CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE VENTURA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AND SEASIDE ADVOCACY LLC

THIS AGREEMENT for consulting services is made by and between the Ventura County Transportation Commission ("VCTC") and Seaside Advocacy LLC ("Consultant") (together sometimes referred to as the "Parties") as of January 1, 2027 (the "Effective Date").

Section 1. **SERVICES**. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, Consultant shall provide to VCTC the services described in the Scope of Work attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A, at the time and place and in the manner specified therein. In the event of a conflict in or inconsistency between the terms of this Agreement and Exhibit A, the Agreement shall prevail.

1.1 **Term of Services.** The term of this Agreement shall begin on the Effective Date and shall end on December 31, 2029, the date of completion specified in Exhibit A, and Consultant shall complete the work described in Exhibit A on or before that date, unless VCTC elects to exercise its option via written notice to Consultant to extend the Agreement by an additional two (2) years. The time provided to Consultant to complete the services required by this Agreement shall not affect VCTC's right to terminate the Agreement, as provided for in Section 8.

1.2 **Standard of Performance.** Consultant shall perform all work required by this Agreement in a substantial, first-class manner and shall conform to the standards of quality normally observed by a person practicing in Consultant's profession.

1.3 **Assignment of Personnel.** Consultant shall assign only competent personnel to perform services pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that VCTC, in its sole discretion, at any time during the term of this Agreement, desires the reassignment of any such persons, Consultant shall, immediately upon receiving notice from VCTC of such desire of VCTC, reassign such person or persons.

1.4 **Time.** Consultant shall devote such time to the performance of services pursuant to this Agreement as may be reasonably necessary to meet the standard of performance provided in Sections 1.1 and 1.2 above and to satisfy Consultant's obligations hereunder.

Section 2. **COMPENSATION.** VCTC hereby agrees to pay Consultant a sum not to exceed one hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars, ($167,000) notwithstanding any contrary indications that may be contained in Consultant's proposal, for services to be performed and reimbursable costs incurred under this Agreement. In the event of a conflict between this Agreement and Consultant's proposal, attached as Exhibit A, regarding the amount of compensation, the Agreement shall prevail. VCTC shall pay Consultant for services rendered pursuant to this Agreement at the time and in the manner set forth herein. The payments specified below shall be the only payments from VCTC to Consultant for services rendered pursuant to this Agreement. Consultant shall submit all

invoices to VCTC in the manner specified herein. Except as specifically authorized by VCTC in writing, Consultant shall not bill VCTC for duplicate services performed by more than one person.

Consultant and VCTC acknowledge and agree that compensation paid by VCTC to Consultant under this Agreement is based upon Consultant's estimated costs of providing the services required hereunder, including salaries and benefits of employees and subcontractors of Consultant. Consequently, the Parties further agree that compensation hereunder is intended to include the costs of contributions to any pensions and/or annuities to which Consultant and its employees, agents, and subcontractors may be eligible. VCTC therefore has no responsibility for such contributions beyond compensation required under this Agreement.

2.1 **Invoices.** Consultant shall submit invoices, not more often than once per month during the term of this Agreement, based on the cost for all services performed and reimbursable costs incurred prior to the invoice date. Invoices shall contain all the following information:

- Serial identifications of progress bills (i.e., Progress Bill No. 1 for the first invoice, etc.);
- The beginning and ending dates of the billing period;
- A task summary containing the original contract amount, the amount of prior billings, the total due this period, the balance available under the Agreement, and the percentage of completion;
- At VCTC's option, for each work item in each task, a copy of the applicable time entries or time sheets shall be submitted showing the name of the person doing the work, the hours spent by each person, a brief description of the work, and each reimbursable expense;
- The total number of hours of work performed under the Agreement by each employee, agent, and subcontractor of Consultant performing services hereunder;
- Consultant shall give separate notice to VCTC when the total number of hours worked by Consultant and any individual employee, agent, or subcontractor of Consultant reaches or exceeds eight hundred (800) hours within a twelve (12)-month period under this Agreement and any other agreement between Consultant and VCTC. Such notice shall include an estimate of the time necessary to complete work described in Exhibit A and the estimate of time necessary to complete work under any other agreement between Consultant and VCTC, if applicable.
- The amount and purpose of actual expenditures for which reimbursement is sought;
- The Consultant's signature.

2.2 **Monthly Payment.** VCTC shall make monthly payments, based on invoices received, for services satisfactorily performed, and for authorized reimbursable costs incurred. VCTC shall have thirty (30) days from the receipt of an invoice that complies with all of the requirements above to pay Consultant. Each invoice shall include all expenses and actives performed during the invoice period for which Consultant expects to receive payment.

2.3 **Final Payment.** VCTC shall pay the five percent (5%) of the total sum due pursuant to this Agreement within sixty (60) days after completion of the services and submittal to VCTC of a final invoice, if all services required have been satisfactorily performed.

2.4 **Total Payment.** VCTC shall pay for the services to be rendered by Consultant pursuant to this Agreement. VCTC shall not pay any additional sum for any expense or cost whatsoever incurred by Consultant in rendering services pursuant to this Agreement. VCTC shall make no payment for any extra, further, or additional service pursuant to this Agreement. In no event shall Consultant submit any invoice for an amount in excess of the maximum amount of compensation provided above either for a task or for the entire Agreement, unless the Agreement is modified prior to the submission of such an invoice by a properly executed change order or amendment.

2.5 **Hourly Fees.** Fees for work performed by Consultant on an hourly basis shall not exceed the amounts shown on the compensation schedule attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit B.

2.6 **Reimbursable Expenses.** Reimbursable expenses, as specified in Exhibit C, attached hereto and incorporated herein, shall not exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000). Expenses not listed below are not chargeable to VCTC. Reimbursable expenses are included in the total amount of compensation provided under this Agreement that shall not be exceeded.

2.7 **Payment of Taxes.** Consultant is solely responsible for the payment of employment taxes incurred under this Agreement and any similar federal or state taxes. Contractor represents and warrants that Contractor is a resident of the State of California in accordance with California Revenue & Taxation Code Section 18662, as it may be amended, and is exempt from withholding. Contractor accepts sole responsible for verifying the residency status of any subcontractors and withhold taxes from non-California subcontractors.

2.8 **Payment upon Termination.** In the event that VCTC or Consultant terminates this Agreement pursuant to Section 8, VCTC shall compensate the Consultant for all outstanding costs and reimbursable expenses incurred for work satisfactorily completed as of the date of written notice of termination. Consultant shall maintain adequate logs and timesheets to verify costs incurred to that date.

2.9 **Authorization to Perform Services.** The Consultant is not authorized to perform any services or incur any costs whatsoever under the terms of this Agreement until receipt of authorization from the Contract Administrator.

2.10 **False Claims Act.** Presenting a false or fraudulent claim for payment, including a change order, is a violation of the California False Claims Act and may result in treble damages and a fine of five thousand ($5,000) to ten thousand dollars ($10,000) per violation.

Section 3. **FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.** Except as set forth herein, Consultant shall, at its sole cost and expense, provide all facilities and equipment that may be necessary to perform the services required by this Agreement. VCTC shall make available to Consultant only the facilities and equipment listed in this section, and only under the terms and conditions set forth herein.

VCTC shall furnish physical facilities such as desks, filing cabinets, and conference space, as may be reasonably necessary for Consultant's use while consulting with VCTC employees and reviewing records and the information in possession of VCTC. The location, quantity, and time of furnishing those facilities shall be in the sole discretion of VCTC. In no event shall VCTC be obligated to furnish any facility that may involve incurring any direct expense, including but not limited to computer, long-distance telephone or other communication charges, vehicles, and reproduction facilities.

Section 4. **INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.** Before beginning any work under this Agreement, Consultant, at its own cost and expense, unless otherwise specified below, shall procure the types and amounts of insurance listed below against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property that may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Consultant and its agents, representatives, employees, and subcontractors. Consistent with the following provisions, Consultant shall provide proof satisfactory to VCTC of such insurance that meets the requirements of this section and under forms of insurance satisfactory in all respects, and that such insurance is in effect prior to beginning work to VCTC. Consultant shall maintain the insurance policies required by this section throughout the term of this Agreement. The cost of such insurance shall be included in the Consultant's bid. Consultant shall not allow any subcontractor to commence work on any subcontract until Consultant has obtained all insurance required herein for the subcontractor(s). Consultant shall maintain all required insurance listed herein for the duration of this Agreement.

4.1 **Workers' Compensation.** **Workers' Compensation** insurance as required by the State of California, with Statutory Limits, and Employer's Liability Insurance with limit of no less than $1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.
In the alternative, Consultant may rely on a self-insurance program to meet those requirements, but only if the program of self-insurance complies fully with the provisions of the California Labor Code. Determination of whether a self-insurance program meets the standards of the Labor Code shall be solely in the discretion of the Contract Administrator, as defined in Section 10.9. The insurer, if insurance is provided, or the Consultant, if a program of self-insurance is provided, shall waive all rights of subrogation against VCTC and its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers for loss arising from work performed under this Agreement.

4.2 **Commercial General and Automobile Liability Insurance.**

4.2.1 **Commercial General Liability (CGL):** Insurance Services Office Form CG 00 01 covering CGL on an "occurrence" basis, including products and completed operations, property damage, bodily injury and personal & advertising injury with limits no less than $2,000,000 per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply

separately to this project/location (ISO CG 25 03 or 25 04) or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.

4.2.2 Automobile Liability: Insurance Services Office Form Number CA 0001 covering, Code 1 (any auto), or if Consultant has no owned autos, Code 8 (hired) and 9 (non-owned), with limit no less than $1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage.

4.2.3 Additional requirements. Each of the following shall be included in the insurance coverage or added as a certified endorsement to the policy:

a. The Insurance shall cover on an occurrence or an accident basis, and not on a claims-made basis.

b. Any failure of Consultant to comply with reporting provisions of the policy shall not affect coverage provided to VCTC and its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers.

4.3 Professional Liability Insurance.

4.3.1 General requirements. Consultant, at its own cost and expense, shall maintain for the period covered by this Agreement professional liability insurance for licensed professionals performing work pursuant to this Agreement in an amount not less than $**2,000,000** covering the licensed professionals' errors and omissions. Any deductible or self-insured retention shall not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000) per claim.

4.3.2 Claims-made limitations. The following provisions shall apply if the professional liability coverage is written on a claims-made form:

a. The retroactive date of the policy must be shown and must be before the date of the Agreement.

b. Insurance must be maintained and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least five (5) years after completion of the Agreement or the work, so long as commercially available at reasonable rates.

c. If coverage is canceled or not renewed and it is not replaced with another claims-made policy form with a retroactive date that precedes the date of this Agreement, Consultant shall purchase an extended period coverage for a minimum of five (5) years after completion of work under this Agreement or the work. VCTC shall have the right to exercise, at the Consultant's sole cost and expense, any extended reporting provisions of the policy, if the Consultant cancels or does not renew the coverage.

d. A copy of the claim reporting requirements must be submitted to VCTC for review prior to the commencement of any work under this Agreement.

4.4 All Policies Requirements.

4.4.1 Acceptability of insurers. All insurance required by this section is to be placed with insurers with a Bests' rating of no less than A:VII.

4.4.2 Verification of coverage. Prior to beginning any work under this Agreement, Consultant shall furnish VCTC with complete copies of all policies delivered to Consultant by the insurer, including complete copies of all endorsements attached to those policies. All copies of policies and certified endorsements shall show the signature of a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. If VCTC does not receive the required insurance documents prior to the Consultant beginning work, this shall not waive the Consultant's obligation to provide them. VCTC reserves the right to require complete copies of all required insurance policies at any time.

4.4.3 Notice of Reduction in or Cancellation of Coverage. A certified endorsement shall be attached to all insurance obtained pursuant to this Agreement stating that coverage shall not be suspended, voided, canceled by either party, or reduced in coverage or in limits, except after thirty (30) days' prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, has been given to VCTC. In the event that any coverage required by this section is reduced, limited, cancelled, or materially affected in any other manner, Consultant shall provide written notice to VCTC at Consultant's earliest possible opportunity and in no case later than ten (10) working days after Consultant is notified of the change in coverage.

4.4.4 Additional insured; primary insurance. VCTC and its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers shall be covered as additional insureds with respect to each of the following: liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of Consultant, including VCTC's general supervision of Consultant; products and completed operations of Consultant, as applicable; premises owned, occupied, or used by Consultant; and automobiles owned, leased, or used by the Consultant in the course of providing services pursuant to this Agreement. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to VCTC or its officers, employees, agents, or volunteers.

A certified endorsement must be attached to all policies stating that coverage is primary insurance with respect to VCTC and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers, and that no insurance or self-insurance maintained by VCTC shall be called upon to contribute to a loss under the coverage.

4.4.5 **Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions.** Consultant shall disclose to and obtain the approval of City for the self-insured retentions and deductibles before beginning any of the services or work called for by any term of this Agreement. Further, if the Consultant's insurance policy includes a self-insured retention that must be paid by a named insured as a precondition of the insurer's liability, or which has the effect of providing that payments of the self-insured retention by others, including additional insureds or insurers do not serve to satisfy the self-insured retention, such provisions must be modified by special endorsement so as to not apply to the additional insured coverage required by this agreement so as to not prevent any of the parties to this agreement from satisfying or paying the self-insured retention required to be paid as a precondition to the insurer's liability. Additionally, the certificates of insurance must note whether the policy does or does not include any self-insured retention and also must disclose the deductible.

During the period covered by this Agreement, only upon the prior express written authorization of Contract Administrator, Consultant may increase such deductibles or self-insured retentions with respect to VCTC, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers. The Contract Administrator may condition approval of an increase in deductible or self-insured retention levels with a requirement that Consultant procure a bond, guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigations, claim administration, and defense expenses that is satisfactory in all respects to each of them.

4.4.6 **Subcontractors.** Consultant shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies or shall furnish separate certificates and certified endorsements for each subcontractor. All coverages for subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein.

4.4.7 **Variation.** VCTC may approve a variation in the foregoing insurance requirements, upon a determination that the coverage, scope, limits, and forms of such insurance are either not commercially available, or that VCTC's interests are otherwise fully protected.

4.5 **Remedies.** In addition to any other remedies VCTC may have if Consultant fails to provide or maintain any insurance policies or policy endorsements to the extent and within the time herein required, VCTC may, at its sole option exercise any of the following remedies, which are alternatives to other remedies VCTC may have and are not the exclusive remedy for Consultant's breach:

a. Obtain such insurance and deduct and retain the amount of the premiums for such insurance from any sums due under the Agreement;

b. Order Consultant to stop work under this Agreement or withhold any payment that becomes due to Consultant hereunder, or both stop work and withhold any

payment, until Consultant demonstrates compliance with the requirements hereof; and/or

c. Terminate this Agreement.

Section 5. INDEMNIFICATION AND CONSULTANT'S RESPONSIBILITIES. Consultant shall, to the fullest extent allowed by law, with respect to all Services performed in connection with this Agreement, indemnify, defend with counsel selected by VCTC, and hold harmless VCTC and its officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from and against any and all losses, liability, claims, suits, actions, damages, and causes of action arising out of any personal injury, bodily injury, loss of life, or damage to property, or any violation of any federal, state, or municipal law or ordinance ("Claims"), to the extent caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by the willful misconduct or negligent acts or omissions of Consultant or its employees, subcontractors, or agents. The foregoing obligation of Consultant shall not apply when (1) the injury, loss of life, damage to property, or violation of law arises wholly from the gross negligence or willful misconduct of VCTC or its officers, employees, agents, or volunteers and (2) the actions of Consultant or its employees, subcontractor, or agents have contributed in no part to the injury, loss of life, damage to property, or violation of law.

5.1 Insurance Not in Place of Indemnity. Acceptance by VCTC of insurance certificates and endorsements required under this Agreement does not relieve Consultant from liability under this indemnification and hold harmless clause. This indemnification and hold harmless clause shall apply to any damages or claims for damages whether or not such insurance policies shall have been determined to apply. By execution of this Agreement, Consultant acknowledges and agrees to the provisions of this Section and that it is a material element of consideration.

5.2 PERS Liability. In the event that Consultant or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Consultant providing services under this Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or the California Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) to be eligible for enrollment in PERS as an employee of VCTC, Consultant shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless VCTC for the payment of any employee and/or employer contributions for PERS benefits on behalf of Consultant or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions, which would otherwise be the responsibility of VCTC.

5.3 Third Party Claims. With respect to third party claims against the Consultant, the Consultant waives any and all rights of any type of express or implied indemnity against the Indemnitees.

Section 6. STATUS OF CONSULTANT.

6.1 Independent Contractor. At all times during the term of this Agreement, Consultant shall be an independent contractor and shall not be an employee of VCTC. VCTC shall have the right to control Consultant only insofar as the results of Consultant's services rendered pursuant to this Agreement and assignment of

personnel pursuant to Subparagraph 1.3; however, otherwise VCTC shall not have the right to control the means by which Consultant accomplishes services rendered pursuant to this Agreement. Notwithstanding any other VCTC, state, or federal policy, rule, regulation, law, or ordinance to the contrary, Consultant and any of its employees, agents, and subcontractors providing services under this Agreement shall not qualify for or become entitled to, and hereby agree to waive any and all claims to, any compensation, benefit, or any incident of employment by VCTC, including but not limited to eligibility to enroll in the California Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) as an employee of VCTC and entitlement to any contribution to be paid by VCTC for employer contributions and/or employee contributions for PERS benefits.

6.2 **Consultant Not an Agent.** Except as VCTC may specify in writing, Consultant shall have no authority, express or implied, to act on behalf of VCTC in any capacity whatsoever as an agent to bind VCTC to any obligation whatsoever.

Section 7. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.

7.1 **Governing Law.** The laws of the State of California shall govern this Agreement.

7.2 **Compliance with Applicable Laws.** Consultant and any subcontractors shall comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations applicable to the performance of the work hereunder as such may be amended from time to time. Consultant's failure to comply with such law(s) or regulation(s) shall constitute a breach of contract.

7.3 **Other Governmental Regulations.** To the extent that this Agreement may be funded by fiscal assistance from another governmental entity, Consultant and any subcontractors shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations to which VCTC is bound by the terms of such fiscal assistance program.

7.4 **Licenses and Permits.** Consultant represents and warrants to VCTC that Consultant and its employees, agents, and any subcontractors have all licenses, permits, qualifications, and approvals, including from VCTC, of whatsoever nature that are legally required to practice their respective professions. Consultant represents and warrants to VCTC that Consultant and its employees, agents, any subcontractors shall, at their sole cost and expense, keep in effect at all times during the term of this Agreement any licenses, permits, and approvals that are legally required to practice their respective professions. In addition to the foregoing, Consultant and any subcontractors shall obtain and maintain during the term of this Agreement valid Business Licenses from VCTC.

7.5 **Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity.** Consultant shall not discriminate, on the basis of a person's race, religion, color, national origin, age, physical or mental handicap or disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation, against any employee, applicant for employment, subcontractor, bidder for a subcontract, or participant in, recipient of, or applicant for any services or programs provided by Consultant under this Agreement. Consultant shall comply with all

applicable federal, state, and local laws, policies, rules, and requirements related to equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in employment, contracting, and the provision of any services that are the subject of this Agreement, including but not limited to the satisfaction of any positive obligations required of Consultant thereby.

Consultant shall include the provisions of this Subsection in any subcontract approved by the Contract Administrator or this Agreement.

7.6 **Contractor's Residency and Tax Withholding** Contractor declares that Contractor is a resident of the State of California in accordance with the California Franchise Tax Board form 590 ("Form 590"), as may be amended, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit ____. Unless provided with valid, written evidence of an exemption or waiver from withholding, VCTC may withhold California taxes from payments to Contractor as required by law. Contractor shall obtain, and maintain on file for three (3) years after the termination of the Contract, Form 590s from all subcontractors. Contractor accepts sole responsibility for withholding taxes from any non-California resident subcontractor and shall submit written documentation of compliance with Contractor's withholding duty to VCTC.

Section 8. TERMINATION AND MODIFICATION.

8.1 **Termination.** VCTC may cancel this Agreement at any time and without cause upon written notification to Consultant.

Consultant may cancel this Agreement for cause upon thirty (30) days' written notice to VCTC and shall include in such notice the reasons for cancellation.

In the event of termination for convenience, Consultant shall be entitled to compensation for services satisfactorily performed up to the effective date of termination.

In the event of termination for cause, VCTC, Consultant shall be entitled to compensation for services satisfactorily performed up to the effective date of termination; however, Consultant shall not be relieved of liability to VCTC for damages sustained by VCTC arising from Consultant's breach of this Agreement and VCTC shall have the right to set-off any such damages amounts it incurs in order to complete the work or otherwise related to the termination of Consultant against any payments owed to Consultant for that portion of the work which has been completed and accepted by VCTC.

Further, VCTC may condition payment of any compensation due to Consultant upon termination upon Consultant delivering to VCTC any or all documents, photographs, computer software, video and audio tapes, and other materials provided to Consultant or prepared by or for Consultant or the VCTC in connection with this Agreement.

8.2 **Extension.** VCTC may, in its sole and exclusive discretion, extend the end date of this Agreement beyond that provided for in Subsection 1.1. Any such extension shall require Contractor to execute a written amendment to this Agreement, as provided for herein. Consultant understands and agrees that, if VCTC grants such an extension, VCTC shall have no obligation to provide Consultant with compensation beyond the maximum amount provided for in this Agreement. Similarly, unless authorized by the Contract Administrator, VCTC shall have no obligation to reimburse Consultant for any otherwise reimbursable expenses incurred during the extension period.

8.3 **Amendments.** The Parties may amend this Agreement only by a writing signed by all the Parties.

8.4 **Assignment and Subcontracting.** VCTC and Consultant recognize and agree that this Agreement contemplates personal performance by Consultant and is based upon a determination of Consultant's unique personal competence, experience, and specialized personal knowledge. Moreover, a substantial inducement to VCTC for entering into this Agreement was and is the professional reputation and competence of Consultant. Consultant may not assign this Agreement or any interest therein without the prior written approval of the Contract Administrator. Consultant shall not assign or subcontract any portion of the performance contemplated and provided for herein, other than to the subcontractors noted in the proposal, without prior written approval of the Contract Administrator.

8.5 **Survival.** All obligations arising prior to the termination of this Agreement and all provisions of this Agreement allocating liability between VCTC and Consultant shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

8.6 **Options upon Breach by Consultant.** If Consultant materially breaches any of the terms of this Agreement, VCTC's remedies shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

8.6.1 Immediately terminate the Agreement;

8.6.2 Retain the plans, specifications, drawings, reports, design documents, and any other work product prepared by Consultant pursuant to this Agreement;

8.6.3 Retain a different consultant to complete the work described in Exhibit A not finished by Consultant; or

8.6.4 Charge Consultant the difference between the cost to complete the work described in Exhibit A that is unfinished at the time of breach and the amount that VCTC would have paid Consultant pursuant to Section 2 if Consultant had completed the work.

Section 9. KEEPING AND STATUS OF RECORDS.

9.1 **Records Created as Part of Consultant's Performance.** All reports, data, maps, models, charts, studies, surveys, photographs, memoranda, plans, studies, specifications, records, files, or any other documents or materials, in electronic or any other form, that Consultant prepares or obtains pursuant to this Agreement and that relate to the matters covered hereunder shall be the property of VCTC. Consultant hereby agrees to deliver those documents to VCTC upon termination of the Agreement. It is understood and agreed that the documents and other materials, including but not limited to those described above, prepared pursuant to this Agreement are prepared specifically for VCTC and are not necessarily suitable for any future or other use. VCTC and Consultant agree that, until final approval by VCTC, all data, plans, specifications, reports and other documents are confidential and will not be released to third parties without prior written consent of both Parties except as required by law.

9.2 **Consultant's Books and Records.** Consultant shall maintain any and all ledgers, books of account, invoices, vouchers, canceled checks, and other records or documents evidencing or relating to charges for services or expenditures and disbursements charged to VCTC under this Agreement for a minimum of three (3) years, or for any longer period required by law, from the date of final payment to the Consultant to this Agreement.

9.3 **Inspection and Audit of Records.** Any records or documents that Section 9.2 of this Agreement requires Consultant to maintain shall be made available for inspection, audit, and/or copying at any time during regular business hours, upon oral or written request of VCTC. Under California Government Code Section 8546.7, if the amount of public funds expended under this Agreement exceeds ten thousand ($10,000.00), the Agreement shall be subject to the examination and audit of the State Auditor, at the request of VCTC or as part of any audit of VCTC, for a period of three (3) years after final payment under the Agreement.

9.4 **Records Submitted in Response to an Invitation to Bid or Request for Proposals**. All responses to a Request for Proposals (RFP) or invitation to bid issued by VCTC become the exclusive property of VCTC. At such time as VCTC selects a bid, all proposals received become a matter of public record, and shall be regarded as public records, with the exception of those elements in each proposal that are defined by Consultant and plainly marked as "Confidential," "Business Secret" or "Trade Secret."

VCTC shall not be liable or in any way responsible for the disclosure of any such proposal or portions thereof, if Consultant has not plainly marked it as a "Trade Secret" or "Business Secret," or if disclosure is required under the Public Records Act.

Although the California Public Records Act recognizes that certain confidential trade secret information may be protected from disclosure, VCTC may not be in a position to establish that the information that a prospective bidder submits is a trade secret. If a request is made for information marked "Trade Secret" or "Business Secret," and the requester takes legal action seeking release of the

materials it believes does not constitute trade secret information, by submitting a proposal, Consultant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless VCTC, its agents and employees, from any judgment, fines, penalties, and award of attorneys fees awarded against VCTC in favor of the party requesting the information, and any and all costs connected with that defense. This obligation to indemnify survives VCTC's award of the contract. Consultant agrees that this indemnification survives as long as the trade secret information is in VCTC's possession, which includes a minimum retention period for such documents.

Section 10 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

10.1 **Attorneys' Fees.** If a Party to this Agreement brings any action, including arbitration or an action for declaratory relief, to enforce or interpret the provision of this Agreement, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees in addition to any other relief to which that Party may be entitled. The court may set such fees in the same action or in a separate action brought for that purpose.

10.2 **Venue.** In the event that either Party brings any action against the other under this Agreement, the Parties agree that trial of such action shall be vested exclusively in the state courts of California in the County of Ventura or in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

10.3 **Severability.** If a court of competent jurisdiction finds or rules that any provision of this Agreement is invalid, void, or unenforceable, the provisions of this Agreement not so adjudged shall remain in full force and effect. The invalidity in whole or in part of any provision of this Agreement shall not void or affect the validity of any other provision of this Agreement.

10.4 **No Implied Waiver of Breach**. The waiver of any breach of a specific provision of this Agreement does not constitute a waiver of any other breach of that term or any other term of this Agreement.

10.5 **Successors and Assigns.** The provisions of this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall apply to and bind the successors and assigns of the Parties.

10.6 **Use of Recycled Products.** Consultant shall prepare and submit all reports, written studies and other printed material on recycled paper to the extent it is available at equal or less cost than virgin paper.

10.7 **Conflict of Interest.** Consultant may serve other clients, but none whose activities within the corporate limits of VCTC or whose business, regardless of location, would place Consultant in a "conflict of interest," as that term is defined in the Political Reform Act, codified at California Government Code Section 81000, *et seq.*

Consultant shall not employ any VCTC official in the work performed pursuant to this Agreement. No officer or employee of VCTC shall have any financial interest in this Agreement that would violate California Government Code Sections 1090, *et seq.*

Consultant hereby warrants that it is not now, nor has it been in the previous twelve (12) months, an employee, agent, appointee, or official of VCTC. If Consultant was an employee, agent, appointee, or official of VCTC in the previous twelve (12) months, Consultant warrants that it did not participate in any manner in the forming of this Agreement. Consultant understands that, if this Agreement is made in violation of Government Code §1090, *et seq.*, the entire Agreement is void and Consultant will not be entitled to any compensation for services performed pursuant to this Agreement, including reimbursement of expenses, and Consultant will be required to reimburse VCTC for any sums paid to the Consultant. Consultant understands that, in addition to the foregoing, it may be subject to criminal prosecution for a violation of Government Code § 1090 and, if applicable, will be disqualified from holding public office in the State of California.

10.8 **Solicitation.** Consultant agrees not to solicit business at any meeting, focus group, or interview related to this Agreement, either orally or through any written materials.

10.9 **Contract Administration.** This Agreement shall be administered by VCTC Executive Director Martin Erickson ("Contract Administrator"). All correspondence shall be directed to or through the Contract Administrator or his or her designee.

10.10 **Notices.** All notices and other communications which are required or may be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given (i) when received if personally delivered; (ii) when received if transmitted by telecopy, if received during normal business hours on a business day (or if not, the next business day after delivery) provided that such facsimile is legible and that at the time such facsimile is sent the sending Party receives written confirmation of receipt; (iii) if sent for next day delivery to a domestic address by recognized overnight delivery service (e.g., Federal Express); and (iv) upon receipt, if sent by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. In each case notice shall be sent to the respective Parties as follows:

Consultant

Delaney Hunter
Founder and Principal
Seaside Advocacy LLC
915 L Street, Suite 1270
Sacramento, CA 95814

VCTC

Martin Erickson
Executive Director
Ventura County Transportation Commission
751 E. Daily Drive, Suite 420
Camarillo, CA 93010

10.11 **Integration.** This Agreement, including the scope of work attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibits A, B, [[and]C]**]** represents the entire and integrated

agreement between VCTC and Consultant and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, either written or oral pertaining to the matters herein.

Exhibit A	Scope of Services
Exhibit B	Compensation Schedule
Exhibit C	Reimbursable Expenses

10.12 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which together shall constitute one agreement.

10.13 **Construction.** The headings in this Agreement are for the purpose of reference only and shall not limit or otherwise affect any of the terms of this Agreement. The parties have had an equal opportunity to participate in the drafting of this Agreement; therefore any construction as against the drafting party shall not apply to this Agreement.

10.14 **No Third Party Beneficiaries.** This Agreement is made solely for the benefit of the Parties hereto with no intent to benefit any non-signatory third parties.

The Parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

VCTC

Martin Erickson, Executive Director

CONSULTANT

Delaney Hunter, Founder and Principal

Approved as to Form:

Lindsay D'Andrea, General Counsel

EXHIBIT A

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Consultant shall perform the following tasks:

A. Legislative Program:
1. Support the development of VCTC's Legislative Program for review and adoption by the VCTC elected board. The Legislative Program is updated every two years to coincide with the start of new legislative and congressional sessions.

B. Legislation, Regulations, Funding and Policy
1. Submit a weekly Legislative Report when the California Legislature is in session. The report should analyze newly introduced bills, summarize activities in the Legislature, committees, the Administration, appropriate state agencies, and coalition stakeholders as the information relates to areas of interest to VCTC, and a forecast of activity likely to occur in the foreseeable future.
2. Review and analyze anticipated, newly introduced, or amended legislation. As needed, review and comment on staff reports, analyses and other memoranda that pertain to issues contained in VCTC's Legislative Program.
3. Work with VCTC to develop and recommend strategies to influence or amend legislation.
4. As directed, prepare and submit materials, testimony, letters and other support materials aimed at conveying VCTC's interests to the Legislature and Administration.
5. Continuously monitor the legislative environment to identify items that may affect VCTC's interests, analyze them and report to VCTC.
6. Work with VCTC to secure support from VCTC's legislative delegation for grant applications.
7. Assist with initiation of legislation sponsored or supported by VCTC.

Deliverables:
Weekly legislative reports
Any initiated legislation that affects VCTC's core mission

C. Legislative Delegation
1. Provide logistical support for VCTC visits in Sacramento or district offices. The includes developing a proposed agenda and scheduling meetings with members of the Legislature, legislative staff and members of the Administration to further the goals of VCTC's Legislative Program. 2. Assist with the development, attendance and programming of a Legislative Staff Tour/Luncheon for delegation member staff to be held annually in Ventura County.

Deliverable:
Logistical support for visits in Sacramento or district offices. Development and execution of a Legislative Staff Tour/Luncheon in Ventura County.

D. Liaison and Advocacy Activities
1. Assist VCTC in developing bipartisan relationships with members of the Legislature, specifically members of the Ventura County and Southern California delegations, and legislative leadership.
2. Assist VCTC in developing relationships with members of the administration of the Governor of California, including but not limited to representatives of and appointees to the California State

Transportation Agency (CalSTA), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

Deliverable:
Office visits with members of legislative leadership and the Ventura County delegation, and other key figures in the state Senate and Assembly; office visits with representatives and appointees to CalSTA, Caltrans and the CTC.

E. Coordination with VCTC
1. The Consultant shall be required to attend at least one meeting of the VCTC elected board in person and make a presentation to board members at least once per calendar year of the contract. The presentation shall include a summary of recent legislative activities, discussion of the political landscape and a forecast of possible legislation and regulation.
2. Meet with VCTC staff twice per month to receive updates on projects and issues of importance to VCTC.
3. Meet with VCTC as needed.

Deliverable: In-person presentation at a meeting of VCTC's elected board at least once per calendar year.

F. Coalition Activities
1. Actively participate in appropriate state coalitions and working groups to further the goals of VCTC's Legislative Program.
2. Maintain communications with and be aware of issues of organizations in which VCTC has a membership or interest, such as, but not limited to, the California Councils of Governments (CalCOG), the California Transit Association (CTA), California Vanpool Authority (CalVans), Coast Rail Coordinating Council, Mobility 21, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink), and the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency (Pacific Surfliner).

Deliverable:
Written and/or verbal summaries of participation and activities with state coalitions and membership organizations.

EXHIBIT B

COMPENSATION SCHEDULE

This is a fixed-price agreement with a not-to-exceed amount for the initial term of $167,000. VCTC shall make monthly payments of $4,500 per month for the initial term of the Agreement. In addition to the monthly fee, VCTC shall reimburse Consultant for extraordinary expenses as specified in Exhibit C not to exceed $5,000 for the initial term of the Agreement.

EXHIBIT C

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

VCTC shall reimburse Consultant for all reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket business expenses incurred in connection with the performance of the services. Reimbursable expenses are limited to expenses for travel outside of Sacramento for VCTC business matters and for printing of any necessary materials to support advocacy, such as pamphlets or brochures. All expenses must be submitted within 30 days of being incurred and must be accompanied by original receipts. In no event shall total reimbursable expenses exceed $5,000 over the term of the contract without prior written authorization from VCTC.