STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	
	)	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
COUNTY OF BEAUFORT	)	

# Agreement No. 2019/

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "Agreement") is entered into on this day of April , 2019 by and between Beaufort County, a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina (hereinafter the "County"), and the Friends of Fort Fremont Historical Park, Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of South Carolina (hereinafter the "Friends").

**WHEREAS**, a purpose of the Rural and Critical Land Preservation program is to preserve, interpret, and manage its passive parks properties for the benefit, education, and enjoyment of the citizens and visitors of Beaufort County; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 and 2010 the County purchased what is known today as Fort Fremont Preserve (hereinafter the "Preserve") through the Rural and Critical Lands Preservation Program; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to enhance the historical and cultural value of the Preserve by interpreting the place in American History that the Fort held in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century; and,

WHEREAS, the Friends is a South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation in good standing formed on September 21, 2009; the Friends is a public charity qualified under Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3) by an IRS determination letter dated January 21, 2011; all individuals from Friends providing services hereunder, and all of its officers, directors, and members, are not compensated and are volunteers as defined in the Volunteer Protection Act, 42 USC §§ 14501 – 14505; and

WHEREAS, the Friends mission is to preserve and promote the Preserve as an educational, historical, natural, and cultural resource of the Spanish American War era; and

**WHEREAS**, the Friends, by extending its services to the County, is willing to assist in interpreting the Preserve to citizens and visitors as may be necessary from time to time; and,

WHEREAS, County is in the process of constructing a building expected to be used by the Friends subject to a separate "Facility Use Agreement" and "Operating Plan"; and

WHEREAS, the Friends shall function as volunteers to supplement and not supplant the rightful role of the County to determine the management and the operation of the Preserve; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County and the Friends recognize the value of the successful implementation of this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** under the authority of the Community Development Code in Division 5.10.10 Historic Preservation of Historic Properties, the parties agree to the following:

#### **DEFINITIONS**

As used throughout this Agreement, the following items shall have meaning set forth below:

- "County" shall mean The Beaufort County Government and all departments that fall within the structure of the Beaufort County Council and the Beaufort County Administration.
- "Friends" shall mean the Friends of Fort Fremont Historical Park, Inc. or any entity performing services under this Agreement, and shall include all personnel (officers, directors, members, or volunteers) thereof.
- "Preserve" shall mean the Fort Fremont Preserve including the land, buildings, and structures that fall within the parcel boundaries.

#### **TERM**

The initial term of this Agreement shall cover a period of twelve (12) months commencing on the date entered, unless terminated sooner pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement. The term of this Agreement may be extended for four (4) additional one-year periods upon the written approval of both the County and the Friends.

# **AUTHORIZATION**

The County hereby authorizes the Friends to access and utilize the Preserve, and to provide services to the citizens and visiting public at the Preserve, subject to the terms and conditions stated in the Facility Use Agreement and annual Operating Plan.

#### MUTUAL SUPPORT

The Friends may use any monies and gifts raised to further support the purposes of the Preserve. The County agrees to use gifts or monies derived from special events held at the Preserve sponsored by the Friends to support the shared mission of the parties.

# COMPENSATION

This agreement does not obligate County funds. Any endeavor involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this agreement will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and procedures. The Friends will provide non-compensated volunteers to the County.

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION, SAFETY, MAINTENANCE, UPKEEP AND APPEARANCE

The Friends may use the Preserve to provide interpretive displays, services, assistance, and activities as provided for in the Facility Use Agreement and Operating Plan and as approved by the County.

# The following guidelines shall apply:

- a. The County shall be responsible for historic preservation and safety of the Preserve.
- b. The County shall be responsible for all exterior and interior maintenance and repair, for all grounds maintenance, and for janitorial services.
- c. The County shall provide and pay for all utility services necessary for the operation of the Preserve, as determined by the County.
- d. The Friends shall comply with all the sanitary laws, ordinances, rules, and orders of appropriate governmental authorities affecting the cleanliness, occupancy, and preservation of the premises.
- e. The Friends shall keep the premises reasonably safe and clean by locking the interpretive center upon exiting and disposing of garbage, rubbish, and other waste generated during the Friends use of the Preserve in a clean and safe manner.
- f. The Friends will use in a reasonable manner all electrical, plumbing, sanitary, heating, ventilating air-conditioning, and other facilities and appliances in the premises. Air-conditioning and heating settings will be agreed upon by both parties.
- g. The Friends will not deliberately or negligently destroy, deface, damage, impair, or remove any part of the premises or knowingly permit any person to do so who is on the premises with the Friends permission or who is allowed access to the premises by the Friends.
- h. The Friends shall notify the County of any structural/utility problems and/or vandalism.

# FISCAL OPERATION

The Friends shall conduct its fiscal operations in accordance with accepted business practices in compliance with IRS mandates for non-profit organizations.

# **OPERATING PLAN**

The Friends shall annually, by December 1, submit to the Passive Parks Manager an Operating Plan for the ensuing calendar year which shall be subject to the approval by the County. The Friends rights under this Agreement are conditioned upon the existence of an approved Operating Plan. The Operating Plan shall include proposed services, activities, events, and/or programs the Friends plan for the Preserve.

The Friends shall annually, by March 1, submit to the Passive Parks Manager an Annual Report for the previous year's operation at the Preserve.

#### APPEALS OF PASSIVE PARKS MANAGER

Any decision of the Passive Parks Manager authorized under this Agreement that affects Friends, may be directly appealed to County Council. An authorized representative of Friends may submit a written request to the County Administrator to appeal a decision of the Passive Parks Manager. Upon receiving a written request for an appeal, the County Administrator shall place the item on the next scheduled County Council meeting that allows for meeting all notice requirements for meetings of public bodies under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

# **ACCESS TO PREMISES**

The County shall have the right of access to any portion of the premises at any time by any of its officers, employees, or agents to ensure compliance with the terms of this agreement, or for any other reason in carrying out its responsibilities for the operation of the Preserve.

The Friends shall have access to the premises to carry out its responsibilities as agreed upon in the Facility Use Agreement and Operating Plan.

#### **ADVERTISEMENT**

The Friends shall acknowledge the County in any advertising related to activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement. Any advertising or display materials shall clearly identify the Preserve or facility as a County Passive Park. The County shall acknowledge the Friends in appropriate publications and announcements, in accordance with County policies and State and Federal law.

# **AMENDMENTS**

This Agreement may not be altered, amended, or waived except by written instrument executed by both parties.

#### ASSIGNMENT

No transfer or assignment of this Agreement in whole or in part shall be made unless approved in writing by the County.

# **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

In the performance of this Agreement, the Friends shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, including the IRS, as now in effect or hereafter enacted or amended. Nothing herein shall be interpreted as a waiver by either party of any provision of South Carolina or Federal law.

# DISCLAIMER OF RELATIONSHIP

Nothing contained in this Agreement nor any act of the County and/or the Friends shall be deemed or construed by either of the parties, nor by any third person, to create any other legal relationship between the parties, including, but not limited to, that of employer/employee, third-party beneficiary, principal, agent, limited or general partnership, joint venture, landlord/tenant, or other relationship.

#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Friends retain all intellectual property rights to any material they develop, subject to review and approval by the Passive Parks Manager, unless County funds are used in the development of said material.

## **TERMINATION**

This Agreement may be terminated for convenience by either party with 90 days written notice. The Agreement may be terminated by either party with 30 days written notice for breach of terms. This Agreement will automatically terminate if the Friends lose its tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status. The Facility Use Agreement, as referenced herein, is automatically terminated if this Agreement is terminated.

#### **INSURANCE**

Friends shall maintain at all times no less than \$1,000,000 in general liability insurance coverage (each occurrence) and no less than \$2,000,000 general liability insurance in the aggregate. The County shall be named as an additional insured on the Friends insurance policy.

# **AUTHORITY**

The parties herein represent and warrant each to the other that they have all the requisite power and authority to enter into this Agreement and perform their obligations under this Agreement.

WITNESSES: BEAUFORT COUNTY

Chery Harris

And Sold

Approved as to Form:

Name: Thomas J. Keaveny, II

Title: County Attorney

Date: April 2, 2019

By: <u></u>

Name: John Weaver

Title: Interim County Administrator

Date: 3 29 2019

FRIENDS OF FORT FREMONT HISTORICAL PARK, INC.

By: Aderick & Jam

Title: President Board of Directors

Date: 4/8/2019