

AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

CITY OF JONESBORO

AND

THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

In Cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

RELATIVE TO

Implementation of Job 100666, Jonesboro SRTS I (2007) (hereinafter called "the project") as an Arkansas Safe Routes To School Program project.

WHEREAS, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users provides 100% Federal-aid funds for certain approved Arkansas Safe Routes To School Program projects, and

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro (hereinafter called "Sponsor") has expressed its desire to use Federal-aid funds for an eligible project, and

WHEREAS, the Sponsor knows of no legal impediments to the completion of the project, and

WHEREAS, it is specifically agreed between the parties executing this agreement that it is not intended by any of the provisions of any part of the agreement to create the public or any member thereof a third party beneficiary hereunder or to authorize anyone not a party to this agreement to maintain a suit or action for injuries or damage of any nature pursuant to the terms or provisions of this agreement, and

IT IS HEREBY AGREED that the Sponsor and the Department, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, will participate in a cooperative program for implementation of the project and will accept the responsibilities and assigned duties as described hereinafter.

THE SPONSOR WILL:

1. Hold harmless the Department from all suits, actions, or claims of any character brought because of any damages sustained on account of the operations or actions of the said Sponsor; or because of any act of commission, omission, neglect, or misconduct of said Sponsor; or from any claims or amounts arising out of any act of commission, omission, neglect, or misconduct of said Sponsor or that is recovered under any law, ordinance,

order, or decree. The Sponsor and the Department shall at all times use their best efforts to protect the immunity from civil suits afforded the State of Arkansas and its several Agencies, Commissions and Departments as mandated by Article 5, § 20 of the Constitution of Arkansas, Ark. Code Ann. §19-10-305, and the 11th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

2. Assure that its policies and practices with regard to its employees, any part of whose compensation is reimbursed from federal funds, will be without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin in compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 49 CFR Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation.
3. Grant the right of access to Sponsor's records pertinent to this project and the right to audit by the Department and Federal Highway Administration officials. Be responsible for the inspection and certification of all work in accordance with the plans and specifications for Job 100666 and to retain all records relating to such inspections, certifications, any billing statements, and any other files necessary to document the performance and completion of the work. Such records shall be retained in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR, Subtitle A, Part 18, Subpart C, Section 18.42 - Retention and access requirements for records.
4. Provide a copy of the registered deed or an appropriate certification, showing the Sponsor's clear and unencumbered title or access to any right-of-way to be used for the project.
5. Be responsible for 100% of all project costs incurred should the project not be completed as specified.
6. Be responsible for 100% of any and all expenditures which are declared non-participating in federal funds, including awards by the State Claims Commission.
7. Repay to the Department the federal share of the cost of any portion of this project if the Federal Highway Administration removes federal participation due to actions of the Sponsor, its agents, its employees, or its assigns, or the Sponsor's consultants or their agents. Such actions shall include, but are not limited to, federal non-participation arising from problems with design plans, construction, change orders, construction inspection, or contractor payment procedures.
8. Retain total, direct control over the project throughout the life of the improvements and **not, without prior approval from the Department:**
 - sell, transfer, or otherwise abandon any portion of the project;
 - change the intended use of the project as stated in the approved project application;
 - make significant alterations to any improvements constructed with Federal-aid funds;
 - or
 - cease maintenance or operation of the project due to the project's obsolescence.
9. Be responsible for satisfactory maintenance and operation of all improvements and for adopting regulations and ordinances as necessary to ensure this. Failure to adequately

maintain and operate the project in accordance with Federal-aid requirements may result in the Sponsor's repayment of federal funds and will result in withholding future Federal-aid.

10. Promptly notify the Department if the project is rendered unfit for continued use by an act of God or other cause.
11. Repay all federal funds if for any reason the Federal Highway Administration should determine this is necessary.
12. Complete all documentation necessary to obtain environmental, archeological, wetland, and other clearances and transmit all necessary documentation pertaining to these clearances to the Department.
13. Construct the project in accordance to plans and specifications approved by the Department prior to issuance by the Department of a Notice to Proceed.
14. Notify the Department upon completion of various phases of the work in order that a Department representative may review the project before any payments for such work are made to the Contractor.
15. Refrain from any project construction for which the Sponsor expects monetary reimbursement until a Notice to Proceed is received from the Department.
16. Include all applicable federally required documentation in any contract entered into with third parties for construction services. Subject documentation will be provided by the Department. All such third parties whose work totals more than \$20,000 must be licensed by the Contractors' Licensing Board to perform work in Arkansas.
17. Provide the Department with all necessary documentation including a resolution of support from the Sponsor's governing body, approval from the State Historic Preservation Officer, proof of ownership, and permits or rulings from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, or other applicable agencies. Funding for projects failing to provide this documentation will be withdrawn from this project and will be allocated to other eligible Safe Routes To School projects.
18. Conduct surveys of affected students to determine modes of school transportation and potential barriers to walking and bicycling. The survey devices will include a one-week classroom oriented session run by school faculty and a take-home survey to be completed with a child's parent. Completed surveys will be turned in to the Department for tabulation. Both devices will be provided by the Department.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL:

1. Be responsible for administering Federal-aid funds and for project approval and acceptance.

2. Review and approve environmental, archeological, wetland, or other necessary clearances.
3. Provide and / or review plans and specifications and bidding documentation for this project.
4. Conduct a final visual verification upon completion of the project.
5. Reimburse the Sponsor for all legitimate, documented costs in accordance with the final executed contract.
6. Provide the Sponsor with all applicable federal documentation to include in contracts entered into with third parties to provide construction services.
7. Provide Sponsors with school transportation surveys to be conducted by the Sponsor and tabulate results of the surveys.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that should the Sponsor fail to fulfill its responsibilities and assigned duties as related in this Agreement, such failure will disqualify the Sponsor from receiving future Federal-aid funds administered by the Department.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties thereto have executed this Agreement on this _____ day of _____ 20_____.