TOWN OF NORTON

[ENTER COMPANY NAME]

**HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT**

FOR THE SITING OF A MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT IN THE TOWN OF NORTON

This Host Community Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into this \_\_\_\_day of XXX, 20XX by and between[ENTER COMPANY NAME], a Massachusetts limited liability company with a principal office address of XXXX XXXX, MA (“the Company”) and the Town of Norton, a Massachusetts municipal corporation with a principal address of 70 East Main Street, Norton, Massachusetts 02766 (“the Town”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Company wishes to locate a licensed Marijuana XXXXX for the purposes of engaging in XXXX of adult use marijuana (the “Facility”) at XXXX XX XXX, Norton, Massachusetts 02766 in accordance with and pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to G.L. c.94G and 935 CMR 500.000, and such approvals as may be issued by the Town in accordance with its Zoning Bylaw and other applicable local regulations, as may be amended; and

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes this Facility will benefit the Town and its citizens through increased economic development, additional employment opportunities for residents, and a strengthened local tax base; and

 WHEREAS, the Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town’s road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, permitting and consulting services and public health, as well as unforeseen impacts, both quantifiable and unquantifiable on the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Company intends to provide certain benefits to the Town in the event that it receives the requisite licenses from the Cannabis Control Commission or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, to operate the Facility and receives all required local permits and approvals from the Town;

WHEREAS, the parties intend by this Agreement to satisfy the provisions of G.L. c.94G, Section 3(d), applicable to the operation of the Facility, such activities to be only done in accordance with the applicable state and local laws and regulations in the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company and the Town agree as follows:

1. **Recitals**

The Parties agree that the above Recitals are true and accurate and that they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

1. **Annual Payments**

In the event that the Company obtains the requisite license and/or approvals as may be required for the operation of the Facility, and receives any and all necessary and required permits and licenses of the Town, and at the expiration of any final appeal period related thereto, which permits and/or licenses allow the Company to locate, occupy and operate the Facility in the Town, then the Company agrees to provide the following Annual Payments:

1. Community Impact Fee

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town’s road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts, both quantifiable and unquantifiable, on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an Annual Community Impact Fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein.

1. APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE (a or b) TO REMAIN AS ITEM 1 BASED UPON THE TYPE OF ESTABLISHMENT
	1. Company shall annually pay a Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross sales from marijuana and marijuana product sales at the Facility. The term “gross sales” shall mean the total of all retail sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, and shall include but not be limited to all adult use marijuana and medical marijuana sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility directly to consumers or wholesale to other Marijuana Establishments.
	2. Company shall pay a Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the Gross Sale Price of all marijuana and marijuana-infused products cultivated or manufactured at the Facility (the “Community Impact Fee”). Gross Sales Price shall be defined as: a) with respect to sales of marijuana or marijuana products sold to third parties unrelated to the Company, the actual wholesale price paid by such parties; and b) with respect to sales of marijuana and marijuana products at Marijuana Retailers owned, operated or affiliated with the Company, the highest unit prices for products wholesaled to third parties in an arms-length transaction during the previous twelve months, calculated separately with respect to: i) flower; and ii) extracted products, as the case may be.
2. The Community Impact Fee shall be made annually, on or by the 20 days following the end of each calendar quarter of operation, commencing on the first day of the first full calendar month after the commencement of sales for any part of the Facility for either adult use marijuana or medical marijuana, and continuing for a period of five (5) years. The Facility shall be deemed to have commenced operation upon receipt of both an occupancy permit from the Building Commissioner and the issuance of a Final Certificate of Registration and/or a Final License from the CCC (“Commencement of Operations”). At least 90 days prior to the conclusion of each of the respective five-year terms, the Parties shall meet to negotiate in good faith the terms of a new Community Impact Fee as an Amendment to this Agreement. Provided, however, that if the Parties are unable to reach an agreement on a successor Community Impact Fee, the Community Impact Fee specified in Paragraph 2.A.1 of this Agreement shall remain in effect and shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above until such time as the Parties negotiate a successor Community Impact Fee.
3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments to offset costs related to road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public health and addiction services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.
4. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 94G, §3(d), a “community impact fee shall be reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the municipality by the operation of the marijuana establishment…” Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties hereby acknowledge the difficulty in computing actual Town costs and agree that impacts may result in municipal budgetary increases that cannot be separately identified or precisely quantified. Consequently, the Company agrees that the payments due under this Agreement are reasonably related to Town costs and waives any claims to the contrary.
5. Annual Community Benefit Payments

In addition to the Community Impact Fee, the Company shall additionally pay an Annual Community Benefit Payment in accordance with the following:

* 1. Annual Community Benefit Payments: For as long as the Facility is in operation, the Company shall pay to the Town the sum of $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ annually for purposes of funding substance abuse and mental health services in the Town, including, but not limited to school substance abuse and counseling services.
1. The Annual Community Benefit Payment shall be paid annually within 30 days following the end of each 12 months of operation, commencing on the first day of the first full calendar month after the Commencement of Operations for any part of the Facility used for either adult use or medical marijuana retail operations.
2. The parties hereby recognize and agree that the Annual Community Benefit Payment to be paid by the Company shall not be deemed an impact fee subject to the requirements or limitations set forth in G.L. c.94G, §3(d).
3. Additional Costs, Payments and Reimbursements
4. Permit and Connection Fees: The Company hereby acknowledges and accepts, and waives all rights to challenge, contest or appeal, the Town’s usual building permit fee and other permit application fees, sewer and water connection fees, and all other local charges and fees generally applicable to other commercial developments in the Town.
5. Facility Consulting Fees and Costs: In addition to the Community Impact Fee, the Company shall reimburse the Town for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to any land use applications concerning the Facility, negotiation of this and any other related agreements, and any review concerning the Facility, including planning, engineering, legal and/or environmental professional consultants and any related reasonable disbursements at standard rates charged by the above-referenced consultants in relation to the Facility.
6. Other Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for the actual costs incurred by the Town in connection with holding public meetings and forums substantially devoted to discussing the Facility and/or reviewing the Facility and for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to the monitoring and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to independent financial auditors and legal fees.
7. Police Officer Training: The Company shall reimburse the Town for the actual cost incurred for a local police officer to complete Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement training program and for certification and recertification of a Drug Recognition Expert.
8. Late Payment Penalty: The Company acknowledges that time is of the essence with respect to their timely payment of all funds required under Section 2 of this Agreement. In the event that any such payments are not fully made with ten (10) days of the date they are due; the Town shall provide the Company with written notice of such failure to make a timely payment. The Company shall have a ten (10) day period to cure such failure to make timely payment from the date of receipt of such notice. If the Company fails to make full payment within such cure period, the Company shall be required to pay the Town a late payment penalty equal to five percent (5%) of such required payments.
9. Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contributions

The Company, in addition to any funds specified herein, shall annually contribute to the Town’s Scholarship Committee an amount no less than $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The annual Scholarship Committee contribution shall be made annually beginning on the first anniversary following the Commencement of Operations and shall continue for the term of this Agreement.

1. Annual Reporting for Host Community Impact Fees and Benefit Payments

The Company shall submit annual financial statements to the Town within 30 days after the payment of its Community Impact Fee with a certification of its annual sales. The Company shall maintain books, financial records, and other compilations of data pertaining to the requirements of this Agreement in accordance with standard accounting practices and any applicable regulations or guidelines of the CCC. All records shall be kept for a period of at least seven (7) years. Upon request by the Town, the Company shall provide the Town with the same access to its financial records (to be treated as confidential, to the extent allowed by law) as it is required by the CCC and Department of Revenue for purposes of obtaining and maintaining a license for the Facility

During the term of this Agreement and for three years following the termination of this Agreement the Company agrees that in the event the Town is unable to verify the Company’s gross sales and the payment of the required amount of the annual Community Impact Fee, the Town may require the Company to have its financial records examined, copied and audited by an Independent Financial Auditor, the expense of which shall be borne by the Company, provided that such expense shall be offset against the annual payment of 3% of gross sales. The Independent Financial Auditor shall review the Company’s financial records for purposes of determining that the Annual Payments are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Such examination shall be made not less than thirty (30) days following written notice from the Town and shall occur only during normal business hours and at such place where said books, financial records and accounts are maintained. The Independent Financial Audit shall include those parts of the Company’s books and financial records which relate to the payment and shall include a certification of itemized gross sales for the previous calendar year, and all other information required to ascertain compliance with the terms of this Agreement. The independent audit of such records shall be conducted in such a manner as not to interfere with the Company’s normal business activities.

1. **Local Vendors and Employment**

To the extent such practice and its implementation are consistent with federal, state, and municipal laws and regulations, the Company will make every effort in a legal and non-discriminatory manner to give priority to local businesses, suppliers, contractors, builders and vendors in the provision of goods and services called for in the construction, maintenance and continued operation of the Facility when such contractors and suppliers are properly qualified and price competitive and shall use good faith efforts to hire Town residents.

1. **Local Taxes**

At all times during the Term of this Agreement, property, both real and personal, owned or operated by the Company shall be treated as taxable, and all applicable real estate and personal property taxes for that property shall be paid either directly by the Company or by its landlord and neither the Company nor its landlord shall object or otherwise challenge the taxability of such property and shall not seek a non-profit or agricultural exemption or reduction with respect to such taxes; however, nothing in this provision shall prohibit the Company from appealing any assessment made on its property.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) if real or personal property owned, leased or operated by the Company is determined to be non-taxable or partially non-taxable, or (ii) if the value of such property is abated with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be paid if assessed at fair cash value as defined in G.L. c. 59, §38, or (iii) if the Company is determined to be entitled or subject to exemption with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be due if not so exempted, then the Company shall pay to the Town an amount which when added to the taxes, if any, paid on such property, shall be equal to the taxes which would have been payable on such property at fair cash value and at the otherwise applicable tax rate, if there had been no abatement or exemption; this payment shall be in addition to the payment made by the Company under Section 2 of this Agreement.

1. **Security and Safety**

To the extent requested by the Town’s Police Department, and subject to the security and architectural review requirements of the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the Company shall work with the Town’s Police Department in reviewing and approving all security plans prior to the implementation and Commencement of Operations, including determining the placement of exterior security cameras, but in no event will the Police Department’s review override the requirements of the CCC.

The Company agrees to cooperate with the Police Department, including but not limited to periodic meetings to review operational concerns, security, delivery schedule and procedures, cooperation in investigations, immediate access and transfer of video footage from any video surveillance system of the establishment’s interior or exterior when so requested by the Police Department (which request may be made when the Police Department has a reason to believe such footage may be of assistance in an ongoing investigation related or non-related to the Establishment’s business) and communications with the Police Department of any suspicious activities at or in the immediate vicinity of the Facility, and with regard to any anti-diversion procedures to ensure that marijuana and marijuana products produced by the Facility are not being transferred to the illegal market or to minors.

If requested, the Company shall implement a comprehensive diversion prevention plan to prevent diversion of medical marijuana and marijuana products into the illicit market and to minors, such plan to be in place prior to the Commencement of Operations at the Facility. The Company shall present the diversion plan to the Police Department for its review and feedback and, to the extent required by the Police Department, work collaboratively to implement any reasonable changes, amendments or modifications to address local concerns.

The Company shall promptly report the discovery of the following to Town Police within 24 hours of the Company becoming aware of such event: diversion of marijuana; unusual discrepancies identified during inventory; theft; loss and any criminal action; unusual discrepancy in weight or inventory during transportation; any vehicle accidents, diversions, losses, or other reportable incidents that occur during transport; any suspicious act involving the sale, cultivation, distribution, processing, or production of marijuana by any person; unauthorized destruction of marijuana; any loss or unauthorized alteration of records related to marijuana, registered qualifying patients, personal caregivers, or dispensary agents; an alarm activation or other event that requires response by public safety personnel; failure of any security alarm system due to a loss of electrical power or mechanical malfunction that is expected to last longer than eight hours; and any other breach of security. The Licensee shall promptly copy the Town’s Chief of Police on any notifications and submissions it makes to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health pursuant to 105 CMR 725.110 (F) and/or 935 CMR 500.110(7) or other provisions of law relating to the Establishment (“Incident Reporting”).

The Licensee shall connect its alarm system to a third party monitoring system, comply with the alarm bylaw and notify the Town’s Chief of Police about said third party monitoring system. In the event of accidental activation of a panic alarm, the Licensee will notify the Police Department that the activation was accidental. The Police Department may conduct a check of the facility in the event of an accidental activation.

The Company agrees and acknowledges that periodic inspections of the Facility by the Town’s Police Department, Town’s Fire Department, Building Department and Board of Health to ensure compliance with local bylaws, rules and regulations shall be a condition of continued operation in Town and agrees to cooperate with the Town’s Police Department, Town’s Fire Department and Board of Health in providing access for scheduled and unscheduled inspections of the Facility.

1. **Community Impact Hearing Concerns**

The Company agrees to employ its best efforts to work collaboratively and cooperatively with its neighboring businesses and residents to establish written policies and procedures to address mitigation of any reasonable concerns or issues that may arise through its operation of the Facility, including, but not limited to any and all reasonable concerns or issues raised at the Company’s required Community Outreach Meeting relative to the operation of the Facility; said written policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time by the Company or at the request of the Selectmen, shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Town and shall be incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement, the same as if each were fully set forth herein.

1. **Additional Obligations**

The obligations of the Company and the Town recited herein are specifically contingent upon the Company obtaining a Final license and/or Final Certificate of Registration from the CCC, and the Company’s receipt of any and all necessary local approvals to locate, occupy, and operate the Facility in the Town.

This agreement does not affect, limit, or control the authority of Town boards, commissions, and departments to carry out their respective powers and duties to decide upon and to issue, or deny, applicable licenses, permits and other approvals under the statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth, the General and Zoning Bylaws of the Town, or applicable regulations of those boards, commissions, and departments or to enforce said statutes, bylaws and regulations. The Town, by entering into this Agreement, is not hereby required or obligated to issue such licenses, permits and approvals as may be necessary for the Facility to operate in the Town, or to refrain from enforcement action against the Company and/or the Facility for violation of the terms of said permits and approvals or said statutes, bylaws, and regulations.

1. **Traffic Management**

The Company shall at its own expense, employ a police detail, if deemed necessary by the Town, to manage traffic at the site. In the event that there is traffic queuing at the Facility which cannot be accommodated through existing parking and police detail, the Company shall provide off-site parking and shuttle service to the Facility to alleviate traffic issues.

1. **Electrical Usage and Renewable Energy Requirements**

The Company shall (a) satisfy all minimum energy efficiency and equipment standards established by the Cannabis Control Commission and meet all applicable environmental laws, regulations, permits, and other applicable approvals; (b) adopt and use best management practices as determined by the Cannabis Control Commission to reduce energy usage and consumption and engage in energy conservation; and (c) ensure that lighting power densities for cultivation spaces does not exceed an average of 36 watts per gross square foot of active and growing canopy.

The Company shall report to the Board of Selectmen annually on its energy use and shall include in its annual report a summary of its ongoing strategies to further reduce electrical demand.

1. **Water Consumption**

The Company shall follow the CCC’s Best Management Practices for Water Use. In addition the Company shall install water meters, conduct regular water audits to determine the amount and location of water use, and develop and implement a water savings strategy. The Company shall report to the Board of Selectmen annually on its water use, and shall include in its annual report a summary of its ongoing strategies to further reduce water use.

1. **Waste and Waste Water Controls**

The Company shall ensure that all recyclables and waste, including organic waste composed of or containing finished marijuana and marijuana products, shall be stored, secured, and managed in accordance with applicable state and local statutes, ordinances, and regulations and comply with the CCC’s Waste Management Requirements.

The Company shall exclusively use organic or natural cultivation processes to limit the risk of cultivation-related pollutants and contaminants from being discharged into surface water and groundwater. Company shall utilize cultivation processes such as hand watering of plants and use of dehumidification systems to ensure that there is no wastewater discharged as part of the cultivation at the Facility. Company agrees to consult with the Norton Water and Sewer Division regarding its cultivation methods and wastewater plan prior to commencing cultivation at the Establishment or in the event of a change of the Company’s cultivation practices that may result in wastewater discharge at the Establishment. The Company shall comply with all reasonable requests of the Norton Water and Sewer Division, including, but not limited to, testing requirements and tank holding requirements if necessary.

The Company will ensure that no fewer than two agents witness and document how the marijuana waste is disposed or otherwise handled (recycled, composted, etc.) in accordance with 935 CMR 500.105(12). When marijuana products or waste is disposed or handled, the Company will create and maintain a written or electronic record of the date, the type and quantity disposed or handled, the manner of disposal or other handling, the location of disposal or other handling, and the names of the two Company agents present during the disposal or other handling, with their signatures. The Company shall keep these records for at least three years.

1. **Odor Control Technology**

The Company shall ensure that odor from the Establishment is not released so as to constitute a nuisance to surrounding properties. The Company shall utilize a closed air system at the Establishment to not relive or introduce any outdoor air into the Establishment, nor allow any indoor air to escape. The Company shall employ odor control technology to remove odors and harmful volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the Establishment. The Company shall ensure proper maintenance of all odor mitigation equipment to ensure maximum efficiency.

In the event the Town receives three or more complaints from citizens representing separate households within a two-week period with respect to odor impacts in relation to the operation of the Establishment, the Company shall be required to meet with the Board of Selectmen, which may require that additional mitigation measures be taken, at the Company’s sole expense, to address the specific nature of the complaints.

Nothing set forth herein, shall limit the authority or jurisdiction of the Building Inspector, Board of Health, or any other local enforcement official from enforcing applicable state laws and regulations, the Town’s local bylaws and regulations, or the conditions of the Special Permit and/or Site Plan Approval, with respect to odor violations.

1. **Re-Opener/Review**

The Company or any “person or entity having direct or indirect control” in the Company, as defined in 935 CMR 500.02, shall be required to provide to the Town notice and a copy of any other Host Community Agreement entered into for any establishment in which the Company, or any person or entity having direct or indirect control in the Company, has any interest and which is licensed by the CCC as the same type of establishment as the entity governed by this agreement.

In the event the Company or any person or entity having direct or indirect control in the Company enters into a Host Community Agreement for a marijuana retail establishment, a marijuana cultivation establishment and/or a marijuana product manufacturing establishment with another municipality in the Commonwealth that contains financial terms resulting in payments of a Community Impact Fee or other payments totaling a higher percentage of gross sales for the same type of establishment than the Company agrees to provide the Town pursuant to this Agreement, then the parties shall reopen this Agreement and negotiate an amendment resulting in financial benefits to the Town equivalent or superior to those provided to the other municipality.

1. **Support**

TheTown agrees to submit to the CCC, or such other state licensing, registering or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the required certifications relating to the Company’s application for a license or certificate of registration to operate the Facility where such compliance has been properly met, but makes no representation or promise that it will act on any other license or permit request, including, but not limited to any zoning application submitted for the Facility, in any particular way other than by the Town’s normal and regular course of conduct and in accordance with its rules and regulations and any statutory guidelines governing them.

1. **Term**

Except as expressly provided herein, this Agreement shall take effect on the date set forth above, and shall be applicable for as long as the Company operates the Facility in the Town, with the exception of the Community Impact Fee as set forth in Section 2 herein, which shall be subject to the five (5) year statutory limitations of G.L. c.94G, §3(d).

In the event the Company has not secured a final license and certificate of registration from the CCC and all necessary local permits from the Town for the Facility and has not commenced the use/operations at the Facility within two years from the date this Agreement is signed, this Agreement shall expire and the Company shall be required to negotiate a new Host Community Agreement in order to operate the Facility within the Town. The Selectmen, in its discretion, may agree to an extension of the two-year expiration, for good cause, which shall include the time required to pursue or await the determination of an appeal of the special permit or other legal proceeding.

1. **Annual Reporting**

The Company shall file an annual written report with the Town in connection with its annual financial submissions each year for purposes of reporting on compliance with each of the terms of this Agreement and shall, at the request of the Selectmen, appear at a regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the Company’s Annual Report.

1. **Successors/Assigns**

The Company shall not assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer its rights nor delegate its obligations under this Agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent from the Town, not unreasonably withheld, and shall not assign any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town. This Agreement is binding upon the parties hereto, their successors, assigns and legal representatives. Notwithstanding the above, the Company agrees that in no event shall it seek to assign, sublet, transfer its rights or obligations under this Agreement or transfer a controlling interest in any License or Certificate of Registration it receives from the CCC for a period of five (5) years from the date of receipt. Any such assignment, sublet, transfer of rights or controlling interest by the Company within the first five years of Commencement of Operations will result in a liquidated damages penalty payment by the Company to the Town in the amount as set forth below:

* Year 1 - $500,000
* Year 2 - $400,000
* Year 3 - $300,000
* Year 4 - $200,000
* Year 5 - $100,000

Any consent by the Town herein shall be at the sole discretion of the Selectmen. In exercising its discretion, the Town may require that the assignee, transferee, or successor entity submit all the relevant information that was required by the Town in the initial RFQ and reserves the right to require such additional information as the Town deems necessary.

Events deemed an assignment include, without limitation: (i) Company’s final and adjudicated bankruptcy whether voluntary or involuntary; (ii) the Company’s takeover or merger by or with any other entity; (iii) the Company’s outright sale of assets and equity, majority stock sale to another organization or entity for which the Company does not maintain a controlling equity interest; (iv) or any other change in ownership or status of the Company; (v) any assignment for the benefit of creditors; and/or (vi) any other assignment not approved in advance in writing by the Town.

1. **Notices**

Any and all notices, consents, demands, requests, approvals or other communications required or permitted under this Agreement, shall be in writing and delivered by hand or mailed postage prepaid, return receipt requested, by registered or certified mail or by other reputable delivery service, and shall be deemed given when so delivered by hand, if so mailed, when deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, or, if sent by private overnight or other delivery service, when deposited with such delivery service.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| To Town: | Town Manager, Town of Norton70 East Main StreetNorton, MACopy to Town Counsel:KP Law, P.C.101 Arch Street, 12th FloorBoston, MA 02110 |
| To Company: | Copy to Counsel: |

1. **Severability**

If any term of condition of this Agreement or any application thereof shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be deemed affected thereby unless the Town would be substantially or materially prejudiced. For the purposes hereof, substantial or material prejudice shall include, without limitation, reduction or termination of the payments required hereunder. Further, the Company agrees that it will not challenge, in any jurisdiction, the enforceability of any provision included in this Agreement; and to the extent the validity of this Agreement is challenged by the Company in a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall pay for all reasonable fees and costs incurred by the Town in enforcing this Agreement.

1. **Governing Law**

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Company submits to the jurisdiction of any of its appropriate courts for the adjudication of disputes arising out of this Agreement.

1. **Entire Agreement**

This Agreement, including all documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the entire integrated agreement between the Company and the Town with respect to the matters described herein. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, negotiations and representations, either written or oral, and it shall not be modified or amended except by a written document executed by the parties hereto.

1. **Amendments/Waiver**

Amendments, or waivers of any term, condition, covenant, duty or obligation contained in this Agreement may be made only by written amendment executed by all signatories to the original Agreement, prior to the effective date of the amendment.

1. **Headings**

The article, section, and/or paragraph headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only, and shall in no way affect, modify, define or be used in interpreting the text of this Agreement.

1. **Counterparts**

This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts all of which taken together, each of which is an original, and all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument, and any party hereto may execute this Agreement by signing one or more counterparts.

1. **Signatures**

Facsimile signatures affixed to this Agreement shall have the same weight and authority as an original signature.

1. **No Joint Venture**

The Parties hereto agree that nothing contained in this Agreement or any other documents executed in connection herewith is intended or shall be construed to establish the Town, or the Town and any other successor, affiliate or corporate entity as joint ventures or partners.

1. **Nullity**

This Agreement shall be null and void in the event that the Company does not locate the Facility in the Town or relocates the Facility out of the Town. Further, in the case of any relocation out of the Town, the Company agrees that an adjustment of Annual Payments due to the Town hereunder shall be calculated based upon the period of occupation of the Facility within the Town, but in no event shall the Town be responsible for the return of any funds provided to it by the Company.

1. **Indemnification**

The Company shall indemnify, defend, and hold the Town harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities, actions, causes of actions, defenses, proceedings and/or costs and expenses, including attorney’s fees, brought against the Town, their agents, departments, officials, employees, insurers and/or successors, by any third party arising from or relating to the development of the Property and/or Facility. Such indemnification shall include, but shall not be limited to, all reasonable fees and reasonable costs of attorneys and other reasonable consultant fees and all fees and costs (including but not limited to attorneys and consultant fees and costs) shall be at charged at regular and customary municipal rates, of the Town’s choosing, incurred in defending such claims, actions, proceedings or demands. The Company agrees, within thirty (30) days of written notice by the Town, to reimburse the Town for any and all costs and fees incurred in defending itself with respect to any such claim, action, proceeding or demand.

1. **Third-Parties**

Nothing contained in this agreement shall create a contractual relationship with or a cause of action in favor of a third party against either the Town or the Company.

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

TOWN OF NORTON THE COMPANY

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman President

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Michael Flaherty, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

John Conway, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mary Steele

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Renee Deley