



SAMPLE FINANCIAL ADVISORY AGREEMENT

This Financial Advisory Agreement (the “Agreement”) is made and entered into by and between Sauk County, Wisconsin (“Issuer”) and PMA Securities, LLC (“PMA”) effective as of February 16, 2021 (the “Effective Date”). The Issuer and PMA collectively constitute the “Parties” hereunder.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer intends to issue \$30,000,000* General Obligation Highway Building Bonds (the “Securities”), which may be issued in one or more series of issues, and in connection with the authorization, sale, issuance and delivery of such indebtedness, the Issuer desires to retain a financial advisor to advise the Issuer regarding the issuance of the Securities;

WHEREAS, PMA is willing to provide its professional services and its facilities as financial advisor in connection with the Securities as may be considered and authorized by the Issuer during the period in which this Agreement shall be effective;

WHEREAS, the Issuer is a municipal entity and the Securities are municipal securities as defined by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB”);

WHEREAS, PMA is registered as a municipal advisor with the U.S. Securities Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and the MSRB and thus, may provide municipal advisor services to a municipal entity such as the Issuer, including advice with respect to the issuance of municipal securities; and

WHEREAS, the financial advisory services described herein are provided by PMA exclusively as a Municipal Advisor as described under MSRB Rule G-3(d).

NOW, THEREFORE, the Issuer and PMA, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained and other good and valuable consideration, do hereby agree as follows:

SECTION I SCOPE OF SERVICES

Upon the request of an authorized representative of the Issuer, PMA agrees to perform the financial advisory services (hereinafter “Services” or “Scope of Services”) stated in the following provisions of this Section I; and for having rendered such services, the Issuer agrees to pay PMA the compensation as provided in Section VI hereof.

A. Financial Planning. At the direction of the Issuer, PMA shall:

1. Analysis. Conduct an analysis of the financial resources of the Issuer to determine the extent of its capacity to authorize, issue and service the Securities contemplated. This analysis will include reviews of any existing debt structure as compared with the existing and projected sources of revenues which may be pledged to secure payment of debt service and, where appropriate, may include an analysis of the trend of the assessed valuation, taxing power and present and future taxing requirements of the Issuer. The analysis may take into account any outstanding indebtedness payable from the revenues of existing or projected facilities operated by the Issuer, additional revenues to be available from any proposed rate increases and additional revenues, as projected through internal proprietary systems of PMA and its affiliates or through other parties employed by the Issuer, resulting from improvements to be financed by the Securities under consideration.

*Preliminary, subject to change, and reflects the current estimated par amount.

2. Future Financings. Consider and analyze future financing needs as projected by the Issuer's staff, through internal proprietary systems of PMA and its affiliates or through other parties, if any, employed by the Issuer.
3. Recommendations for Securities. Submit recommendations to the Issuer regarding the Securities under consideration, including such elements as the date of issue, interest payment dates, schedule of principal maturities, options of prior payment, security provisions, and such other provisions as may be appropriate in order to make the issue attractive to investors while achieving the objectives of the Issuer. All recommendations will be consistent with the goal of designing the Securities to be sold on terms that are advantageous to the Issuer, including the lowest interest cost consistent with all other considerations.
4. Market Information. Advise the Issuer of current bond market conditions, other related forthcoming bond issues, economic data and other market information, which might normally be expected to influence interest rates or bidding conditions so that the date of sale of the Securities may be set at a favorable time.
5. Elections. Assist in coordinating the assembly of data for the preparation of any necessary petitions, orders, resolutions, ordinances, notices and certificates in connection with the issuance of municipal securities, including assistance in the transmission of such data to any law firm retained by the Issuer, such as issuer counsel, bond counsel, disclosure counsel or otherwise, in the event it is necessary to hold an election to authorize the Securities.

B. Debt Management and Financial Implementation. At the direction of the Issuer, PMA shall:

1. Method of Sale. Evaluate the particular financing of Securities being contemplated, giving consideration to the complexity, market acceptance, rating, size and structure in order to make a recommendation as to an appropriate method of sale, and:
 - a. If the Securities are to be sold by an advertised competitive sale, PMA will:
 - (1) Oversee the sale of the Securities;
 - (2) Disseminate information to prospective bidders, organize such informational meetings as may be necessary, and facilitate prospective bidders' efforts in making timely submission of proper bids which may include the use of a third party auction platform;
 - (3) Assist the staff of the Issuer in coordinating the receipt of bids, the safekeeping of good faith checks and the tabulation and comparison of submitted bids; and
 - (4) Advise the Issuer regarding the best bid and provide advice regarding acceptance or rejection of the bids.
 - b. If the Securities are to be sold by negotiated sale, PMA will:
 - (1) Recommend, for the Issuer's formal approval and acceptance, one or more investment banking firms as managers of an underwriting syndicate to negotiate the purchase of the Securities. This may include a request for proposal for underwriting services. A recommendation will be based upon but not limited to the following: proposed underwriter fees, indicative interest rates and yields, recent comparable bond sales that support the indicative rates and yields, quality of structuring ideas proposed, experience of the

underwriter and its personnel, and willingness to commit capital. In keeping with the provisions of Rule G-23 of the MSRB, PMA will not participate in an underwriting syndicate in connection with the negotiated purchase of the Securities.

- (2) Cooperate with and assist the underwriter(s) in the review of a bond purchase contract and other related documents. The costs incurred in such efforts, including the printing of the documents, will be paid in accordance with the terms of the Issuer's agreement with the underwriter(s), but shall not be or become an obligation of PMA, except to the extent specifically provided otherwise in this Agreement or assumed in writing by PMA.
 - (3) Assist the staff of the Issuer in the safekeeping of any good faith checks, to the extent there are any, and provide a cost comparison for both expenses and interest, which are suggested by the underwriter(s), to the then current market.
 - (4) Advise the Issuer as to the fairness of the prices/yields offered by the underwriter(s).
- c. If the Securities are to be sold as a placement:
- (1) Direct Sale. The Issuer shall identify the potential purchasers and provide the information to PMA in a direct sale. At the request of the Issuer, PMA will disseminate information, including any offering documents, to prospective purchasers and collect prospective purchasers' timely submission of offers to purchase. PMA will analyze such offers to purchase and make a recommendation to the Issuer regarding the acceptance of one or more offers to purchase the Securities according to parameters set out by the Issuer or based on the Issuer's best interest.
 - (2) Private Placement. PMA may recommend that the Issuer engage a placement agent for a private placement of the Securities, under certain circumstances. The recommendation to engage a placement agent will be based upon, but not limited to, the following factors: the size and complexity of the Securities, the credit of the Issuer, the amortization length of the Securities and whether DTC eligibility is appropriate for the issuance. If PMA recommends the use of a placement agent, PMA will then recommend, for the Issuer's formal approval and acceptance, an investment banking firm as placement agent for the Securities. This may include a request for proposal for placement agent services. A recommendation will be based upon, but not limited to the following: proposed fee, indicative interest rates, recent comparable bond sales that support the rates, quality of structuring ideas proposed and experience of the placement agent and its personnel.
2. Issuer Meetings. Attend meetings of the governing body of the Issuer, its staff, representatives or committees as requested and at all times when PMA may be of assistance or service and the subject matter is related to the Securities.
3. Review of Third Party Recommendations. Review of a recommendation of another party if requested by the Issuer and the request is within the Scope of Services. PMA will determine, based on the information obtained through reasonable diligence, whether the municipal securities transaction or municipal financial product is or is not suitable for the Issuer. In addition, PMA will inform the Issuer of:
- (1) PMA's evaluation of the material risks, potential benefits, structure and other characteristics of the recommended municipal securities transaction or municipal financial product;

- (2) The basis upon which PMA reasonably believes that the recommended municipal securities transaction or municipal financial product is, or is not, suitable for the Issuer; and
 - (3) Whether PMA has investigated or considered other reasonably feasible alternatives to the recommended municipal securities transaction or municipal financial product that might also or alternatively serve the Issuer's objectives.
4. Offering Documents. Draft the preliminary and final Official Statements, Offering Memoranda or Term Sheets ("Offering Documents") based on information provided by the Issuer as well as information derived from other sources. The information contained in the Offering Documents will be derived from the sources stated or, if not otherwise sourced, from the Issuer. PMA makes no representation, warranty or guarantee regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information in the Offering Document, and its assistance in preparing the Offering Document should not be construed as a representation that it has independently verified such information. The Issuer will be expected to examine, approve and make certifications with respect to the information in the Offering Documents in accordance with its obligations under the federal securities laws.
 - (1) In a competitive sale, PMA will coordinate the preparation of the notice of sale and bidding instructions, official bid form and such other documents as may be required and submit all such documents to the Issuer for examination, approval and certification.
 - (2) PMA will electronically distribute the Offering Documents.
 - (3) Some of the data collected may require a fee, such as overlapping debt or an auditor's certificate. Upon the request of an authorized representative of the Issuer, any fees for data will be sent to the Issuer for prior approval.
 - (4) As needed for Offering Documents disclosure purposes, PMA will file reportable event notices and other information to the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") as directed by the Issuer.
5. Credit Ratings and Insurance. Make recommendations to the Issuer as to the advisability of obtaining a credit rating and/or insurance for the Securities. Where insurance for the Securities is advised, PMA will request bids from insurance agencies. When directed by the Issuer, coordinate the preparation of such information as may be appropriate for submission to the rating agency and/or insurance agencies. If PMA's advice includes personal presentation of information to the rating agency and/or insurance agencies, PMA will arrange for such personal presentations by the Issuer's representatives.
6. Trustee, Paying Agent, Registrar. Assist the Issuer in the selection of a trustee and/or paying agent/registrar for the Securities and assist in the negotiation of agreements pertinent to these services and the fees incident thereto.
7. Escrow Bidding Agent, Escrow Agent, Verification Agent. Assist the Issuer in the selection of an escrow bidding agent, an escrow agent and/or a verification agent for the Securities and assist in the negotiation of agreements pertinent to those services and the fees incident thereto, if needed.
8. Financial Publications. Advise financial publications of the forthcoming sale of the Securities and provide them with all pertinent information, when appropriate. Upon request, PMA will coordinate the publication of legal notices when required by law for the issuance of the Securities.

9. Consultants. Arrange for reports and opinions of recognized independent consultants as may be appropriate for the successful marketing of the Securities and assist in the negotiation of agreements pertinent to those services and the fees incident thereto.
10. Legal Counsel. Maintain liaison with bond counsel, disclosure counsel and local counsel, if any, in the preparation of legal documents pertaining to the authorization, sale and issuance of the Securities.
11. Delivery of the Securities. Coordinate the efforts of the working group for the Securities, which typically includes the Issuer, underwriter, bond counsel, and other counsel, as applicable, rating agency, bond registrar, paying agent, and any other third party engaged by the Issuer, as soon as a bid for the Securities is accepted by the Issuer, so that the Securities may be delivered and paid for as expeditiously as possible. Assist the Issuer in the preparation or verification of final closing figures incident to the delivery of the Securities.

C. Services Not Related to an Issuance of Municipal Securities. If requested by the Issuer, PMA will perform the services following this paragraph for the Issuer, with respect to the Securities, with no additional compensation required. This Agreement hereby terminates any prior Financial Advisory Agreement or Financial Advisory Engagement Letter for the provision of the following services:

1. Rating surveillance preparation;
2. Debt summary and debt book updates;
3. Educational presentations to the Issuer's governing body, community and/or staff;
4. Review paying agent/DTC invoices for accuracy;
5. Review and provide advice related to a bond levy;
6. Advise the Issuer of filings related to tax credit bonds and the need to approve abatement resolutions and debt service extension base modification resolutions;
7. Assist with filing debt-related documents with other government entities, such as the state;
8. Assist with FOIA-related documentation and questions; and
9. Assist with post-issuance compliance per the rules of the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS").

D. Limitations on Services. The Services are subject to the following limitations:

1. The Services are limited solely to the services described herein and are subject to any limitations set forth within the Scope of Services.
2. PMA is not responsible for certifying as to the accuracy or completeness (including the accuracy or completeness of any description of the Issuer's compliance with its continuing disclosure obligations) of any preliminary or final Offering Documents, other than with respect to any information about PMA provided by PMA for inclusion in such documents.
3. The Services do not include tax, legal, accounting or engineering advice with respect to the Securities, services not related to an issuance of municipal securities (except as provided in Section I.C. above) or in connection with any opinion or certificate rendered by bond counsel or any other person at closing, and does not include review or advice on any feasibility study.

4. Unless requested by the Issuer, PMA will not negotiate fees or send out a request for proposal for legal services including issuer counsel, bond counsel or disclosure counsel.
5. Dissemination Agent services for continuing disclosure are not included under this Agreement except as provided under Section I.B.4.(4). Dissemination Agent services include, for example, annual financial information and annual financial statement filings to EMMA. PMA is engaged as Dissemination Agent pursuant to a separate engagement to provide services not covered under Section 1.B.4.(4).

E. Amendment to Scope of Services. The Scope of Services may be amended as set forth in Section VIII.D. The Parties agree to amend or supplement the Scope of Services described herein promptly to reflect any material changes or additions to the Scope of Services. Changes to the Scope of Services may result in an increased fee.

SECTION II POTENTIAL BENEFITS & RISKS OF ISSUING THE SECURITIES

A. The potential benefits involved with issuing the Securities include, among other things:

1. Meeting the Issuer's Funding Needs. The Securities are being issued to meet the Issuer's stated funding needs.
2. Relative Low Cost of Financing. Municipal obligations, such as the Securities, generally offer a lower cost of financing than other available alternatives.
3. Ability to Lower Cost of Financing in the Future. To the extent the Securities, or a portion of the Securities, are subject to a prepayment provision, the Issuer may be able to lower the cost of financing with a future refinancing of the Securities.
4. Ability to Restructure Payments in the Future. To the extent the Securities, or a portion of the Securities, are subject to a prepayment provision, the Issuer may be able to restructure the repayment schedule with a future refinancing or defeasance of the Securities.

B. The potential risks involved with issuing the Securities include, among other things:

1. Interest Rate Risk. The Securities are issued at a fixed rate(s). If market interest rates decline subsequent to the sale of the Securities, the Issuer will not be able to take advantage of lower market interest rates for the Securities unless and until the Securities can be prepaid or refinanced.
2. Prepayment Risk. To the extent the Securities, or a portion of the Securities, are not subject to a prepayment provision, the Issuer cannot prepay the Securities prior to their maturity date(s).
3. Closing Risk. If the Securities fail to attract an appropriate purchaser, or fail to be delivered at closing, the Issuer will not receive proceeds from the Securities.
4. Default Risk. If the Issuer fails to make the scheduled principal and/or interest payment(s) on the Securities in a timely manner, a default will occur, which negatively affects the Issuer's ability to get financing for other needs.
5. Tax Risk. If the opinion of bond counsel for the Securities identifies the Securities as tax-exempt or tax advantaged, and the IRS subsequently determines the Securities are taxable or ineligible for a tax

credit, this determination could cause the IRS to change the designation of the Securities to taxable or to revoke the tax credits, resulting in potential adverse publicity, impairment of the Issuer's ability to issue municipal securities in the future, litigation from bondholders and others or a settlement agreement between the IRS and the Issuer resulting in a payment from the Issuer to the IRS to maintain the tax-exempt or tax advantaged status of the Securities. Potential causes of such a determination may include, but are not limited to the following: the Issuer does not spend the proceeds of the Securities in a timely manner, change in use of the project financed by the Securities and any other determination by the IRS that rules governing the issuance of tax-exempt obligations were violated.

6. Disclosure Risk. To the extent the SEC determines that a material fact was omitted from the Offering Documents or a material misstatement was made in the Offering Documents, the SEC could determine that the Issuer violated federal securities laws.

SECTION III COOPERATION IN MEETING REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The Issuer acknowledges that PMA has regulatory duties as municipal advisor to the Issuer, and the Issuer agrees to cooperate, and to cause its agents to cooperate, in carrying out these regulatory duties, including providing complete information and reasonable access to relevant documents, other information and personnel needed to fulfill such duties. In addition, the Issuer agrees that, to the extent the Issuer seeks to have PMA provide advice with regard to any recommendation made by a third party in accordance with Section I.B.3, the Issuer will provide to PMA written direction to do so and any information it has received from such third party relating to its recommendation.

SECTION IV TERM OF AGREEMENT

The terms of this Agreement are effective as of the Effective Date and shall remain in effect, unless earlier terminated by PMA or at the direction of the Issuer pursuant to the following section, until the closing of the Securities. This Agreement may be renewed for a maximum of three (3) years beyond the Effective Date of this Agreement or any amendment to this Agreement as set forth in Section VIII.D at the Issuer's request for PMA to perform the any of the services set forth in Section I.C.

SECTION V TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated with or without cause by the Issuer upon prior written notice to PMA or by PMA upon at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Issuer of the Party's intention to terminate, specifying in such notice the effective date of such termination. In the event the termination occurs before the Securities close, it is understood and agreed that no amounts are due to PMA for services provided or expenses incurred, unless otherwise stated in Section VI below. No penalty will be assessed for termination of this Agreement. The provisions of Section VII.B. shall survive any termination of this Agreement pursuant to this Section V or the expiration of the term of this Agreement pursuant to Section IV.

SECTION VI COMPENSATION AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

A. Compensation. The fees due to PMA for the Scope of Services set forth and described in Section I of this Agreement shall be \$15,000.00. Such fees, for which PMA is entitled to reimbursement, shall become due and payable concurrently with the delivery of the Securities to the purchaser. No fee shall be due from the Issuer to PMA unless the Securities close.

As set forth in PMA's *Municipal Advisor Disclosure Statement*, PMA notes that this Agreement involves contingent based compensation subject to compensation based conflict. Also, we note how it relates to different structures or scenarios. For example, recommending a multi-issuance strategy versus a single issuance strategy could result in additional compensation for PMA and the application of minimum fees, if any. However, this recommendation would be made only if the benefits exceed the costs. Such benefits could include bank qualification, reduced negative arbitrage in the investment of bond proceeds and meeting the financial goals of the Issuer. Also, the additional compensation would be paid over time, subject to the retention of PMA for subsequent issuances.

B. Issuer Expenses.

1. Customary fees and expenses incident to a sale are payable by the Issuer. These fees and expenses, depending upon the final structure, can include fees for underwriter(s), bond counsel, local counsel, disclosure counsel, rating agency, insurance premium, trustee/paying agency, competitive sale auction platform, escrow bidding agent and verification agent.
2. Customary fees and expenses incident to the preparation of the Offering Documents, such as overlapping debt and auditor's certificates, are payable by the Issuer. In the event PMA must pay these fees and expenses before the Securities close, the Issuer will be responsible for reimbursing PMA for the pre-paid fees and expenses.

SECTION VII DISCLOSURES

A. Disclosures. The *Municipal Advisor Disclosure Statement*, and each delivery thereof, as provided from time to time, shall be incorporated by reference into this Agreement as of the date thereof to the same extent as if set forth herein. As set forth in the *Municipal Advisor Disclosure Statement*, PMA Securities, LLC is a broker-dealer and municipal advisor registered with the SEC and MSRB and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. In these roles, PMA generally provides fixed income brokerage services and public finance services to institutional clients, including financial advisory services and advice with respect to the investment of proceeds of municipal securities. PMA is affiliated with PMA Financial Network, LLC, a financial services provider, and PMA Asset Management, LLC, an investment adviser registered with the SEC (the "Advisory Affiliate"). These entities operate under common ownership with the Firm and are referred to in this disclosure as the "Affiliates." Each of these Affiliates also provides services to municipal entity clients. Unless otherwise stated, separate fees are charged for each of these products and services and referrals to its Affiliates result in an increase in revenue to the overall Affiliated companies.

PMA's duties, responsibilities, and fees arise from that as a municipal advisor to the Issuer in connection with the issuance of the Securities. PMA receives additional fees for the services used by the Issuer, if any, described in the paragraph above. The fees for these services arise from separate agreements with the Issuer and with institutions of which the Issuer may be a member.

Additional disclosures are required with the implementation of MSRB Rule G-42. PMA is required to provide the Issuer with disclosures of material conflicts of interest and of information regarding certain legal events and disciplinary history. By signing this Agreement, the Issuer acknowledges that PMA has provided the Issuer with the *Municipal Advisor Disclosure Statement*, which contains important disclosures on matters such as all material conflicts of interest and all legal and disciplinary events that are material to a client's evaluation of us relevant to our provision of municipal advisory services. This disclosure document will also specify the date of the last material change or addition to the legal or disciplinary event disclosures, if any, on any Form

MA or Form MA-I that PMA files with the SEC and a brief explanation regarding the materiality of the change or addition.

B. Scope of Liability. PMA, at all times, will act in good faith with respect to its Services under this Agreement. The Issuer agrees that PMA shall not be liable to the Issuer for any act or omission in connection with the performance of PMA's services hereunder, other than as a result of PMA's negligent acts or omissions, reckless conduct, intentional misconduct, bad faith, violation of applicable law or material breach of any of the material terms of this Agreement. PMA will have no duty, responsibility or liability under this Agreement as to any services identified in Section I.D. of this Agreement, relating to the services included in the Limitations on Services section. PMA shall not be responsible for any loss incurred by reason of any act or omission of the Issuer, or any member of the working group for the Securities. No recourse may be had against PMA for loss, damage, liability, cost or expense (whether direct, indirect or consequential) of the Issuer arising out of or in defending, prosecuting, negotiating or responding to any inquiry, questionnaire, audit, suit, action or other proceeding brought by or received from the IRS in connection with the Securities or otherwise relating to the tax treatment of the Securities, or in connection with any opinion or certificate rendered by counsel or any other party.

It is understood that nothing herein shall in any way constitute a waiver or limitation of any of the obligations which PMA may have under federal securities laws or under applicable state law.

SECTION VIII MISCELLANEOUS

A. Choice of Law. This Agreement shall be construed and given effect in accordance with the laws of the state in which the Issuer is located without regard to conflict of law principles.

B. Binding Effect: Assignment. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Issuer and PMA, their respective successors and assigns; provided however, neither Party hereto may assign or transfer any of its rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of the other Party.

C. Prior Agreement or Documentation. Each Party acknowledges and agrees that the provisions of this Agreement modify and supersede any prior agreement or documentation with regards to the issuance of the Securities ("Prior Documentation"). The provision(s) set forth in this Agreement shall control in the event that any provision(s) of this Agreement conflict with any provision(s) contained in any Prior Documentation.

D. Entire Agreement. This instrument contains the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the rights herein granted and obligations herein assumed. Any oral or written representations or modifications concerning this Agreement shall be of no force or effect except for a subsequent modification in writing signed or acknowledged by each Party hereto. The form of this modification may include an email acknowledged by each Party. The Parties agree to amend or supplement this Agreement promptly to reflect any material changes or additions to the Agreement.

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PMA Securities, LLC

Sauk County, Wisconsin

By: _____

Brian J. Della
Director, Public Finance

Date: _____

By: _____

James O. Davis
Chief Executive Officer

Date: _____

By⁽¹⁾: _____

Print Name

Title: _____

Date: _____

- (1) By signing this Agreement, as representative of the Issuer, the representative acknowledges that he or she has the ability to bind the Issuer by contract with PMA and that he or she is not a party to a disclosed conflict.

PMA Use Only:

Reviewed: _____ Date: _____
Revised 2/2021