

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER THE
FISCAL YEAR 2021 AMERICA'S MARINE HIGHWAY PROGRAM (AMH) GRANTS

October 3, 2024

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. 116-260, December 27, 2020) appropriated funds to the United States Department of Transportation (“USDOT”) Maritime Administration (“MARAD”) for the “Short Sea Transportation Program (America’s Marine Highways).” The funds are available to provide Federal financial assistance to advance projects related to documented vessels and port and landside infrastructure. The MARAD program administering those funds is the America’s Marine Highway (“AMH”) Program.

MARAD published a “Notice of Funding Opportunity for America’s Marine Highway Projects,” 86 FR 27944 (May 24, 2021) (the “NOFO”) to solicit applications for Federal financial assistance. In these general terms and conditions, “AMH Grant” means an award of funds that were made available under the NOFO.

These general terms and conditions are incorporated by reference in a project-specific agreement under the fiscal year 2021 AMH Grants. Articles 1–7 are in the project-specific portion of the agreement. The term “Recipient” is defined in those articles. Attachments A through E are project-specific attachments.

ARTICLE 8 PURPOSE

8.1 Purpose. The purpose of this award is to advance projects related to documented vessels and port and landside infrastructure. The parties will accomplish that purpose by achieving the following objectives:

- (1) timely completing the Project; and
- (2) ensuring that this award does not substitute for non-Federal investment in the Project, except as proposed in the Technical Application, as modified by section 3.3 and Attachment B.

ARTICLE 9 USDOT ROLE

9.1 Administering Operating Administration. MARAD will administer this agreement on behalf of the USDOT.

9.2 MARAD Program Contacts.

Tim Pickering
Operations Development Manager
DOT – Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, DC 20590
MAR-500
W21-312
Mailstop 3
(202) 366-0704
tim.pickering@dot.gov

ARTICLE 10 RECIPIENT ROLE

10.1 Statements on the Project. The Recipient states that:

- (1) all material statements of fact in the Technical Application were accurate when that application was submitted; and
- (2) Attachment D documents all material changes in the information contained in that application.

10.2 Statements on Authority and Capacity. The Recipient states that:

- (1) it has the authority to receive Federal financial assistance under this agreement;
- (2) it has the legal authority to complete the Project;
- (3) it has the capacity, including institutional, managerial, and financial capacity, to comply with its obligations under this agreement;
- (4) not less than the difference between the “Total Eligible Project Cost” and the “AMH Grant Amount” listed in section 3.3 are committed to fund the Project;
- (5) it has sufficient funds available to ensure that infrastructure completed or improved under this agreement will be operated and maintained in compliance with this agreement and applicable Federal law; and
- (6) the individual executing this agreement on behalf of the Recipient has authority to enter this agreement and make the statements in this article 10 and in section 23.7 on behalf of the Recipient.

10.3 MARAD Reliance. The Recipient acknowledges that:

- (1) MARAD relied on statements of fact in the Technical Application to select the Project to receive this award;
- (2) MARAD relied on statements of fact in both the Technical Application and this agreement to determine that the Recipient and the Project are eligible under the terms of the NOFO;

- (3) MARAD relied on statements of fact in both the Technical Application and this agreement to establish the terms of this agreement; and
- (4) MARAD's selection of the Project to receive this award prevented awards under the NOFO to other eligible applicants.

10.4 Project Delivery.

- (a) The Recipient shall complete the Project under the terms of this agreement.
- (b) The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is financed, constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with all Federal laws, regulations, and policies that are applicable to projects of MARAD.

10.5 Rights and Powers Affecting the Project.

- (a) The Recipient shall not take or permit any action that deprive it of any rights or powers necessary to the Recipient's performance under this agreement without written approval of MARAD.
- (b) The Recipient shall act, in a manner acceptable to MARAD, to promptly to acquire, extinguish, or modify any outstanding rights or claims of right of others that would interfere with the Recipient's performance under this agreement.

10.6 Notification of Changes to Key Personnel. The Recipient shall notify all MARAD representatives who are identified in section 5.4 in writing within 30 calendar days of any change in key personnel who are identified in section 5.3.

ARTICLE 11 AWARD AMOUNT, OBLIGATION, AND TIME PERIODS

11.1 Federal Award Amount. MARAD hereby awards an AMH Grant to the Recipient in the amount listed in section 2.2 as the AMH Grant Amount.

11.2 Federal Obligation. This agreement obligates for the budget period the amount listed in section 2.2 as the AMH Grant Amount.

11.3 Budget Period. The budget period for this award begins on the date of this agreement and ends on the budget period end date that is listed in section 2.3. In this agreement, "budget period" is used as defined at 2 C.F.R. 200.1.

11.4 Period of Performance. The period of performance for this award begins on the date of this agreement and ends on the period of performance end date that is listed in section 2.3. In this agreement, "period of performance" is used as defined at 2 C.F.R. 200.1.

ARTICLE 12
STATEMENT OF WORK, SCHEDULE, AND BUDGET CHANGES

12.1 Notification Requirement. The Recipient shall notify all MARAD representatives who are identified in section 5.4 in writing within 30 calendar days of any change in circumstances or commitments that adversely affect the Recipient’s plan to complete the Project. In that notification, the Recipient shall describe the change and what actions the Recipient has taken or plans to take to ensure completion of the Project. This notification requirement under this section 12.1 is separate from any requirements under this article 12 that the Recipient request modification of this agreement.

12.2 Statement of Work Changes. If the Project’s activities differ from the statement of work that is described in section 3.1 and Attachment A, then the Recipient shall request a modification of this agreement to update section 3.1 and Attachment A.

12.3 Schedule Changes. If one or more of the following conditions are satisfied, then the Recipient shall request a modification of this agreement to update the relevant dates:

- (1) a substantial completion date for the Project or a component of the Project is listed in section 3.2 and the Recipient’s estimate for that milestone changes to a date that is more than six months after the date listed in section 3.2;
- (2) a schedule change would require the budget period to continue after the budget period end date listed in section 2.3; or
- (3) a schedule change would require the period of performance to continue after the period of performance end date listed in section 2.3.

For other schedule changes, the Recipient shall request a modification of this agreement unless MARAD has consented, in writing, to the change.

12.4 Budget Changes.

(a) The Recipient acknowledges that if the cost of completing the Project increases:

- (1) that increase does not affect the Recipient’s obligation under this agreement to complete the Project; and
- (2) MARAD will not increase the amount of this award to address any funding shortfall.

(b) The Recipient shall request a modification of this agreement to update section 3.3 and Attachment B if, in comparing the Project’s budget to the amounts listed in section 3.3:

- a. the “Other Federal Funds” amount increases; or
- b. one or more of the “State Funds,” “Local Funds,” “Other Funds,” or “Total

Eligible Project Cost” amounts decrease.

- (c) For budget changes that are not identified in section 12.4(b), the Recipient shall request a modification of this agreement to update section 3.3 and Attachment B unless MARAD has consented, in writing, to the change.
- (d) If the actual eligible project costs are less than the “Total Eligible Project Cost” that is listed in section 3.3, then the Recipient may propose to MARAD, in writing, specific additional activities that are within the scope of this award, as defined in sections 8.1 and 3.1, and that the Recipient could complete with the difference between the “Total Eligible Project Cost” that is listed in section 3.3 and the actual eligible project costs.
- (e) If the actual eligible project costs are less than the “Total Eligible Project Cost” that is listed in section 3.3 and either the Recipient does not make a proposal under section 12.4(d) or MARAD does not accept the Recipient’s proposal under section 12.4(d), then:
 - (1) in a request under section 12.4(b), the Recipient shall reduce the Federal Share by the difference between the “Total Eligible Project Cost” that is listed in section 3.3 and the actual eligible project costs; and
 - (2) if that modification reduces this award and MARAD had reimbursed costs exceeding the revised award, the Recipient shall refund to MARAD the difference between the reimbursed costs and the revised award.

In this agreement, “**Federal Share**” means the sum of the “AMH Grant Amount” and the “Other Federal Funds” amounts that are listed in section 3.3.

- (f) The Recipient acknowledges that amounts that are required to be refunded under section 12.4(e)(2) constitute a debt to the Federal Government that MARAD may collect under 2 C.F.R. 200.346 and the Federal Claims Collection Standards (31 C.F.R. parts 900–999).

12.5 MARAD Acceptance of Changes. MARAD may accept or reject modifications requested under this article 12, and in doing so may elect to consider only the interests of the AMH grant program and MARAD. The Recipient acknowledges that requesting a modification under this article 12 does not amend, modify, or supplement this agreement unless MARAD accepts that modification request and the parties modify this agreement under section 22.1.

ARTICLE 13 GENERAL REPORTING TERMS

13.1 Report Submission. The Recipient shall send all reports required by this agreement to all MARAD contacts who are listed in section 5.4 and all MARAD contacts who are listed in section 9.2.

- 13.2 Alternative Reporting Methods.** MARAD may establish processes for the Recipient to submit reports required by this agreement, including electronic submission processes. If the Recipient is notified of those processes in writing, the Recipient shall use the processes required by MARAD.
- 13.3 Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.** Under 5 C.F.R. 1320.6, the Recipient is not required to respond to a collection of information that does not display a currently valid control number issued by the Office of Management and Budget (the “OMB”). Collections of information conducted under this agreement are approved under OMB Control No. 2133-0541.

ARTICLE 14 PROGRESS AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

- 14.1 Quarterly Project Progress Reports and Recertifications.** On or before the 20th day of the first month of each calendar year quarter and until the end of the budget period, the Recipient shall submit to MARAD a Quarterly Project Progress Report and Recertification in the format and with the content described in Exhibit C. If the date of this agreement is in the final month of a calendar year quarter, then the Recipient shall submit the first Quarterly Project Progress Report and Recertification in the second calendar year quarter that begins after the date of this agreement.
- 14.2 Final Progress Reports and Financial Information.** No later than 120 days after the end of the budget period, the Recipient shall submit:
- (1) a Final Project Progress Report and Recertification in the format and with the content described in Exhibit C for each Quarterly Project Progress Report and Recertification, including a final Federal Financial Report (SF-425); and
 - (2) any other information required under MARAD’s award closeout procedures.

ARTICLE 15 PERFORMANCE REPORTING

- 15.1 Baseline Performance Measurement.** If the Capital-Planning Designation in section 2.4 is “Capital,” then:
- (1) the Recipient shall collect data for each performance measure that is identified in the Performance Measurement Table in Attachment C, accurate as of the Baseline Measurement Date that is identified in Attachment C; and
 - (2) on or before the Baseline Report Date that is stated in Attachment C, the Recipient shall submit a Baseline Performance Measurement Report that

contains the data collected under this section 15.1 and a detailed description of the data sources, assumptions, variability, and estimated levels of precision for each performance measure that is identified in the Performance Measurement Table in Attachment C.

15.2 Post-construction Performance Measurement. If the Capital-Planning Designation in section 2.4 is “Capital,” then

- (1) for each of 12 consecutive calendar quarters, beginning with the first calendar quarter that begins after the Project substantial completion date, at least once during the quarter, the Recipient shall collect data for each performance measure that is identified in the Performance Measurement Table in Attachment C; and
- (2) not later than January 31 of each year that follows a calendar year during which data was collected under this section 15.2, the Recipient shall submit to MARAD a Post-construction Performance Measurement Report containing the data collected under this section 15.2 in the previous calendar year and stating the dates when the data was collected.

If an external factor significantly affects the value of a performance measure collected under this section 15.2, then the Recipient shall identify that external factor in the Post-construction Performance Measurement Report and discuss its influence on the performance measure.

15.3 Project Outcomes Report. If the Capital-Planning Designation in section 2.4 is “Capital,” then the Recipient shall submit to MARAD, not later than January 31 of the year that follows the final calendar year during which data was collected under section 15.2, a Project Outcomes Report that contains:

- (1) a narrative discussion detailing project successes and the influence of external factors on project expectations;
- (2) all baseline and post-construction performance measurement data that the Recipient reported in the Baseline Performance Measurement Report and the Post-construction Performance Measurement Reports; and
- (3) an *ex post* examination of project effectiveness relative to the baseline data that the Recipient reported in the Baseline Performance Measurement Report.

ARTICLE 16
NONCOMPLIANCE AND REMEDIES

16.1 Noncompliance Determinations.

- (a) If MARAD determines that the Recipient may have failed to comply with the United States Constitution, Federal law, or the terms and conditions of this agreement, MARAD may notify the Recipient of a proposed determination of noncompliance. For the notice to be effective, it must be written and MARAD must include an explanation of the nature of the noncompliance, describe a remedy, state whether that remedy is proposed or effective at an already determined date, and describe the process through and form in which the Recipient may respond to the notice.
- (b) If MARAD notifies the Recipient of a proposed determination of noncompliance under section 16.1(a), the Recipient may, not later than 7 calendar days after the notice, respond to that notice in the form and through the process described in that notice. In its response, the Recipient may:
 - (1) accept the remedy;
 - (2) acknowledge the noncompliance, but propose an alternative remedy; or
 - (3) dispute the noncompliance.

To dispute the noncompliance, the Recipient must include documentation or other information in its response supporting the Recipient's compliance.

- (c) MARAD may make a final determination of noncompliance only:
 - (1) after considering the Recipient's response under section 16.1(b); or
 - (2) if the Recipient fails to respond under section 16.1(b), after the time for that response has passed.
- (d) To make a final determination of noncompliance, MARAD must provide a notice to the Recipient that states the bases for that determination.

16.2 Remedies.

- (a) If MARAD makes a final determination of noncompliance under section 16.1, the USDOT may impose a remedy, including:
 - (1) additional conditions on the award;
 - (2) any remedy permitted under 2 C.F.R. 200.339–200.340, including withholding of payments; disallowance of previously reimbursed costs, requiring refunds from the Recipient to USDOT; suspension or termination of the award; or suspension and disbarment under 2 C.F.R. part 180; or

- (3) any other remedy legally available.
- (b) To impose a remedy, MARAD must provide a written notice to the Recipient that describes the remedy, but MARAD may make the remedy effective before the Recipient receives that notice.
- (c) If MARAD determines that it is in the public interest, MARAD may impose a remedy, including all remedies described in section 16.2(a), before making a final determination of noncompliance under section 16.1. If it does so, then the notice provided under section 16.1(d) must also state whether the remedy imposed will continue, be rescinded, or modified.
- (d) In imposing a remedy under this section 16.2 or making a public interest determination under section 16.2(c), MARAD may elect to consider the interests of only MARAD.
- (e) The Recipient acknowledges that amounts that MARAD requires the Recipient to refund to MARAD due to a remedy under this section 16.2 constitute a debt to the Federal Government that the USDOT may collect under 2 C.F.R. 200.346 and the Federal Claims Collection Standards (31 C.F.R. parts 900–999).

16.3 Other Oversight Entities. Nothing in this article 16 limits any party’s authority to report activity under this agreement to the United States Department of Transportation Inspector General or other appropriate oversight entities.

ARTICLE 17 AGREEMENT TERMINATION

17.1 MARAD Termination.

- (a) MARAD may terminate this agreement and all of its obligations under this agreement if any of the following occurs:
 - (1) the Recipient fails to obtain or provide any non-AMH Grant contribution or alternatives approved by MARAD as provided in this agreement and consistent with article 3;
 - (2) a construction or purchase of equipment start date for the Project or a component of the Project is listed in section 3.2 and the Recipient fails to meet that milestone by six months after the date listed in section 3.2;
 - (3) a substantial completion date for the Project or a component of the Project is listed in section 3.2 and the Recipient fails to meet that milestone by six months after the date listed in section 3.2;
 - (4) the Recipient fails to meet a milestone listed in section 4.1 by the deadline date listed in that section for that milestone;

- (5) the Recipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this agreement, including a material failure to comply with the schedule in section 3.2 even if it is beyond the reasonable control of the Recipient; or,
 - (6) MARAD determines that termination of this agreement is in the public interest.
- (b) In terminating this agreement under this section, MARAD may elect to consider only the interests of MARAD.
- (c) This section 17.1 does not limit MARAD’s ability to terminate this agreement as a remedy under section 16.2.
- (d) The Recipient may request that MARAD terminate the agreement under this section 17.1.

17.2 Closeout Termination.

- (a) This agreement terminates on Project Closeout.
- (b) In this agreement, “**Project Closeout**” means the date that MARAD notifies the Recipient that the award is closed out. Under 2 C.F.R. 200.344, Project Closeout should occur no later than one year after the end of the period of performance.

17.3 Post-Termination Adjustments. The Recipient acknowledges that under 2 C.F.R. 200.345–200.346, termination of the agreement does not extinguish MARAD’s authority to disallow costs, including costs that MARAD reimbursed before termination, and recover funds from the Recipient.

17.4 Non-Terminating Events.

- (a) The end of the budget period described under section 11.3 does not terminate this agreement or the Recipient’s obligations under this agreement.
- (b) The end of the period of performance described under section 11.4 does not terminate this agreement or the Recipient’s obligations under this agreement.

17.5 Other Remedies. The termination authority under this article 17 supplements and does not limit MARAD’s remedial authority under article 16 or 2 C.F.R. part 200, including 2 C.F.R. 200.339–200.340.

ARTICLE 18
MONITORING, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, CONTROLS, AND RECORDS

18.1 Recipient Monitoring and Record Retention.

- (a) The Recipient shall monitor activities under this award, including activities under subawards and contracts, to ensure:

- (1) that those activities comply with this agreement; and
 - (2) that funds provided under this award are not expended on costs that are not allowable under this award or not allocable to this award.
- (b) If the Recipient makes a subaward under this award, the Recipient shall monitor the activities of the subrecipient in compliance with 2 C.F.R. 200.332(e).
- (c) The Recipient shall retain records relevant to the award as required under 2 C.F.R. 200.334.

18.2 Financial Records and Audits.

- (a) The Recipient shall keep all project accounts and records that fully disclose the amount and disposition by the Recipient of the award funds, the total cost of the Project, and the amount or nature of that portion of the cost of the Project supplied by other sources, and any other financial records related to the project.
- (b) The Recipient shall keep accounts and records described under section 18.2(a) in accordance with a financial management system that meets the requirements of 2 C.F.R. 200.302–200.307 and 2 C.F.R. 200 subpart F and will facilitate an effective audit in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 7501–7506.
- (c) The Recipient shall separately identify expenditures under the fiscal year 2021 AMH grants program in financial records required for audits under 31 U.S.C. 7501–7506. Specifically, the Recipient shall:
 - (1) list expenditures under that program separately on the schedule of expenditures of Federal awards required under 2 C.F.R. 200 subpart F, including “FY 2021” in the program name; and
 - (2) list expenditures under that program on a separate row under Part II, Item 1 (“Federal Awards Expended During Fiscal Period”) of Form SF-SAC, including “FY 2021” in column c (“Additional Award Identification”).

18.3 Internal Controls. The Recipient shall establish and maintain internal controls as required under 2 C.F.R. 200.303.

18.4 MARAD Record Access. MARAD may access Recipient records related to this award under 2 C.F.R. 200.337.

ARTICLE 19 CONTRACTING AND SUBAWARDS

19.1 Minimum Wage Rates. The Recipient shall include, in all contracts in excess of \$2,000 for work on the Project that involves labor, provisions establishing minimum rates of

wages, to be predetermined by the United States Secretary of Labor, in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 3141–3148, or 23 U.S.C. 113, as applicable, that contractors shall pay to skilled and unskilled labor, and such minimum rates shall be stated in the invitation for bids and shall be included in proposals or bids for the work.

19.2 Buy America.

- (a) For the purpose of the award term at exhibit B.5, the Project is “an infrastructure project.” The Recipient acknowledges that iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the Project are subject to the Buy America preference in that award term and this agreement is not a waiver of that preference. All noninfrastructure spending is subject to the Buy American Act, 41 U.S.C. chapter 83.
- (b) If the Recipient uses iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials that are not produced in the United States in violation of the award term at exhibit B.5, MARAD may disallow and deny reimbursement of costs incurred by the Recipient and take other remedial actions under article 17 and 2 C.F.R. 200.339–200.340.
- (c) Under 2 C.F.R. 200.322, as appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, the Recipient should, to the greatest extent practicable under this award, provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). The Recipient shall include the requirements of 2 C.F.R. 200.322 in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award.
- (d) For all iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials incorporated into the Project and to which a Buy America preference applies, the manufacturer or supplier of the item(s) should provide to the Recipient a signed certification statement attesting that each item procured under this award meets the applicable Buy America preference requirements. The Recipient must maintain on file the certifications required under this section 19.2(d) and provide to MARAD copies of any such certifications upon request of MARAD pursuant to article 18 and 2 C.F.R. 200.334-200.338.

19.3 Small and Disadvantaged Business Requirements. If any funds under this award are administered by a State Department of Transportation, the Recipient shall expend those funds in compliance with the requirements at 49 C.F.R. part 26 (“Participation by disadvantaged business enterprises in Department of Transportation financial assistance programs”). The Recipient shall expend all other funds under this award in compliance with the requirements at 2 C.F.R. 200.321 (“Contracting with small businesses, minority businesses, women’s business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms”).

19.4 Engineering and Design Services. The Recipient shall award each contract or sub-contract for program management, construction management, planning studies, feasibility studies, architectural services, preliminary engineering, design, engineering, surveying, mapping, or related services with respect to the project in the same manner that a contract for architectural and engineering services is negotiated under the Brooks Act, 40 U.S.C.

1101-1104, or an equivalent qualifications-based requirement prescribed for or by the Recipient and approved in writing by MARAD.

- 19.5 Foreign Market Restrictions.** The Recipient shall not allow funds provided under this award to be used to fund the use of any product or service of a foreign country during the period in which such foreign country is listed by the United States Trade Representative as denying fair and equitable market opportunities for products and suppliers of the United States in procurement and construction.
- 19.6 Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.** The Recipient acknowledges that Section 889 of Pub. L. No. 115-232 and 2 C.F.R. 200.216 prohibit the Recipient and all subrecipients from procuring or obtaining certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment under this award.
- 19.7 Pass-through Entity Responsibilities.** If the Recipient makes a subaward under this award, the Recipient shall comply with the requirements on pass-through entities under 2 C.F.R. parts 200 and 1201, including 2 C.F.R. 200.331–200.333.
- 19.8 Subaward and Contract Authorization.** [Reserved]

ARTICLE 20 COSTS, PAYMENTS, AND UNEXPENDED FUNDS

- 20.1 Limitation of Federal Award Amount.** Under this award, MARAD shall not provide funding greater than the amount obligated under section 11.2. The Recipient acknowledges that MARAD is not liable for payments exceeding that amount, and the Recipient shall not request reimbursement of costs exceeding that amount.
- 20.2 Projects Costs.** This award is subject to the cost principles at 2 C.F.R. 200 subpart E, including provisions on determining allocable costs and determining allowable costs.
- 20.3 Timing of Project Costs.**
- (a) The Recipient shall not charge to this award costs that are incurred after the budget period.
 - (b) The Recipient shall not charge to this award costs that were incurred before the date of this agreement unless those costs are identified in Attachment E and would have been allowable if incurred during the budget period. This limitation applies to pre-award costs under 2 C.F.R. 200.458. This agreement hereby terminates and supersedes any previous MARAD approval for the Recipient to incur costs under this award for the Project. Attachment E is the exclusive MARAD approval of costs incurred before the date of this agreement.

20.4 Recipient Recovery of Federal Funds. The Recipient shall make all reasonable efforts, including initiating litigation, if necessary, to recover Federal funds if MARAD determines, after consultation with the Recipient, that those funds have been spent fraudulently, wastefully, or in violation of Federal laws, or misused in any manner under this award. The Recipient shall not enter a settlement or other final position, in court or otherwise, involving the recovery of funds under the award unless approved in advance in writing by MARAD.

20.5 Unexpended Federal Funds. Any Federal funds that are awarded at section 11.1 but not expended on allocable, allowable costs remain the property of the United States.

20.6 Timing of Payments to the Recipient.

- (a) Reimbursement is the payment method for the AMH grant program.
- (b) The Recipient shall not request reimbursement of a cost before the Recipient has entered into an obligation for that cost.

20.7 Payment Method.

- (a) The Recipient shall complete all applicable forms and attach supporting documents, including the SF 270, in the Delphi eInvoicing System to request reimbursement. To obtain the latest version of these standard forms, please visit <https://www.grants.gov/forms>. The Recipient shall complete training on using the Delphi eInvoicing System before submitting a request for reimbursement. To guide the Recipient when completing this training, MARAD provides the following additional information, which may change after execution of this agreement:
 - (1) The Recipient may access the training from the MARAD “Delphi eInvoicing System” webpage at <https://einvoice.esc.gov>. The training is linked under the heading “Grantee Training.” The Recipient should click on “Grantee Training” to access the training.
 - (2) A user name and password are not required to access the on-line training. It is currently available, will be accessible 24/7, and will take approximately 10 minutes to review.
 - (3) Once the above referenced training has been reviewed, Recipients must request and complete the External User Access Request form. Recipients can request the External User Access Request form by sending an email to a Grants/Contracting Officer who is identified in Sections 5.4. A request to establish access will be sent once the External User Access Request form is received.
- (b) MARAD may deny a payment request that is not submitted using the method identified in this section 20.7.

20.8 Information Supporting Expenditures.

- (a) When requesting reimbursement of costs incurred or credit for cost share incurred, the Recipient shall electronically submit and attach the SF 270 (Request for Advance or Reimbursement), shall identify the Federal share and the Recipient's share of costs, and shall submit supporting cost detail to clearly document all costs incurred. As supporting cost detail, the Recipient shall include a detailed breakout of all costs incurred, including direct labor, indirect costs, other direct costs, and travel.
- (b) If the Recipient submits a request for reimbursement that MARAD determines does not include or is not supported by sufficient detail, MARAD may deny the request or withhold processing the request until the Recipient provides sufficient detail.

20.9 Reimbursement Request Timing and Frequency.

- (a) The Recipient shall request reimbursement of a cost incurred as soon as practicable after incurring that cost. If the Recipient requests reimbursement for a cost more than 180 days after that cost was incurred, MARAD may deny the request for being untimely.
- (b) The Recipient shall not request reimbursement more frequently than once every 30 days.

ARTICLE 21 LIQUIDATION AND ADJUSTMENTS

21.1 Liquidation of Recipient Obligations.

- (a) The Recipient shall liquidate all obligations of award funds under this agreement not later than 120 days after the end of the period of performance.
- (b) Liquidation of obligations and adjustment of costs under this agreement follow the requirements of 2 C.F.R. 200.344–200.346.

ARTICLE 22 AGREEMENT MODIFICATIONS

22.1 Bilateral Modifications. The parties may amend, modify, or supplement this agreement by mutual agreement in writing signed by MARAD and the Recipient. Either party may request to amend, modify, or supplement this agreement by written notice to the other party.

22.2 Unilateral Contact Modifications.

- (a) The Recipient may update the contacts who are listed in section 5.2 by written notice to all of the MARAD contacts who are listed in sections 5.4 and 9.2.

- (b) MARAD may update the contacts who are listed in sections 5.4 and 9.2 by written notice to all of the Recipient contacts who are listed in section 5.2.

22.3 MARAD Unilateral Modifications.

- (a) MARAD may unilaterally modify this agreement to comply with Federal law, including the Program Statute.
- (b) To unilaterally modify this agreement under this section 22.3, MARAD must provide a notice to the Recipient that includes a description of the modification and state the date that the modification is effective.

22.4 Other Modifications. The parties shall not amend, modify, or supplement this agreement except as permitted under sections 22.1, 22.2, or 22.3. If an amendment, modification, or supplement is not permitted under section 22.1, not permitted under section 22.2, and not permitted under section 22.3, it is void.

ARTICLE 23 FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

23.1 Uniform Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards. The Recipient shall comply with the obligations on non-Federal entities under 2 C.F.R. parts 200 and 1201.

23.2 Federal Law and Public Policy Requirements.

- (a) The Recipient shall ensure that Federal funding is expended in full accordance with the United States Constitution, Federal law, and statutory and public policy requirements: including but not limited to, those protecting free speech, religious liberty, public welfare, the environment, and prohibiting discrimination.
- (b) The failure of this agreement to expressly identify Federal law applicable to the Recipient or activities under this agreement does not make that law inapplicable.

23.3 Federal Freedom of Information Act.

- (a) The USDOT is subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.
- (b) The Recipient acknowledges that the Technical Application and materials submitted to MARAD by the Recipient related to this agreement may become MARAD records subject to public release under 5 U.S.C. 552.

23.4 History of Performance. Under 2 C.F.R 200.206, any Federal awarding agency may consider the Recipient's performance under this agreement, when evaluating the risks of making a future Federal financial assistance award to the Recipient.

23.5 Whistleblower Protection.

- (a) The Recipient acknowledges that it is a “grantee” within the scope of 41 U.S.C. 4712, which prohibits the Recipient from taking certain actions against an employee for certain disclosures of information that the employee reasonably believes are evidence of gross mismanagement of this award, gross waste of Federal funds, or a violation of Federal law related to this award.
- (b) The Recipient shall inform its employees in writing of the rights and remedies provided under 41 U.S.C. 4712, in the predominant native language of the workforce.

23.6 External Award Terms and Obligations.

- (a) In addition to this document and the contents described in article 28, this agreement includes the following additional terms as integral parts:
 - (1) Appendix A to 2 C.F.R. part 25: System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements;
 - (2) Appendix A to 2 C.F.R. part 170: Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation;
 - (3) 2 C.F.R. 175.15(b): Trafficking in Persons; and
 - (4) Appendix XII to 2 C.F.R. part 200: Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.
- (b) The Recipient shall comply with:
 - (1) 49 C.F.R. part 20: New Restrictions on Lobbying;
 - (2) 49 C.F.R. part 21: Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation—Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
 - (3) 49 C.F.R. part 27: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance; and
 - (4) Subpart B of 49 C.F.R. part 32: Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace (Financial Assistance).

23.7 Incorporated Certifications. The Recipient makes the statements in the following certifications, which are incorporated by reference:

- (1) Appendix A to 49 CFR part 20 (Certification Regarding Lobbying).

ARTICLE 24 ASSIGNMENT

24.1 Assignment Prohibited. The Recipient shall not transfer to any other entity any discretion granted under this agreement, any right to satisfy a condition under this agreement, any remedy under this agreement, or any obligation imposed under this agreement.

ARTICLE 25 WAIVER

25.1 Waivers.

- (a) A waiver granted by MARAD under this agreement will not be effective unless it is in writing and signed by an authorized representative of MARAD.
- (b) A waiver granted by MARAD under this agreement on one occasion will not operate as a waiver on other occasions.
- (c) If MARAD fails to require strict performance of a provision of this agreement, fails to exercise a remedy for a breach of this agreement, or fails to reject a payment during a breach of this agreement, that failure does not constitute a waiver of that provision or breach.

ARTICLE 26 ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

26.1 Disclaimer of Federal Liability. MARAD shall not be responsible or liable for any damage to property or any injury to persons that may arise from, or be incident to, performance or compliance with this agreement.

26.2 Relocation and Real Property Acquisition.

- (a) To the greatest extent practicable under State law, the Recipient shall comply with the land acquisition policies in 49 C.F.R. 24 subpart B and shall pay or reimburse property owners for necessary expenses as specified in that subpart.
- (b) The Recipient shall provide a relocation assistance program offering the services described in 49 C.F.R. 24 subpart C and shall provide reasonable relocation payments and assistance to displaced persons as required in 49 C.F.R. 24 subparts D–E.
- (c) The Recipient shall make available to displaced persons, within a reasonable period of time prior to displacement, comparable replacement dwellings in accordance with 49 C.F.R. 24 subpart E.

26.3 Equipment Disposition.

- (a) In accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.313 and 1201.313, equipment acquired under this award must be used by the Recipient or subrecipient in the Project as long as needed, whether or not the Project continues to be supported by the Federal award. When no longer needed for the originally awarded Project, the Recipient shall notify MARAD within 30 calendar days.
- (b) If the Recipient intends to move grant-acquired equipment to a different location than originally contemplated, it must notify MARAD ahead of time, in writing consistent with MARAD's requirements, and receive approval from MARAD before relocating the equipment.
- (c) If equipment acquired under this award is no longer needed for the AMH program or for other activities supported by a Federal awarding agency, disposition should occur as follows:
 - (1) if the entity that acquired the equipment is a State, the State shall dispose of that equipment in accordance with State laws and procedures;
 - (2) if the entity that acquired the equipment is an Indian Tribe, the Indian Tribe shall dispose of that equipment in accordance with tribal laws and procedures. If such laws and procedures do not exist, Indian Tribes must follow the guidance in 2 C.F.R. 200.313; and
 - (3) if the entity that acquired the equipment is neither a State nor an Indian Tribe, that entity shall request disposition instructions from the Administering Operating Administration.
- (d) In accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.443(d), the distribution of proceeds from the disposition of equipment must be made in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.310 through 200.316.
- (e) The Recipient shall ensure compliance with this section 26.3 for all tiers of subawards under this award.

ARTICLE 27 MANDATORY AWARD INFORMATION

27.1 Information Contained in a Federal Award. For 2 C.F.R. 200.211:

- (1) the "Federal Award Date" is the date of this agreement, as defined under section 29.2;
- (2) the "Assistance Listings Number" is 20.816 and the "Assistance Listings Title" is "America's Marine Highway Grants"; and
- (2) this award is not for research and development.

ARTICLE 28
CONSTRUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

28.1 Attachments. This agreement includes the following attachments as integral parts:

Attachment A	Statement of Work
Attachment B	Estimated Project Budget
Attachment C	Performance Measurement Table
Attachment D	Changes from Application
Attachment E	Approved Pre-Award Costs

28.2 Exhibits. The following exhibits, which are located in the document titled “Exhibits to MARAD Grant Agreements Under the Fiscal Year 2021 America’s Marine Highway Program Grants,” dated October 3, 2024, and available at <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants/federal-grant-assistance/federal-grant-assistance> are part of this agreement.

Exhibit A	Applicable Federal Laws and Regulations
Exhibit B	Additional Standard Terms
Exhibit C	Quarterly Project Progress Reports and Recertifications: Format and Content

28.3 Construction. If a provision in the exhibits or the attachments conflicts with a provision in articles 1–29, then the provision in articles 1–29 prevails. If a provision in the attachments conflicts with a provision in the exhibits, then the provision in the attachments prevails.

28.4 Integration. This agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the parties relating to the AMH grant program and awards under that program and supersedes any previous agreements, oral or written, relating to the AMH grant program and awards under that program.

28.5 Definitions. In this agreement, the following definitions apply:

“**Program Statute**” means the authorizing statute at 46 U.S.C. 55601 titled “Marine Highways Transportation Program” and all other provisions that apply to amounts appropriated for the AMH Program, including those in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. 116-260, Dec. 27, 2020).

“**Project**” means the project proposed in the Technical Application, as modified by the negotiated provisions of this agreement, including article 3 and Attachments A–E.

“**AMH Grant**” means an award of funds that were made available under the NOFO.

“**Technical Application**” means the application identified in section 2.1, including Standard Form 424 and all information and attachments submitted with that form through Grants.gov.

ARTICLE 29
AGREEMENT EXECUTION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- 29.1 Counterparts.** This agreement may be executed in counterparts, which constitute one document. The parties intend each countersigned original to have identical legal effect.
- 29.2 Effective Date.** The agreement will become effective when all parties have signed it. The date of this agreement will be the date this agreement is signed by the last party to sign it. This instrument constitutes an AMH Grant when MARAD's authorized representative signs it.