

**Request for Extension One Year Extension of Operating Agreement between
the City of Joliet and Joliet Area Historical Museum**

Whereas, the Joliet Area Historical Museum (JAHM) is entering its twentieth year of service to the Joliet Community and has maintained a formal partnership with the City of Joliet as a component unit of municipal government that remains mutually beneficial and,

Whereas, the existing operating agreement between JAHM and City, drafted in 2002, terminates on December 31, 2022 and,

Whereas, the COVID-19 Global Pandemic continues to wreak unprecedented financial strain on cultural organizations such as JAHM, with public health mitigations mandating full or partial closures of JAHM facilities for nearly two years and,

Whereas, JAHM has aggressively pursued local, State and Federal pandemic relief funds, including Business Interruption Grant (BIG), Back to Business (B2B), Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Shuttered Venue Operator Grant (SVOG) and,

Whereas, JAHM has been obligated a \$3,000,000 Federal Community Project Funding Grant and \$3,500,000 State Grant for physical stabilization of City-held Old Joliet Prison Historic Site which requires immediate intervention pending receipt of funds and,

Whereas, the City and other units of local government have been provided funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) with the stated purpose of assisting entities such as JAHM with financial recovery from the COVID-19 Global Pandemic and,

Whereas, despite Pandemic-related challenges, JAHM continues to host major public events of great interest to the community, such as the first annual Blues Brothers Con, which will include a historic performance from Dan Aykroyd and James Belushi and,

Whereas, the State and Federal Governments have given strong indications of a variety of funding opportunities tied the 2026 Centennial of Route 66, from which JAHM has already benefited,

Whereas, JAHM intends to operate four properties by the end of 2022, three of which are City-held and,

Whereas, JAHM maintains two “sub” Memorandums of Understanding regarding the operation of the Old Joliet Prison Historic Site and Union Depot Tower Museum and,

Whereas, JAHM has increased staffing to optimal pre-Pandemic and Great Recession levels to meet the demands of increased public interest and site management,

Be it now resolved, JAHM respectfully requests an immediate one-year extension of its existing operating agreement with the City, with additional provisions as follows:

- Operating & Maintenance Grant Support to be restored to pre-COVID levels of \$275,000, classified as “pledge receivable” in JAHM’s 2018 audit.
- Restoration of COVID-era funding reductions retroactive from April 2020 of \$162,500 to be paid from City of Joliet American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) Funding.

- Approval for JAHM and City Staff to identify reductions to JAHM's operational costs via applicable "economies of scale": Applicable clerical support (i.e. Copy Machine), Managed Accounting Services (Wermer Rodgers Duran Ruzon).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties execute this Memorandum of Understanding effective on the date first above written.

CITY OF JOLIET, a municipal corporation

By:

Robert O'Dekirk Mayor

Attest:

Christa M. Desiderio City Clerk

JOLIET AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM, INC., a 501
(c)3 not-for-profit corporation

By:

Quinn X. Adamowski Board President

Attest:

Gregory T. Peerbolte, CEO