



## **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT**

**THIS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT** (hereinafter referred to as the “Contract” or “Agreement”) is entered into on this \_\_\_\_ day of May 2022, by and between the Village of Oak Park, an Illinois home rule municipal corporation (hereinafter referred to as the “Village”), and Everest Snow Management, Inc., an Illinois corporation (hereafter referred to as the “Contractor”).

### **RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor submitted a Proposal dated April 20, 2022 to perform Parkway tree watering (hereinafter referred to as the “Work”), pursuant to the Village’s Request for Bids, dated April 6, 2022, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor represented in said Proposal that it has the necessary personnel, experience, and competence to promptly complete the Work and the work required hereunder; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor’s Proposal is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference into this Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor shall perform the Work pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Contract.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the premises and the mutual promises contained in this Contract, and other good and valuable consideration received and to be received, it is mutually agreed by and between the parties as follows:

#### **1. RECITALS INCORPORATED**

The above recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth.

#### **2. SCOPE OF WORK**

The Contractor shall perform the Work in accordance with its Proposal for an annual cost not to exceed \$50,000.00 (“Contract Price”), complete the Work in accordance with any applicable manufacturers’ warranties and in accordance with the Village’s Request for Proposals, the Contractor’s Proposal and this Contract, all of which, together shall

constitute the Contract Documents. The Contractor acknowledges that it has inspected the sites where the work is to be performed and that it is fully familiar with all of the conditions at the sites, and further that its Proposal has adequately taken into consideration all of the conditions at the sites. The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that it has the skill and experience necessary to complete the Work in a good and workmanlike manner. The Contractor further represents and warrants that the Work will be completed in a good and workmanlike manner in accordance with the Contract Documents, and that the Work will be free from defects. The Contractor shall achieve completion of all work required pursuant to the Contract Documents.

### **3. DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES**

The Contractor shall designate in writing a person to act as its designated representative with respect to the Work to be performed under this Agreement. Such person shall have complete authority to transmit and receive instructions and information, interpret and define the Contractor's policies and decisions with respect to the Work governed by this Contract. The Village's Forestry Superintendent shall have complete authority to transmit and receive instructions and information, interpret and define the Village's policies and decisions with respect to the Work governed by this Contract, or such other person as designated in writing by the Village Manager.

### **4. TERM OF CONTRACT**

The Contractor shall perform the Work pursuant to this Contract beginning on the effective date as defined herein and shall expire on December 31, 2022. The Contractor shall invoice the Village for the Work provided pursuant to this Contract the rates set forth in its Proposal.

### **5. CONTRACT RENEWAL**

The Village will have the right to renew the contract for two (2) additional one (1) year terms with all terms and conditions, other than price, remaining the same. The Village will allow the Bidder to increase or decrease the contract price for each annual renewal.

Upon written request from the Bidder, on or before October 20<sup>th</sup> for each year this Agreement is in effect pursuant to a renewal by the Village, the Contractor shall submit a request for adjustment to the Village based upon the average of the published monthly index as defined below ("Index") for the period October through September for the previous year. The Index shall be the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Chicago Statistics, Revised Consumer Price Index for all Urban Wage Earners for Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (all items, 1982-84 = 100).

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Request for Proposals to the contrary, an annual adjustment shall not be greater than five percent (5%) of the previous year's cost

for services provided under this Agreement in any year. Any applicable adjustment shall take effect on April 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year that this Agreement is in effect.

## **6. PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

The Contractor shall, as a condition precedent to its right to receive any payment, submit to the Village an application for payment and such receipts, vouchers, and other documents as may be necessary to establish the Contractor's payment for all labor and material and the absence of any interest whether in the nature of a lien or otherwise of any party in any property, work, or fund with respect to the Work performed hereunder. Such documents shall include, where relevant, the following forms, copies of which are attached hereto:

- (i) Contractor's sworn statement;
- (ii) Contractor's partial or final waiver of lien;
- (iii) Subcontractor's sworn statement(s); and
- (iv) Subcontractor's partial or final waiver of lien.

Payment by the Village shall be conditioned upon an inspection by the Village of the work completed and submission of required waivers by the Contractor. Payment by the Village shall in no way constitute a waiver of, or relieve the Contractor from, any defects in the work. All payments shall be made in accordance with the Illinois Local Government Prompt Payment Act, 50 ILCS 505/1 *et seq.* Final payment for any Work performed by the Contractor pursuant to an invoice by the Contractor shall be made by the Village to the Contractor when the Contractor has fully performed the work and the work has been approved by the Village and submission of required waivers and paperwork by Contractor. Approval of the work and issuance of the final payment by the Village shall not constitute a waiver of, or release the Contractor from, any defects in the work.

The Village shall have the right to withhold from any payment due hereunder such amount as may reasonably appear necessary to compensate the Village for any actual or prospective loss due to Work which is defective or does not conform to the Contract Documents; damage for which the Contractor is liable hereunder; liens or claims of liens; claims of third parties, subcontractors, or material men; or any failure of the Contractor to perform any of its obligations under this Contract. The Village may apply any money withheld or due Contractor hereunder to reimburse itself for any and all costs, expenses, losses, damages, liabilities, suits, judgments, awards, and attorney's fees incurred, suffered, or sustained by the Village and chargeable to the Contractor.

## **7. TERMINATION**

The Village may terminate this Contract for cause, which includes but is not necessarily limited to, the Contractor's failure to perform the Work and is otherwise in default pursuant to this Contract. The Village shall provide the Contractor with five (5) days' written notice of a termination for cause pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 below.

The Village may also terminate this Contract when it determines the same to be in its best interests by giving fourteen (14) days' written notice to the Contractor pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 below. In such event, the Village shall pay to the Contractor all amounts due for the work performed up to the date of termination.

## **8. DEFAULT/THE VILLAGE'S REMEDIES.**

If it should appear at any time prior to payment for the Work provided pursuant to this Contract that the Contractor has failed or refused to prosecute, and is in default, or has delayed in the prosecution of, the Work to be provided pursuant to this Contract with diligence at a rate that assures completion of the Work in full compliance with the requirements of this Contract, or has attempted to assign this Contract or the Contractor's rights under this Contract, either in whole or in part, or has falsely made any representation or warranty, or has otherwise failed, refused, or delayed to perform or satisfy any other requirement of this Contract or has failed to pay its debts as they come due ("Event of Default"), and has failed to cure, or has reasonably commenced to cure any such Event of Default within fifteen (15) business days after Contractor's receipt of written notice of such Event of Default, then the Village shall have the right, at its election and without prejudice to any other remedies provided by law or equity, to pursue any one or more of the following remedies:

(A) The Village may require Contractor, within such reasonable time as may be fixed by the Village, to complete or correct all or any part of the Work that are defective, damaged, flawed, unsuitable, nonconforming, or incomplete and to take any or all other action necessary to bring Contractor and the Work into compliance with this Contract;

(B) The Village may accept the defective, damaged, flawed, unsuitable, nonconforming, incomplete, or dilatory Work or part thereof and make an equitable reduction;

(C) The Village may terminate this Contract without liability for further payment of amounts due or to become due under this Contract except for amounts due for Services properly performed prior to termination;

(D) The Village may withhold any payment from Contractor, whether or not previously approved, or may recover from Contractor any and all costs, including attorneys' fees and administrative expenses, incurred by the Village as the result of any Event of Default or as a result of actions taken by the Village in response to any Event of Default; or

(E) The Village may recover any damages suffered by the Village as a result of Contractor's Event of Default.

(F) In addition to the above, if Contractor fails to complete any required Work pursuant to this Contract, the Village shall be entitled to liquidated damages in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per day for each day the Services remains uncompleted. This amount is not a penalty, and the parties agree to said amount given the difficulties associated with determining or calculating damages to the Village in the event the required Work is not completed on time.

## **9. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and rules promulgated by any federal, state, county, municipal and/or other governmental unit or regulatory body now in effect during the performance of the work. By way of example only and not as a limitation, the following are included within the scope of the laws, regulations and rules with which the Contractor must comply: all forms of Workers Compensation Laws, all terms of the equal employment opportunity rules and regulations of the Illinois Department of Human Rights, statutes relating to contracts let by units of government, and all applicable civil rights and anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

## **10. INDEMNIFICATION**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor shall waive any right of contribution against the Village and shall indemnify and hold harmless the Village and its officers, officials, employees, volunteers and agents from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including, but not limited to, legal fees (attorney's and paralegal's fees, expert fees and court costs) arising out of or resulting from the performance of the Contractor's work, provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or injury to or destruction of property, other than the work itself, including the loss of use resulting therefrom, or is attributable to misuse or improper use of trademark or copyright-protected material or otherwise protected intellectual property, to the extent it is caused in whole or in part by any wrongful or negligent act or omission of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable. Such obligation shall not be construed to negate, abridge or otherwise reduce any other right to indemnity which the Village and its officers, officials, employees, volunteers and agents would otherwise have. The Contractor shall similarly protect, indemnify and hold and save harmless, the Village and its officers, officials, employees, volunteers and agents against and from any and all claims, costs, causes, actions and expenses, including, but not limited to, legal fees incurred by reason of the Contractor's breach of any of its obligations under, or the Contractor's default of, any provisions of this Contract. The indemnification obligations under this Section shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages, compensation, or benefits payable by or for the Contractor or any subcontractor under workers' compensation or disability benefit acts or employee benefit acts.

## 11. INSURANCE

The Contractor shall, at the Contractor's expense, secure and maintain in effect throughout the duration of this Contract, insurance of the following kinds and limits set forth in this Section. The Contractor shall furnish "Certificates of Insurance" to the Village before beginning Work on the Project pursuant to this Contract. All insurance policies shall be written with insurance companies licensed to do business in the State of Illinois and having a rating of at least A according to the latest edition of the Best's Key Rating Guide; and shall include a provision preventing cancellation of the insurance policy unless thirty (30) days prior written notice is given to the Village. This provision shall also be stated on each Certificate of Insurance: "Should any of the above described policies be canceled before the expiration date, the issuing company shall mail fifteen thirty (30) days written notice to the certificate holder named to the left."

The limits of liability for the insurance required shall provide coverage for not less than the following amounts, or greater where required by law:

(A) **Commercial General Liability:**

i. Coverage to include Broad Form Property Damage, Contractual and Personal Injury.

ii. Limits:

General Aggregate	\$ 2,000,000.00
Each Occurrence	\$ 1,000,000.00
Personal Injury	\$ 1,000,000.00

iii. Coverage for all claims arising out of the Contractor's operations or premises and anyone directly or indirectly employed by the Contractor.

(B) **Workers' Compensation:**

i. Workers' Compensation insurance shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois, including occupational disease provisions, for all employees who perform the Work pursuant to this Contract, and if work is subcontracted pursuant to the provisions of this Contract, the Contractor shall require each subcontractor similarly to provide workers' compensation insurance. In case employees engaged in hazardous work under this Contract are not protected under the Workers' Compensation Act, the Contractor shall provide, and shall cause each subcontractor to provide, adequate and suitable insurance for the protection of employees not otherwise provided.

(C) **Comprehensive Automobile Liability:**

i. Comprehensive Automobile Liability coverage shall include all owned, hired, non-owned vehicles, and/or trailers and other equipment required to be licensed, covering personal injury, bodily injury and property damage.

ii. Limits:  
Combined Single Limit \$1,000,000.00

(D) **Umbrella:**

i. Limits:  
Each Occurrence/Aggregate \$ 2,000,000.00

(E) The Village, its officers, employees, agents and volunteers shall be named as additional insureds on all insurance policies set forth herein except Workers' Compensation. The Contractor shall be responsible for the payment of any deductibles for said insurance policies. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Village, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers.

(F) The Contractor understands and agrees that any insurance protection required by this Contract or otherwise provided by the Contractor, shall in no way limit the responsibility to indemnify, keep and save harmless, and defend the Village, its officers, employees, agents and volunteers as herein provided. The Contractor waives and agrees to require its insurers to waive its rights of subrogation against the Village and its officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers.

**12. GUARANTY**

The Contractor warrants and guarantees that its Work performed under this Contract, and all workmanship, materials, equipment, and supplies performed, furnished, used, or installed under this Contract, shall be free from defects and flaws in workmanship or design; shall strictly conform to the requirements of this Contract; and shall be fit and sufficient for the purposes expressed in, or reasonably inferred from, this Contract. The Contractor further warrants and guarantees that the strength of all parts of all manufactured materials, equipment, and supplies shall be adequate and as specified and that the performance requirements of this Contract shall be fulfilled.

The Contractor shall, at no expense to the Village, correct any failure to fulfill the above guaranty that may appear at any time. In any event, the guaranty herein expressed shall not be sole and exclusive, and is additional to any other guaranty or warranty expressed or implied.

**13. STANDARD OF CARE.**

The Contractor shall endeavor to perform the Work pursuant to this Agreement Services with the same skill and judgment which can be reasonably expected from similarly situated contractors.

**14. AFFIDAVIT OR CERTIFICATE**

The Contractor shall furnish any affidavit or certificate in connection with the work covered by this Contract as required by law.

**15. NOTICES**

Any notice required to be given by this Contract shall be deemed sufficient if made in writing and sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or personal service, or by facsimile or email transmission to the persons and addresses indicated below or to such addresses and persons as either party hereto shall notify the other party of in writing pursuant to the provisions of this Section:

**To the Village:**

Village Manager  
Village of Oak Park  
123 Madison Street  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302-4272  
Email: [villagemanager@oak-park.us](mailto:villagemanager@oak-park.us)

**To the Contractor:**

Mark Eggemann  
Everest Snow Management, Inc.  
7707 W 96<sup>th</sup> Place  
Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457  
Email: [mark.eggemann@everestteam.com](mailto:mark.eggemann@everestteam.com)

Mailing of such notice as and when above provided shall be equivalent to personal notice and shall be deemed to have been given at the time of mailing.

Notice by email transmission shall be effective as of date and time of facsimile transmission, provided that the notice transmitted shall be sent on business days during business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Chicago time). In the event email notice transmitted during non-business hours, the effective date and time of notice is the first hour of the first business day after transmission.

**16. AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE**

The individuals executing this Contract on behalf of the Contractor and the Village represent that they have the legal power, right, and actual authority to bind their respective parties to the terms and conditions of this Contract.



**17. EFFECTIVE DATE**

The effective date of this Contract reflected above and below shall be the last date of its execution by one of the parties set forth below.

**18. ENTIRE CONTRACT; APPROVAL OF SUBCONTRACTORS**

This Contract, including the documents incorporated by reference herein, sets forth the entire Contract of the parties with respect to the accomplishment of the Work. No right or interest in this Contract shall be assigned, in whole or in part, by either party without the prior written consent of the other party. The Village reserves the right to approve the use of subcontractors to complete any portion of the Work and to approve any applicable contract between the Contractor and a proposed subcontractor to perform any of the Work. This Contract shall be binding upon the parties and upon their respective heirs, executors, administrators, personal representatives, successors, and assigns, except as herein provided.

**19. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

The Contractor shall have the full control of the ways and means of performing the work referred to above and that the Contractor and its employees, representatives or subcontractors are not employees of the Village, it being specifically agreed that the Contractor bears the relationship of an independent contractor to the Village. The Contractor shall solely be responsible for the payment of all salaries, benefits and costs of supplying personnel for the Work.

**20. CONTRACT BOND**

The Contractor, before commencing the work under this Contract, shall furnish a Contract Bond. The Contract Bond shall remain in effect during the term of this Agreement. The Contract Bond shall be in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) as security for the faithful performance of its obligations pursuant to the Contract Documents and as security for the payment of all persons performing labor and furnishing materials in connection with the Contract Documents. Such bond shall be on standard AIA Documents, shall be issued by a surety satisfactory to the Village, and shall name the Village as a primary co-obligee. The Contract Bond shall become a part of the Contract Documents. The failure of Contractor to supply the required Contract Bond within ten (10) days after the Notice of Award or within such extended period as the Village may grant if the Contract Bond does not meet its approval shall constitute a default, and the Village may either award the Contract to the next lowest responsible proposer or re-advertise for proposals. A charge against the defaulting Contractor may be made for the difference between the amount of the Contractor's Proposal and the amount for which a contract for the work is subsequently executed, irrespective of whether the amount thus due exceeds the amount of the proposal guarantee.

**21. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE**

This Contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois both as to interpretation and performance. Venue for any action pursuant to this Contract shall be in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

**22. AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS**

This Contract may be modified or amended from time-to-time provided, however, that no such amendment or modification shall be effective unless reduced to writing and duly authorized and signed by the authorized representative of the Village and the authorized representative of the Contractor.

**23. NON-WAIVER OF RIGHTS**

No failure of either party to exercise any power given to it hereunder or to insist upon strict compliance by the other party with its obligations hereunder, and no custom or practice of the parties at variance with the terms hereof, nor any payment under this Contract shall constitute a waiver of either party's right to demand exact compliance with the terms hereof.

**24. CONFLICT**

In case of a conflict between any provision(s) of the Village's Request for Proposals or the Contractor's Proposal and this Contract, this Contract and the Village's Request for Proposals shall control to the extent of such conflict.

**25. HEADINGS AND TITLES**

The headings and titles provided in this Contract are for convenience only and shall not be deemed a part of this Contract.

**26. COOPERATION OF THE PARTIES**

The Village and the Contractor shall cooperate in the provision of the Work to be provided by Contractor pursuant to this Contract and in compliance with applicable laws, including, but not limited to, the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* ("FOIA"), and the provision of any documents and information pursuant to a FOIA request. The Contractor shall provide any and all documents to the Village pursuant to a FOIA request at no cost to the Village.

**27. COUNTERPARTS; FACSIMILE OR PDF SIGNATURES**

This Contract may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be considered an original and together shall be one and the same Contract. A facsimile or pdf copy of this Agreement and any signature(s) thereon will be considered for all purposes as an original.

**28. CERTIFIED PAYROLL**

Contractor shall be solely responsible to maintain accurate records reflecting its payroll for its employees who perform any of the Work for the Village pursuant to this Contract and shall submit certified payroll records to the Village's Director of Public Works at any time during the term of this Contract. Contractor shall provide said certified payroll records within seven (7) days upon the request of the Director of Public Works.

**29. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

Contractor is an equal opportunity employer and the requirements of 44 Ill. Adm. Code 750 APPENDIX A and Chapter 13 ("Human Rights") of the Oak Park Village Code are incorporated herein by reference.

The Contractor shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, marital status, familial status, source of income, disability, housing status, military discharge status, or order of protection status or physical or mental disabilities that do not impair ability to work, and further that it will examine all job classifications to determine if minority persons or women are underutilized and will take appropriate affirmative action to rectify any such underutilization. The Contractor shall comply with all requirements of Chapter 13 ("Human Rights") of the Oak Park Village Code.

In the event of the Contractor's noncompliance with any provision of Chapter 13 ("Human Rights") of the Oak Park Village Code, the Illinois Human Rights Act or any other applicable law, the Contractor may be declared non-responsible and therefore ineligible for future Agreements or subcontracts with the Village, and the Agreement may be cancelled or voided in whole or in part, and such other sanctions or penalties may be imposed or remedies invoked as provided by statute or regulation.

In all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by it on its behalf, the Contractor shall state that all applicants will be afforded equal opportunity without discrimination because of race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, marital status, familial status, source of income, disability, housing status, military discharge status, or order of protection status or physical or mental disabilities that do not impair ability to work.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused this Contract to be signed by their duly authorized representatives on the days and dates set forth below.

**VILLAGE OF OAK PARK**

**EVEREST SNOW MANAGEMENT, INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Kevin J. Jackson  
Its: Village Manager

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

**ATTEST**

**ATTEST**

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: Christina M. Walters  
Its: Village Clerk

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022