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WHEREAS, Little Rock, Ark. Resolution 16,438 (October 2, 2024) authorized funding and execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the establishment and operation of a mobile grocery store to address food access disparities within designated food desert areas; and,

WHEREAS, the mobile grocery store project is intended to provide an alternative to traditional brick-and-mortar grocery stores by delivering fresh produce and non-perishable food items directly to neighborhoods that lack adequate grocery access; and,

WHEREAS, during the initial 12-month project period, significant progress has been completed, including the purchase of a heavy-duty truck and a specially designed forty-four-foot (44') gooseneck trailer, as well as the hiring of operational staff; and,

WHEREAS, there remains a balance of Three Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Ninety-Two and 00/100 Dollars (\$336,092.00) from the previously authorized amount under Resolution 16,438; and,

WHEREAS, approval of this amendment will allow the mobile grocery store project to have at least one (1) additional year of operations; and,

WHEREAS, the University District Development Corporation (UDDC) will operate the mobile grocery store by loading fresh produce and non-perishable items daily into a specially designed trailer, which will be transported by a heavy-duty truck to designated sites for public purchase; and,

WHEREAS, the mobile grocery store will serve designated locations within Wards One (1), Two (2), Six (6), and Seven (7); and,

WHEREAS, the bid-scoring team selected the University District Development Corporation to lead the operation of the mobile grocery store following a competitive procurement process; and,

WHEREAS, two (2) proposals were received in response to Request for Proposals (RFP) Bid Number 2527; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to amend Resolution 16,438 and the existing MOU to continue and expand food access services in identified food desert areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. Little Rock, Ark. Resolution 16,438 (October 2, 2024) is hereby amended to authorize an additional one (1) year of mobile grocery store operations by the University District Development Corporation in the amount of Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000.00).

Section 2. The amended MOU shall be for a term of one (1) year. Upon mutual agreement of the parties, the contract may be extended for up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods, or any portion thereof, subject to the availability of funds and required approvals.

Section 3. Funds for this amendment shall be provided from the Food Desert Special Project Fund (108129-S10G065), including the remaining balance of previously authorized funds.

Section 4. The University District Development Corporation shall continue to operate a mobile grocery store serving Wards One (1), Two (2), Six (6), and Seven (7), providing fresh produce and non-perishable food items to residents in food desert areas.

Section 5. The appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate this amendment and carry out the intent of this Resolution.

Section 6. *Severability.* In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the resolution.

Section 7. *Repealer.* All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of the is resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

ADOPTED: January 20, 2025

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Allison Segars, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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