

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this 31st day of January, 2017 by and between **THE CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA**, a municipality of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as "**DeFuniak Springs**", **THE CITY OF FREEPORT, FLORIDA**, a municipality of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as "**Freeport**", and **WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA**, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, hereinafter referred to as "**the County**".

WHEREAS, the County, DeFuniak Springs, and Freeport have met jointly and discussed the matters subject to this agreement, and reconvened at regular board meetings for the purposes of adopting this agreement; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Highway 331 is the major north-south corridor through Walton County, and directly connects the cities listed as parties hereto; and

WHEREAS, the current infrastructure improvement project that consists of widening U.S. Highway 331 to four lanes, and making related improvements is nearing completion; and

WHEREAS, growth, development, and redevelopment along this corridor is primed to occur and is crucial to the future of the parties hereto; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate growth, development, and redevelopment it is necessary to have an adequate water and sewer system in place along the U.S. Highway 331 corridor from the Choctawhatchee Bay to DeFuniak Springs current facilities providing these services to that service area; and

WHEREAS, the water and sewer systems of Freeport and DeFuniak serve this corridor and the surrounding area, and are in need of improvement and expansion to accommodate the anticipated growth, development, and redevelopment;

NOW, THEREFORE, acting pursuant to the authority granted in Section 163.01, Florida Statutes, the County, DeFuniak Springs, and Freeport agree as follows:

1. The expansion and improvement of the water and sewer system along the U.S. Highway 331 corridor from the Choctawhatchee Bay to DeFuniak Springs is the paramount concern and capital improvement project for Walton County and each individual governmental entity.

2. The pursuit of funding and available financing options for such a project is the top priority for all of the parties hereto.
3. To effectuate these intents the parties hereto agree to partner and work cooperatively in intent, communication, staffing, resource allocation, and in all ways and means necessary to bring this goal to fruition.
4. It is contemplated that an entity will need to be created to effectuate these goals, and that the parties hereto would amend or supplement this agreement to create such an entity in full form and concept at the time such creation is necessary.
5. Until such time as that entity is formally created, the Walton County Economic Development Alliance, as a local agency of which all three parties hereto are stakeholders, financial contributors, and holders of board seats, shall act as a liaison between the parties hereto and on the parties collective behalf to all needed entities and persons in pursuit of these common goals.
6. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, along with the Mayors of the respective Cities, or their designees, shall be the representatives of their respective entities.
7. This agreement shall be construed in accordance with the applicable laws of the state of Florida. If any provision of this agreement violated any statute or rule of the state of Florida, it is considered modified to confirm to that stature or rule of law.
8. Upon execution of this agreement and any subsequent amendments hereto shall be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit County of Walton County, Florida in accordance with Section 163.01, Florida Statures.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed the Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

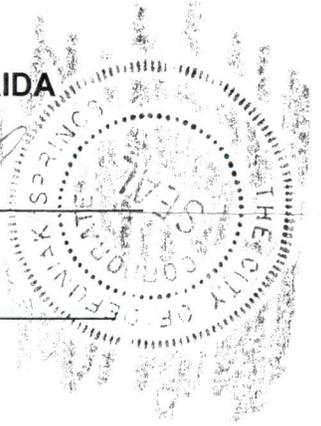
ATTEST:

Loretta A. Laird
City Clerk Loretta Laird

CITY OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA

By: Bob Campbell
Mayor Robert "Bob" Campbell

Date: January 31, 2017



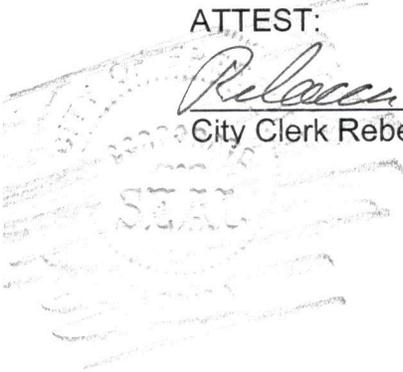
ATTEST:

Rebecca Podraza
City Clerk Rebecca Podraza

CITY OF FREEPORT, FLORIDA

By: Russ Barley
Mayor Russ Barley

Date: 2-2-2017



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

Alex Alford
Alex Alford, Clerk

By: Cecilia Jones
Chair Cecilia Jones

Date: 2-2-2017

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Walton County Legal Services

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CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY

27 2017
ALEX ALFORD
CLERK OF COURTS &
COUNTY COMPTROLLER
WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
[Signature]
Walton County, Florida