (not just the selling price), list as a source of income the purchaser's name, address and principal business activity. If the purchaser's identity is unknown, such as where securities listed on an exchange are sold through a brokerage firm, the source of income should be listed as "sale of (name of company) stock," for example.
- If more than \$2,500 of your gross income was in the form of interest from one particular financial institution (aggregating interest from all CD's, accounts, etc., at that institution), list the name of the institution, its address, and its principal business activity.

Secondary Sources of Income

[Required by s. 112.3145(3)(b)2, F.S.]

This part is intended to require the disclosure of major customers, clients, and other sources of income to businesses in which you own an interest. It is not for reporting income from second jobs. That kind of income should be reported in "Primary Sources of Income," if it meets the reporting threshold. You will not have anything to report unless, during the disclosure period:

1. You owned (either directly or indirectly in the form of an equitable or beneficial interest) more than 5% of the total assets or capital stock of a business entity (a corporation, partnership, LLC, limited partnership, proprietorship, joint venture, trust, firm, etc., doing business in Florida); **and,**
2. You received more than \$5,000 of your gross income during the disclosure period from that business entity.

If your interests and gross income exceeded these thresholds, then for that business entity you must list every source of income to the business entity which exceeded 10% of the business entity's gross income (computed on the basis of the business entity's most recently completed fiscal year), the source's address, and the source's principal business activity.

Examples:

- You are the sole proprietor of a dry cleaning business, from which you received more than \$5,000. If only one customer, a uniform rental company, provided more than 10% of your dry cleaning business, you must list the name of the uniform rental company, its address, and its principal business activity (uniform rentals).
- You are a 20% partner in a partnership that owns a shopping mall and your partnership income exceeded the above thresholds. List each tenant of the mall that provided more than 10% of the partnership's gross income and the tenant's address and principal business activity.

Real Property

[Required by s. 112.3145(3)(b)3, F.S.]

In this part, list the location or description of all real property in Florida in which you owned directly or indirectly at any time during the disclosure period in excess of 5% of the property's value. You are not required to list your residences. You should list any vacation homes if you derive income from them.

Indirect ownership includes situations where you are a beneficiary of a trust that owns the property, as well as situations where you own more than 5% of a partnership or corporation that owns the property. The value of the property may be determined by the most recently assessed value for tax purposes, in the absence of a more accurate fair market value.

The location or description of the property should be sufficient to enable anyone who looks at the form to identify the property. A street address should be used, if one exists.

Intangible Personal Property

[Required by s. 112.3145(3)(b)3, F.S.]

Describe any intangible personal property that, at any time during the disclosure period, was worth more than \$10,000 and state the business entity to which the property related. Intangible personal property includes things such as cash on hand, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, vehicle leases, interests in businesses, beneficial interests in trusts, money owed you (including, but not limited to, loans made as a candidate to your own campaign), Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) accounts, the Florida Prepaid College Plan, and bank accounts in which you have an ownership interest. Intangible personal property also includes investment products held in IRAs, brokerage accounts, and the Florida College Investment Plan. Note that the product contained in a brokerage account, IRA, or the Florida College Investment Plan is your asset—not the account or plan itself. Things like automobiles and houses you own, jewelry, and paintings are not intangible property. Intangibles relating to the same business entity may be aggregated; for example, CDs and savings accounts with the same bank. Property owned as tenants by the entirety or as joint tenants with right of survivorship, including bank accounts owned in such a manner, should be valued at 100%. The value of a leased vehicle is the vehicle's present value minus the lease residual (a number found on the lease document).

Liabilities

[Required by s. 112.3145(3)(b)4, F.S.]

List the name and address of each creditor to whom you owed more than \$10,000 at any time during the disclosure period. The amount of the liability of a vehicle lease is the sum of any past-due payments and all unpaid prospective lease payments. You are not required to list the amount of any debt. You do not have to disclose credit card and retail installment accounts, taxes owed (unless reduced to a judgment), indebtedness on a life insurance policy owed to the company of issuance, or contingent liabilities. A "contingent liability" is one that will become an actual liability only when one or more future events occur or fail to occur, such as where you are liable only as a guarantor, surety, or endorser on a promissory note. If you are a "co-maker" and are jointly liable or jointly and severally liable, then it is not a contingent liability.

Interests in Specified Businesses

[Required by s. 112.3145(7), F.S.]

The types of businesses covered in this disclosure include: state and federally chartered banks; state and federal savings and loan associations; cemetery companies; insurance companies; mortgage companies; credit unions; small loan companies; alcoholic beverage licensees; pari-mutuel wagering companies, utility companies, entities controlled by the Public Service Commission; and entities granted a franchise to operate by either a city or a county government.

Disclose in this part the fact that you owned during the disclosure period an interest in, or held any of certain positions with the types of businesses listed above. You must make this disclosure if you own or owned (either directly or indirectly in the form of an equitable or beneficial interest) at any time during the disclosure period more than 5% of the total assets or capital stock of one of the types of business entities listed above. You also must complete this part of the form for each of these types of businesses for which you are, or were at any time during the disclosure period, an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or agent (other than a resident agent solely for service of process).

If you have or held such a position or ownership interest in one of these types of businesses, list the name of the business, its address and principal business activity, and the position held with the business (if any). If you own(ed) more than a 5% interest in the business, indicate that fact and describe the nature of your interest.

Training Certification

[Required by s. 112.3142, F.S.]

If you are a Constitutional or elected municipal officer appointed school superintendent, a commissioner of a community redevelopment agency created under Part III, Chapter 163, or an elected local officers of independent special districts, including any person appointed to fill a vacancy on an elected special district board, whose service began on or before March 31 of the year for which you are filing, you are required to complete four hours of ethics training which addresses Article II, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution, the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, and the public records and open meetings laws of the state. You are required to certify on this form that you have taken such training.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

3B

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEMBERSHIP, OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A Community Development District ("District") is a special-purpose unit of local government which is established pursuant to and governed by Chapter 190, Florida Statutes.

The Board

The Community Development District ("District") is governed by a five (5)-member Board of Supervisors ("Board"). Member of the Board "Supervisor(s)" are elected in accordance with Section 190.006, F.S., either upon a one (1)-vote per one (1)-acre basis ("landowner voting") or through traditional elections ("resident voting"), depending upon the number of registered voters in the District and the length of time which has passed since the establishment of the District.

A CDD Board typically meets once per month, but may meet more often if necessary. Board meetings typically last from one (1) to three (3) hours, depending upon the business to be conducted by the Board. Prior to the meeting, each Supervisor is supplied with an agenda package which will contain the documents pertaining to the business to be considered by the Board at a particular meeting. A Supervisor should be willing to spend time reviewing these packages prior to each meeting, and may consult with District Staff (General Counsel, Management, Engineering, etc.) concerning the business to be addressed.

Qualifications of Supervisors

Each Supervisor must be a resident of the state of Florida and a citizen of the United States. Once a District has transitioned to resident voting, Supervisors must also be residents of the District.

Compensation

By statute, Board Members are entitled to be paid \$200 per meeting for their service, up to an annual cap of \$4,800 per year. To achieve the statutory cap, the District would have to meet twice each month, which is rare.

Sometimes Supervisors who are employees of the primary landowner waive their right to compensation, although this is not always the case.

Responsibilities of Supervisors

The position of Supervisor is that of an elected local public official. It is important to always remember that serving as an elected public official of a District carries with it certain restrictions and obligations. Each Supervisor, upon taking office, must subscribe to an oath of office acknowledging that he/she is a public officer, and as a recipient of public funds, a supporter of the constitutions of the State of Florida and of the United States of America.

Each Supervisor is subject to the same financial disclosure requirements as any other local elected official and must file a Statement of Financial Interests disclosing

sources of income, assets, debts, and other financial data, with the Supervisor of Elections in the County where he/she resides.

A Supervisor must act in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, codified at Part III, Chapter 112, F.S., which addresses acceptance of gifts, conflicts of interest, etc. By law, it is not a conflict of interest for an employee of the developer to serve on a CDD Board of Supervisors.

Since a District is a unit of local government, the Sunshine Law (Chapter 286, F.S.) applies to Districts and to the Supervisors who govern them. In brief, the Sunshine Law states that two(2) or more Supervisors may never meet outside of a publicly noticed meeting of the Board and/to discuss District business.

Florida's Public Records Law (Chapter 119, F.S.) also applies to Districts and Supervisors. All records of the District, and the records of each individual Supervisor relating to the District, are public records. As such, any member of the public may inspect them upon request. Supervisors are therefore urged to keep any District records or documents in a separate file to allow ease of access by the public or press.

Conclusion

The position of Supervisor of a Community Development District is an important one, requiring both the time and the dedication to fulfill the responsibilities of a position of public trust. It should not be undertaken lightly. Each new Supervisor should enter office fully cognizant of the ethical, legal, and time requirements which are incumbent upon those who serve as Supervisors.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

3C

FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS



GUIDE to the SUNSHINE AMENDMENT and CODE of ETHICS for Public Officers and Employees

2024

State of Florida

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I. HISTORY OF FLORIDA'S ETHICS LAWS

Florida has been a leader among the states in establishing ethics standards for public officials and recognizing the right of citizens to protect the public trust against abuse. Our state Constitution was revised in 1968 to require a code of ethics, prescribed by law, for all state employees and non-judicial officers prohibiting conflict between public duty and private interests.

Florida's first successful constitutional initiative resulted in the adoption of the Sunshine Amendment in 1976, providing additional constitutional guarantees concerning ethics in government. In the area of enforcement, the Sunshine Amendment requires that there be an independent commission (the Commission on Ethics) to investigate complaints concerning breaches of public trust by public officers and employees other than judges.

The Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees is found in Chapter 112 (Part III) of the Florida Statutes. Foremost among the goals of the Code is to promote the public interest and maintain the respect of the people for their government. The Code is also intended to ensure that public officials conduct themselves independently and impartially, not using their offices for private gain other than compensation provided by law. While seeking to protect the integrity of government, the Code also seeks to avoid the creation of unnecessary barriers to public service.

Criminal penalties, which initially applied to violations of the Code, were eliminated in 1974 in favor of administrative enforcement. The Legislature created the Commission on Ethics that year "to serve as guardian of the standards of conduct" for public officials, state and local. Five of the Commission's nine members are appointed by the Governor, and two each are appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives. No more than five Commission members may be members of the same political party, and none may be lobbyists, or hold any public employment during their two-year terms of office. A chair is selected from among the members to serve a one-year term and may not succeed himself or herself.

II. ROLE OF THE COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In addition to its constitutional duties regarding the investigation of complaints, the Commission:

- Renders advisory opinions to public officials;
- Prescribes forms for public disclosure;
- Prepares mailing lists of public officials subject to financial disclosure for use by Supervisors of Elections and the Commission in distributing forms and notifying delinquent filers;
- Makes recommendations to disciplinary officials when appropriate for violations of ethics and disclosure laws, since it does not impose penalties;
- Administers the Executive Branch Lobbyist Registration and Reporting Law;
- Maintains financial disclosure filings of constitutional officers and state officers and employees; and,
- Administers automatic fines for public officers and employees who fail to timely file required annual financial disclosure.

III. THE ETHICS LAWS

The ethics laws generally consist of two types of provisions, those prohibiting certain actions or conduct and those requiring that certain disclosures be made to the public. The following descriptions of these laws have been simplified in an effort to provide notice of their requirements. Therefore, we suggest that you also review the wording of the actual law. Citations to the appropriate laws are in brackets.

The laws summarized below apply generally to all public officers and employees, state and local, including members of advisory bodies. The principal exception to this broad coverage is the exclusion of judges, as they fall within the jurisdiction of the Judicial Qualifications Commission.

Public Service Commission (PSC) members and employees, as well as members of the PSC Nominating Council, are subject to additional ethics standards that are enforced by the Commission on Ethics under Chapter 350, Florida Statutes. Further, members of the governing boards of charter schools are subject to some of the provisions of the Code of Ethics [Sec. 1002.33(26), Fla. Stat.], as are the officers, directors, chief executive officers and some employees of business entities that serve as the chief administrative or executive officer or employee of a political subdivision. [Sec. 112.3136, Fla. Stat.].

A. PROHIBITED ACTIONS OR CONDUCT

1. Solicitation and Acceptance of Gifts

Public officers, employees, local government attorneys, and candidates are prohibited from soliciting or accepting anything of value, such as a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, that is based on an understanding that their vote, official action, or judgment would be influenced by such gift. [Sec. 112.313(2), Fla. Stat.]

Persons required to file financial disclosure FORM 1 or FORM 6 (see Part III F of this brochure), and state procurement employees, are prohibited from **soliciting** any gift from a political committee, lobbyist who has lobbied the official or his or her agency within the past 12 months, or the partner, firm, employer, or principal of such a lobbyist or from a vendor doing business with the official's agency. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

Persons required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and state procurement employees are prohibited from directly or indirectly **accepting** a gift worth more than \$100 from such a lobbyist, from a partner, firm, employer, or principal of the lobbyist, or from a political committee or vendor doing business with their agency. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

However, notwithstanding Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat., no Executive Branch lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no Executive Branch agency official who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, **any expenditure** made for the purpose of lobbying. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] Typically, this would include gifts valued at less than \$100 that formerly

were permitted under Section 112.3148, Fla. Stat. Similar rules apply to members and employees of the Legislature. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.]

Also, persons required to file Form 1 or Form 6, and state procurement employees and members of their immediate families, are prohibited from accepting any gift from a political committee. [Sec. 112.31485, Fla. Stat.]

2. Unauthorized Compensation

Public officers or employees, local government attorneys, and their spouses and minor children are prohibited from accepting any compensation, payment, or thing of value when they know, or with the exercise of reasonable care should know, that it is given to influence a vote or other official action. [Sec. 112.313(4), Fla. Stat.]

3. Misuse of Public Position

Public officers and employees, and local government attorneys are prohibited from corruptly using or attempting to use their official positions or the resources thereof to obtain a special privilege or benefit for themselves or others. [Sec. 112.313(6), Fla. Stat.]

4. Abuse of Public Position

Public officers and employees are prohibited from abusing their public positions in order to obtain a disproportionate benefit for themselves or certain others. [Article II, Section 8(h), Florida Constitution.]

5. Disclosure or Use of Certain Information

Public officers and employees and local government attorneys are prohibited from disclosing or using information not available to the public and obtained by reason of their public position, for the personal benefit of themselves or others. [Sec. 112.313(8), Fla. Stat.]

6. *Solicitation or Acceptance of Honoraria*

Persons required to file financial disclosure FORM 1 or FORM 6 (see Part III F of this brochure), and state procurement employees, are prohibited from **soliciting** honoraria related to their public offices or duties. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

Persons required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and state procurement employees, are prohibited from knowingly **accepting** an honorarium from a political committee, lobbyist who has lobbied the person's agency within the past 12 months, or the partner, firm, employer, or principal of such a lobbyist, or from a vendor doing business with the official's agency. However, they may accept the payment of expenses related to an honorarium event from such individuals or entities, provided that the expenses are disclosed. See Part III F of this brochure. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

Lobbyists and their partners, firms, employers, and principals, as well as political committees and vendors, are prohibited from **giving** an honorarium to persons required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6 and to state procurement employees. Violations of this law may result in fines of up to \$5,000 and prohibitions against lobbying for up to two years. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

However, notwithstanding Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat., no Executive Branch or legislative lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no Executive Branch agency official who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, **any expenditure** made for the purpose of lobbying. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] This may include honorarium event related expenses that formerly were permitted under Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat. Similar rules apply to members and employees of the Legislature. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.]

B. **PROHIBITED EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS**

1. *Doing Business With One's Agency*

- a) A public employee acting as a purchasing agent, or public officer acting in an official capacity, is prohibited from purchasing, renting, or leasing any realty, goods, or

services for his or her agency from a business entity in which the officer or employee or his or her spouse or child owns more than a 5% interest. [Sec. 112.313(3), Fla. Stat.]

- b) A public officer or employee, acting in a private capacity, also is prohibited from renting, leasing, or selling any realty, goods, or services to his or her own agency if the officer or employee is a state officer or employee, or, if he or she is an officer or employee of a political subdivision, to that subdivision or any of its agencies. [Sec. 112.313(3), Fla. Stat.]

2. *Conflicting Employment or Contractual Relationship*

- a) A public officer or employee is prohibited from holding any employment or contract with any business entity or agency regulated by or doing business with his or her public agency. [Sec. 112.313(7), Fla. Stat.]
- b) A public officer or employee also is prohibited from holding any employment or having a contractual relationship which will pose a frequently recurring conflict between the official's private interests and public duties or which will impede the full and faithful discharge of the official's public duties. [Sec. 112.313(7), Fla. Stat.]
- c) Limited exceptions to this prohibition have been created in the law for legislative bodies, certain special tax districts, drainage districts, and persons whose professions or occupations qualify them to hold their public positions. [Sec. 112.313(7)(a) and (b), Fla. Stat.]

3. *Exemptions*—Pursuant to Sec. 112.313(12), Fla. Stat., the prohibitions against doing business with one's agency and having conflicting employment may not apply:

- a) When the business is rotated among all qualified suppliers in a city or county.
- b) When the business is awarded by sealed, competitive bidding and neither the official nor his or her spouse or child have attempted to persuade agency personnel to enter

the contract. NOTE: Disclosure of the interest of the official, spouse, or child and the nature of the business must be filed prior to or at the time of submission of the bid on Commission FORM 3A with the Commission on Ethics or Supervisor of Elections, depending on whether the official serves at the state or local level.

- c) When the purchase or sale is for legal advertising, utilities service, or for passage on a common carrier.
- d) When an emergency purchase must be made to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.
- e) When the business entity is the only source of supply within the political subdivision and there is full disclosure of the official's interest to the governing body on Commission FORM 4A.
- f) When the aggregate of any such transactions does not exceed \$500 in a calendar year.
- g) When the business transacted is the deposit of agency funds in a bank of which a county, city, or district official is an officer, director, or stockholder, so long as agency records show that the governing body has determined that the member did not favor his or her bank over other qualified banks.
- h) When the prohibitions are waived in the case of ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS by the appointing person or by a two-thirds vote of the appointing body (after disclosure on Commission FORM 4A).
- i) When the public officer or employee purchases in a private capacity goods or services, at a price and upon terms available to similarly situated members of the general public, from a business entity which is doing business with his or her agency.
- j) When the public officer or employee in a private capacity purchases goods or services from a business entity which is subject to the regulation of his or her agency where the price and terms of the transaction are available to similarly situated members of

the general public and the officer or employee makes full disclosure of the relationship to the agency head or governing body prior to the transaction.

4. *Additional Exemptions*

No elected public officer is in violation of the conflicting employment prohibition when employed by a tax exempt organization contracting with his or her agency so long as the officer is not directly or indirectly compensated as a result of the contract, does not participate in any way in the decision to enter into the contract, abstains from voting on any matter involving the employer, and makes certain disclosures. [Sec. 112.313(15), Fla. Stat.]

5. *Legislators Lobbying State Agencies*

A member of the Legislature is prohibited from representing another person or entity for compensation during his or her term of office before any state agency other than judicial tribunals. [Art. II, Sec. 8(e), Fla. Const., and Sec. 112.313(9), Fla. Stat.]

6. *Additional Lobbying Restrictions for Certain Public Officers and Employees*

A statewide elected officer; a member of the legislature; a county commissioner; a county officer pursuant to Article VIII or county charter; a school board member; a superintendent of schools; an elected municipal officer; an elected special district officer in a special district with ad valorem taxing authority; or a person serving as a secretary, an executive director, or other agency head of a department of the executive branch of state government shall not lobby for compensation on issues of policy, appropriations, or procurement before the federal government, the legislature, any state government body or agency, or any political subdivision of this state, during his or her term of office. [Art. II Sec 8(f)(2), Fla. Const. and Sec. 112.3121, Fla. Stat.]

7. *Employees Holding Office*

A public employee is prohibited from being a member of the governing body which serves as his or her employer. [Sec. 112.313(10), Fla. Stat.]

8. *Professional and Occupational Licensing Board Members*

An officer, director, or administrator of a state, county, or regional professional or occupational organization or association, while holding such position, may not serve as a member of a state examining or licensing board for the profession or occupation. [Sec. 112.313(11), Fla. Stat.]

9. *Contractual Services: Prohibited Employment*

A state employee of the executive or judicial branch who participates in the decision-making process involving a purchase request, who influences the content of any specification or procurement standard, or who renders advice, investigation, or auditing, regarding his or her agency's contract for services, is prohibited from being employed with a person holding such a contract with his or her agency. [Sec. 112.3185(2), Fla. Stat.]

10. *Local Government Attorneys*

Local government attorneys, such as the city attorney or county attorney, and their law firms are prohibited from representing private individuals and entities before the unit of local government which they serve. A local government attorney cannot recommend or otherwise refer to his or her firm legal work involving the local government unit unless the attorney's contract authorizes or mandates the use of that firm. [Sec. 112.313(16), Fla. Stat.]

11. *Dual Public Employment*

Candidates and elected officers are prohibited from accepting public employment if they know or should know it is being offered for the purpose of influence. Further, public employment may not be accepted unless the position was already in existence or was created without the anticipation of the official's interest, was publicly advertised, and the officer had to meet the same qualifications and go through the same hiring process as other applicants. For elected public officers already holding public employment, no promotion given for the purpose of influence may be accepted, nor may promotions that are inconsistent with those given other similarly situated employees. [Sec. 112.3125, Fla. Stat.]

C. RESTRICTIONS ON APPOINTING, EMPLOYING, AND CONTRACTING WITH RELATIVES

1. *Anti-Nepotism Law*

A public official is prohibited from seeking for a relative any appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement in the agency in which he or she is serving or over which the official exercises jurisdiction or control. No person may be appointed, employed, promoted, or advanced in or to a position in an agency if such action has been advocated by a related public official who is serving in or exercising jurisdiction or control over the agency; this includes relatives of members of collegial government bodies. NOTE: This prohibition does not apply to school districts (except as provided in Sec. 1012.23, Fla. Stat.), community colleges and state universities, or to appointments of boards, other than those with land-planning or zoning responsibilities, in municipalities of fewer than 35,000 residents. Also, the approval of budgets does not constitute “jurisdiction or control” for the purposes of this prohibition. This provision does not apply to volunteer emergency medical, firefighting, or police service providers. [Sec. 112.3135, Fla. Stat.]

2. *Additional Restrictions*

A state employee of the executive or judicial branch or the PSC is prohibited from directly or indirectly procuring contractual services for his or her agency from a business entity of which a relative is an officer, partner, director, or proprietor, or in which the employee, or his or her spouse, or children own more than a 5% interest. [Sec. 112.3185(6), Fla. Stat.]

D. POST OFFICE HOLDING AND EMPLOYMENT (REVOLVING DOOR) RESTRICTIONS

1. *Lobbying by Former Legislators, Statewide Elected Officers, and Appointed State Officers*

A member of the Legislature or a statewide elected or appointed state official is prohibited for two years following vacation of office from representing another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency of which the individual was an officer or member. Former members of the Legislature are also prohibited for two years from lobbying the executive branch. [Art. II, Sec. 8(e), Fla. Const. and Sec. 112.313(9), Fla. Stat.]

2. *Lobbying by Former State Employees*

Certain employees of the executive and legislative branches of state government are prohibited from personally representing another person or entity for compensation before the agency with which they were employed for a period of two years after leaving their positions, unless employed by another agency of state government. [Sec. 112.313(9), Fla. Stat.] These employees include the following:

- a) Executive and legislative branch employees serving in the Senior Management Service and Selected Exempt Service, as well as any person employed by the Department of the Lottery having authority over policy or procurement.
- b) serving in the following position classifications: the Auditor General; the director of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA); the Sergeant at Arms and Secretary of the Senate; the Sergeant at Arms and Clerk of the House of Representatives; the executive director and deputy executive director of the Commission on Ethics; an executive director, staff director, or deputy staff director of each joint committee, standing committee, or select committee of the Legislature; an executive director, staff director, executive assistant, legislative analyst, or attorney serving in the Office of the President of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Party Office, the Senate Minority Party Office, the House Majority Party Office, or the House Minority Party Office; the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors of the State University System; the general counsel to the Board of Regents; the president, vice presidents, and deans of each state university; any person hired on a contractual basis and having the power normally conferred upon such persons, by whatever title; and any person having the power normally conferred upon the above positions.

This prohibition does not apply to a person who was employed by the Legislature or other agency prior to July 1, 1989; who was a defined employee of the State University System or the Public Service Commission who held such employment on December 31, 1994; or who reached normal retirement age and retired by July 1, 1991. It does apply to OPS employees.

PENALTIES: Persons found in violation of this section are subject to the penalties contained in the Code (see PENALTIES, Part V) as well as a civil penalty in an amount equal to the compensation which the person received for the prohibited conduct. [Sec. 112.313(9)(a)5, Fla. Stat.]

3. *6-Year Lobbying Ban*

For a period of six years after vacation of public position occurring on or after December 31, 2022, a statewide elected officer or member of the legislature shall not lobby for compensation on issues of policy, appropriations, or procurement before the legislature or any state government body or agency. [Art. II Sec 8(f)(3)a., Fla. Const. and Sec. 112.3121, Fla. Stat.]

For a period of six years after vacation of public position occurring on or after December 31, 2022, a person serving as a secretary, an executive director, or other agency head of a department of the executive branch of state government shall not lobby for compensation on issues of policy, appropriations, or procurement before the legislature, the governor, the executive office of the governor, members of the cabinet, a department that is headed by a member of the cabinet, or his or her former department. [Art. II Sec 8(f)(3)b., Fla. Const. and Sec. 112.3121, Fla. Stat.]

For a period of six years after vacation of public position occurring on or after December 31, 2022, a county commissioner, a county officer pursuant to Article VIII or county charter, a school board member, a superintendent of schools, an elected municipal officer, or an elected special district officer in a special district with ad valorem taxing authority shall not lobby for compensation on issues of policy, appropriations, or procurement before his or her former agency or governing body. [Art. II Sec 8(f)(3)c., Fla. Const. and Sec. 112.3121, Fla. Stat.]

4. *Additional Restrictions on Former State Employees*

A former executive or judicial branch employee or PSC employee is prohibited from having employment or a contractual relationship, at any time after retirement or termination of employment, with any business entity (other than a public agency) in connection with a contract in which the employee participated personally and substantially by recommendation or decision while a public employee. [Sec. 112.3185(3), Fla. Stat.]

A former executive or judicial branch employee or PSC employee who has retired or terminated employment is prohibited from having any employment or contractual relationship for two years with any business entity (other than a public agency) in connection with a contract for services which was within his or her responsibility while serving as a state employee. [Sec.112.3185(4), Fla. Stat.]

Unless waived by the agency head, a former executive or judicial branch employee or PSC employee may not be paid more for contractual services provided by him or her to the former agency during the first year after leaving the agency than his or her annual salary before leaving. [Sec. 112.3185(5), Fla. Stat.]

These prohibitions do not apply to PSC employees who were so employed on or before Dec. 31, 1994.

5. *Lobbying by Former Local Government Officers and Employees*

A person elected to county, municipal, school district, or special district office is prohibited from representing another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency of which he or she was an officer for two years after leaving office. Appointed officers and employees of counties, municipalities, school districts, and special districts may be subject to a similar restriction by local ordinance or resolution. [Sec. 112.313(13) and (14), Fla. Stat.]

E. VOTING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

State public officers are prohibited from voting in an official capacity on any measure which they know would inure to their own special private gain or loss. A state public officer who abstains, or who votes on a measure which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary or sibling of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, of a relative, or of a business associate, must make every reasonable effort to file a memorandum of voting conflict with the recording secretary in advance of the vote. If that is not possible, it must be filed within 15 days after the vote occurs. The memorandum must disclose the nature of the officer's interest in the matter.

No county, municipal, or other local public officer shall vote in an official capacity upon any measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss, or which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary or sibling of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, of a relative, or of a business associate. The officer must publicly announce the nature of his or her interest before the vote and must file a memorandum of voting conflict on Commission Form 8B with the meeting's recording officer within 15 days after the vote occurs disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter. However, members of community redevelopment agencies and district officers elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not required to abstain when voting in that capacity.

No appointed state or local officer shall participate in any matter which would inure to the officer's special private gain or loss, the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary or sibling of a corporate principal by which he or she is retained, of a relative, or of a business associate, without first disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter. The memorandum of voting conflict (Commission Form 8A or 8B) must be filed with the meeting's recording officer, be provided to the other members of the agency, and be read publicly at the next meeting.

If the conflict is unknown or not disclosed prior to the meeting, the appointed official must orally disclose the conflict at the meeting when the conflict becomes known. Also, a written memorandum of voting conflict must be filed with the meeting's recording officer within 15 days of the disclosure being made and must be provided to the other members of the agency, with the disclosure being read publicly at the next scheduled meeting. [Sec. 112.3143, Fla. Stat.]

F. DISCLOSURES

Conflicts of interest may occur when public officials are in a position to make decisions that affect their personal financial interests. This is why public officers and employees, as well as candidates who run for public office, are required to publicly disclose their financial interests. The disclosure process serves to remind officials of their obligation to put the public interest above personal considerations. It also helps citizens to monitor the considerations of those who spend their tax dollars and participate in public policy decisions or administration.

All public officials and candidates do not file the same degree of disclosure; nor do they all file at the same time or place. Thus, care must be taken to determine which disclosure forms a particular official or candidate is required to file.

The following forms are described below to set forth the requirements of the various disclosures and the steps for correctly providing the information in a timely manner.

1. *FORM 1 - Limited Financial Disclosure*

Who Must File:

Persons required to file FORM 1 include all state officers, local officers, candidates for local elective office, and specified state employees as defined below (other than those officers who are required by law to file FORM 6).

STATE OFFICERS include:

- 1) Elected public officials not serving in a political subdivision of the state and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in such office, unless required to file full disclosure on Form 6.
- 2) Appointed members of each board, commission, authority, or council having statewide jurisdiction, excluding members of solely advisory bodies; but including judicial nominating commission members; directors of Enterprise Florida, Scripps Florida Funding Corporation, and CareerSource Florida, and members of the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys; the Executive Director, governors, and senior managers of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation; governors and senior managers of Florida Workers' Compensation Joint Underwriting Association, board members of the Northeast Florida Regional Transportation Commission, and members of the board of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.; members of the board of Florida is

for Veterans, Inc.; and members of the Technology Advisory Council within the Agency for State Technology.

- 3) The Commissioner of Education, members of the State Board of Education, the Board of Governors, local boards of trustees and presidents of state universities, and members of the Florida Prepaid College Board.

LOCAL OFFICERS include:

- 1) Persons elected to office in any political subdivision (such as municipalities, counties, and special districts) and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in such office, unless required to file full disclosure on Form 6.
- 2) Appointed members of the following boards, councils, commissions, authorities, or other bodies of any county, municipality, school district, independent special district, or other political subdivision: the governing body of the subdivision; a community college or junior college district board of trustees; a board having the power to enforce local code provisions; a planning or zoning board, board of adjustments or appeals, community redevelopment agency board, or other board having the power to recommend, create, or modify land planning or zoning within the political subdivision, except for citizen advisory committees, technical coordinating committees, and similar groups who only have the power to make recommendations to planning or zoning boards, except for representatives of a military installation acting on behalf of all military installations within that jurisdiction; a pension board or retirement board empowered to invest pension or retirement funds or to determine entitlement to or amount of a pension or other retirement benefit.
- 3) Any other appointed member of a local government board who is required to file a statement of financial interests by the appointing authority or the enabling legislation, ordinance, or resolution creating the board.
- 4) Persons holding any of these positions in local government: county or city manager; chief administrative employee or finance director of a county, municipality, or other

political subdivision; county or municipal attorney; chief county or municipal building inspector; county or municipal water resources coordinator; county or municipal pollution control director; county or municipal environmental control director; county or municipal administrator with power to grant or deny a land development permit; chief of police; fire chief; municipal clerk; appointed district school superintendent; community college president; district medical examiner; purchasing agent (regardless of title) having the authority to make any purchase exceeding \$35,000 for the local governmental unit.

- 5) Members of governing boards of charter schools operated by a city or other public entity.
- 6) The officers, directors, and chief executive officer of a corporation, partnership, or other business entity that is serving as the chief administrative or executive officer or employee of a political subdivision, and any business entity employee who is acting as the chief administrative or executive officer or employee of the political subdivision. [Sec. 112.3136, Fla. Stat.]

SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEE includes:

- 1) Employees in the Office of the Governor or of a Cabinet member who are exempt from the Career Service System, excluding secretarial, clerical, and similar positions.
- 2) The following positions in each state department, commission, board, or council: secretary or state surgeon general, assistant or deputy secretary, executive director, assistant or deputy executive director, and anyone having the power normally conferred upon such persons, regardless of title.
- 3) The following positions in each state department or division: director, assistant or deputy director, bureau chief, assistant bureau chief, and any person having the power normally conferred upon such persons, regardless of title.

- 4) Assistant state attorneys, assistant public defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, assistant criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, public counsel, full-time state employees serving as counsel or assistant counsel to a state agency, judges of compensation claims, administrative law judges, and hearing officers.
- 5) The superintendent or director of a state mental health institute established for training and research in the mental health field, or any major state institution or facility established for corrections, training, treatment, or rehabilitation.
- 6) State agency business managers, finance and accounting directors, personnel officers, grant coordinators, and purchasing agents (regardless of title) with power to make a purchase exceeding \$35,000.
- 7) The following positions in legislative branch agencies: each employee (other than those employed in maintenance, clerical, secretarial, or similar positions and legislative assistants exempted by the presiding officer of their house); and each employee of the Commission on Ethics.

What Must Be Disclosed:

FORM 1 requirements are set forth fully on the form. In general, this includes the reporting person's sources and types of financial interests, such as the names of employers and addresses of real property holdings. NO DOLLAR VALUES ARE REQUIRED TO BE LISTED. In addition, the form requires the disclosure of certain relationships with, and ownership interests in, specified types of businesses such as banks, savings and loans, insurance companies, and utility companies.

When to File:

CANDIDATES who do not currently hold a position requiring the filing of a Form 1 or Form 6 must register and use the electronic filing system to complete the Form 6, then print and file the disclosure with the officer before whom they qualify at the time of qualifying. [Art. II, Sec. 8(a) and (i), Fla. Const., and Sec. 112.3144, Fla. Stat.]

STATE and LOCAL OFFICERS and SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEES are required to file disclosure by July 1 of each year. They also must file within thirty days from the date of appointment or the beginning of employment. Those appointees requiring Senate confirmation must file prior to confirmation.

Where to File:

File with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3145, Fla. Stat.]

Beginning January 1, 2024, all Form 1 disclosures must be filed electronically through the Commission's electronic filing system. These disclosures will be published and searchable by name or organization on the Commission's website.

2. *FORM 1F - Final Form 1 Limited Financial Disclosure*

FORM 1F is the disclosure form required to be filed within 60 days after a public officer or employee required to file FORM 1 leaves his or her public position. The form covers the disclosure period between January 1 and the last day of office or employment within that year.

3. *FORM 2 - Quarterly Client Disclosure*

The state officers, local officers, and specified state employees listed above, as well as elected constitutional officers, must file a FORM 2 if they or a partner or associate of their professional firm represent a client for compensation before an agency at their level of government.

A FORM 2 disclosure includes the names of clients represented by the reporting person or by any partner or associate of his or her professional firm for a fee or commission before agencies at the reporting person's level of government. Such representations do not include appearances in ministerial matters, appearances before judges of compensation claims, or representations on behalf of one's agency in one's official capacity. Nor does the term include the preparation and filing of forms and applications merely for the purpose of obtaining or transferring a license, so long as the

issuance of the license does not require a variance, special consideration, or a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

When to File:

This disclosure should be filed quarterly, by the end of the calendar quarter following the calendar quarter during which a reportable representation was made. FORM 2 need not be filed merely to indicate that no reportable representations occurred during the preceding quarter; it should be filed ONLY when reportable representations were made during the quarter.

Where To File:

File with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3145(4), Fla. Stat.]

Beginning January 1, 2024, all Form 2 disclosures must be filed electronically through the Commission's electronic filing system. These disclosures will be published and searchable on the Commission's website.

4. *FORM 6 - Full and Public Disclosure*

Who Must File:

Persons required by law to file FORM 6 include all elected constitutional officers and candidates for such office; the mayor and members of a city council and candidates for these offices; the Duval County Superintendent of Schools; judges of compensation claims (pursuant to Sec. 440.442, Fla. Stat.); members of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation Board and members of expressway authorities, transportation authorities (except the Jacksonville Transportation Authority), bridge authority, or toll authorities created pursuant to Ch. 348 or 343, or 349, or other general law.

What Must be Disclosed:

FORM 6 is a detailed disclosure of assets, liabilities, and sources of income over \$1,000 and their values, as well as net worth. Officials may opt to file their most recent income tax return in lieu of listing sources of income but still must disclose their assets, liabilities, and net worth. In addition, the form requires the disclosure of certain relationships with, and ownership interests in, specified types of businesses such as banks, savings and loans, insurance companies, and utility companies.

When and Where To File:

Officials must file FORM 6 annually by July 1 with the Commission on Ethics.

Beginning January 1, 2023, all Form 6 disclosures must be filed electronically through the Commission's electronic filing system. These disclosures will be published and searchable by name and organization on the Commission's website.

CANDIDATES who do not currently hold a position requiring the filing of a Form 1 or Form 6 must register and use the electronic filing system to complete the Form 6, then print and file the disclosure with the officer before whom they qualify at the time of qualifying. [Art. II, Sec. 8(a) and (i), Fla. Const., and Sec. 112.3144, Fla. Stat.]

5. *FORM 6F - Final Form 6 Full and Public Disclosure*

This is the disclosure form required to be filed within 60 days after a public officer or employee required to file FORM 6 leaves his or her public position. The form covers the disclosure period between January 1 and the last day of office or employment within that year.

6. *FORM 9 - Quarterly Gift Disclosure*

Each person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and each state procurement employee, must file a FORM 9, Quarterly Gift Disclosure, with the Commission on Ethics on the last day of any calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which he or she received a gift worth more than \$100, other

than gifts from relatives, gifts prohibited from being accepted, gifts primarily associated with his or her business or employment, and gifts otherwise required to be disclosed. FORM 9 NEED NOT BE FILED if no such gift was received during the calendar quarter.

Information to be disclosed includes a description of the gift and its value, the name and address of the donor, the date of the gift, and a copy of any receipt for the gift provided by the donor. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

7. FORM 10 - Annual Disclosure of Gifts from Government Agencies and Direct-Support Organizations and Honorarium Event Related Expenses

State government entities, airport authorities, counties, municipalities, school boards, water management districts, and the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, may give a gift worth more than \$100 to a person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, and to state procurement employees, if a public purpose can be shown for the gift. Also, a direct-support organization for a governmental entity may give such a gift to a person who is an officer or employee of that entity. These gifts are to be reported on FORM 10, to be filed by July 1.

The governmental entity or direct-support organization giving the gift must provide the officer or employee with a statement about the gift no later than March 1 of the following year. The officer or employee then must disclose this information by filing a statement by July 1 with his or her annual financial disclosure that describes the gift and lists the donor, the date of the gift, and the value of the total gifts provided during the calendar year. State procurement employees file their statements with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3148, Fla. Stat.]

In addition, a person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6, or a state procurement employee, who receives expenses or payment of expenses related to an honorarium event from someone who is prohibited from giving him or her an honorarium, must disclose annually the name, address, and affiliation of the donor, the amount of the expenses, the date of the event, a description of the expenses paid or provided, and the total value of the expenses on FORM 10. The donor paying the expenses must provide the officer or employee with a statement about the expenses within 60 days of the honorarium event.

The disclosure must be filed by July 1, for expenses received during the previous calendar year, with the officer's or employee's FORM 1 or FORM 6. State procurement employees file their statements with the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat.]

However, notwithstanding Sec. 112.3149, Fla. Stat., no executive branch or legislative lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no executive branch agency official or employee who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, any expenditure made for the purpose of lobbying. This may include gifts or honorarium event related expenses that formerly were permitted under Sections 112.3148 and 112.3149. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] Similar prohibitions apply to legislative officials and employees. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.] In addition, gifts, which include anything not primarily related to political activities authorized under ch. 106, are prohibited from political committees. [Sec. 112.31485 Fla. Stat.]

8. FORM 30 - Donor's Quarterly Gift Disclosure

As mentioned above, the following persons and entities generally are prohibited from giving a gift worth more than \$100 to a reporting individual (a person required to file FORM 1 or FORM 6) or to a state procurement employee: a political committee; a lobbyist who lobbies the reporting individual's or procurement employee's agency, and the partner, firm, employer, or principal of such a lobbyist; and vendors. If such person or entity makes a gift worth between \$25 and \$100 to a reporting individual or state procurement employee (that is not accepted in behalf of a governmental entity or charitable organization), the gift should be reported on FORM 30. The donor also must notify the recipient at the time the gift is made that it will be reported.

The FORM 30 should be filed by the last day of the calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which the gift was made. If the gift was made to an individual in the legislative branch, FORM 30 should be filed with the Lobbyist Registrar. [See page 35 for address.] If the gift was to any other reporting individual or state procurement employee, FORM 30 should be filed with the Commission on Ethics.

However, notwithstanding Section 112.3148, Fla. Stat., no executive branch lobbyist or principal shall make, directly or indirectly, and no executive branch agency official or employee who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 shall knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, any expenditure made for the purpose of lobbying. This may include gifts that formerly were permitted under Section 112.3148. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.] Similar prohibitions apply to legislative officials and employees. However, these laws are not administered by the Commission on Ethics. [Sec. 11.045, Fla. Stat.] In addition, gifts from political committees are prohibited. [Sec. 112.31485, Fla. Stat.]

9. *FORM 1X AND FORM 6X - Amendments to Form 1 and Form 6*

These forms are provided for officers or employees to amend their previously filed Form 1 or Form 6.

IV. AVAILABILITY OF FORMS

Beginning January 1, 2024, LOCAL OFFICERS and EMPLOYEES, and OTHER STATE OFFICERS, and SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEES who must file FORM 1 annually must file electronically via the Commission's Electronic Financial Disclosure Management System (EFDMS). Paper forms will not be promulgated. Communications regarding the annual filing requirement will be sent via email to filers no later than June 1. Filers must maintain an updated email address in their User Profile in EFDMS.

ELECTED CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS and other officials who must file Form 6 annually, including City Commissioners and Mayors, must file electronically via the Commission's Electronic Financial Disclosure Management System (EFDMS). Paper forms will not be promulgated. Communications regarding the annual filing requirement will be sent via email to filers no later than June 1. Filers must maintain an updated email address in their User Profile in EFDMS.

V. PENALTIES

A. Non-criminal Penalties for Violation of the Sunshine Amendment and the Code of Ethics

There are no criminal penalties for violation of the Sunshine Amendment and the Code of Ethics. Penalties for violation of these laws may include: impeachment, removal from office or employment, suspension, public censure, reprimand, demotion, reduction in salary level, forfeiture of no more than one-third salary per month for no more than twelve months, a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000*, and restitution of any pecuniary benefits received, and triple the value of a gift from a political committee.

B. Penalties for Candidates

CANDIDATES for public office who are found in violation of the Sunshine Amendment or the Code of Ethics may be subject to one or more of the following penalties: disqualification from being on the ballot, public censure, reprimand, or a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000*, and triple the value of a gift received from a political committee.

C. Penalties for Former Officers and Employees

FORMER PUBLIC OFFICERS or EMPLOYEES who are found in violation of a provision applicable to former officers or employees or whose violation occurred prior to such officer's or employee's leaving public office or employment may be subject to one or more of the following penalties: public censure and reprimand, a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000*, and restitution of any pecuniary benefits received, and triple the value of a gift received from a political committee.

*Conduct occurring after May 11, 2023, will be subject to a recommended civil penalty of up to \$20,000. [Ch. 2023-49, Laws of Florida.]

D. Penalties for Lobbyists and Others

An executive branch lobbyist who has failed to comply with the Executive Branch Lobbying Registration law (see Part VIII) may be fined up to \$5,000, reprimanded, censured, or prohibited from lobbying executive branch agencies for up to two years. Lobbyists, their employers, principals, partners, and firms, and political committees and committees of continuous existence who give a prohibited gift or honorarium or fail to comply with the gift reporting requirements for gifts worth between \$25 and \$100, may be penalized by a fine of not more than \$5,000 and a prohibition on lobbying, or employing a lobbyist to lobby, before the agency of the public officer or employee to whom the gift was given for up to two years. Any agent or person acting on behalf of a political committee giving a prohibited gift is personally liable for a civil penalty of up to triple the value of the gift.

Executive Branch lobbying firms that fail to timely file their quarterly compensation reports may be fined \$50 per day per report for each day the report is late, up to a maximum fine of \$5,000 per report.

E. Felony Convictions: Forfeiture of Retirement Benefits

Public officers and employees are subject to forfeiture of all rights and benefits under the retirement system to which they belong if convicted of certain offenses. The offenses include embezzlement or theft of public funds; bribery; felonies specified in Chapter 838, Florida Statutes; impeachable offenses; and felonies committed with intent to defraud the public or their public agency. [Sec. 112.3173, Fla. Stat.]

F. Automatic Penalties for Failure to File Annual Disclosure

Public officers and employees required to file either Form 1 or Form 6 annual financial disclosure are subject to automatic fines of \$25 for each day late the form is filed after September 1, up to a maximum penalty of \$1,500. [Sec. 112.3144 and 112.3145, Fla. Stat.]

VI. ADVISORY OPINIONS

Conflicts of interest may be avoided by greater awareness of the ethics laws on the part of public officials and employees through advisory assistance from the Commission on Ethics.

A. Who Can Request an Opinion

Any public officer, candidate for public office, or public employee in Florida who is in doubt about the applicability of the standards of conduct or disclosure laws to himself or herself, or anyone who has the power to hire or terminate another public employee, may seek an advisory opinion from the Commission about himself or herself or that employee.

B. How to Request an Opinion

Opinions may be requested by letter presenting a question based on a real situation and including a detailed description of the situation. Opinions are issued by the Commission and are binding on the conduct of the person who is the subject of the opinion, unless material facts were omitted or misstated in the request for the opinion. Published opinions will not bear the name of the persons involved unless they consent to the use of their names; however, the request and all information pertaining to it is a public record, made available to the Commission and to members of the public in advance of the Commission's consideration of the question.

C. How to Obtain Published Opinions

All of the Commission's opinions are available for viewing or download at its website:
www.ethics.state.fl.us.

VII. COMPLAINTS

A. Citizen Involvement

The Commission on Ethics cannot conduct investigations of alleged violations of the Sunshine Amendment or the Code of Ethics unless a person files a sworn complaint with the Commission alleging such violation has occurred, or a referral is received, as discussed below.

If you have knowledge that a person in government has violated the standards of conduct or disclosure laws described above, you may report these violations to the Commission by filing a sworn complaint on the form prescribed by the Commission and available for download at www.ethics.state.fl.us. The Commission is unable to take action based on learning of such misdeeds through newspaper reports, telephone calls, or letters.

You can download a complaint form (FORM 50) from the Commission's website: www.ethics.state.fl.us, or contact the Commission office at the address or phone number shown on the inside front cover of this booklet.

B. Referrals

The Commission may accept referrals from: the Governor, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, a State Attorney, or a U.S. Attorney. A vote of six of the Commission's nine members is required to proceed on such a referral.

C. Confidentiality

The complaint or referral, as well as all proceedings and records relating thereto, is confidential until the accused requests that such records be made public or until the matter reaches a stage in the Commission's proceedings where it becomes public. This means that unless the Commission receives a written waiver of confidentiality from the accused, the Commission is not free to release any documents or to comment on a complaint or referral to members of the public or press, so long as the complaint or referral remains in a confidential stage.

A COMPLAINT OR REFERRAL MAY NOT BE FILED WITH RESPECT TO A CANDIDATE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION, OR WITHIN THE 30 CALENDAR DAYS PRECEDING THE ELECTION DATE, UNLESS IT IS BASED ON PERSONAL INFORMATION OR INFORMATION OTHER THAN HEARSAY.

D. How the Complaint Process Works

Complaints which allege a matter within the Commission's jurisdiction are assigned a tracking number and Commission staff forwards a copy of the original sworn complaint to the accused within five working days of its receipt. Any subsequent sworn amendments to the complaint also are transmitted within five working days of their receipt.

Once a complaint is filed, it goes through three procedural stages under the Commission's rules. The first stage is a determination of whether the allegations of the complaint are legally sufficient: that is, whether they indicate a possible violation of any law over which the Commission has jurisdiction. If the complaint is found not to be legally sufficient, the Commission will order that the complaint be dismissed without investigation, and all records relating to the complaint will become public at that time.

In cases of very minor financial disclosure violations, the official will be allowed an opportunity to correct or amend his or her disclosure form. Otherwise, if the complaint is found to be legally sufficient, a preliminary investigation will be undertaken by the investigative staff of the Commission. The second stage of the Commission's proceedings involves this preliminary investigation and a decision by the Commission as to whether there is probable cause to believe that there has been a violation of any of the ethics laws. If the Commission finds no probable cause to believe there has been a violation of the ethics laws, the complaint will be dismissed and will become a matter of public record. If the Commission finds probable cause to believe there has been a violation of the ethics laws, the complaint becomes public and usually enters the third stage of proceedings. This stage requires the Commission to decide whether the law was actually violated and, if so, whether a penalty should be recommended. At this stage, the accused has the right to request a public hearing (trial) at which evidence is presented, or the Commission may order that such a hearing be held. Public hearings usually are held in or near the area where the alleged violation occurred.

When the Commission concludes that a violation has been committed, it issues a public report of its findings and may recommend one or more penalties to the appropriate disciplinary body or official.

When the Commission determines that a person has filed a complaint with knowledge that the complaint contains one or more false allegations or with reckless disregard for whether the complaint contains false allegations, the complainant will be liable for costs plus reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the person complained against. The Department of Legal Affairs may bring a civil action to recover such fees and costs, if they are not paid voluntarily within 30 days.

E. Dismissal of Complaints At Any Stage of Disposition

The Commission may, at its discretion, dismiss any complaint at any stage of disposition should it determine that the public interest would not be served by proceeding further, in which case the Commission will issue a public report stating with particularity its reasons for the dismissal. [Sec. 112.324(12), Fla. Stat.]

F. Statute of Limitations

All sworn complaints alleging a violation of the Sunshine Amendment or the Code of Ethics must be filed with the Commission within five years of the alleged violation or other breach of the public trust. Time starts to run on the day AFTER the violation or breach of public trust is committed. The statute of limitations is tolled on the day a sworn complaint is filed with the Commission. If a complaint is filed and the statute of limitations has run, the complaint will be dismissed. [Sec. 112.3231, Fla. Stat.]

VIII. EXECUTIVE BRANCH LOBBYING

Any person who, for compensation and on behalf of another, lobbies an agency of the executive branch of state government with respect to a decision in the area of policy or procurement may be required to register as an executive branch lobbyist. Registration is required before lobbying an agency and is renewable annually. In addition, each lobbying firm must file a compensation report

with the Commission for each calendar quarter during any portion of which one or more of the firm's lobbyists were registered to represent a principal. As noted above, no executive branch lobbyist or principal can make, directly or indirectly, and no executive branch agency official or employee who files FORM 1 or FORM 6 can knowingly accept, directly or indirectly, **any expenditure** made for the purpose of lobbying. [Sec. 112.3215, Fla. Stat.]

Paying an executive branch lobbyist a contingency fee based upon the outcome of any specific executive branch action, and receiving such a fee, is prohibited. A violation of this prohibition is a first degree misdemeanor, and the amount received is subject to forfeiture. This does not prohibit sales people from receiving a commission. [Sec. 112.3217, Fla. Stat.]

Executive branch departments, state universities, community colleges, and water management districts are prohibited from using public funds to retain an executive branch (or legislative branch) lobbyist, although these agencies may use full-time employees as lobbyists. [Sec. 11.062, Fla. Stat.]

Online registration and filing is available at www.floridalobbyist.gov. Additional information about the executive branch lobbyist registration system may be obtained by contacting the Lobbyist Registrar at the following address:

Executive Branch Lobbyist Registration
Room G-68, Claude Pepper Building
111 W. Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1425
Phone: 850/922-4990

IX. WHISTLE-BLOWER'S ACT

In 1986, the Legislature enacted a "Whistle-blower's Act" to protect employees of agencies and government contractors from adverse personnel actions in retaliation for disclosing information in a sworn complaint alleging certain types of improper activities. Since then, the Legislature has revised this law to afford greater protection to these employees.

While this language is contained within the Code of Ethics, the Commission has no jurisdiction or authority to proceed against persons who violate this Act. Therefore, a person who has disclosed information alleging improper conduct governed by this law and who may suffer adverse consequences as a result should contact one or more of the following: the Office of the Chief Inspector General in the Executive Office of the Governor; the Department of Legal Affairs; the Florida Commission on Human Relations; or a private attorney. [Sec. 112.3187 - 112.31895, Fla. Stat.]

X. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As mentioned above, we suggest that you review the language used in each law for a more detailed understanding of Florida's ethics laws. The "Sunshine Amendment" is Article II, Section 8, of the Florida Constitution. The Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees is contained in Part III of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes.

Additional information about the Commission's functions and interpretations of these laws may be found in Chapter 34 of the Florida Administrative Code, where the Commission's rules are published, and in The Florida Administrative Law Reports, which until 2005 published many of the Commission's final orders. The Commission's rules, orders, and opinions also are available at www.ethics.state.fl.us.

If you are a public officer or employee concerned about your obligations under these laws, the staff of the Commission will be happy to respond to oral and written inquiries by providing information about the law, the Commission's interpretations of the law, and the Commission's procedures.

XI. TRAINING

Constitutional officers, elected municipal officers, commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs), and commissioners of community development districts are required to receive a total of four hours training, per calendar year, in the area of ethics, public

records, and open meetings. The Commission on Ethics does not track compliance or certify providers. Officials indicate their compliance with the training requirement when they file their annual Form 1 or Form 6.

Visit the training page on the Commission's website for up-to-date rules, opinions, audio/video training, and opportunities for live training conducted by Commission staff.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

3D

FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE
MAILING ADDRESS	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF: ☐ CITY ☐ COUNTY ☐ OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY COUNTY	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED	MY POSITION IS: ☐ ELECTIVE ☐ APPOINTIVE

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also **MUST ABSTAIN** from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a “relative” includes only the officer’s father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A “business associate” means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

* * * * *

ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

* * * * *

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, _____, hereby disclose that on _____, 20 ____ :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- ☐ inured to my special private gain or loss;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____ ;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____ ;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by
whom I am retained; or
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which
is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

Date Filed

Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

4

NOTICE OF TENDER OF RESIGNATION

To: Board of Supervisors
Varrea North Community Development District
Attn: Cindy Cerbone, District Manager
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

From: Brian Janek
Printed Name

Date: 8/9/2024
Date

I hereby tender my resignation as a member of the Board of Supervisors of the *Varrea North Community Development District*. My tendered resignation will be deemed to be effective as of the time a quorum of the remaining members of the Board of Supervisors accept it at a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

I certify that this Notice of Tender of Resignation has been executed by me and ☐ personally presented at a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Supervisors, ☐ scanned and electronically transmitted to gillyardd@whhassociates.com or ☐ faxed to 561-571-0013 and agree that the executed original shall be binding and enforceable and the fax or email copy shall be binding and enforceable as an original.

Brian Janek
Signature

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

8

NOTICE OF TENDER OF RESIGNATION

To: Board of Supervisors
Varrea North Community Development District
Attn: District Manager
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

From: Cody You

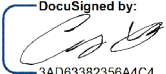
Printed Name

Date: 8/7/2024

Date

I hereby tender my resignation as a member of the Board of Supervisors of the *Varrea North Community Development District*. My tendered resignation will be deemed to be effective as of the time a quorum of the remaining members of the Board of Supervisors accepts it at a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

I certify that this Notice of Tender of Resignation has been executed by me and ☐ personally presented at a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Supervisors, ☐ scanned and electronically transmitted to gillyardd@whhassociates.com or ☐ faxed to 561-571-0013 and agree that the executed original shall be binding and enforceable and the fax or email copy shall be binding and enforceable as an original.

DocuSigned by:

3AD63382356A4C4...

Signature

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

10

RESOLUTION 2024-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ELECTING AND REMOVING OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Varrea North Community Development District (the “District”) is a local unit of special-purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Board of Supervisors desires to elect and remove Officers of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1. The following is/are elected as Officer(s) of the District effective August 9, 2024:

_____	is elected Chair
_____	is elected Vice Chair
_____	is elected Assistant Secretary
_____	is elected Assistant Secretary
_____	is elected Assistant Secretary

SECTION 2. The following Officer(s) shall be removed as Officer(s) as of August 9, 2024:

<u>Brian Janek</u>	Assistant Secretary
<u>Ryan Hoppe</u>	Assistant Secretary
<u>Cody You</u>	Assistant Secretary

SECTION 3. The following prior appointments by the Board remain unaffected by this Resolution:

Craig Wrathell is Secretary

Cindy Cerbone is Assistant Secretary

Andrew Kantarzi is Assistant Secretary

Craig Wrathell is Treasurer

Jeff Pinder is Assistant Treasurer

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2024.

ATTEST:

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

11A

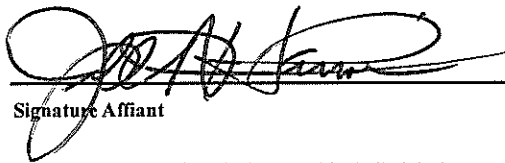
Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Hillsborough

} ss

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Jill Harrison** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE: Notice of Rule Development** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: 7/ 7/24 or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid not promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.



Signature Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this .07/07/2024

Signature of Notary Public
Personally known X or produced identification
Type of identification produced _____



**NOTICE OF RULE DEVELOPMENT REGARDING
JOINT RULES, POLICIES, AND FEES REGARDING AMENITY
FACILITIES OF VARREA SOUTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AND
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE OF VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

In accordance with Chapters 120 and 190, Florida Statutes, the Varrea North Community Development District ("Varrea North") and the Varrea South Community Development District ("Varrea South" and, collectively with Varrea North, the "Districts") hereby give notice of intention to adopt joint rules, policies, and fees regarding amenity facilities of the District and the Districts ("Amenity Rules") and notice of Varrea North's intention to adopt proposed Rules of Procedure ("Rules of Procedure") (the Amenity Rules and the Rules of Procedure are collectively referred to herein as "Rules").

The purpose and effect of the proposed Amenity Rules is to provide joint rules, policies, and fees for the use of the Districts' amenity facilities. The Rules of Procedure will address such areas as the Board of Supervisors, officers and voting, district offices, public information and inspection of records, policies, public meetings, hearings and workshops, rulemaking proceedings, competitive purchase including procedure under the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, procedure regarding auditor selection, purchase of insurance, pre-qualification, construction contracts, goods, supplies and materials, maintenance services, contractual services and protests with respect to proceedings, as well as any other area of the general operation of the District. The purpose and effect of the Rules of Procedure is to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to ensure compliance with Florida law.

The legal authority for the adoption of the proposed Rules includes Sections 190.011(5), 190.011(15) and 190.035, Florida Statutes. The specific laws implemented in the Rules of Procedure include, but are not limited to, Sections 112.08, 112.3143, 112.3146, 112.3145, 119.07, 119.0701, 189.053, 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 190.011(3), 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, 190.035, 218.33, 218.391, 255.05, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, 287.017, 287.055 and 287.084, Florida Statutes.

Publics hearing will be conducted Districts on August 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610. A copy of the proposed Rules may be obtained by contacting the District Manager, c/o Wrathell Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, 561-571-0010.

District Managers
Varrea North Community Development District
Varrea South Community Development District

07/07/2024

0000351300

Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Hillsborough

$$\}_{ss}$$

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Jean Mitotes** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE: Notice of Rulemaking** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: **7/10/24** or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid not promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.



Signature Affiant

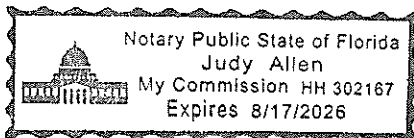
Sworn to and subscribed before me this .07/10/2024

Judy Allen
Notary Public

Signature of Notary Public

Personally known ☒ or produced identification ☐

Type of identification produced _____



**NOTICE OF RULEMAKING REGARDING
JOINT RULES, POLICIES, AND FEES REGARDING AMENITY FACILITIES OF
VARREA SOUTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND
VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AND
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE OF VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

In accordance with Chapters 120 and 190, *Florida Statutes*, the Varrea North Community Development District ("Varrea North") and the Varrea South Community Development District ("Varrea South" and, collectively with Varrea North, the "Districts") hereby give notice of intention to adopt joint rules, policies, and fees regarding amenity facilities of the Districts ("Amenity Rules") and notice of Varrea North's intention to adopt proposed Rules of Procedure ("Rules of Procedure") (the Amenity Rules and the Rules of Procedure are collectively referred to herein as "Rules"). Public hearings on the proposed Rules will be conducted by the Boards of Supervisors ("Boards") of the Districts on August 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610.

The public hearings will provide an opportunity for the public to address the proposed Rules. Prior notice of rule development was published in the Tampa Bay Times on July 7, 2024.

The purpose and effect of the proposed Amenity Rules is to provide joint rules, policies, and fees for the use of the Districts' amenity facilities. Proposed schedule of rates and fees is as follows:

Type	Rate
Annual User Fee (non-residents)	\$3,000
Access Card Replacement Fee	\$35.00
Event Space Rental Fee	\$250.00
Event Space Security Deposit Fee (refundable)	\$500.00
Event Space Cleaning Fee	\$100.00
Administrative Reimbursement Fee (related to violations of Amenity Rules)	\$500.00

The purpose and effect of the proposed Rules of Procedure is to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to ensure compliance with recent changes to Florida law. The Rules of Procedure may address such areas as the Board of Supervisors, officers and voting, district offices, public information and inspection of records, policies, public meetings, hearings and workshops, rulemaking proceedings, competitive purchase including procedures under the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, procedure regarding auditor selection, purchase of insurance, pre-qualification, construction contracts, goods, supplies and materials, maintenance services, contractual services, and protests with respect to proceedings, as well as any other area of the general operation of the District.

Specific legal authority for the adoption of the proposed Rules includes sections 190.011(5), 190.011(15), and 190.035, Florida Statutes. The specific laws implemented in the Rules of Procedure include, but are not limited to, Sections 112.08, 112.3143, 112.3146, 112.3145, 119.07, 119.0701, 189.053, 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 190.011(3), 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, 190.035, 218.33, 218.391, 255.05, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, 287.017, 287.055 and 287.084, Florida Statutes.

A copy of the proposed Rules may be obtained by contacting the District Manager, c/o Wrathell Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, 561-571-0010 ("District Manager's Office").

Any person who wishes to provide the District with a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), Florida Statutes, must do so in writing within twenty-one (21) days after publication of this notice to the District Manager's Office.

The public hearings are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. There may be occasions when one or more Board Supervisor or staff member will participate by telephone. At the above location will be present a speaker telephone so that any Board Supervisor or staff member can attend the meeting and be fully informed of the discussions taking place either in person or by telephone communication.

The public hearings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the hearings. If anyone chooses to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearings, such person will need a record of the proceedings and should accordingly ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations at these public hearings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8771 or 1-800-955-8770 for aid in contacting the District Office.

Varrea North Community Development District
Varrea South Community Development District
District Managers

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

11B

RESOLUTION 2024-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ADOPTING RULES OF PROCEDURE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Varrea North Community Development District ("**District**") is a local unit of special purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, authorizes the District to adopt rules to govern the administration of the District and to adopt resolutions as may be necessary for the conduct of District business; and

WHEREAS, to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to maintain compliance with recent changes to Florida law, the Board of Supervisors finds that it is in the best interests of the District to adopt by resolution the Rules of Procedure attached hereto as **Exhibit A** for immediate use and application; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has complied with applicable Florida law concerning rule development and adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. The attached Rules of Procedure are hereby adopted pursuant to this resolution as necessary for the conduct of District business. These Rules of Procedure shall stay in full force and effect until such time as the Board of Supervisors may amend these rules in accordance with Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*.

SECTION 2. If any provision of this resolution is held to be illegal or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall become effective upon its passage and shall remain in effect unless rescinded or repealed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of August 2024.

ATTEST:

VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

Exhibit A: Rules of Procedure

EXHIBIT A
RULES OF PROCEDURE

**RULES OF PROCEDURE
VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
EFFECTIVE AS OF AUGUST 9, 2024**

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Rule 1.0 General.

- (1) The Varrea North Community Development District (the “District”) was created pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, and was established to provide for the ownership, operation, maintenance, and provision of various capital facilities and services within its jurisdiction. The purpose of these rules (the “Rules”) is to describe the general operations of the District.
- (2) Definitions located within any section of these Rules shall be applicable within all other sections, unless specifically stated to the contrary.
- (3) Unless specifically permitted by a written agreement with the District, the District does not accept documents filed by electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Filings are only accepted during normal business hours.
- (4) A Rule of the District shall be effective upon adoption by affirmative vote of the District Board. After a Rule becomes effective, it may be repealed or amended only through the rulemaking procedures specified in these Rules. Notwithstanding, the District may immediately suspend the application of a Rule if the District determines that the Rule conflicts with Florida law. In the event that a Rule conflicts with Florida law and its application has not been suspended by the District, such Rule should be interpreted in the manner that best effectuates the intent of the Rule while also complying with Florida law. If the intent of the Rule absolutely cannot be effectuated while complying with Florida law, the Rule shall be automatically suspended.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.1 Board of Supervisors; Officers and Voting.

- (1) Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors of the District (the “Board”) shall consist of five (5) members. Members of the Board (“Supervisors”) appointed by ordinance or rule or elected by landowners must be citizens of the United States of America and residents of the State of Florida. Supervisors elected or appointed by the Board to elector seats must be citizens of the United States of America, residents of the State of Florida and of the District and registered to vote with the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which the District is located and for those elected, shall also be qualified to run by the Supervisor of Elections. The Board shall exercise the powers granted to the District under Florida law.
 - (a) Supervisors shall hold office for the term specified by Section 190.006 of the Florida Statutes. If, during the term of office, any Board member(s) vacates their office, the remaining member(s) of the Board shall fill the vacancies by appointment for the remainder of the term(s). If three or more vacancies exist at the same time, a quorum, as defined herein, shall not be required to appoint replacement Board members.
 - (b) Three (3) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting business, exercising powers and all other purposes. A Board member shall be counted toward the quorum if physically present at the meeting, regardless of whether such Board member is prohibited from, or abstains from, participating in discussion or voting on a particular item.
 - (c) Action taken by the Board shall be upon a majority vote of the members present, unless otherwise provided in the Rules or required by law. Subject to Rule 1.3(10), a Board member participating in the Board meeting by teleconference or videoconference shall be entitled to vote and take all other action as though physically present.
 - (d) Unless otherwise provided for by an act of the Board, any one Board member may attend a mediation session on behalf of the Board. Any agreement resulting from such mediation session must be approved pursuant to subsection (1)(c) of this Rule.
- (2) Officers. At the first Board meeting held after each election where the newly elected members take office, the Board shall select a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer.
 - (a) The Chairperson must be a member of the Board. If the Chairperson resigns from that office or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall select a Chairperson. The Chairperson serves at the pleasure of the Board. The Chairperson shall be authorized to execute resolutions and contracts on the District’s behalf. The Chairperson shall convene and conduct all meetings of the Board. In the event the Chairperson is unable to attend a

meeting, the Vice-Chairperson shall convene and conduct the meeting. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may delegate the responsibility of conducting the meeting to the District's manager ("District Manager") or District Counsel, in whole or in part.

- (b) The Vice-Chairperson shall be a member of the Board and shall have such duties and responsibilities as specifically designated by the Board from time to time. The Vice-Chairperson has the authority to execute resolutions and contracts on the District's behalf in the absence of the Chairperson. If the Vice-Chairperson resigns from office or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall select a Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson serves at the pleasure of the Board.
- (c) The Secretary of the Board serves at the pleasure of the Board and need not be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the minutes of Board meetings and may have other duties assigned by the Board from time to time. An employee of the District Manager may serve as Secretary. The Secretary shall be bonded by a reputable and qualified bonding company in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or have in place a fidelity bond, employee theft insurance policy, or a comparable product in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that names the District as an additional insured.
- (d) The Treasurer need not be a member of the Board but must be a resident of the State of Florida. The Treasurer shall perform duties described in Section 190.007(2) and (3) of the Florida Statutes, as well as those assigned by the Board from time to time. The Treasurer shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Treasurer shall either be bonded by a reputable and qualified bonding company in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or have in place a fidelity bond, employee theft insurance policy, or a comparable product in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that names the District as an additional insured.
- (e) In the event that both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are absent from a Board meeting and a quorum is present, the Board may designate one of its members or a member of District staff to convene and conduct the meeting. In such circumstances, any of the Board members present are authorized to execute agreements, resolutions, and other documents approved by the Board at such meeting. In the event that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are both unavailable to execute a document previously approved by the Board, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary may execute such document.
- (f) The Board may assign additional duties to District officers from time to time, which include, but are not limited to, executing documents on behalf of the District.

- (g) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and any other person authorized by District Resolution may sign checks and warrants for the District, countersigned by the Treasurer or other persons authorized by the Board.
- (3) Committees. The Board may establish committees of the Board, either on a permanent or temporary basis, to perform specifically designated functions. Committees may include individuals who are not members of the Board. Such functions may include, but are not limited to, review of bids, proposals, and qualifications, contract negotiations, personnel matters, and budget preparation.
- (4) Record Book. The Board shall keep a permanent record book entitled "Record of Proceedings," in which shall be recorded minutes of all meetings, resolutions, proceedings, certificates, and corporate acts. The Records of Proceedings shall be located at a District office and shall be available for inspection by the public.
- (5) Meetings. For each fiscal year, the Board shall establish a schedule of regular meetings, which shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located and filed with the local general-purpose governments within whose boundaries the District is located. All meetings of the Board and Committees serving an advisory function shall be open to the public in accord with the provisions of Chapter 286 of the Florida Statutes.
- (6) Voting Conflict of Interest. The Board shall comply with Section 112.3143 of the Florida Statutes, so as to ensure the proper disclosure of conflicts of interest on matters coming before the Board for a vote. For the purposes of this section, "voting conflict of interest" shall be governed by the Florida Constitution and Chapters 112 and 190 of the Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time. Generally, a voting conflict exists when a Board member is called upon to vote on an item which would inure to the Board member's special private gain or loss or the Board member knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a principal by whom the Board member is retained, the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal, a business associate, or a relative including only a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law.
 - (a) When a Board member knows the member has a conflict of interest on a matter coming before the Board, the member should notify the Board's Secretary prior to participating in any discussion with the Board on the matter. The member shall publicly announce the conflict of interest at the meeting. This announcement shall appear in the minutes.

If the Board member was elected at a landowner's election or appointed to fill a vacancy of a seat last filled at a landowner's election, the Board member may vote or abstain from voting on the matter at issue. If the Board member was elected by electors residing within the District, the Board

member is prohibited from voting on the matter at issue. In the event that the Board member intends to abstain or is prohibited from voting, such Board member shall not participate in the discussion on the item subject to the vote.

The Board's Secretary shall prepare a Memorandum of Voting Conflict (Form 8B) which shall then be signed by the Board member, filed with the Board's Secretary, and provided for attachment to the minutes of the meeting within fifteen (15) days of the meeting.

- (b) If a Board member inadvertently votes on a matter and later learns he or she has a conflict on the matter, the member shall immediately notify the Board's Secretary. Within fifteen (15) days of the notification, the member shall file the appropriate Memorandum of Voting Conflict, which will be attached to the minutes of the Board meeting during which the vote on the matter occurred. The Memorandum of Voting Conflict shall immediately be provided to other Board members and shall be read publicly at the next meeting held subsequent to the filing of the Memorandum of Voting Conflict. The Board member's vote is unaffected by this filing.
- (c) It is not a conflict of interest for a Board member, the District Manager, or an employee of the District to be a stockholder, officer or employee of a landowner or of an entity affiliated with a landowner.
- (d) In the event that a Board member elected at a landowner's election or appointed to fill a vacancy of a seat last filled at a landowner's election, has a continuing conflict of interest, such Board member is permitted to file a Memorandum of Voting Conflict at any time in which it shall state the nature of the continuing conflict. Only one such continuing Memorandum of Voting Conflict shall be required to be filed for each term the Board member is in office.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 112.3143, 190.006, 190.007, Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.2 District Offices; Public Information and Inspection of Records; Policies; Service Contract Requirements; Financial Disclosure Coordination.

(1) District Offices. Unless otherwise designated by the Board, the official District office shall be the District Manager's office identified by the District Manager. If the District Manager's office is not located within the county in which the District is located, the Board shall designate a local records office within such county which shall at a minimum contain, but not be limited to, the following documents:

- (a) Agenda packages for prior 24 months and next meeting;
- (b) Official minutes of meetings, including adopted resolutions of the Board;
- (c) Names and addresses of current Board members and District Manager, unless such addresses are protected from disclosure by law;
- (d) Adopted engineer's reports;
- (e) Adopted assessment methodologies/reports;
- (f) Adopted disclosure of public financing;
- (g) Limited Offering Memorandum for each financing undertaken by the District;
- (h) Proceedings, certificates, bonds given by all employees, and any and all corporate acts;
- (i) District policies and rules;
- (j) Fiscal year end audits; and
- (k) Adopted budget for the current fiscal year.

The District Manager shall ensure that each District records office contains the documents required by Florida law.

(2) Public Records. District public 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 in connection with the transaction of official business of the District. All District public records not otherwise restricted by law may be copied or inspected at the District Manager's office during regular business hours. Certain District records can also be inspected and copied at the District's local records office during regular business hours. All written public records requests shall be directed to the Secretary who by these rules is appointed as the

District's records custodian. Regardless of the form of the request, any Board member or staff member who receives a public records request shall immediately forward or communicate such request to the Secretary for coordination of a prompt response. The Secretary, after consulting with District Counsel as to the applicability of any exceptions under the public records laws, shall be responsible for responding to the public records request. At no time can the District be required to create records or summaries of records, or prepare opinions regarding District policies, in response to a public records request.

- (3) Service Contracts. Any contract for services, regardless of cost, shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws. The District Manager shall be responsible for initially enforcing all contract provisions related to a contractor's duty to comply with public records laws.
- (4) Fees; Copies. Copies of public records shall be made available to the requesting person at a charge of \$0.15 per page for one-sided copies and \$0.20 per page for two-sided copies if not more than 8 ½ by 14 inches. For copies of public records in excess of the sizes listed in this section and for outside duplication services, the charge shall be equal to the actual cost of reproduction. Certified copies of public records shall be made available at a charge of one dollar (\$1.00) per page. If the nature or volume of records requested requires extensive use of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance, the District may charge, in addition to the duplication charge, a special service charge that is based on the cost the District incurs to produce the records requested. This charge may include, but is not limited to, the cost of information technology resource, employee labor, and fees charged to the District by consultants employed in fulfilling the request. In cases where the special service charge is based in whole or in part on the costs incurred by the District due to employee labor, consultant fees, or other forms of labor, those portions of the charge shall be calculated based on the lowest labor cost of the individual(s) who is/are qualified to perform the labor, taking into account the nature or volume of the public records to be inspected or copied. The charge may include the labor costs of supervisory and/or clerical staff whose assistance is required to complete the records request, in accordance with Florida law. For purposes of this Rule, the word "extensive" shall mean that it will take more than 15 minutes to locate, review for confidential information, copy and re-file the requested material. In cases where extensive personnel time is determined by the District to be necessary to safeguard original records being inspected, the special service charge provided for in this section shall apply. If the total fees, including but not limited to special service charges, are anticipated to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), then, prior to commencing work on the request, the District will inform the person making the public records request of the estimated cost, with the understanding that the final cost may vary from that estimate. If the person making the public records request decides to proceed with the request, payment of the estimated cost is required in advance. Should the person fail to pay the estimate, the District is under no duty to produce the requested records. After the request has been fulfilled, additional payments or credits may be

due. The District is under no duty to produce records in response to future records requests if the person making the request owes the District for past unpaid duplication charges, special service charges, or other required payments or credits.

- (5) Records Retention. The Secretary of the District shall be responsible for retaining the District's records in accordance with applicable Florida law.
- (6) Policies. The Board may adopt policies related to the conduct of its business and the provision of services either by resolution or motion.
- (7) Financial Disclosure Coordination. Unless specifically designated by Board resolution otherwise, the Secretary shall serve as the Financial Disclosure Coordinator ("Coordinator") for the District as required by the Florida Commission on Ethics ("Commission"). The Coordinator shall create, maintain and update a list of the names, e-mail addresses, physical addresses, and names of the agency of, and the office or position held by, all Supervisors and other persons required by Florida law to file a statement of financial interest due to his or her affiliation with the District ("Reporting Individual"). The Coordinator shall provide this list to the Commission by February 1 of each year, which list shall be current as of December 31 of the prior year. Each Supervisor and Reporting Individual shall promptly notify the Coordinator in writing if there are any changes to such person's name, e-mail address, or physical address. Each Supervisor and Reporting Individual shall promptly notify the Commission in the manner prescribed by the Commission if there are any changes to such person's e-mail address.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 112.31446(3), 112.3145(8)(a)1., 119.07, 119.0701, 190.006, Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.3 Public Meetings, Hearings, and Workshops.

- (1) Notice. Except in emergencies, or as otherwise required by statute or these Rules, at least seven (7) days, but no more than thirty (30) days public notice shall be given of any public meeting, hearing or workshop of the Board. Public notice shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and in the county in which the District is located. “General circulation” means a publication that is printed and published at least once a week for the preceding year, offering at least 25% of its words in the English language, qualifies as a periodicals material for postal purposes in the county in which the District is located, is for sale to the public generally, is available to the public generally for the publication of official or other notices, and is customarily containing information of a public character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners of property in the county where published, or of interest or of value to the general public. The annual meeting notice required to be published by Section 189.015 of the Florida Statutes, shall be published in a newspaper not of limited subject matter, which is published at least five days a week, unless the only newspaper in the county is published less than five days a week. Each Notice shall state, as applicable:
- (a) The date, time and place of the meeting, hearing or workshop;
 - (b) A brief description of the nature, subjects, and purposes of the meeting, hearing, or workshop;
 - (c) The District office address for the submission of requests for copies of the agenda, as well as a contact name and telephone number for verbal requests for copies of the agenda; and
 - (d) The following or substantially similar language: “Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting/hearing/workshop is asked to advise the District Office at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting/hearing/workshop by contacting the District Manager at (561) 571-0010. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1 (800) 955-8770 or 1 (800) 955-8771, who can aid you in contacting the District Office.”
 - (e) The following or substantially similar language: “A person who decides to appeal any decision made at the meeting/hearing/workshop with respect to any matter considered at the meeting/hearing/workshop is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.”

- (f) The following or substantially similar language: “The meeting [or hearing or workshop] may be continued in progress without additional notice to a time, date, and location stated on the record.”
- (2) Mistake. In the event that a meeting is held under the incorrect assumption that notice required by law and these Rules has been given, the Board at its next properly noticed meeting shall cure such defect by considering the agenda items from the prior meeting individually and anew.
- (3) Agenda. The District Manager, under the guidance of District Counsel and the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, shall prepare an agenda of the meeting/hearing/workshop. The agenda and any meeting materials available in an electronic format, excluding any confidential and any confidential and exempt information, shall be available to the public at least seven days before the meeting/hearing/workshop, except in an emergency. Meeting materials shall be defined as, and limited to, the agenda, meeting minutes, resolutions, and agreements of the District that District staff deems necessary for Board approval. Inclusion of additional materials for Board consideration other than those defined herein as “meeting materials” shall not convert such materials into “meeting materials.” For good cause, the agenda may be changed after it is first made available for distribution, and additional materials may be added or provided under separate cover at the meeting. The requirement of good cause shall be liberally construed to allow the District to efficiently conduct business and to avoid the expenses associated with special meetings.

The District may, but is not required to, use the following format in preparing its agenda for its regular meetings:

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Public comment
- Organizational matters
- Review of minutes
- Specific items of old business
- Specific items of new business
- Staff reports
 - (a) District Counsel
 - (b) District Engineer
 - (c) District Manager
 - 1. Financial Report
 - 2. Approval of Expenditures
- Supervisor’s requests and comments
- Public comment
- Adjournment

- (4) Minutes. The Secretary shall be responsible for preparing and keeping the minutes of each meeting of the Board. Minutes shall be corrected and approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting. The Secretary may work with other staff members in preparing draft minutes for the Board's consideration.
- (5) Special Requests. Persons wishing to receive, by mail, notices or agendas of meetings, may so advise the District Manager or Secretary at the District Office. Such persons shall furnish a mailing address in writing and shall be required to pre-pay the cost of the copying and postage.
- (6) Emergency Meetings. The Chairperson, or Vice-Chairperson if the Chairperson is unavailable, upon consultation with the District Manager and District Counsel, if available, may convene an emergency meeting of the Board without first having complied with sections (1) and (3) of this Rule, to act on emergency matters that may affect the public health, safety, or welfare. Whenever possible, the District Manager shall make reasonable efforts to provide public notice and notify all Board members of an emergency meeting twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Reasonable efforts may include telephone notification. Notice of the emergency meeting must be provided both before and after the meeting on the District's website, if it has one. Whenever an emergency meeting is called, the District Manager shall be responsible for notifying at least one newspaper of general circulation in the District. After an emergency meeting, the Board shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the District, the time, date and place of the emergency meeting, the reasons why an emergency meeting was necessary, and a description of the action taken. Actions taken at an emergency meeting may be ratified by the Board at a regularly noticed meeting subsequently held.
- (7) Public Comment. The Board shall set aside a reasonable amount of time at each meeting for public comment and members of the public shall be permitted to provide comment on any proposition before the Board. The portion of the meeting generally reserved for public comment shall be identified in the agenda. Policies governing public comment may be adopted by the Board in accordance with Florida law.
- (8) Budget Hearing. Notice of hearing on the annual budget(s) shall be in accord with Section 190.008 of the Florida Statutes. Once adopted in accord with Section 190.008 of the Florida Statutes, the annual budget(s) may be amended from time to time by action of the Board. Approval of invoices by the Board in excess of the funds allocated to a particular budgeted line item shall serve to amend the budgeted line item.
- (9) Public Hearings. Notice of required public hearings shall contain the information required by applicable Florida law and by these Rules applicable to meeting notices and shall be mailed and published as required by Florida law. The District Manager shall ensure that all such notices, whether mailed or published, contain the information required by Florida law and these Rules and are mailed and published

as required by Florida law. Public hearings may be held during Board meetings when the agenda includes such public hearing.

- (10) Participation by Teleconference/Videoconference. District staff may participate in Board meetings by teleconference or videoconference. Board members may also participate in Board meetings by teleconference or videoconference if in the good judgment of the Board extraordinary circumstances exist; provided however, at least three Board members must be physically present at the meeting location to establish a quorum. Such extraordinary circumstances shall be presumed when a Board member participates by teleconference or videoconference, unless a majority of the Board members physically present determines that extraordinary circumstances do not exist.
- (11) Board Authorization. The District has not adopted Robert's Rules of Order. For each agenda item, there shall be discussion permitted among the Board members during the meeting. Unless such procedure is waived by the Board, approval or disapproval of resolutions and other proposed Board actions shall be in the form of a motion by one Board member, a second by another Board member, and an affirmative vote by the majority of the Board members present. Any Board member, including the Chairperson, can make or second a motion.
- (12) Continuances. Any meeting or public hearing of the Board may be continued without re-notice or re-advertising provided that:
 - (a) The Board identifies on the record at the original meeting a reasonable need for a continuance;
 - (b) The continuance is to a specified date, time, and location publicly announced at the original meeting; and
 - (c) The public notice for the original meeting states that the meeting may be continued to a date and time and states that the date, time, and location of any continuance shall be publicly announced at the original meeting and posted at the District Office immediately following the original meeting.
- (13) Attorney-Client Sessions. An Attorney-Client Session is permitted when the District's attorneys deem it necessary to meet in private with the Board to discuss pending litigation to which the District is a party before a court or administrative agency or as may be authorized by law. The District's attorney must request such session at a public meeting. Prior to holding the Attorney-Client Session, the District must give reasonable public notice of the time and date of the session and the names of the persons anticipated to attend the session. The session must commence at an open meeting in which the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson announces the commencement of the session, the estimated length of the session, and the names of the persons who will be attending the session. The discussion during the session is confined to settlement negotiations or strategy related to

litigation expenses or as may be authorized by law. Only the Board, the District's attorneys (including outside counsel), the District Manager, and the court reporter may attend an Attorney-Client Session. During the session, no votes may be taken and no final decisions concerning settlement can be made. Upon the conclusion of the session, the public meeting is reopened, and the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson must announce that the session has concluded. The session must be transcribed by a court-reporter and the transcript of the session filed with the District Secretary within a reasonable time after the session. The transcript shall not be available for public inspection until after the conclusion of the litigation.

- (14) Security and Firesafety Board Discussions. Portions of a meeting which relate to or would reveal a security or firesafety system plan or portion thereof made confidential and exempt by section 119.071(3)(a), Florida Statutes, are exempt from the public meeting requirements and other requirements of section 286.011, Florida Statutes, and section 24(b), Article 1 of the State Constitution. Should the Board wish to discuss such matters, members of the public shall be required to leave the meeting room during such discussion. Any records of the Board's discussion of such matters, including recordings or minutes, shall be maintained as confidential and exempt records in accordance with Florida law.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.4 Internal Controls to Prevent Fraud, Waste and Abuse

- (1) Internal Controls. The District shall establish and maintain internal controls designed to:
- (a) Prevent and detect “fraud,” “waste” and “abuse” as those terms are defined in section 11.45(1), Florida Statutes; and
 - (b) Promote and encourage compliance with applicable laws, rules contracts, grant agreements, and best practices; and
 - (c) Support economical and efficient operations; and
 - (d) Ensure reliability of financial records and reports; and
 - (e) Safeguard assets.
- (2) Adoption. The internal controls to prevent fraud, waste and abuse shall be adopted and amended by the District in the same manner as District policies.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: § 218.33(3), Fla. Stat.

Rule 2.0 Rulemaking Proceedings.

- (1) Commencement of Proceedings. Proceedings held for adoption, amendment, or repeal of a District rule shall be conducted according to these Rules. Rulemaking proceedings shall be deemed to have been initiated upon publication of notice by the District. A “rule” is a District statement of general applicability that implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy, or describes the procedure or practice requirements of the District (“Rule”). Nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the District to consider or adopt rules unless required by Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes. Policies adopted by the District which do not consist of rates, fees, rentals or other monetary charges may be, but are not required to be, implemented through rulemaking proceedings.
- (2) Notice of Rule Development.
 - (a) Except when the intended action is the repeal of a Rule, the District shall provide notice of the development of a proposed rule by publication of a Notice of Rule Development in a newspaper of general circulation in the District before providing notice of a proposed rule as required by section (3) of this Rule. Consequently, the Notice of Rule Development shall be published at least twenty-nine (29) days prior to the public hearing on the proposed Rule. The Notice of Rule Development shall indicate the subject area to be addressed by rule development, provide a short, plain explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed rule, cite the specific legal authority for the proposed rule, and include a statement of how a person may promptly obtain, without cost, a copy of any preliminary draft, if available.
 - (b) All rules as drafted shall be consistent with Sections 120.54(1)(g) and 120.54(2)(b) of the Florida Statutes.
- (3) Notice of Proceedings and Proposed Rules.
 - (a) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule other than an emergency rule, the District shall give notice of its intended action, setting forth a short, plain explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed action, a reference to the specific rulemaking authority pursuant to which the rule is adopted, and a reference to the section or subsection of the Florida Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific. The notice shall include a summary of the District’s statement of the estimated regulatory costs, if one has been prepared, based on the factors set forth in Section 120.541(2) of the Florida Statutes, and a statement that any person who wishes to provide the District with a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), must do so in writing within twenty-one (21) days after publication of the notice. The notice shall additionally include a statement that any affected person may request a public hearing by submitting a written request within twenty-one (21) days after the date

of publication of the notice. Except when intended action is the repeal of a rule, the notice shall include a reference to both the date on which and the place where the Notice of Rule Development required by section (2) of this Rule appeared.

- (b) The notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and each county in which the District is located not less than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the intended action. The proposed rule shall be available for inspection and copying by the public at the time of the publication of notice.
 - (c) The notice shall be mailed to all persons named in the proposed rule and to all persons who, at least fourteen (14) days prior to such mailing, have made requests of the District for advance notice of its rulemaking proceedings. Any person may file a written request with the District Manager to receive notice by mail of District proceedings to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule. Such persons must furnish a mailing address and may be required to pay the cost of copying and mailing.
- (4) Rule Development Workshops. Whenever requested in writing by any affected person, the District must either conduct a rule development workshop prior to proposing rules for adoption or the Chairperson must explain in writing why a workshop is unnecessary. The District may initiate a rule development workshop but is not required to do so.
- (5) Petitions to Initiate Rulemaking. All Petitions to Initiate Rulemaking proceedings must contain the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner, the specific action requested, the specific reason for adoption, amendment, or repeal, the date submitted, the text of the proposed rule, and the facts showing that the petitioner is regulated by the District or has a substantial interest in the rulemaking. Not later than sixty (60) calendar days following the date of filing a petition, the Board shall initiate rulemaking proceedings or deny the petition with a written statement of its reasons for the denial. If the petition is directed to an existing policy that the District has not formally adopted as a rule, the District may, in its discretion, notice and hold a public hearing on the petition to consider the comments of the public directed to the policy, its scope and application, and to consider whether the public interest is served adequately by the application of the policy on a case-by-case basis, as contrasted with its formal adoption as a rule. However, this section shall not be construed as requiring the District to adopt a rule to replace a policy.
- (6) Rulemaking Materials. After the publication of the notice referenced in section (3) of this Rule, the Board shall make available for public inspection and shall provide, upon request and payment of the cost of copies, the following materials:
 - (a) The text of the proposed rule, or any amendment or repeal of any existing rules;

- (b) A detailed written statement of the facts and circumstances justifying the proposed rule;
 - (c) A copy of the statement of estimated regulatory costs if required by Section 120.541 of the Florida Statutes; and
 - (d) The published notice.
- (7) Hearing. The District may, or, upon the written request of any affected person received within twenty-one (21) days after the date of publication of the notice described in section (3) of this Rule, shall, provide a public hearing for the presentation of evidence, argument, and oral statements, within the reasonable conditions and limitations imposed by the District to avoid duplication, irrelevant comments, unnecessary delay, or disruption of the proceedings. The District shall publish notice of the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the District either in the text of the notice described in section (3) of this Rule or in a separate publication at least seven (7) days before the scheduled public hearing. The notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the public hearing, and the name, address, and telephone number of the District contact person who can provide information about the public hearing. Written statements may be submitted by any person prior to or at the public hearing. All timely submitted written statements shall be considered by the District and made part of the rulemaking record.
- (8) Emergency Rule Adoption. The Board may adopt an emergency rule if it finds that immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare exists which requires immediate action. Prior to the adoption of an emergency rule, the District Manager shall make reasonable efforts to notify a newspaper of general circulation in the District. Notice of emergency rules shall be published as soon as possible in a newspaper of general circulation in the District. The District may use any procedure which is fair under the circumstances in the adoption of an emergency rule as long as it protects the public interest as determined by the District and otherwise complies with these provisions.
- (9) Negotiated Rulemaking. The District may use negotiated rulemaking in developing and adopting rules pursuant to Section 120.54(2)(d) of the Florida Statutes, except that any notices required under Section 120.54(2)(d) of the Florida Statutes, may be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located.
- (10) Rulemaking Record. In all rulemaking proceedings, the District shall compile and maintain a rulemaking record. The record shall include, if applicable:
 - (a) The texts of the proposed rule and the adopted rule;
 - (b) All notices given for a proposed rule;

- (c) Any statement of estimated regulatory costs for the rule;
- (d) A written summary of hearings, if any, on the proposed rule;
- (e) All written comments received by the District and responses to those written comments; and
- (f) All notices and findings pertaining to an emergency rule.

(11) Petitions to Challenge Existing Rules.

- (a) Any person substantially affected by a rule may seek an administrative determination of the invalidity of the rule on the ground that the rule is an invalid exercise of the District's authority.
- (b) The petition seeking an administrative determination must state with particularity the provisions alleged to be invalid with sufficient explanation of the facts or grounds for the alleged invalidity and facts sufficient to show that the person challenging a rule is substantially affected by it.
- (c) The petition shall be filed with the District. Within 10 days after receiving the petition, the Chairperson shall, if the petition complies with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, designate any member of the Board (including the Chairperson), District Manager, District Counsel, or other person as a hearing officer who shall conduct a hearing within 30 days thereafter, unless the petition is withdrawn or a continuance is granted by agreement of the parties. The failure of the District to follow the applicable rulemaking procedures or requirements in this Rule shall be presumed to be material; however, the District may rebut this presumption by showing that the substantial interests of the petitioner and the fairness of the proceedings have not been impaired.
- (d) Within 30 days after the hearing, the hearing officer shall render a decision and state the reasons therefor in writing.
- (e) Hearings held under this section shall be de novo in nature. The petitioner has a burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the existing rule is an invalid exercise of District authority as to the objections raised. The hearing officer may:
 - (i) Administer oaths and affirmations;
 - (ii) Rule upon offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;

- (iii) Regulate the course of the hearing, including any pre-hearing matters;
 - (iv) Enter orders; and
 - (v) Make or receive offers of settlement, stipulation, and adjustment.
 - (f) The petitioner and the District shall be adverse parties. Other substantially affected persons may join the proceedings as intervenors on appropriate terms which shall not unduly delay the proceedings.
- (12) Variances and Waivers. A “variance” means a decision by the District to grant a modification to all or part of the literal requirements of a rule to a person who is subject to the rule. A “waiver” means a decision by the District not to apply all or part of a rule to a person who is subject to the rule. Variances and waivers from District rules may be granted subject to the following:
- (a) Variances and waivers shall be granted when the person subject to the rule demonstrates that the purpose of the underlying statute will be or has been achieved by other means by the person, and when application of the rule would create a substantial hardship or would violate principles of fairness. For purposes of this section, "substantial hardship" means a demonstrated economic, technological, legal, or other type of hardship to the person requesting the variance or waiver. For purposes of this section, "principles of fairness" are violated when the literal application of a rule affects a particular person in a manner significantly different from the way it affects other similarly situated persons who are subject to the rule.
 - (b) A person who is subject to regulation by a District Rule may file a petition with the District, requesting a variance or waiver from the District’s Rule. Each petition shall specify:
 - (i) The rule from which a variance or waiver is requested;
 - (ii) The type of action requested;
 - (iii) The specific facts that would justify a waiver or variance for the petitioner; and
 - (iv) The reason why the variance or the waiver requested would serve the purposes of the underlying statute.
 - (c) The District shall review the petition and may request only that information needed to clarify the petition or to answer new questions raised by or directly related to the petition. If the petitioner asserts that any request for additional information is not authorized by law or by Rule of the District,

the District shall proceed, at the petitioner's written request, to process the petition.

- (d) The Board shall grant or deny a petition for variance or waiver and shall announce such disposition at a publicly held meeting of the Board, within ninety (90) days after receipt of the original petition, the last item of timely requested additional material, or the petitioner's written request to finish processing the petition. The District's statement granting or denying the petition shall contain a statement of the relevant facts and reasons supporting the District's action.

- (13) Rates, Fees, Rentals and Other Charges. All rates, fees, rentals, or other charges shall be subject to rulemaking proceedings. Policies adopted by the District which do not consist of rates, fees, rentals or other charges may be, but are not required to be, implemented through rulemaking proceedings.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.035, Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.011(5), 190.035(2), Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.0 Competitive Purchase.

- (1) Purpose and Scope. In order to comply with Sections 190.033(1) through (3), 287.055 and 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, the following provisions shall apply to the purchase of Professional Services, insurance, construction contracts, design-build services, goods, supplies, and materials, Contractual Services, and maintenance services.
- (2) Board Authorization. Except in cases of an Emergency Purchase, a competitive purchase governed by these Rules shall only be undertaken after authorization by the Board.
- (3) Definitions.
 - (a) “Competitive Solicitation” means a formal, advertised procurement process, other than an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, or Invitation to Negotiate, approved by the Board to purchase commodities and/or services which affords vendors fair treatment in the competition for award of a District purchase contract.
 - (b) “Continuing Contract” means a contract for Professional Services entered into in accordance with Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes, between the District and a firm, whereby the firm provides Professional Services to the District for projects in which the costs do not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000), for a study activity when the fee for such Professional Services to the District does not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), or for work of a specified nature as outlined in the contract with the District, with no time limitation except that the contract must provide a termination clause (for example, a contract for general District engineering services). Firms providing Professional Services under Continuing Contracts shall not be required to bid against one another.
 - (c) “Contractual Service” means the rendering by a contractor of its time and effort rather than the furnishing of specific commodities. The term applies only to those services rendered by individuals and firms who are independent contractors. Contractual Services do not include auditing services, Maintenance Services, or Professional Services as defined in Section 287.055(2)(a) of the Florida Statutes, and these Rules. Contractual Services also do not include any contract for the furnishing of labor or materials for the construction, renovation, repair, modification, or demolition of any facility, building, portion of building, utility, park, parking lot, or structure or other improvement to real property entered into pursuant to Chapter 255 of the Florida Statutes, and Rules 3.5 or 3.6.
 - (d) “Design-Build Contract” means a single contract with a Design-Build Firm for the design and construction of a public construction project.

- (e) “Design-Build Firm” means a partnership, corporation or other legal entity that:
 - (i) Is certified under Section 489.119 of the Florida Statutes, to engage in contracting through a certified or registered general contractor or a certified or registered building contractor as the qualifying agent; or
 - (ii) Is certified under Section 471.023 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice engineering; certified under Section 481.219 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice architecture; or certified under Section 481.319 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice landscape architecture.
- (f) “Design Criteria Package” means concise, performance-oriented drawings or specifications for a public construction project. The purpose of the Design Criteria Package is to furnish sufficient information to permit Design-Build Firms to prepare a bid or a response to the District’s Request for Proposals, or to permit the District to enter into a negotiated Design-Build Contract. The Design Criteria Package must specify performance-based criteria for the public construction project, including the legal description of the site, survey information concerning the site, interior space requirements, material quality standards, schematic layouts and conceptual design criteria of the project, cost or budget estimates, design and construction schedules, site development requirements, provisions for utilities, stormwater retention and disposal, and parking requirements applicable to the project. Design Criteria Packages shall require firms to submit information regarding the qualifications, availability, and past work of the firms, including the partners and members thereof.
- (g) “Design Criteria Professional” means a firm who holds a current certificate of registration under Chapter 481 of the Florida Statutes, to practice architecture or landscape architecture, or a firm who holds a current certificate as a registered engineer under Chapter 471 of the Florida Statutes, to practice engineering, and who is employed by or under contract to the District to provide professional architect services, landscape architect services, or engineering services in connection with the preparation of the Design Criteria Package.
- (h) “Emergency Purchase” means a purchase necessitated by a sudden unexpected turn of events (for example, acts of God, riot, fires, floods, hurricanes, accidents, or any circumstances or cause beyond the control of the Board in the normal conduct of its business), where the Board finds that the delay incident to competitive purchase would be detrimental to the interests of the District. This includes, but is not limited to, instances where

the time to competitively award the project will jeopardize the funding for the project, will materially increase the cost of the project, or will create an undue hardship on the public health, safety, or welfare.

- (i) “Invitation to Bid” is a written solicitation for sealed bids with the title, date, and hour of the public bid opening designated specifically and defining the commodity or service involved. It includes printed instructions prescribing conditions for bidding, qualification, evaluation criteria, and provides for a manual signature of an authorized representative. It may include one or more bid alternates.
- (j) “Invitation to Negotiate” means a written solicitation for competitive sealed replies to select one or more vendors with which to commence negotiations for the procurement of commodities or services.
- (k) “Negotiate” means to conduct legitimate, arm’s length discussions and conferences to reach an agreement on a term or price.
- (l) “Professional Services” means those services within the scope of the practice of architecture, professional engineering, landscape architecture, or registered surveying and mapping, as defined by the laws of Florida, or those services performed by any architect, professional engineer, landscape architect, or registered surveyor and mapper, in connection with the firm's or individual's professional employment or practice.
- (m) “Proposal (or Reply or Response) Most Advantageous to the District” means, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board, the proposal, reply, or response that is:
 - (i) Submitted by a person or firm capable and qualified in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements, who has the integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance;
 - (ii) The most responsive to the Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation as determined by the Board; and
 - (iii) For a cost to the District deemed by the Board to be reasonable.
- (n) “Purchase” means acquisition by sale, rent, lease, lease/purchase, or installment sale. It does not include transfer, sale, or exchange of goods, supplies, or materials between the District and any federal, state, regional or local governmental entity or political subdivision of the State of Florida.
- (o) “Request for Proposals” or “RFP” is a written solicitation for sealed proposals with the title, date, and hour of the public opening designated and

requiring the manual signature of an authorized representative. It may provide general information, applicable laws and rules, statement of work, functional or general specifications, qualifications, proposal instructions, work detail analysis, and evaluation criteria as necessary.

- (p) “Responsive and Responsible Bidder” means an entity or individual that has submitted a bid that conforms in all material respects to the Invitation to Bid and has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. “Responsive and Responsible Vendor” means an entity or individual that has submitted a proposal, reply, or response that conforms in all material respects to the Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation and has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. In determining whether an entity or individual is a Responsive and Responsible Bidder (or Vendor), the District may consider, in addition to factors described in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, the following:
 - (i) The ability and adequacy of the professional personnel employed by the entity/individual;
 - (ii) The past performance of the entity/individual for the District and in other professional employment;
 - (iii) The willingness of the entity/individual to meet time and budget requirements;
 - (iv) The geographic location of the entity’s/individual’s headquarters or office in relation to the project;
 - (v) The recent, current, and projected workloads of the entity/individual;
 - (vi) The volume of work previously awarded to the entity/individual;
 - (vii) Whether the cost components of the bid or proposal are appropriately balanced; and
 - (viii) Whether the entity/individual is a certified minority business enterprise.
- (q) “Responsive Bid,” “Responsive Proposal,” “Responsive Reply,” and “Responsive Response” all mean a bid, proposal, reply, or response which conforms in all material respects to the specifications and conditions in the

Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation document and these Rules, and the cost components of which, if any, are appropriately balanced. A bid, proposal, reply or response is not responsive if the person or firm submitting it fails to meet any material requirement relating to the qualifications, financial stability, or licensing of the bidder.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.033, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.1 Procedure Under the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act.

- (1) Scope. The following procedures are adopted for the selection of firms or individuals to provide Professional Services exceeding the thresholds herein described, for the negotiation of such contracts, and to provide for protest of actions of the Board under this Rule. As used in this Rule, "Project" means that fixed capital outlay study or planning activity when basic construction cost is estimated by the District to exceed the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FIVE, or for a planning study activity when the fee for Professional Services is estimated by the District to exceed the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, as such categories may be amended or adjusted from time to time.
- (2) Qualifying Procedures. In order to be eligible to provide Professional Services to the District, a consultant must, at the time of receipt of the firm's qualification submittal:
 - (a) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (b) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - (c) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the consultant is a corporation; and
 - (d) Meet any qualification requirements set forth in the District's Request for Qualifications.

Evidence of compliance with this Rule may be submitted with the qualifications, if requested by the District. In addition, evidence of compliance must be submitted any time requested by the District.

- (3) Public Announcement. Except in cases of valid public emergencies as certified by the Board, the District shall announce each occasion when Professional Services are required for a Project or a Continuing Contract by publishing a notice providing a general description of the Project, or the nature of the Continuing Contract, and the method for interested consultants to apply for consideration. The notice shall appear in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the District and in such other places as the District deems appropriate. The notice must allow at least fourteen (14) days for submittal of qualifications from the date of publication. The District may maintain lists of consultants interested in receiving such notices. These consultants are encouraged to submit annually statements of qualifications and performance data. The District shall make reasonable efforts to provide copies of any notices to such consultants, but the failure to do so shall not give such consultants any bid protest or other rights or otherwise disqualify any otherwise valid procurement process. The Board has the right to reject any and all

qualifications, and such reservation shall be included in the published notice. Consultants not receiving a contract award shall not be entitled to recover from the District any costs of qualification package preparation or submittal.

(4) Competitive Selection.

- (a) The Board shall review and evaluate the data submitted in response to the notice described in section (3) of this Rule regarding qualifications and performance ability, as well as any statements of qualifications on file. The Board shall conduct discussions with, and may require public presentation by consultants regarding their qualifications, approach to the Project, and ability to furnish the required services. The Board shall then select and list the consultants, in order of preference, deemed to be the most highly capable and qualified to perform the required Professional Services, after considering these and other appropriate criteria:
 - (i) The ability and adequacy of the professional personnel employed by each consultant;
 - (ii) Whether a consultant is a certified minority business enterprise;
 - (iii) Each consultant's past performance;
 - (iv) The willingness of each consultant to meet time and budget requirements;
 - (v) The geographic location of each consultant's headquarters, office and personnel in relation to the project;
 - (vi) The recent, current, and projected workloads of each consultant; and
 - (vii) The volume of work previously awarded to each consultant by the District.
- (b) Nothing in these Rules shall prevent the District from evaluating and eventually selecting a consultant if less than three (3) Responsive qualification packages, including packages indicating a desire not to provide Professional Services on a given Project, are received.
- (c) If the selection process is administered by any person or committee other than the full Board, the selection made will be presented to the full Board with a recommendation that competitive negotiations be instituted with the selected firms in order of preference listed.
- (d) Notice of the rankings adopted by the Board, including the rejection of some or all qualification packages, shall be provided in writing to all consultants

by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's ranking decisions under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

(5) Competitive Negotiation.

- (a) After the Board has authorized the beginning of competitive negotiations, the District may begin such negotiations with the firm listed as most qualified to perform the required Professional Services at a rate or amount of compensation which the Board determines is fair, competitive, and reasonable.
- (b) In negotiating a lump-sum or cost-plus-a-fixed-fee professional contract for more than the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR, the firm receiving the award shall be required to execute a truth-in-negotiation certificate stating that "wage rates and other factual unit costs supporting the compensation are accurate, complete and current at the time of contracting." In addition, any professional service contract under which such a certificate is required, shall contain a provision that "the original contract price and any additions thereto, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the Board determines the contract price was increased due to inaccurate, incomplete, or noncurrent wage rates and other factual unit costs."
- (c) Should the District be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the firm determined to be the most qualified at a price deemed by the District to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, then negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the District shall immediately begin negotiations with the second most qualified firm. If a satisfactory agreement with the second firm cannot be reached, those negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations with the third most qualified firm shall be undertaken.
- (d) Should the District be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with one of the top three (3) ranked consultants, additional firms shall be selected by the District, in order of their competence and qualifications. Negotiations shall continue, beginning with the first-named firm on the list, until an agreement is reached or the list of firms is exhausted.

(6) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.

- (7) Continuing Contract. Nothing in this Rule shall prohibit a Continuing Contract between a consultant and the District.
- (8) Emergency Purchase. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these Rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.011(3), 190.033, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.2 Procedure Regarding Auditor Selection.

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 218.391 of the Florida Statutes, the following procedures are outlined for selection of firms or individuals to provide Auditing Services and for the negotiation of such contracts. For audits required under Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes but not meeting the thresholds of Chapter 218 of the Florida Statutes, the District need not follow these procedures but may proceed with the selection of a firm or individual to provide Auditing Services and for the negotiation of such contracts in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District.

(1) Definitions.

- (a) "Auditing Services" means those services within the scope of the practice of a certified public accounting firm licensed under Chapter 473 of the Florida Statutes, and qualified to conduct audits in accordance with government auditing standards as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy.
- (b) "Committee" means the auditor selection committee appointed by the Board as described in section (2) of this Rule.

(2) Establishment of Auditor Selection Committee. Prior to a public announcement under section (4) of this Rule that Auditing Services are required, the Board shall establish an auditor selection committee ("Committee"), the primary purpose of which is to assist the Board in selecting an auditor to conduct the annual financial audit required by Section 218.39 of the Florida Statutes. The Committee shall include at least three individuals, at least one of which must also be a member of the Board. The establishment and selection of the Committee must be conducted at a publicly noticed and held meeting of the Board. The Chairperson of the Committee must be a member of the Board. An employee, a chief executive officer, or a chief financial officer of the District may not serve as a member of the Committee; provided however such individual may serve the Committee in an advisory capacity.

(3) Establishment of Minimum Qualifications and Evaluation Criteria. Prior to a public announcement under section (4) of this Rule that Auditing Services are required, the Committee shall meet at a publicly noticed meeting to establish minimum qualifications and factors to use for the evaluation of Auditing Services to be provided by a certified public accounting firm licensed under Chapter 473 of the Florida Statutes, and qualified to conduct audits in accordance with government auditing standards as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy.

- (a) Minimum Qualifications. In order to be eligible to submit a proposal, a firm must, at all relevant times including the time of receipt of the proposal by the District:

- (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
- (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the proposer is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any pre-qualification requirements established by the Committee and set forth in the RFP or other specifications.

If requested in the RFP or other specifications, evidence of compliance with the minimum qualifications as established by the Committee must be submitted with the proposal.

- (b) **Evaluation Criteria.** The factors established for the evaluation of Auditing Services by the Committee shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) Ability of personnel;
 - (ii) Experience;
 - (iii) Ability to furnish the required services; and
 - (iv) Such other factors as may be determined by the Committee to be applicable to its particular requirements.

The Committee may also choose to consider compensation as a factor. If the Committee establishes compensation as one of the factors, compensation shall not be the sole or predominant factor used to evaluate proposals.

- (4) **Public Announcement.** After identifying the factors to be used in evaluating the proposals for Auditing Services as set forth in section (3) of this Rule, the Committee shall publicly announce the opportunity to provide Auditing Services. Such public announcement shall include a brief description of the audit and how interested firms can apply for consideration and obtain the RFP. The notice shall appear in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the District and the county in which the District is located. The public announcement shall allow for at least seven (7) days for the submission of proposals.
- (5) **Request for Proposals.** The Committee shall provide interested firms with a Request for Proposals (“RFP”). The RFP shall provide information on how proposals are to be evaluated and such other information the Committee determines

is necessary for the firm to prepare a proposal. The RFP shall state the time and place for submitting proposals.

- (6) Committee's Evaluation of Proposals and Recommendation. The Committee shall meet at a publicly held meeting that is publicly noticed for a reasonable time in advance of the meeting to evaluate all qualified proposals and may, as part of the evaluation, require that each interested firm provide a public presentation where the Committee may conduct discussions with the firm, and where the firm may present information, regarding the firm's qualifications. At the public meeting, the Committee shall rank and recommend in order of preference no fewer than three firms deemed to be the most highly qualified to perform the required services after considering the factors established pursuant to subsection (3)(b) of this Rule. If fewer than three firms respond to the RFP or if no firms respond to the RFP, the Committee shall recommend such firm as it deems to be the most highly qualified. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may recommend that any and all proposals be rejected.
- (7) Board Selection of Auditor.
 - (a) Where compensation was not selected as a factor used in evaluating the proposals, the Board shall negotiate with the firm ranked first and inquire of that firm as to the basis of compensation. If the Board is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the first ranked firm at a price deemed by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, then negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the Board shall immediately begin negotiations with the second ranked firm. If a satisfactory agreement with the second ranked firm cannot be reached, those negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations with the third ranked firm shall be undertaken. The Board may reopen formal negotiations with any one of the three top-ranked firms, but it may not negotiate with more than one firm at a time. If the Board is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with any of the selected firms, the Committee shall recommend additional firms in order of the firms' respective competence and qualifications. Negotiations shall continue, beginning with the first-named firm on the list, until an agreement is reached or the list of firms is exhausted.
 - (b) Where compensation was selected as a factor used in evaluating the proposals, the Board shall select the highest-ranked qualified firm or document in its public records the reason for not selecting the highest-ranked qualified firm.
 - (c) In negotiations with firms under this Rule, the Board may allow the District Manager, District Counsel, or other designee to conduct negotiations on its behalf.

- (d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may reject any or all proposals. The Board shall not consider any proposal, or enter into any contract for Auditing Services, unless the proposed agreed-upon compensation is reasonable to satisfy the requirements of Section 218.39 of the Florida Statutes, and the needs of the District.
- (8) Contract. Any agreement reached under this Rule shall be evidenced by a written contract, which may take the form of an engagement letter signed and executed by both parties. The written contract shall include all provisions and conditions of the procurement of such services and shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (a) A provision specifying the services to be provided and fees or other compensation for such services;
 - (b) A provision requiring that invoices for fees or other compensation be submitted in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the terms of the contract;
 - (c) A provision setting forth deadlines for the auditor to submit a preliminary draft audit report to the District for review and to submit a final audit report no later than June 30 of the fiscal year that follows the fiscal year for which the audit is being conducted;
 - (d) A provision specifying the contract period, including renewals, and conditions under which the contract may be terminated or renewed. The maximum contract period including renewals shall be five (5) years. A renewal may be done without the use of the auditor selection procedures provided in this Rule but must be in writing.
 - (e) Provisions required by law that require the auditor to comply with public records laws.
- (9) Notice of Award. Once a negotiated agreement with a firm or individual is reached, or the Board authorizes the execution of an agreement with a firm where compensation was a factor in the evaluation of proposals, notice of the intent to award, including the rejection of some or all proposals, shall be provided in writing to all proposers by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests regarding the award of contracts under this Rule shall be as provided for in Rule 3.11. No proposer shall be entitled to recover any costs of proposal preparation or submittal from the District.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 218.33, 218.391, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.3 Purchase of Insurance.

- (1) Scope. The purchases of life, health, accident, hospitalization, legal expense, or annuity insurance, or all of any kinds of such insurance for the officers and employees of the District, and for health, accident, hospitalization, and legal expenses upon a group insurance plan by the District, shall be governed by this Rule. This Rule does not apply to the purchase of any other type of insurance by the District, including but not limited to liability insurance, property insurance, and directors and officers insurance. Nothing in this Rule shall require the District to purchase insurance.
- (2) Procedure. For a purchase of insurance within the scope of these Rules, the following procedure shall be followed:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared a Notice of Invitation to Bid.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District. The notice shall allow at least fourteen (14) days for submittal of bids.
 - (c) The District may maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid. The District shall make reasonable efforts to provide copies of any notices to such persons, but the failure to do so shall not give such consultants any bid protest or other rights or otherwise disqualify any otherwise valid procurement process.
 - (d) Bids shall be opened at the time and place noted in the Invitation to Bid.
 - (e) If only one (1) response to an Invitation is received, the District may proceed with the purchase. If no response to an Invitation to Bid is received, the District may take whatever steps are reasonably necessary in order to proceed with the purchase.
 - (f) The Board has the right to reject any and all bids and such reservations shall be included in all solicitations and advertisements.
 - (g) Simultaneously with the review of the submitted bids, the District may undertake negotiations with those companies that have submitted reasonable and timely bids and, in the opinion of the District, are fully qualified and capable of meeting all services and requirements. Bid responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the specifications and criteria contained in the Invitation to Bid; in addition, the total cost to the District, the cost, if any, to the District officers, employees, or their dependents, the geographic location of the company's headquarters and offices in relation to the District, and the ability of the company to guarantee premium stability may be considered. A contract to purchase insurance

shall be awarded to that company whose response to the Invitation to Bid best meets the overall needs of the District, its officers, employees, and/or dependents.

- (h) Notice of the intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, shall be provided in writing to all bidders by United States Mail, by hand delivery, or by overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's procurement of insurance under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: § 112.08, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.4 Pre-qualification

- (1) Scope. In its discretion, the District may undertake a pre-qualification process in accordance with this Rule for vendors to provide construction services, goods, supplies, and materials, Contractual Services, and maintenance services.
- (2) Procedure. When the District seeks to pre-qualify vendors, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared a Request for Qualifications.
 - (b) For construction services exceeding the thresholds described in Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, the Board must advertise the proposed pre-qualification criteria and procedures and allow at least seven (7) days notice of the public hearing for comments on such pre-qualification criteria and procedures. At such public hearing, potential vendors may object to such pre-qualification criteria and procedures. Following such public hearing, the Board shall formally adopt pre-qualification criteria and procedures prior to the advertisement of the Request for Qualifications for construction services.
 - (c) The Request for Qualifications shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of qualifications for goods, supplies and materials, Contractual Services, maintenance services, and construction services under two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of qualifications for construction services estimated to cost over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) and thirty (30) days for construction services estimated to cost over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
 - (d) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Requests for Qualifications. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any pre-qualification determination or contract awarded in accordance with these Rules and shall not be a basis for a protest of any pre-qualification determination or contract award.
 - (e) If the District has pre-qualified vendors for a particular category of purchase, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies or responses in response to the applicable Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

- (f) In order to be eligible to submit qualifications, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the qualifications:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
 - (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Request for Qualifications.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the qualifications if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the qualifications.

- (g) Qualifications shall be presented to the Board, or a committee appointed by the Board, for evaluation in accordance with the Request for Qualifications and this Rule. Minor variations in the qualifications may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature.
- (h) All vendors determined by the District to meet the pre-qualification requirements shall be pre-qualified. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the requirements contained in a Request for Qualifications, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of qualifications. For construction services, any contractor pre-qualified and considered eligible by the Department of Transportation to bid to perform the type of work the project entails shall be presumed to be qualified to perform the project.
- (i) The Board shall have the right to reject all qualifications if there are not enough to be competitive or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of qualification preparation or submittal from the District.
- (j) Notice of intent to pre-qualify, including rejection of some or all qualifications, shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, electronic mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice

shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's pre-qualification decisions under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11; provided however, protests related to the pre-qualification criteria and procedures for construction services shall be resolved in accordance with section (2)(b) of this Rule and Section 255.20(1)(b) of the Florida Statutes.

(3) Suspension, Revocation, or Denial of Qualification

(a) The District, for good cause, may deny, suspend, or revoke a prequalified vendor's pre-qualified status. A suspension, revocation, or denial for good cause shall prohibit the vendor from bidding on any District construction contract for which qualification is required, shall constitute a determination of non-responsibility to bid on any other District construction or maintenance contract, and shall prohibit the vendor from acting as a material supplier or subcontractor on any District contract or project during the period of suspension, revocation, or denial. Good cause shall include the following:

- i. One of the circumstances specified under Section 337.16(2), Fla. Stat., has occurred.
- ii. Affiliated contractors submitted more than one proposal for the same work. In this event the pre-qualified status of all of the affiliated bidders will be revoked, suspended, or denied. All bids of affiliated bidders will be rejected.
- iii. The vendor made or submitted false, deceptive, or fraudulent statements, certifications, or materials in any claim for payment or any information required by any District contract.
- iv. The vendor or its affiliate defaulted on any contract or a contract surety assumed control of financial responsibility for any contract of the vendor.
- v. The vendor's qualification to bid is suspended, revoked, or denied by any other public or semi-public entity, or the vendor has been the subject of a civil enforcement proceeding or settlement involving a public or semi-public entity.
- vi. The vendor failed to comply with contract or warranty requirements or failed to follow District direction in the performance of a contract.
- vii. The vendor failed to timely furnish all contract documents required by the contract specifications, special provisions, or by any state or federal statutes or regulations. If the vendor fails to furnish any of the subject contract documents by the expiration of the period of suspension,

revocation, or denial set forth above, the vendor's pre-qualified status shall remain suspended, revoked, or denied until the documents are furnished.

- viii. The vendor failed to notify the District within 10 days of the vendor, or any of its affiliates, being declared in default or otherwise not completing work on a contract or being suspended from qualification to bid or denied qualification to bid by any other public or semi-public agency.
 - ix. The vendor did not pay its subcontractors or suppliers in a timely manner or in compliance with contract documents.
 - x. The vendor has demonstrated instances of poor or unsatisfactory performance, deficient management resulting in project delay, poor quality workmanship, a history of payment of liquidated damages, untimely completion of projects, uncooperative attitude, contract litigation, inflated claims or defaults.
 - xi. An affiliate of the vendor has previously been determined by the District to be non-responsible, and the specified period of suspension, revocation, denial, or non-responsibility remains in effect.
 - xii. The vendor or affiliate(s) has been convicted of a contract crime.
 - 1. The term "contract crime" means any violation of state or federal antitrust laws with respect to a public contract or any violation of any state or federal law involving fraud, bribery, collusion, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation with respect to a public contract.
 - 2. The term "convicted" or "conviction" means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a contract crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
- (b) A denial, suspension, or revocation shall prohibit the vendor from being a subcontractor on District work during the period of denial, suspension, or revocation, except when a prime contractor's bid has used prices of a subcontractor who becomes disqualified after the bid, but before the request for authorization to sublet is presented.
- (c) The District shall inform the vendor in writing of its intent to deny, suspend, or revoke its pre-qualified status and inform the vendor of its right to a hearing, the procedure which must be followed, and the applicable time limits. If a hearing is requested within 10 days after the receipt of the notice of intent, the

hearing shall be held within 30 days after receipt by the District of the request for the hearing. The decision shall be issued within 15 days after the hearing.

- (d) Such suspension or revocation shall not affect the vendor's obligations under any preexisting contract.
- (e) In the case of contract crimes, the vendor's pre-qualified status under this Rule shall be revoked indefinitely. For all violations of Rule 3.4(3)(a) other than for the vendor's conviction for contract crimes, the revocation, denial, or suspension of a vendor's pre-qualified status under this Rule shall be for a specific period of time based on the seriousness of the deficiency.

Examples of factors affecting the seriousness of a deficiency are:

- i. Impacts on project schedule, cost, or quality of work;
- ii. Unsafe conditions allowed to exist;
- iii. Complaints from the public;
- iv. Delay or interference with the bidding process;
- v. The potential for repetition;
- vi. Integrity of the public contracting process;
- vii. Effect on the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: §§ 190.033, 255.0525, 255.20, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.5 Construction Contracts, Not Design-Build.

- (1) Scope. All contracts for the construction or improvement of any building, structure, or other public construction works authorized by Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, the costs of which are estimated by the District in accordance with generally accepted cost accounting principles to be in excess of the threshold amount for applicability of Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, as that amount may be indexed or amended from time to time, shall be let under the terms of these Rules and the procedures of Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time. A project shall not be divided solely to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of construction services is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and in the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of sealed bids, proposals, replies, or responses, unless the Board, for good cause, determines a shorter period of time is appropriate. Any project projected to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) must be noticed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses. If the Board has previously pre-qualified contractors pursuant to Rule 3.4 and determined that only the contractors that have been pre-qualified will be permitted to submit bids, proposals, replies, and responses, the Notice of Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation need not be published. Instead, the Notice of Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be sent to the pre-qualified contractors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service.
 - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.

- (d) If the District has pre-qualified providers of construction services, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, or responses to Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations.
- (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the bidder is a corporation; and
 - (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Any contractor that has been found guilty by a court of any violation of federal labor or employment tax laws regarding subjects including but not limited to, reemployment assistance, safety, tax withholding, worker's compensation, unemployment tax, social security and Medicare tax, wage or hour, or prevailing rate laws within the past 5 years may be considered ineligible by the District to submit a bid, response, or proposal for a District project.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply, or response, if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses, or the portions of which that include the price, shall be publicly opened at a meeting noticed in accordance with Rule 1.3, and at which at least one district representative is present. The name of each bidder and the price submitted in the bid shall be announced at such meeting and shall be made available upon request. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and maintained by the District. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation and these Rules. Minor variations in the bids,

proposals, replies, or responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.

- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder in response to an Invitation to Bid shall be accepted. In relation to a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, the Board shall select the Responsive Proposal, Reply, or Response submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Vendor which is most advantageous to the District. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, and responses.
- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No contractor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, response, or reply preparation or submittal from the District.
- (i) The Board may require potential contractors to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
- (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses, shall be provided in writing to all contractors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's purchase of construction services under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
- (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase construction services or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may

proceed with the procurement of construction services, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the construction services without further competitive selection processes.

- (3) Sole Source; Government. Construction services that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Construction services provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. This Rule shall not apply to the purchase of construction services, which may include goods, supplies, or materials, that are purchased under a federal, state, or local government contract that has been competitively procured by such federal, state, or local government in a manner consistent with the material procurement requirements of these Rules. A contract for construction services is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process.
- (4) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
- (5) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board Meeting.
- (6) Exceptions. This Rule is inapplicable when:
 - (a) The project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility;
 - (b) The funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent;
 - (c) The District has competitively awarded a project and the contractor has abandoned the project or the District has terminated the contract; or
 - (d) The District, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes, and finds by a majority vote of the Board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 189.053, 190.033, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.6 Construction Contracts, Design-Build.

- (1) Scope. The District may utilize Design-Build Contracts for any public construction project for which the Board determines that use of such contract is in the best

interest of the District. When letting a Design-Build Contract, the District shall use the following procedure:

(2) Procedure.

- (a) The District shall utilize a Design Criteria Professional meeting the requirements of Section 287.055(2)(k) of the Florida Statutes, when developing a Design Criteria Package, evaluating the proposals and qualifications submitted by Design-Build Firms, and determining compliance of the project construction with the Design Criteria Package. The Design Criteria Professional may be an employee of the District, may be the District Engineer selected by the District pursuant to Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes, or may be retained pursuant to Rule 3.1. The Design Criteria Professional is not eligible to render services under a Design-Build Contract executed pursuant to the Design Criteria Package.
- (b) A Design Criteria Package for the construction project shall be prepared and sealed by the Design Criteria Professional. If the project utilizes existing plans, the Design Criteria Professional shall create a Design Criteria Package by supplementing the plans with project specific requirements, if any.
- (c) The Board may either choose to award the Design-Build Contract pursuant to the competitive proposal selection process set forth in Section 287.055(9) of the Florida Statutes, or pursuant to the qualifications-based selection process pursuant to Rule 3.1.
 - (i) Qualifications-Based Selection. If the process set forth in Rule 3.1 is utilized, subsequent to competitive negotiations, a guaranteed maximum price and guaranteed completion date shall be established.
 - (ii) Competitive Proposal-Based Selection. If the competitive proposal selection process is utilized, the Board, in consultation with the Design Criteria Professional, shall establish the criteria, standards and procedures for the evaluation of Design-Build Proposals based on price, technical, and design aspects of the project, weighted for the project. After a Design Criteria Package and the standards and procedures for evaluation of proposals have been developed, competitive proposals from qualified firms shall be solicited pursuant to the design criteria by the following procedure:
 - 1. A Request for Proposals shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located. The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of sealed proposals, unless the Board,

for good cause, determines a shorter period of time is appropriate. Any project projected to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) must be noticed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submittal of proposals.

2. The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Requests for Proposals. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
3. In order to be eligible to submit a proposal, a firm must, at the time of receipt of the proposals:
 - a. Hold the required applicable state professional licenses in good standing, as defined by Section 287.055(2)(h) of the Florida Statutes;
 - b. Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - c. Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the proposer is a corporation;
 - d. Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Request for Proposals and Design Criteria Package.

Any contractor that has been found guilty by a court of any violation of federal labor or employment tax laws regarding subjects including but not limited to reemployment assistance, safety, tax withholding, worker's compensation, unemployment tax, social security and Medicare tax, wage or hour, or prevailing rate laws within the past 5 years may be considered ineligible by the District to submit a bid, response, or proposal for a District project.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the proposal if required by the District. Failure to

submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the proposal.

4. The proposals, or the portions of which that include the price, shall be publicly opened at a meeting noticed in accordance with Rule 1.3, and at which at least one district representative is present. The name of each bidder and the price submitted in the bid shall be announced at such meeting and shall be made available upon request. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and maintained by the District. In consultation with the Design Criteria Professional, the Board shall evaluate the proposals received based on evaluation criteria and procedures established prior to the solicitation of proposals, including but not limited to qualifications, availability, and past work of the firms and the partners and members thereof. The Board shall then select no fewer than three (3) Design-Build Firms as the most qualified.
5. The Board shall have the right to reject all proposals if the proposals are too high, or rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of proposal preparation or submittal from the District.
6. If less than three (3) Responsive Proposals are received, the District may purchase design-build services or may reject the proposals for lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Proposals are received, the District may proceed with the procurement of design-build services in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the design-build services without further competitive selection processes.
7. Notice of the rankings adopted by the Board, including the rejection of some or all proposals, shall be provided in writing to all consultants by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's rankings under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

8. The Board shall negotiate a contract with the firm ranking the highest based on the evaluation standards and shall establish a price which the Board determines is fair, competitive and reasonable. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. The Board shall then undertake negotiations with the second most qualified firm, based on the ranking by the evaluation standards. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the second most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. The Board shall then undertake negotiations with the third most qualified firm. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the third most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with any of the selected firms, the Board shall select additional firms in order of their rankings based on the evaluation standards and continue negotiations until an agreement is reached or the list of firms is exhausted.
 9. After the Board contracts with a firm, the firm shall bring to the Board for approval, detailed working drawings of the project.
 10. The Design Criteria Professional shall evaluate the compliance of the detailed working drawings and project construction with the Design Criteria Package and shall provide the Board with a report of the same.
- (3) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
 - (4) Emergency Purchase. The Board may, in case of public emergency, declare an emergency and immediately proceed with negotiations with the best qualified Design-Build Firm available at the time. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.
 - (5) Exceptions. This Rule is inapplicable when:

- (a) The project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility;
- (b) The funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent;
- (c) The District has competitively awarded a project and the contractor has abandoned the project or the District has terminated the contractor; or
- (d) The District, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes, and finds by a majority vote of the Board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 189.053, 190.033, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.7 Payment and Performance Bonds.

- (1) Scope. This Rule shall apply to contracts for the construction of a public building, for the prosecution and completion of a public work, or for repairs upon a public building or public work and shall be construed in addition to terms prescribed by any other Rule that may also apply to such contracts.
- (2) Required Bond. Upon entering into a contract for any of the services described in section (1) of this Rule in excess of \$200,000, the Board should require that the contractor, before commencing the work, execute and record a payment and performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. Notwithstanding the terms of the contract or any other law, the District may not make payment to the contractor until the contractor has provided to the District a certified copy of the recorded bond.
- (3) Discretionary Bond. At the discretion of the Board, upon entering into a contract for any of the services described in section (1) of this Rule for an amount not exceeding \$200,000, the contractor may be exempted from executing a payment and performance bond.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: § 255.05, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.8 Goods, Supplies, and Materials.

- (1) Purpose and Scope. All purchases of goods, supplies, or materials exceeding the amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR, shall be purchased under the terms of this Rule. Contracts for purchases of “goods, supplies, and materials” do not include printing, insurance, advertising, or legal notices. A contract involving goods, supplies, or materials plus maintenance services may, in the discretion of the Board, be treated as a contract for maintenance services. However, a purchase shall not be divided solely in order to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of goods, supplies, or materials is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
 - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
 - (d) If the District has pre-qualified suppliers of goods, supplies, and materials, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
 - (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;

- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply or response if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

Any firm or individual whose principal place of business is outside the State of Florida must also submit a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in that foreign state, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that foreign state to business entities whose principal places of business are in that foreign state, in the letting of any or all public contracts. Failure to submit such a written opinion or submission of a false or misleading written opinion may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be publicly opened at the time and place noted on the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, and this Rule. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, or responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.
- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid, after taking into account the preferences provided for in this subsection, submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder in response to an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be accepted. If the lowest Responsive Bid is submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is located in a foreign state which does not grant a preference in competitive purchase to businesses whose principal place of business are in that foreign state, the lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder whose principal place of business is in the State of

Florida shall be awarded a preference of five (5) percent. If the lowest Responsive Bid is submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is located in a foreign state which grants a preference in competitive purchase to businesses whose principal place of business are in that foreign state, the lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is in the State of Florida shall be awarded a preference equal to the preference granted by such foreign state.

To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, and responses.

- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, reply, or response preparation or submittal from the District.
 - (i) The Board may require bidders and proposers to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
 - (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's purchase of goods, supplies, and materials under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
 - (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase goods, supplies, or materials, or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of goods, supplies, and materials, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the goods, supplies, and materials without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Goods, Supplies, and Materials included in a Construction Contract Awarded Pursuant to Rule 3.5 or 3.6. There may be occasions where the District has

undergone the competitive purchase of construction services which contract may include the provision of goods, supplies, or materials. In that instance, the District may approve a change order to the contract and directly purchase the goods, supplies, and materials. Such purchase of goods, supplies, and materials deducted from a competitively purchased construction contract shall be exempt from this Rule.

- (4) Exemption. Goods, supplies, and materials that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Goods, supplies, and materials provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. A contract for goods, supplies, or materials is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process. This Rule shall not apply to the purchase of goods, supplies or materials that are purchased under a federal, state, or local government contract that has been competitively procured by such federal, state, or local government in a manner consistent with the material procurement requirements of these Rules.
- (5) Renewal. Contracts for the purchase of goods, supplies, and/or materials subject to this Rule may be renewed for a maximum period of five (5) years.
- (6) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 189.053, 190.033, 287.017, 287.084, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.9 Maintenance Services.

- (1) Scope. All contracts for maintenance of any District facility or project shall be set under the terms of this Rule if the cost exceeds the amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR. A contract involving goods, supplies, and materials plus maintenance services may, in the discretion of the Board, be treated as a contract for maintenance services. However, a purchase shall not be divided solely in order to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of maintenance services is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
 - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
 - (d) If the District has pre-qualified suppliers of maintenance services, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, and responses.
 - (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;

- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply, or response if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be publicly opened at the time and place noted on the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, and these Rules. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, and responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.
- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid submitted in response to an Invitation to Bid by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder shall be accepted. In relation to a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate or Competitive Solicitation the Board shall select the Responsive Proposal, Reply, or Response submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Vendor which is most advantageous to the District. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No Vendor shall be

entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, reply, or response preparation or submittal from the District.

- (i) The Board may require bidders and proposers to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
 - (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's procurement of maintenance services under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
 - (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase the maintenance services or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of maintenance services, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the maintenance services without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Exemptions. Maintenance services that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Maintenance services provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. A contract for maintenance services is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process.
 - (4) Renewal. Contracts for the purchase of maintenance services subject to this Rule may be renewed for a maximum period of five (5) years.
 - (5) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
 - (6) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.033, 287.017, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.10 Contractual Services.

- (1) Exemption from Competitive Purchase. Pursuant to Section 190.033(3) of the Florida Statutes, Contractual Services shall not be subject to competitive purchasing requirements. If an agreement is predominantly for Contractual Services, but also includes maintenance services or the purchase of goods and services, the contract shall not be subject to competitive purchasing requirements. Regardless of whether an advertisement or solicitation for Contractual Services is identified as an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, no rights or remedies under these Rules, including but not limited to protest rights, are conferred on persons, firms, or vendors proposing to provide Contractual Services to the District.
- (2) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract for Contractual Services shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.011(3), 190.033, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.11 Protests with Respect to Proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9.

The resolution of any protests with respect to proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9 shall be in accordance with this Rule.

(1) Filing.

- (a) With respect to a protest regarding qualifications, specifications, documentation, or other requirements contained in a Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid, or Competitive Solicitation issued by the District, the notice of protest shall be filed in writing within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the first advertisement of the Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid, or Competitive Solicitation. A formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file a notice of protest shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District's intended decision. Failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute an abandonment of the protest proceedings and shall automatically terminate the protest proceedings.
- (b) Except for those situations covered by subsection (1)(a) of this Rule, any firm or person who is affected adversely by a District's ranking or intended award under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, or 3.9 and desires to contest the District's ranking or intended award, shall file with the District a written notice of protest within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after receipt of the notice of the District's ranking or intended award. A formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file a notice of protest shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District's ranking or intended award. Failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute an abandonment of the protest proceedings and shall automatically terminate the protest proceedings.
- (c) If the requirement for the posting of a protest bond and the amount of the protest bond, which may be expressed by a percentage of the contract to be awarded or a set amount, is disclosed in the District's competitive solicitation documents for a particular purchase under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3,

3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, or 3.9, any person who files a notice of protest must post the protest bond. The amount of the protest bond shall be determined by District staff after consultation with the Board and within the limits, if any, imposed by Florida law. In the event the protest is successful, the protest bond shall be refunded to the protestor. In the event the protest is unsuccessful, the protest bond shall be applied towards the District's costs, expenses, and attorney's fees associated with hearing and defending the protest. In the event the protest is settled by mutual agreement of the parties, the protest bond shall be distributed as agreed to by the District and protestor.

- (d) The District does not accept documents filed by electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Filings are only accepted during normal business hours.
- (2) Contract Execution. Upon receipt of a notice of protest which has been timely filed, the District shall not execute the contract under protest until the subject of the protest is resolved. However, if the District sets forth in writing particular facts and circumstances showing that delay incident to protest proceedings will jeopardize the funding for the project, will materially increase the cost of the project, or will create an immediate and serious danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, the contract may be executed.
- (3) Informal Proceeding. If the Board determines a protest does not involve a disputed issue of material fact, the Board may, but is not obligated to, schedule an informal proceeding to consider the protest. Such informal proceeding shall be at a time and place determined by the Board. Notice of such proceeding shall be sent via facsimile, United States Mail, or hand delivery to the protestor and any substantially affected persons or parties not less than three (3) calendar days prior to such informal proceeding. Within thirty (30) calendar days following the informal proceeding, the Board shall issue a written decision setting forth the factual, legal, and policy grounds for its decision.
- (4) Formal Proceeding. If the Board determines a protest involves disputed issues of material fact or if the Board elects not to use the informal proceeding process provided for in section (3) of this Rule, the District shall schedule a formal hearing to resolve the protest. The Chairperson shall designate any member of the Board (including the Chairperson), District Manager, District Counsel, or other person as a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer may:
 - (a) Administer oaths and affirmations;
 - (b) Rule upon offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;
 - (c) Regulate the course of the hearing, including any pre-hearing matters;
 - (d) Enter orders; and

- (e) Make or receive offers of settlement, stipulation, and adjustment.

The hearing officer shall, within thirty (30) days after the hearing or receipt of the hearing transcript, whichever is later, file a recommended order which shall include a caption, time and place of hearing, appearances entered at the hearing, statement of the issues, findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated, and a recommendation for final District action. The District shall allow each party fifteen (15) days in which to submit written exceptions to the recommended order. The District shall issue a final order within sixty (60) days after the filing of the recommended order.

- (5) Intervenors. Other substantially affected persons may join the proceedings as intervenors on appropriate terms which shall not unduly delay the proceedings.
- (6) Rejection of all Qualifications, Bids, Proposals, Replies and Responses after Receipt of Notice of Protest. If the Board determines there was a violation of law, defect, or an irregularity in the competitive solicitation process, the Bids, Proposals, Replies, and Responses are too high, or if the Board determines it is otherwise in the District's best interest, the Board may reject all qualifications, bids, proposals, replies, and responses and start the competitive solicitation process anew. If the Board decides to reject all qualifications, bids, proposals, replies, and responses and start the competitive solicitation process anew, any pending protests shall automatically terminate.
- (7) Settlement. Nothing herein shall preclude the settlement of any protest under this Rule at any time.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: § 190.033, Fla. Stat.

Rule 4.0 Effective Date.

These Rules shall be effective August 9, 2024, except that no election of officers required by these Rules shall be required until after the next regular election for the Board.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

12A

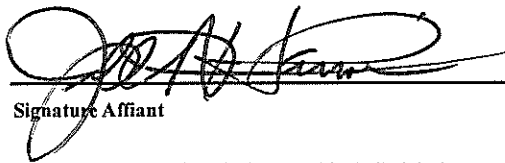
Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Hillsborough

} ss

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Jill Harrison** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE: Notice of Rule Development** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: 7/ 7/24 or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid not promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.



Signature Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this .07/07/2024

Signature of Notary Public
Personally known X or produced identification
Type of identification produced _____



**NOTICE OF RULE DEVELOPMENT REGARDING
JOINT RULES, POLICIES, AND FEES REGARDING AMENITY
FACILITIES OF VARREA SOUTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AND
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE OF VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

In accordance with Chapters 120 and 190, Florida Statutes, the Varrea North Community Development District ("Varrea North") and the Varrea South Community Development District ("Varrea South" and, collectively with Varrea North, the "Districts") hereby give notice of intention to adopt joint rules, policies, and fees regarding amenity facilities of the District and the Districts ("Amenity Rules") and notice of Varrea North's intention to adopt proposed Rules of Procedure ("Rules of Procedure") (the Amenity Rules and the Rules of Procedure are collectively referred to herein as "Rules").

The purpose and effect of the proposed Amenity Rules is to provide joint rules, policies, and fees for the use of the Districts' amenity facilities. The Rules of Procedure will address such areas as the Board of Supervisors, officers and voting, district offices, public information and inspection of records, policies, public meetings, hearings and workshops, rulemaking proceedings, competitive purchase including procedure under the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, procedure regarding auditor selection, purchase of insurance, pre-qualification, construction contracts, goods, supplies and materials, maintenance services, contractual services and protests with respect to proceedings, as well as any other area of the general operation of the District. The purpose and effect of the Rules of Procedure is to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to ensure compliance with Florida law.

The legal authority for the adoption of the proposed Rules includes Sections 190.011(5), 190.011(15) and 190.035, Florida Statutes. The specific laws implemented in the Rules of Procedure include, but are not limited to, Sections 112.08, 112.3143, 112.3146, 112.3145, 119.07, 119.0701, 189.053, 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 190.011(3), 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, 190.035, 218.33, 218.391, 255.05, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, 287.017, 287.055 and 287.084, Florida Statutes.

Publics hearing will be conducted Districts on August 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610. A copy of the proposed Rules may be obtained by contacting the District Manager, c/o Wrathell Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, 561-571-0010.

District Managers
Varrea North Community Development District
Varrea South Community Development District

07/07/2024

0000351300

Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Hillsborough

$$\}_{ss}$$

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Jean Mitotes** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE: Notice of Rulemaking** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: **7/10/24** or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid not promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.



Signature Affiant

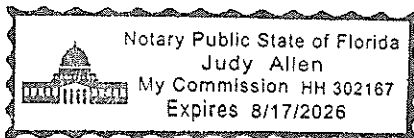
Sworn to and subscribed before me this .07/10/2024

Judy Allen
Notary Public

Signature of Notary Public

Personally known ☒ or produced identification ☐

Type of identification produced _____



**NOTICE OF RULEMAKING REGARDING
JOINT RULES, POLICIES, AND FEES REGARDING AMENITY FACILITIES OF
VARREA SOUTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND
VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AND
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE OF VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

In accordance with Chapters 120 and 190, *Florida Statutes*, the Varrea North Community Development District ("Varrea North") and the Varrea South Community Development District ("Varrea South" and, collectively with Varrea North, the "Districts") hereby give notice of intention to adopt joint rules, policies, and fees regarding amenity facilities of the Districts ("Amenity Rules") and notice of Varrea North's intention to adopt proposed Rules of Procedure ("Rules of Procedure") (the Amenity Rules and the Rules of Procedure are collectively referred to herein as "Rules"). Public hearings on the proposed Rules will be conducted by the Boards of Supervisors ("Boards") of the Districts on August 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610.

The public hearings will provide an opportunity for the public to address the proposed Rules. Prior notice of rule development was published in the Tampa Bay Times on July 7, 2024.

The purpose and effect of the proposed Amenity Rules is to provide joint rules, policies, and fees for the use of the Districts' amenity facilities. Proposed schedule of rates and fees is as follows:

Type	Rate
Annual User Fee (non-residents)	\$3,000
Access Card Replacement Fee	\$35.00
Event Space Rental Fee	\$250.00
Event Space Security Deposit Fee (refundable)	\$500.00
Event Space Cleaning Fee	\$100.00
Administrative Reimbursement Fee (related to violations of Amenity Rules)	\$500.00

The purpose and effect of the proposed Rules of Procedure is to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to ensure compliance with recent changes to Florida law. The Rules of Procedure may address such areas as the Board of Supervisors, officers and voting, district offices, public information and inspection of records, policies, public meetings, hearings and workshops, rulemaking proceedings, competitive purchase including procedures under the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, procedure regarding auditor selection, purchase of insurance, pre-qualification, construction contracts, goods, supplies and materials, maintenance services, contractual services, and protests with respect to proceedings, as well as any other area of the general operation of the District.

Specific legal authority for the adoption of the proposed Rules includes sections 190.011(5), 190.011(15), and 190.035, Florida Statutes. The specific laws implemented in the Rules of Procedure include, but are not limited to, Sections 112.08, 112.3143, 112.3146, 112.3145, 119.07, 119.0701, 189.053, 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 190.011(3), 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, 190.035, 218.33, 218.391, 255.05, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, 287.017, 287.055 and 287.084, Florida Statutes.

A copy of the proposed Rules may be obtained by contacting the District Manager, c/o Wrathell Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, 561-571-0010 ("District Manager's Office").

Any person who wishes to provide the District with a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), Florida Statutes, must do so in writing within twenty-one (21) days after publication of this notice to the District Manager's Office.

The public hearings are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. There may be occasions when one or more Board Supervisor or staff member will participate by telephone. At the above location will be present a speaker telephone so that any Board Supervisor or staff member can attend the meeting and be fully informed of the discussions taking place either in person or by telephone communication.

The public hearings may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the hearings. If anyone chooses to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearings, such person will need a record of the proceedings and should accordingly ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations at these public hearings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8771 or 1-800-955-8770 for aid in contacting the District Office.

Varrea North Community Development District
Varrea South Community Development District
District Managers

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

12B

RESOLUTION 2024-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ADOPTING JOINT RULES AND POLICIES REGARDING AMENITY FACILITIES OF VARREA SOUTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Varrea North Community Development District (“**District**”) is a local unit of special purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, authorizes the District to adopt rules to govern the administration of the District and to adopt resolutions as may be necessary for the conduct of District business; and

WHEREAS, to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to maintain compliance with recent changes to Florida law, the Board of Supervisors finds that it is in the best interests of the District to adopt by resolution the *Joint Rules and Policies Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District*, attached hereto as **Exhibit A** for immediate use and application (“**Rules**”); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. The attached Rules are hereby adopted pursuant to this resolution as necessary for the conduct of District business. These Rules shall stay in full force and effect until such time as the Board of Supervisors may amend these Rules in accordance with Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*.

SECTION 2. If any provision of this resolution is held to be illegal or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall become effective upon its passage and shall remain in effect unless rescinded or repealed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of August, 2024.

ATTEST:

VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

Exhibit A: Rules

EXHIBIT A

RULES

**JOINT AMENITY FACILITIES RULES, POLICIES
AND FEES

OF THE

VARREA SOUTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AND
VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Adopted August 9, 2024

**JOINT AMENITY FACILITY POLICIES:
Varrea South Community Development District
Varrea North Community Development District**

Law Implemented: ss. 190.011, 190.035, Fla. Stat. (2024)

EFFECTIVE DATE: AUGUST 9, 2024

In accordance with Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, and on, August 9, 2024 at a duly noticed public meeting and after a duly noticed public hearing, the Boards of Supervisors of the Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District adopted the following rules / policies to govern the operation of the Districts' Amenity Facilities. All prior rules / policies of the Districts governing this subject matter are hereby rescinded.

DEFINITIONS

"Access Card" – shall mean the identification card issued to Patrons.

"Amenity Facilities" or "Amenity" - shall mean the properties and areas owned by the Districts and intended for recreational use and shall include, but not specifically be limited to, the amenity center, a swimming pool, fitness center, playground, basketball court, stormwater ponds, multi-purpose room, and dog park together with their appurtenant facilities and areas.

"Amenity Facilities Policies" or "Policies" - shall mean these Rules, Policies and Fees for the Amenity Facilities of the Districts, as amended from time to time.

"Amenity Manager" - shall mean the District Manager or that person or firm so designated by each respective District's Board.

"Annual User Fee" - shall mean the fee established by the Districts for any person that is not a Resident and wishes to become a Non-Resident User. The amount of the Annual User Fee is set forth herein, and that amount is subject to change based on Board action.

"Board" or "Boards" - shall mean Board of Supervisors of the Varrea South Community Development District and the Varrea North Community Development District. Each individually may be referred to herein as a "Board."

"Districts" - shall mean the Varrea South Community Development District and the Varrea North Community Development District, each a political subdivision of the State of Florida, created pursuant to Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes. Each individually may be referred to herein as a "District."

"District Manager" - shall mean the professional management company with which each District has contracted to provide management services to the respective District.

"Guest" - shall mean any Non-Resident invited by a Patron to participate in the use of the Amenity Facilities.

"Non-Resident User" - shall mean any person or persons not currently residing in or owning property in a District who is paying the Annual User Fee to a District for the non-exclusive privilege to use the Amenity Facilities.

"Patron" or "Patrons" - shall mean Residents, Non-Resident Users, and Renters who are eighteen (18) years of age or older.

"Property Owner" or "Resident" - shall mean that person or persons having fee simple ownership of property within a District.

"Renter" - shall mean any tenant residing in a Resident's home pursuant to a valid rental or lease agreement.

PURPOSE

This document, jointly prepared and agreed to by the Boards, applies to all Patrons for the usage of all Amenity Facilities within both Districts. Compliance with the Policies and provisions is mandatory and will be enforced.

The Boards, the District Manager(s), the Amenity Manager(s) and Staff shall have full authority to enforce these Policies. However, each Board by a vote at a public meeting, District Manager, and/or Amenity Manager shall have the authority in their sole discretion to waive strict application of any of these Policies when prudent, necessary or in the best interest of the applicable District and Patrons, provided however, any permanent waiver must be approved by both Boards and such a temporary waiver of any Policy by the Amenity Manager shall not constitute a continuous, ongoing waiver of said Policy.

The Boards jointly reserve the right to amend, modify, or delete, in part or in their entirety, these Policies, when necessary, at a duly-noticed Board meeting, and will notify the Patrons of any changes. Use of the Amenity Facilities may be subject to payment of applicable fees or rates set by the respective Districts. To change or modify rates or fees beyond the increases specifically allowed by District(s) rules and regulations, the Boards must hold a duly-noticed public hearing on said rates and fees. Each District may unilaterally update rules specific to Amenity Facilities solely within their respective boundaries.

ANNUAL USER FEE

The Annual User Fee for any Non-Resident User is identified in **Exhibit A** attached hereto. This payment must be paid in full at the time of completion of the Non-Resident User application. This fee will permit the use of all Amenity Facilities for one (1) full year from the date of receipt of payment by a District. Each subsequent renewal shall be paid in full on the anniversary date of application for use of the Amenity Facilities by such Non-Resident User. Such fee may be increased, by action of the Boards, to reflect increased costs of operation of the Amenity Facilities; such increase may not exceed ten percent (10%) per year. Annual User Fees may be renewed no more than thirty (30) days in advance of the date of expiration and for no more than one calendar year. Multi-year memberships are not available. The Annual User Fee is nonrefundable and nontransferable. The use of the Amenity Facilities is not available for commercial purposes.

ACCESS CARDS

- (1) Patrons must use, or present upon request, their Access Cards to gain access to the Amenity Facilities. Patrons will scan their Access Cards in the card reader in order to unlock the doors or access gate. Under no circumstance should a Patron provide an Access Card to another person to allow him or her to use the Amenity Facilities.

- (2) Each Patron family will receive two (2) Access Cards per lot (not per Patron) upon registration with the Amenity Managers.
- (3) Access Cards are the property of the Districts and are non-transferable except in accordance with the Policies.
- (4) All lost or stolen cards need to be reported immediately to the Amenity Manager. The charge to replace lost or stolen cards is identified in **Exhibit A** attached hereto. A Patron with a lost or stolen Access Card will be financially responsible for damages resulting from unreported loss or theft of the access card.

GUESTS

- (1) Patrons bringing a Guest(s) are responsible for any and all actions taken by such Guest(s). Violation by a Guest on any of these Policies could result in loss of that Patron's privileges. Guests must be accompanied by the Patron.
- (2) Guests must be accompanied by the Patron.
- (3) Except for Registered Events (as defined herein), no more than two (2) persons per Patron are permitted as Guests to the Amenity Facilities at one time. For purposes of this limitation, Resident Patrons are limited to two (2) guests per homeowner (according to property appraiser records), Non-Resident User Patrons are limited to two (2) guests per Non-Resident User, and Renter Patrons are limited to two (2) guests per person named on the lease as the renter/tenant of the Resident's home.
- (4) For purposes of Registered Events, the number of Guests is instead limited to the event registration information approved by the Amenity Manager, which may not exceed the room or meeting space maximum pursuant to applicable building and safety codes.
- (5) Babysitters/caregivers are considered Guests and must provide a notarized written statement from the child's or children's parents or guardians authorizing custodial rights and proof of proper identification listing an emergency contact.

RENTER'S PRIVILEGES

- (1) Property Owners who rent out or lease out their residential unit(s) in the Districts shall have the right to designate the Renter of their residential unit(s) as the beneficial users of the Property Owner's Amenity Facilities privileges.
- (2) In order for the Renter to be entitled to use the Amenity Facilities, the Renter must complete the Non-Resident User application. The Annual User Fee will then be waived for the Renter. A Renter who is designated as the beneficial user of the Property Owner's Amenity

Facilities privileges shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges to use the Amenity Facilities as the Property Owner.

- (3) During the period when a Renter is designated as the beneficial user of the Property Owner's privilege to use the Amenity Facilities, the Property Owner shall not be entitled to use the Amenity Facilities with respect to that property.
- (4) Property Owners shall be responsible for all charges incurred by their Renters which remain unpaid after the customary billing and collection procedure established by the Districts. Property Owners are responsible for the behavior of their respective Renter.
- (5) Renters shall be subject to such other rules and regulations as the Boards may adopt from time to time.

GENERAL FACILITY PROVISIONS

All Patrons and Guests using the Amenity Facilities are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible, courteous and safe manner, in compliance with the Policies. Violation of the Policies and/or misuse or destruction of Amenity Facility equipment may result in the suspension or termination of Amenity Facility privileges with respect to the offending Patron or Guest.

The Boards reserves the right to amend, modify or delete, in part or in their entirety, these Policies when necessary, at duly-noticed Board meetings. However, in order to change or modify rates or fees beyond the increases specifically allowed for by the Districts' rules and regulations, the Boards must hold duly-noticed public hearings on said rates and fees.

- (1) In order to enter and/or utilize the following Amenity Facilities, children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a Patron or Guest who is 18 years of age or older unless specifically stated elsewhere in the Policies:

<u>Amenity Facility</u>	<u>Age of Minor Requiring Accompaniment</u>
Playgrounds/Tot Lot	Under 10 years of age
Basketball Facilities	Under 12 years of age
Pool and Water Slide Facilities	Under 14 years of age
Dog Park	Under 16 years of age
Fitness Center	No entrance/use under 14 years of age. See "Fitness Center Policies" herein for further details.
Multi-Purpose Room	Under 14 years of age
Stormwater Ponds	Under 13 years of age

- (2) Pets and Service Animals. Dogs and all other pets (with the exception of service animals, as such term is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act) shall not be permitted at the Amenity Facilities (with the exception of the dog park). Dogs and all other pets (with the exception of service animals, as such term is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act) must be kept on a leash at all times on property that is owned by a District other than the Dog Park, including, but not limited to the stormwater pond banks. As a point of clarity, animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals.
- (3) Vehicles must be parked in designated areas. Vehicles should not be parked on grass lawns or in any way which blocks the normal flow of traffic.
- (4) Fireworks of any kind are not permitted anywhere at or on the Amenity Facilities or adjacent areas.
- (5) The Boards, Amenity Manager(s) and/or the District Manager(s) shall have full authority to enforce these policies.
- (6) Smoking of any kind using any device is not permitted at any Amenity Facility.
- (7) Glass and other breakable items are not permitted at any Amenity Facility.
- (8) Patrons and their Guests shall treat all staff members with courtesy and respect.
- (9) Off-road bikes/vehicles are prohibited on all property owned, maintained or operated by a District or on any of the Amenity Facilities.
- (10) The Districts will not offer childcare services at any of the Amenity Facilities.
- (11) Skateboarding and rollerblading are not allowed on the Amenity Facilities property at any time.
- (12) Events/performances at any Amenity Facility, including those by outside entertainers, must be approved in advance by the Amenity Manager.
- (13) Alcoholic beverages are not permitted at any Amenity Facility.
- (14) Commercial advertisements shall not be posted or circulated in the Amenity Facilities. Except as may otherwise be permitted by law, petitions, posters or promotional material shall not be originated, solicited, circulated or posted on Amenity Facilities property unless approved in writing by the Amenity Manager.
- (15) The Amenity Facilities shall not be used for commercial purposes. The term "commercial purposes" shall mean those activities which involve, in any way, the provision of goods or services for compensation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District may authorize

community events or limited use of District facilities which involve the provision of goods or services pursuant to a separate agreement.

- (16) Firearms or any other weapons are not permitted in any of the Amenity Facilities unless otherwise authorized pursuant to Florida law.
- (17) Amenity Managers reserve the right to authorize all programs and activities, including the number of participants, equipment and supplies usage, facility reservations, etc., at all Amenity Facilities, except fees that have been established by the Boards.
- (18) Loitering (the offense of standing idly or prowling in a place, at a time or in a manner not usual for law-abiding individuals, under circumstances that warrant a justifiable and reasonable alarm or immediate concern for the safety of persons or property in the vicinity) is not permitted at any Amenity Facility.
- (19) All Patrons and Guests shall abide by and comply with any and all federal, state and local laws and ordinances while present at or utilizing the Amenity Facilities and shall ensure that any minor for whom they are responsible also complies with the same.
- (20) Portable grills of all kinds are prohibited at the Amenity Facilities.

AMENITY FACILITY OPERATIONS

Hours: The Amenity Facilities are available for use by Patrons during normal operating hours to be established and posted by the Amenity Manager.

Emergencies: After contacting 911, when appropriate, all emergencies and injuries must be reported to the office of the Amenity Manager (phone number 813-421-9898).

Please note that the Amenity Facilities are unattended facilities. Persons using the Amenity Facilities do so at their own risk. Staff members are not present to provide personal training, exercise consultation or athletic instruction, unless otherwise noted, to Patrons or Guests. Persons interested in using the Amenity Facilities are encouraged to consult with a physician prior to commencing a fitness program.

LOSS OR DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY OR INSTANCES OF PERSONAL INJURY

- (1) Each Patron and each Guest, as a condition of using the Amenity Facilities, assumes sole responsibility for his or her property. The Districts and its contractors shall not be responsible for the loss or damage to any private property used or stored on or in any of the Amenity Facilities.
- (2) No person shall remove from the room in which it is placed or from any Amenity Facility, any property or furniture belonging to a District or its contractors without proper authorization from the Amenity Manager. Patrons shall be liable for any property damage

and/or personal injury at the Amenity Facilities or at any activity or function operated organized, arranged or sponsored by the District or its contractors, which is caused by the Patron or the Patron's Guest or family member(s). The Districts reserve the right to pursue any and all legal and equitable measures necessary to remedy any losses it suffers due to property damage or personal injury caused by a Patron or the Patron's Guest or family member(s).

- (3) Any Patron, Guest or other person who, in any manner, makes use of or accepts the use of any apparatus, appliance, facility, privilege or service whatsoever owned, leased or operated by a District or its contractors or who engages in any contest, game, function, exercise, competition or other activity operated organized, arranged or sponsored by a District or its contractors, either on or off the Amenity Facilities' premises, shall do so at his or her own risk, and shall hold the Amenity Facilities' owners, the Districts, the Boards, District employees, District representatives, District contractors and District agents, harmless from any and all loss, cost, claim, injury, damage or liability sustained or incurred by him or her, resulting therefrom and/or from any act or omission of a District or their respective operators, supervisors, employees, contractors or agents. Any Patron shall have, owe, and perform the same obligation to the Districts and their respective operators, supervisors, employees, representatives, contractors, and agents hereunder with respect to any loss, cost, claim, injury, damage or liability sustained or incurred by any Guest or Patron.
- (4) Should any party bound by these Policies bring suit against a District, a Board or staff, agents or employee of a District or any Amenity Facility operator or its officers, employees, representatives, contractors or agents in connection with any event operated organized, arranged or sponsored by a District or any other claim or matter in connection with any event operated organized, arranged or sponsored by a District, and fail to obtain judgment therein against a District or the Amenity Facilities' operators, officers, employees, representatives, contractors or agents, said party bringing suit shall be liable to the prevailing party (i.e. the District, etc.) for all costs and expenses incurred by it in the defense of such suit, including court costs and attorney's fees through all appellate proceedings.

GENERAL SWIMMING POOL RULES
NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY -SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK

- (1) Usage by children is subject to age accompaniment requirements set forth herein.
- (2) Guests must be accompanied by a Patron. Patrons are responsible for the conduct of their guests.
- (3) No diving, jumping, pushing, running or other horseplay is allowed in the pool or on the pool deck area.
- (4) Hanging on the lane lines, interfering with the lap-swimming lane, and diving are prohibited.

- (5) Any music playing device and/or televisions are not permitted unless they are personal units equipped with headphones.
- (6) Swimming is permitted only during designated hours as posted at the pool, and such hours are subject to change at the discretion of the Amenity Manager. Swimming after dusk is prohibited by the Florida Department of Health. Patrons and Guests swim at their own risk and must adhere to swimming pool rules at all times.
- (7) Showers are required before entering the pool.
- (8) Alcohol and glass containers are prohibited.
- (9) Food is prohibited on the pool deck area.
- (10) Children under three (3) years of age, and those who are not reliably toilet trained, must wear rubber lined swim diapers, as well as a swimsuit over the swim diaper, to reduce the health risks associated with human waste in the swimming pool/deck area.
- (11) The Amenity Manager is authorized to direct the discontinued usage of play equipment, such as floats, rafts, snorkels, dive sticks, and flotation devices during times of peak or scheduled activity at the pool or if the equipment causes a safety concern.
- (12) Pool availability may be limited or rotated in order to facilitate maintenance of the facility. Depending upon usage, the pool may be closed for various periods of time to facilitate maintenance and to maintain health code regulations.
- (13) Bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, scooters and golf carts are not permitted on the pool deck area or inside the Amenity Facilities.
- (14) The Amenity Manager reserves the right to authorize all programs and activities (including the number of participants, equipment and supplies usage, etc.) conducted at the pool, including swim lessons and aquatic/recreational programs.
- (15) Any person swimming during non-posted swimming hours may be suspended from using the facility.
- (16) Proper swim attire, swimsuits or board shorts, shirts that are made of dry fit material must be worn in the pool. No street clothes, cut offs or gym shorts are permitted in the pool at any time.
- (17) No chewing gum is permitted in the pool or on the pool deck area.
- (18) For the comfort of others, the changing of diapers or clothes is not allowed poolside.
- (19) No one shall pollute the pool. Anyone who pollutes the pool is liable for any costs incurred in treating and reopening the pool.
- (20) Radio controlled watercraft are not allowed in the pool area.

- (21) Pool entrances must be kept clear at all times.
- (22) No swinging on ladders, fences or railings is allowed.
- (23) Pool furniture is not to be removed from the pool area.
- (24) Loud, profane or abusive language is absolutely prohibited.
- (25) No physical or verbal abuse will be tolerated.
- (26) Tobacco products are not allowed in the pool area.
- (27) Illegal drugs are not permitted.
- (28) Chemicals used in the pool/spa may affect certain hair or fabric colors. The Districts are not responsible for these effects.
- (29) The pool and covered lanai area may not be rented or reserved at any time; however, access may be limited at certain times for various District functions or Registered Events.
- (30) Food, beverages, glass containers, and animals are prohibited in the pool.
- (31) Pets are generally prohibited. Individuals with a disability and service animal trainers may be accompanied by a service animal, as defined in Chapter 413.08, F.S., but the service animal is not allowed to enter the water in order to prevent a direct threat to the health of pool patrons.

SWIMMING POOL WATER SLIDE RULES

- (1) In addition to the rules set forth in this section, all General Swimming Pool Rules apply to water slide usage.
- (2) Usage by children is subject to age accompaniment requirements set forth herein.
- (3) Slide may not be used unless (i) a Slide Attendant is present, (ii) the slide gate is opened, and (iii) the water slide dispatch and traffic control system (“**Dispatch System**”) is functioning. Riders must wait for the green light indicated on the Dispatch System to indicate the rider is cleared to enter the slide surface. In addition to the Dispatch System, Riders must follow all directions from the Slide Attendant. Slide Attendant may request riders demonstrate their ability to swim prior to using the slide. Slide Attendant and/or Amenity Manager is authorized to direct the discontinued usage of the slide during times of peak or scheduled activity at the pool or if the equipment causes a safety concern.
- (4) Riders must be a minimum of 42 inches tall.

- (5) Riders must be 300 pounds or less.
- (6) Riders must be in good general health. Persons with heart or back conditions shall not ride. Pregnant women are strongly discouraged from using the slide and should consult with physician prior to using the slide.
- (7) Riders must be seated and wait for the attendant approval to start down the slide.
- (8) Riders must be in the proper riding position (lying on back, feet first, arms crossed or hands interlocked behind head, legs crossed at the ankles).
- (9) No standing or head first riding. No climbing or walking up the slide.
- (10) Only one rider may go down the slide at a time – No multiple or chain riding.
- (11) No life jackets, inner tubes, water wings, jewelry, cut off jeans or tee shirts or other “street clothes” are allowed – Proper swim wear is required.
- (12) No riders under the influence of alcohol or drugs are permitted.
- (13) Riders must exit the slide quickly and clear the plunge area completely prior to next rider.

SWIMMING POOL: POOLSIDE CABANA AND SEATING POLICY

All poolside cabana and seating are available on a first-come-first-service basis. Reservations are prohibited.

SWIMMING POOL: FECES POLICY

- (1) If contamination occurs, the pool will be closed for twelve (12) hours or more as necessary so that remedial measures may be taken to ensure safe swimming conditions in accordance with Department of Health rules.
- (2) Parents/guardians should take their children to the restroom before entering the pool.
- (3) Children under three (3) years of age, and those who are not reliably toilet trained, must wear rubber lined swim diapers and a swimsuit over the swim diaper.

DISTRICT PLAYGROUND/TOT LOT POLICIES

- (1) The playground is intended for use by children between the ages of 5-12 years old. Usage by children is subject to age accompaniment requirements set forth herein.
- (2) No roughhousing on the playground.

- (3) Persons using the playground must clean up all trash brought to the playground. Food and glass containers are prohibited.
- (4) Do not use the play equipment when it is wet.
- (5) Wear proper footwear – no bare feet.
- (6) The use of profanity or disruptive behavior is absolutely prohibited.
- (7) Patrons and Guests who use the playground do so at their own risk.
- (8) The playgrounds may not be reserved or rented by Patrons; however, they may be reserved by the District for District-sponsored events or functions.
- (9) The playground's operating hours are to be established and posted by the Amenity Manager.
- (10) Failure to follow the above rules may result in restriction from use of the playground.

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM POLICIES

- (1) Usage by children is subject to age accompaniment requirements set forth herein.
- (2) Persons using the multi-purpose room must clean up all trash brought therein. Each person is responsible for wiping off surfaces after use.
- (3) Food and beverages are permitted only in designated areas and must be in non-breakable containers with screw top or sealed lids. Glass containers are prohibited.
- (4) Smoking of any kind and alcoholic beverages are not permitted within the multi-purpose room.
- (5) Patrons and Guests may not use or enter the multi-purpose room when clothes are wet.
- (6) Pets are not permitted in the multi-purpose room.
- (7) Report any spills or accidents to the facility manager immediately.
- (8) Furniture, games, décor, and accessories may not be removed from the multi-purpose room.
- (9) Wear proper footwear and clothing – no bare feet, swimwear, or wet clothing is permitted.
- (10) The use of profanity or disruptive behavior or roughhousing is absolutely prohibited. Keep noise levels to a minimum to avoid disturbing other users. Music playing devices are not permitted unless they are personal units equipped with headphones.

- (11) The multi-purpose room may not be reserved or rented by Patrons; however, they may be reserved by the District for District-sponsored events or functions.
- (12) The multi-purpose room's operating hours are to be established and posted by the Amenity Manager.
- (13) Members and their guests will be held responsible for any damage to the furniture, equipment, or game accessories. Costs for repair or replacement of damaged items may be charged to the responsible member's account.
- (14) The multi-purpose room is an unattended facility. Persons using the facility do so at their own risk. The District's staff and contractors are not responsible for any accidents, injuries, or lost, stolen, damaged, or misplaced items. Any theft or suspicious activity should be reported to the facility manager immediately. Users caught stealing or damaging property will face disciplinary action, which may include suspension of facility privileges and legal action.
- (15) Failure to follow the above rules may result in restriction from use of the multi-purpose room. Facility staff and management have the authority to enforce these rules.

DOG PARK POLICIES

- (1) The park's operating hours are to be established and posted by the Amenity Manager.
- (2) The park is not staffed and shall be used at the user's own risk. The Districts are not responsible for injuries to visiting dogs, their owners, or others using the park. Voluntary use of the park evidences waiver of any claims against the Districts resulting from activities occurring at the park.
- (3) Usage by children is subject to age accompaniment requirements set forth herein.
- (4) Users of the park must dispose of trash in proper receptacle.
- (5) All dog handlers are responsible for the behavior of their dogs at all times.
- (6) Dogs must be leashed while entering and exiting dog park.
- (7) Dog waste must be cleaned up by handler immediately.
- (8) Handlers must be within dog park and supervising their dog with leash readily available.
- (9) Handlers must be at least 16 years of age.
- (10) Aggressive dogs must be removed immediately.
- (11) Dogs should be under voice control.

- (12) Dogs shall be up-to-date on vaccinations prior to entering the park, and shall have current rabies and applicable license tags clipped to their collars at all times
- (13) Handlers must immediately fill in any holes dug by their dogs.
- (14) Dogs in heat, with fleas, skin conditions, or are otherwise ill are not allowed in the park.
- (15) Limit two (2) dogs per dog handler.
- (16) Puppies under four months of age shall not enter the dog park.
- (17) Human or dog food inside the dog park is prohibited.
- (18) Dog toys are not permitted inside the dog park.
- (19) The dog park is designated a “No Smoking” area.

FITNESS CENTER POLICIES

Fitness Center is open all hours unless posted otherwise.

Eligible Users: Patrons and Guests eighteen (18) years of age and older are permitted to use the fitness center. No children under the age of eighteen (18) are allowed in the fitness center at any time, unless such child is at least fourteen (14), has their parent/guardian approval and satisfies the following steps: Children complete a fitness orientation with the Amenity Manager and an executed liability release is provided signed by the parent/guardian.

Smoking, Food and Beverage: Smoking of any kind and food (including chewing gum) is not permitted within the fitness center. Beverages, however, are permitted in the fitness center if contained in non-breakable containers with screw top or sealed lids. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted.

Please note the fitness center is an unattended facility, persons using the facility do so at their own risk. The Districts, staffs, and contractors are not responsible for any accidents, injuries, or lost, stolen, damaged, or misplaced items.

- (1) Appropriate attire and footwear (covering the entire foot) must be worn at all times in the fitness center. Appropriate attire includes t-shirts, tank tops, shorts, leotards, and/or sweat suits (no swimsuits).
- (2) Each individual is responsible for wiping off fitness equipment after use.
- (3) Use of personal trainers by Patrons or Guests is not permitted in the fitness center.
- (4) Hand chalk is not permitted to be used in the fitness center.

- (5) Music playing devices are not permitted unless they are personal units equipped with headphones.
- (6) No bags, gear or jackets are permitted on the floor of the fitness center or on the fitness equipment.
- (7) Weights or other fitness equipment may not be removed from the fitness centers.
- (8) Please limit use of cardiovascular equipment to thirty (30) minutes and step aside between multiple sets on weight equipment if other persons are waiting.
- (9) Please be respectful of others. Allow other Patrons and Guests to also use equipment.
- (10) Please replace weights to their proper location after use.
- (11) Free weights are not to be dropped and should be placed only on the floor or on equipment made specifically for storage of the weights.
- (12) Pets are not permitted in the fitness center.

BASKETBALL COURT

All Patrons and Guests using the Basketball Court are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible, courteous and safe manner. Disregard or violation of the Policies and misuse or destruction of court equipment may result in the suspension or termination of court privileges. Guests may use the court only if accompanied by a Patron.

Please note that the court is an unattended facility and persons using the facility do so at their own risk. Persons interested in using the court are encouraged to consult with a physician prior to using the facility.

Policies:

- (1) Proper etiquette shall be adhered to at all times. The use of profanity or disruptive behavior is prohibited.
- (2) Persons using the court must supply their own equipment.
- (3) The court is for the play of basketball only. Pets, roller blades, bikes, skates, skateboards, and scooters are prohibited from the court.
- (4) Beverages are permitted at the court if contained in non-breakable containers with screw top or sealed lids. No glass containers are permitted on the courts. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on courts.
- (5) No chairs other than those provided by the Districts are permitted on the courts.

FISHING AND POND POLICY

- (1) Patrons and Guests thirteen (13) years of age and older may fish in the District's lakes/retention ponds ("**Ponds**") within the District, provided that such use does not violate any ordinance, resolution, law, permit requirement, or regulation of any governmental entity relating to the Ponds.
- (2) No children under the age of thirteen (13) are allowed on the Pond banks at any time, unless accompanied by an adult.
- (3) Pets are not allowed in the Ponds or on the Pond banks at an time.
- (4) Patrons and Guests fishing in the Ponds shall remove and properly dispose of all garbage, fishing line, hooks and all other materials/supplies.
- (5) The District request that everyone respect your fellow neighbor/property owner and access the Ponds through the proper access points. Patrons and Guests may not fish from Ponds that are only accessible from private property without written permission from the private property owner.
- (6) No watercraft except authorized maintenance vehicles are allowed in the Ponds. Any violation of this policy will be reported to the local authorities.
- (7) The District has a catch and release policy for all fish and any other aquatic wildlife caught in the Ponds, requiring that any fish or other aquatic wildlife caught immediately be returned to the Ponds from where it was caught. The purpose of the Ponds is to help facilitate the District's natural water system for run off and overflow. As a result, contaminants may be present in the water. Anyone who violates this provision does so at their own risk.
- (8) Swimming is prohibited in all of the Ponds. Please use the pool at the Amenity Facilities for swimming activities.
- (9) Beware of wildlife - water moccasins and other snakes, alligators, snapping turtles, and other wildlife which may pose a threat to your safety are commonly found in stormwater management facilities in Florida.

EVENT SPACE RENTAL POLICIES – REGISTERED EVENTS

Patrons may reserve space in the Amenity Facilities (“**Event Space**”) by registration with the Amenity Manager's office for various meetings, classes, events, etc. Upon approval by the Amenity Manager, the requested event will be considered a “**Registered Event**.”

Below are the guidelines set forth and agreed upon by the Board and Amenity Manager regarding Registered Events:

- (10) Registered Events are limited to a maximum of five (5) hours per event, including set up and clean up time. The five (5) hour limitation can only be exceeded upon specific authorization from the Boards.
- (11) Patrons may not hold more than four (4) Registered Events in any twelve (12) month period.
- (12) The daily guest limitation shall not apply to Registered Events. The maximum number of persons attending any event shall not exceed the limitation determined by the Amenity Manager, which in no case may exceed the room or meeting space maximum pursuant to applicable building and safety codes.
- (13) Applicant must be a Patron who will be responsible for ensuring that their Guests adhere to the policies set forth herein.
- (14) All applicants will be required to fill out and sign the Amenity Facility Event Space Rental Application available from the Amenity Manager's office, a form of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit C** (form may be updated from time to time).
- (15) Registered Events are subject to the schedule of fees/deposits set forth herein and Exhibit A.
- (16) Reservations of Event Space are on a first come, first serve basis and are subject to approval by the Amenity Manager. Amenity Manager has the authority to reasonably deny a reservation request. Denial of a request may be appealed in writing to the Board for consideration. Reservations are not available when the Event Space has been otherwise reserved for use by the Districts or HOAs.
- (17) Registered Events are not available for rentals during January 1, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day Weekend, July 4, Labor Day Weekend, Thanksgiving Day, December 24, December 25, December 31 or any other weekend on which a federal holiday falls on either a Monday or Friday.
- (18) In the event the Patron wishes to cancel the reservation once the reservation has been approved and confirmed by the Amenity Manager, such cancellation must occur at least one (1) week prior to the date of reservation. Any cancellation within one (1) week of the date of such reservation will forfeit its refundable deposit.

- (19) Upon application for use of the Amenity Facilities, the Amenity Manager will determine if a paid attendant will be necessary. If an attendant is necessary, the party requesting the Event Space will be required to pay the costs associated with the attendant.
- (20) Additional Event Liability Insurance coverage in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) may be required for certain events the District determines should require additional Event Liability coverage on a case by case basis (to be reviewed by the District Manager or the Boards). The District shall be named as an additional insured party on any such policies, and a certificate of insurance illustrating the appropriate coverage amount and parties is to be provided to the District Manager prior to the event.
- (21) During Registered Events, except for the Event Space, all other areas of the Amenity Facilities, including the pool and pool area, including the surrounding decks and furniture, shall remain open to all Patrons and their Guests during normal operating hours.
- (22) No open burning or campfires are allowed at the Amenity Facilities or other District property.
- (23) Patrons are not allowed to bring or use grills or smokers at the Amenity Facilities.

Schedule of Fees/Deposits:

- (1) A refundable security deposit in the amount set forth in Exhibit A shall be charged to the persons making the reservation and shall be submitted to the Amenity Manager's Office in the form of a separate check (which shall be made payable to the District). The deposit will be returned after the Registered Event is complete provided there is no evidence of damage to the facility and the Patron abided by these Policies. The Amenity Manager shall determine the amount of deposit to be returned, if any. If damages occurred to the Event Space or its surrounding property or facilities, the Patron reserving the room will be liable for any expenses incurred by the Districts to hire an outside contractor to remediate the damage. To receive a full refund of the deposit, the following must be completed:
 - 1. All garbage is placed in a dumpster or garbage can.
 - 2. All displays, favors or remnants of the event. (No adhesives permitted on walls or windows)
 - 3. Wipe off and restore the furniture and other items to their original position.
 - 4. Wipe off counters, table tops and sink area.
 - 5. No damage has occurred to Event Space and its surrounding property and facilities.
- (3) A non-refundable room cleanup fee will be charged to Patrons as is identified in Exhibit A attached hereto.

Indemnification – Each organization, group or individual reserving the use of Event Space (or any part thereof) agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Districts, officers, agents, contractors and employees thereof from any and all liability, claims, actions, suits or demands by any person, corporation or other entity, for injuries, death, property damage of any nature, arising out of or in connection with, whether whole or in part, the renter’s use of the District lands, premises and/or Amenity Facilities, including litigation or any appellate proceeding with respect thereto. Nothing herein shall constitute or be construed as a waiver of the Districts’ sovereign immunity granted pursuant to Section 768.38, *Florida Statutes* or other statute.

RULES RELATING TO SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGES

A Patron’s or Guest’s privileges at any or all Amenity Facilities may be subject to various lengths of suspension or termination for up to one (1) calendar year, and a Patron or Guest may also be required to pay restitution for any property damage, if he or she (each a “**Violation**”):

- (1) Fails to abide by the Policies and Fees for the Amenity Facilities established and approved by the Boards.
- (2) Submits false information to a District or Amenity Manager.
- (3) Permits unauthorized use of an Access Card.
- (4) Exhibits unsatisfactory behavior, deportment or appearance.
- (5) Fails to pay fees owed to a District in a proper and timely manner.
- (6) Treats District supervisors, staff, facility management, contractors or other representatives or other Patrons in an unreasonable or abusive manner.
- (7) Engages in conduct that is improper or likely to endanger the health, welfare, safety, harmony or reputation of a District or its supervisors, staff, facility management, contractors, other representatives or other Patrons.
- (8) Damages or destroys District property.
- (9) As it relates to a Patron, such Patron’s Guest(s) violates any of the above.

Administrative Reimbursement

Each Board may, in its discretion, require payment by a Patron of an administrative reimbursement of up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) in order to offset the legal and/or administrative expenses incurred by such District as a result of a Violation (“**Administrative Reimbursement**”). Such Administrative Reimbursement shall be in addition to any suspension or termination of Amenity

Facility access, any applicable legal action warranted by the circumstances, and/or any Property Damage Reimbursement (defined below).

Property Damage Reimbursement

If damage to District property occurred in connection with a Violation, the Patron or Guest who caused the damage, or the person who has charge of a minor that caused the damage, shall reimburse the Districts for the costs of cleaning, repairing, and/or replacing the property (“**Property Damage Reimbursement**”). Such Property Damage Reimbursement shall be in addition to any suspension or termination of Amenity Facility access, any applicable legal action warranted by the circumstances, and/or any Administrative Reimbursement.

District Suspension and Termination Process

Jurisdiction Reciprocal

The ability to suspend or terminate privileges as provided herein shall be held by the District, through its Board, District Manager, and/or Amenity Manager, in whose boundaries the incident occurred. Violations that result in a suspension or termination in one District shall be brought up at the next Board meeting for the other District. Suspension or termination of privileges shall in no way prevent a member of the District Boards, the District Manager, District Staff or members of the public from attending a duly advertised public meeting of either District.

Removal Authority

Amenity Manager or its designee, such as onsite staff or personnel under contract with the Districts, if any, has the independent ability to remove any person from the Amenity Facilities if a Violation occurs, or if in his or her discretion, it is in the applicable District’s best interest to do so.

Process

In response to any Violation of the Policies, including, but not limited to, those set forth in the preceding paragraph, the District shall follow the process outlined below with regard to suspension or termination of a person’s privileges:

(1) Initial Suspension. The Amenity Manager or his or her designee may at any time restrict or suspend for cause or causes, including but not limited to a Violation, any person’s access to the Amenity Facilities until a date not later than the next regularly scheduled meeting date of the Board of the District in which the Violation occurred that is scheduled to occur at least twenty-one (21) days after the date of initial suspension. In the event of such a suspension, the District Manager or his or her designee shall mail a letter to the person suspended referencing the conduct

at issue, the sections of the Policies violated, the time, date, and location of the next regular Board meeting where the person's suspension will be presented to the applicable Board, and a statement that the person has a right to appear before such Board and offer testimony and evidence why the suspension should be lifted. If the person is a minor, the letter shall be sent to the minor's parent or guardian's address.

(2) Hearing by the Board; Administrative Reimbursement; Property Damage Reimbursement.

a. At the Board meeting referenced in the letter sent under Section (1) above, or as soon thereafter as a Board meeting is held if the meeting referenced in the letter is canceled, a hearing shall be held at which both District staff and the person subject to the suspension shall be given the opportunity to appear, present testimony and evidence, cross examine witnesses present, and make arguments. The Board may also ask questions of District staff, the person subject to the suspension, and witnesses present. All persons are entitled to be represented by a licensed Florida attorney at such hearing.

b. After the presentations by District staff and the person subject to the suspension, the Board shall consider the facts and circumstances and determine whether to lift or extend the suspension or impose a termination. In determining the length of any suspension, or a termination, the Board shall consider the nature of the conduct, the circumstances of the conduct, the number of rules or policies violated, the person's escalation or de-escalation of the situation, and any prior Violations and/or suspensions.

c. The Board shall also determine whether an Administrative Reimbursement is warranted and, if so, set the amount of such Administrative Reimbursement.

d. The Board shall also determine whether a Property Damage Reimbursement is warranted and, if so, set the amount of such Property Damage Reimbursement. If the cost to clean, repair and/or replace the property is not yet available, the Property Damage Reimbursement shall be fixed at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting after the cost to clean, repair, and/or replace the property is known.

e. After the conclusion of the hearing, the District Manager shall mail a letter to the person suspended identifying the Board's determination at such hearing.

(3) Suspension by the Board. Each Board on its own initiative acting at a noticed public meeting may elect to consider a suspension of a person's access for committing any of the Violations outlined herein. In such circumstance, a letter shall be sent to the person suspended which contains all the information required by Section (1) above, and the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Section (2) above.

(4) Automatic Extension of Suspension for Non-Payment. Unless there is an affirmative vote of the applicable Board otherwise, no suspension or termination will be lifted or expire until all Administrative Reimbursements and Property Damage Reimbursements have been paid to the District. If an Administrative Reimbursement or Property Damage Reimbursement is not paid by its due date, the District reserves the right to request surrender of, or deactivate, all access cards or key fobs associated with an address within the District until such time as the outstanding amounts are paid.

(5) Appeal of Board Suspension. After the hearing held by the Board required by Section (2) above, a person subject to a suspension or termination may appeal the suspension or termination, or the assessment or amount of an Administrative Reimbursement or Property Damage Reimbursement, to the Board by filing a written request for an appeal (“**Appeal Request**”). The filing of an Appeal Request shall not result in the stay of the suspension or termination. The Appeal Request shall be filed within thirty (30) calendar days after mailing of the notice of the Board’s determination as required by Section (2)(e), above. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file an Appeal Request shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District’s suspension or termination and shall constitute a failure to exhaust administrative remedies. The District shall consider the appeal at a Board meeting and shall provide reasonable notice to the person of the Board meeting where the appeal will be considered. At the appeal stage, no new evidence shall be offered or considered; instead, the appeal is an opportunity for the person subject to the suspension or termination to argue, based on the evidence elicited at the hearing, why the suspension or termination should be reduced or vacated. The Board may take any action deemed by it in its sole discretion to be appropriate under the circumstances, including affirming, overturning, or otherwise modifying the suspension or termination. The Board’s decision on appeal shall be final.

(6) Legal Action; Criminal Prosecution; Trespass. If any person is found to have committed a Violation, such person may additionally be subject to arrest for trespassing or other applicable legal action, civil or criminal in nature. If a person subject to a suspension or termination is found at an Amenity Facility, such Person will be subject to arrest for trespassing. If a trespass warrant is issued to a person by a law enforcement agency, the Districts have no obligation to seek a withdrawal or termination of the trespass warrant even though the issuance of the trespass warrant may effectively prevent a person from using the Amenity Facilities after expiration of a suspension imposed by the District.

(7) Severability. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this rule shall be held to be invalid or ineffective for any reason, the remainder of this rule shall continue in full force and effect, it being expressly hereby found and declared that the remainder of this rule would have been adopted despite the invalidity or ineffectiveness of such section.

EXHIBIT A

Non-Resident User Fee	The annual Non-Resident User Fee is \$3,000, which may increased or decreased each year by the District. The fee is to be paid annually and shall be split between the District in a manner determined by the Districts.
Access Card Replacement Fee	\$35
Registered Event Security Deposit (refundable)	\$500
Registered Event Cleaning Fee (non-refundable)	\$100
Administrative Reimbursement (related to violations of Rules)	\$500

EXHIBIT B
NON-RESIDENT USER APPLICATION

**Varrea South Community Development District
Varrea North Community Development District
NON-RESIDENT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone: _____

Social Security#: _____ Driver's License #(s): _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone # 1: _____ Cell Phone # 2: _____

Name of Company: _____

Position Held: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Marital Status: Married ☐ Single ☐

Name of Spouse: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Social Security #: _____ Driver's License #: _____

Spouse's Employment: _____

Position Held: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Children/Birthdates: _____

What prompted your interest in the Varrea Amenity Facilities?

☐ Annual Non-Resident Patron Fee: \$_____

Please make checks payable to Varrea South Community Development District or Varrea North Community Development District.

Signature(s) of Applicant(s): _____

Date: _____

Applicant(s) acknowledges and agrees that by execution of this membership application that they shall be bound by all the terms and conditions of the Rules and Regulations of the Varrea South CDD, Varrea North CDD, and Joint Amenity Facility Policies, as currently in effect and as may be amended from time to time.

** Prices subject to change at any time, at the sole discretion of the District's Board of Supervisors.*

EXHIBIT C
AMENITY FACILITY EVENT SPACE RENTAL APPLICATION

**Varrea South Community Development District
Varrea North Community Development District**

Amenity Facility Event Space Rental Application

Name of Applicant: _____ Date: _____
 Organization (if applicable): _____
 Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____ Facility/Room Requested: _____
 Intended Use: _____
 Date Requested: _____ Time (5 hr. max.) From: _____ To: _____ Estimated Attendance: _____

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Varrea South Community Development District ("Varrea South") and Varrea North Community Development District ("Varrea North" and, collectively with Varrea South, the "Districts") and the agents, supervisors, officers, directors, employees and staff of the Districts from any and all liability, claims, actions, suits, or demands by any person, corporation or other entity, for injuries, death, property damage or damages of any nature, arising out of, or in connection with, the use of the Amenity Facilities. Nothing herein shall constitute or be construed as a waiver of the Districts' sovereign immunity granted pursuant to Section 768.28, Fla. Stat., or other statute.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by all policies and rules of the Districts governing the Amenity Facilities. I acknowledge that failure to adhere to the Districts' policies and rules may result in the suspension or termination of my privileges to use the facility. I also understand that I am financially responsible for any damages caused by me, my family members, and/or my guests. If requested, I will obtain an event insurance policy naming the Districts and agents, supervisors, officers, directors, employees and staff thereof as additional insureds.

Signature of Applicant _____

_____ Date

I have read and understood the following (please initial each):

1. _____ There is a maximum capacity of [_____] persons in the Event Space.
2. _____ The five (5) hour maximum time limit includes setup and clean up time and applies to all attendees. No persons are permitted in the Event Space after the end of the Registered Event. Please schedule accordingly.
3. _____ Each Patron may rent a portion of the Amenity Facility a maximum of four (4) times per calendar year.
4. _____ Alcohol is not permitted in the Amenity Facilities, including the Event Space.
5. _____ The Amenity Facilities (except for the Event Space during the Registered Event) are to remain accessible to all Patrons. Additional tables and chairs are available upon request.
6. _____ Once the Registered Event is completed, all guests are required to exit. Upon conclusion of the event, standard guest policy applies. The Patron shall be responsible for enforcement of this provision.
7. _____ The deposit check may be picked up only after the Amenity Manager inspects the Event Space. If the Event Space is in satisfactory condition and there is no property damage, the check will be shredded within 48 hours if not timely picked up.
8. _____ The deposit check may not be returned, and additional fees may be assessed, if the Event Space is not in satisfactory condition post-Registered Event or there is property damage to the Event Space, or if the Registered Event is not kept within the identified times.
9. _____ Registered Events in the Event Space are being held in a public facility and may be subject to surveillance by the District's security company.

Deposit Amount

Check Number

Cleanup Fee

Check Number

Received By

Receipt Number

Approved By

Date

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

13A

Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Hillsborough

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Deirdre Bonett** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE:** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: **7/21/24, 7/28/24** or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

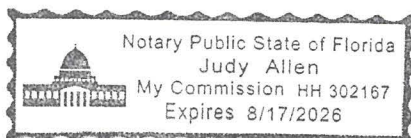
Signature Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this **07/28/2024**

Signature of Notary Public

Personally known ☒ or produced identification

Type of identification produced _____



VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET(S) AND PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET(S); AND NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING.

The Board of Supervisors ("**Board**") of the Varrea North Community Development District ("**District**") will hold public hearings and regular meeting as follows:

DATE: August 9, 2024
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200
Tampa, Florida 33610

The purpose of the first public hearing is to receive comments and objections on the adoption of the District's proposed budget(s) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024 ("**2024 Proposed Budget**"). The purpose of the second public hearing is to receive comments and objections on the adoption of the District's proposed budget(s) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025 ("**2025 Proposed Budget**") and, collectively with the **2024 Proposed Budget**, the "**Proposed Budgets**"). A regular Board meeting of the District will also be held at the above time where the Board may consider any other business that may properly come before it. A copy of the agenda and Proposed Budgets may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431 Ph: (561) 571-0010 ("**District Manager's Office**"), during normal business hours.

The public hearings and meeting are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The public hearings and/or meeting may be continued in progress to a date, time certain, and place to be specified on the record at the public hearings and/or meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.

Any person requiring special accommodations at the public hearings or meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the public hearing and meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Manager's Office.

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearings or meeting is advised that person will need a record of proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

District Manager
July 21, 2024 & July 28, 2024

0000352373

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

13B

RESOLUTION 2024-32
[FY 2024 APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION]

THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (“DISTRICT”) RELATING TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET(S) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024; AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, for the remainder of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025 (“**FY 2024**”), the District Manager prepared and submitted to the Board of Supervisors (“**Board**”) of the Varrea North Community Development District (“**District**”), proposed budget(s) (“**Proposed Budget**”) along with an explanatory and complete financial plan for each fund of the District, pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, at least sixty (60) days prior to the adoption of the Proposed Budget, the District filed a copy of the Proposed Budget with the local general-purpose government(s) having jurisdiction over the area included in the District pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(b), *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, the Board set a public hearing on the Proposed Budget and caused notice of such public hearing to be given by publication pursuant to Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, the District Manager posted the Proposed Budget on the District’s website in accordance with Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*, requires that, prior to October 1st of each year, the Board, by passage of the Annual Appropriation Resolution, shall adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year and appropriate such sums of money as the Board deems necessary to defray all expenditures of the District during the ensuing fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. BUDGET

- a. The Proposed Budget, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, as amended by the Board, is hereby adopted in accordance with the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes* (“**Adopted Budget**”), and incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that the comparative figures contained in the Adopted Budget may be subsequently revised as deemed necessary by the District Manager to reflect actual revenues and expenditures.

- b. The Adopted Budget, as amended, shall be maintained in the office of the District Manager and at the District's Local Records Office and identified as "The Budget for the Varrea North Community Development District for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2025."
- c. The Adopted Budget shall be posted by the District Manager on the District's official website in accordance with Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes* and shall remain on the website for at least two (2) years.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS

There is hereby appropriated out of the revenues of the District, for FY 2024, the sum(s) set forth in **Exhibit A** to be raised by the levy of assessments and/or otherwise, which sum is deemed by the Board to be necessary to defray all expenditures of the District during said budget year, to be divided and appropriated as set forth in **Exhibit A**.

SECTION 3. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes*, the District at any time within FY 2025 or within 60 days following the end of the FY 2024 may amend its Adopted Budget for that fiscal year as follows:

- a. A line-item appropriation for expenditures within a fund may be decreased or increased by motion of the Board recorded in the minutes, and approving the expenditure, if the total appropriations of the fund do not increase.
- b. The District Manager or Treasurer may approve an expenditure that would increase or decrease a line-item appropriation for expenditures within a fund if the total appropriations of the fund do not increase and if either (i) the aggregate change in the original appropriation item does not exceed the greater of \$15,000 or 15% of the original appropriation, or (ii) such expenditure is authorized by separate disbursement or spending resolution.
- c. Any other budget amendments shall be adopted by resolution and consistent with Florida law. The District Manager or Treasurer must ensure that any amendments to the budget under this paragraph c. are posted on the District's website in accordance with Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes*, and remain on the website for at least two (2) years.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

ATTEST:

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

Exhibit A: FY 2024 Budget

Exhibit A: FY 2024 Budget

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2024**

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
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Definitions of General Fund Expenditures	2

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2024**

	Proposed Budget
REVENUES	
Landowner contribution	\$ 52,015
Total revenues	<u>52,015</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Professional & administrative	
Supervisors	-
Management/accounting/recording**	8,000
Legal	25,000
Engineering	2,000
Audit	-
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	-
Dissemination agent*	-
Trustee*	-
Telephone	200
Postage	500
Printing & binding	500
Legal advertising	7,500
Annual special district fee	175
Insurance	5,500
Contingencies/bank charges	750
Website hosting & maintenance	1,680
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	<u>52,015</u>
Excess/(deficiency) of revenues over/(under) expenditures	-
Fund balance - beginning (unaudited)	-
Fund balance - ending (projected)	-
Unassigned	-
Fund balance - ending	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

*These items will be realized when bonds are issued.

**WHA will charge a reduced management fee of \$2,000 per month until bonds are issued.

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
DEFINITIONS OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES**

EXPENDITURES

Professional & administrative

Supervisors	\$ -
Statutorily set at \$200 for each meeting of the Board of Supervisors not to exceed \$4,800 for each fiscal year.	
Management/accounting/recording**	8,000
Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC (WHA), specializes in managing community development districts by combining the knowledge, skills and experience of a team of professionals to ensure compliance with all of the District's governmental requirements. WHA develops financing programs, administers the issuance of tax exempt bond financings, operates and maintains the assets of the community.	
Legal	25,000
General counsel and legal representation, which includes issues relating to public finance, public bidding, rulemaking, open meetings, public records, real property dedications, conveyances and contracts.	
Engineering	2,000
The District's Engineer will provide construction and consulting services, to assist the District in crafting sustainable solutions to address the long term interests of the community while recognizing the needs of government, the environment and maintenance of the District's facilities.	
Audit	-
Statutorily required for the District to undertake an independent examination of its books, records and accounting procedures.	
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	-
To ensure the District's compliance with all tax regulations, annual computations are necessary to calculate the arbitrage rebate liability.	
Dissemination agent*	-
The District must annually disseminate financial information in order to comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Wrathell, Hunt & Associates serves as dissemination agent.	
Trustee*	-
Telephone	200
Postage	500
Telephone and fax machine.	
Printing & binding	500
Mailing of agenda packages, overnight deliveries, correspondence, etc.	
Legal advertising	7,500
Letterhead, envelopes, copies, agenda packages	
Annual special district fee	175
The District advertises for monthly meetings, special meetings, public hearings, public bids, etc.	
Insurance	5,500
Annual fee paid to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.	
Contingencies/bank charges	750
Bank charges and other miscellaneous expenses incurred during the year and automated AP routing etc.	
Website hosting & maintenance	1,680
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	<u><u>\$ 52,015</u></u>

*These items will be realized when bonds are issued.

**WHA will charge a reduced management fee of \$2,000 per month until bonds are issued.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

14A

Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF Hillsborough

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Deirdre Bonett** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE:** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: **7/21/24, 7/28/24** or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid not promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

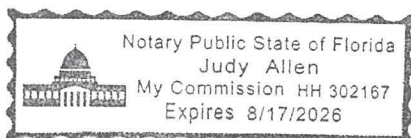
Signature Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this **07/28/2024**

Signature of Notary Public

Personally known ☒ or produced identification

Type of identification produced _____



VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET(S) AND PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET(S); AND NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING.

The Board of Supervisors ("**Board**") of the Varrea North Community Development District ("**District**") will hold public hearings and regular meeting as follows:

DATE: August 9, 2024
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200
Tampa, Florida 33610

The purpose of the first public hearing is to receive comments and objections on the adoption of the District's proposed budget(s) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024 ("**2024 Proposed Budget**"). The purpose of the second public hearing is to receive comments and objections on the adoption of the District's proposed budget(s) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025 ("**2025 Proposed Budget**") and, collectively with the **2024 Proposed Budget**, the "**Proposed Budgets**"). A regular Board meeting of the District will also be held at the above time where the Board may consider any other business that may properly come before it. A copy of the agenda and Proposed Budgets may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431 Ph: (561) 571-0010 ("**District Manager's Office**"), during normal business hours.

The public hearings and meeting are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The public hearings and/or meeting may be continued in progress to a date, time certain, and place to be specified on the record at the public hearings and/or meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.

Any person requiring special accommodations at the public hearings or meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the public hearing and meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Manager's Office.

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearings or meeting is advised that person will need a record of proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

District Manager
July 21, 2024 & July 28, 2024

0000352373

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

14B

RESOLUTION 2024-33
[FY 2025 APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION]

THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (“DISTRICT”) RELATING TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET(S) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025; AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025 (“**FY 2025**”), the District Manager prepared and submitted to the Board of Supervisors (“**Board**”) of the Varrea North Community Development District (“**District**”) prior to June 15, 2024, proposed budget(s) (“**Proposed Budget**”) along with an explanatory and complete financial plan for each fund of the District, pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, at least sixty (60) days prior to the adoption of the Proposed Budget, the District filed a copy of the Proposed Budget with the local general-purpose government(s) having jurisdiction over the area included in the District pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(b), *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, the Board set a public hearing on the Proposed Budget and caused notice of such public hearing to be given by publication pursuant to Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, the District Manager posted the Proposed Budget on the District’s website in accordance with Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*, requires that, prior to October 1st of each year, the Board, by passage of the Annual Appropriation Resolution, shall adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year and appropriate such sums of money as the Board deems necessary to defray all expenditures of the District during the ensuing fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. BUDGET

- a. The Proposed Budget, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, as amended by the Board, is hereby adopted in accordance with the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes* (“**Adopted Budget**”), and incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that the comparative figures contained in the Adopted Budget may be subsequently revised as deemed necessary by the District Manager to reflect actual revenues and expenditures.

- b. The Adopted Budget, as amended, shall be maintained in the office of the District Manager and at the District's Local Records Office and identified as "The Budget for the Varrea North Community Development District for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2025."
- c. The Adopted Budget shall be posted by the District Manager on the District's official website in accordance with Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes* and shall remain on the website for at least two (2) years.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS

There is hereby appropriated out of the revenues of the District, for FY 2025, the sum(s) set forth in **Exhibit A** to be raised by the levy of assessments and/or otherwise, which sum is deemed by the Board to be necessary to defray all expenditures of the District during said budget year, to be divided and appropriated as set forth in **Exhibit A**.

SECTION 3. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes*, the District at any time within FY 2025 or within 60 days following the end of the FY 2025 may amend its Adopted Budget for that fiscal year as follows:

- a. A line-item appropriation for expenditures within a fund may be decreased or increased by motion of the Board recorded in the minutes, and approving the expenditure, if the total appropriations of the fund do not increase.
- b. The District Manager or Treasurer may approve an expenditure that would increase or decrease a line-item appropriation for expenditures within a fund if the total appropriations of the fund do not increase and if either (i) the aggregate change in the original appropriation item does not exceed the greater of \$15,000 or 15% of the original appropriation, or (ii) such expenditure is authorized by separate disbursement or spending resolution.
- c. Any other budget amendments shall be adopted by resolution and consistent with Florida law. The District Manager or Treasurer must ensure that any amendments to the budget under this paragraph c. are posted on the District's website in accordance with Section 189.016, *Florida Statutes*, and remain on the website for at least two (2) years.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

ATTEST:

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

Exhibit A: FY 2025 Budget

Exhibit A: FY 2025 Budget

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2025**

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
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**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2025**

	Proposed Budget
REVENUES	
Landowner contribution	\$ 92,290
Total revenues	<u>92,290</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Professional & administrative	
Supervisors	-
Management/accounting/recording**	48,000
Legal	25,000
Engineering	2,000
Audit	5,500
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	500
Dissemination agent*	1,000
Trustee*	-
Telephone	200
Postage	500
Printing & binding	500
Legal advertising	1,750
Annual special district fee	175
Insurance	5,500
Contingencies/bank charges	750
Website hosting & maintenance	705
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	<u>92,290</u>
Excess/(deficiency) of revenues over/(under) expenditures	-
Fund balance - beginning (unaudited)	-
Fund balance - ending (projected)	
Unassigned	-
Fund balance - ending	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

*These items will be realized when bonds are issued.

**WHA will charge a reduced management fee of \$2,000 per month until bonds are issued.

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
DEFINITIONS OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES**

EXPENDITURES

Professional & administrative

Supervisors	\$ -
Statutorily set at \$200 for each meeting of the Board of Supervisors not to exceed \$4,800 for each fiscal year.	
Management/accounting/recording**	48,000
Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC (WHA), specializes in managing community development districts by combining the knowledge, skills and experience of a team of professionals to ensure compliance with all of the District's governmental requirements. WHA develops financing programs, administers the issuance of tax exempt bond financings, operates and maintains the assets of the community.	
Legal	25,000
General counsel and legal representation, which includes issues relating to public finance, public bidding, rulemaking, open meetings, public records, real property dedications, conveyances and contracts.	
Engineering	2,000
The District's Engineer will provide construction and consulting services, to assist the District in crafting sustainable solutions to address the long term interests of the community while recognizing the needs of government, the environment and maintenance of the District's facilities.	
Audit	5,500
Statutorily required for the District to undertake an independent examination of its books, records and accounting procedures.	
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	500
To ensure the District's compliance with all tax regulations, annual computations are necessary to calculate the arbitrage rebate liability.	
Dissemination agent*	1,000
The District must annually disseminate financial information in order to comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Wrathell, Hunt & Associates serves as dissemination agent.	
Trustee*	-
Telephone	200
Postage	500
Telephone and fax machine.	
Printing & binding	500
Mailing of agenda packages, overnight deliveries, correspondence, etc.	
Legal advertising	1,750
Letterhead, envelopes, copies, agenda packages	
Annual special district fee	175
The District advertises for monthly meetings, special meetings, public hearings, public bids, etc.	
Insurance	5,500
Contingencies/bank charges	750
Bank charges and other miscellaneous expenses incurred during the year and automated AP routing etc.	
Website hosting & maintenance	705
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	<u><u>\$ 92,290</u></u>

*These items will be realized when bonds are issued.

**WHA will charge a reduced management fee of \$2,000 per month until bonds are issued.

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

15

RESOLUTION 2024-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AMENDING RESOLUTION 2024-24 TO RE-SET THE DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE DISTRICT'S INTENT TO USE THE UNIFORM METHOD FOR THE LEVY, COLLECTION, AND ENFORCEMENT OF NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 197.3632, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Varrea North Community Development District ("District") was established by an ordinance adopted by the City Commission of the City of Plant City, Florida, for the purpose of planning, financing, constructing, operating and/or maintaining certain infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2024, at a duly noticed public meeting, the District's Board of Supervisors ("Board") adopted Resolution 2024-24, setting a public hearing regarding the District's intent to use the uniform method for the levy, collection, and enforcement of non-ad valorem special assessments for 10:00 a.m. on August 9, 2024, at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to ratify the action of District staff to change the date of the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. PUBLIC HEARING DATE RE-SET. Resolution 2024-24 is hereby amended to reflect that the public hearing as declared in Resolution 2024-24 is re-set to:

DATE: _____

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: offices of Forestar
4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200
Tampa, Florida 33610

SECTION 2. RESOLUTION 2024-24 OTHERWISE REMAINS IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT. Except as otherwise provided herein, all of the provisions of Resolution 2024-24 continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. The invalidity or unenforceability of any one or more provisions of this Resolution shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining portions of this Resolution, or any part thereof.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and adoption by the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of August, 2024.

ATTEST:

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

By: _____

Its: _____

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

17A

Tampa Bay Times
Published Daily

STATE OF FLORIDA
 COUNTY OF Hillsborough

} ss

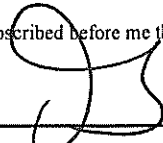
Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Jean Mitotes** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a Legal Notice in the matter **RE: RFP for Annual Audit Services** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: **7/14/24** or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Hillsborough** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Hillsborough** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.



 Signature Affiant

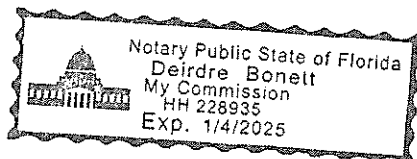
Sworn to and subscribed before me this **07/14/2024**



 Signature of Notary Public

Personally known X or produced identification

Type of identification produced _____



**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES**

The Varrea North Community Development District hereby requests proposals for annual financial auditing services. The proposal must provide for the auditing of the District's financial records for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, with an option for additional annual renewals, subject to mutual agreement by both parties. The District is a local unit of special-purpose government created under Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of financing, constructing, and maintaining public infrastructure. The District is located in the City of Plant City, Florida, and has an annual operating budget of approximately \$52,015. The final contract will require that, among other things, the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, be completed no later than June 30, 2025.

The auditing entity submitting a proposal must be duly licensed under Chapter 473, Florida Statutes, and be qualified to conduct audits in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards," as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with Florida Law and particularly Section 218.39, Florida Statutes, and the rules of the Florida Auditor General.

Proposal packages, which include evaluation criteria and instructions to proposers, are available from the District Manager at the address and telephone number listed below.

Proposers must provide one (1) electronic and one (1) unbound copy of their proposal to the District Manager, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (561) 571-0010 in an envelope marked on the outside "Auditing Services, Varrea North Community Development District." Proposals must be received by 12:00 p.m., on July 23, 2024 at the office of the District Manager. Please direct all questions regarding this Notice to the District Manager.

District Manager

July 14, 2024

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VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

17B

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES**

The Varrea North Community Development District hereby requests proposals for annual financial auditing services. The proposal must provide for the auditing of the District's financial records for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, with an option for additional annual renewals, subject to mutual agreement by both parties. The District is a local unit of special-purpose government created under Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, for the purpose of financing, constructing, and maintaining public infrastructure. The District is located in the City of Plant City, Florida, and has an annual operating budget of approximately \$52,015. The final contract will require that, among other things, the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, be completed no later than June 30, 2025.

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District Manager

Varrea North Community Development District

Request for Proposals

District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2024

The City of Plant City, Florida

INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

SECTION 1. DUE DATE. Sealed proposals must be received no later than **July 23, 2024**, at 12:00 p.m., at the offices of District Manager, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (561) 571-0010. Proposals will be publicly opened at that time.

SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW. By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER. The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.

SECTION 4. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL. Proposers shall be disqualified and their proposals rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.

SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL. Submit one (1) electronic and one (1) unbound copy of the Proposal Documents, and other requested attachments at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, marked with the title "Auditing Services – Varrea North Community Development District" on the face of it. **Please include pricing for each additional bond issuance.**

SECTION 6. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL. Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.

SECTION 7. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS. The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions (the "Proposal Documents").

SECTION 8. PROPOSAL. In making its proposal, each Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.

SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT. The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.

SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD. Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.

SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY. Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of the District's limited waiver of liability contained in Section 768.28, *Florida Statutes*, or any other statute or law.

SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS. All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.

- A. List the position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
- B. Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
- C. Three references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address and phone number of a contact person.
- D. The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal for the District's first audit for which there are no special assessment bonds, plus the lump sum cost of two (2) annual renewals, which renewals shall include services related to the District's anticipated issuance of special assessment bonds.

SECTION 13. PROTESTS. In accordance with the District's Rules of Procedure, any protest regarding the Proposal Documents, must be filed in writing, at the offices of the

District Manager, within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the receipt of the Proposal Documents. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to the aforesaid Proposal Documents.

SECTION 14. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS. The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, contained within the Proposal Documents.

1. Ability of Personnel. (20 Points)

2. Proposer's Experience. (20 Points)

3. Understanding of Scope of Work. (20 Points)

4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services. (20 Points)

5. Price. (20 Points)***

Total (100 Points)

***Alternatively, the Board may choose to evaluate firms without considering price, in which case the remaining categories would be assigned 25 points each.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

17C1

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
PROPOSAL FOR AUDIT SERVICES**

PROPOSED BY:

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, PL

600 Citrus Avenue, Suite 200
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

(772) 461-6120

CONTACT PERSON:

J. W. Gaines, CPA, Director

DATE OF PROPOSAL:

July 23, 2024

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Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank

Certified Public Accountants PL

600 Citrus Avenue
Suite 200
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

772/461-6120 // 461-1155
FAX: 772/468-9278

July 23, 2024

Varrea North Community Development District
Wrathell Hunt & Associates LLC
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Dear District Manager:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to present our professional credentials to provide audit services for Varrea North Community Development District.

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL has assembled a team of governmental and nonprofit specialists second to none to serve our clients. Our firm has the necessary qualifications and experience to serve as the independent auditors for Varrea North Community Development District. We will provide you with top quality, responsive service.

Experience

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and nonprofit agencies throughout Florida. We have been the independent auditors for a number of local governmental agencies and through our experience in performing their audits, we have been able to increase our audit efficiency and; therefore, reduce costs. We have continually passed this cost savings on to our clients and will continue to do so in the future. As a result of our experience and expertise, we have developed an effective and efficient audit approach designed to meet or exceed the performance specifications in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the standards for financial and compliance audits. We will conduct the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; "Government Auditing Standards" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the provisions of the Single Audit Act, Subpart F of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, with minimal disruption to your operations. Our firm has frequent technical updates to keep our personnel informed and up-to-date on all changes that are occurring within the industry.



Berger, Toombs, Elam,
Gaines & Frank
Certified Public Accountants PL

Varrea North Community Development District
July 23, 2024

Our firm is a member of the Government Audit Quality Center, an organization dedicated to improving government audit quality. We also utilize the audit program software of a nationally recognized CPA firm to assure us that we are up to date with all auditing standards and to assist us maintain maximum audit efficiencies.

To facilitate your evaluation of our qualifications and experience, we have arranged this proposal to include a resume of our firm, including our available staff, our extensive prior governmental and nonprofit auditing experience and clients to be contacted.

You need a firm that will provide an efficient, cost-effective, high-quality audit within critical time constraints. You need a firm with the prerequisite governmental and nonprofit experience to perform your audit according to stringent legal and regulatory requirements, a firm that understands the complex nature of community development districts and their unique compliance requirements. You need a firm with recognized governmental and nonprofit specialists within the finance and governmental communities. And, certainly, you need a firm that will provide you with valuable feedback to enhance your current and future operations. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is that firm. J. W. Gaines is the person authorized to make representations for the firm.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this proposal to Varrea North Community Development District.

Very truly yours,

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
Certified Public Accountants PL
Fort Pierce, Florida

PROFILE OF THE PROPOSER

Description and History of Audit Firm

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is a Treasure Coast public accounting firm, which qualifies as a small business firm, as established by the Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.38), with offices in Fort Pierce and Stuart. We are a member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The firm was formed from the merger of Edwards, Berger, Harris & Company (originated in 1972) and McAlpin, Curtis & Associates (originated in 1949). J. W. Gaines and Associates (originated in 1979) merged with the firm in 2004. Our tremendous growth rate experienced over the last 69 years is directly attributable to the firm's unrelenting dedication to providing the highest quality, responsive professional services attainable to its clients.

We are a member of the Private Companies Practice Section (PCPS) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) to assure we meet the highest standards. Membership in this practice section requires that our firm meet more stringent standards than standard AICPA membership. These rigorous requirements include the requirement of a triennial peer review of our firm's auditing and accounting practice and annual Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for all accounting staff (whether CPA or non-CPA). For standard AICPA membership, only a quality review is required and only CPAs must meet CPE requirements.

We are also a member of the Government Audit Quality Center ("the Center") of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to assure the quality of our government audits. Membership in the Center, which is voluntary, requires our firm to comply with additional standards to promote the quality of government audits.

We have been extensively involved in serving local government entities with professional accounting, auditing and consulting services throughout the entire 69 year history of our firm. Our substantial experience over the years makes us uniquely qualified to provide accounting, auditing, and consulting services to these clients. We are a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and nonprofit agencies on the Treasure Coast and in Central and South Florida, with extensive experience in auditing community development districts and water control districts. We were the independent auditors of the City of Fort Pierce for over 37 years and currently, we are the independent auditors for St. Lucie County since 2002, and for 34 of the 38 years that the county has been audited by CPA firms. Additionally, we have performed audits of the City of Stuart, the City of Vero Beach, Indian River County and Martin County. We also presently audit over 75 Community Development Districts throughout Florida.

Our firm was founded on the belief that we are better able to respond to our clients needs through education, experience, independence, quality control, and personal service. Our firm's commitment to quality is reflected in our endeavor of professional excellence via continuing education, the use of the latest computer technology, professional membership in PCPS and peer review.

We believe our approach to audit engagements, intelligence and innovation teamed with sound professional judgment enables us to explore new concepts while remaining sensitive to the fundamental need for practical solutions. We take pride in giving you the assurance that the personal assistance you receive comes from years of advanced training, technical experience and financial acumen.

Professional Staff Resources

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL has a total of 27 professional and administrative staff (including 12 professional staff with extensive experience servicing government entities). The work will be performed out of our Fort Pierce office with a proposed staff of one senior accountant and one or two staff accountants supervised by an audit manager and audit partner. With the exception of the directors of the firm's offices, the professional staff is not specifically assigned to any of our individual offices. The professional and administrative staff resources available to you through Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL are as follows:

	<u>Total</u>
Partners/Directors (CPA's)	6
Managers (2 CPA's)	2
Senior/Supervisor Accountants (3 CPA's)	3
Staff Accountants (2 CPA)	11
Computer Specialist	1
Paraprofessional	7
Administrative	<u>5</u>
Total – all personnel	35

Following is a brief description of each employee classification:

Staff Accountant – Staff accountants work directly under the constant supervision of the auditor-in-charge and, are responsible for the various testing of documents, account analysis and any other duties as his/her supervisor believes appropriate. Minimum qualification for a staff accountant is graduation from an accredited university or college with a degree in accounting or equivalent.

Senior Accountant – A senior accountant must possess all the qualifications of the staff accountant, in addition to being able to draft the necessary reports and financial statements, and supervise other staff accountants when necessary.

Managers – A manager must possess the qualifications of the senior accountant, plus be able to work without extensive supervision from the auditor-in-charge. The manager should be able to draft audit reports from start to finish and to supervise the audit team, if necessary.

Principal – A principal is a partner/director in training. He has been a manager for several years and possesses the technical skills to act as the auditor-in-charge. A principal has no financial interest in the firm.

Partner/Director – The director has extensive governmental auditing experience and acts as the auditor-in-charge. Directors have a financial interest in the firm.

Professional Staff Resources (Continued)

Independence – Independence of the public accounting firm, with respect to the audit client, is the foundation from which the public gains its trust in the opinion issued by the public accounting firm at the end of the audit process. This independence must be in appearance as well as in fact. The public must perceive that the accounting firm is independent of the audit entity to ensure that nothing would compromise the opinion issued by the public accounting firm. **Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** is independent of Varrea North Community Development District, including its elected officials and related parties, at the date of this proposal, as defined by the following rules, regulations, and standards:

AuSection 220 – Statements on Auditing Standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

ET Sections 101 and 102 – Code of Professional Conduct of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

Chapter 21A-1, Florida Administrative Code;

Section 473.315, Florida Statutes; and,

Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

On an annual basis, all members of the firm are required to confirm, in writing, that they have no personal or financial relationships or holding that would impair their independence with regard to the firm's clients.

Independence is a hallmark of our profession. We encourage our staff to use professional judgment in situations where our independence could be impaired or the perception of a conflict of interest might exist. In the governmental sector, public perception is as important as professional standards. Therefore, the utmost care must be exercised by independent auditors in the performance of their duties.

Ability to Furnish the Required Services

As previously noted in the Profile of the Proposer section of this document, our firm has been in existence for over 74 years. We have provided audit services to some clients for over 30 years continually. Our firm is insured against physical loss through commercial insurance and we also carry liability insurance. The majority of our audit documentation is stored electronically, both on our office network and on each employee laptop or computer assigned to each specific job. Our office computer network is backed up on tape, so in the event of a total equipment loss, we can restore all data as soon as replacement equipment is acquired. In addition, our field laptop computers carry the same data and can be used in the event of emergency with virtually no delay in completing the required services.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED

Arbitrage Rebate Services

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL also provides arbitrage rebate compliance and related services to governmental issuers. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 requires issuers of most tax-exempt obligations to pay (i.e., “rebate”) to the United States government any arbitrage profits. Arbitrage profits are earnings on the investment of bond proceeds and certain other monies in excess of what would have been earned had such monies been invested at a yield equal to the yield on the bonds.

Federal tax law requires that interim rebate calculations and payments are due at the end of every fifth bond year. Final payment is required upon redemption of the bonds. More frequent calculations may be deemed advisable by an issuer’s auditor, trustee or bond counsel or to assure that accurate and current records are available. These more frequent requirements are usually contained in the Arbitrage or Rebate Certificate with respect to the bonds.

Our firm performs a comprehensive rebate analysis and includes the following:

- Verifying that the issue is subject to rebate;
- Calculating the bond yield;
- Identifying, and separately accounting for, all “Gross Proceeds” (as that term is defined in the Code) of the bond issue, including those requiring analysis due to “transferred proceeds” and/or “commingled funds” circumstances;
- Determining what general and/or elective options are available to Gross proceeds of the issue;
- Calculating the issue’s excess investment earning (rebate liability), if any;
- Delivering appropriate documentation to support all calculations;
- Providing an executive summary identifying the methodology employed, major assumptions, conclusions, and any other recommendations for changes in recordkeeping and investment policies;
- Assisting as necessary in the event of an Internal Revenue Service inquiry; and,
- Consulting with issue staff, as necessary, regarding arbitrage related matters.

GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL has been practicing public accounting in Florida for 69 years. Our success over the years has been the result of a strong commitment to providing personalized quality service to our clients.

The current members of our firm have performed audits of over 1,100 community development districts, and over 2,100 audits of municipalities, counties and other governmental entities such as the City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County.

Our firm provides a variety of accounting, auditing, tax litigation support, and consulting services. Some of the professional accounting, auditing and management consulting services that are provided by our firm are listed below:

- Performance of annual financial and compliance audits, including Single Audits of state and federal financial assistance programs, under the provisions of the Single Audit Act, Subpart F of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), with minimal disruptions to your operations;
- Performance of special compliance audits to ascertain compliance with the applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations;
- Issuance of comfort letters and consent letters in conjunction with the issuance of tax-exempt debt obligations, including compiling financial data and interim period financial statement reviews;
- Calculation of estimated and actual federal arbitrage rebates;
- Assistance in compiling historical financial data for first-time and supplemental submissions for GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting;
- Preparation of indirect cost allocation systems in accordance with Federal and State regulatory requirements;
- Providing human resource and employee benefit consulting;
- Performance of automation feasibility studies and disaster recovery plans;
- Performance feasibility studies concerning major fixed asset acquisitions and utility plant expansion plans (including electric, water, pollution control, and sanitation utilities); and
- Assistance in litigation, including testimony in civil and criminal court.
- Assist clients who utilize QuickBooks software with their software needs. Our Certified QuickBooks Advisor has undergone extensive training through QuickBooks and has passed several exams to attain this Certification.

Continuing Professional Education

All members of the governmental audit staff of our firm, and audit team members assigned to this engagement, are in compliance with the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirements set forth in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. In addition, our firm is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Florida Statutes that require CPA's to have met certain CPE requirements prior to proposing on governmental audit engagements.

GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

The audit team has extensive experience in performing governmental audits and is exposed to intensive and continuing concentration on these types of audits. Due to the total number of governmental audits our team performs, each member of our governmental staff must understand and be able to perform several types of governmental audits. It is our objective to provide each professional employee fifty hours or more of comprehensive continuing professional education each year. This is accomplished through attending seminars throughout Florida and is reinforced through in-house training.

Our firm has made a steadfast commitment to professional education. Our active attendance and participation in continuing professional education is a major part of our objective to obtain the most recent knowledge on issues which are of importance to our clients. We are growing on the reputation for work that our firm is providing today.

Quality Control Program

Quality control requires continuing commitment to professional excellence. **Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** is formally dedicated to that commitment.

To ensure maintaining the standards of working excellence required by our firm, we joined the Private Companies Practice Section (PCPS) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). To be a participating member firm of this practice section, a firm must obtain an independent Peer Review of its quality control policies and procedures to ascertain the firm's compliance with existing auditing standards on the applicable engagements.

The scope of the Peer Review is comprehensive in that it specifically reviews the following quality control policies and procedures of the participating firm:

- Professional, economic, and administrative independence;
- Assignment of professional personnel to engagements;
- Consultation on technical matters;
- Supervision of engagement personnel;
- Hiring and employment of personnel;
- Professional development;
- Advancement;
- Acceptance and continuation of clients; and,
- Inspection and review system.

We believe that our commitment to the program is rewarding not only to our firm, but primarily to our clients.

The external independent Peer Review of the elements of our quality control policies and procedures performed by an independent certified public accountant, approved by the PCPS of the AICPA, provides you with the assurance that we continue to conform to standards of the profession in the conduct of our accounting and auditing practice.

GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Our firm is also a member of Governmental Audit Quality Center (GAQC), a voluntary membership center for CPA firms that perform governmental audits. This center promotes the quality of governmental audits.

Our firm has completed successive Peer Reviews. These reviews included a representative sample of our firm's local governmental auditing engagements. As a result of these reviews, our firm obtained an unqualified opinion on our quality control program and work procedures. On page 31 is a copy of our most recent Peer Review report. It should be noted that we received a pass rating.

Our firm has never had any disciplinary actions by state regulatory bodies or professional organizations.

As our firm performs approximately one hundred audits each year that are reviewed by federal, state or local entities, we are constantly dealing with questions from these entities about our audits. We are pleased to say that any questions that have been raised were minor issues and were easily resolved without re-issuing any reports.

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR)

We are proud and honored to have been involved with the City of Fort Pierce and the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority when they received their first Certificates of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal years ended September 30, 1988 and 1994, respectively. We were also instrumental in the City of Stuart receiving the award, in our first year of performing their audit, for the year ended September 30, 1999.

We also assisted St. Lucie County, Florida for the year ended September 30, 2003, in preparing their first Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and St. Lucie County has received their Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting every year since.

As continued commitment to insuring that we are providing the highest level of experience, we have had at least one employee of our firm serve on the GFOA – Special Review Committee since the mid-1980s. This committee is made up of selective Certified Public Accountants throughout the United States who have demonstrated their high level of knowledge and expertise in governmental accounting. Each committee member attends a special review meeting at the Annual GFOA Conference. At this meeting, the committee reports on the Certificate of Achievement Program's most recent results, future goals, and common reporting deficiencies.

We feel that our previous experience in assisting the City of Fort Pierce, the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority and St. Lucie County obtain their first CAFRs, and the City of Stuart in continuing to receive a CAFR and our firm's continued involvement with the GFOA, and the CAFR review committee make us a valued asset for any client in the field of governmental financial reporting.

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

References

Terracina Community Development
District
Jeff Walker, Special District Services
(561) 630-4922

Gateway Community Development
District
Stephen Bloom, Severn Trent Management
(954) 753-5841

The Reserve Community Development District

Darrin Mossing, Governmental Management
Services LLC
(407) 841-5524

Clearwater Cay Community Development
District
Cal Teague, Premier District Management

(239) 690-7100 ext 101

In addition to the above, we have the following additional governmental audit experience:

Community Development Districts

Aberdeen Community Development
District

Beacon Lakes Community
Development District

Alta Lakes Community Development
District

Beaumont Community Development
District

Amelia Concourse Community
Development District

Bella Collina Community Development
District

Amelia Walk Community
Development District

Bonnet Creek Community
Development District

Aqua One Community Development
District

Buckeye Park Community
Development District

Arborwood Community Development
District

Candler Hills East Community
Development District

Arlington Ridge Community
Development District

Cedar Hammock Community
Development District

Bartram Springs Community
Development District

Central Lake Community
Development District

Baytree Community Development
District

Channing Park Community
Development District

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Cheval West Community Development District	Evergreen Community Development District
Coconut Cay Community Development District	Forest Brooke Community Development District
Colonial Country Club Community Development District	Gateway Services Community Development District
Connerton West Community Development District	Gramercy Farms Community Development District
Copperstone Community Development District	Greenway Improvement District
Creekside @ Twin Creeks Community Development District	Greyhawk Landing Community Development District
Deer Run Community Development District	Griffin Lakes Community Development District
Dowden West Community Development District	Habitat Community Development District
DP1 Community Development District	Harbor Bay Community Development District
Eagle Point Community Development District	Harbourage at Braden River Community Development District
East Nassau Stewardship District	Harmony Community Development District
Eastlake Oaks Community Development District	Harmony West Community Development District
Easton Park Community Development District	Harrison Ranch Community Development District
Estancia @ Wiregrass Community Development District	Hawkstone Community Development District

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Heritage Harbor Community Development District	Madeira Community Development District
Heritage Isles Community Development District	Marhsall Creek Community Development District
Heritage Lake Park Community Development District	Meadow Pointe IV Community Development District
Heritage Landing Community Development District	Meadow View at Twin Creek Community Development District
Heritage Palms Community Development District	Mediterra North Community Development District
Heron Isles Community Development District	Midtown Miami Community Development District
Heron Isles Community Development District	Mira Lago West Community Development District
Highland Meadows II Community Development District	Montecito Community Development District
Julington Creek Community Development District	Narcoossee Community Development District
Laguna Lakes Community Development District	Naturewalk Community Development District
Lake Bernadette Community Development District	New Port Tampa Bay Community Development District
Lakeside Plantation Community Development District	Overoaks Community Development District
Landings at Miami Community Development District	Panther Trace II Community Development District
Legends Bay Community Development District	Paseo Community Development District
Lexington Oaks Community Development District	Pine Ridge Plantation Community Development District
Live Oak No. 2 Community Development District	Piney Z Community Development District

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Poinciana Community Development District	Sampson Creek Community Development District
Poinciana West Community Development District	San Simeon Community Development District
Port of the Islands Community Development District	Six Mile Creek Community Development District
Portofino Isles Community Development District	South Village Community Development District
Quarry Community Development District	Southern Hills Plantation I Community Development District
Renaissance Commons Community Development District	Southern Hills Plantation III Community Development District
Reserve Community Development District	South Fork Community Development District
Reserve #2 Community Development District	St. John's Forest Community Development District
River Glen Community Development District	Stoneybrook South Community Development District
River Hall Community Development District	Stoneybrook South at ChampionsGate Community Development District
River Place on the St. Lucie Community Development District	Stoneybrook West Community Development District
Rivers Edge Community Development District	Tern Bay Community Development District
Riverwood Community Development District	Terracina Community Development District
Riverwood Estates Community Development District	Tison's Landing Community Development District
Rolling Hills Community Development District	TPOST Community Development District
Rolling Oaks Community Development District	

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Triple Creek Community Development District	Vizcaya in Kendall Development District
TSR Community Development District	Waterset North Community Development District
Turnbull Creek Community Development District	Westside Community Development District
Twin Creeks North Community Development District	WildBlue Community Development District
Urban Orlando Community Development District	Willow Creek Community Development District
Verano #2 Community Development District	Willow Hammock Community Development District
Viera East Community Development District	Winston Trails Community Development District
VillaMar Community Development District	Zephyr Ridge Community Development District

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Other Governmental Organizations

City of Westlake	Office of the Medical Examiner, District 19
Florida Inland Navigation District	Rupert J. Smith Law Library of St. Lucie County
Fort Pierce Farms Water Control District	St. Lucie Education Foundation
Indian River Regional Crime Laboratory, District 19, Florida	Seminole Improvement District
Viera Stewardship District	Troup Indiantown Water Control District

Current or Recent Single Audits.

St. Lucie County, Florida
Early Learning Coalition, Inc.
Gateway Services Community Development District.

Members of our audit team have acquired extensive experience from performing or participating in over 1,800 audits of governments, independent special taxing districts, school boards, and other agencies that receive public money and utilize fund accounting.

Much of our firm's auditing experience is with compliance auditing, which is required for publicly financed agencies. In this type of audit, we do a financial examination and also confirm compliance with various statutory and regulatory guidelines.

Following is a summary of our other experience, including Auditor General experience, as it pertains to other governmental and fund accounting audits.

Counties

(Includes elected constitutional officers, utilities and dependent taxing districts)

Indian River
Martin
Okeechobee
Palm Beach

Municipalities

City of Port St. Lucie
City of Vero Beach
Town of Orchid

GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Special Districts

Bannon Lakes Community Development District
Boggy Creek Community Development District
Capron Trail Community Development District
Celebration Pointe Community Development District
Coquina Water Control District
Diamond Hill Community Development District
Dovera Community Development District
Durbin Crossing Community Development District
Golden Lakes Community Development District
Lakewood Ranch Community Development District
Martin Soil and Water Conservation District
Meadow Pointe III Community Development District
Myrtle Creek Community Development District
St. Lucie County – Fort Pierce Fire District
The Crossings at Fleming Island
St. Lucie West Services District
Indian River County Mosquito Control District
St. John's Water Control District
Westchase and Westchase East Community Development Districts
Pier Park Community Development District
Verandahs Community Development District
Magnolia Park Community Development District

Schools and Colleges

Federal Student Aid Programs – Indian River Community College
Indian River Community College
Okeechobee County District School Board
St. Lucie County District School Board

State and County Agencies

Central Florida Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc. (a nonprofit organization affiliated with the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners)
Florida School for Boys at Okeechobee
Indian River Community College Crime Laboratory
Indian River Correctional Institution

FEE SCHEDULE

We propose the fee for our audit services described below to be \$3,120 for the year ended September 30, 2024. In addition, if a bond issuance occurs in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, the fee for our audit services will be \$4,375. The fee is contingent upon the financial records and accounting systems of Varrea North Community Development District being “audit ready” and the financial activity for the District is not materially increased. If we discover that additional preparation work or subsidiary schedules are needed, we will consult with your authorized representative. We can assist with this additional work at our standard rates should you desire.

SCOPE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED

If selected as the District's auditors, we will perform a financial and compliance audit in accordance with Section 11.45, Florida Statutes, in order to express an opinion on an annual basis on the financial statements of Varrea North Community Development District as of September 30, 2024. The audits will be performed to the extent necessary to express an opinion on the fairness in all material respects with which the financial statements present the financial position, results of operations and changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and to determine whether, for selected transactions, operations are properly conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. Reportable conditions that are also material weaknesses shall be identified as such in the Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters. Other (non-reportable) conditions discovered during the course of the audit will be reported in a separate letter to management, which will be referred to in the Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with standards for financial and compliance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as in compliance with rules and regulations of audits of special districts as set forth by the State Auditor General in Chapter 10.550, Local Governmental Entity Audits, and other relevant federal, state and county orders, statutes, ordinances, charter, resolutions, bond covenants, Administrative Code and procedures, or rules and regulations which may pertain to the work required in the engagement.

The primary purpose of our audit will be to express an opinion on the financial statements discussed above. It should be noted that such audits are subject to the inherent risk that errors or irregularities may not be detected. However, if conditions are discovered which lead to the belief that material errors, defalcations or other irregularities may exist or if other circumstances are encountered that require extended services, we will promptly notify the appropriate individual.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience

J. W. Gaines, CPA, CITP

Director – 44 years

Education

- ◆ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

Registrations

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy
- ◆ Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) – American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Professional Affiliations/Community Service

- ◆ Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Affiliate member Government Finance Officers Association
- ◆ Past President, Vice President-Campaign Chairman, Vice President and Board Member of United Way of St. Lucie County, 1989 - 1994
- ◆ Past President, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer of the Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, 1988 - 1991
- ◆ Past President of Ft. Pierce Kiwanis Club, 1994 - 95, Member/Board Member since 1982
- ◆ Past President, Vice President and Treasurer of St. Lucie County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, 1980 -1986
- ◆ Member of the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, Member Board of Directors, Treasurer, September 2002 - 2006, Chairman Elect 2007, Chairman 2008, Past Chairman 2009
- ◆ Member Lawnwood Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees, 2000 – Present, Chairman 2013 - Present
- ◆ Member of St. Lucie County Citizens Budget Committee, 2001 – 2002
- ◆ Member of Ft. Pierce Citizens Budget Advisory Committee, 2010 – 2011
- ◆ Member of Ft. Pierce Civil Service Appeals Board, 2013 - Present

Professional Experience

- ◆ Miles Grant Development/Country Club – Stuart, Florida, July 1975 – October 1976
- ◆ State Auditor General's Office – Public Accounts Auditor – November 1976 through September 1979
- ◆ Director - Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants PL, responsible for numerous government and nonprofit audits.
- ◆ Over 40 years experience in all phases of public accounting and auditing experience, with a concentration in financial and compliance audits. Mr. Gaines has been involved in all phases of the audits listed on the preceding pages.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
--

J. W. Gaines, CPA, CITP (Continued)

Director

Continuing Professional Education

- ♦ Has participated in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors over the last two years to keep abreast of the latest developments in accounting and auditing such as:
 - Governmental Accounting Report and Audit Update
 - Analytical Procedures, FICPA
 - Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors
 - Single Audit Sampling and Other Considerations

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience

David S. McGuire, CPA, CITP

Director – 36 years experience

Education

- ◆ University of Central Florida, B.A. – Accounting
- ◆ Barry University – Master of Professional Accountancy

Registrations

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy
- ◆ Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) – American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Certified Not-For-Profit Core Concepts 2018

Professional Affiliations/Community Service

- ◆ Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Associate Member, Florida Government Finance Office Associates
- ◆ Assistant Coach – St. Lucie County Youth Football Organization (1994 – 2005)
- ◆ Assistant Coach – Greater Port St. Lucie Football League, Inc. (2006 – 2010)
- ◆ Board Member – Greater Port St. Lucie Football League, Inc. (2011 – 2017)
- ◆ Treasurer, AIDS Research and Treatment Center of the Treasure Coast, Inc. (2000 – 2003)
- ◆ Board Member/Treasurer, North Treasure Coast Chapter, American Red Cross (2004 – 2010)
- ◆ Member/Board Member of Port St. Lucie Kiwanis (1994 – 2001)
- ◆ President (2014/15) of Sunrise Kiwanis of Fort Pierce (2004 – 2017)
- ◆ St. Lucie District School Board Superintendent Search Committee (2013 – present)
- ◆ Board Member – Phrozen Pharos (2019-2021)

Professional Experience

- ◆ Twenty-eight years public accounting experience with an emphasis on nonprofit and governmental organizations.
- ◆ Audit Manager in-charge on a variety of audit and review engagements within several industries, including the following government and nonprofit organizations:
 - St. Lucie County, Florida
 - 19th Circuit Office of Medical Examiner
 - Troup Indiantown Water Control District
 - Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Inc.
 - Healthy Kids of St. Lucie County
 - Mustard Seed Ministries of Ft. Pierce, Inc.
 - Reaching Our Community Kids, Inc.
 - Reaching Our Community Kids - South
 - St. Lucie County Education Foundation, Inc.
 - Treasure Coast Food Bank, Inc.
 - North Springs Improvement District
- ◆ Four years of service in the United States Air Force in computer operations, with a top secret (SCI/SBI) security clearance.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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David S. McGuire, CPA, CITP (Continued)

Director

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. McGuire has attended numerous continuing professional education courses and seminars taught by nationally recognized sponsors in the accounting auditing and single audit compliance areas. He has attended courses over the last two years in those areas as follows:

- Not-for-Profit Auditing Financial Results and Compliance Requirements

- Update: Government Accounting Reporting and Auditing

- Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience

Matthew Gonano, CPA

Director – 13 years total experience

Education

- ◆ University of North Florida, B.B.A. – Accounting
- ◆ University of Alicante, Spain – International Business
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University – Masters of Accounting

Professional Affiliations/Community Service

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Professional Experience

- ◆ Senior Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.
- ◆ Performed audits of nonprofit and governmental organizations in accordance with Governmental Accounting Auditing Standards (GAAS)
- ◆ Performed Single Audits of nonprofit organizations in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, Audits of State, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. Gonano has participated in numerous continuing professional education courses.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience

David F. Haughton, CPA

Accounting and Audit Manager – 33 years

Education

- ◆ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

Registrations

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy

Professional Affiliations/Community Service

- ◆ Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Former Member of Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants Committee on State and Local Government
- ◆ Affiliate Member Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for over 10 years
- ◆ Affiliate Member Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) for over 10 years
- ◆ Technical Review – 1997 FICPA Course on State and Local Governments in Florida
- ◆ Board of Directors – Kiwanis of Ft. Pierce, Treasurer – 1994-1999; Vice President – 1999-2001

Professional Experience

- ◆ Twenty-seven years public accounting experience with an emphasis on governmental and nonprofit organizations.
- ◆ State Auditor General's Office – West Palm Beach, Staff Auditor, June 1985 to September 1985
- ◆ Accounting and Audit Manager of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants PL, responsible for audit and accounting services including governmental and not-for-profit audits.
- ◆ Over 20 years of public accounting and governmental experience, specializing in governmental and nonprofit organizations with concentration in special districts, including Community Development Districts which provide services including water and sewer utilities. Governmental and non-profit entities served include the following:

Counties:

St. Lucie County

Municipalities:

City of Fort Pierce

City of Stuart

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience

David F. Haughton, CPA (Continued)

Accounting and Audit Manager

Professional Experience (Continued)

Special Districts:

Bluewaters Community Development District
Country Club of Mount Dora Community Development District
Fiddler's Creek Community Development District #1 and #2
Indigo Community Development District
North Springs Improvement District
Renaissance Commons Community Development District
St. Lucie West Services District
Stoneybrook Community Development District
Summerville Community Development District
Terracina Community Development District
Thousand Oaks Community Development District
Tree Island Estates Community Development District
Valencia Acres Community Development District

Non-Profits:

The Dunbar Center, Inc.
Hibiscus Children's Foundation, Inc.
Hope Rural School, Inc.
Maritime and Yachting Museum of Florida, Inc.
Tykes and Teens, Inc.
United Way of Martin County, Inc.
Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast, Inc.

- ◆ While with the Auditor General's Office he was on the staff for the state audits of the Martin County School District and Okeechobee County School District.
- ◆ During 1997 he performed a technical review of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants state CPE course on Audits of State and Local Governments in Florida. His comments were well received by the author and were utilized in future updates to the course.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ During the past several years, he has participated in numerous professional development training programs sponsored by the AICPA and FICPA, including state conferences on special districts and governmental auditing in Florida. He averages in excess of 100 hours bi-annually of advanced training which exceeds the 80 hours required in accordance with the continuing professional education requirements of the Florida State Board of accountancy and the AICPA Private Companies Practice Section. He has over 75 hours of governmental CPE credit within the past two years.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Paul Daly

Staff Accountant – 11 years

Education

- ♦ Florida Atlantic University, B.S. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ♦ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ♦ Working to attain the requirements to take the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) exam.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Melissa Marlin, CPA

Senior Staff Accountant – 9 years

Education

- ◆ Indian River State College, A.A. – Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.B.A. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mrs. Marlin participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Bryan Snyder

Staff Accountant – 8 years

Education

- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.B.A. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Accountant beginning his professional auditing career with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank.
- ◆ Mr. Snyder is gaining experience auditing governmental & nonprofit entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. Snyder participates in numerous continuing education courses and plans on working to acquire his CPA certificate.
- ◆ Mr. Snyder is currently studying to pass the CPA exam.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
--

Maritza Stonebraker, CPA

Senior Accountant – 7 years

Education

- ♦ Indian River State College, B.S. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ♦ Staff Accountant beginning her professional auditing career with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank.

Continuing Professional Education

- ♦ Mrs. Stonebraker participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience

Jonathan Herman, CPA

Senior Staff Accountant – 9 years

Education

- ◆ University of Central Florida, B.S. – Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, MACC

Professional Experience

- ◆ Accounting graduate with nine years experience with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. Herman participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Sean Stanton, CPA

Staff Accountant – 5 years

Education

- ◆ University of South Florida, B.S. – Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, M.B.A. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank auditing governmental and non-profit entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. Stanton participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Tifanee Terrell

Staff Accountant – 3 years

Education

- ♦ Florida Atlantic University, M.A.C.C. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ♦ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ♦ Ms. Terrell participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ♦ Ms. Terrell is currently studying to pass the CPA exam.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Dylan Dixon

Staff Accountant – 1 year

Education

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. Dixon participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Brennen Moore

Staff Accountant

Education

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Mr. Moore participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
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Jordan Wood

Staff Accountant – 1 year

Education

- ◆ Indian River State College, A.A. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Ms. Wood is currently enrolled at Indian River State College to complete her bachelor's degree.
- ◆ Ms. Wood participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Ms. Wood is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
--

Katie Gifford
Staff Accountant

Education

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Ms. Gifford participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

Commitment to Quality Service

Personnel Qualifications and Experience
--

Rayna Zicari
Staff Accountant

Education

- ◆ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

Professional Experience

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

Continuing Professional Education

- ◆ Ms. Zicari participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Ms. Zicari is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.



6815 Dairy Road
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

813.788.2155
BodinePerry.com

Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

To the Partners of
Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL
and the Peer Review Committee of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

November 30, 2022

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL (the firm), in effect for the year ended May 31, 2022. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Standards).

A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review as described in the Standards may be found at aicpa.org/prsummary. The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

Firm's Responsibility

The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported in conformity with professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control, and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review.

Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including a compliance audit under the Single Audit Act.

As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL, in effect for the year ended May 31, 2022, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)*, or *fail*. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PLC, has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Bodine Perry

Bodine Perry

(BERGER_REPORT22)



BodinePerry
Certified Public Accountants & Advisors

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2024
The city of Plant City, Florida

INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

SECTION 1. DUE DATE. Sealed proposals must be received no later than July 23, 2024, at 12:00 p.m., at the offices of the District Manager, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (561) 571-0010. Proposals will be publicly opened at that time.

SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW. By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER. The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.

SECTION 4. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL. Proposers shall be disqualified and their proposals rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.

SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL. Submit one (1) unbound and one (1) electronic copy of the Proposal Documents, and other requested attachments at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, marked with the title "Auditing Services – Varrea North Community Development District" on the face of it. Please include pricing for each additional bond issuance.

SECTION 6. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL. Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.

SECTION 7. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS. The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions (the "Proposal Documents").

SECTION 8. PROPOSAL. In making its proposal, each Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.

SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT. The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.

SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD. Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.

SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY. Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of the District's limited waiver of liability contained in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, or any other statute or law.

SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS. All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.

- A. List the position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
- B. Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
- C. Three references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address and phone number of a contact person.
- D. The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal for the District's first audit for which there are no special assessment bonds, plus the lump sum cost of two (2) annual renewals, which renewals shall include services related to the District's anticipated issuance of special assessment bonds.

SECTION 13. PROTESTS. In accordance with the District's Rules of Procedure, any protest regarding the Proposal Documents, must be filed in writing, at the offices of the District Manager, within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the receipt of the Proposal Documents. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to the aforesaid Proposal Documents.

SECTION 14. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS. The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, contained within the Proposal Documents.

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
AUDITOR SELECTION
EVALUATION CRITERIA**

1. Ability of Personnel. (20 Points)

(E.g., geographic location of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.)

2. Proposer's Experience. (20 Points)

(E.g. past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other or current Community Development District(s) in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation of Proposer, etc.)

3. Understanding of Scope of Work. (20 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services. (20 Points)

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required.

5. Price. (20 Points)***

Points will be awarded based upon the lowest total proposal for rendering the services and the reasonableness of the proposal.

Total (100 Points)

***Alternatively, the Board may choose to evaluate firms without considering price, in which case the remaining categories would be assigned 25 points each.

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

17CII



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Proposal to Provide Financial Auditing Services:

VARREA NORTH

Community Development District

Proposal Due: July 23, 2024
12:00PM

Submitted to:

Varrea North
Community Development District
c/o District Manager
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Submitted by:

Antonio J. Grau, Partner
Grau & Associates
951 Yamato Road, Suite 280
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Tel (561) 994-9299
(800) 229-4728

Fax (561) 994-5823

tgrau@graucpa.com

www.graucpa.com



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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Grau & Associates

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

July 23, 2024

Varrea North Community Development District
c/o District Manager
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Re: Request for Proposal for Professional Auditing Services for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, with an option for two additional annual renewals.

Grau & Associates (Grau) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Varrea North Community Development District's (the "District") Request for Proposal (RFP), and we look forward to working with you on your audit. We are an energetic and robust team of knowledgeable professionals and are a recognized leader of providing services to Community Development Districts. As one of Florida's few firms to primarily focus on government, we are especially equipped to provide you an effective and efficient audit.

Special district audits are at the core of our practice: **we have a total of 360 clients, 329 or 91% of which are special districts.** We know the specifics of the professional services and work products needed to meet your RFP requirements like no other firm. With this level of experience, we are able to increase efficiency, to provide immediate and continued savings, and to minimize disturbances to client operations.

Why Grau & Associates:

Knowledgeable Audit Team

Grau is proud that the personnel we assign to your audit are some of the most seasoned auditors in the field. Our staff performs governmental engagements year round. When not working on your audit, your team is refining their audit approach for next year's audit. Our engagement partners have decades of experience and take a hands-on approach to our assignments, which all ensures a smoother process for you.

Servicing your Individual Needs

Our clients enjoy personalized service designed to satisfy their unique needs and requirements. Throughout the process of our audit, you will find that we welcome working with you to resolve any issues as swiftly and easily as possible. In addition, due to Grau's very low turnover rate for our industry, you also won't have to worry about retraining your auditors from year to year.

Developing Relationships

We strive to foster mutually beneficial relationships with our clients. We stay in touch year round, updating, collaborating and assisting you in implementing new legislation, rules and standards that affect your organization. We are also available as a sounding board and assist with technical questions.

Maintaining an Impeccable Reputation

We have never been involved in any litigation, proceeding or received any disciplinary action. Additionally, we have never been charged with, or convicted of, a public entity crime of any sort. We are financially stable and have never been involved in any bankruptcy proceedings.

Complying With Standards

Our audit will follow the Auditing Standards of the AICPA, Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida, and any other applicable federal, state and local regulations. We will deliver our reports in accordance with your requirements.

This proposal is a firm and irrevocable offer for 90 days. We certify this proposal is made without previous understanding, agreement or connection either with any previous firms or corporations offering a proposal for the same items. We also certify our proposal is in all respects fair, without outside control, collusion, fraud, or otherwise illegal action, and was prepared in good faith. Only the person(s), company or parties interested in the project as principals are named in the proposal. Grau has no existing or potential conflicts and anticipates no conflicts during the engagement. Our Federal I.D. number is 20-2067322.

We would be happy to answer any questions or to provide any additional information. We are genuinely excited about the prospect of serving you and establishing a long-term relationship. Please do not hesitate to call or email either of our Partners, Antonio J. Grau, CPA (tgrau@graucpa.com) or David Caplivski, CPA (dcaplivski@graucpa.com) at 561.994.9299. We thank you for considering our firm's qualifications and experience.

Very truly yours,
Grau & Associates



Antonio J. Grau

Firm Qualifications



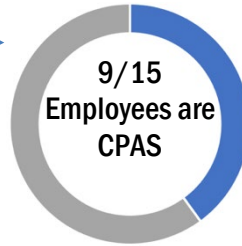
Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Grau's Focus and Experience

Our Team

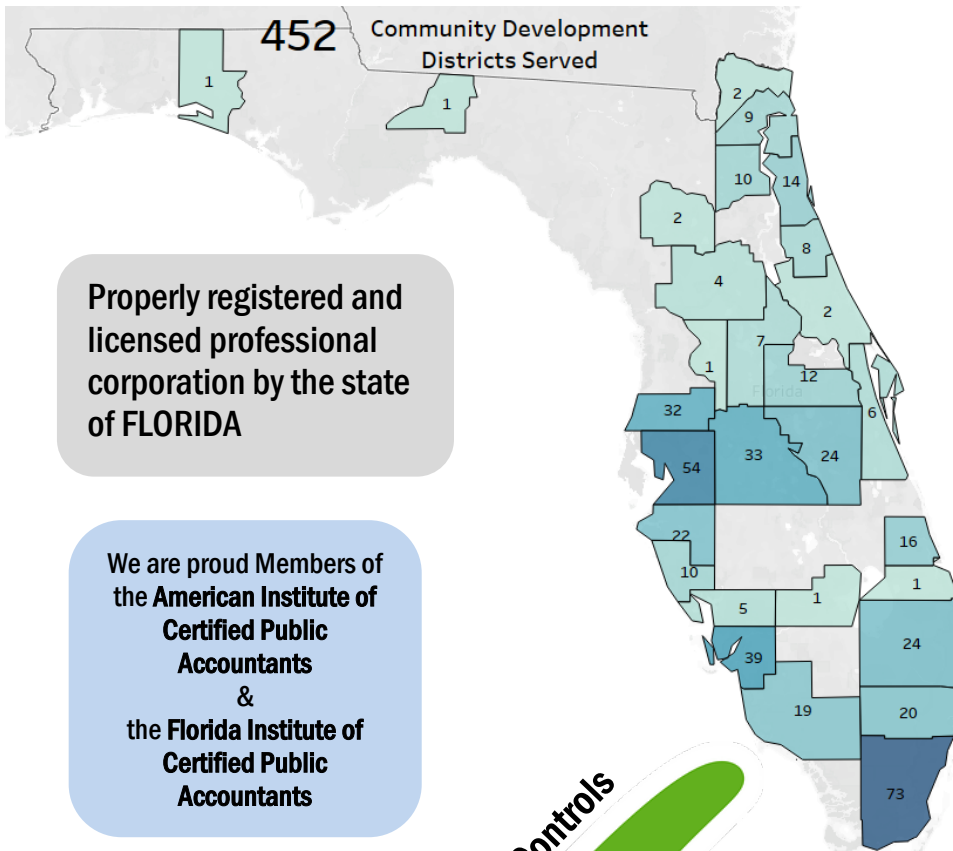


3 Partners
11 Professional Staff
2 Administrative Professionals



2005

Year founded



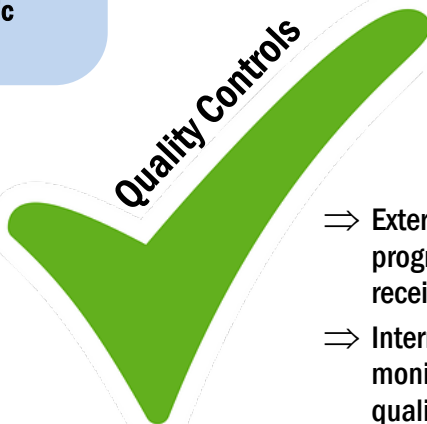
Properly registered and licensed professional corporation by the state of FLORIDA

We are proud Members of the **American Institute of Certified Public Accountants** & the **Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants**

Services Provided



Quality Controls



- ⇒ External quality review program: consistently receives a pass
- ⇒ Internal: ongoing monitoring to maintain quality



AICPA | FICPA | GFOA | FASD | FGFOA

See next page for report and certificate

March 17, 2023

Antonio Grau
Grau & Associates
951 Yamato Rd Ste 280
Boca Raton, FL 33431-1809

Dear Antonio Grau:

It is my pleasure to notify you that on March 16, 2023, the Florida Peer Review Committee accepted the report on the most recent System Review of your firm. The due date for your next review is December 31, 2025. This is the date by which all review documents should be completed and submitted to the administering entity.

As you know, the report had a peer review rating of pass. The Committee asked me to convey its congratulations to the firm.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

FICPA Peer Review Committee

Peer Review Team
FICPA Peer Review Committee

850.224.2727, x5957

cc: Daniel Hevia, Racquel McIntosh

Firm Number: 900004390114

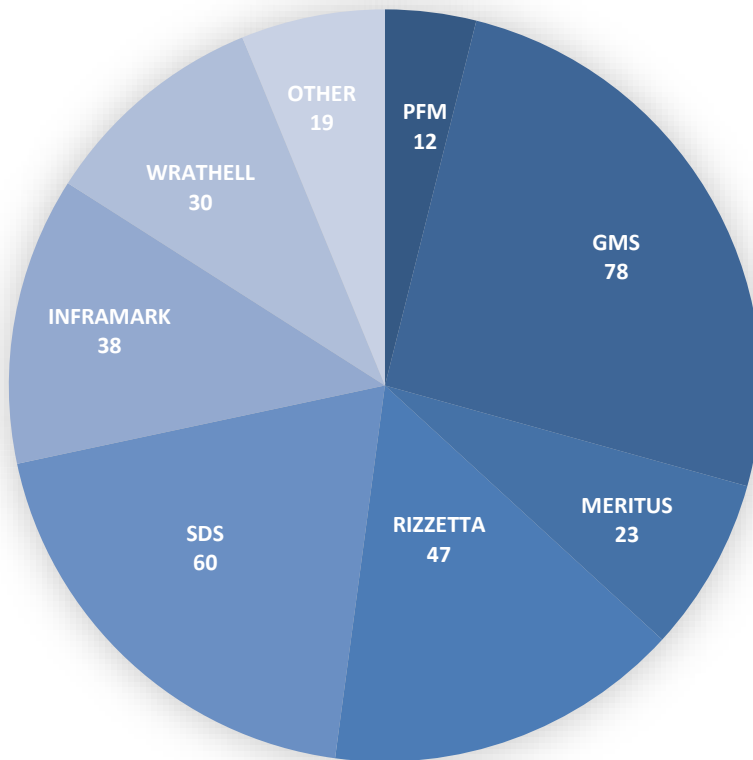
Review Number: 594791

Firm & Staff Experience



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

GRAU AND ASSOCIATES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT EXPERIENCE BY MANAGEMENT COMPANY



Profile Briefs:

Antonio J GRAU, CPA (Partner)

Years Performing Audits: 35+

CPE (last 2 years):

Government

Accounting, Auditing:

40 hours; Accounting,

Auditing and Other:

53 hours

Professional

Memberships: AICPA,

FICPA, FGFOA, GFOA

David Caplivski, CPA (Partner)

Years Performing Audits: 13+

CPE (last 2 years):

Government

Accounting, Auditing:

24 hours; Accounting,

Auditing and Other:

64 hours

Professional

Memberships: AICPA,

FICPA, FGFOA, FASD

"Here at Grau & Associates, staying up to date with the current technological landscape is one of our top priorities. Not only does it provide a more positive experience for our clients, but it also allows us to perform a more effective and efficient audit. With the every changing technology available and utilized by our clients, we are constantly innovating our audit process."

- Tony Grau

"Quality audits and exceptional client service are at the heart of every decision we make. Our clients trust us to deliver a quality audit, adhering to high standards and assisting them with improvements for their organization."

-David Caplivski

YOUR ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Grau's client-specific engagement team is meticulously organized in order to meet the unique needs of each client. Constant communication within our solution team allows for continuity of staff and audit team.

The Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) Partner will bring a unique blend of IT expertise and understanding of accounting principles to the financial statement audit of the District.

An advisory consultant will be available as a sounding board to advise in those areas where problems are encountered.



The assigned personnel will work closely with the partner and the District to ensure that the financial statements and all other reports are prepared in accordance with professional standards and firm policy. Responsibilities will include planning the audit; communicating with the client and the partners the progress of the audit; and determining that financial statements and all reports issued by the firm are accurate, complete and are prepared in accordance with professional standards and firm policy.

The Engagement Partner will participate extensively during the various stages of the engagement and has direct responsibility for engagement policy, direction, supervision, quality control, security, confidentiality of information of the engagement and communication with client personnel. The engagement partner will also be involved directing the development of the overall audit approach and plan; performing an overriding review of work papers and ascertain client satisfaction.



Antonio 'Tony' J. Grau, CPA

Partner

Contact: tgrau@graucpa.com | (561) 939-6672

Experience

For over 30 years, Tony has been providing audit, accounting and consulting services to the firm's governmental, non-profit, employee benefit, overhead and arbitrage clients. He provides guidance to clients regarding complex accounting issues, internal controls and operations.

As a member of the Government Finance Officers Association Special Review Committee, Tony participated in the review process for awarding the GFOA Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting. Tony was also the review team leader for the Quality Review of the Office of Management Audits of School Board of Miami-Dade County. Tony received the AICPA advanced level certificate for governmental single audits.

Education

University of South Florida (1983)
Bachelor of Arts
Business Administration

Clients Served (partial list)

(>300) Various Special Districts, including:

Bayside Improvement Community Development District	St. Lucie West Services District
Dunes Community Development District	Ave Maria Stewardship Community District
Fishhawk Community Development District (I, II, IV)	Rivers Edge II Community Development District
Grand Bay at Doral Community Development District	Bartram Park Community Development District
Heritage Harbor North Community Development District	Bay Laurel Center Community Development District
Boca Raton Airport Authority	
Greater Naples Fire Rescue District	
Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	
Lake Worth Drainage District	
South Indian River Water Control	

Professional Associations/Memberships

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants	Florida Government Finance Officers Association
Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants	Government Finance Officers Association Member
City of Boca Raton Financial Advisory Board Member	

Professional Education (over the last two years)

<u>Course</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Government Accounting and Auditing	40
Accounting, Auditing and Other	<u>53</u>
Total Hours	<u>93</u> (includes of 4 hours of Ethics CPE)



David Caplivski, CPA/CITP, Partner
Contact : dcaplivski@graucpa.com / 561-939-6676

Experience

Grau & Associates	Partner	2021-Present
Grau & Associates	Manager	2014-2020
Grau & Associates	Senior Auditor	2013-2014
Grau & Associates	Staff Auditor	2010-2013

Education

Florida Atlantic University (2009)
 Master of Accounting
 Nova Southeastern University (2002)
 Bachelor of Science
 Environmental Studies

Certifications and Certificates

Certified Public Accountant (2011)
 AICPA Certified Information Technology Professional (2018)
 AICPA Accreditation COSO Internal Control Certificate (2022)

Clients Served (partial list)

(>300) Various Special Districts Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse Boca Raton Airport Authority Broward Education Foundation CareerSource Brevard CareerSource Central Florida 403 (b) Plan City of Lauderdale GERS City of Parkland Police Pension Fund City of Sunrise GERS Coquina Water Control District Central County Water Control District City of Miami (program specific audits) City of West Park Coquina Water Control District East Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Fac. East Naples Fire Control & Rescue District	Hispanic Human Resource Council Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District Old Plantation Water Control District Pinetree Water Control District San Carlos Park Fire & Rescue Retirement Plan South Indian River Water Control District South Trail Fire Protection & Rescue District Town of Haverhill Town of Hypoluxo Town of Hillsboro Beach Town of Lantana Town of Lauderdale By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Pension Town of Pembroke Park Village of Wellington Village of Golf
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Professional Education (over the last two years)

<u>Course</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Government Accounting and Auditing	24
Accounting, Auditing and Other	64
Total Hours	<u>88</u> (includes 4 hours of Ethics CPE)

Professional Associations

Member, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Member, Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Member, Florida Government Finance Officers Association
Member, Florida Association of Special Districts

References



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

We have included three references of government engagements that require compliance with laws and regulations, follow fund accounting, and have financing requirements, which we believe are similar to the District.

Dunes Community Development District

Scope of Work	Financial audit
Engagement Partner	Antonio J. Grau
Dates	Annually since 1998
Client Contact	Darrin Mossing, Finance Director 475 W. Town Place, Suite 114 St. Augustine, Florida 32092 904-940-5850

Two Creeks Community Development District

Scope of Work	Financial audit
Engagement Partner	Antonio J. Grau
Dates	Annually since 2007
Client Contact	William Rizzetta, President 3434 Colwell Avenue, Suite 200 Tampa, Florida 33614 813-933-5571

Journey's End Community Development District

Scope of Work	Financial audit
Engagement Partner	Antonio J. Grau
Dates	Annually since 2004
Client Contact	Todd Wodraska, Vice President 2501 A Burns Road Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410 561-630-4922

Specific Audit Approach



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

AUDIT APPROACH

Grau's Understanding of Work Product / Scope of Services:

We recognize the District is an important entity and we are confident our firm is eminently qualified to meet the challenges of this engagement and deliver quality audit services. ***You would be a valued client of our firm and we pledge to commit all firm resources to provide the level and quality of services (as described below) which not only meet the requirements set forth in the RFP but will exceed those expectations.*** Grau & Associates fully understands the scope of professional services and work products requested. Our audit will follow the Auditing Standards of the AICPA, *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida and any other applicable Federal, State or Local regulations. **We will deliver our reports in accordance with your requirements.**

Proposed segmentation of the engagement

Our approach to the audit engagement is a risk-based approach which integrates the best of traditional auditing techniques and a total systems concept to enable the team to conduct a more efficient and effective audit. The audit will be conducted in three phases, which are as follows:



Phase I - Preliminary Planning

A thorough understanding of your organization, service objectives and operating environment is essential for the development of an audit plan and for an efficient, cost-effective audit. During this phase, we will meet with appropriate personnel to obtain and document our understanding of your operations and service objectives and, at the same time, give you the opportunity to express your expectations with respect to the services that we will provide. Our work effort will be coordinated so that there will be minimal disruption to your staff.

During this phase we will perform the following activities:

- » Review the regulatory, statutory and compliance requirements. This will include a review of applicable federal and state statutes, resolutions, bond documents, contracts, and other agreements;
- » Read minutes of meetings;
- » Review major sources of information such as budgets, organization charts, procedures, manuals, financial systems, and management information systems;
- » Obtain an understanding of fraud detection and prevention systems;
- » Obtain and document an understanding of internal control, including knowledge about the design of relevant policies, procedures, and records, and whether they have been placed in operation;
- » Assess risk and determine what controls we are to rely upon and what tests we are going to perform and perform test of controls;
- » Develop audit programs to incorporate the consideration of financial statement assertions, specific audit objectives, and appropriate audit procedures to achieve the specified objectives;
- » Discuss and resolve any accounting, auditing and reporting matters which have been identified.

Phase II – Execution of Audit Plan

The audit team will complete a major portion of transaction testing and audit requirements during this phase. The procedures performed during this period will enable us to identify any matter that may impact the completion of our work or require the attention of management. Tasks to be performed in Phase II include, but are not limited to the following:

- » Apply analytical procedures to further assist in the determination of the nature, timing, and extent of auditing procedures used to obtain evidential matter for specific account balances or classes of transactions;
- » Perform tests of account balances and transactions through sampling, vouching, confirmation and other analytical procedures; and
- » Perform tests of compliance.

Phase III - Completion and Delivery

In this phase of the audit, we will complete the tasks related to year-end balances and financial reporting. All reports will be reviewed with management before issuance, and the partners will be available to meet and discuss our report and address any questions. Tasks to be performed in Phase III include, but are not limited to the following:

- » Perform final analytical procedures;
- » Review information and make inquiries for subsequent events; and
- » Meeting with Management to discuss preparation of draft financial statements and any potential findings or recommendations.

You should expect more from your accounting firm than a signature in your annual financial report. Our concept of truly responsive professional service emphasizes taking an active interest in the issues of concern to our clients and serving as an effective resource in dealing with those issues. In following this approach, we not only audit financial information with hindsight but also consider the foresight you apply in managing operations.

Application of this approach in developing our management letter is particularly important given the increasing financial pressures and public scrutiny facing today's public officials. We will prepare the management letter at the completion of our final procedures.

In preparing this management letter, we will initially review any draft comments or recommendations with management. In addition, we will take necessary steps to ensure that matters are communicated to those charged with governance.

In addition to communicating any recommendations, we will also communicate the following, if any:

- » Significant audit adjustments;
- » Significant deficiencies or material weaknesses;
- » Disagreements with management; and
- » Difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

Our findings will contain a statement of condition describing the situation and the area that needs strengthening, what should be corrected and why. Our suggestions will withstand the basic tests of corrective action:

Is the recommendation cost effective?

Is the recommendation the simplest to effectuate in order to correct a problem?

Is the recommendation at the heart of the problem and not just correcting a symptomatic matter?

Is the corrective action taking into account why the deficiency occurred?

To assure full agreement with facts and circumstances, we will fully discuss each item with Management prior to the final exit conference. This policy means there will be no “surprises” in the management letter and fosters a professional, cooperative atmosphere.

Communications

We emphasize a continuous, year-round dialogue between the District and our management team. We regularly communicate through personal telephone calls and electronic mail throughout the audit and on a regular basis.

Our clients have the ability to transmit information to us on our secure client portal with the ability to assign different staff with separate log on and viewing capability. This further facilitates efficiency as all assigned users receive electronic mail notification as soon as new information has been posted into the portal.

Cost of Services



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Our proposed all-inclusive fees for the financial audit for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2024-2026 are as follows:

Year Ended September 30,	Fee
2024	\$3100
2025	\$3200
2026	<u>\$3300</u>
TOTAL (2024-2026)	<u>\$9600</u>

The above fees are based on the assumption that the District maintains its current level of operations. Should conditions change or additional Bonds are issued the fees would be adjusted accordingly upon approval from all parties concerned. If Bonds are issued the fee would increase by \$1,500. The fee for subsequent annual renewals would be agreed upon separately.

Supplemental Information



Grau & Associates
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PARTIAL LIST OF CLIENTS

SPECIAL DISTRICTS	Governmental Audit	Single Audit	Utility Audit	Current Client	Year End
Boca Raton Airport Authority	✓	✓		✓	9/30
Captain's Key Dependent District	✓			✓	9/30
Central Broward Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Coquina Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
East Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility	✓		✓		9/30
Florida Green Finance Authority	✓				9/30
Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District	✓			✓	9/30
Greater Naples Fire Control and Rescue District	✓	✓		✓	9/30
Green Corridor P.A.C.E. District	✓			✓	9/30
Hobe-St. Lucie Conservancy District	✓			✓	9/30
Indian River Mosquito Control District	✓				9/30
Indian Trail Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	✓	✓	✓	✓	9/30
Lake Asbury Municipal Service Benefit District	✓			✓	9/30
Lake Padgett Estates Independent District	✓			✓	9/30
Lake Worth Drainage District	✓			✓	9/30
Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District	✓				9/30
Old Plantation Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Pal Mar Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Pinellas Park Water Management District	✓			✓	9/30
Pine Tree Water Control District (Broward)	✓			✓	9/30
Pinetree Water Control District (Wellington)	✓				9/30
Port of The Islands Community Improvement District	✓		✓	✓	9/30
Ranger Drainage District	✓	✓		✓	9/30
Renaissance Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
San Carlos Park Fire Protection and Rescue Service District	✓			✓	9/30
Sanibel Fire and Rescue District	✓			✓	9/30
South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Board	✓				9/30
South-Dade Venture Development District	✓			✓	9/30
South Indian River Water Control District	✓	✓		✓	9/30
South Trail Fire Protection & Rescue District	✓			✓	9/30
Spring Lake Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
St. Lucie West Services District	✓		✓	✓	9/30
Sunrise Lakes Phase IV Recreation District	✓			✓	9/30
Sunshine Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Sunny Hills Units 12-15 Dependent District	✓			✓	9/30
West Villages Independent District	✓			✓	9/30
Various Community Development Districts (452)	✓			✓	9/30
TOTAL	490	5	4	484	

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

CONSULTING / MANAGEMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

Grau & Associates also provide a broad range of other management consulting services. Our expertise has been consistently utilized by Governmental and Non-Profit entities throughout Florida. Examples of engagements performed are as follows:

- Accounting systems
- Development of budgets
- Organizational structures
- Financing alternatives
- IT Auditing
- Fixed asset records
- Cost reimbursement
- Indirect cost allocation
- Grant administration and compliance

ARBITRAGE

The federal government has imposed complex rules to restrict the use of tax-exempt financing. Their principal purpose is to eliminate any significant arbitrage incentives in a tax-exempt issue. We have determined the applicability of these requirements and performed the rebate calculations for more than 150 bond issues, including both fixed and variable rate bonds.

73

Current
Arbitrage
Calculations

We look forward to providing Varrea North Community Development District with our resources and experience to accomplish not only those minimum requirements set forth in your Request for Proposal, but to exceed those expectations!

**For even more information on Grau & Associates
please visit us on www.graucpa.com.**

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

17D

VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

AUDITOR EVALUATION MATRIX

RFP FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES	ABILITY OF PERSONNEL	PROPOSER'S EXPERIENCE	UNDERSTANDING OF SCOPE OF WORK	ABILITY TO FURNISH REQUIRED SERVICES	PRICE	TOTAL POINTS
PROPOSER	20 POINTS	20 POINTS	20 POINTS	20 POINTS	20 POINTS	100 POINTS
Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank						
Grau & Associates						

NOTES:

Completed by: _____

Board Member's Signature

Date: _____

Printed Name of Board Member

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

20

Memorandum

To: Board of Supervisors

From: District Management

Date: August 9, 2024

RE: HB7013 - Special Districts Performance Measures and Standards Reporting

To enhance accountability and transparency, new regulations were established for all special districts, by the Florida Legislature, during their 2024 legislative session. Starting on October 1, 2024, or by the end of the first full fiscal year after its creation (whichever comes later), each special district must establish goals and objectives for each program and activity, as well as develop performance measures and standards to assess the achievement of these goals and objectives. Additionally, by December 1 each year (initial report due on December 1, 2025), each special district is required to publish an annual report on its website, detailing the goals and objectives achieved, the performance measures and standards used, and any goals or objectives that were not achieved.

District Management has identified the following key categories to focus on for Fiscal Year 2025 and develop statutorily compliant goals for each:

- Community Communication and Engagement
- Infrastructure and Facilities Maintenance
- Financial Transparency and Accountability

Additionally, special districts must provide an annual reporting form to share with the public that reflects whether the goals & objectives were met for the year. District Management has streamlined these requirements into a single document that meets both the statutory requirements for goal/objective setting and annual reporting.

The proposed goals/objectives and the annual reporting form are attached as exhibit A to this memo. District Management recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt these goals and objectives to maintain compliance with HB7013 and further enhance their commitment to the accountability and transparency of the District.

Exhibit A: Goals, Objectives and Annual Reporting Form

VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Performance Measures/Standards & Annual Reporting Form
October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

1. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Goal 1.1 Public Meetings Compliance

Objective: Hold at least two (2) regular Board of Supervisor meetings per year to conduct CDD related business and discuss community needs.

Measurement: Number of public board meetings held annually as evidenced by meeting minutes and legal advertisements.

Standard: A minimum of two (2) regular board meetings was held during the fiscal year.

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal 1.2 Notice of Meetings Compliance

Objective: Provide public notice of each meeting at least seven days in advance, as specified in Section 190.007(1), using at least two communication methods.

Measurement: Timeliness and method of meeting notices as evidenced by posting to CDD website, publishing in local newspaper and via electronic communication.

Standard: 100% of meetings were advertised with 7 days' notice per statute on at least two mediums (i.e., newspaper, CDD website, electronic communications).

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal 1.3 Access to Records Compliance

Objective: Ensure that meeting minutes and other public records are readily available and easily accessible to the public by completing monthly CDD website checks.

Measurement: Monthly website reviews will be completed to ensure meeting minutes and other public records are up to date as evidenced by District Management's records.

Standard: 100% of monthly website checks were completed by District Management.

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

2. **INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE**

Goal 2.1 District Infrastructure and Facilities Inspections

Objective: District Engineer will conduct an annual inspection of the District's infrastructure and related systems.

Measurement: A minimum of one (1) inspection completed per year as evidenced by district engineer's report related to district's infrastructure and related systems.

Standard: Minimum of one (1) inspection was completed in the Fiscal Year by the district's engineer.

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

3. **FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Goal 3.1 Annual Budget Preparation

Objective: Prepare and approve the annual proposed budget by June 15 and final budget was adopted by September 30 each year.

Measurement: Proposed budget was approved by the Board before June 15 and final budget was adopted by September 30 as evidenced by meeting minutes and budget documents listed on CDD website and/or within district records.

Standard: 100% of budget approval and adoption were completed by the statutory deadlines and posted to the CDD website.

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal 3.2 Financial Reports

Objective: Publish to the CDD website the most recent versions of the following documents: annual audit, current fiscal year budget with any amendments, and most recent financials within the latest agenda package.

Measurement: Annual audit, previous years' budgets, and financials are accessible to the public as evidenced by corresponding documents on the CDD website.

Standard: CDD website contains 100% of the following information: most recent annual audit, most recently adopted/amended fiscal year budget, and most recent agenda package with updated financials.

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal 3.3 Annual Financial Audit

Objective: Conduct an annual independent financial audit per statutory requirements and publish the results to the CDD website for public inspection and transmit said results to the State of Florida.

Measurement: Timeliness of audit completion and publication as evidenced by meeting minutes showing board approval and annual audit is available on the CDD website and transmitted to the State of Florida.

Standard: Audit was completed by an independent auditing firm per statutory requirements and results were posted to the CDD website and transmitted to the State of Florida.

Achieved: Yes ☐ No ☐

District Manager

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

Print Name

Print Name

Date

Date

VARREA NORTH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

21

RESOLUTION 2024-20

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATING THE LOCATION OF THE
LOCAL DISTRICT RECORDS OFFICE AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Varrea North Community Development District (“District”) is a local unit of special-purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, being situated within the City of Plant City, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the District is statutorily required to designate a local district records office location for the purposes of affording citizens the ability to access the District’s records, promoting the disclosure of matters undertaken by the District, and ensuring that the public is informed of the activities of the District in accordance with Chapter 119 and Section 190.006(7), *Florida Statutes*.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

SECTION 1. The District’s local records office shall be located at: _____

_____.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2024.

ATTEST:

**VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT**

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

UNAUDITED
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
UNAUDITED
JUNE 30, 2024**

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024**

	General Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS		
Due from Landowner	\$ 16,135	\$ 16,135
Total assets	<u>16,135</u>	<u>16,135</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,635	\$ 2,635
Landowner advance	13,500	13,500
Total liabilities	<u>16,135</u>	<u>16,135</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred receipts	2,635	2,635
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>2,635</u>	<u>2,635</u>
Fund balances:		
Unassigned	<u>(2,635)</u>	<u>(2,635)</u>
Total fund balances	<u>(2,635)</u>	<u>(2,635)</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	<u>\$ 16,135</u>	<u>\$ 16,135</u>

**VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Current Month	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
Landowner contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,015	0%
Total revenues	-	-	52,015	0%
EXPENDITURES				
Professional & administrative				
Management/accounting/recording**	2,000	2,000	8,000	25%
Legal	577	577	25,000	2%
Engineering	-	-	2,000	0%
Telephone	16	16	200	8%
Postage	-	-	500	0%
Printing & binding	42	42	500	8%
Legal advertising	-	-	7,500	0%
Annual special district fee	-	-	175	0%
Insurance	-	-	5,500	0%
Contingencies/bank charges	-	-	750	0%
Website hosting & maintenance	-	-	1,680	0%
Website ADA compliance	-	-	210	0%
Total expenditures	2,635	2,635	52,015	5%
Excess/(deficiency) of revenues over/(under) expenditures	(2,635)	(2,635)	-	
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-	
Fund balances - ending	\$ (2,635)	\$ (2,635)	\$ -	

*These items will be realized when bonds are issued

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

MINUTES A

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF MEETING
VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

A Landowners' Meeting of the Varrea North Community Development District was held on June 5, 2024 at 9:15 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610.

Present were:

Cindy Cerbone	District Manager
Andrew Kantarzhi	Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC
Ryan Dugan	District Counsel
Ryan Zook	D.R. Horton
Ryan Hoppe	Kimley-Horn
Brian Janek	D.R. Horton

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Cerbone called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Affidavit/Proof of Publication

The affidavit of publication was included for informational purposes.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Election of Chair to Conduct Landowners' Meeting

Ms. Cerbone served as Chair to conduct the Landowners' meeting.

Ms. Cerbone stated that she is the designated Proxy Holder for the Landowner, D.R. Horton Inc., which owns 141.59 acres, equating to 142 votes.

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Election of Supervisors [All Seats]

A. Nominations

Ms. Cerbone, as the designated Proxy Holder for the Landowner D.R. Horton Inc., nominated the following:

38 Seat 1 Ryan Zook
39 Seat 2 Anne Mize
40 Seat 3 Ryan Hoppe
41 Seat 4 Brian Janek
42 Seat 5 Cody You

43 No other nominations were made.

44 **B. Casting of Ballots**

45 As the designated Proxy Holder for the Landowner D.R. Horton Inc., Ms. Cerbone is
46 eligible to cast up to 142 votes per seat.

47 • **Determine Number of Voting Units Represented**

48 A total of 142 voting units were represented.

49 • **Determine Number of Voting Units Assigned by Proxy**

50 All 142 voting units were assigned by proxy.

51 Ms. Cerbone cast the following votes:

52	Seat 1	Ryan Zook	10 votes
53	Seat 2	Anne Mize	10 votes
54	Seat 3	Ryan Hoppe	5 votes
55	Seat 4	Brian Janek	5 votes
56	Seat 5	Cody You	5 votes

57 **C. Ballot Tabulation and Results**

58 The ballot tabulation, results and term lengths were as follows:

59	Seat 1	Ryan Zook	10 votes	4-year Term
60	Seat 2	Anne Mize	10 votes	4-year Term
61	Seat 3	Ryan Hoppe	5 votes	2-year Term
62	Seat 4	Brian Janek	5 votes	2-year Term
63	Seat 5	Cody You	5 votes	2-year Term

64

65 **FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Landowners' Questions/Comments

66

67 There were no Landowners' questions or comments.

68

69 **SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Adjournment

70

71 There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

72

73

74

75 [SIGNATURES APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

76

77

78

79

80

81 _____
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

MINUTES B

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF MEETING
VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

An Organizational Meeting of the Varrea North Community Development District was held on June 5, 2024, immediately following the adjournment of the Landowners' Meeting, scheduled to commence at 9:15 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610.

Present were:

Ryan Zook	Chair
Ryan Hoppe	Assistant Secretary
Brian Janek	Assistant Secretary
Cody You	Assistant Secretary

Also present:

Cindy Cerbone	District Manager
Andrew Kantarzhi	Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC
Ryan Dugan	District Counsel

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Cerbone called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m.

Ms. Cerbone stated that the Landowners' Election was held just before this meeting and the Oath of Office was administered to the elected Supervisors Mr. Ryan Zook, Mr. Ryan Hoppe, Mr. Brian Janek and Mr. Cody You prior to the start of this meeting.

Supervisors Zook, Hoppe, Janek and You were present. Supervisor-Elect Anne Mize was not present.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Comments

No members of the public spoke.

PART 1: GENERAL DISTRICT ITEMS

GENERAL DISTRICT ITEMS

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Administration of Oath of Office to Elected Board of Supervisors (the following will be provided in a separate package)

The Oath of Office was administered before the meeting. The Oath of Office will be administered to Supervisor-Elect Anne Mize at or before the next meeting. The Board Members are familiar with the following:

- A. Updates and Reminders: Ethics Training for Special District Supervisors and Form 1**
- B. Membership, Obligations and Responsibilities**
- C. Guide to Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees**
- D. Form 8B: Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal and other Local Public Officers**

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution 2024-01, Canvassing and Certifying the Results of the Landowners' Election of Supervisors Held Pursuant to Section 190.006(2), Florida Statutes, and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-01 and recapped the results of the Landowners' Election, which will be inserted into Sections 1 and 2, as follows:

Seat 1	Ryan Zook	10 votes	4-year Term
Seat 2	Anne Mize	10 votes	4-year Term
Seat 3	Ryan Hoppe	5 votes	2-year Term
Seat 4	Brian Janek	5 votes	2-year Term
Seat 5	Cody You	5 votes	2-year Term

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Janek, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-01, Canvassing and Certifying the Results of the Landowners' Election of Supervisors Held Pursuant to Section 190.006(2), Florida Statutes, and Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution 2024-02, Electing Certain Officers of the District, and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-02. Mr. Zook nominated the following slate:

Chair	Ryan Zook
Vice Chair	Anne Mize
Secretary	Craig Wrathell
Assistant Secretary	Ryan Hoppe
Assistant Secretary	Brian Janek
Assistant Secretary	Cody You
Assistant Secretary	Andrew Kantarzhi
Treasurer	Craig Wrathell
Assistant Treasurer	Jeffrey Pinder

No other nominations were made.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Hoppe, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-02, Electing Certain Officers of the District, as amended, and Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.

PART 2: CONSENT AGENDA (ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, BANKING MATTERS & BUDGETARY MATTERS)

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of the Following
Organizational Items:

Ms. Cerbone presented the following Consent Agenda Items:

- A. Resolution 2024-03, Appointing and Fixing the Compensation of the District Manager and Methodology Consultant; Providing an Effective Date**
- Agreement for District Management Services: Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC**
- B. Resolution 2024-04, Appointing District Counsel for the District, and Authorizing Compensation; and Providing for an Effective Date**
- Fee Agreement: Kutak Rock LLP**
- C. Resolution 2024-05, Designating a Registered Agent and Registered Office of the District, and Providing for an Effective Date**

Mr. Craig Wrathell will be the Registered Agent and the Boca Raton office of WHA will be the Registered Office.

D. Resolution 2024-06, Appointing an Interim District Engineer for the Varrea North Community Development District, Authorizing Its Compensation and Providing for an Effective Date

- Interim Engineering Services Agreement: Ardurra Group, Inc.

E. Authorization of Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services

F. Board Member Compensation: 190.006 (8), F.S.

Ms. Cerbone voiced her understanding that those who are not D.R. Horton employees will receive the allowable compensation for attending CDD meetings.

G. Resolution 2024-07, Designating the Primary Administrative Office and Principal Headquarters of the District and Providing an Effective Date

The Boca Raton office of WHA will be the Primary Administrative Office and the Principal Headquarters will be located within the City of Plant City, Florida.

H. Resolution 2024-08, Setting Forth the Policy of the District Board of Supervisors with Regard to the Support and Legal Defense of the Board of Supervisors and District Officers, and Providing for an Effective Date

- Authorization to Obtain General Liability and Public Officers' Insurance

I. Resolution 2024-09, Providing for the Public's Opportunity to Be Heard; Designating Public Comment Periods; Designating a Procedure to Identify Individuals Seeking to Be Heard; Addressing Public Decorum; Addressing Exceptions; and Providing for Severability and an Effective Date

J. Resolution 2024-10, Providing for the Appointment of a Records Management Liaison Officer; Providing the Duties of the Records Management Liaison Officer; Adopting a Records Retention Policy; and Providing for Severability and Effective Date

The District Manager's office will be the CDD's records custodian.

K. Resolution 2024-11, Granting the Chair and Vice Chair the Authority to Execute Real and Personal Property Conveyance and Dedication Documents, Plats and Other Documents Related to the Development of the District's Improvements; Approving the Scope and Terms of Such Authorization; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date

Documents will be subsequently presented for ratification at the next meeting.

L. Resolution 2024-12, Ratifying, Confirming and Approving the Recording of the Notice of Establishment for the District; and Providing for an Effective Date

M. Authorization of Request for Proposals (RFP) for Annual Audit Services

- **Designation of Board of Supervisors as Audit Committee**

N. Strange Zone, Inc., Quotation #M24-1024 for District Website Design, Maintenance and Domain Web-Site Design Agreement

O. ADA Site Compliance Proposal for Website Compliance Shield, Accessibility Policy and One (1) Annual Technological Audit

P. Resolution 2024-13, Approving the Florida Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date

Q. Memorandum Regarding E-Verify Requirements

R. Resolution 2024-29, Authorizing the Chairperson to Take the Necessary Actions to Award Certain Contracts, Agreements and Other Documents; and Providing an Effective Date

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda Items to be considered later in the meeting.

BANKING MATTERS

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of the Following Banking Matter:

A. Resolution 2024-14, Directing the District Manager to Appoint Signors on the Local Bank Account; and Providing an Effective Date

The Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Chair will be the authorized signors on the account.

BUDGETARY MATTERS

EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of the Following Budgetary Matters:

- 172 A. Resolution 2024-15, Adopting the Alternative Investment Guidelines for Investing
173 Public Funds in Excess of Amounts Needed to Meet Current Operating Expenses, in
174 Accordance with Section 218.415(17), Florida Statutes
- 175 B. Resolution 2024-16, Authorizing the Disbursement of Funds for Payment of Certain
176 Continuing Expenses Without Prior Approval of the Board of Supervisors; Authorizing
177 the Disbursement of Funds for Payment of Certain Non-Continuing Expenses Without
178 Prior Approval of the Board of Supervisors; Providing for a Monetary Threshold; and
179 Providing for an Effective Date
- 180 C. Resolution 2024-17, Adopting a Policy for Reimbursement of District Travel Expenses;
181 and Providing for Severability and an Effective Date
- 182 D. Resolution 2024-18, Adopting Prompt Payment Policies and Procedures Pursuant to
183 Chapter 218, Florida Statutes; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an
184 Effective Date
- 185 E. Resolution 2024-19, Adopting an Internal Controls Policy Consistent with Section
186 218.33, Florida Statutes; Providing an Effective Date
- 187

188 On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. You, with all in favor, the
189 Consent Agenda Items listed in the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Orders of
190 Business, with the exception of Item 6R, which will be adopted separately,
191 were approved and/or adopted and/or ratified and/or accepted.

192

193

194 **PART 3: NON-CONSENT AGENDA (ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, BANKING MATTERS &**
195 **BUDGETARY MATTERS)**

196

- 197 ■ Resolution 2024-29, Authorizing the Chairperson to Take the Necessary Actions to
198 Award Certain Contracts, Agreements and Other Documents; and Providing an
199 Effective Date

200 This item, previously Item 6R was presented out of order.

201 Ms. Cerbone stated that this item was pulled from the Consent Agenda Items to be
202 considered later in the meeting.

203 The following change was made to Resolution 2024-29:

4th Whereas Clause and where necessary: Change “Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000)” to “Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000)”

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Janek, with all in favor, the Resolution 2024-29, as amended, Authorizing the Chairperson to Take the Necessary Actions to Award Certain Contracts, Agreements and Other Documents; and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of the Following Non-Consent Organizational Matters:

I. Resolution 2024-20, Designating the Location of the Local District Records Office and Providing an Effective Date

This item was deferred.

II. Resolution 2024-21, To Designate Date, Time and Place of Public Hearing and Authorization to Publish Notice of Such Hearing for the Purpose of Adopting Rules of Procedure; and Providing an Effective Date

I. Rules of Procedure

II. Notices of Rule Development and Rulemaking

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-21.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Hoppe, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-21, To Designate Date, Time and Place of August 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610 for a Public Hearing and Authorization to Publish Notice of Such Hearing for the Purpose of Adopting Rules of Procedure; and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

III. Resolution 2024-22, Designating Dates, Times and Locations for Regular Meetings of the Board of Supervisors of the District for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-22. The following will be added to the Fiscal Year 2024 Meeting Schedule:

240 DATES: July 12, 2024; August 9, 2024 and September 13, 2024

241 TIME: 10:00 AM

242 LOCATION: The Offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida

243 33610

244

245 **On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. You, with all in favor, Resolution**
246 **2024-22, Designating Dates, Times and Locations for Regular Meetings of the**
247 **Board of Supervisors of the District for Fiscal Year 2023/2024, as amended, and**
248 **Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.**

249

250

251 **IV. Resolution 2024-23, Designating Dates, Times and Locations for Regular Meetings of**
252 **the Board of Supervisors of the District for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Providing for an**
253 **Effective Date**

254 Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-23. The following will be added to the Fiscal
255 Year 2025 Meeting Schedule:

256 DATES: October 11, 2024; November 8, 2024; December 13, 2024; January 10, 2025;
257 February 14, 2025; March 14, 2025; April 11, 2025; May 9, 2025; June 13, 2025; July 11, 2025;
258 August 9, 2025 and September 12, 2025

259 TIME: 10:00 AM

260 LOCATION: The Offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida

261 33610

262

263 **On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. You, with all in favor, Resolution**
264 **2024-23, Designating Dates, Times and Locations for Regular Meetings of the**
265 **Board of Supervisors of the District for Fiscal Year 2024/2025, as amended, and**
266 **Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.**

267

268

269 **V. Resolution 2024-24, Designated a Date, Time, and Location of a Public Hearing**
270 **Regarding the District's Intent to Use the Uniform Method for the Levy, Collection,**
271 **and Enforcement of Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments**

272 Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-24.

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On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. You, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-24, Designated a Date, Time, and Location of August 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610 for a Public Hearing Regarding the District's Intent to Use the Uniform Method for the Levy, Collection, and Enforcement of Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments, was adopted.

VI. Resolution 2024-25, Adopting Interim Joint Rules and Policies Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-25. She noted that, at the Varrea South CDD meeting, changes were made to these Interim Joint Rules and Policies Regarding Amenity Facilities and those changes apply for the Varrea North CDD, as well.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Hoppe, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-25, Adopting Interim Joint Rules and Policies Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District, as amended with the changes made at the Varrea South CDD, was adopted.

VII. Resolution 2024-26, Designate Date, Time and Place of Public Hearing and Authorization to Publish Notice of Such Hearing for the Purpose of Adopting Joint Rules, Policies, and Fees Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District; and Providing an Effective Date

I. Joint Rules, Policies and Fees Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District

II. Notices of Rule Development and Rulemaking

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-26. She noted that, at the Varrea South CDD meeting, changes were made to these Joint Rules, Policies and Fees Regarding Amenity Facilities and those changes apply for the Varrea North CDD, as well.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Hoppe, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-26, Designate August 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610 as the Date, Time and Place of Public Hearing and Authorization to Publish Notice of Such Hearing for the Purpose of Adopting Joint Rules, Policies, and Fees Regarding Amenity Facilities of Varrea South Community Development District and Varrea North Community Development District, as amended with the changes made at the Varrea South CDD; and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

BANKING MATTERS

TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of the Following Non-Consent Banking Matter(s):

- A. Resolution 2024-27, Designating a Public Depository for Funds of the District and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-27.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Janek, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-27, Designating Truist Bank as the Public Depository for Funds of the District and Providing an Effective Date, was adopted.

BUDGETARY MATTERS

ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of the Following Non-Consent Budgetary Matter(s):

- A. Resolution 2024-28, Approving a Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Setting a Public Hearing Thereon Pursuant to Florida Law; Addressing Transmittal, Posting and Publication Requirements; Addressing Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Cerbone presented Resolution 2024-28. She reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 budgets, which are Landowner-funded, with expenses funded as they are incurred.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Janek, with all in favor, Resolution 2024-28, Approving a Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Setting a Public Hearing Thereon Pursuant to

Florida Law on August 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610; Addressing Transmittal, Posting and Publication Requirements; Addressing Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.

B. Budget Funding Agreements

I. Fiscal Year 2023/2024

II. Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Ms. Cerbone presented the Budget Funding Agreements.

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. Janek, with all in favor, the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Funding Agreements, were approved.

TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Staff Reports

A. District Counsel: Kutak Rock LLP

Mr. Earlywine stated that certain Public Hearing notices might be published together.

B. District Engineer (Interim): Ardurra Group, Inc.

C. District Manager: Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC

The next meeting will be August 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at this location.

THIRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Board Members' Comments/Requests

There were no Board Members' comments or requests.

FOURTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Comments

No members of the public spoke.

FIFTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Adjournment

On MOTION by Mr. Zook and seconded by Mr. You, with all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

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Secretary/Assistant Secretary

Chair/Vice Chair

VARREA NORTH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

STAFF
REPORTS

VARREA NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT		
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 MEETING SCHEDULE		
LOCATION		
<i>The Offices of Forestar, 4042 Park Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33610</i>		
DATE	POTENTIAL DISCUSSION/FOCUS	TIME
July 12, 2024 CANCELED	Regular Meeting	10:00 AM
August 9, 2024	Public Hearing & Regular Meeting	10:00 AM
September 13, 2024	Regular Meeting	10:00 AM