

NIAGARA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

AND

NEIGHBORHOOD REDEVELOPMENT LLC

PAYMENT-IN-LIEU-OF-TAX AGREEMENT

Relating to the Premises located at
263 East Avenue
in the City of Lockport,
Niagara County, New York

Affected Tax Jurisdictions:
Niagara County
City of Lockport
Lockport City School District

Tax Map No. 109.49-2-59

Dated as of April 1, 2020

PAYMENT-IN-LIEU-OF-TAX AGREEMENT

THIS PAYMENT-IN-LIEU-OF-TAX AGREEMENT (the "PILOT Agreement"), dated as of the 1st day of April, 2020, is by and between the **NIAGARA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**, a public benefit corporation duly existing under the laws of the State of New York with its offices at 6311 Inducon Corporate Drive, Suite 1, Sanborn, New York 14132 (the "Agency") and **NEIGHBORHOOD REDEVELOPMENT LLC**, a limited liability company formed and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with offices located at 263 East Avenue, Lockport New York 14094 (the "Company").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Agency was created by Chapter 569 of the Laws of 1972 of the State of New York pursuant to Title I of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (collectively, the "Act") as a body corporate and politic and as a public benefit corporation of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Company has requested the Agency's assistance with a certain project (the "Project") consisting of: (A) the acquisition or retention by the Agency of fee title to, or a leasehold interest in, a parcel of land located at 263 East Avenue in the City of Lockport, Niagara County, New York (the "Land"); (B) the renovation of the existing building located on the Land, into a multi-use building containing commercial, office and retail space, along with three (3) market-rate apartments ("Improvements"); and (C) the acquisition and installation in and around the Improvements of certain items of machinery, equipment and other tangible personal property (the "Equipment" and collectively with the Land and the Improvements, the "Facility").

WHEREAS, in order to induce the Company to acquire, construct and equip the Facility, the Agency is willing to take a leasehold interest in the land, improvements and personal property constituting the Facility and lease said land, improvements and personal property back to the Company pursuant to the terms and conditions of a certain Leaseback Agreement, dated on or about the date hereof (the "Leaseback Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 874(1) of the Act, the Agency is exempt from the payment of taxes imposed upon real property and improvements owned by it or under its jurisdiction, control or supervision, other than special ad valorem levies, special assessments and service charges against real property which are or may be imposed for special improvements or special district improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Agency and the Company deem it necessary and proper to enter into an agreement making provisions for payments-in-lieu-of-taxes by the Company to the Agency for the benefit of Niagara County (the "County"), the City of Lockport (the "City"), the Lockport City School District (the "School District" and, collectively with the County and City, the "Affected Tax Jurisdictions").

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants herein contained, and other good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, it is mutually agreed as follows:

Section I - Payment in lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes:

Section 1.1 A. Subject to the completion and filing by the taxable status date (**March 1, 2021**) (the "Taxable Status Date") of New York State Form RP-412-a Application For Real Property Tax Exemption (the "Exemption Application") under Section 412-a of the New York State Real Property Tax Law and Section 874 of the Act and the approval of the Exemption Application by the appropriate assessors or Board of Assessment Review, the Facility shall be exempt from Real Estate Taxes for the periods set forth in Section 1.3 hereof. For purposes of the foregoing "Real Estate Taxes" means all general levy real estate taxes levied against the Facility by the City, County and School. The Company shall provide to the Agency with the information necessary for the completion and filing of the Exemption Application and shall provide such additional information and take such actions as are required by the appropriate assessors or Board of Assessment Review to process and approve the Exemption Application. Notwithstanding anything contained herein or in the Leaseback Agreement to the contrary, in the event the exemption from Real Estate Taxes is denied for any reason, the Company shall pay (and hereby agrees to pay) all Real Estate Taxes levied upon the Facility as they become due. After giving written notice to the Agency, the Company may in good faith contest the denial of the Exemption Application, provided that (i) the overall operating efficiency of the Facility is not impaired and the Facility continues to qualify as a "project" under the Act; (ii) neither the Facility nor any part of or interest in it would be in any danger of being sold, forfeited or lost; or (iii) neither the Company nor the Agency, as a result of such contest, shall be in any danger of any civil or criminal liability. The Company hereby waives any claim or cause of action against the Agency, and releases the Agency from any liability to the Company, arising from the denial of an exemption from Real Estate Taxes except to the extent that such denial results solely from the failure of the Agency to file the Exemption Application with the appropriate assessors or Board of Assessment Review by the Taxable Status Date.

B. Payee. As long as the Agency has fee title to or leasehold or other interest in the Facility, the Company agrees to pay annually to the Affected Tax Jurisdictions as a payment-in-lieu-of-taxes, on or before October 1 of each calendar year for School taxes and on or before January 1 of each calendar year for County and City taxes (collectively, the "Payment Date"), commencing on October 1, 2021 and January 1, 2022, respectively, an amount equal to the PILOT Payment, as described on Schedule A attached hereto.

The parties agree and acknowledge that payments made hereunder are to obtain revenues for public purposes, and to provide a revenue source that the Affected Tax Jurisdictions would otherwise lose because the subject parcels are not on the tax rolls.

1.2 Allocation. To the extent the Agency receives any PILOT Payment, the Agency shall remit to the Affected Tax Jurisdictions amounts received hereunder within thirty (30) days of receipt of said payment and shall allocate said payments among the Affected Tax Jurisdictions in the same proportion as ad valorem taxes would have been allocated but for the Agency's involvement, unless the Affected Tax Jurisdictions have consented in writing to a specific allocation.

1.3 Tax Rates. For purposes of determining the allocation of the Total PILOT Payment among the Affected Tax Jurisdictions, the Agency shall use the last tax rate utilized for levy of taxes by each such jurisdiction. For County, City and special district purposes, the tax rates used to determine the allocation of the Total PILOT Payment shall be the tax rates relating to the calendar year which includes the PILOT payment due date. For school district purposes, the tax rates used to determine the PILOT payment shall be the rate relating to the school year which includes the PILOT payment due date.

1.4 Valuation of Future Additions to the Facility: If there shall be a future addition to the Facility constructed or added in any manner after the date of this PILOT Agreement, other than the Project, the Company shall notify the Agency of such future addition ("Future Addition"). The notice to the Agency shall contain a copy of the application for a building permit, plans and specifications, and any other relevant information that the Agency may thereafter request. Upon the earlier of substantial completion, or the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for any such Future Addition to the Facility, the Company shall become liable for payment of an increase in the Total PILOT Payment. The Agency shall notify the Company of any proposed increase in the Total PILOT Payment related to such Future Addition. If the Company shall disagree with the determination of assessed value for any Future Additions made by the Agency, then and in that event that valuation shall be fixed by a court of competent jurisdiction. Notwithstanding any disagreement between the Company and the Agency, the Company shall pay the increased PILOT payment until a different Total PILOT Payment shall be established. If a lesser Total Annual Payment is determined in any proceeding or by subsequent agreement of the parties, the Total PILOT Payment shall be re-computed and any excess payment shall be refunded to the Company or, in the Agency's sole discretion, such excess payment shall be applied as a credit against the next succeeding PILOT payment(s).

1.5 Period of Benefits. The tax benefits provided for herein should be deemed to include (i) the **2021/2022** School tax year through the **2030/2031** School tax year, and (ii) the **2022** County and City tax year through the **2031** County and City tax year. This PILOT Agreement shall expire on **December 31, 2031**; provided, however, the Company shall pay the **2022/2023** School tax bills and the **2023** County and City tax bills on the dates and in the amounts as if the Agency were not in title on the tax status date with respect to said tax years. In no event shall the Company be entitled to receive tax benefits relative to the Facility for more than the periods provided for herein, unless the period is extended by amendment to this PILOT Agreement executed by both parties after any applicable public hearings. The Company agrees

that it will not seek any tax exemption for the Facility which could provide benefits for more than the periods provided for herein and specifically agrees that the exemptions provided for herein, to the extent actually received (based on the number of lease years elapsed), supersede and are in substitution of the exemptions provided by Section 485-b of the New York Real Property Tax Law ("RPTL"). It is hereby agreed and understood that the Affected Tax Jurisdictions can rely upon and enforce the above waiver to the same extent as if they were signatories hereto.

Section II - Special Assessments and Service Charges.

2.1 Special district charges, special assessments, and special ad valorem levies (specifically including but not limited to fire district charges), and pure water charges and sewer charges are to be paid in full in accordance with normal billing practices.

Section III - Transfer of Facility.

3.1 In the event that the Facility is transferred from the Agency to the Company (the lease/leaseback agreements are terminated), and the Company is ineligible for a continued tax exemption under some other tax incentive program, or the exemption results in a payment to the Affected Tax Jurisdictions in excess of the payment described in Section I herein, or this PILOT Agreement terminates and the property is not timely transferred back to the Company, the Company agrees to pay no later than the next tax lien date (plus any applicable grace period), to each of the Affected Tax Jurisdictions, an amount equal to the taxes and assessments which would have been levied on the Facility if the Facility had been classified as fully taxable as of the date of transfer or loss of eligibility of all or a portion of the exemption described herein or date of termination.

Section IV - Assessment Challenges.

4.1 The Company shall have all of the rights and remedies of a taxpayer as if and to the same extent as if the Company were the owner of the Facility, with respect to any proposed assessment or change in assessment with respect to the Facility by any of the Affected Tax Jurisdictions and likewise shall be entitled to protest before and be heard by the appropriate assessors or Board of Assessment Review, and shall be entitled to take any and all appropriate appeals or initiate any proceedings to review the validity or amount of any assessment or the validity or amount of any tax equivalent provided for herein.

4.2 The Company shall have all of the rights and remedies of a taxpayer with respect to any tax, service charge, special benefit, ad valorem levy, assessment, or special assessment or service charge in lieu of which the Company is obligated to make a payment pursuant to this PILOT Agreement, as if and to the same extent as if the Company were the owner of the Facility.

4.3 The Company shall (i) cause the appropriate real estate tax assessment office and tax levy officers to assess the Facility and apply tax rates to the respective assessments as if the Facility were owned by the Company, (ii) file any accounts or tax returns required by the appropriate real estate tax assessment office and tax levy officers.

Section V - Changes in Law.

5.1 To the extent the Facility is declared to be subject to taxation or assessment by an amendment to the Act, other legislative change, or by final judgment of a Court of competent jurisdiction, the obligations of the Company hereunder shall, to such extent, be null and void.

Section VI - Events of Default and Remedies.

6.1 The following shall constitute "Events of Default" hereunder. The failure by the Company to: (i) make the payments described in Section I within thirty (30) days of the Payment Date (the "Delinquency Date"); (ii) make any other payments described herein on or before the last day of any applicable cure period within which said payment can be made without penalty; or (iii) the occurrence and continuance of any events of default under the Leaseback Agreement after any applicable cure periods. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default hereunder, in addition to any other right or remedy the Agency and/or the Affected Tax Jurisdictions may have at law or in equity, the Agency and/or Affected Tax Jurisdictions may, immediately and without further notice to the Company (but with notice to the Agency with respect to actions maintained by the Affected Tax Jurisdictions) pursue any action in the courts to enforce payment or to otherwise recover directly from the Company any amounts so in default. The Agency and the Company hereby acknowledge the right of the Affected Tax Jurisdictions to recover directly from the Company any amounts so in default pursuant to Section 874(6) of the General Municipal Law and the Company shall immediately notify the Agency of any action brought, or other measure taken, by any Affected Tax Jurisdiction to recover any such amount.

6.2 If payments pursuant to Section I herein are not made by the Delinquency Dates, or if any other payment required to be made hereunder is not made by the last day of any applicable cure period within which said payment can be made without penalty, the Company shall pay penalties and interest as follows. With respect to payments to be made pursuant to Section I herein, if said payment is not received by the Delinquency Date defined in Section 6.1 herein, Company shall pay, in addition to said payment, (i) a late payment penalty equal to five percent (5%) of the amount due and (ii) for each month, or any part thereof, that any such payment is delinquent beyond the first month, interest on the total amount due plus the late payment penalty, in an amount equal to one percent (1%) per month. With respect to all other payments due hereunder, if said payment is not paid within any applicable cure period, Company shall pay, in addition to said payment, the greater of the applicable penalties and interest or penalties and interest which would have been incurred had payments made hereunder been tax payments to the Affected Tax Jurisdictions.

6.3 Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default hereunder, the liability of the Company hereunder shall be all amounts due pursuant to Section I hereof through, but not including, the date on which the Facility is no longer exempt from Real Estate Taxes together with all other amounts due pursuant to Section 6.2 hereof and clause (a) of Section 7 of the PILOT Mortgage (as hereinafter defined).

6.4 Subject to the rights of the mortgagees set forth in Section VIII below, whenever any Event of Default under Section 6.1 hereof shall have occurred and be continuing with respect to this PILOT Agreement, the remedies of the Agency shall be limited to the rights hereunder, under the Leaseback Agreement and under the PILOT Mortgage, subject to the rights of any lenders to cure any such Event of Default as set forth in Section VIII hereof.

Section VII - Assignment.

7. No portion of any interest in this PILOT Agreement may be assigned by the Company, nor shall any person other than the Company be entitled to succeed to or otherwise obtain any benefits of the Company hereunder without the prior written consent of the Agency, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

Section VIII – Rights of Mortgagees.

8.1 For the purposes of this PILOT Agreement, the term “mortgages” shall include any mortgage, leasehold mortgage, purchase money mortgage or other security instrument or instruments encumbering the Facility, such as, without limitation, mortgages, deeds of trust, financing statements, assignments of leases, rents and/or profits, security agreements and other documentation which a mortgage may require, and the terms “holder of a mortgage” and “mortgage” shall mean the secured party under any of the foregoing instruments. ANY MORTGAGE SHALL BE A LIMITED, NON-RECOURSE OBLIGATION OF THE AGENCY AND SHALL IN NO EVENT REQUIRE THE PAYMENT BY THE AGENCY TO ANY PARTY OF ANY AMOUNT INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PRINCIPAL, INTEREST OR ANY OTHER AMOUNT SECURED BY ANY SUCH MORTGAGE.

8.2 So long as the mortgage shall remain unsatisfied of record or until written notice of satisfaction is given by the Mortgagee to the Agency, the following provisions shall, subject to and unless otherwise prohibited by all applicable law including, but not limited to, the Act, apply (in respect of such mortgage and of any other mortgages which also comply with the above):

(a) There shall be no renewal, cancellation, surrender, acceptance of surrender, amendment or modification of this PILOT Agreement, or the PILOT Mortgage by joint action of the Agency and the Company along, without, in each case, the prior consent in writing of the Mortgagee, nor shall any merger result from the acquisition by, or devolution upon, any one entity of any fee and/or leasehold estates in the Facility.

(b) The Agency shall, at no cost to the Agency and at the sole cost of the Company, upon receipt of any notice or other communication, whether of default or any other matter, simultaneously serve a copy of such notice upon the Mortgagee, and no such notice of other communication to the Company shall be deemed received unless a copy is so served upon the Mortgagee in the manner provided in this PILOT Agreement for the giving of notice.

(c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, if the Agency serves a notice of default upon the Company, it shall, at no cost to the Agency and at the sole cost of the Company, also serve a copy of such notice upon the Mortgagee at the address set forth in Section 9.2 hereof.

(d) In the event of any default by the Company under this PILOT Agreement, the Mortgagee shall have fifteen (15) days for a monetary default and thirty (30) days in the case of any other default, after notice to the Mortgagee of such default (which notice shall be given in the manner set forth in Section 9.2 below), to cure or to cause to be cured the default complained of and the Agency shall accept such performance by or at the instigation of the Mortgagee as if same had been done by the Company. Each notice of default given by the Agency will state the amounts of any payments herein provided that are then claimed to be in default.

(e) If, before the expiration of the Mortgagee's cure period as provided in paragraph (3) above, the Mortgagee shall have notified the Agency in writing of its agreement to pay or cause to be paid, within fifteen (15) days after the expiration of mortgagor's cure period, all payments in this PILOT Agreement provided for and then in default, and/or in the case of non-monetary defaults, shall have agreed within forty-five (45) days to commence or cause to be commenced the cure of such non-monetary defaults, if any are then in default (other than defaults which by their nature cannot be cured), and shall prosecute or cause the prosecution of same to completion with reasonable diligence (collectively, the "extended cure period"), then the Agency shall not exercise any of its rights and remedies hereunder or under the PILOT Mortgage until expiration of the extended cure period.

(f) The Company (and not the Agency) shall give the Mortgagee notice of any arbitration or other proceeding or dispute by or between the parties hereto, and shall have the right to intervene therein and be made a party to any such arbitration or other proceeding.

(g) Except where the Mortgagee has succeeded to the interest of the Company in the Facility or assumed the right to cure as provided in this Section VIII, no liability for any payments to be made pursuant to this PILOT Agreement or the performance of any of the Company's covenants and agreements under this PILOT Agreement shall attach to or be imposed upon the Mortgagee, and if the Mortgagee or its nominee or designee succeeds to the interest of the Company in the Facility, all of the obligations and liabilities of the Mortgagee or its nominee or designee shall be limited to such entity's interest in the Facility and as otherwise imposed by this PILOT Agreement and shall cease and terminate upon assignment of this PILOT Agreement (any such further assignment to be approved by the Agency).

(h) Notwithstanding any provision of this PILOT Agreement, the Lease Agreement, the Leaseback Agreement or the PILOT Mortgage to the contrary, foreclosure of a mortgage or any sale of the Company's interest in this PILOT Agreement and/or the Facility in connection with a foreclosure, whether by judicial proceedings, or any conveyance of the Company's interest in this PILOT Agreement and/or the Facility to the Mortgagee or its nominee or designee by virtue of or in lieu of foreclosure or other appropriate proceedings, or any conveyance of the Company's interest in this PILOT Agreement and/or the Facility by the Mortgagee or its

nominee or designee, shall not require the consent or approval of the Agency and shall not be a default or Event of Default hereunder.

Section IX -- Miscellaneous.

9.1 This PILOT Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts each of which shall be deemed an original but which together shall constitute a single instrument.

9.2 All notices, claims and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to be duly given if personally delivered or mailed first class, postage prepaid, as follows:

To the Agency: Niagara County Industrial Development Agency
6311 Inducon Corporate Drive, Suite One
Sanborn, New York 14132-9099
Attn: Executive Director

With Copy To: Gabriele & Berrigan, P.C.
800 Main Street, 4th Floor
Niagara Falls, New York 14302
Attention: Mark J. Gabriele, Esq.

To the Company: Neighborhood Redevelopment LLC
263 East Avenue
Lockport, New York 14094
Attn: Kevin Jordan, Managing Member

With Copy To: David Weir, Esq.
2420 Sweet Home Road, Suite 145
Amherst, New York 14228

or at such other address as any party may from time to time furnish to the other party by notice given in accordance with the provisions of this Section. All notices shall be deemed given when mailed or personally delivered in the manner provided in this Section.

9.3 This PILOT Agreement shall be governed by, and all matters in connection herewith shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York applicable to agreements executed and to be wholly performed therein and the parties hereto hereby agree to submit to the personal jurisdiction of the federal or state courts located in Niagara County, New York.

9.4 Notwithstanding any other term or condition contained herein, all obligations of the Agency hereunder shall constitute a special obligation payable solely from the revenues and other monies, if any, derived from the Facility and paid to the Agency by the Company. Neither member of the Agency nor any person executing this PILOT Agreement on its behalf shall be liable personally under this PILOT Agreement. No recourse shall be had for the payment of the principal or interest on amounts due hereunder or for any claim based upon or in respect of any modification of or supplement hereto against any past, present or future member, officer, agent, servant, or employee, as such, of the Agency, or of any successor or political subdivision, either directly or through the Agency or any such successor, all such liability of such members, officer, agents, servants and employees being, to the extent permitted by law, expressly waived and released by the acceptance hereof and as part of the consideration for the execution of this PILOT Agreement.

9.5 The Company hereby agrees that it shall, as security for its obligations hereunder, grant to the Affected Tax Jurisdictions a mortgage lien on the Facility pursuant to a certain PILOT Mortgage, dated as of April 1, 2020, from the Company and the Agency to the Agency, for the benefit of the Affected Tax Jurisdictions (the "PILOT Mortgage"), which PILOT Mortgage shall constitute a priority mortgage lien on and security interest in the Facility.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

[Signature Page to PILOT Agreement]

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

NIAGARA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

By: 
Name: Susan C, Langdon
Its: Executive Director

NEIGHBORHOOD REDEVELOPMENT LLC

By: 
Name: Kevin Jordan
Title: Managing Member

SCHEDULE A

**TO PILOT AGREEMENT, DATED AS OF APRIL 1, 2020 BETWEEN
NIAGARA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
AND
NEIGHBORHOOD REDEVELOPMENT LLC**

Pursuant to the terms of Section 1.2 of this PILOT Agreement, Total PILOT Payment shall mean an amount per annum as follows:

<u>PILOT Year</u>	<u>School Tax Year</u>	<u>County and City Tax Year</u>	<u>Percentage of Normal Tax</u>
Year 1	2021/22	2022	20%
Year 2	2022/23	2023	25%
Year 3	2023/24	2024	30%
Year 4	2024/25	2025	35%
Year 5	2025/26	2026	40%
Year 6	2026/27	2027	45%
Year 7	2027/28	2028	50%
Year 8	2028/29	2029	55%
Year 9	2029/30	2030	60%
Year 10	2030/31	2031	65%
Year 11 And thereafter	2031/32	2032	100%

The payments in lieu of taxes to be paid by the Company to the Affected Tax Jurisdiction pursuant to the terms of this Payment-in-Lieu-of-Tax Agreement shall be computed separately for each Affected Tax Jurisdiction as follows:

1. First, determine the amount of general taxes and general assessments (hereinafter referred to as the "Normal Tax") which would be payable to each Affected Tax Jurisdiction if the Land was owned by the Company and not the Agency by multiplying the (a) Assessed Value of the Land as determined by the appropriate Assessor by (b) the tax rate or rates of such Affected Tax Jurisdiction that would be applicable to the Land if the Land was owned by the Company and not the Agency.
2. In each tax year during the term of this PILOT Agreement, commencing on the first tax year following the date on which the Land shall be assessed as exempt on the assessment roll of any Affected Tax Jurisdiction, the amount payable by the Company to the Affected Tax Jurisdiction as a payment in lieu of property tax with respect to the Land shall be an amount equal to 100% of the Normal Tax due each Affected Tax Jurisdiction with respect to the Land for such tax year.

3. Next, determine the Normal Tax which would be payable to each Affected Tax Jurisdiction if the Improvements and any portion of the Equipment assessable as real property were owned by the Company and not the Agency by multiplying the (a) Assessed Value of the Improvements and such assessable Equipment as determined by the appropriate Assessor by (b) the tax rate or rates of such Affected Tax Jurisdiction that would be applicable to the Improvements and such assessable Equipment if the Improvements and such assessable Equipment was owned by the Company and not the Agency.
4. In each tax year during the term of this PILOT Agreement, commencing on the first tax year following the date on which the Improvements and such assessable Equipment shall be assessed as exempt on the assessment roll of any Affected Tax Jurisdiction, the amount payable by the Company to the Affected Tax Jurisdiction as a payment in lieu of property tax with respect to the Improvements and such assessable Equipment shall be an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the Normal Tax due each Affected Tax Jurisdiction with respect to the Improvements and such assessable Equipment for such tax year, as shown in the table.
5. The Total PILOT Payment to be made by the Company to the Affected Tax Jurisdictions shall equal the sum of Number (2) and Number (4), above, for each tax year during the term of this PILOT Agreement.