

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
CITY OF HEMET  
AND  
THE NON-SAFETY UNIT (GENERAL EMPLOYEES)  
OF  
SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 721

PREAMBLE

The MOU shall be effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026.

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## **ARTICLE 1 -- RECOGNITION**

- 1.1 The City recognizes the Union as the bargaining agent for those classifications listed in Appendix "A."

## **ARTICLE 2 -- MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

It is understood and agreed that the City retains all of its powers and authority to direct, manage and control to the full extent of the law. Included in, but not limited to, those duties and powers are the exclusive right to:

Determine its organization; direct the work of its employees; assign related work not expressly covered by job description; determine the times and hours of operation; determine normal working hours and to schedule shifts accordingly; determine the kinds and levels of services to be provided and the methods and means of providing them; establish its municipal policies, goals and objectives; make technological improvements; determine staffing patterns; determine the number and kinds of personnel required; maintain the efficiency of City operations; build, move or modify facilities; establish budget procedures and determine budgetary allocation; determine the methods of raising revenue; contract out work in accordance with law, provided that before the City contracts the services of an entire division of City government, it shall meet and confer with Union regarding the effects of said contracting on affected employees; and to take any action necessary to meet conditions of any emergency nature, provided that Union shall be afforded the opportunity to meet and confer concerning the necessity of any such action if inconsistent with this MOU.

In addition, the City retains the right to hire, classify, assign, evaluate, promote, terminate, transfer and discipline employees.

The City Manager or designee may lay off a unit member because of shortage of work, lack of funds, material change in duties or organization, or for other valid reasons.

The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities by the City, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith, shall be limited only by the specific and express terms of this MOU, and then only to the extent such specific and express terms are in conformance with law.

- 2.1 Labor-Management Committee (LMC):
  - a. Unit members will, from time to time, designate five (5) representatives who will meet with management representatives on a quarterly basis, or upon a more frequent basis as the LMC may desire, to discuss matters pertinent to the welfare

of the unit members. Topics discussed may include, but not be limited to, equipment, health and safety, job classifications, training, operating procedures, managed competition, retiree healthcare, non- occupational disability leave, healthcare medical waiver (opt-out), and exploring efficiencies.

The members of the LMC will be granted sufficient time to accomplish the purposes of this section.

- b. The formation of this LMC shall not serve as the basis for re-opening the meet and confer process to modify this MOU. Discussions held during LMC meetings shall not be considered meet and confer despite the issues being discussed.

### **ARTICLE 3 -- UNION RIGHTS**

#### **3.1 New Employee Orientations:**

The City shall notify the Union of all new employees entering the bargaining unit. The City shall provide the Union with no less than ten (10) business days advance written notice of the new employee's date of orientation. Further, City will notify the Union, within thirty (30) calendar days of hire or by the first pay period of the month following hire, of the new employee's: hire date, first and last name, employee identification number, job classification, work status (full-time or part-time), home address, home mailing address (if different), home phone number, cell phone number (if known), personal email address on file (if any), salary grade code, salary step, hourly rate of pay, and the department/section to which the employee is assigned.

Attendance at an orientation shall be mandatory for each new employee. For the purpose of this section, new employees shall be defined to include any employee new to SEIU Local 721, including but not limited to employees entering the unit through new hire, accretion, promotion, or demotion.

The City agrees to provide each new employee with up to one (1) hour of paid release time to meet with their union representative during the orientation to receive a copy of the most current MOU and be provided with an orientation on the benefits of union membership. The Union's presentation may include written, audio, and/or visual materials. No management representative shall be present during the Union's presentation. In the event the union representative providing the orientation is a City employee or Union Steward, they shall also be provided with up to one (1) hour of paid release time in which to conduct each orientation. If more than one (1) new employee is hired within the same pay period, reasonable effort shall be made to schedule and conduct the orientations during the same time frame.

The Union shall provide the following for the City to include in their orientation packet to be distributed at the orientation:

- Applications for union membership and COPE

- Copy of the current MOU
- Contact information of the designated union representative(s)

Violations of this section are subject to the grievance procedure outlined in Article 36.

3.2 Visits by Union Representatives:

Accredited representatives of the Union, whether local Union representatives, or International representatives, will be granted reasonable access to City facilities and employees for purposes of investigation of grievances and official Union business, provided Union representatives shall provide twenty-four (24) hours advance notice to the supervisor in charge of the work area that is being visited. Such visits shall not interfere with normal operation of the department. In case of an emergency, the twenty-four (24) hour advance notice will not be required, provided the Union representative provides advance notice to the supervisor in charge as soon as reasonably possible.

3.3 Contract Negotiations:

The negotiating team for the Union, to be comprised of no more than five (5) employees, not more than two (2) from any division, shall be permitted to attend negotiating sessions during work hours with pay. There shall be no compensation for meetings held outside scheduled work hours of members of the bargaining team.

3.4 Bulletin Boards:

The Union will be allowed to use space designated by the City on existing bulletin boards to post notices regarding Union business. Offensive or personally disparaging postings will not be permitted.

3.5 Unpaid Leave to Perform Union Business:

Upon approval of the employee's supervisor, Union representatives selected by the Union to conduct "Union business" away from work, shall be granted leave without pay for a reasonable period of time, upon giving seven (7) days advance notice. Union business does not involve "work" performed for the benefit or at the direction of the City.

3.6 Paid Leave To Perform Union Business:

With the express written consent of the City Manager or designee, one (1) regular full-time employee at a time may be granted a leave of absence for up to six (6) months to participate in "Union business." Such Union business does not involve "work" performed for the benefit or at the direction of the City. Requests for such leave must be made in writing and submitted to the City Manager or designee as soon as possible, and no later than fourteen (14) days before the leave is to commence.

The City Manager or designee in their sole discretion may authorize or deny the request for the leave based on the needs of the City's operations.

An employee who is granted a paid leave to perform Union business will remain on the City's payroll during the entire leave and shall receive compensation at the salary level the employee was receiving prior to going on leave. During the duration of the leave, the employee will continue to be eligible for the following benefits: health insurance, retirement benefits, long term disability, life insurance, and survivor's benefits. The City will bill the Union for the employee's compensation and for the benefits provided to an employee during the leave. The Union will indemnify the City for any injury incurred by the employee in the course of scope of performing duties for the Union during this time. The Union will reimburse the City within fourteen (14) days of receiving an invoice for such expenses.

An employee who is granted a paid leave to perform Union business will not accrue or be eligible to use the following benefits during the time the employee is on leave: vacation, sick leave, bereavement leave and paid holiday benefits. The employee will retain their level of seniority during the time they are on paid leave and upon returning to City service.

3.7 Time Off for Union Board Members:

Current Union Chapter Board Members will each be given a maximum of two (2) paid hours per month for Union business. An Executive Board member will be given one (1) paid shift per month for the purpose of traveling to and attending the monthly Executive Board meetings.

3.8 Contract Bar:

Approval of this MOU by the Hemet City Council shall constitute a temporary bar to implementation of the provisions of Section 13(B)5 of the Employee-Employer Relations Resolution of the City of Hemet.

The procedure for decertification of a recognized bargaining agent may be instituted and filed only during the period commencing one hundred and eighty (180) days from implementation and ending one hundred and fifty (150) days prior to the termination of this MOU.

## **ARTICLE 4 -- DEDUCTIONS**

4.1 Dues Deduction:

The Employer will honor employee authorizations for dues deduction as required by provisions of the Government Code. The authorizations will be maintained by the Union.

Each pay period, the Employer shall send to the Union a list of all employees in the bargaining unit including: each employee's first and last name, employee identification number, job classification or position title, hire date, work status (fulltime or part-time), home address, home telephone number, personal cellular telephone number, salary grade code, salary step, and current hourly rate of pay.

Pursuant to Gov. Code 6254.3(c), an employee may request that the Employer refrain from disclosing the employee's home address, home telephone number, personal cellular telephone number, personal email address, or birth date to the Union upon written request to Human Resources.

Each pay period, the Union shall provide the Employer with an "authorized deduction report" which includes bargaining unit members who have authorized the deduction of Union dues, COPE and other deductions and the deduction amounts. The Union will promptly notify the Employer of any changes.

The Employer shall make the dues and other applicable deductions from the employees' paychecks and remit such itemized deductions to the Union within five (5) business days of each payday. The Employer shall also provide the breakdown of each amount remitted (i.e. Dues, COPE, Supplementary Benefits, etc.) in Excel format to dues@seiu721.org within five (5) business days of each payday.

4.2 Committee on Political Education (COPE):

Employees may make voluntary contributions to the Union's registered political action committees. The employer shall make the deduction of the voluntary contributions in the same manner as the dues deduction process.

Every pay period the Union will notify the employer with a list of employees and the appropriate deduction amount on the "authorized deduction report" of the employees who have signed an authorization for the COPE deduction.

Employees may discontinue voluntary political deductions by providing notice of cancellation to the Union and the Union shall transmit such notice of cancellation to the Employers by the next full pay period cycle.

4.3 Indemnification:

The Union agrees to indemnify and hold the Employer harmless from any liabilities of any nature which may arise as a result of the application of provisions of this Article.

## **ARTICLE 5 -- SALARIES**

5.1 Salary Step Increases:

Employees below the top step of a range will be eligible for merit pay increases in accordance with existing City policy, and employees at top step of a range or the

first longevity step will be eligible for longevity increases in accordance with the provisions of the MOU.

5.2 Out-of-Class Pay:

Whenever the needs of the City require an employee to temporarily perform the duties of a higher classification than that in which the employee is currently employed for a period of more than sixteen (16) continuous working hours, the employee shall receive the salary rate of a higher class in which they are performing the required duties.

In such cases, the employee shall be paid at an appropriate step of the salary schedule of the higher classification which will assure an increase of not less than five percent (5%) greater than the salary of their current position, but in no case shall such salary exceed the top salary step of the higher classification.

The higher salary rate payable shall commence on the seventeenth (17th) continuous hour following the temporary reassignment to the performance of duties of the higher classification and shall continue for all hours worked in the higher classification during the pay period in which the employee qualified for higher classification pay.

Written notice will be provided by a Department Head when an employee served in an acting capacity.

A person appointed in an acting capacity shall be eligible to receive merit increases in their permanent position during the acting appointment but shall not be entitled to merit increases in the position which they hold in an acting capacity.

An employee shall not lose any time that has been worked toward their longevity increase and earning step increase.

5.3 Salary Increases:

- a. Market Equity Adjustment. Effective the first full pay period after July 1, 2024, the City shall ensure that all bargaining unit employees are minimally compensated (total comp includes Bachelor's degree pay, certification pay, max longevity, bilingual pay, medical/dental/vision, and deferred comp.) at one hundred five percent (105%) of the market mean based upon the most recently-conducted classification and compensation analysis benchmarked at January 1, 2024 (Appendix C).
- b. Cost of Living Adjustment ("COLA"). Effective the first full pay period after July 1, 2025, all classifications covered by this MOU will receive a three percent (3%) Cost of Living Adjustment.

## ARTICLE 6 -- WORKWEEK/OVERTIME

### 6.1 Workweek:

The workweek is the period of time on which overtime requirements for non-exempt employees, under the FLSA are based. The standard workweek for each employee is a fixed and regularly recurring period of one hundred sixty eight (168) hours, composed of seven (7) consecutive twenty-four (24) hour periods.

Although the workweek is intended to be fixed, it may be changed by City in emergency situations. Any schedule changes outside of emergency situations will be agreed upon by the Union and City.

- a. The workweek for all employees who work a standard Monday through Sunday workweek shall commence at 12:01 a.m. on Monday of each week and end at midnight on the following Sunday.
- b. All employees shall work a "4/10" alternative work schedule, comprising eight (8), ten (10) hour days in the pay period.

Employees working a 4/10 alternative work schedule may opt to take a Thirty (30) minute lunch, subject to approval of their immediate supervisor.

### 6.2 Overtime:

It is the policy of the City to avoid the necessity for overtime work whenever possible. In cases of emergency or whenever public interest or necessity requires, any employee may be directed by proper authority, and is expected to perform, overtime work.

Time worked by a non-exempt employee in excess of forty (40) hours in the seven (7) day workweek shall constitute overtime.

The workweek is defined and set forth in Section 6.1 above. A nonexempt employee will be paid one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours worked over forty (40) in the seven (7) day workweek.

All work, outside an employee's regularly scheduled shift, must have the approval of the employee's supervisor prior to actual performance of the work. Failure to obtain such approval in advance subjects an employee to discipline.

### 6.3 Hours Worked:

Only those hours that are actually worked by non-exempt employees shall constitute "hours worked" for purposes of determining entitlement to overtime pay.

Time taken as paid leave, including, but not limited to, holidays, vacations, sick leave, compensatory time off, bereavement leave and other similar periods when no work is performed shall not constitute "hours worked," unless allowed otherwise in this MOU.

Time worked for which employees receive additional compensation pursuant to this MOU, including but not limited to call back pay, shall constitute hours worked to the extent that it represents time actually worked.

## **ARTICLE 7 -- CALL-BACK/STAND-BY**

### **7.1 Call-Back Pay:**

#### **a. Call-Back Rate for a Physical Response:**

The City shall provide unit members with a minimum of two (2) hours' pay at the premium rate of one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay, or at one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for the actual hours worked, whichever is greater, when an employee leaves the work premises and the employee is required to physically respond to the City to perform services after the employee's regular scheduled working hours.

#### **b. Call-Back Rate for a Remote Response:**

Any employee who is not required to physically return to a work site should record all time spent on phone calls or performing other work from a remote location (i.e. home or other off-duty location, responding to SCADA notifications/alarms, etc.) as hours worked on their timesheet.

Such hours shall be paid at the premium rate of one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for the actual hours worked, when an employee is required to perform work on behalf of the City absent a physical response. Such time shall be paid in minimum increments of fifteen (15) minute intervals.

#### **c. Call-Back Rate for Well Rounds:**

Well rounds require an employee to physically visit and inspect each active well site prior to 9:00 a.m. The City shall provide unit members with a minimum of three and one-half (3½) hours' pay at the premium rate of one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay, or at one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for the actual hours worked, whichever is greater, when an employee is assigned to perform well rounds on a non-work day, holiday, or outside of the employee's regular scheduled working hours.

d. Call-Back Rate for Park Openings:

Park openings require an employee to open all City parks, park restrooms, and monument areas by 7:00 a.m. The City shall provide unit members with a minimum of one (1) hours' pay at the premium rate of one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay, or at one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for the actual hours worked, whichever is greater, when an employee is assigned to perform park openings outside of the employee's regular scheduled working hours.

e. Duplication of Call-Back Rates:

There shall not be any duplication or pyramiding of call-back rates under this section.

An employee shall be credited with not more than one (1) minimum two (2) hour guarantee for work performed on a physical response during any consecutive two (2) hour period. An employee credited with two (2) hours pursuant to this section may be assigned other work until the guaranteed time has elapsed.

An employee shall be credited with not more than one minimum fifteen (15) minute guarantee for work performed remotely during any consecutive fifteen (15) minute period. An employee credited with the fifteen (15) minutes pursuant to this Section may be required to perform other work remotely (i.e. answer, receive, or respond to additional phone calls, etc.) until the time has elapsed.

Absent call-backs which occur within the same consecutive time period, each individual call-back event shall be subject to the minimum payments outlined in this Section. If an employee is physically called back to work, the two (2) hour minimum begins from receipt of the first phone call or alarm and the reported/compensated hours worked ends when the employee arrives back home from the work site. An employee is expected to proceed directly to/from such work site(s).

7.2 Stand-By Pay:

The purpose of assigning employees to stand-by duty is to ensure the City has qualified employees available to respond to after-hours operational needs and/or emergencies on behalf of the City.

a. Stand-By Rate:

When an employee is assigned to stand-by (after hours) duty by the City, the employee shall receive two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275.00) per week for the entire period of such assignment. Employees are generally assigned to stand-by duty on a weekly rotational basis, beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Monday and ending at 5:59 a.m. on the following Monday. If, for any reason,

an employee does not complete the full week of a stand-by assignment, the stand-by rate may be prorated upon approval from the employee's Department Head or designee.

b. Assignment to Stand-By Duty:

The determination of whether stand-by duty is necessary shall be made at the discretion of the Department Head, with the exception that Public Works agrees to provide an opportunity for stand-by duty assignments for including, but not limited to: (1) General Public Works, (2) Water/Wastewater, and (3) Well Rounds/SCADA. The parties agree the list for Water/Wastewater is not required to be established until the completion of the meet and confer process in Section 7.3 of this Article.

When stand-by duty is necessary, the Department Head, or their designee, will establish a stand-by duty roster which shall be distributed to employees and posted. The roster shall first be populated by those employees who volunteer for such duty. However, if at any time there is an insufficient number of employees who volunteer for stand-by duty, the Department Head shall have the discretion to either (1) establish a mandatory stand-by duty list which all employees are required to participate in, unless the employee lives outside of the response time area, or (2) retain the services of a contractor to perform the services.

The Department Head will give affected employees reasonable notice and an opportunity to volunteer before establishing a mandatory stand-by duty roster or before arranging for the work to be performed by a contractor.

c. General Requirements for Stand-By Duty:

Stand-by duty requires the employee to:

- (1) be reachable by telephone or other communication device; and
- (2) be able to physically respond to work at the City Yard or other work site within forty-five (45) minutes; and
- (3) refrain from activities which might impair their ability to perform assigned duties; and
- (4) comply with other operational policies and directives as promulgated by management.

Employees assigned to stand-by duty will be provided with a specific stand-by City issued phone and a City vehicle.

Employees assigned to stand-by duty are required to respond to all calls received, during the period of stand-by duty, within fifteen (15) minutes. Failure to timely respond to a call may be subject to disciplinary action.

If an employee is not assigned to stand-by duty, they are not obligated to respond to work-related calls they may receive. This provision does not prevent the City from ordering an employee to respond to work during a bona fide emergency, if the City makes actual verbal or personal contact with the employee and the employee is able to meet the requirements for such a response. Such employees shall not be subject to any reprisal for failing to respond to off-duty calls or for not being able to meet the requirements for such a response (i.e. refraining from activities during their scheduled off-duty time which might impair their ability to perform work, or located outside of a response area, etc.).

d. Trades:

Any voluntary change or substitution to stand-by duty must be approved by a supervisor and made for the entire week of stand-by.

7.3 Department Procedures:

Each Department Head may adopt internal procedures for stand-by and call-back that are consistent with this Article. Such procedures are subject to the meet and confer process.

The parties further agree to complete the meet and confer process on the internal procedures for stand-by and call-back in the Public Works Department by no later than January 1, 2017. This process shall include, but is not limited to the rate of compensation for an employee that may not be able to complete their full week of stand-by assignment and the employee who may be assigned for partial coverage.

## **ARTICLE 8 -- COMPENSATORY TIME OFF**

8.1 Compensatory Time Off:

- a. All employees who earn overtime compensation, as defined in Section 6.3 of this MOU, may elect to convert earned overtime to compensatory time off ("CTO") at the rate of one and one-half (1½) hours for each hour actually worked. Additionally, hours that are not actually worked during call back pay cannot be converted to CTO. An employee who has accrued hours of CTO is required to receive monetary compensation for all additional overtime worked.
- b. Unit members shall be entitled to convert a maximum of fifty three and thirty three hundredths (53.33) hours of overtime into eighty (80) hours of CTO.

- c. Employees shall be permitted to use CTO within a reasonable period of time after the employee makes a request, provided that it does not unduly disrupt the City's operations. Unduly disrupt shall mean that it would impose an unreasonable burden on the City's ability to provide services of acceptable quality and quantity for the public during the time the employee requested off. An employee who wishes to take CTO must submit a request to their immediate supervisor in advance of the intended use of the CTO.
- d. At any time, an employee may request that all or some of their accrued CTO be cashed out. CTO is cashed out at the employee's then current regular rate of pay. An employee wishing to cash out their CTO shall submit their request to their Department Head in writing. CTO may be cashed out in increments of not less than eight (8) hours unless the balance of the employee's compensatory bank is less than eight (8) hours.
- e. Any unused CTO as of December 31st of any year shall be carried over to the next calendar year.
- f. An employee whose employment is terminated for any reason shall be paid for all unused CTO at a rate of the higher of (1) the average regular rate the employee earned during the last three (3) years of employment; or (2) the final regular rate earned by the employee.

## **ARTICLE 9 – BILINGUAL PAY**

### **9.1 Bilingual Pay**

The City shall establish a bilingual pay for employees called upon to speak a foreign language in assisting the public during the course and scope of performing assigned duties based on business necessity. The number of members to be eligible shall be determined by the City with approval of the Personnel Officer and Department Director. To receive bilingual pay benefit an employee must be certified as bilingual on a conversational level by passing an examination established by the Personnel Officer. Any employee expected to employ the bilingual skill shall be given the opportunity to test for certification within thirty (30) calendar days of designation by the Department Director to employ such skill when called upon. It is understood that those receiving bilingual pay compensation may on occasion be required to leave their specific work location to assist other non- bilingual employees in serving the public. It is also understood that employees not receiving bilingual pay shall not be required to or expected to assist the public on other than an incidental basis. Authorized employees who pass the City's test will receive two hundred dollars (\$200.00 per month).

## ARTICLE 10 -- HOLIDAYS

### 10.1 Authorized Holidays:

- a. The following paid holidays shall be observed:
- (1) January 1 (New Year's Day)
  - (2) Martin Luther King (MLK) Day
  - (3) Third Monday in February (Washington's Birthday)
  - (4) The last Monday in May (Memorial Day)
  - (5) July 4 (Independence Day)
  - (6) The first Monday in September (Labor Day)
  - (7) November 11 (Veterans Day)
  - (8) Thanksgiving Day
  - (9) Friday after Thanksgiving
  - (10) December 25 (Christmas Day)
  - (11) One (1) floating holiday.
  - (12) One (1) additional floating holiday for full-time employees only.

The hour value for each holiday shall be equivalent to the employees' regularly scheduled work period, i.e. if the holiday falls on a regularly scheduled ten (10) hour work day, the employee's time off is ten (10) hours. If the holiday falls on a scheduled eight (8) hour day, the holiday time is eight (8) hours.

In addition to the foregoing holidays, every employee shall be entitled to accrue ten (10) hours in lieu of Columbus Day. This time shall be placed in the employee's floating holiday time bank.

### b. Half-Shift Holidays:

The following paid holidays shall be observed and employees shall not be required to work the last half of their scheduled shift that each employee would have worked were the holiday not observed:

- (1) December 24 (Christmas Eve)
- (2) December 31 (New Year's Eve)

The hour value for each half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) shift holiday shall be equivalent to half of the employee's regularly scheduled work period, i.e. if the holiday falls on a

regularly scheduled ten (10) hour work day, the employee's time off is five (5) hours. If the holiday falls on a scheduled eight (8) hour day, the holiday time is four (4) hours.

10.2 Procedure if Holiday Falls on Saturday or Sunday:

For those employees whose normal workweek is Monday through Friday, when a holiday falls on Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be observed as a holiday. When a holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be observed as a holiday.

10.3 Procedure if Holiday Falls on Regular Day Off:

If a holiday occurs on a day which is the full-time employee's regular day off, they shall be entitled to an accrual of holiday time at the hour value that is equivalent to the employee's scheduled work period [i.e. for employees on a regularly scheduled ten (10) hour workday, the holiday accrual shall be ten (10) hours. For employees on a regularly scheduled eight (8) hour workday, the holiday accrual shall be eight (8) hours]. This time shall be placed in the employee's holiday time bank. Regular part-time employees shall accrue time on a pro-rata basis.

10.4 Employees Required to Work on Holiday:

Any employee whose work schedule and assignment of duties requires them to work on an authorized holiday shall receive holiday pay for such work at the same rate of pay at which they are employed, in addition to their normal pay for the time worked. Normal pay shall include overtime if qualified pursuant to Article 6 of this MOU.

10.5 Pay for Accumulated Holiday Time in Holiday Bank:

Each City employee who leaves the employment of the City shall be granted all accumulated holiday time in their holiday time bank and shall be paid therefore at their rate of compensation applicable at the time they leave the employment of the City. No leave credit shall be earned on terminal leave payments. When separation is caused by the death of any employee, payment shall be made to the estate of such employee or, in applicable cases, as provided by the Probate Code of the State.

## **ARTICLE 11 – HEALTH INSURANCE**

11.1 Health Insurance

The City shall make available to all full-time employees and their dependents medical plans through commercial carriers offering at least one HMO and one PPO option. The City shall also make available a self-funded dental and vision plans.

The City may change the health plans and subsequently designate a different plan(s) and providers with the concurrence of the Benefits Committee, which is comprised of representatives from each bargaining unit in the City. The employees shall have their

choice of the plans as described above provided that they comply with applicable provider rules, such as open enrollment, etc.

The City shall make the following monthly contributions during the term of this MOU:

<b>KAISER LOW</b>	<b>Plan Year 2024/2025</b>	<b>Plan year 2025/2026</b>
Employee Only	\$650*	Dollar Amount Equivalent to 100% Employer-Paid
Employee +1	\$1,115.00	\$1,150.00
Employee +2 or more	\$1,595.00	\$1,645.00
<b>KAISER HIGH</b>	<b>Plan Year 2024/2025</b>	<b>Plan year 2025/2026</b>
Employee Only	\$650*	Dollar Amount Equivalent to 100% Employer-Paid
Employee +1	\$1,115.00	\$1,150.00
Employee +2 or more	\$1,670.00	\$1,720.00

The same amounts as above shall be used for Aetna Basic (Kaiser Low) and Aetna Enhanced (Kaiser High).

The City will contribute 100% of the cost per month, per employee in paid status, toward the cost of dental and vision plans for such employee and their eligible dependents,

The "Maximum Benefit per family per Calendar Year" as set forth in the "Schedule of Vision Benefits" shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per year.

In the event any of the plans contracted for and made available by the City to employees and their dependents as mentioned above should be terminated by the provider at no fault of the City, City agrees to meet and confer with Union regarding the affected health insurance issue. City agrees to notify Union if it changes insurance broker.

An Advisory Committee shall be established to study health insurance benefits. The Committee shall consist of two (2) members appointed by City management and two (2) members appointed by the Union. The Committee's role shall be strictly advisory and it shall have no authority to make decisions or otherwise bind the City with respect to health insurance matters.

11.2 Payroll Deductions:

Every employee who wishes to receive medical benefits pursuant to this article must complete the authorization form. Such form provides the City with written authorization to make automatic payroll deductions for any employee contributions which may be required pursuant to this article. In the event any employee does not provide the City with written authorization to such automatic withholding, the City shall not be obligated to provide any medical benefit for such employee.

11.3 New Employee Health Insurance:

New employees who are eligible for health insurance benefits will be covered as soon as practical, or thirty (30) days from the date of eligibility, whichever occurs first.

11.4 Retiree Health Benefits:

The Union acknowledges the City has met and conferred in good faith with the Union prior to the City Council's adoption of Resolution Bill No. 07-095 on November 27, 2007, which amends and clarifies, in portion, (1) the Retirement Benefits policy previously adopted by the City Council which was placed into effect July 24, 1990, and (2) Resolution No. 3349, adopted by the City Council on April 14, 1998, which amended the Retirement Benefits Policy.

**ARTICLE 12 -- UNIFORMS**

12.1 Uniforms:

The City shall continue to provide uniforms for all unit members required to wear them during duty hours. Time spent donning and doffing uniforms shall not be considered hours worked. City-issued wearing apparel shall not be worn in a manner or circumstances that would bring disrespect or disrepute to the City or employee.

**ARTICLE 13 – RETIREMENT**

13.1 Retirement:

a. Retirement Plans:

The City will provide retirement plans with the California Public Employees Retirement System (“CalPERS”) as follows:

(1) TIER I:

For unit members hired prior to July 1, 2011, such plan shall be 2.7% at fifty-five (55) PERS plan and the "single highest year" amendment.

(2) TIER II:

For unit members hired from July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012, such plan shall be 2.5% at fifty-five (55) and the "single highest year" amendment.

(3) TIER III:

For unit members hired on or after January 1, 2013, such plan shall be 2% at sixty-two (62) and the "highest consecutive three year average" amendment.

b. Purchase Military Service Credit:

City shall continue its contract with CalPERS to allow employees to purchase, at their own expense, up to four (4) years of military service credit in accordance with applicable CalPERS rules and/or law.

c. Employee Contributions:

Unit members in retirement Tiers I and II shall pay the full employee share of contribution (EPMC), but not to exceed eight percent (8%), to their respective retirement plans.

Unit members in retirement Tier III shall pay the full employee share of contribution (EPMC), but not to exceed sharing fifty percent (50%) of normal costs, to their retirement plan.

d. Part-Time Retirement Benefits:

Entitlement to CalPERS for part-time employees shall be determined in accordance with applicable State law.

e. CalPERS Discount Rate/Cost Sharing

During the term of this MOU (7/1/2024-6/30/2026), if the CalPERS Discount Rate is reduced to six and a half percent (6.5%), the City may initiate re-opener bargaining regarding employee contribution of an additional half percent (.5%) toward pensions.

13.2 401(a):

For employees not eligible for City paid retiree medical insurance, the City will contribute fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month to a 401(a) deferred compensation plan established for each employee.

## **ARTICLE 14 – LONG TERM DISABILITY**

### **14.1 Long Term Disability:**

The City shall provide, on behalf of each unit member, a long-term disability plan with not more than a thirty (30) day waiting period. Employees shall be eligible for long-term disability after being off for thirty (30) days.

Employees with more than one (1) year service, but less than five (5) years' service with the City, may borrow not more than eighty (80) hours sick leave to cover any time they may be deficient in covering the thirty (30) day waiting period for the City's Long-Term Disability Plan to commence.. All such borrowed sick leave must be repaid as vacation or sick leave as thereafter accrued, unless other arrangements are approved by the City Manager or designee. Any balance due the City upon termination of employment from the City shall be deducted from the employee's final check.

## **ARTICLE 15 – LIFE INSURANCE**

### **15.1 Life Insurance:**

The City shall provide to each full-time employee covered by this MOU a fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) group term life insurance. Each employee may increase, at their own cost, the limit of their subject life insurance policy by an amount not to exceed an additional fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) total coverage, provided arrangements can be made with the insurance carrier and subject to carrier approval of the additional insurance.

## **ARTICLE 16-- SURVIVORS BENEFIT**

### **16.1 Survivors Benefit:**

The City shall pay the required contributions, on behalf of each unit member, to continue to provide Level IV of the 1959 Widow's Survivors Benefit.

## **ARTICLE 17 -- EQUIPMENT POLICY**

### **17.1 Tool Replacement Policy:**

It is the City's policy to replace broken or stolen tools owned by the equipment maintenance employees and required for their City job. The following sets out the procedures for tool replacement:

The City shall not replace tools that are lost or stolen from places other than authorized workstations. An inventory shall be made of each employee's toolbox at time of hire and updated yearly. A brief written explanation and replacement request

for a lost or stolen tool must be submitted to the supervisor within twenty- four (24) hours of discovery of loss. Any theft or loss of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) or more shall be reported to the Hemet Police. City shall replace or order an affected tool of equal or better quality within ten (10) working days. New specialty tools shall be purchased by the City on an as-needed basis with supervisor's approval. The City shall have available an open purchase order with a local mobile tool distributor, such as Snap On or Mac Tools.

17.2 Gloves Policy:

It is the City's policy to provide employees with gloves, if gloves are required for safety and/or health reasons. The supervisors, assistant supervisors, and lead workers shall be responsible for issuing gloves to employees.

- a. One pair of gloves shall be issued to a new employee who is required, for safety and/or health reasons, to wear gloves. It is the City's policy not to replace gloves more than every two (2) months.
- b. Replacement gloves shall be issued to an employee who turns in gloves that have been worn out or damaged.
- c. Lost or misplaced gloves shall be replaced by the City.

17.3 Safety Shoe/Boot Policy:

The City shall contribute up to a maximum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) to the costs of each pair of safety shoes/boots purchased for each eligible employee. The City will be responsible for the ordering of the safety shoes/boots. The employee will be responsible to pay for any cost(s) that exceed the maximum contribution for their choice of safety shoes/boots. There shall be no cash-out of any remaining contribution if the cost of the safety shoes/boots is less than the maximum contribution. Eligible employees are entitled to receive up to the maximum contribution at any time it is necessary to replace their safety shoes/boots. A supervisor may request to inspect the safety shoes/boots in order to confirm that a replacement is necessary.

The use of City-provided safety shoes/boots shall be mandatory unless excused by the policy of the City's Safety Committee, or a licensed physician. The City, not later than October 1st of each year, shall provide a list of all employees and/or classifications that are eligible for this program. Additionally, the City shall provide within such period a list of situations, if any, wherein the use of safety shoes/boots is excused. Any affected employee may appeal the determination of the City on either of the foregoing lists to the City's Safety Committee. The decision of the Safety Committee shall be final and binding on the parties.

In keeping with the foregoing policy, the City shall provide a reasonable method by which all affected employees are provided with required safety shoes or safety boots.

17.4 Tool Reimbursement Policy:

Effective upon City Council approval of this MOU, Employees working in the Fleet Maintenance Division shall receive a reimbursement for tool purchases pre-approved by the Department Head or designee of up to a maximum total of four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) annually.

**ARTICLE 18 -- LONGEVITY/MERIT SALARY**

18.1 Longevity/Merit Salary Increase:

An employee may be entitled to receive a two and one-half percent (2.5%) salary increase after three (3) years at the top step of the same classification.

Such employee may be eligible for an additional two and one-half percent (2.5%) salary increase after three (3) additional years of continuous service at the same classification.

The term "classification" as used in this paragraph shall mean a continuance of job responsibilities that remain substantially unchanged, notwithstanding periodic changes of name or pay range. Eligibility is based on merit and an annual evaluation that is satisfactory or better. In the event an employee receives such evaluation after the date on which it was due, increases shall be retroactive to the due date, if the evaluation would have been satisfactory on such due date. Employees who have been denied longevity/merit salary increases due to an unsatisfactory evaluation may receive the longevity/merit increase as soon as their performance warrants, and they are given a satisfactory evaluation.

All increases under this section shall be at the discretion of the City Manager or designee, upon recommendation of the pertinent Department Head. Satisfactory evaluations, approved by the Department Head, shall be forwarded to the City Manager or designee with their recommendation regarding the longevity increase.

In the event of a classification change, as described hereinabove, the longevity/merit increase shall cease until the employee qualifies in the new classification.

18.2 Annual Length of Service Recognition:

An employee shall receive an annual length of service recognition in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for every year of service after the employee has reached their top step of longevity, subject to a satisfactory job performance evaluation.

18.3 Longevity:

Effective the second full pay period after City Council approval of this MOU, all unit members with fifteen (15) years of City service shall be paid a stipend of \$150 per month.

Effective the second full pay period after City Council approval of this MOU, all unit members with twenty (20) years of City service shall be paid an additional stipend of \$150 per month.

**ARTICLE 19 -- REGULAR PART-TIME BENEFIT PLAN**

19.1 Regular Part-Time Employee Benefit Plan:

Regular part-time employees are entitled to step increases; salary adjustments for their classification; deferred compensation (three and three quarters percent (3.75%) City and employee contribution) or CalPERS retirement benefits for employees exceeding the one thousand (1,000) hour per year minimum eligibility requirement; workers compensation insurance; holiday pay at five (5) hours per holiday; vacation and sick leave based upon a prorated share in which the employee's average work week bears to a forty (40) hour week; monthly medical at fifty percent (50%) of what the City contributes for full-time employees; and dental, and vision premiums fully paid by the City.

On benefits, which require a monetary contribution by City, the employee may elect to receive such benefit by payment to City of their portion of the prorated share. Part-time employees shall further be evaluated by their supervisors in the same manner in which permanent, full-time employees are evaluated. Benefits provided shall be limited to those that the City selected carriers and providers make available to part-time employees.

**ARTICLE 20 – DISCLAIMER**

20.1 Disclaimer:

Nothing contained in this MOU concerning benefits shall be deemed a representation by City concerning the taxable status of any benefit. In the event any benefit provided herein shall be deemed as taxable for any purpose, the payment of such tax shall be the sole responsibility of the employee.

## **ARTICLE 21 -- PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

### 21.1 City-Paid Physical Examinations:

Nondiscretionary physical examinations required by the City shall likewise be paid by the City with reasonable time off from work to accomplish that purpose. Each employee shall be responsible for the payment of elective physical examinations; however, reasonable use of sick leave shall be authorized by the employee's supervisor for that purpose.

## **ARTICLE 22 -- OPERATOR'S LICENSES/MEDICAL EXAMS**

### 22.1 City-Paid Special Operator's Licenses and Medical Exams:

In the event an employee, as a condition of their job classification, is required to carry a special operator's license from a governmental agency and/or required to meet certain physical standards, the City shall pay the additional cost, if any, of such license and the cost of needed physical examinations. The City shall also give reasonable time off for such purposes.

## **ARTICLE 23 -- MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS**

### 23.1 Miscellaneous Benefits:

The parties recognize that the City currently provides full-time employees with the following miscellaneous benefits: Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and access to a minimum of two (2) fitness centers at City designated facilities. Part-time employees will only be eligible for the fitness centers benefit in this section. The City, in its sole authority, shall select providers for the benefits under this section without "meeting and conferring" with the Union. In the event the City desires to terminate these miscellaneous benefits, it shall first meet and confer with Union.

No provision of this MOU shall require the City to maintain a no-interest computer loan program, and the City may, at its sole discretion, modify, suspend, or eliminate the no-interest computer loan program.

## **ARTICLE 24 -- SICK LEAVE**

### 24.1 Sick Leave:

#### a. Accrual of Sick Leave:

Every regular employee shall accrue sick leave at the rate of eight (8) hours per month after their first year of employment.

Immediately upon hire, new unit members shall be given a credit of ninety- six (96) hours of sick leave to their sick leave account for the first (1st) year of service. Accrual of additional sick leave will commence at the beginning of the thirteenth (13th) month of service.

An employee shall not receive payment for unused sick leave accumulated to their credit upon termination for cause, disability, retirement or voluntary resignation other than as provided in Section 24.1(i) of this MOU.

The right to accrue sick leave is unlimited.

b. Charge for Sick Leave:

If an employee performs their duties for part of a working day, they shall be credited with those hours worked, and charged sick leave only for those hours not worked by reason of illness or injury. Sick leave shall be charged to the nearest one-quarter hour.

c. Notification of Use of Sick Leave to Supervisor:

An employee using sick leave must notify their immediate supervisor within one (1) hour before the time set for the beginning of their work day or as may be specified by the Department Head.

d. Proof of Illness:

The Department Head may request a certificate issued by a licensed medical provider or other satisfactory proof of illness before sick leave is granted. Violation of sick leave privileges may result in disciplinary action and/or loss of pay when, the employee has abused such privileges. This section shall not apply to personal use time as set forth in Section 24.1(j) of this MOU. If the sick leave request equals five (5) or more working days, the Department Head may also require the employee to report to a City- selected medical practitioner, at City expense, to verify the employee's physical and/or mental ability to perform the essential functions of their position.

e. Sick Leave Request Forms:

A sick leave request form shall be completed at the department level on a form to be provided from time to time by the City. This form shall also cover other absences in addition to sick leave.

f. Illness or Injury While on Vacation:

Sick leave shall be granted to all classified employees who become ill or injured while on authorized vacation leave, provided that such illness would otherwise warrant use of sick leave, and provided further, that an attending physician's statement is furnished which states that the employee was incapacitated to a degree that would prohibit their performance of their normal duties.

g. Illness or Injury While on Normal Time Off:

Sick leave shall not be granted to employees who become ill or injured while absent from duty during normal days off or holidays. Should the injury or illness extend beyond such authorized time off duty, sick leave may be authorized in accordance with the conditions of this section.

h. Extension of Sick Leave:

After an employee's sick leave has been exhausted, they may be granted permission by the City Manager or designee to take any earned vacation they may have accrued.

i. Sick Leave Distribution:

The City agrees to provide unit members with the following payoff provision for accumulated sick leave upon the unit member's retirement or disability, or upon death of the unit member while employed by the City. In the case of death, accumulated sick leave benefits shall be paid to a beneficiary designated by the unit member.

- (1) Twenty-five percent (25%) of all accumulated sick leave after five (5) years of service with the City; payoff shall be prorated upon last five (5) years of service.
- (2) Fifty percent (50%) of all accumulated sick leave after ten (10) years of service with the City; payoff shall be prorated upon last five (5) years of service.
- (3) Seventy-five percent (75%) of all accumulated sick leave after twenty (20) years of service with the City; payoff shall be prorated upon last five (5) years of service.

j. Personal Use Time:

An employee may be permitted to utilize up to a maximum of ten (10) hours of sick leave as a personal use time during any calendar year, provided that the employee shall obtain the permission of the Department Head before utilizing said leave. Permission for utilization of personal use time shall not be unreasonably withheld. However, the Department Head may withhold permission to take personal use time based upon operational, staffing and service needs. Should a Department Head refuse to grant time off for personal use time, the Department Head and the employee shall reschedule personal use time as soon thereafter as practicable based upon the operational, staffing and service needs of the Department. Personal use time shall not be cumulative from year to year.

An employee shall only be entitled to ten (10) hours of personal use time in any one (1) fiscal year. An employee may request personal use time at not less than two (2) hour increments.

## ARTICLE 25 -- VACATIONS

### 25.1 Vacations:

Accrued vacation leave with pay shall be granted subject to the convenience of the service as hereinafter provided:

#### a. Eligibility for Use of Vacation:

Every probationary and regular employee shall be entitled to a paid vacation leave.

Accrual of vacation begins from the date of hire and is to be apportioned on the first (1st) and second (2nd) pay periods of each month.

#### b. Vacation Accrual (probationary and regular full-time employee):

Every probationary and regular full-time employee shall accumulate vacation leave in accordance with the following schedule:

- (1) During the first three (3) years of service, employees shall accrue ninety-six (96) vacation hours per year.
- (2) After three (3) full years of service, employees shall accrue one hundred and twenty (120) vacation hours per year.
- (3) After six (6) full years of service, employees shall accrue one hundred and forty-four (144) vacation hours per year.
- (4) After nine (9) full years of service, employees shall accrue one hundred and sixty (160) vacation hours per year.
- (5) After twelve (12) full years of service, employees shall accrue one hundred and sixty-eight (168) vacation hours per year.

#### c. Vacation Accrual (Permanent Part-Time):

Permanent part-time employees shall accrue vacation in accordance with Section 25.1(b) above and on a prorated basis, based on the number of hours worked.

#### d. Maximum Accrual:

Unit members may carry over a maximum of one (1) years' accumulated vacation leave to the succeeding calendar year. A unit member will cease accruing

additional paid vacation leave once they has two (2) years accrued vacation on their vacation balance.

e. Scheduling Vacations:

The times during which an employee may take annual vacation leave shall be determined by their Department Head, respecting the wishes of the employee so far as such is compatible with the needs of the service.

f. Holidays During Vacation Leave:

In the event that one (1) or more municipal holidays fall during a period when an employee is on vacation leave, such holidays shall not be charged as vacation leave.

g. Pay for Accumulated Vacation:

Each City employee who leaves the employment of the City shall be granted all accumulated vacation or shall be paid therefore at their rate of compensation applicable at the time they leave the employment of the City. Due to the fact that employees seldom terminate on the final day of a month, the following method shall provide for equitable payment for vacation earned during the month of termination. If an employee terminates on a day falling on the first (1st) through the fifteenth (15th) of a month, the employee shall receive credit for one-half (½) of the months' vacation accrual; if an employee terminates on a day falling on the sixteenth (16th) through the thirty-first (31st) day of a month, the employee shall receive full credit for the vacation accrual for the month.

No leave credit shall be earned on terminal leave payments. When separation is caused by the death of any employee, payment shall be made to the estate of such employee or, in applicable cases, as provided by the Probate Code of the State.

h. Vacation Sale:

Unit members with more than two (2) years of service may sell unused vacation time in an amount not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of that earned in the preceding twelve (12) month period. The sum of the calculation shall be based on the employee's salary at the time of the sale.

Effective July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, no unit members may sell unused vacation.

Effective January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, unit members may sell unused vacation time in an amount not to exceed eighty (80) hours.

## **ARTICLE 26 -- MILITARY LEAVE**

### 26.1 Military Leave:

Military leave with pay shall be granted in accordance with provisions of the Military and Veterans Code of the State and applicable federal law. An employee entitled to military leave shall give their Department Head an opportunity within the limits of military regulations to determine when such leave shall be taken. Prior to taking such leave, an employee shall present a copy of their military orders to their Department Head. The Department Head shall advise the Human Resources

Manager of such military orders immediately. Sick leave and annual vacation leave shall accrue to the employee during the period the employee is on military leave.

This provision shall not be construed to grant any benefits to employees who voluntarily join the armed services or who are called to full-time active duty in the armed services.

## **ARTICLE 27 -- JURY DUTY**

### 27.1 Jury Duty:

An employee on jury duty shall receive full pay and benefits for a maximum of two (2) weeks per calendar year. Any compensation for such jury duty, except travel pay, shall be returned to the City. City shall continue jury duty pay for those employees whose jury assignment, though originally estimated to be two (2) weeks or less, but is continued beyond the estimated time. Employees must return to work within a reasonable time if excused from jury duty during the employee's regular working hours.

## **ARTICLE 28 -- LEAVE OF ABSENCE/WITHOUT PAY**

### 28.1 Leave of Absence Without Pay:

#### a. General Policy:

Any employee may be granted a leave of absence without pay upon the approval of the City Manager or designee pursuant to the recommendation of their Department Head and the Human Resources Manager. A leave without pay may be granted for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Illness or disability.
- (2) To take a course of study which shall increase the employee's usefulness on return to their position in the City service.

(3) For personal reasons acceptable to the City Manager or designee and Department Head.

An employee shall utilize all their vacation and/or compensatory time off prior to taking an authorized leave of absence without pay. If such leave is due to illness or disability, employee shall use accrued sick leave prior to using accrued vacation and/or compensatory time.

During a leave of absence without pay, other than granted pursuant to Family Medical Leave Act or California Family Rights Act, the City shall not contribute any payments toward any of the benefit plans (medical, dental, life, disability, retirement, etc.). To remain on the City's medical or life benefit plans, the employee may pay the entire premium prior to the first (1st) of each month. Failure to pay these premiums shall terminate coverage.

During a leave of absence without pay, no credit for benefits including retirement, sick leave, vacation, holidays, seniority, etc., shall accrue.

The granting of any leave of absence without pay exceeding fifteen (15) consecutive calendar days shall cause the employee's salary anniversary date to be postponed by the number of calendar days for which such leave of absence has been granted, less the first fifteen (15) calendar days of such leave. The employee shall be assigned a new salary anniversary date which shall be the date to which their previous salary anniversary date has been postponed.

b. Authorization Procedure:

Requests for leave of absence without pay shall be made upon forms prescribed by the City Manager or designee and shall state specifically the reason for the request, the date when it is desired to begin the leave and the probable date of return. The request shall normally be initiated by the employee but may be initiated by their Department Head and upon written recommendation of the Department Head that it be granted, modified or denied, shall be promptly transmitted to the City Manager or designee. The City Manager or designee shall then make their recommendation in writing and return the response to the Department Head. A copy of any approved request for leave of absence without pay shall be delivered promptly to the Finance Director. Unless otherwise stated as a condition of approval of the leave, an employee shall return to their previous classification and step level and retain seniority earned at commencement of leave.

If the City Manager or designee modifies or does not approve a request for Leave, the employee may, within fifteen (15) calendar days of said action, file a request with the Human Resources Manager for review by the City Council. Upon such request, the Human Resources Manager shall forward a copy of the request for Leave to the City Council for final determination. The employee shall notify the

Human Resources Manager whether they shall submit their position in a written statement or wishes to appear before the Council. The City may present its position in the same manner as the employee. The City Council, at its discretion, may designate one (1) or more Council members to meet with the employee and decide such appeals. The decision on such appeal shall be final.

c. Length of Leave and Extension:

A leave of absence without pay may be made for a period not to exceed one (1) year. The City Manager or designee may extend such leave for an additional period not to exceed one (1) year. Procedure in granting extensions shall be the same as that in granting the original leave provided that the request for extension is made in writing no later than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the expiration of the original leave.

d. Return from Leave:

When an employee intends to return from an authorized leave of absence without pay either before or upon the expiration of such leave, they shall contact their Department Head at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the day they plan to return. The Department Head shall promptly notify the City Manager or designee of the employee's intention.

e. Leave Without Pay:

An employee shall utilize all their vacation and/or compensatory time off prior to taking an authorized leave of absence without pay.

## **ARTICLE 29 -- BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

29.1 Bereavement Leave:

Whenever any employee is compelled to be absent from duty by reason of death in the employee's immediate family, defined as spouse, domestic partner, child, parent, parent-in-law, sibling, grandparent, or grandchild (as defined in Government Code Section 12945.2), such person shall be entitled to a leave of absence with pay for up to five (5) working days.

The employee shall furnish satisfactory evidence of such death to their Department Head.

## **ARTICLE 30 -- FAMILY SICK LEAVE**

30.1 Use of Family Sick Leave:

Employees may use any amount of accumulated sick leave for family sick leave.

30.2 Use for a Qualified Family Member:

Family sick leave may be used when a member of the employee's immediate family (biological, foster, or adoptive parent; step-parent; legal guardian brother, sister, spouse; domestic partner biological, foster, or adoptive child, step-child; legal ward; child of domestic partner; or child of an employee standing in loco parentis; parent-in-law; grandparent; or grandchildren), requires the immediate attention and care of the employee.

30.3 Proof of Illness or Injury for Family Member:

Employees may be required to provide satisfactory proof of the illness or injury to justify the absence; however, no such proof shall require the disclosure of the family member's diagnosis or condition.

**ARTICLE 31 -- NON-OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY LEAVE**

31.1 Non-occupational Disability Leave:

a. Upon submission of an appropriate certificate from a licensed medical provider, an employee may be granted non-occupational disability leave. The employee utilizing non-occupational disability leave shall utilize all sick leave accredited to them and upon the expiration of sick leave shall utilize any accredited annual vacation leave and compensatory time. When sick leave, annual vacation leave, and compensatory time are exhausted, the remainder of the absence required shall be on the basis of leave without pay. The leave without pay shall constitute a break in continuous service with the City.

Non-occupational disability leave shall not extend beyond a maximum period of six (6) months. If additional leave is desired the employee may request additional leave in accordance with Article 28 - Leave of Absence Without Pay.

b. An employee shall not be entitled to more than one (1) such leave pursuant to this section per twelve (12) month period.

**ARTICLE 32 -- WORKERS' COMPENSATION LEAVE**

32.1 Workers' Compensation Leave:

a. The first three (3) workdays of industrial accident leave shall be charged to employee's accumulated sick leave. If the industrial leave exceeds three (3) days, the sick leave used shall be re-credited to the employee.

b. Industrial injury temporary disability leave shall be paid at the current State Labor Code rate. An employee may use accrued sick leave, compensatory time, and vacation time, in that order, to supplement temporary disability payments up to that employee's last full paycheck net amount within twenty dollars (\$20.00).

The employee shall not accrue sick leave or vacation credit during the period in which the employee receives Workers' Compensation temporary disability benefits.

The merit increase eligibility date and probation period of any employee who receives Workers' Compensation benefits shall be extended by the length of time the employee receives such benefits, except the first fifteen (15) consecutive calendar days from the date of injury shall be continuous City service for merit increase eligibility or completion of probation.

### **ARTICLE 33 -- LAYOFFS**

#### **33.1 Order of Layoff:**

The following order of layoff shall first be instituted within an affected classification in a department:

- a. Temporary part-time employees
- b. Temporary full-time employees
- c. Initial probationary employees
- d. Trainee part-time employees
- e. Trainee full-time employees
- f. Contract employees

#### **33.2 Seniority:**

When the City orders a reduction in the work force, the layoff of regular status employees shall be first based upon seniority within a classification and secondly, based upon seniority in total service with the City.

#### **33.3 Ties in Seniority:**

Regular status employees in the same division with equal time in a classification and total service in the City shall be laid off based upon past performance ratings and relative ability as determined by the City.

#### **33.4 Bumping Rights:**

In order to exercise bumping rights, a regular status employee must have previously served in the lower classification and must have seniority in that classification over the regular status employee who would be displaced.

#### **33.5 Voluntary Demotion:**

A regular status employee who is subject to layoff may, in lieu of layoff; choose a demotion to a lower classification in the same division, provided they give written

notice to their Department Head ten (10) calendar days after receiving notice of layoff. Regular employees who elect to demote under this provision shall be placed on the step nearest their present salary within the range of classification to which they are demoting, provided such step shall not exceed present salary.

33.6 Notice:

The City shall give, or send by regular and certified U.S. mail to the last known address of affected employees, written notice at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the effective date of the layoff. Notice is not affected by failure of employee to return receipt for certified mail. Under emergency circumstances, the notice period may be shortened. The recognized employee organization shall be in receipt of the layoff notice twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time affected employees are notified, provided such notice shall be kept in strict confidence by the employee organization. The notice shall include:

- a. The reason for layoff
- b. The effective date of the action
- c. If laid off out of seniority

33.7 Re-employment:

Regular status employees laid off or taking voluntary demotion in service shall be re-employed in the inverse order of their layoff or demotion. Regular status employees laid off or taking a voluntary demotion in rank shall be maintained on the reemployment list until such employee once refuses to accept reinstatement or for two (2) years, whichever occurs first. The seniority date of a returning employee, after resignation or termination, shall be the first working day after the break in service. Seniority date of laid off employee's remains the same for the two (2) year reinstatement period.

**ARTICLE 34 -- GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY APPEALS PROCEDURE**

34.1 Grievance:

A "grievance" shall mean a written allegation by an employee(s) or the Union concerning a dispute arising out of the interpretation or application of the specific terms of this MOU and/or written employment policy, rules and regulations which affect terms and conditions of employment. An authorized Union representative may file a "grievance" on behalf of all employees to avoid a multiplicity of grievances over the same dispute.

34.2 Scope of Grievances:

A grievance may be filed if a management interpretation or application of the provisions of this MOU adversely affects an employee's wages, hours or conditions of employment.

Specifically excluded from the scope of grievances are:

- a. Subjects involving the amendment or change of City Council resolutions or ordinances which do not incorporate the provisions of this MOU;
- b. Matters which have other means of appeal;
- c. Position classifications;
- d. Standard or better Performance Evaluations.

34.3 Representatives:

An employee may represent himself/herself or may be represented by Union during any step of this procedure.

34.4 Procedural Due Process:

The grievance procedure contained herein shall not act as a substitute for procedural due process rights for individual employees, with respect to pre-disciplinary/discharge matters.

In resolving disciplinary matters other than reprimands, the City and Union agree to proceed immediately to the first two (2) steps of the grievance procedure as provided herein. In the event a disciplinary matter is not resolved in Step 2, the aggrieved employee may appeal as provided herein. The parties may, by mutual consent, waive their right to proceed with any of the steps of the grievance procedure.

34.5 Days:

Reference to days in this procedure shall mean calendar days.

34.6 Time Limitation and Waiver:

A grievance shall not be valid unless it is submitted to the City's designee, in writing, setting forth the facts and the specific provisions of the MOU allegedly violated and the particular relief sought within ten (10) days after the date the grievant knew or in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have known, of the event giving rise to the grievance occurred. Failure to file or process any grievance within the prescribed time limitation may constitute a bar of such grievance.

Failure by the City's representative to issue a decision within the time periods provided herein shall constitute a denial of the grievance and the grievant may appeal

to the next level. The City's representative, prior to issuing a decision at Step 1 or Step 2, shall meet with the grievant and his representative, if any. Any issue or dispute concerning the procedures of this grievance procedure, including the timeliness of the filing or processing of a grievance, shall be subject to determination by the hearing officer.

34.7 Informal Conference:

Prior to filing a formal grievance, an employee should discuss his grievance with his immediate supervisor in an effort to adjust the alleged grievance informally.

34.9 Step 1:

If the grievance is not resolved through the informal conference with the immediate supervisor, the employee may file a written grievance with the Department Head within the time prescribed in Section 34.7 of this Article. Within five (5) days after receipt of the written grievance, the Department Head and/or other representatives as may be designated by the City shall meet with the grievant. A written decision shall be given to the grievant within ten (10) days thereafter.

34.10 Step 2:

If the grievance is not resolved at Step 1, the grievant shall have ten (10) days after receipt of the Step 1 decision to file a written appeal to the City Manager or designee. Within seven (7) days after receipt of the written grievance, the City Manager or designee shall meet with the grievant.

A written decision shall be given to the grievant within ten (10) days thereafter.

34.11 Step 3:

In the event the grievance is not resolved in Step 2, the grievant may appeal within fifteen (15) days by filing written notice with the City Manager or designee.

If, within the fifteen (15) day appeal period, the employee involved does not file said appeal, the action of the City shall be considered conclusive and shall take effect as prescribed.

If, within the fifteen (15) day appeal period, the employee involved files such notice of appeal by giving written notice of appeal to the City Manager or designee, a time for an appeal hearing before a hearing officer mutually selected by the parties (employee and/or Union or City) shall be established. The date for a hearing shall not be less than ten (10) days, nor more than thirty (30) days, unless agreed otherwise, from the date of the filing of the appeal. All interested parties shall be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the hearing at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the hearing.

The decision of the City Manager or designee shall be final and binding and shall not be referable to a hearing officer in grievances concerning:

- a. Sub-standard Performance Evaluation;
- b. Deferral or denial of a merit increase; or
- c. A three (3) day suspension or any lesser action.

34.12 Conduct of Hearings:

All hearings shall be open to the public, provided, however, that the hearing officer shall, at the request of the employee, exclude the public from all or any portion of such hearings.

The hearing need not be conducted in accordance with technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses but hearings shall be conducted in a manner most conducive to determination of the truth.

The hearing officer shall determine relevancy, weight, and credibility of testimony and evidence. He shall base his findings on the preponderance of evidence.

Decisions made by the hearing officer shall not be invalidated by any informality in the proceedings.

The hearing officer shall not have the authority to add to, modify, or subtract from this Agreement or to take testimony from one party outside the presence of the other. The hearing officer shall not have the authority or power to render a binding decision that requires the City to expend additional funds, to hire additional personnel, to buy additional equipment or supplies, or to pay wages or benefits not specifically provided for in this Agreement or to take any action which would be in violation of Federal or State laws.

In disciplinary matters, the hearing officer may sustain or reject any or all of the charges filed against the employee. He may sustain, reject or modify the disciplinary action invoked against the employee. He may not provide for discipline more stringent than that invoked by the appointing authority.

34.13 Hearing Officer's Decision:

The hearing officer shall render his decision as soon after the conclusion of the hearing as possible and in no event later than thirty (30) working days after conducting the hearing. His decision shall set forth which charges, if any, are sustained and the reasons therefore.

The hearing officer's written findings and conclusions, which support their decision, shall be filed with the City, the charged employee and their representative, if any. Except as provided hereinafter, the decision of the hearing officer is final and binding and shall be implemented by the City Manager or designee. The cost of the hearing and the hearing officer's fees shall be borne equally by the parties.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of an appeal over an employee termination, the decision of the hearing officer shall be subject to review by the City Council. The City Council, by a minimum of four-fifths (4/5) affirmative votes, may sustain, reject or modify the decision of the hearing officer. Upon request, the affected employee or their representative shall be permitted to address the City Council in closed session prior to the City Council taking action on the appeal. The decision of the City Council shall be final and binding.

### **ARTICLE 35 -- SHOP STEWARD**

#### **35.1 Shop Stewards:**

A Shop Steward shall be a City employee as selected by the Union. A list of Shop Stewards shall be kept current and sent by the Union to each Department Head and to the Human Resources Manager.

Up to three (3) Stewards in the unit, designated by the Union, shall be allowed paid release time for Union business, up to two (2) hours per Steward per month, and shall be entitled to additional paid release time for grievance meetings with management.

Stewards shall not leave their work assignment, nor interfere with the work of another employee, without first obtaining permission from the supervisors of the Steward and any involved employee.

Additional release time, which shall be unpaid, may be allowed at the discretion of the supervisor. Release time hereunder shall not be unreasonably denied.

### **ARTICLE 36 -- EDUCATIONAL REIMBURSEMENT AND INCENTIVE**

#### **36.1 Educational Reimbursement Program:**

Full-time, regular employees of the City who have passed original probation shall qualify for participation in the educational reimbursement program. The program covers courses taken at accredited colleges, accredited universities, correspondence courses and other institutions. Reimbursement shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per calendar year.

#### **36.2 Reimbursement will be subject to the following:**

- a. The course elected must be of benefit to the City and directly related to the employee's current duties or future employment with the City. Courses taken to satisfy an associate, bachelor's or master's degree requirement may be approved, provided that the degree goal is in the field of current employment of the employee or future employment with the City.
- b. The employee must be enrolled in an institution of higher education fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ("WASC"). Any

employee who is currently enrolled at a non-WASC accredited institution shall be deemed a legacy beneficiary of this section so long as they were enrolled in such college or university prior to July 31, 2024.

- c. Each employee must attend on their own time and complete the course satisfactorily with a passing grade of "C" or its numerical equivalent, or a "pass" or "credit" for the class.
- d. The employee must obtain approval, in writing, from the Department Head or their designee, prior to enrolling in the course.
- e. Such reimbursement shall include tuition, books and parking fees used to complete course requirements on assigned projects, but shall not include travel time, mileage, and other miscellaneous costs.
- f. Upon completion of the course, the employee shall attach their grade report, along with receipts for covered items to their approved application for educational reimbursement and present it to the Department Head. The Department Head shall forward the records of completion to the Human Resources Manager.
- g. The Human Resources Manager shall authorize a tuition education reimbursement upon certification of satisfactory course completion.
- h. Copies of courses completed and the grades attained shall be maintained in the employee's personnel file and in the department's file.
- i. Applications for reimbursement shall be accepted no later than one (1) month after the course grades have been distributed.
- j. In order to participate in the educational reimbursement program, an employee shall be required to provide the City with written authorization to deduct the costs of such course(s) from the employee's last pay check if the employee leaves the City service within one (1) year after completion of the course(s) paid for by the City. If the last paycheck is insufficient to repay the costs, the employee shall be required to make appropriate arrangements, including a promissory note, to repay the balance within one (1) year of leaving the City service. The City Manager or designee may alter the above requirements in unusual circumstances.

36.3 Educational Incentive Program:

The City will pay a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100) monthly to those unit members presently holding or hereafter obtaining an Associates, Bachelor's, or Master's degree directly related to the performance of their duties.

## **ARTICLE 37 -- CERTIFICATE INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

The City will pay a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100) monthly to those unit members presently holding or hereafter obtaining certifications directly related to the performance of their duties. The specific certifications, job positions and eligibility requirements to participate in the program are listed in Appendix "B" of this MOU.

In January of each year, the parties shall meet to make additions or amendments, as necessary, to the list of certifications and/or positions.

## **ARTICLE 38 -- RULES OF CONDUCT**

### **38.1 Rules of Conduct:**

When people work together, certain rules and regulations are necessary so that the business of the City may be conducted in an orderly manner and the welfare of the employees protected. City rules are founded on common sense and the principles of good citizenship. The City does not wish to restrict the rights of anyone, but rather to define them. Violation of these rules or regulations may result in disciplinary action.

### **38.2 Non-City Sponsored Activities:**

- a. Activities not sponsored by the City such as: speeches, distribution of any kind of literature, interviewing employees, etc., regardless of their source or subject matter, shall not be allowed on City property or during working hours, unless specifically authorized by the City Manager or designee.
- b. Solicitation for items of any kind and the sale of merchandise on City property or during working hours must be specifically approved by the City Manager or designee.

### **38.3 Rules of Order:**

- a. Employees are expected to go directly to the department to which they have been assigned.
- b. Employees shall not bring on premises articles to be sold or bartered.
- c. While on the City premises or during working hours, employees shall not:
  - (1) Work on other than City business unless specifically authorized by the City Manager or designee.
  - (2) Loiter in the restrooms, break room or other locations.
  - (3) Engage in horseplay.

- (4) Meddle with machines, material, apparatus, tools or equipment assigned to other employees.
- (5) Spit on floors, walls, or in the drinking fountains, wastebaskets or rubbish cans.
- (6) Have firearms in their possession under any conditions unless assigned as part of City-required equipment.
- (7) Sleep on the job.
- (8) Submit reports, which are knowingly false.
- (9) Leave the City premises or job site without proper permission of their supervisor.
- (10) Commit acts of insubordination by refusing to obey instructions, requests or orders as given by supervisors, or directing disrespectful remarks toward and/or about supervisors.
- (11) Refuse to cooperate with supervisors and/or other employees, which would interfere with the best interests of the City.

38.4 Morals:

The City desires to maintain wholesome working conditions. Employees who participate in objectionable activities, such as the following, on City premises or during working hours, are subject to disciplinary action:

- a. Possession, transportation or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs. Drinking is not permitted during working hours. Being under the influence of alcoholic beverages during working hours is prohibited. Consuming alcoholic beverages at any time in any public place while wearing a City uniform or insignia is prohibited. Using or possessing illegal drugs on City property or during working hours is prohibited.
- b. Gambling in any form such as, but not limited to, betting or wagering, card playing for stakes, raffles, lotteries, pools, numbers and punch cards. The prohibition of gambling applies not only to the sale or distribution of tickets, but also to the purchasing of such ticket, except as may be allowed by State law.
- c. The use of offensive, profane or vulgar language. This includes, but is not limited to, swearing at a co-worker or threatening the co-worker with physical violence.
- d. Fighting.
- e. Acts of dishonesty, including, but not limited to, theft.

- f. Malicious slander about another employee.
- g. Immoral behavior.

38.5 Attendance and Working Hours:

- a. The supervisor shall schedule two (2) breaks and the lunch period in each working day. The department supervisor may modify the break and lunch periods to suit the needs of the department.
- b. Employees are expected to be at their place of work at the starting time specified by their supervisor. In the event an employee is going to be either absent or tardy, he is to notify his department supervisor or the Public Works Department by telephone or other means, at the earliest possible time.

Any employee absent without notifying the City may be subject to disciplinary action.

- c. In order to reemphasize the policies of the City and to insure compliance with Federal and State laws, it is mandatory that all employees follow these regulations:
  - (1) Employees shall not be permitted to start work before the time specified by the department supervisor. Work includes any handling of tools, equipment or material prior to performing actual job duties.
  - (2) Employees shall not work after the time specified by the department supervisor and must leave the City premises immediately. They shall not be permitted to linger at the Corporation Yard.
  - (3) Employees are not permitted to work during their lunch period.

38.6 Personal Conduct:

All City employees must bear in mind that their appearance and conduct directly affects the public's opinion of their City government. It is, therefore, each employee's responsibility to:

- a. Maintain proper relations with the public while performing their duties— this includes mannerisms, personal appearance and spoken word.
- b. Conduct himself/herself in accordance with the spirit and letter of all laws of the community.

38.7 Accident Involving City Property or Equipment:

City employees are expressly forbidden to make statements concerning accidents involving City property or equipment unless authorized by the City Manager or designee or City Attorney.

## ARTICLE 39 -- CLASSIFICATION

### 39.1 Reclassifications:

An employee who demonstrates that they meet the qualifications and requirements of a more advanced classification can be re-classed to a higher salary range.

The salary anniversary date, the date on which the employee is eligible for a performance evaluation and/or merit increase, does not change.

The employee shall be compensated at the step in the new salary range, which comes nearest to, but not less than, five percent (5%) higher than the step she/he held in the previous salary range.

A reclassification effective on the employee's annual review date makes them eligible for a step increase in addition to the change in salary range, if the employee is not on the top step of the classification.

### 39.2 Natural Progression:

The following classification series were designed to create a natural progression with incumbents progressing to the next level upon obtaining the requisite skills and knowledge of the higher classification:

- Accounting Technician I and II
- Building Inspector I and II
- Library Assistant I and II
- Office Specialist I and II
- Public Works Inspector I and II
- Utility Worker, Maintenance Worker I, and Maintenance Worker II
- Water Distribution Operator I and Water Distribution Operator II
- Waste Water Collection Operator I and Waste Water Collection Operator II

In order to progress to the next level, an evaluation of the incumbent's skill and performance level with a reclassification recommendation must be completed by management and approved by the Human Resources Manager and City Manager or designee.

### 39.3 Classification Review Procedure:

The Human Resources Manager is primarily responsible for the initiation of classification review studies and the recommendation of changes to the classification plan.

An employee may initiate a review of their classification by submitting a written request, which includes the reasons for the request to their Department Head.

If the Department Head has twice refused to refer the request to the Human Resources Manager, the employee may send the request to the Union. The Union may refer such written requests to the Human Resources Manager. The Human Resources Manager shall take one of the following actions:

- a. Accept the request for study, or
- b. Return the request to the Union with an explanation for non-action.

Requests referred to the Human Resources Manager are subject to the same discretionary judgments regarding priority as other requests.

39.4 Establishment of New Classification:

The City agrees to give written notice to the Union of the establishment of any new classification in the bargaining unit, the job duties for that classification and the proposed pay rate for that classification. If the Union does not agree that the pay rate set for the classification is proper, the Union may request meet and confer on that issue. A request by the Union for meet and confer must be made within ten (10) working days following receipt of such notification from the City.

**ARTICLE 40 -- PROMOTION PROCEDURE**

40.1 Promotion Procedure:

A promotion is normally effected by a recruitment process, initiated by recommendation of the Department Head to the City Manager or designee. By job flyer/announcement, a competitive examination is conducted which may involve a written test, oral appraisal, performance examination, an assessment center, or a combination of those elements.

The successful employee may be placed on a salary step lower than the employee had before the promotion, depending on the recommendation of the Department Head, but not less than five percent (5%) above former salary.

The promoted employee would be placed on a probationary status in the new position for six (6) months, one (1) year for safety classifications, and evaluated at three (3) months and again at six (6) months.

The salary anniversary date changes to the date six (6) months from the new appointment and the incumbent would be eligible, based on a satisfactory evaluation, for a five percent (5%) step increase at this time and on this date annually until top step is achieved.

## **ARTICLE 41 -- RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **41.1 Rules and Regulations:**

The City shall have the right to issue reasonable employee rules and regulations not in conflict with the express terms of this MOU, provided that such rules and regulations are:

- a. Discussed with the Union prior to adoption;
- b. Submitted to the Union prior to adoption; and
- c. Posted in conspicuous places so that employees are advised and have notice of such rules and/or regulations prior to their implementation.

## **ARTICLE 42 -- COMPLETION OF MEET AND CONFER**

### **42.1 Understanding:**

It is intended that this Agreement sets forth the full and entire understanding of the parties regarding the matters set forth herein, and any other prior or existing understanding or agreements by the parties, whether formal or informal, regarding any such matters are hereby superseded or terminated in their entirety.

### **42.2 Waiver:**

Except as specifically provided herein in this MOU, it is agreed and understood that the Union voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives its right, and agrees that the City shall not be required to negotiate with respect to any subject or matter covered herein during the term of this Agreement.

Any agreement, alteration, understanding, variation, waiver or modification of any of the terms or provisions contained herein shall not be binding upon the parties hereto unless made and executed in writing by all parties hereto, and if required, approved and implemented by the City Council.

The waiver of any breach, term or condition of this Agreement by either party shall not constitute a precedent in the future enforcement of all its terms and provisions.

### **42.3 Re-Opener on Mandated Certifications:**

In the event a State or Federal mandate occurs during the period of this contract and requires special certifications to be maintained by City employees, parties agree to meet and confer within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of a written request from the other party. Said request shall state the reason and purpose of the request. Discussions shall be limited to only the issues related to the mandate, and shall not be deemed as a re-opener, and no other article or provision of this Agreement shall be affected.

42.4 Re-Opener on City Personnel Rules:

Notwithstanding the terms of this MOU, upon thirty (30) days' notice by the City to the Union, the City may re-open on the subject of revisions to City's Personnel Rules.

**ARTICLE 43 -- SAVINGS CLAUSE**

43.1 Savings Clause:

Should any provision of this MOU, or any application thereof, be unlawful by virtue of any Federal, State or local laws and regulations, or by court decision, such provision shall be effective and implemented only to the extent permitted by such law, regulation or court decision.

In the event of such invalidation, the City and the Union agree to meet and confer, within thirty (30) days from receipt of a written request by either party, regarding proposals addressing the invalidated provision. But in all other respects, the provisions of this MOU shall continue in full force and effect for the term thereof.

**ARTICLE 44 -- PERSONNEL FILE**

44.1 Personnel File:

The City, upon reasonable advance request, shall provide an employee the opportunity to review their personnel file. Copies of the contents of this file requested by the employee shall be provided at no expense. The Human Resources Division shall maintain the official personnel file.

The employee may respond in writing to any item placed in their personnel file. Such written response shall become a part of the file.

The employee shall have the opportunity to review and shall sign any personnel document that reflects an adverse action, prior to such document being entered into the employee's personnel file. The employee's signature does not necessarily indicate agreement, and each document shall indicate so.

**ARTICLE 45 -- HEALTH AND SAFETY**

45.1 Standards of Operation:

The City agrees to abide by and maintain in its facilities and work operations standards of safety and health in accordance with applicable safety laws and regulations.

45.2 Required Safety Devices, Equipment and Clothing:

The City shall provide required safety devices and personal protective equipment and clothing for all employees. Such devices, equipment and clothing, where provided, must be used.

45.3 Unsafe Working Conditions:

If an employee reasonably believes that an assigned job or equipment is unsafe, and for that reason refuses to perform the job, the employee shall immediately give specific reason(s) to the supervisor. The supervisor shall request an immediate determination by the City Safety Representative or designee as to whether the job or equipment is safe. Pending a safety analysis and determination provided for in this Section, the employee may be given suitable work elsewhere. If the work is deemed safe by the City Safety Representative or designee, the employee shall complete the assigned job.

45.4 Reporting Procedure:

Employees may report specific concerns, in writing, regarding safety and health to their supervisors. The City shall address such concerns, and where appropriate, conduct an investigation. If an investigation reveals that a safety hazard exists, the City shall take reasonable steps to eliminate the hazard.

45.5 Safety Committee:

The City shall have a Safety Committee in accordance with the City's Illness and Injury Prevention Program. The Union may select its employee representative to the Committee. Said representative shall be paid for time spent at Safety Committee meetings. The Union shall receive copies of Safety Committee meeting minutes.

45.6 Workplace Safety Training:

During the term of this Agreement, the City agrees to provide training for all employees on workplace safety. Such training will be provided in a joint effort with the Human Resources Division and the Hemet Police Department.

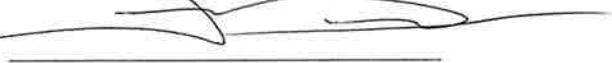
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
CITY OF HEMET  
AND  
THE NON-SAFETY UNIT (GENERAL EMPLOYEES)  
OF  
SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 721

**On Behalf of SEIU**

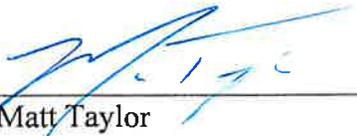
  
Steve Koffroth, Chief Negotiator

  
Donald Kay

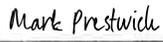
  
Kimberly Maggs  
Manager

  
Joshua Sibole

  
Casandra Sotelo

  
Matt Taylor

**On Behalf of the CITY OF HEMET**

Signed by:  
  
Mark Prestwich, City Manager

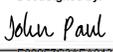
Signed by:  
  
Peter Q. Nguyen, Chief Negotiator

DocuSigned by:  
  
Norma C. Rangel, Human Resources

ATTEST AS TO FORM

DocuSigned by:  
  
Steven Graham, City Attorney

Dated: 8/15/2024

ATTEST:  
  
John Maier, City Clerk

**APPENDIX A**  
**CITY OF HEMET**  
**ALPHABETICAL LISTINGS OF SEIU REPRESENTED CLASSIFICATIONS**

Accountant	Library Assistant II
Accounting Technician I	Library Associate I
Accounting Technician II	Library Associate II
Accounting Technician III	Library Page Part Time
Assistant Civil Engineer	Literacy Coordinator Part Time
Assistant Planner	Maintenance Management Technician
Building Inspector I	Maintenance Worker I
Building Inspector II	Maintenance Worker II
Building Technician I	Office Specialist I
Building Technician II	Office Specialist II
Business License Technician	Office Specialist III
CDBG Coordinator	Park Ranger
Code Enforcement Officer	Planning Technician
Code Enforcement Officer II	Plans Examiner
Community Development Specialist	Public Works Inspector I
Community Center Technician	Public Works Inspector II
Cross Connection Spec/CSR	Purchasing Assistant
Customer Service Representative	Senior Building Inspector
Engineering Technician I	Senior Engineering Technician
Engineering Technician II	Senior Public Works Inspector
Equipment Mechanic	Sweeper Operator
Equipment Maintenance Service Worker	Traffic Painter
Facility Services Aide	Tree Trimmer
Facilities Technician	Utility Worker
Geographic Information Systems Specialist	Wastewater Collections Systems Operator I
Housing Program Specialist	Wastewater Collections Systems Operator II
Housing Technician	Water Distribution Systems Operator I
Lead Equipment Mechanic	Water Distribution Systems Operator II
Lead Maintenance Worker	Water Production Systems Operator I
Lead Traffic Painter	Water Production Systems Operator II
Lead Tree Trimmer	Water Quality and Conservation Specialist
Lead Wastewater Collections Systems Operator	
Lead Water Distribution Systems Operator	
Library Assistant I	

**APPENDIX B**  
**CITY OF HEMET**  
**SEIU CERTIFICATES PAY LISTING**

SEIU Certifications	Positions Eligible	Requirements for Certification Pay
<b>Building Inspection Certifications:</b>		
Commercial Energy Inspector (ICC) Commercial Mechanical Inspector (ICC) Commercial Plumbing Inspector (ICC) Commercial Electrical Inspector (ICC) ICC Accessibility Inspector or CASP California Mechanical Inspector California Plumbing Inspector  Commercial Building Inspector (ICC) IgCC Commercial Inspector with ASHRAE 189.1 (ICC) IgCC Commercial Inspector (ICC) Residential Electrical Inspector (ICC) Residential Mechanical Inspector (ICC) Residential Fire Sprinkler Inspector/Plans Examiner (ICC) Residential Energy Inspector/Plans Examiner (ICC) Residential Building Inspector (ICC) Residential Plumbing Inspector (ICC) UMC Mechanical Inspector UPC Plumbing Inspector	Building Inspector I Building Inspector II Senior Building Inspector           Plans Examiner Code Enforcement Officer I Code Enforcement Officer II	Job requires one (1) certification as a condition of employment. Eligible for certification pay with <u>second</u> certification. Certification(s) must be related to performance of the job duties.           Eligible for inspection certification directly related to job duties.
<b>Building Plans Examiner Certifications:</b>		
Electrical Plans Examiner (ICC) Green Building-Residential Examiner IgCC Plans Examiner (ICC) IgCC Plans Examiner with ASHRAE 189.1 (ICC) Building Plans Examiner (ICC) Commercial Energy Plans Examiner (ICC) Plumbing Plans Examiner (ICC)  Residential Plans Examiner (ICC) Residential Fire Sprinkler Inspector/Plans Examiner (ICC) Residential Energy Inspector/Plans Examiner (ICC) UMC Mechanical Plans Inspector UPC Plumbing Plans Inspector	Plans Examiner           Permit Technician Building Inspector I & II Senior Building Inspector	Job requires one (1) certification as a condition of employment. Eligible for certification pay with second certification. Certification(s) must be related to performance of the job duties.           Eligible for plans certification directly related to job duties.
<b>Building Permit Technician Certifications:</b>		
Permit Technician (ICC)	Permit Technician	Certificate required for job.

SEIU Certifications	Positions Eligible	Requirements for Certification Pay
<b>Planning Certifications:</b>		
AICP Environmental and Land Use Planning	All SEIU Planners Planning Technician Assistant Planner	Eligible for certification pay. Eligible if in addition to minimum education requirements for the position.
<b>Code Enforcement Certifications:</b>		
Certified Code Enforcement Officer (CACEO) ICC Zoning Code Inspector	Code Enforcement Officer I Code Enforcement Officer II	Must complete three (3) CACEO training modules for certification pay.
<b>Public Works Operations - General Certifications:</b>		
Commercial Driver's License (Class A or B) Competent Person/Trench Shoring Confined Space Entry Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Tank Inspection Herbicide/Pesticide Application Refrigeration & Recycling Respiratory Training (i.e. Mask, SCUBA) Signs & Markings Brake Inspector	All employees within the Department	For Commercial Driver's License (Class A or B) – Employees are only eligible if their job requirement does not stipulate a need for either license.
<b>Public Works Operations - Facilities Maintenance Certifications:</b>		
HVAC Journeyman Electrician	All employees in Facilities Maintenance	
<b>Public Works Operations - Water/Wastewater Certifications:</b>		
Backflow Specialist Backflow Tester Water Quality Management Plan Water Treatment T1 - T4 Water Distribution D1 - D4 Water Conservation/Efficiency Wastewater Collections C1 - C4	All employees in Water/Wastewater Division	Employees are only eligible if their job requirement does not stipulate a need for the certification.

SEIU Certifications	Positions Eligible	Requirements for Certification Pay
<b>Public Works Operations - Engineering &amp; Community Investment Certifications:</b>		
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	All SEIU employees	
Registered (QSP) Quality SWIPP's Practitioner	Only Engineering	
Sediment and Erosion Control	Only Engineering	
Construction Technician	Only Community Investment	
American Construction Inspector's Association (ACIA) Registrants	Only Engineering	

**Appendix "C"**

**City of Hemet**

**SEIU Market Equity Salary Increases by Classification Effective July 8, 2024**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Salary Increase</b>
Accountant	28.1%
Accounting Technician I	22.0%
Accounting Technician II	21.9%
Accounting Technician III	21.9%
Assistant Civil Engineer	25.6%
Assistant Planner	21.9%
Building Inspector I	24.9%
Building Inspector II	25.0%
Building Technician I	31.3%
Building Technician II	31.3%
Code Enforcement Officer I	28.1%
Code Enforcement Officer II	28.1%
Cross Connection Spec-CSR	37.9%
Customer Service Representative	25.0%
Engineering Technician I	24.9%
Engineering Technician II	25.0%
Equipment Mechanic	21.9%
Facilities Technician	16.0%
Facility Services Aide	34.6%
GIS Specialist	31.3%
Housing Program Specialist	10.5%
Lead Equipment Mechanic	21.9%
Lead Maintenance Worker	31.2%
Lead Tree Trimmer	31.3%
Lead Water Distribution Sys. Oper	37.9%
Library Assistant I	16.0%
Library Assistant II	16.0%
Library Associate I	16.0%
Library Associate II	16.0%
Library Page	0.0%
Literacy Coordinator	16.0%
Maintenance Worker I	31.3%
Maintenance Worker II	31.3%
Office Specialist I	25.1%
Office Specialist II	31.2%
Office Specialist III	31.3%
Planning Technician	13.2%
Public Works Inspector I	37.9%
Public Works Inspector II	37.9%

**Appendix "C" (Con't)**

**City of Hemet**

**SEIU Market Equity Salary Increases by Classification Effective July 8, 2024**

Senior Building Inspector	25.0%
Senior Engineering Technician	24.7%
Senior Public Works Inspector	37.9%
Tree Trimmer	31.3%
Water Dist Sys Oper I	37.9%
Water Dist Sys Oper II	38.0%
Water Production Systems Oper. I	37.9%
Water Production Systems Oper. II	37.9%
Water Quality & Conserv. Spec.	24.9%