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September 12, 2024

MEMORANDUM VIA E-MAIL
(pconner@cityofpowdersprings.org)

TO: Ms. Pamela Conner
City Manager

FROM: Ms. Gwin Hall
Senior Associate General Counsel

SUBJECT: Action Required: Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System
Defined Benefit Retirement Plan Restatement

The City of Powder Springs previously adopted the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System ("GMEBS") Defined Benefit Retirement Plan ("Plan"), which is comprised of the Basic Plan Document, Adoption Agreement, and General Addendum. The Plan is considered a "qualified plan" under the Internal Revenue Code, which is important to ensure the tax-exempt status of the trust fund.

To protect the Plan's tax-qualified status, GMEBS filed draft restated Plan documents, updated to include recent amendments and comply with changes in federal tax law, with the IRS on June 29, 2022. On August 31, 2023, the IRS issued a favorable opinion letter ("IRS opinion letter") for the restated Plan documents. The IRS opinion letter provides assurance to employers providing retirement benefits for their employees through the GMEBS Plan that GMEBS is maintaining a qualified pension benefit program that allows employees to accrue benefits tax-free until retirement benefits are distributed to them.

To ensure continued tax-qualified status for all GMEBS-member retirement plans, all participating employers must readopt their plans using the most recent IRS-approved document templates. To this end, we have completed the attached Adoption Agreement and General Addendum, which include the benefit and eligibility provisions that you currently have in place, for the city's approval.

If the draft documents are acceptable, please have the designated representatives sign and date where indicated (Adoption Agreement, p. 37, and General Addendum, p. 2). Next, please scan and email the documents to Gina Gresham at [REDACTED] no later than **November 11, 2024**. We will then countersign the documents and return electronic copies to you. Please note, GMEBS will not execute documents that have been edited by the city. If the documents require revisions, please let us know before adopting them.

GEORGIA MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES
BENEFIT SYSTEM

DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN

AN ORDINANCE
and
ADOPTION AGREEMENT
for

City of Powder Springs

Form Pre-approved Plan Adoption Agreement
Amended and Restated for Third Six-Year Cycle, 2020 Cumulative List

A.	Re-Employment as Eligible Employee After Normal, Alternative Normal, or Early Retirement and Following Bona Fide Separation of Service (see Basic Plan Document Section 6.06(c) Regarding Re-Employment as an Ineligible Employee and Basic Plan Document Section 6.06(e) and (f) Regarding Re-Employment After Disability Retirement)	27
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II. GMEBS DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN
ADOPTION AGREEMENT

1. ADMINISTRATOR

Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System
201 Pryor Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Facsimile: [REDACTED]

2. ADOPTING EMPLOYER

Name: **City of Powder Springs, Georgia**

3. GOVERNING AUTHORITY

Name: **Mayor and Council**
Address: **P.O. Box 46, Powder Springs, GA 30127-0046**
Phone: **(770) 943-1666**
Facsimile: **(770) 943-8003**

4. PLAN REPRESENTATIVE

[To represent Governing Authority in all communications with GMEBS and Employees]
(See Section 2.49 of Basic Plan Document)

Name: **City Manager**
Address: **P.O. Box 46, Powder Springs, GA 30127-0046**
Phone: **(770) 943-1666**
Facsimile: **(770) 943-8003**

Document. By adopting this Adoption Agreement, with its accompanying Basic Plan Document, the Adopting Employer is adopting a plan document intended to comply with Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a), as updated by the PATH Act and the 2020 Cumulative List with the applicable effective dates.

- (1) **Complete this item (1) only if this is a new defined benefit plan which does not replace or restate an existing defined benefit plan.**

The effective date of this Plan is _____.

(insert effective date of this Adoption Agreement but not earlier than the first day of the current Plan Year in which the Plan is adopted).

- (2) **Complete this item (2) only if this Plan is being adopted to replace a non-GMEBS defined benefit plan.**

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Basic Plan Document or in this Adoption Agreement, the effective date of this restatement shall be _____ **(insert effective date of this Adoption Agreement but not earlier than the first day of the current Plan Year in which the Plan is adopted (unless a retroactive corrective amendment is permitted under EPCRS, Rev. Proc. 2021-30 (or subsequent updated guidance))).** This Plan is intended to replace and serve as an amendment and restatement of the Employer's preexisting plan, which became effective on _____ **(insert original effective date of preexisting plan).**

- (3) **Complete this item (3) only if this is an amendment and complete restatement of the Adopting Employer's existing GMEBS defined benefit plan.**

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Basic Plan Document or in this Adoption Agreement, the effective date of this restatement shall be **the date of its approval by the Governing Authority** **(insert effective date of this Adoption Agreement but not earlier than the first day of the current Plan Year in which the Plan is adopted (unless a retroactive corrective amendment is permitted under EPCRS, Rev. Proc. 2021-30 (or subsequent updated guidance))).**

This Plan is adopted as an amendment and restatement of the Employer's preexisting GMEBS Adoption Agreement, which became effective on **October 21, 2019** **(insert effective date of most recent Adoption Agreement preceding this Adoption Agreement).**

The Employer's first Adoption Agreement became effective **July 1, 2002** **(insert effective date of Employer's first GMEBS Adoption Agreement).** The Employer's GMEBS Plan was originally effective **July 1, 2002** **(insert effective date of Employer's original GMEBS Plan).** (If the Employer's Plan was originally a non-GMEBS Plan, then the Employer's non-GMEBS Plan was originally effective _____ **(if applicable, insert effective date of Employer's original non-GMEBS Plan).**)

(2) Municipal Legal Officers (check one):

- ARE NOT eligible to participate in the Plan.
- ARE eligible to participate in the Plan. The term "Municipal Legal Officer" shall include only the following positions (must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named): _____.

Please specify any limitations on eligibility to participate here (e.g., service on or after certain date) (must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)): _____.

10. ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

A. Hours Per Week (Regular Employees)

The Adopting Employer may specify a minimum number of work hours per week which are required to be scheduled by Regular Employees in order for them to become and remain "Eligible Regular Employees" under the Plan. **It is the responsibility of the Adopting Employer to determine whether these requirements are and continue to be satisfied.** The Employer hereby elects the following minimum hour requirement for Regular Employees:

- No minimum
- 20 hours/week (regularly scheduled)
- 30 hours/week (regularly scheduled)
- Other: **40 hour/week** (must not exceed 40 hours/week regularly scheduled)

Exceptions: If a different minimum hour requirement applies to a particular class or classes of Regular Employees, please specify below the classes to whom the different requirement applies and indicate the minimum hour requirement applicable to them.

Class(es) of Regular Employees to whom exception applies (must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named): Participants employed prior to October 1, 2009; provided, however, that this exception will not apply to a Participant who Terminates employment and is reemployed on or after October 1, 2009.

Minimum hour requirement applicable to excepted Regular Employees:

- No minimum
- 20 hours/week (regularly scheduled)
- 30 hours/week (regularly scheduled)
- Other: _____ (must not exceed 40 hours/week regularly scheduled)

B. Months Per Year (Regular Employees)

The Adopting Employer may specify a minimum number of work months per year which are required to be scheduled by Regular Employees in order for them to become and remain "Eligible Employees" under the Plan. **It is the responsibility of the Adopting Employer to**

13. CREDITED SERVICE

In addition to Current Credited Service the Adopting Employer may include as Credited Service the following types of service:

A. Credited Past Service with Adopting Employer

Credited Past Service means the number of years and complete months of Service with the Adopting Employer prior to the date an Eligible Employee becomes a Participant which are treated as credited service under the Plan.

(1) **Eligible Employees Employed on Original Effective Date of GMEBS Plan.**

With respect to Eligible Employees who are employed by the Adopting Employer on the original Effective Date of the Employer's GMEBS Plan, Service with the Adopting Employer prior to the date the Eligible Employee becomes a Participant (including any Service prior to the Effective Date of the Plan) shall be treated as follows (**check one**):

- All Service prior to the date the Eligible Employee becomes a Participant shall be credited (as Credited Past Service).
- All Service prior to the date the Eligible Employee becomes a Participant shall be credited (as Credited Past Service), except for Service rendered prior to _____ (**insert date**).
- All Service prior to the date the Eligible Employee becomes a Participant shall be credited (as Credited Past Service), except as follows (**must specify other limitation in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i): With respect to Eligible Regular Employees, Service after November 1, 1983, and before July 1, 2002, shall not be creditable for purposes of computing the amount of any benefit payable under the Plan. However, such Service shall be creditable for purposes of meeting the Plan's minimum Service requirements for Vesting and benefit eligibility.**
- No Service prior to the date the Eligible Employee becomes a Participant shall be credited (as Credited Past Service).

(2) **Previously Employed, Returning to Service after Original Effective Date.**

If an Eligible Employee is not employed on the original Effective Date of the Employer's GMEBS Plan, but returns to Service with the Adopting Employer sometime after the Effective Date, said Eligible Employee's Service prior to becoming a Participant (including any Service prior the Effective Date) shall be treated as follows (**check one**):

- All Service prior to the date the Eligible Employee becomes a Participant shall be credited (as Credited Past Service), subject to any limitations imposed above with respect to Eligible Employees employed on the Effective Date.

- Prior Military Service shall be counted as Credited Service for the following purposes (check one or more as applicable):
 - Computing amount of benefits payable.
 - Meeting minimum service requirements for vesting.
 - Meeting minimum service requirements for benefit eligibility.

(2) Maximum Credit for Prior Military Service.

Credit for Prior Military Service shall be limited to a maximum of _____ years **(insert number)**.

(3) Rate of Accrual for Prior Military Service.

Credit for Prior Military Service shall accrue at the following rate **(check one)**:

- One month of military service credit for every _____ month(s) **(insert number)** of Credited Service with the Adopting Employer.
- One year of military service credit for every _____ year(s) **(insert number)** of Credited Service with the Adopting Employer.
- All military service shall be creditable (subject to any caps imposed above) after the Participant has completed _____ years **(insert number)** of Credited Service with the Employer.
- Other requirement **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

(4) Payment for Prior Military Service Credit (check one):

- Participants shall **not** be required to pay for military service credit.
- Participants shall be required to pay for military service credit as follows:
 - The Participant must pay _____% of the actuarial cost of the service credit (as defined below).
 - The Participant must pay an amount equal to **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

Other Conditions for Award of Prior Military Service Credit **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

(5) Limitations on Service Credit Purchases. Unless otherwise specified in an Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, for purposes of this Section and Section 13.C. concerning prior governmental service credit, the term "actuarial cost of service credit" is defined as set forth in the Service Credit Purchase Addendum. In the case of a service credit

- One year of prior governmental service credit for every _____ year(s) (**insert number**) of Credited Service with the Adopting Employer.
- All prior governmental service shall be creditable (subject to any caps imposed above) after the Participant has completed _____ years (**insert number**) of Credited Service with the Adopting Employer.
- Other requirement (**must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)**): _____.

(5) Payment for Prior Governmental Service Credit.

- Participants shall **not** be required to pay for governmental service credit.
- Participants shall be required to pay for governmental service credit as follows:
 - The Participant must pay _____% of the actuarial cost of the service credit.
 - The Participant must pay an amount equal to (**must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)**): _____.

Other Conditions for Award of Prior Governmental Service Credit (**must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)**): _____.

D. Leave Conversion for Unused Paid Time Off (e.g., Sick, Vacation, or Personal Leave)

(1) Credit for Unused Paid Time Off.

Subject to the limitations in Section 3.01 of the Basic Plan Document, an Adopting Employer may elect to treat accumulated days of unused paid time off for a terminated Participant, for which the Participant is not paid, as Credited Service. The only type of leave permitted to be credited under this provision is leave from a paid time off plan which qualifies as a bona fide sick and vacation leave plan (which may include sick, vacation or personal leave) and which the Participant may take as paid leave without regard to whether the leave is due to illness or incapacity. The Credited Service resulting from the conversion of unused paid time off must not be the only Credited Service applied toward the accrual of a normal retirement benefit under the Plan. The Pension Committee shall be responsible to certify to GMEBS the total amount of unused paid time off that is creditable hereunder.

Important Note: Leave cannot be converted to Credited Service in lieu of receiving a cash payment. If the Employer elects treating unused paid time off as Credited Service, the conversion to Credited Service will be automatic, and the Participant cannot request a cash payment for the unused paid time off.

requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i): _____.

14. RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY

A. Early Retirement Qualifications

Early retirement qualifications are (check one or more as applicable):

- Attainment of age 55 (insert number)
- Completion of 10 years (insert number) of Total Credited Service

Exceptions: If different early retirement eligibility requirements apply to a particular class or classes of Eligible Employees, the Employer must specify below the classes to whom the different requirements apply and indicate below the requirements applicable to them.

Eligible Employees to whom exception applies (must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named): _____.

Early retirement qualifications for excepted class(es) are (check one or more as applicable):

- Attainment of age _____ (insert number)
- Completion of _____ years (insert number) of Total Credited Service

B. Normal Retirement Qualifications

Note: Please complete this Section and also list "Alternative" Normal Retirement Qualifications, if any, in Section 14.C.

(1) Regular Employees

Normal retirement qualifications for Regular Employees are (check one or more as applicable):

- Attainment of age 65 (insert number)
- Completion of 5 years (insert number) of Total Credited Service
- In-Service Distribution to Eligible Employees permitted (*i.e.*, a qualifying Participant may commence receiving retirement benefits while in service without first incurring a Bona Fide Separation from Service), if Participant meets minimum age and service requirements specified immediately above and satisfies the minimum age parameters for In-Service Distribution described in Section 6.06(a)(3) of the Basic Plan Document, subject to applicable Plan provisions concerning recalculation and offset applied at re-retirement to account for the value of benefits received prior to re-retirement. This rule shall apply to (check one): all Participants only the following class(es) of Participants (must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named): _____.

Exceptions: If different normal retirement qualifications apply to particular elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers, the Employer must specify below to whom the different requirements apply and indicate below the requirements applicable to them.

Particular elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers to whom exception applies **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named Elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority who are first elected or appointed to such office prior to October 1, 2009.**

Normal retirement qualifications for excepted elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers are **(check one or more as applicable):**

- Attainment of age **65 (insert number)**
- Completion of _____ years **(insert number)** of Total Credited Service
- In-Service Distribution to Eligible Employees permitted (*i.e.*, a qualifying Participant may commence receiving retirement benefits while in service without first incurring a Bona Fide Separation from Service), if Participant meets minimum age and service requirements specified immediately above and satisfies the minimum age parameters for In-Service Distribution described in Section 6.06(a)(3) of the Basic Plan Document, subject to applicable Plan provisions concerning recalculation and offset applied at re-retirement to account for the value of benefits received prior to re-retirement. This rule shall apply to **(check one):** all Participants only the following class(es) of Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named):** _____.

C. Alternative Normal Retirement Qualifications

The Employer may elect to permit Participants to retire with unreduced benefits after they satisfy service and/or age requirements other than the regular normal retirement qualifications specified above. The Employer hereby adopts the following alternative normal retirement qualifications:

Alternative Normal Retirement Qualifications (check one or more, as applicable):

- (1) Not applicable (the Adopting Employer does not offer alternative normal retirement benefits under the Plan).
- (2) **Alternative Minimum Age & Service Qualifications (if checked, please complete one or more items below, as applicable):**
 - Attainment of age _____ **(insert number)**
 - Completion of _____ years **(insert number)** of Total Credited Service
 - In-Service Distribution to Eligible Employees permitted (*i.e.*, a qualifying Participant may commence receiving retirement benefits while in service

This alternative normal retirement benefit is available to:

- All Participants who qualify.
- Only the following Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**: _____.

A Participant **(check one)**: is required is not required to be in the service of the Employer at the time the Participant satisfies the Rule in order to qualify for this alternative normal retirement benefit.

Other eligibility requirement **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

- (4) **Alternative Minimum Service.** A Participant is eligible for an alternative normal retirement benefit if the Participant has at least _____ years **(insert number)** of Total Credited Service, regardless of the Participant's age.

- In-Service Distribution to Eligible Employees permitted (*i.e.*, a qualifying Participant may commence receiving retirement benefits while in service without first incurring a Bona Fide Separation from Service), if the Participant meets the minimum service requirement specified immediately above and satisfies the minimum age parameters for In-Service Distribution described in Section 6.06(a)(3) of the Basic Plan Document, subject to applicable Plan provisions concerning recalculation and offset applied at re-retirement to account for the value of benefits received prior to re-retirement. This rule shall apply to **(check one)**: all Participants only the following class(es) of Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**: _____.

This alternative normal retirement benefit is available to:

- All Participants who qualify.
- Only the following Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**: _____.

A Participant **(check one)**: is required is not required to be in the service of the Employer at the time the Participant satisfies the qualifications for this alternative normal retirement benefit.

Other eligibility requirement **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

- (5) **Other Alternative Normal Retirement Benefit.**

shall apply to **(check one)**: all Participants only the following class(es) of Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**: _____.

This alternative normal retirement benefit is available to:

- All public safety employee Participants who qualify.
- Only the following public safety employee Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**: _____.

A public safety employee Participant **(check one)**: is required is not required to be in the service of the Employer at the time the Participant satisfies the qualifications for this alternative normal retirement benefit.

Other eligibility requirement **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

Note: "Public safety employees" are defined under the Internal Revenue Code for this purpose as employees of a State or political subdivision of a State who provide police protection, firefighting services, or emergency medical services for any area within the jurisdiction of such State or political subdivision.

D. Disability Benefit Qualifications

Subject to the other terms and conditions of the Basic Plan Document and except as otherwise provided in an Addendum to this Adoption Agreement, disability retirement qualifications are based upon Social Security Administration award criteria or as otherwise provided under Section 2.23 of the Basic Plan Document. The Disability Retirement benefit shall commence as of the Participant's Disability Retirement Date under Section 2.24 of the Basic Plan Document.

To qualify for a disability benefit, a Participant must have the following minimum number of years of Total Credited Service **(check one)**:

- Not applicable (the Adopting Employer does not offer disability retirement benefits under the Plan).
- No minimum.
- _____ years **(insert number)** of Total Credited Service.

Other eligibility requirement **(must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i))**: _____.

- (c) **Split Final Average Earnings Formula.** _____ % (insert percentage) of Final Average Earnings up to the amount of **Covered Compensation** (see subsection (2) below for definition of **Covered Compensation**), plus _____ % (insert percentage) of Final Average Earnings in excess of said Covered Compensation, multiplied by years of Total Credited Service as an Eligible Regular Employee.

This formula applies to:

- All Participants who are Regular Employees.
- Only the following Participants (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.

- (d) **Alternative Split Final Average Earnings Formula.** _____ % (insert percentage) of Final Average Earnings up to the amount of **Covered Compensation** (see subsection (2) below for definition of **Covered Compensation**), plus _____ % (insert percentage) of Final Average Earnings in excess of said Covered Compensation, multiplied by years of Total Credited Service as an Eligible Regular Employee.

This formula applies to:

- All Participants.
- Only the following Participants (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.

[Repeat above subsections as necessary for each applicable benefit formula and Participant class covered under the Plan.]

(2) **Covered Compensation (complete only if Split Formula(s) is checked above):**

Covered Compensation is defined as (check one or more as applicable):

- (a) **A.I.M.E. Covered Compensation** as defined in Section 2.18 of the Basic Plan Document. This definition of Covered Compensation shall apply to (**check one**):
 - All Participants who are Regular Employees.
 - Only the following Participants (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.
- (b) **Dynamic Break Point Covered Compensation** as defined in Section 2.19 of the Basic Plan Document. This definition of Covered Compensation shall apply to (**check one**):
 - All Participants who are Regular Employees.
 - Only the following Participants (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.

This formula applies to:

- All elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers eligible to participate.
- Only the following elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers eligible to participate (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.

[Repeat above subsection as necessary for each applicable formula for classes of elected or appointed members covered under the Plan.]

C. Monthly Early Retirement Benefit Amount

Check and complete one or more as applicable:

- (1) **Standard Early Retirement Reduction Table.** The monthly Early Retirement benefit shall be computed in the same manner as the monthly Normal Retirement benefit, but the benefit shall be reduced on an Actuarially Equivalent basis in accordance with Section 12.01 of the Basic Plan Document to account for early commencement of benefits. This provision shall apply to:
 - All Participants.
 - Only the following Participants (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.
- (2) **Alternative Early Retirement Reduction Table.** The monthly Early Retirement benefit shall be computed in the same manner as the monthly Normal Retirement benefit, but the benefit shall be reduced to account for early commencement of benefits based on the following table. This table shall apply to:
 - All Participants.
 - Only the following Participants (**must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named**): _____.

- Not applicable (the Adopting Employer does not offer disability retirement benefits under the Plan).
- No minimum is established.
- No less than (check one): 20% 10% ____% (if other than 20% or 10% insert percentage amount) of the Participant's average monthly Earnings for the 12 calendar month period (excluding any period of unpaid leave of absence) immediately preceding the Participant's Termination of Employment as a result of a Disability. (Unless otherwise specified in an Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, no minimum will apply to elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers.)
- No less than (check one): 66 2/3 % ____% (if other than 66 2/3%, insert percentage amount) of the Participant's average monthly Earnings for the 12 calendar month period (excluding any period of unpaid leave of absence) immediately preceding the Participant's Termination of Employment as a result of a Disability, less any monthly benefits paid from federal Social Security benefits as a result of disability as reported by the Employer. (Unless otherwise specified in an Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, no minimum will apply to elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority or Municipal Legal Officers.)

F. Minimum/Maximum Benefit For Elected Officials

In addition to any other limitations imposed by federal or state law, the Employer may impose a cap on the monthly benefit amount that may be received by elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority. The Employer elects (check one):

- Not applicable (elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority do not participate in the Plan).
- No minimum or maximum applies.
- Monthly benefit for Service as an elected or appointed member of the Governing Authority may not exceed 100% of the Participant's final salary as an elected or appointed member of the Governing Authority.
- Other minimum or maximum (must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)): _____.

G. Multiple Plans

In the event that the Employer maintains multiple plans, the following provisions will apply to the extent necessary to satisfy Code § 415.

- (b) The Participant's Early Retirement benefit shall be suspended in accordance with Section 6.06(a)(1) of the Basic Plan Document. However, the Participant may begin receiving benefits after satisfying the qualifications for Normal Retirement or Alternative Normal Retirement, as applicable, and after satisfying the minimum age parameters of Section 6.06(a)(3) of the Basic Plan Document, in accordance with Section 6.06(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Basic Plan Document.

This rule shall apply to **(check one)**: all Retired Participants; only the following classes of Retired Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**:
_____.

- (c) The Participant's Early Retirement benefit shall continue in accordance with Section 6.06(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Basic Plan Document.

This rule shall apply to **(check one)**: all Retired Participants; only the following classes of Retired Participants **(must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named)**:
_____.

B. Cost Of Living Adjustment

The Employer may elect to provide for an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in the amount of benefits being received by Retired Participants and Beneficiaries, which shall be calculated and paid in accordance with the terms of the Basic Plan Document. The Employer hereby elects the following **(check one)**:

- (1) No cost-of-living adjustment.
- (2) Variable Annual cost-of-living adjustment not to exceed _____% **(insert percentage)**.
- (3) Fixed annual cost-of-living adjustment equal to _____% **(insert percentage)**.

The above cost-of-living adjustment shall apply with respect to the following Participants (and their Beneficiaries) **(check one)**:

Regular Employees to whom exception applies (must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named): _____.

Vesting Schedule for excepted class (Must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i). Must be at least as favorable as one of the following schedules: (i) 15-year cliff vesting, (ii) 20-year graded vesting, or (iii) for qualified public safety employees, 20-year cliff vesting.): _____.

B. Elected or Appointed Members of the Governing Authority

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Basic Plan Document, a Participant who is an elected or appointed member of the Governing Authority or a Municipal Legal Officer shall earn a vested right in the Participant's accrued retirement benefit for Credited Service in such capacity in accordance with the following schedule (check one):

- Not applicable (elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority are not permitted to participate in the Plan).
- No vesting schedule (immediate vesting).
- Other vesting schedule (Must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i). Must be at least as favorable as one of the following schedules: (i) 15-year cliff vesting, (ii) 20-year graded vesting, or (iii) for qualified public safety employees, 20-year cliff vesting.): Elected or appointed members of the Governing Authority who first take office on or after October 1, 2009, will be Vested in their accrued Retirement benefit for Credited Service in such capacity after they have attained at least 8 years of Credited Service or have served two full terms, whichever is less. Credited Service as an Eligible Regular Employee shall be credited for purposes of meeting the Plan's minimum Service requirements for Vesting as an elected or appointed Member of the Governing Authority. No minimum Service requirement will apply for Vesting purposes to an elected or appointed member of the Governing Authority who first took office prior to October 1, 2009. Any such elected or appointed member will be immediately Vested in their accrued Retirement benefit attributable to Credited Service as an elected or appointed member of the Governing Authority.

18. PRE-RETIREMENT DEATH BENEFITS

A. In-Service Death Benefit

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Basic Plan Document, the Employer hereby elects the following in-service death benefit, to be payable in the event that an eligible Participant's employment with the Employer is terminated by reason of the Participant's death prior to Retirement (check and complete one):

terminated by reason of the Participant's death prior to Retirement, and if as of the date of death the Participant is vested but does not qualify for the in-service death benefit, then the Auto A Death Benefit will be payable, provided the Auto A Death Benefit is made available to terminated vested employees under the Adoption Agreement (see "Terminated Vested Death Benefit" below).

(3) **Exceptions:** If an in-service death benefit other than that specified above applies to one or more classes of Participants, the Employer must specify below the death benefit payable, the class(es) to whom the different death benefit applies, and the eligibility conditions for said death benefit.

Alternative Death Benefit (must specify formula that satisfies the definite written program and definitely determinable requirements of Treasury Regulations Sections 1.401-1(a)(2) and 1.401-1(b)(1)(i) and does not violate limits applicable to governmental plans under Code Sections 401(a)(17) and 415): _____.

Participants to whom alternative death benefit applies (must specify - specific positions are permissible; specific individuals may not be named): _____.

Eligibility conditions for alternative death benefit (must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)): _____.

B. Terminated Vested Death Benefit

(1) **Complete this Section only if the Employer offers a terminated vested death benefit.** The Employer may elect to provide a terminated vested death benefit, to be payable in the event that a Participant who is vested dies after termination of employment but before Retirement benefits commence. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Basic Plan Document, the Employer hereby elects the following terminated vested death benefit (**check one**):

- Auto A Death Benefit.** A monthly benefit payable to the Participant's Pre-Retirement Beneficiary, equal to the decreased monthly retirement benefit that would have otherwise been payable to the Participant had the Participant elected a 100% joint and survivor benefit under Section 7.03 of the Basic Plan Document.
- Accrued Retirement Benefit.** A monthly benefit payable to the Participant's Pre-Retirement Beneficiary which shall be actuarially equivalent to the Participant's Accrued Normal Retirement Benefit determined as of the date of death.

(2) **Exceptions:** If a terminated vested death benefit other than that specified above applies to one or more classes of Participants, the Employer must specify below the death benefit payable, the class(es) to whom the different death benefit applies, and the eligibility conditions for said death benefit.

Alternative Death Benefit (must specify formula that satisfies the definite written program and definitely determinable requirements of Treasury Regulations Sections 1.401-1(a)(2)

which includes not having the option of receiving the amounts directly instead of having them paid to the Plan.

- Not to pick up Employee Contributions.

(3) Interest on Employee Contributions. The Adopting Employer may elect to pay interest on any refund of Employee Contributions.

- Interest shall not be paid.
- Interest shall be paid on a refund of Employee Contributions at a rate established by GMEBS from time to time.
- Other rate of interest (**must specify rate in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)**):
_____.

20. MODIFICATION OF THE TERMS OF THE ADOPTION AGREEMENT

If an Adopting Employer desires to amend any of its elections contained in this Adoption Agreement (or any Addendum), the Governing Authority by official action must adopt an amendment of the Adoption Agreement (or any Addendum) or a new Adoption Agreement (or Addendum) must be adopted and forwarded to the Board for approval. The amendment of the new Adoption Agreement (or Addendum) is not effective until approved by the Board and other procedures required by the Plan have been implemented.

The Administrator will timely inform the Adopting Employer of any amendments made by the Board to the Plan.

21. TERMINATION OF THE ADOPTION AGREEMENT

This Adoption Agreement (and any Addendum) may be terminated only in accordance with the Plan. The Administrator will inform the Adopting Employer in the event the Board should decide to discontinue this pre-approved plan program.

22. EMPLOYER ADOPTION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR AMENDMENTS

Adoption. The Adopting Employer hereby adopts the terms of the Adoption Agreement and any Addendum, which is attached hereto and made a part of this ordinance. The Adoption Agreement (and, if applicable, the Addendum) sets forth the Employees to be covered by the Plan, the benefits to be provided by the Adopting Employer under the Plan, and any conditions imposed by the Adopting Employer with respect to, but not inconsistent with, the Plan. The Adopting Employer reserves the right to amend its elections under the Adoption Agreement and any

GMEBS to prepare amendments to the Plan, for approval by the Board, on its behalf as provided under Revenue Procedure 2005-16, as superseded by Revenue Procedure 2015-36, Revenue Procedure 2011-49, and Announcement 2005-37. Effective January 1, 2013, Georgia Municipal Association, Inc., serves as the pre-approved plan provider for the Plan. Employer notice and signature requirements were met for the Adopting Employer before the effective date of February 17, 2005. The Adopting Employer understands that the implementing amendment reads as follows:

On and after February 17, 2005, the Board delegates to the Provider the authority to advise and prepare amendments to the Plan, for approval by the Board, on behalf of all Adopting Employers, including those Adopting Employers who have adopted the Plan prior to the January 1, 2013, restatement of the Plan, for changes in the Code, the regulations thereunder, revenue rulings, other statements published by Internal Revenue Service, including model, sample, or other required good faith amendments (but only if their adoption will not cause such Plan to be individually designed), and for corrections of prior approved plans. These amendments shall be applied to all Adopting Employers. Employer notice and signature requirements have been met for all Adopting Employers before the effective date of February 17, 2005. In any event, any amendment prepared by the Practitioner and approved by the Board will be provided by the Administrator to Adopting Employers.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, no amendment to the Plan shall be prepared on behalf of any Adopting Employer as of either:

- the date the Internal Revenue Service requires the Adopting Employer to file Form 5300 as an individually designed plan as a result of an amendment by the Adopting Employer to incorporate a type of Plan not allowable in a pre-approved plan as described in Revenue Procedure 2017-41; or
- as of the date the Plan is otherwise considered an individually designed plan due to the nature and extent of the amendments.

If the Adopting Employer is required to obtain a determination letter for any reason in order to maintain reliance on the opinion letter, the Provider's authority to amend the Plan on behalf of the Adopting Employer is conditioned on the Plan receiving a favorable determination letter.

The Adopting Employer further understands that, if it does not give its authorization hereunder or, in the alternative, adopt another pre-approved plan, its Plan will become an individually designed plan and will not be able to rely on the pre-approved plan opinion letter.

Reliance on Opinion Letter. As provided in Revenue Procedure 2017-41, the Adopting Employer may rely on the Plan's opinion letter, provided that the Adopting Employer's Plan is identical to the GMEBS Plan, and the Adopting Employer has not amended or made any modifications to the Plan other than to choose the options permitted under the Plan, Adoption Agreement, and any Addendum.

**GENERAL ADDENDUM TO THE
GEORGIA MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT SYSTEM
DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN
ADOPTION AGREEMENT**

This is an Addendum to the Adoption Agreement completed by the City of Powder Springs, Georgia as follows (complete one or more sections, as applicable):

***** Items (1) through (15) of Pre-approved Addendum – Not Applicable*****

(16) Other (May include, but shall not be limited to, provisions relating to Basic Plan Document Sections 6.03, 6.06, 8.04, 8.06, 8.08, 8.09, 8.10, 8.12, 9.01, and 9.02) (must specify in a manner that satisfies the definite written program requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(a)(2) and the definitely determinable requirement of Treasury Regulation 1.401-1(b)(1)(i)):

- (a) Normal Retirement Qualifications; Elected or Appointed Members of Governing Authority - Notwithstanding any provision of the Basic Plan Document or Section 14 of the Adoption Agreement to the contrary, in addition to attaining age 65, an elected or appointed member of the Governing Authority who is first elected or appointed to such office on or after October 1, 2009, shall be required to complete eight (8) years of Total Credited Service or two full terms, whichever is less, to qualify for Normal Retirement. Credited Service as an Eligible Regular Employee shall be credited for purposes of meeting this requirement.**
- (b) Plan Inapplicable to Persons Who Terminated Employment Prior to July 1, 2002; Effect of Reemployment - Notwithstanding any provision of p. 37 of the Adoption Agreement to the contrary, except as otherwise specifically required by law or by the terms of the Basic Plan Document or Adoption Agreement, persons whose employment or term of office with the City was Terminated for any reason whatsoever prior to July 1, 2002, shall have no right, title, or interest in the Plan unless they become reemployed by the City, in which case their rights and obligations shall be governed by such Plan, if any, as it exists and is in effect upon their reemployment.**