PRIVATE ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

An Agreement made this original date of ____________, 20__, applicable to the undersigned parcel owners and users,

RECITALS

WHEREAS, _____________ Road is a private road situated in Kinnickinnic Township, County of St. Croix, State of Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, the undersigned parcel owners are the owners or users of the Roadway Property situated in Kinnickinnic Township, County of St. Croix, State of Wisconsin, commonly known as _____________ Road, and described as follows:

(Roadway Property Description)

WHEREAS, the parties desire to enter into an Agreement regarding the costs of maintenance and improvements to _____________ Road; and

WHEREAS, it is agreed that future parcel owners or users will add their signatures to this document;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Vehicle and Pedestrian Access Easement. The Roadway Property shall be subject to a perpetual, nonexclusive easement for ingress and egress granting access to all the parcel owners and their occupants, agents, employees, guests, services and emergency vehicles, and those individuals appointed by the Town Board to conduct semi-annual road reviews.

2. Utility Easement. The Roadway Property shall be subject to a perpetual, nonexclusive public utility easement for the purpose of permitting above and below ground public utilities to be installed and maintained.

3. Road Commission Agent. A Road Commission Agent shall be elected by a majority of the property owners, will serve a term as agreed to by the property owners, and can be replaced or renewed at any time by a simple majority vote of the parcel owners. The Road Commission Agent shall be responsible for monitoring the condition of the road surface and initiating maintenance activities as needed to maintain the minimum road surface standards.

4. Road Maintenance. Road maintenance and road improvements will be undertaken and made whenever necessary to maintain the road in good operating condition at all times and to insure the provision of safe access by emergency vehicles. A
majority vote of parcel owners is required for any road improvements and to accept the bid for any road improvement contract. Before authorizing expenditures for future road improvements, parcel owners will be notified by the Road Commission Agent, cost estimates will be provided, and a majority agreement will be required. If any parcel owner performs improvements, maintenance, repairs or replacements without the approval of the other lot owners prior to performing such work, the lot owner performing such work shall become liable for the entire cost thereof, unless such work is deemed an emergency. However, where emergency repairs are necessary as more particularly noted in Paragraph No. 13 below, neither majority vote nor prior approval is necessary before making such improvements or undertaking such maintenance.

5. Parking. For the safety of the residents, no machinery, trailers, vehicles or other property may be stored or parked upon the Private Road except parking of vehicles for limited periods of time (not to exceed twelve hours).

6. Cost Sharing. Road maintenance, snowplowing and road improvement costs shall be shared on a pro-rata basis between the parcel owners sharing access to the above mentioned road. Each parcel owner’s share of costs incurred shall be determined as follows: Pro-rated cost share will be based upon the percentage of roadway extending from the start of the Private Road to the intersection of each driveway where a residence exists, or to the midpoint of a property frontage that is adjacent to the roadway when a residence does not exist. The Road Commission Agent shall provide the Town an updated copy of the cost allocations at any point that changes are made to the cost allocations.

7. Prepayment. Prepayment of maintenance, snowplowing and improvement costs will be made to the road maintenance account by each property owner. Annually, on or before a date as specified by the Road Commission Agent, each parcel owner will contribute their pro-rated share of the estimated annual cost for road maintenance, road improvements, and annual snow removal. The Road Commission Agent shall send each parcel owner a two week notice of the annual payments due.

8. Definition of a Parcel. A parcel is defined as a land entity having a certified survey map (CSM), a platted subdivision lot number, or a parcel identification number in the case of unplatted lands. Each parcel is assessed and granted (1) vote regardless of the number of owners. If a parcel is owned by more than one person, all of the owners of the parcel will collectively be referred to as the “parcel owner” for purposes of this Agreement, and will be entitled to one collective vote (i.e. each parcel represents one vote in the matters covered by this Agreement).

9. Future Parcels. Any additional parcels gaining access to the Private Road by way of splitting existing parcels will be bound by all terms and conditions of this agreement, and will be required to pay that portion of the maintenance, snowplowing and improvement costs incurred after the split as determined using the formula contained in Paragraph No. 6 above. If any additional parcels are created after the original Private Road Maintenance Agreement is signed, the new parcel owners must also sign the
agreement. When a parcel is being sold on a land contract, the land contract vendee shall be deemed the owner of record.

10. **Snow Plowing.** The Private Road shall be snowplowed so as to permit year round access. The cost shall be shared by the parcel owners as indicated in Paragraph No. 6 above. Individual driveway snow plowing, if desired, will be invoiced to the parcel owners directly by the snow plow contractor.

11. **Checking Account.** The Road Commission Agent shall establish and maintain a bank checking account with a local bank, and will prepare and distribute to the herein affected parcel owners an annual income and expense report and a yearend balance sheet, accounting for all funds received and disbursed.

12. **Annual Road Reviews by Town.** A Private Road serving 3 or more lots or parcels shall be part of the Town’s annual road reviews. The adjacent property owners will be notified of any observed improvements needed on Private Roads, and improvements must be made by the residents on the Private Road. If the improvements are not made within 2 months from notification (or within a time frame otherwise agreed to by the Town Board), the Town will make the improvements and bill the work to the property owners. The cost will include both the Town’s expenses for staff time and the contractor’s expenses for the actual road improvements. The costs must be fully paid within 2 months from the date of the invoice (or within a time frame otherwise agreed to by the Town Board). If the costs are not paid by this time, the Town will certify the costs (including both the construction and administrative costs) to the County tax roll, for all residents living on the Private Road.

13. **Emergency Repairs.** If the Town is made aware of emergency safety conditions on a Private Road, the Town will attempt to reach the Road Commission Agent and request that the necessary repairs be completed immediately. However, if the Town is not able to reach the Road Commission Agent, the Town has the authority to make emergency repairs as needed without further notification of the residents on the road. In such cases, the property owners will be notified after the repair of the cost and amount due from the residents, as well as the reasons for making the emergency repairs. The schedule and process for reimbursement to the Town will be as described in Paragraph No. 12 above.

14. **Effective Term.** This Agreement shall be perpetual, and shall encumber and run with the land as long as the road remains private.

15. **Binding Agreement.** This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto, their respective heirs, executors, administrators and assigns.

16. **Amendment.** This Agreement may be amended only by a two-thirds majority consent of all parcel owners.
17. **Enforcement.** This Agreement may be enforced by a majority of parcel owners. If a court action or lawsuit is necessary to enforce this Agreement, the party commencing such action or lawsuit shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs, if the party prevails.

18. **Disputes.** If a dispute arises over any aspect of the improvements, maintenance, repair or replacement, a third party arbitrator shall be appointed to resolve the dispute. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on all of the lot owners. Contact information for local arbitrators can be obtained through the American Arbitration Association. In selecting a third party arbitrator, each lot shall be entitled to one vote, and the nominee receiving a majority of the votes shall be the arbitrator. All parties shall share in the cost of any arbitration.

19. **Notices.** Parcel owners under the Agreement shall be notified by mail or in person. If an address of a parcel owner is not known, a certified notice will be mailed to the address to which the parcel owner’s property tax bills are sent.

20. **Invalidity.** Should any provision in this Agreement be deemed invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected and each term and condition shall be valid and enforceable to the extent permitted by law.

21. **Other Agreements.** This Private Road Maintenance Agreement replaces all previous Private Road Maintenance Agreements regarding the described Private Road.

22. **Town Road and Driveway Ordinance.** The Private Road shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the Town’s Road and Driveway Ordinance.

23. **Disclaimer by Town.** It is understood and agreed that the Town, the Town Board, the Plan Commission and the agents of the Town shall not be liable or responsible in any manner to the developer or the property owners along the road, or to their contractors, subcontractors, agents, or any other person, firm or corporation, for any debt, claim, demand, damages, action or causes of action of any kind or character arising out of or by reason of the activities or improvements being required herein.

24. **Recording This Document.** Original and amended copies of this document, including added signatures, shall be recorded and provided to the Town Clerk by the Road Commission Agent.

Signed,

___________________________________________________   _______________
<name>                                                                        <date>

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(Signatures)

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