

**CHAPTER 380**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS AND**  
**COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION**  
**(\$1.5 million Incentive Cap)**

This Chapter 380 Economic Development Agreement (this "**Agreement**") is entered into between the City of New Braunfels, Texas, a Texas home rule city (the "**City**") and Costco Wholesale Corporation, a Washington corporation ("**Costco**"). The City and Costco may be referred to herein individually as a "**Party**" and jointly as the "**Parties**."

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, as of the date of this Agreement, Costco has entered into an agreement to purchase approximately 19.9983 acres of unimproved land located at the intersection of Interstate Highway 35 and Kohlenberg Road in Comal County, Texas, and within the Comal County Water Improvement District No. 3, and more particularly described on the attached **Exhibit "A"** (the "**Costco Property**"); and

**WHEREAS**, under authority of Section 52-a of Article III of the Texas Constitution, the Texas Legislature enacted Chapter 380, Texas Local Government Code (Chapter 380), which provides that the governing body of a municipality may establish and provide for the administration of one or more programs, including programs for making loans and grants of public money and providing personnel and services of the municipality, to promote state or local economic development and to stimulate business and commercial activity in the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has taken all necessary legal action to adopt an economic development program in satisfaction of Chapter 380; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has determined and hereby finds that the development of the Costco Property as contemplated in this Agreement qualifies under the City's economic development program established under Chapter 380, and this Agreement is authorized pursuant to Section 380.001(a), Texas Local Government Code, as amended, and the incentives granted to Costco in this Agreement comply in all respects with Section 380.001(b), Texas Local Government Code, as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to induce Costco to acquire and develop the Costco Property, the City desires to offer incentives to Costco over a period of time which will enable Costco to develop, construct, open, operate, and maintain the Costco Property as a wholesale and retail general merchandise facility (the "**Costco Facility**"), which Costco Facility is or will be more fully described in the permit(s) for the Costco Facility approved by the City (whether one or more, the "**City-Approved Permit**"); and

**WHEREAS**, the development of the Costco Property will add significant new revenue to the City's tax base and will create jobs, which will help stimulate the overall local economy.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the mutual benefits described in this Agreement, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the City and Costco agree as follows:

**1.  
City's Authority**

The City's execution of this Agreement is authorized by Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code. All appropriate and necessary action has been taken to authorize the City Manager to sign on behalf of the City and this Agreement constitutes a valid and binding obligation of the City subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. The City acknowledges that Costco is acting in reliance upon the City's performance of its obligations under this Agreement in making its decision to commit substantial resources and money to acquire and develop the Costco Property and that the City is acting in reliance upon the Costco's performance of its obligations under this Agreement in making its decision to commit substantial resources and money to develop the Costco Property. The City's agreement to commit substantial resources to Costco is subject to the satisfaction of the conditions and obligations set forth in this Agreement with respect to Costco and the Costco Property.

**2.  
Definitions**

The foregoing Recitals are incorporated into this Agreement for all purposes. In addition to the terms defined above in the Recitals or elsewhere in this Agreement, as used in this Agreement, the following words or phrases shall have the following meanings:

**2.1 "Acquisition Deadline"** shall mean December 31, 2026.

**2.2 "Certificate of Occupancy"** shall mean a certificate of occupancy issued by the City, indicating that the Costco Facility complies with the applicable provisions of the building codes and laws of the City, including, if applicable, a temporary certificate of occupancy under which Costco is permitted to Open for Business within the Costco Facility. A Certificate of Occupancy shall not include a certificate issued in error, by mistake, or based upon a misrepresentation of facts by Costco or its agent.

**2.3 "Chapter 380 Payment(s)"** means the amount(s) to be paid by the City to Costco under Article 5 of this Agreement.

**2.4 "City-Approved Permit"** shall have the meaning set forth in the above Recitals.

**2.5 "City"** means the City of New Braunfels, Texas, the governing municipal corporation, and the geographic area that is within the city limits of New Braunfels, Texas.

**2.6 "City Default"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.2 of this Agreement.

**2.7 "Conditions Satisfaction Deadline"** shall mean the date that is 48 months after the Costco Property Closing, as such Conditions Satisfaction Deadline may be extended by delays caused by Force Majeure.

**2.8 "Costco Default"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1 of this Agreement.

**2.9 "Costco Facility"** shall have the meaning set forth in the above Recitals.

**2.10 "Costco Property"** shall have the meaning set forth in the above Recitals.

**2.11 "Costco Property Closing"** shall mean the closing of the sale of the Costco Property to Costco as evidenced by the recordation of the deed conveying the Costco Property to Costco.

**2.12 "Effective Date"** means the last date this Agreement is signed by the City and Costco.

**2.13 "Floor Area"** means the aggregate number of square feet of floor space in the Costco Facility, whether roofed or not, whether or not actually occupied, including, without limitation, balcony and mezzanine space, measured from the exterior faces or the exterior lines of the exterior walls or other exterior points of demarcation.

**2.14 "Force Majeure"** means any contingency or cause beyond the reasonable control of a Party including, without limitation, (a) war, riots, acts of terrorism, acts of the public enemy, insurrections, civil commotion; (b) labor disputes, a general inability to obtain labor or materials or reasonable substitutes for either, unusual delay in transportation, strikes, slowdowns or work stoppages; (c) acts of God, casualties, explosions, floods, fire, earthquake, tornado, hurricane or other severe and adverse weather conditions; (d) pandemics, epidemics, infectious disease outbreaks, public health emergencies, health and safety circumstances that require individual isolation, quarantine or quarantine-like restrictions, or other methods of social distancing, (e) delays caused by actions or inactions, or other acts or omissions on the part of any public utility or local, state, or federal government (or de facto governmental entity), government official or their respective agents or employees (including, but not limited to, any government-mandated or suggested work stoppages or slowdowns (such as, by way of example and not limitation, any reduction in the number of workers allowed to work at one time, or any limitation on the allowable working hours) and/or the closing or slowing of governmental offices or procedures (such as, by way of example and not limitation, any significant change in the time required to file or obtain permits or record documents), and (f) delays caused by governmental restrictions, regulations or controls, including, without limitation, any moratoriums (i.e. zoning, platting, building or similar moratoriums). An inability to obtain funds shall not be considered Force Majeure (unless directly caused by one of the events specifically described above).

**2.15 "Open for Business"** means that the Costco Facility is open for full-time business operations with a full line of products and services (subject to Costco's membership and operations policies, and for hours of operation consistent with Costco's other facilities in the State of Texas).

**2.16 "Permitted Closure"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.2.1 of this Agreement.

**2.17 "Program"** means the economic development program established by the City, as authorized by Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code, to promote local economic development and stimulate business and commercial activity within the City.

**2.18 "Sales Tax Effective Date"** means the first day of the month next following the date that is one hundred eighty (180) days after the Certificate of Occupancy is issued to Costco for the Costco Facility and Costco is Open for Business for at least one (1) day.

**2.19 "Sales Tax Revenue"** means the sales tax revenue received by the City that is generated from the Costco Property and is limited to the sales tax collections retained in City's General Fund sales tax portion (1%) and does not include sales taxes retained for the purpose of type B expenditures (.375%) or property tax relief (.125%).

**2.20 "Term of Eight Years"** means an eight (8) year period commencing on the Sales Tax Effective Date and continuing for each consecutive year through the end of the eighth year.

**2.21 "Term of this Agreement"** shall have the meaning set forth in Article 3 of this Agreement.

### **3. Term**

This Agreement shall become enforceable upon the Effective Date and will terminate on the first to occur of (a) the Term of Eight Years; or (b) receipt by Costco of Chapter 380 Payments of One Million Five Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$1,500,000) (the "**Incentive Cap**"); or (c) upon termination of this Agreement as provided for herein (the "**Term of this Agreement**"). In recognition of the fact that the Chapter 380 Payments are based solely upon receipt by the City of Sales Tax Revenue, and thus, by necessity, are calculated and paid after sales taxes have been levied by and paid to the City and, therefore, will always be paid in arrears, the Term of this Agreement shall be deemed extended until any Chapter 380 Payments relating to Sales Tax Revenues levied during the Term of Eight Years have been paid by the City to Costco. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in this Agreement, if the Costco Property Closing has not occurred by the Acquisition Deadline, this Agreement shall automatically terminate and be of no further force or effect as of such date and the Parties shall have no further rights or obligations hereunder.

### **4. Costco's Performance Criteria**

**4.1** Costco must satisfy all of the following conditions precedent by no later than the Conditions Satisfaction Deadline in order to receive any Chapter 380 Payments hereunder:

**4.1.1** Completion of construction of the Costco Facility on the Costco Property containing at least one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) square feet of Floor Area. This condition shall be satisfied by delivery of a certificate from an architect licensed in the State of Texas certifying the same.

- 4.1.2 Costco shall have made a capital investment of not less than Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000) in the Costco Facility, including, without limitation, the costs of acquiring the Costco Property, hard and soft construction costs relating to the Costco Facility, including any necessary off-site improvements, and the costs of equipping the Costco Facility. This condition shall be satisfied by delivery from Costco to the City of a certificate in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"** certifying that Costco has made a total of at least Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000) in capital investment.
- 4.1.3 A Certificate of Occupancy shall have been issued for the Costco Facility.
- 4.1.4 The Costco Facility shall have been built in substantial accordance with (i) the City-Approved Permit, subject to changes and modifications in the course of construction, which, to the extent required, shall be subject to the review and approval of City and/or other governmental entities with jurisdiction, as applicable, and (ii) the City's Code of Ordinances and other applicable laws. This condition shall be satisfied by the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.
- 4.1.5 The Costco Facility shall be Open for Business for at least one (1) day.
- 4.1.6 A failure by Costco to satisfy all of the foregoing performance criteria by the Conditions Satisfaction Date shall not constitute a Costco Default under this Agreement, but as a result of such failure, the City shall have no obligation to pay any Chapter 380 Payments to Costco under this Agreement and this Agreement shall be terminated and the Parties shall have no further obligations under this Agreement.

4.2 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement, Costco shall have no obligation to occupy or operate the Costco Facility, and if Costco fails or ceases to operate for business in the Costco Facility it shall not constitute a Costco Default under this Agreement. However, if at any time from and after the date that Costco Opens for Business, Costco ceases to occupy and operate the Costco Facility for a continuous period of 180 days, except in connection with, and to the extent of, a Permitted Closure as defined in Section 4.2.1 below, then at any time after such 180 day period, the City shall have the right, via written notice to Costco: (i) to cease payment of all or any of the Chapter 380 Payments to Costco under this Agreement from the 181st day of such cessation of occupation or operation until Costco re-Opens for Business without any obligation for the City to pay any Chapter 380 Payments which would or may have accrued during such period of ceased occupation or operation; and/or (ii) to terminate this Agreement with respect to Costco if Costco fails to re-Open for Business within 90 days from the date Costco receives the City's written notice of termination, with such termination being effective as of the 91st day without further notice. Further, if at any time from and after the date that Costco Opens for Business, Costco ceases to occupy and operate the Costco Facility for a period of more than 365 days, then at any time after such 365 day period, the City shall have the right, via written notice to Costco: (i) to cease payment of all or any of the Chapter 380 Payments to Costco under this Agreement from the 366th day of such cessation of occupation or operation until Costco re-Opens

for Business without any obligation for the City to pay any Chapter 380 Payments which would or may have accrued during such period of ceased occupation or operation; and/or (ii) to terminate this Agreement with respect to Costco if Costco fails to re- Open for Business within 90 days from the date Costco receives the City's written notice of termination, with such termination being effective as of the 91st day without further notice.

**4.2.1 "Permitted Closure"** shall mean any period in which the Costco Facility is not Open for Business (i) as a result of a fire, earthquake, flood or similar casualty that renders the Costco Facility unfit for the intended purpose, as determined by Costco in its reasonably exercised judgment, or (ii) as a result of an event of Force Majeure, or (iii) as a result of a condemnation or other exercise by a governmental authority of the power of eminent domain, to the extent necessary as determined by Costco in its reasonably exercised judgment for repair and restoration of the Costco Facility, or (iv) as a result of any repairs, renovations, alterations or modifications to the Costco Facility made by Costco with the intention of recommencing operations in the Costco Facility, or (v) as required by law, to the extent, and only to the extent, that the necessity of compliance is not the result of Costco's action, inaction, or failure to timely fulfill its obligations under this Agreement.

## **5.**

### **City's Payment of Chapter 380 Payments and Obligations**

**5.1** Subject to Costco's satisfaction of the performance criteria set forth in Article 4 above, the City shall be obligated to pay to Costco payments based on Sales Tax Revenues as provided in this Article 5, in an amount up to but not to exceed the Incentive Cap over a period not to exceed the Term of Eight Years. In no event shall the City be required to make any Chapter 380 Payments to Costco except as provided herein, and subject to satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Article 4 above. The City's obligation to pay Costco shall cease upon aggregate payments to Costco as provided in this Article 5 in an amount equal to the Incentive Cap, or the expiration of the Term of this Agreement, even if the total aggregate payments to Costco as provided in this Article 5 is less than the Incentive Cap, whichever occurs first.

**5.2** Commencing after the satisfaction of all of the conditions set forth in Section 4.1 above, the City shall pay to Costco annual payments in the amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Sales Tax Revenue for the previous calendar year. The City shall make such payments annually by March 31<sup>st</sup>, commencing with the March 31<sup>st</sup> next following the satisfaction of all of the conditions set forth in Section 4.1 above. The payments shall be for sales tax-generating transactions at the Costco Property that occurred from January 1 to December 31 of the prior calendar year. The City's obligation to pay Costco under this Article 5 shall cease upon Costco's receipt of Chapter 380 Payments totaling an amount in the aggregate equal to the Incentive Cap, or the expiration of the Term of this Agreement, whichever occurs first. The City shall be required to issue only one (1) check or wire transfer (per wiring instructions provided by Costco) for each annual payment under this Article 5 to Costco or Costco's designee.

## **6.**

### **Costco's Covenants, Warranties, Obligations and Duties**

**6.1** Costco hereby makes the following covenants and warranties to the City, and agrees, to timely and fully perform the following obligations and duties.

- 6.1.1** Costco is authorized to do business and is in good standing in the State of Texas and shall remain in good standing in the State of Texas during the Term of this Agreement.
- 6.1.2** The execution of this Agreement has been duly authorized by Costco, and the corporate officer signing this Agreement is an officer of Costco, empowered to execute this Agreement and bind Costco, said authorization, signing and binding effect is not in contravention of any law, rule or regulation, or of the provisions of Costco's articles of incorporation, by-laws, or of any agreement or instrument to which Costco is a party or by which it may be bound.
- 6.1.3** The execution and performance of this Agreement by Costco constitutes its valid and binding obligation, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.
- 6.1.4** As of the date of this Agreement, no litigation or governmental proceeding is pending or, to the knowledge of Costco, threatened against or affecting Costco that may materially and adversely affect Costco's ability to Open for Business. No consent, approval or authorization of or registration or declaration within any governmental authority is required in connection with the execution of this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby.
- 6.1.5** There are no bankruptcy proceedings or other proceedings currently pending or contemplated, and Costco has not been informed of any potential involuntary bankruptcy proceedings.
- 6.1.6** Costco shall pay all state and local taxes due and owing by Costco to all taxing authorities having jurisdiction over the Costco Property prior to delinquency (provided, however, Costco retains the right to timely and properly protest and contest any such taxes and so long as Costco is timely and properly protesting or contesting the same it shall not constitute a Costco Default). A failure by Costco to satisfy the performance criteria by set forth in this subsection 6.1.6 shall not constitute a Costco Default under this Agreement, but as a result of such failure, the City shall have no obligation to pay any Chapter 380 Payments to Costco due during the year in which Costco is delinquent in any state and local taxes due and owing by Costco.

- 6.1.7** Costco shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or by reason of being disabled, and shall refrain from violating any applicable local, state, and federal law which may have a material adverse effect on the City's reputation by virtue of the City's relationship with Costco.
- 6.1.8** Pursuant to Chapter 2264 of the Texas Government Code, Costco certifies that as of the Effective Date of this Agreement and throughout the Term of this Agreement, Costco's business, or a branch, division, or department thereof, does not and will not knowingly employ an undocumented worker (as defined in Section 2264.001 of the Texas Government Code), and if Costco's business, or a branch, division, or department thereof, is "convicted of a violation" of 8 U.S.C. § 1324a(f) occurring during the Term of this Agreement, Costco shall repay to City the total amount of Chapter 380 Payments paid to Costco under this Agreement, plus interest at Agreed Rate (as hereinafter defined), not later than the 120th day after the date City notifies Costco of the violation. It is agreed that for purposes of this subsection, but only if permissible under Chapter 2264 of the Texas Government Code, (i) Costco shall not be liable for a violation of Chapter 2264 of the Texas Government Code by a person or entity with whom Costco contracts; (ii) neither Costco nor its business, or branch, division, or department thereof, shall be deemed to have been "convicted of a violation" until all appeals have been exhausted and/or the time for all appeals has expired; and (iii) the date that "City notifies Costco of the violation" may not be earlier than the date that Costco has been "convicted of a violation" as provided in this subsection. For purposes of this Section "Agreed Rate" shall mean the lesser of: (i) the Wall Street Journal prime rate announced by and as quoted in Wall Street Journal, from time to time, as its prime commercial rate or, if the Wall Street Journal prime rate ceases to be made available by the publisher, or any successor to the publisher, a similar reference interest rate based on the interest large United States money center commercial banks charge on short term uninsured loans to their most creditworthy borrowers and (ii) the highest lawful rate.

In accordance with Texas Government Code 2271, Costco certifies that it does not boycott Israel and that it will not boycott Israel during the term of this Agreement.

In accordance with Texas Government Code 2274, Costco certifies that it does not have a practice, policy, guidance or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and that it will not have a practice, policy, guidance or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association during the term of this Agreement.

In accordance with Texas Government Code 2276, Costco certifies that it does not boycott energy companies and that it will not boycott energy companies during the term of this Agreement.



**7.**  
**Default**

- 7.1** The following shall constitute a "Costco Default" under this Agreement:
- 7.1.1** The appointment of a receiver of Costco, or of all or any substantial part of its property, and the failure of such receiver to be discharged within ninety (90) days thereafter.
  - 7.1.2** The adjudication of Costco as bankrupt.
  - 7.1.3** The filing by Costco of a petition or an answer seeking bankruptcy, receivership, reorganization, or admitting the material allegations of a petition filed against it in any bankruptcy or reorganization proceeding.
  - 7.1.4** Upon the expiration of the notice and cure period set forth in Section 7.3 below, a breach of a material representation under this Agreement by Costco.
  - 7.1.5** Upon the expiration of the notice and cure period set forth in Section 7.3 below, a breach of any material covenant set forth in Section 6.1 of this Agreement.
- 7.2** The following shall constitute a "City Default" under this Agreement:
- 7.2.1** The appointment of a receiver of the City, or of all or any substantial part of its property, and the failure of such receiver to be discharged within ninety (90) days thereafter.
  - 7.2.2** The adjudication of the City as bankrupt.
  - 7.2.3** The filing by the City of a petition or an answer seeking bankruptcy, receivership, reorganization, or admitting the material allegations of a petition filed against it in any bankruptcy or reorganization proceeding.
  - 7.2.4** Upon the expiration of the notice and cure period set forth in Section 7.3 below, a breach of a material representation under this Agreement by the City.
  - 7.2.5** Upon the expiration of the notice and cure period set forth in Section 7.3 below, the City's failure to pay any Chapter 380 Payment owing to Costco in accordance with this Agreement.
  - 7.2.6** Upon the expiration of the notice and cure period set forth in Section 7.3 below, a breach of the City's obligations set forth in Article 9 of this Agreement.

**7.3** In the event of the occurrence of a breach or default by Costco or the City under this Agreement, as applicable, the non-defaulting Party shall give written notice to the other Party of such default, and the defaulting Party shall have 60 days thereafter to cure said default or if the defaulting Party is diligently pursuing the cure of such default but such default is not reasonably curable within 60 days, then the defaulting Party shall have such additional amount of time as is reasonably necessary to cure such default. Should a default or breach as described in Sections 7.1.4, 7.1.5, 7.2.4, 7.2.5 or 7.2.6, as applicable, remain uncured after such cure period it shall constitute a Costco Default or City Default, as applicable, and the non-defaulting Party shall have the right to exercise the remedies set forth in Section 7.4 below.

**7.4 Remedies.**

- 7.4.1** Upon the occurrence of a Costco Default, the City shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by written notice to Costco, in which event the City shall have no obligation to make any future Chapter 380 Payments to Costco under this Agreement.
- 7.4.2** Upon the occurrence of a City Default, Costco shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by written notice to the City, in which event Costco shall have no further obligations under this Agreement.
- 7.4.3** In addition, and without terminating this Agreement, either Party shall further have the power to enforce specific performance to collect amounts owing by the other Party under this Agreement or to otherwise compel the other party to perform its obligations under this Agreement. Further, either Party shall have the right to bring an action for a declaratory judgment.
- 7.4.4** Under no circumstances shall the City be entitled to a refund of any Chapter 380 Payments that have been paid to Costco, except as provided in Section 6.1.8, and further provided that the City shall be entitled to recapture any Chapter 380 Payments which were made based upon false or fraudulent information certified to or provided by Costco and for which Costco would not otherwise have been entitled. Costco also agrees to refund to the City the amount of any portion of any payments previously paid to Costco under Section 5.2 calculated on any Sales Tax Revenue which were erroneously paid to the City, except to the extent such erroneously paid amounts are deducted from future payments of Sales Tax Revenue to the City during the period Costco is entitled to payments under Section 5.2 above. No action shall lie for damages against Costco except that the City shall be entitled to any action to recover any amounts owed by Costco as provided in this Section 7.4.4.
- 7.4.5** Upon the occurrence of a City Default, Costco has the right to bring any action to recover any amounts owed to it under this Agreement. In addition, Costco shall have the right to seek a judicial declaration of the appropriate amount of Chapter 380 Payments owing to Costco by the City under this Agreement.

- 7.4.6** TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAWS, THE CITY VOLUNTARILY WAIVES ITS RIGHT TO ASSERT SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY FROM SUIT OR LIABILITY IN RESPONSE TO AN ACTION BY COSTCO SEEKING ONLY THE REMEDIES SPECIFIED IN THIS AGREEMENT. THE CITY DOES NOT OTHERWISE WAIVE IMMUNITIES EXISTING UNDER APPLICABLE LAWS, AND IT IS EXPRESSLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE WAIVER HERE GRANTED IS A LIMITED AND NOT A GENERAL WAIVER, AND THAT ITS EFFECT IS LIMITED TO SPECIFIC CLAIMS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT.
- 7.4.7** If any legal action or proceeding is commenced by the City or Costco to enforce the provisions of this Agreement or to recover any damages permitted under this Agreement from the breaching Party, each Party shall pay their own legal fees and costs of court.
- 7.4.8** The sole and exclusive remedies of Costco for a breach by the City under this Agreement, and the City's sole and exclusive remedies for a breach by Costco under this Agreement, shall be those expressly provided for in this Section 7.4 and elsewhere in this Agreement. Costco and the City each hereby waives any other remedies under law or in equity.
- 7.4.9** A Party shall not be deemed to be in default of this Agreement if performance of this Agreement is delayed, disrupted, or becomes impossible because of an event of Force Majeure, but only for so long as the event of Force Majeure reasonably delays, disrupts or prevents performance.
- 7.4.10** Any delay for any amount of time by a Party in providing notice of default to the other Party shall in no event be deemed or constitute a waiver of such default by such non-defaulting Party of any of its rights and remedies available in law or in equity.
- 7.4.11** Any waiver granted by one Party to the other Party shall not be deemed or constitute a waiver of any other existing or future default by such Party or of a subsequent default of the same act or event.

## **8.**

### **City's Liability Limitations**

Under no circumstances shall the City's obligations hereunder be deemed to create any debt within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory provision.

**9.**

**Additional City Representations, Warranties, and Agreements**

**9.1 Permitting.** The City agrees to cooperate with Costco to expeditiously and in good faith process permits, plat applications, and other approvals as required for the Costco Property and Costco Facility. This Section does not waive any requirements of the City's Code of Ordinances as they apply to Costco. All fees from the City shall apply to Costco.

**9.2 City's Authority.** The City represents and warrants to Costco the Program and this Agreement are within its authority, and that it is duly authorized and empowered to establish the Program and enter into this Agreement.

**10.**

**Miscellaneous Provisions**

**10.1 Changes in Law.** If, during the Term of this Agreement, State law applicable to municipal sales taxes changes and, as a result, the Chapter 380 Payments differ from the amount which would have been paid to Costco under the laws in effect as of the Effective Date, then the City, in its sole discretion, may adjust the Chapter 380 Payments utilizing whatever discretionary taxes and revenues are legally available to the City to be allocated to the Chapter 380 Payments. The foregoing does not require the City to use funds from sources which are not within the City's discretion to allocate to the Costco Property in order to achieve the same economic benefits to Costco, which would have resulted if the law had not changed. Should any other legal impediment arise during the term of this Agreement, including, without limitation a change in law, that prevents or prohibits the City from complying with or making any payments under this Agreement, the Parties agree to terminate this Agreement; provided, however, that, to the extent feasible and permitted by applicable law, the Parties agree to work together in good faith to modify this Agreement or enter into a new agreement or otherwise provide Costco with a remedy or reasonably equivalent value to otherwise accomplish the purpose of this Agreement.

**10.2 Binding Effect.** This Agreement will be binding on and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors and assigns.

**10.3 Assignment.** Except as provided below, Costco may not assign all or part of its rights under this Agreement to a third party without the prior written approval of the City, which approval will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. In the event either Costco is sold or merged into, or transfers substantially all of its then owned assets to another entity, the City hereby consents to such sale, merger, or transfer and consents to any assignment of the sold, merged, or transferred entity's rights and obligations under this Agreement to such receiving entity as a result of such sale, merger, or transfer. Costco shall provide the City with written notice of any such assignment.

**10.4 Notice.** Any notice or other communication ("**Notice**") given under this Agreement shall be in writing, and may be given: (i) by depositing the Notice in the United States Mail, postage paid, certified, and addressed to the Party to be notified with return receipt requested; (ii) by personal delivery of the Notice to the Party; (iii) by depositing the notice with Federal Express or another nationally recognized courier service for next day delivery; or (iii) sent by

electronic transmission confirmed by providing written confirmation at substantially the same time as such electronic transmission by one of the manners specified in (i) or (ii) above. Notice shall be effective upon receipt or refusal of delivery by the Party to be notified. For the purposes of Notice, the addresses of the Parties are, until changed as provided below, be as follows:

**City:** City of New Braunfels  
550 Landa Street  
New Braunfels, TX 78130  
Attn: City Manager  
Email notice not permitted

with copy to: City of New Braunfels  
550 Landa Street  
New Braunfels, TX 78130  
Attn: City Attorney  
Email notice not permitted

**Costco:** Costco Wholesale Corporation  
999 Lake Drive  
Issaquah, Washington 98027  
Attn: Property Management Department  
Email notice not permitted.

A Party may designate a different address at any time by giving Notice to the other Party.

**10.5 Interpretation.** Each of the Parties has been represented by counsel of its choosing in the negotiation and preparation of this Agreement. In the event of any dispute regarding the interpretation of this Agreement, this Agreement will be interpreted fairly and reasonably and neither more strongly for or against either Party based on draftsmanship.

**10.6 Relationship of the Parties.** This Agreement shall not be construed as establishing a partnership or joint venture, joint enterprise, express or implied agency, or employer-employee relationship between the Parties. Neither the City nor its past, present or future elected officials, officers, directors, employees or agents, assume any responsibility or liability to any third party in connection with the development of the Costco Property or the design, construction or operation of any portion of the Costco Property.

**10.7 Applicable Law and Venue.** This Agreement is made, and will be construed and interpreted, under the laws of the State of Texas without regard to any conflicts of law provision, and venue will lie in a state district court in Comal County, Texas. The Parties consent to, and waives any objections to, in personam jurisdiction in Comal County, Texas.

**10.8 Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable in any respect under present or future laws, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected so long as the intent, purpose, and benefits of this Agreement are not affected in any manner materially adverse to either Party hereto. This Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein, and in lieu of each

provision that is found to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, a provision shall be added to this Agreement which is legal, valid and enforceable, is as similar in terms as possible to the provision found to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, and effects the intent, purpose, and benefits of this Agreement.

**10.9 Paragraph Headings.** The paragraph headings contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and will in no way enlarge or limit the scope or meaning of the paragraphs.

**10.10 No Third-Party Beneficiaries.** This Agreement is not intended to confer any rights, privileges, or causes of action upon any third party.

**10.11 Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed simultaneously in two or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which will constitute one and the same instrument. A signature transmitted by facsimile or email will be deemed to be an original signature for all purposes. As used in this Section, "signature" means a manually signed document by a natural person, as opposed to an electronic signature.

**10.12 Exhibits.** The following exhibits are attached to and incorporated into this Agreement and made a part of this Agreement for all purposes as if they were set forth herein in their entirety:

- Exhibit A - Legal Description of Costco Property
- Exhibit B - Form of Certificate Regarding Capital Investment

**10.13 Entire Agreement.** This Agreement embodies the complete agreement of the Parties, superseding all oral or written, previous and contemporary, agreements between the Parties relating to matters in this Agreement; and, except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement cannot be modified or amended without a written agreement of the Parties.

**10.14 Confidentiality.** The City acknowledges that the information regarding sales taxes generated by the Costco Property is commercial or financial information which is proprietary and confidential, the disclosure of which could cause competitive harm to Costco and/or its respective tenants, subtenants and/or licensees, as applicable. To the maximum extent permitted by law, the City and elected officials, officers, directors, and employees, and its agents or contractors retained to perform economic development services for City (hereinafter the "**City Parties**") (i) shall maintain the confidentiality of all sales tax information filed by Costco and/or its respective tenants, subtenants and/or licensees, as applicable, with the State of Texas and all other information regarding the Sales Tax Revenue generated by the Costco Property; (ii) shall treat as confidential any other proprietary or financial information of Costco and/or its respective tenants, subtenants, and/or licensees and shall not release any of the foregoing information to the public, unless required by law or court order. The City shall immediately notify Costco of requests, Attorney General Opinions, and court orders to release such information. The City shall be permitted to disclose the foregoing information to such of the City Parties as the City, in its reasonable discretion, deems appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this Agreement, so long as the City makes such disclosure subject to compliance by such City Parties with the terms of this Section 10.14.

**10.15 Form 1295 Certificate.** Costco agrees to comply with Texas Government Code Section 2252.908 and in connection therewith, Costco agrees to go online with the Texas Ethics Commission to complete a Form 1295 Certificate and further agrees to print the completed certificate and execute the completed certificate in such form as is required by Texas Government Code Section 2252.908 and the rules of the Texas Ethics Commission and provide to the City at the time of delivery of an executed counterpart of this Agreement a duly executed completed Form 1295 Certificate.

**10.16 Prohibition on Contracts with Certain Companies Provision.** In accordance with Texas Government Code Section 2252.152, the Parties covenant and agree that Costco is not on a list maintained by the State Comptroller's Office prepared and maintained pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 2252.153.

**10.17 Report Agreement to Comptroller's Office.** City covenants and agrees to report this Agreement to the State Comptroller's Office within fourteen (14) days of the Effective Date of this Agreement in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 380.004.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK;  
SIGNATURE PAGES FOLLOW]

**SIGNATURE PAGE TO  
CHAPTER 380 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS AND  
COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned has executed this Agreement and caused this Agreement to be effective on the latest date as reflected by the signatures below.

CITY:

THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS,  
a Texas municipal corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Neal Linnartz

Title: Mayor

STATE OF TEXAS           §  
                                      §  
COUNTY OF COMAL       §

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025, by Neal Linnartz, the Mayor of the City of New Braunfels, a Texas municipal corporation, on behalf of said municipal corporation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of Texas



**SIGNATURE PAGE TO  
CHAPTER 380 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS AND  
COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned has executed this Agreement and caused this Agreement to be effective on the latest date as reflected by the signatures below.

COSTCO:

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION,  
a Washington corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ §  
  §  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ §

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, by \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Costco Wholesale Corporation, a Washington corporation, on behalf of said corporation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF COSTCO PROPERTY**

**EXHIBIT B**

**FORM OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT CERTIFICATION**

Re: CHAPTER 380 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS AND COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION; CAPITAL INVESTMENT CERTIFICATION

This Capital Investment Certification is being delivered by Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco") in connection with that certain Economic Development Agreement between the City of New Braunfels, Texas (the "City") and Costco effective as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 (the "Agreement"). All terms used herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement unless otherwise defined herein.

The undersigned authorized officer of Costco hereby certifies to the City that Costco has made a capital investment of not less than Twenty-five Million Dollars (\$25,000,000) in the Costco Facility, including, without limitation, the costs of acquiring the Costco Property, hard and soft construction costs relating to the Costco Facility, including any necessary off-site improvements, and the costs of equipping the Costco Facility.

The undersigned hereby certifies that I am a duly authorized representative of Costco and am duly authorized to execute this Cost Certification.

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME – SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME – PRINTED

\_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to and subscribed to before me on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
20\_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY NAME