

## WETLAND CONSERVATION EASEMENT

THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, by and between \_\_\_\_\_ whose address is \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter the "Grantor"), and the City of Novi, and its successors or assigns, whose address is 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375 (hereinafter the "Grantee").

### **RECITATIONS:**

A. Grantor owns a certain parcel of land situated in Section \_ of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "Property"). Grantor has received final site plan approval for construction of a \_\_\_\_\_ development on the Property, subject to provision of an appropriate easement to permanently protect the wetland areas natural feature setback areas located thereon from destruction or disturbance. Grantor desires to grant such an easement in order to protect the area.

B. The Conservation Easement Areas (the "Easement Areas") situated on the Property are more particularly described on Exhibits B and C, attached hereto and made a part hereof, the second page of which contains a drawing depicting the protected area.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), in hand paid, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, Grantor hereby reserves, conveys and grants the following Conservation Easement, which shall be binding upon the Grantor, and the City, and their respective heirs, successors, assigns and/or transferees and shall be for the benefit of the City, all Grantors and purchasers of the property and their respective heirs, successors, assigns and/or transferees. This Conservation Easement is dedicated pursuant to subpart 11 of part 21 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act being MCL 324.2140, *et seq.*, upon the terms and conditions set forth herein as follows:

1. The purpose of this Conservation Easement is to protect the wetlands and wetland mitigation areas as shown on the attached and incorporated Exhibit B. The subject areas shall be perpetually preserved and maintained, in their natural and undeveloped condition, unless authorized by permit from the City, and, if applicable, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the appropriate federal agency.

2. Except for and subject to the activities which have been expressly authorized by permit, there shall be no disturbance of the wetlands, natural features areas and/or vegetation within the Easement Area, including altering the topography of; placing fill material in; dredging, removing or excavating soil, minerals, or trees, and from constructing or placing any structures on; draining surface water from; or plowing, tilling, cultivating, or otherwise altering or developing, and/or constructing, operating, maintaining any use or development in the Easement Area.

3. No grass or other vegetation shall be planted in the Easement Areas after the date of this Conservation Easement with the exception of plantings approved, in advance, by the City in accordance with all applicable laws and ordinances.

4. This Conservation Easement does not grant or convey to Grantee, or any member of the general public, any right of ownership, possession or use of the Easement Area, except that, upon reasonable written notice to Grantor, Grantee and its authorized employees and agents (collectively, "Grantee's Representatives") may enter upon and inspect the Easement Area to determine whether the Easement Area is being maintained in compliance with the terms of the Conservation Easement.

5. In the event that the Grantor shall at any time fail to carry out the responsibilities specified within this Document, and/or in the event of a failure to preserve and/or maintain the wetland and/or mitigation areas in reasonable order and condition, the City may serve written notice upon the Grantor setting forth the deficiencies in maintenance and/or preservation. Notice shall also set forth a demand that the deficiencies be cured within a stated reasonable time period, and the date, time and place of the hearing before the City Council, or such other . Council, body or official delegated by the City Council, for the purpose of allowing the Grantor to be heard as to why the City should not proceed with the maintenance and/or preservation which has not been undertaken. At the hearing, the time for curing the deficiencies and the hearing itself may be extended and/or continued to a date certain. If, following the hearing, the City Council, or other body or official, designated to conduct the hearing, shall determine that maintenance and/or preservation have not been undertaken within the time specified in the notice, the City shall thereupon have the power and authority, but not obligation to enter upon the property, or cause its agents or contractors to enter upon the property and perform such maintenance and/or preservation as reasonably found by the City to be appropriate. The cost and expense of making and financing such maintenance and/or preservation including the cost of notices by the City and reasonable legal fees incurred by the City, plus an administrative fee in the amount of 25% of the total of all costs and expenses incurred, shall be paid by the Grantor, and such amount shall constitute a lien on an equal pro rata basis as to all of the lots on the property. The City may require the payment of such monies prior to the commencement of work. If such costs and expenses have not been paid within 30 days of a billing to the Grantor, all unpaid amounts may be placed on the delinquent tax roll of the City, pro rata, as to each lot, and shall accrue interest and penalties, and shall be collected as, and shall be deemed delinquent real property taxes, according to the laws made and provided for the collection of delinquent real property taxes. In the discretion of the City, such costs and expenses may be collected by suit initiated against the Grantor, and, in such event, the Grantor shall pay all court costs and reasonable attorney fees incurred by the City in connection with such suit.

6. Within 90 days after the Conservation Easement shall have been recorded, Grantor at its sole expense, shall place such signs, defining the boundaries of the Easement Area and, describing its protected purpose, as indicated herein.

7. This Conservation Easement has been made and given for a consideration of a value less than One Hundred (\$ 100.00) Dollars, and, accordingly, is (i) exempt from the State Transfer Tax, pursuant to MSA 7.456(26)(2) and (ii) exempt from the County Transfer Tax, pursuant to MSA 7.456(5)(a).

8. Grantor shall state, acknowledge and/or disclose the existence of this Conservation Easement as of the day and year first above set forth.

GRANTOR

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its:

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_, as the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ limited liability company, on its behalf.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
Acting in \_\_\_\_\_ County  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTEE

CITY OF NOVI  
A Municipal Corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its:

STATE OF MICHIGAN        )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND     )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_, on behalf of the City of Novi, a Municipal Corporation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
Acting in Oakland County, Michigan  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Drafted By:  
Elizabeth K. Saarela, Esquire  
Johnson, Rosati, Schultz & Joppich, P.C.  
27555 Executive Drive, Suite 250  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331

After Recording, Return to:  
Cortney Hanson, Clerk  
City of Novi  
45175 Ten Mile Road  
Novi, Michigan 48375