ORDINANCE NO. 2023-073

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE MAUMEE WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT AS SET FORTH IN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Findlay, State of Ohio, two-thirds (2/3) of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1: That the City of Findlay is desirous to provide cooperative floodplain management efforts with the Blanchard River Watershed to local communities impacted by several recent and severe flood events. One effort is to replace and update the design of the Norfolk Southern Railroad Bridge which crosses the Blanchard River just west of South Cory Street, and;

SECTION 2: That the City of Findlay, the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District, the Hancock County Commissioners, and Norfolk Southern Railroad have collaborated their efforts in finalizing designs, construction plans, and necessary legal documents that are required in order for project construction to begin in 2024, and;

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Findlay, Ohio, and for the further reason it is immediately necessary to enter into said MOA so that the City of Findlay may move forward with a Laydown Agreement between the City of Findlay and the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District for the construction phase of the aforementioned effort. Said Laydown Agreement will be an appendix to the Construction Agreement executed between the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District and Norfolk Southern Railroad.

WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL Pro

MAYOR

PASSED

ATTEST

CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED August 1, 2023

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO AND THE MAUMEE WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

I. BACKGROUND:

Several recent and severe floods in the Blanchard River Watershed have encouraged cooperative floodplain management efforts of local communities impacted by the events. The Hancock County Commissioners and the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) engaged Stantec Consulting Services, LLC to review a study prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to make recommendations for projects that would reduce the risk of damages during flood events. One of the recommendations is the replacement of the Norfolk Southern Railroad (NS) bridge over the Blanchard River in the City of Findlay with a longer span to improve the flow of floodwaters through the bridge.

MWCD, a watershed district formed pursuant to Chapter 6101 of the Ohio Revised Code, has tasked Stantec, in cooperation with NS, to prepare a plan for replacement of said bridge.

II. MWCD DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS:

- A. <u>Project Administration</u>. MWCD shall enter into a construction agreement with NS that defines the terms and conditions of the bridge replacement. MWCD shall ensure impacts resulting from the construction activities related to the replacement of the NS railroad bridge to properties adjacent to the NS right of way will be restored to their previous condition at the conclusion of construction activities.
- B. Representations. Warranties and Covenants. MWCD is a subdivision of the State of Ohio with all the requisite power and authority to construct, or provide for the construction of, and operate the Project under the laws of the State and to carry on their activities as now conducted. MWCD has the power to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement and have been duly authorized to execute and deliver this Agreement. MWCD is not the subject of nor has it initiated any claim or cause of action that would give rise to any liability which would in any way inhibit the ability of MWCD and to carry out the performance of the terms of this Agreement.

III. CITY OF FINDLAY DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS:

A. <u>Land Use</u>. The development of the project planning documents requires the designation of a parcel of land adjacent to the NS right of way to be used by the construction contractor as a laydown yard and staging area. Parcel number 34 on the attached Property Ownership Key has been selected as to the preferred location. The City agrees to allow the use of this parcel for the stated purposes during the course of the construction period. Should the project contractor express the need for additional space.

the contractor shall deal directly with the City to reach an agreement on an appropriate location.

IV. GENERAL TERMS

- A. <u>Liability</u>. Each party to this Agreement shall be responsible for its own acts and omissions and those of its officers, employees and agents. In no event shall either party be liable to the other party for indirect, consequential, incidental, special, or punitive damages, or lost profits.
- B <u>Effective Date.</u> This Agreement shall become effective by the date of last signature.
- C. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State. In the event any disputes related to this Agreement are to be resolved in a Court of Law, said Court shall be located in the courts of Hancock County, State of Ohio.
- D. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement and its Appendices and Attachments contain the entire understanding between the parties and supersede any prior understandings, agreements, proposals, and all other communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement, whether such shall be oral or written.
- E. <u>Assignment</u>. Neither this Agreement nor any rights, duties or obligations described herein shall be assigned by any party hereto without the prior written consent of the other parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date shown below.

SIGNATORIES:

Christina Muryn, Mayor City of Findlay, Ohio	Date
George Ropp, President Maumee Watershed Conservancy District	Date
Mark Moats, Board Member Maumee Watershed Conservancy District	Date
David Kuhn, Board Member Maumee Watershed Conservancy District	Date

