

WHEREAS, the County desires to issue and grant to Franchisee, and Franchisee desires to accept and agree to, the right and privilege to offer and to provide such residential solid waste collection services serving residents of the unincorporated areas of Lowndes County, in each case pursuant and subject to the conditions, terms, provisions, requirements, and obligations of the 2015 Lowndes County Solid Waste Ordinance, as amended, (the “Solid Waste Ordinance”) and this Franchise; and

WHEREAS, the granting of this Franchise to authorize and to permit Franchisee to provide residential solid waste collection services is authorized by the Solid Waste Ordinance duly adopted by the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the respective representations, warranties, covenants, and agreements of Franchisee set forth herein, the sum of Ten and no/100 Dollars (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are each hereby acknowledged, Lowndes County does hereby issue and grant to Franchisee, and Franchisee, intending to be legally bound hereby, does hereby accept and agree to this Franchise, as follows:

**1. Definitions.** Terms not otherwise defined in this Franchise shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Solid Waste Ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

**2. Grant of Franchise.** Pursuant to the Solid Waste Ordinance, the County hereby issues and grants to Franchisee this Franchise authorizing Franchisee to provide residential solid waste collection services to residents and to use the public roads and rights-of-way of Lowndes County for such purpose, all in accordance with and subject to each of the conditions, terms, provisions, requirements, and obligations of the Solid Waste Ordinance and this Franchise.

**3. Non-exclusivity.** This Franchise is nonexclusive. The County may issue and grant other nonexclusive franchises pursuant to the Solid Waste Ordinance to other franchisees for the provision of residential solid waste collection services to residents.

**4. Number of Nonexclusive Franchisees.** The County may issue such number of nonexclusive franchises pursuant to the Solid Waste Ordinance, and may limit such number of nonexclusive franchises it issues pursuant to the Solid Waste Ordinance, as it determines from time to time for reasons and purposes reasonably related to the public health, safety, and general welfare, including but not limited to the availability of residential solid waste collection service to residents of each residential premise, the adequate provision of such service, the quality of customer service provided, the reasonableness of price therefor, and the effect of solid waste service vehicles on county roads and the public.

**5. Effective Date, Term of Franchise.** The effective date of this Franchise is April 1, 2024. The term of this Franchise shall be from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025, inclusive.

**6. Provision of Basic Service to Residents of all Residential Premises.** Franchisee shall offer and provide basic service to any and all residents who request and subscribe to such service.