

FINGER LAKES RAILWAY CORP.

**APPROVING RESOLUTION
(3101-24-08B)**

A regular meeting of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (the “Agency”) was convened in public session on January 9, 2025, at 8:30 a.m., local time, at 335 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor, Syracuse, New York.

The meeting was called to order by the (Vice) Chairperson of the Agency and, upon roll being called, the following members of the Agency were:

PRESENT:

Patrick Hogan
Janice Herzog
Sue Stanczyk
Kevin Ryan
Cydney Johnson

ABSENT:

Elizabeth Dreyfuss
Fanny Villareal

ALSO PRESENT: Robert M. Petrovich, Executive Director
Jeffrey W. Davis, Esq., Agency Counsel (via Zoom)
Amanda M. Fitzgerald, Esq., Agency Counsel

The following resolution was offered by Janice Herzog, seconded by Sue Stanczyk, to wit:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING
EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH A
LEASE/LEASEBACK TRANSACTION FOR FINGER LAKES RAILWAY
CORP.**

WHEREAS, the Agency is authorized and empowered by the provisions of Chapter 1030 of the 1969 Laws of New York, constituting Title 1 of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law, Chapter 24 of the Consolidated Laws of New York, as amended (the “Enabling Act”), Chapter 435 of the Laws of 1970 of the State of New York and Chapter 676 of the Laws of 1975 of the State of New York, as amended, constituting Section 895 of said General Municipal Law (said Chapter and the Enabling Act being hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Act”) to promote, develop, encourage and assist in the acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, improving, maintaining, equipping and furnishing of manufacturing, warehousing, research, commercial and industrial facilities, among others, for the purpose of promoting, attracting and developing economically sound commerce and industry to advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of the State of New York (the “State”), to improve their prosperity and standard of living, and to prevent unemployment and economic deterioration; and

WHEREAS, to accomplish its stated purposes, the Agency is authorized and empowered under the Act to acquire, construct, reconstruct and install one or more “projects” (as defined in the Act), or to cause said projects to be acquired, constructed, reconstructed and installed, and to convey said projects or to lease said projects with the obligation to purchase; and

WHEREAS, Finger Lakes Railway Corp., a Delaware corporation on behalf of itself and/or entities formed or to be formed on its behalf (the “Company”), has submitted an application (the “Application”) to the Agency, a copy of which Application is on file at the office of the Agency, which Application requests that the Agency undertake a project (the “Project”) for the benefit of the Company, said Project consisting of the following: (A)(1) the acquisition of a leasehold interest in all or a portion of certain parcels of land located in the Town of Elbridge, Town of Camillus, Village of Camillus and Village of Solvay (Town of Geddes), Onondaga County, New York Tax Map #'s: 041.-02-14.0, 041.-03-07.0, 042.-02-10.0, 043.-02-03.0, 044.-03-15.0, 045.-01-29.0, 045.-02-10.0, 044.-04-06.0, 001.-01-08.1, 002.-01-03.4, 002.-06-13.0, 003.-05-26.0, 004.-03-16.0, 015.-04-08.0, 015.-04-08.0/1, 016.-09-16.0, 017.-04-01.0, 017.-05-63.0, 020.-05-21.0, 024.-01-03.0, 024.-01-13.0, 024.-02-39.0, 025.-02-28.0, 027.-01-27.0 (collectively, the “Land”); (2) the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping on the Land of capital improvements necessary for the modernization of existing railway facilities including, but not limited to, crossing resurfacing, signal upgrades, bridge rehabilitation, track and crosstie replacement (the “Improvements” and collectively with the Land, the “Facility”); (3) the acquisition and installation in and around the Facility and/or for use in connection with the Project of various machinery, equipment, furnishings and other items of tangible personal property (collectively, the “Equipment”) (the Land, the Facility and the Equipment being collectively referred to as the “Project Facility”); (B) the granting of certain “financial assistance” (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the Act) with respect to the foregoing, including potential exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes and real estate transfer taxes (the “Financial Assistance”); and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase) or sale of the Project Facility to the Company or such other person as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon by the Agency.

WHEREAS, the Agency previously has adopted a Uniform Tax Exemption Policy (the “UTEP”); and

WHEREAS, the Company requested that the Agency enter into a payment in lieu of tax agreement (the “Proposed PILOT Agreement”) with respect to the Project Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed PILOT Agreement deviates from the UTEP; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Agency adopted a resolution on December 5, 2024 (the “Public Hearing Resolution”) authorizing a public hearing with respect to the Project in compliance with the provisions of Section 859-a of the Act and the deviation process in compliance with the provisions of Section 874-b of the Act and the UTEP; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authorization contained in the Public Hearing Resolution, the Executive Director of the Agency (A) caused notice of a public hearing of the Agency (the “Public Hearing”) pursuant to Section 859-a of the Act, to hear all persons interested in the Project and the

Financial Assistance being contemplated by the Agency with respect to the Project, to be mailed on December 6, 2024 to the chief executive officers of the county and of each city, town, village and school district in which the Project Facility is located, (B) caused notice of the Public Hearing to be published on December 8, 2024 in The Post-Standard, a newspaper of general circulation available to the residents of the Towns of Elbridge and Camillus, and the Villages of Camillus and Solway, Onondaga County, New York, (C) conducted the Public Hearing on December 20, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., local time at the Town of Camillus Town Hall, 4600 West Genesee Street, Syracuse, New York, and (D) prepared a report of the Public Hearing (the “Public Hearing Report”) fairly summarizing the views presented at such Public Hearing and caused copies of said Public Hearing Report to be made available to the members of the Agency; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of Section 859-a of the Act, written notice of the Public Hearing dated December 20, 2024 and a copy of the Public Hearing Resolution was delivered by the Agency by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the chief executive officer of each affected local taxing jurisdiction, including the school board and district superintendent of the affected school districts and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authorization contained in the Public Hearing Resolution and in compliance with the provisions of Section 874(4)(b) of the Act, the Agency caused a letter (the “PILOT Deviation Letter”) to be mailed on December 31, 2024 to the chief executive officers of each affected tax jurisdiction, informing said individuals that the Agency would, at its meeting to be held on January 9, 2025, consider a proposed deviation from the UTEP with respect to the payment in lieu of tax agreement to be entered into by the Agency with respect to the Project Facility based upon the schedule of payments in lieu of taxes set forth in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, prior to the date hereof, the Agency responded to all communications and correspondence received from the affected tax jurisdictions regarding the proposed deviation from the UTEP; and

WHEREAS, the Agency allowed representatives from the affected tax jurisdictions present at this meeting to address the Agency regarding such proposed deviation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York, as amended, and the regulations of the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York promulgated thereunder (collectively referred to hereinafter as “SEQRA”), the Agency is required to make a determination with respect to the environmental impact of any “action” (as defined by SEQRA) to be taken by the Agency, and the approval of the Project and grant of Financial Assistance constitute such an action; and

WHEREAS, to aid the Agency in determining whether the Project may have a significant effect upon the environment, the Company has prepared and submitted to the Agency an Environmental Assessment Form (the “EAF”), a copy of which is on file in the office of the Agency and is readily accessible to the public; and

WHEREAS, upon due consideration of the EAF and all relevant information, the Agency has declared the Project a Type II Action, thus fulfilling the Agency’s responsibilities under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has given due consideration to the Application and to representations by the Company that (A) the granting by the Agency of the Financial Assistance with respect to the Project will be an inducement to the Company to undertake the Project in Onondaga County, New York and (B) the completion of the Project will not result in the removal of a plant or facility of any proposed occupant of the Project Facility from one area of the State to another area in the State and will not result in the abandonment of one or more plants or facilities of any occupant of the Project Facility located in the State; and

WHEREAS, the Agency desires to encourage the Company to preserve and advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of Onondaga County, New York by undertaking the Project in Onondaga County, New York; and

WHEREAS, in order to consummate the Project and the granting of the Financial Assistance described in the notice of the Public Hearing, the Agency proposes to enter into the following documents (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Agency Documents"): (A) a certain underlying lease agreement (and a memorandum thereof) (the "Underlying Lease") by and between the Company and the Agency pursuant to which the Company will lease to the Agency the Land and all improvements now or hereafter located on the Land; (B) a certain lease agreement (and a memorandum thereof) (the "Lease Agreement") by and between the Company and the Agency pursuant to which the Company agrees to undertake the Project as agent of the Agency and the Company further agrees to lease the Project Facility from the Agency and, as rental thereunder, to pay the Agency's administrative fee relating to the Project and to pay all expenses incurred by the Agency with respect to the Project; (C) a payment in lieu of tax agreement (the "PILOT Agreement") by and between the Agency and the Company, pursuant to which the Company will agree to pay certain payments in lieu of taxes with respect to the Project Facility; (D) a project agreement (the "Project Agreement") by and between the Agency and the Company that complies with the requirements of Section 859-a(6) of the Act; (E) a New York State Department of Taxation and Finance form entitled "IDA Appointment of Project Operator or Agency for Sales Tax Purposes" (the form required to be filed pursuant to Section 874(9) of the Act) (the "Thirty-Day Sales Tax Report") and any additional report to the Commissioner of the State Department of Taxation and Finance concerning the amount of sales and use tax exemption benefits for the Project (the "Additional Thirty-Day Project Report"); and (F) various certificates relating to the Project (the "Closing Documents"); and

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the execution and delivery of the Lease Agreement, the Company will execute and deliver to the Agency one or more bills of sale to the Agency from the Company to the Agency pursuant to which the Company will sell to the Agency the Equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Agency will file with the assessor and mail to the chief executive officers of each "affected tax jurisdiction" (within the meaning of such quoted term in Section 854(16) of the Act) a copy of a New York State Board of Real Property Services Form RP-412-a (the form required to be filed by the Agency in order for the Agency to obtain a real property tax exemption with respect to the Project Facility under Section 412-a of the Real Property Tax Law) (a "Real Property Tax Exemption Form") relating to the Project; and

WHEREAS, simultaneously with the execution and delivery of the Agency Documents, the Agency will file with the State Department of Taxation and Finance the Thirty-Day Sales Tax Report and provide a copy of the Thirty-Day Sales Tax Report to the Company; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of exemption from the State sales and use taxation as part of the Financial Assistance requested, "sales and use taxation" shall mean sales and compensating use taxes and fees imposed by article twenty-eight or twenty-eight-A of the State tax law but excluding such taxes imposed in a city by section eleven hundred seven or eleven hundred eight of such article twenty-eight; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the Agency desires to adopt a resolution approving the Project and the grant by the Agency of the Financial Assistance to the Company with respect to the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Agency, based upon the representations made by the Company to the Agency in the Application, hereby finds and determines that:

(A) By virtue of the Act, the Agency has been vested with all powers necessary and convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of the Act and to exercise all powers granted to it under the Act;

(B) The Project constitutes a "project," as such term is defined in the Act;

(C) The Project site is located entirely within the boundaries of Onondaga County, New York;

(D) It is estimated at the present time that the costs of the planning, development, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping of the Project Facility (collectively, the "Project Costs") will be approximately \$6,889,806.00;

(E) The completion of the Project Facility will not result in the removal of a plant or facility of any proposed occupant of the Project Facility from one area of the State to another area of the State and will not result in the abandonment of one or more plants or facilities of any occupant of the Project Facility located in the State;

(F) (1) The Project Facility does not constitute a project where facilities or property that are primarily used in making retail sales of goods and/or services to customers who personally visit such facilities constitute more than one-third of the total cost of the Project, and accordingly the Project is not prohibited by the provisions of Section 862(2)(a) of the Act, and (2) accordingly the Agency is authorized to provide Financial Assistance in respect of the Project pursuant to Section 862(2)(a) of the Act.

(G) The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping of the Project Facility and the leasing of the Project Facility to the Company is reasonably necessary to induce the Company to construct the Project in the State;

(H) Based upon representations of the Company and counsel to the Company, the Project Facility conforms with, or prior to the Agency entering into the Agency Documents will conform with, the local zoning laws and planning regulations of Onondaga County and all regional and local land use plans for the area in which the Project Facility is located;

(I) The granting of the Financial Assistance by the Agency with respect to the Project will promote the job opportunities, general prosperity and economic welfare of the citizens of Onondaga County, New York and the State and improve their standard of living, and thereby serve the public purposes of the Act;

(J) The Agency has reviewed the Public Hearing Report and has fully considered all comments contained therein;

(K) The Project should receive the Financial Assistance in the form of exemptions from certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes and real estate transfer taxes based on the description of expected public benefits to occur as a result of this Project, as described in the Application, and failure by the Company to meet the expected public benefits will result in a recapture event, as described in the Project Agreement;

(L) It is desirable and in the public interest for the Agency to enter into the Agency Documents;

(M) The Agency has assessed all material information included in connection with the Application necessary to afford a reasonable basis for the decision by the Agency to provide the Financial Assistance for the Project as described herein;

(N) the Agency, based upon its review of the following factors, finds and determines that it is desirable and in the public interest of the Agency to deviate from its UTEP and to approve the execution and delivery of the PILOT Agreement with the terms specified in Exhibit A:

- I. The Company has invested in the community and has provided business for the surrounding six-county upstate region for over twenty years. The improvements associated with the Project Facility show a long-term commitment by the Company to the affected tax jurisdictions. Moreover, all information received to date shows great public support for the Project Facility.
- II. The construction phase of the Project is estimated to create eighty (80) construction jobs over the course of ten (10) years.
- III. The Company estimates that it will expend approximately \$6,889,806 on the renovation of the Project Facility.
- IV. The Project is part of an overall upgrade to the Company's systems which span several counties. The larger project as a whole requires cooperation among neighboring counties in order to ensure goods can continue to move freely by rail through and around upstate New York and beyond.

- V. The Agency supports the continued use of rail travel in Onondaga County. The cost-effectiveness of moving heavy bulk commodities by rail involves environmental benefits from fuel efficiency, dramatically reduced exhaust emissions and associated noise and motor carrier diversion from damage-prone highway travel. Additionally, use of rail travel reduces truck traffic and its associated pavement damage.
- VI. It is estimated that the Project will generate \$1,290,679 in PILOT payments during the ten-year term of the Proposed PILOT Agreement. The real property taxes on the Project Facility without the Proposed PILOT Agreement over the same term using current tax rates would produce approximately \$2,026,860 in real property tax revenue. The difference in real property tax revenue, however, is offset by the Agency's calculation of the construction benefit estimate of \$3,482,400 invested in the community.

(O) The Agency has prepared a written cost-benefit analysis identifying the extent to which the Project will create or retain permanent, private sector jobs, the estimated value of any tax exemption to be provided, the amount of private sector investment generated or likely to be generated by the Project, the likelihood of accomplishing the Project in a timely fashion, and the extent to which the Project will provide additional sources of revenue for municipalities and school districts, and any other public benefits that might occur as a result of the Project; and

(P) The Company has provided a written statement confirming that the Project as of the date of the Application is in substantial compliance with all provisions of the Act.

Section 2. In consequence of the foregoing, the Agency hereby determines to: (A) proceed with the Project; (B) acquire a leasehold interest in the Land and all improvements now or hereafter located on the Land from the Company pursuant to the Underlying Lease and acquire the Equipment pursuant to a bill of sale from the Company; (C) lease the Project Facility to the Company pursuant to the Lease Agreement; (D) acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, improve, install and equip the Project Facility, or cause the Project Facility to be acquired, constructed, installed and equipped, as provided in the Lease Agreement; and (E) grant to the Company the Financial Assistance with respect to the Project.

Section 3. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the amount of State and local sales and use tax exemption benefit comprising the Financial Assistance approved herein shall not exceed **\$358,270.00 and shall last no longer than two years from the execution and delivery of the Agency Documents.** The Agency may consider any requests by the Company for increases to the amount of sales and use tax exemption benefits authorized by the Agency upon being provided with appropriate documentation detailing the additional purchases of property or services.

Section 4. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the amount of real property tax abatement benefit comprising the Financial Assistance approved herein shall be approximately **\$736,180.33**, which such amount reflects the total estimated real property tax exemptions for the Project Facility (which constitute those taxes that would have been paid if the Project Facility were on the tax rolls and not subject to the PILOT Agreement of approximately \$2,026,860.17, less the total payments in lieu of taxes of \$1,290,679.83 to be made by the

Company to the affected tax jurisdictions with respect to the Project Facility during the term of the PILOT Agreement). The amount of estimated real property tax exemptions is estimated based on an assumed assessed value of the Project Facility and assumed future tax rates of the affected tax jurisdictions; therefore the real property tax abatement benefit is estimated because it is calculated using the estimated real property tax exemptions. The actual amount of real property tax abatement benefit is subject to change over the term of the PILOT Agreement depending on any changes to assessed value and/or tax rates of the affected tax jurisdictions. Exhibit A attached hereto reflects an annual breakdown of the payments in lieu of taxes to be made to the affected tax jurisdictions in each year during the term of the PILOT Agreement (“Total PILOT”), an estimated value of the real property tax (“Full Tax Payment without PILOT”), and an estimated value of the real property tax abatement benefits (“Net Exemptions”).

Section 5. The terms of the Proposed PILOT Agreement deviate from the Policy in that: (1) the Company will make fixed payments in lieu of taxes based on the Company’s current payment in lieu of tax agreement with the Agency rather than make payments based on an increasing percentage of normal taxes calculated using current tax rates and the current assessed value of the Project Facility, (2) the fixed payment will be calculated using current tax rates and a sliding scale that reduces the current exemption by 10% per year for ten years, and (3) the term of the Proposed PILOT Agreement is ten (10) years..

Section 6. The Agency is hereby authorized to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, improve, install and equip the Project Facility as described in the Agency Documents, to appoint the Company as agent of the Agency to undertake such acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping of the Project Facility as described in the Agency Documents, and to do all things necessary or appropriate for the accomplishment thereof, and all acts heretofore taken by the Agency with respect to such acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Section 7. The Chairperson (or Vice Chairperson) and the Executive Director of the Agency, with the assistance of Agency Counsel, are each authorized to negotiate and approve the form and substance of the Agency Documents.

Section 8. (A) The Chairperson (or Vice Chairperson) and the Executive Director of the Agency are each hereby authorized, on behalf of the Agency, to execute and deliver the Agency Documents, and, where appropriate, the Secretary (or Assistant Secretary) of the Agency is hereby authorized to affix the seal of the Agency thereto and to attest the same, all in the forms thereof as the Chairperson (or Vice Chairperson) or the Executive Director shall approve, the execution thereof by the Chairperson (or Vice Chairperson) or the Executive Director to constitute conclusive evidence of such approval.

(B) The Chairperson (or Vice Chairperson) and the Executive Director of the Agency are each hereby further authorized, on behalf of the Agency, to designate any additional Authorized Representatives of the Agency (as defined in and pursuant to the Lease Agreement).

Section 9. The Agency shall maintain records of the amount of State and local sales and use tax exemption benefits provided to the Project and each agent or Project operator and shall make

such records available to the State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance (the "Commissioner") upon request. The Agency shall, within thirty (30) days of providing any State sales and use tax exemption benefits, report to the Commissioner the amount of such benefits for the Project, identifying the Project, along with any such other information and specificity as the Commissioner may prescribe. As a condition precedent to the Company's receipt of, or benefit from, any State or local sales and use tax exemptions, the Company must acknowledge and agree to make, or cause its agents and/or operators to make, all records and information regarding State and local sales and use tax exemption benefits available to the Agency upon request. The provisions of Section 875 of the Act are hereby incorporated herein as if set forth herein and the Agency agrees that it shall comply with the requirements of such Section 875 of the Act.

Section 10. The Agency hereby delegates to the Company, as agent of the Agency, the authority to designate (following the execution and delivery of the Agency Documents), agents and sub-agents of the Agency (each, a "Sub-Agent") for purposes of utilizing the Agency sales and use tax exemption with respect to the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping of the Project Facility; provided that any such sub-agency designation shall become effective only upon submission to the Agency within fifteen (15) days of such agency and sub-agency designation: (1) an executed sub-agent appointment agreement (in a form approved by the Agency) and (2) a completed Form ST-60 of the State Department of Taxation and Finance (IDA Appointment of Project Operator or Agent for Sales Tax Purposes). Such agents and sub-agents may include contractors and subcontractors involved in the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping of the Project Facility.

Section 11. The terms and conditions of subdivision 3 of Section 875 of the Act are herein incorporated by reference and the Company and/or any Sub-Agent shall agree to such terms as a condition precedent to receiving or benefiting from an exemption from State and local sales and use tax exemptions benefits.

Section 12. As a condition precedent to the granting of the Financial Assistance, the Company agrees to execute an agreement with the Agency setting forth the preliminary undertakings of the Agency and the Company with respect to the Project. The form and substance of the proposed agreement, a form of which was available to the members of the Agency (the "Agreement") are hereby approved. The Chairperson (or Vice Chairperson) and the Executive Director of the Agency are each hereby authorized, on behalf of the Agency, to execute and deliver the Agreement, in substantially the same form as presented at this meeting with changes in terms and form as shall be consistent with this Resolution and as the Executive Director or (Vice) Chairperson shall approve. The execution thereof by the Executive Director or (Vice) Chairperson shall constitute conclusive evidence of such approval.

Section 13. The officers, employees and agents of the Agency are hereby authorized and directed for and in the name and on behalf of the Agency to do all acts and things required or provided for by the provisions of the Agency Documents, and to execute and deliver all such additional certificates, instruments and documents, to pay all such fees, charges and expenses and to do all such further acts and things as may be necessary or, in the opinion of the officer, employee or agent acting, desirable and proper to effect the purposes of the foregoing Resolution and to cause compliance by the Agency with all of the terms, covenants and provisions of the Agency Documents binding upon the Agency.

Section 14. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Patrick Hogan	X		
Janice Herzog	X		
Cydney Johnson	X		
Elizabeth Dreyfuss			X
Susan Stanczyk	X		
Kevin Ryan	X		
Fanny Villarreal			X

The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

EXHIBIT A **PILOT Schedule**

PILOT YEAR	Exemption %	Onondaga County	Town of Camillus	Village of Camillus	Town of Elbridge	Town of Geddes	Village of Solvay	West Genesee School District	Jordan Elbridge School District	Marcellus School District	Solvay School District	Total PILOT	Full Tax Payment w/o PILOT	Net Exemption
Prior Year		\$ 8,397.02	\$ 5,985.32	\$ 1,035.09	\$ 2,438.65	\$ 81.13	\$ 648.47	\$ 14,537.87	\$ 20,644.74	\$ 309.00	\$ 4,139.79	\$ 58,217.09	\$ 181,476.57	
Percentage		14.42%	10.28%	1.78%	4.19%	0.14%	1.11%	24.97%	35.46%	0.53%	7.11%	100%		
1	100%	\$ 8,564.96	\$ 6,105.03	\$ 1,055.79	\$ 2,487.42	\$ 82.75	\$ 661.44	\$ 14,828.63	\$ 21,057.64	\$ 315.18	\$ 4,222.58	\$ 59,381.43	\$ 185,106.10	\$ 125,724.67
2	90%	\$ 10,486.23	\$ 7,474.49	\$ 1,292.63	\$ 3,045.39	\$ 101.32	\$ 809.81	\$ 18,154.95	\$ 25,781.23	\$ 385.89	\$ 5,169.78	\$ 72,701.73	\$ 188,808.22	\$ 116,106.50
3	80%	\$ 12,518.62	\$ 8,923.15	\$ 1,543.16	\$ 3,635.63	\$ 120.95	\$ 966.77	\$ 21,673.64	\$ 30,778.01	\$ 460.68	\$ 6,171.76	\$ 86,792.36	\$ 192,584.39	\$ 105,792.03
4	70%	\$ 14,665.44	\$ 10,453.39	\$ 1,807.79	\$ 4,259.11	\$ 141.70	\$ 1,132.56	\$ 25,390.46	\$ 36,056.15	\$ 539.68	\$ 7,230.16	\$ 101,676.44	\$ 196,436.08	\$ 94,759.63
5	60%	\$ 16,930.13	\$ 12,067.64	\$ 2,086.96	\$ 4,916.82	\$ 163.58	\$ 1,307.45	\$ 29,311.35	\$ 41,624.07	\$ 623.02	\$ 8,346.66	\$ 117,377.70	\$ 200,364.80	\$ 82,987.10
6	50%	\$ 19,316.21	\$ 13,768.41	\$ 2,381.09	\$ 5,609.78	\$ 186.63	\$ 1,491.72	\$ 33,442.39	\$ 47,490.42	\$ 710.82	\$ 9,523.01	\$ 133,920.48	\$ 204,372.09	\$ 70,451.61
7	40%	\$ 21,827.26	\$ 15,558.27	\$ 2,690.63	\$ 6,339.04	\$ 210.90	\$ 1,685.64	\$ 37,789.82	\$ 53,664.05	\$ 803.23	\$ 10,760.98	\$ 151,329.81	\$ 208,459.53	\$ 57,129.73
8	30%	\$ 24,467.01	\$ 17,439.86	\$ 3,016.02	\$ 7,105.67	\$ 236.40	\$ 1,889.50	\$ 42,360.04	\$ 60,154.08	\$ 900.37	\$ 12,062.39	\$ 169,631.34	\$ 212,628.73	\$ 42,997.39
9	20%	\$ 27,239.25	\$ 19,415.88	\$ 3,357.76	\$ 7,910.77	\$ 263.19	\$ 2,103.59	\$ 47,159.65	\$ 66,969.84	\$ 1,002.39	\$ 13,429.12	\$ 188,851.43	\$ 216,881.30	\$ 28,029.87
10	10%	\$ 30,147.87	\$ 21,489.13	\$ 3,716.30	\$ 8,755.49	\$ 291.29	\$ 2,328.21	\$ 52,195.39	\$ 74,120.92	\$ 1,109.42	\$ 14,863.09	\$ 209,017.12	\$ 221,218.93	\$ 12,201.81
TOTAL		\$ 186,162.99	\$ 132,695.27	\$ 22,948.13	\$ 54,065.12	\$ 1,798.71	\$ 14,376.67	\$ 322,306.32	\$ 457,696.40	\$ 6,850.67	\$ 91,779.54	\$ 1,290,679.83	\$ 2,026,860.17	\$ 736,180.33

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF ONONDAGA)

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the foregoing extract of the minutes of the meeting of the members of the Agency, including the Resolution contained therein, held on January 9, 2025, with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copy of such proceedings of the Agency and of such Resolution set forth therein and of the whole of said original so far as the same relates to the subject matter therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that (A) all members of the Agency had due notice of said meeting, (B) said meeting was in all respects duly held, (C) pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (the "Open Meetings Law"), said meeting was open to the general public and due notice of the time and place of said meeting was duly given in accordance with such Open Meetings Law, and (D) there was a quorum of the members of the Agency present throughout said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that as of the date hereof, the attached Resolution is in full force and effect and has not been amended, repealed, or rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of January, 2025.

(SEAL)


Secretary

PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT

THIS PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT dated as of January 9, 2025 between the ONONDAGA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (the “Agency”), a public benefit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York and FINGER LAKES RAILWAY CORP., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware (the “Company”).

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, the Agency is authorized and empowered by the provisions of Chapter 1030 of the 1969 Laws of New York, constituting Title 1 of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law, Chapter 24 of the Consolidated Laws of New York, as amended (the “Enabling Act”) and Chapter 435 of the 1970 Laws of New York and Chapter 676 of the 1975 Laws of New York, as amended, constituting Section 895 of said General Municipal Law (said Chapter and the Enabling Act being hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Act”) to promote, develop, encourage and assist in the acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, improving, maintaining, equipping and furnishing of manufacturing, warehousing, research, commercial and industrial facilities, among others, for the purpose of promoting, attracting and developing economically sound commerce and industry to advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of the State of New York, to improve their prosperity and standard of living, and to prevent unemployment and economic deterioration; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Act are to promote industry and develop trade and thereby advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the inhabitants of Onondaga County, New York and the State of New York, to improve their prosperity and standard of living and to prevent unemployment and economic deterioration; and

WHEREAS, by resolution adopted by the members of the Agency on December 5, 2024 (the “Approving Resolution”), the Agency determined to undertake a project (the “Project”) on behalf of the Company and/or entities formed or to be formed on behalf of the foregoing, consisting of the following: (A)(1) the acquisition of a leasehold interest in all or a portion of certain parcels of land located in the Town of Elbridge, Town of Camillus, Village of Camillus and Village of Solvay (Town of Geddes), Onondaga County, New York Tax Map #'s: 041.-02-14.0, 041.-03-07.0, 042.-02-10.0, 043.-02-03.0, 044.-03-15.0, 045.-01-29.0, 045.-02-10.0, 044.-04-06.0, 001.-01-08.1, 002.-01-03.4, 002.-06-13.0, 003.-05-26.0, 004.-03-16.0, 015.-04-08.0, 015.-04-08.0/1, 016.-09-16.0, 017.-04.-01.0, 017.-05-63.0, 020.-05-21.0, 024.-01-03.0, 024.-01-13.0, 024.-02-39.0, 025.-02-28.0, 027.-01-27.0 (collectively, the “Land”); (2) the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping on the Land of capital improvements necessary for the modernization of existing railway facilities including, but not limited to, crossing resurfacing, signal upgrades, bridge rehabilitation, track and crosstie replacement (the “Improvements” and collectively with the Land, the “Facility”); (3) the acquisition and installation in and around the Facility and/or for use in connection with the Project of various machinery, equipment, furnishings and other items of tangible personal property (collectively, the “Equipment”) (the Land, the Facility and the Equipment being collectively referred to as the “Project Facility”); (B) the granting of certain “financial assistance” (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the Act) with respect to the foregoing, including potential exemptions from

certain sales and use taxes, real property taxes and real estate transfer taxes (the "Financial Assistance"); and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase) or sale of the Project Facility to the Company or such other person as may be designated by the Company and agreed upon by the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Company will be the owner and/or operator of the Project Facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the Agency and the Company agree as follows:

Article 1. Representations.

Among the representations that have resulted in the execution of this Preliminary Agreement are the following:

Section 1.01. The Company hereby represents to the Agency that:

(A) The completion of the Project Facility will not result in the removal of a plant or facility of the Company or any other proposed occupant of the Project Facility from one area of the State of New York to another area of the State of New York or in the abandonment of a plant or facility of the Company or of any proposed occupant of the Project Facility located in the State of New York.

(B) The Project Facility does not and will not constitute a project where facilities or property that are primarily used in making retail sales of goods or services to customers who personally visit such facilities constitute more than one-third of the total cost of the Project.

(C) The Project Facility is located entirely within the boundaries of Onondaga County, New York.

(D) The granting of the Financial Assistance by the Agency with respect to the Project will promote the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the inhabitants of Onondaga County, New York and the State of New York and improve their standard of living, and thereby serve the public purposes of the Act and will encourage and assist the Company in providing the Project.

Article 2. Undertaking on the Part of the Agency.

Based upon the statements, representations and undertakings of the Company and subject to the conditions set forth herein, the undertakings on the part of the Agency are as follows:

Section 2.01. If the Company complies with all conditions set forth in this Preliminary Agreement, then the Agency will (A) undertake the Project, and (B) grant certain Financial Assistance with respect to the Project; PROVIDED HOWEVER, that the foregoing obligation of the Agency to undertake the Project and to grant the Financial Assistance relating to the Project is subject to the conditions hereinafter contained in this Preliminary Agreement, including but not limited to the following conditions:

(A) An interest in the Project Facility shall be acquired by the Agency from the Company pursuant to one or more deeds, lease agreements, license agreements, bills of sale or other documentation to be negotiated between the Agency and the Company (hereinafter, collectively, the "Acquisition Agreement") which contain terms mutually acceptable to the Agency and the Company for the conveyance of an interest in the Project Facility to the Agency. The Acquisition Agreement and any other documents to be executed by the Agency and the Company in connection with the Project (collectively, the "Project Documents") shall in all respects comply with the requirements of, and limitations contained in, the Act;

(B) The Company shall have executed the Project Documents between the Agency and the Company the terms of which shall be acceptable in form and content to the Agency and the Company and pursuant to which, among other things, the Company shall be obligated to pay all costs incurred by the Agency with respect to the Project and/or the Project Facility, including all costs of operation and maintenance of the Project, all taxes and other governmental charges, any required payments in lieu of taxes, and the reasonable fees and expenses incurred by the Agency with respect to or in connection with the Project and/or the Project Facility (including reasonable counsel fees and out-of-pocket expenses), it being understood that the Company will, prior to or contemporaneously with the granting of the Financial Assistance, enter into such Project Documents;

(C) No event shall have occurred that constitutes (or that after notice or lapse of time or both would constitute) an event of default under the Project Documents;

(D) The Agency shall receive, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agency, such rulings, approvals, resolutions, consents, certificates, opinions of counsel and other instruments and proceedings as shall be specified by the Agency in connection with the Financial Assistance, the Project and the Project Documents, such rulings, approvals, resolutions, consents, certificates, opinions of counsel and other instruments and proceedings to be obtained from transaction counsel, counsel to the Agency and such other governmental and nongovernmental agencies and entities as may have or assert competence or jurisdiction over or interest in matters pertaining thereto, and the same shall be in full force and effect at the time of the granting of the Financial Assistance; and

(E) Agreements shall be made as to (1) payments by the Company to or on behalf of the Agency of any required amounts in lieu of real property taxes, (2) indemnity by the Company of the Agency and the members and officers of the Agency, and (3) payment by the Company of the expenses incurred by the Agency in connection with the Project (including reasonable counsel fees and out-of-pocket expenses) and the administrative fee of the Agency, and such agreements shall be satisfactory in form and substance to the Agency.

Section 2.02. The obligations of the Agency pursuant to this Preliminary Agreement are subject to the conditions elsewhere contained in this Preliminary Agreement.

Article 3. Undertakings on the Part of the Company.

Based upon the statements, representations and undertakings of the Agency and subject to the conditions set forth herein, the undertakings on the part of the Company are as follows:

Section 3.01. The Company will enter into the Project Documents with the Agency containing the terms and conditions described in Section 2.01 hereof.

Section 3.02. The Company agrees that the Agency, its directors, members, officers, agents (except the Company) and employees shall not be liable for and agrees to defend, indemnify, release and hold the Agency, its director, members, officers, agents (except the Company) and employees harmless from and against any and all (i) liability for loss or damage to property or injury to or death of any and all persons that may be occasioned by, directly or indirectly, any cause whatsoever pertaining to the Project Facility or arising by reason of or in connection with the use thereof or under this Preliminary Agreement, or (ii) liability arising from or expense incurred by the Agency's acquiring, constructing, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, installation and equipping, owning and leasing of the Project Facility, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all claims arising from the breach by the Company of any of its covenants contained herein and all causes of action and reasonable attorneys' fees (whether by reason of third party claims or by reason of the enforcement of any provision of this Preliminary Agreement (including, without limitation, this Section)) and any other expenses incurred in defending any claims, suits or actions which may arise as a result of the foregoing, provided that any such losses, damages, liabilities or expenses of the Agency are not incurred or do not result from the gross negligence or intentional or willful wrongdoing of the Agency or any of its directors, members, officers, agents (except the Company) or employees. The foregoing indemnities shall apply notwithstanding the fault or negligence on the part of the Agency, or any of its members, directors, officers, agents, or employees and irrespective of the breach of a statutory obligation or the application of any rule of comparative or apportioned liability. The foregoing indemnities are limited only to the extent of any prohibitions imposed by law, and upon the application of such prohibition by the final judgment or decision of a competent court of law, the remaining provisions of these indemnities shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3.03. The Company will take such further action and adopt such further proceedings as may be required to implement the aforesaid undertakings or as it may deem appropriate in pursuance thereof.

Article 4. General Provisions.

Section 4.01. All commitments of the Agency under Article 2 hereof are subject to the condition that the following events shall have occurred not later than six (6) months from the date hereof (or such other date as shall be mutually satisfactory to the Agency and the Company):

(A) The Agency and the Company shall have agreed on mutually acceptable terms and conditions of the Project Documents and any other agreements referred to in Articles 2 or 3 hereof;

(B) All necessary governmental approvals shall be obtained; and

(C) All other conditions expressed in this Preliminary Agreement shall have been satisfied.

Section 4.02. Subject to the terms and conditions of Section 4.03 hereof, the Company shall have the right to unilaterally cancel this Preliminary Agreement at any time on or before July 9, 2025 by written notice of cancellation delivered to the Agency at the address set forth in Section 4.04 hereof.

Section 4.03. If the events set forth in Section 4.01 hereof do not take place within the time set forth in said Section 4.01, or any extension thereof, or if the Company exercises its right of cancellation as set forth in Section 4.02 hereof, the Company agrees that (A) it will promptly reimburse the Agency (and its officers, members, agents or employees) for all reasonable and necessary actual out-of-pocket expenses (including reasonable legal fees and expenses) which the Agency (and its officers, members, agents or employees) may incur with respect to the execution of this Preliminary Agreement and the performance of its obligations hereunder; and (B) the obligations of the Company set forth in Section 3.02 hereof shall survive the termination of this Preliminary Agreement and shall remain in full force and effect until the expiration of the period stated in the applicable statute of limitations during which a claim, cause of action or prosecution relating to the matters described therein may be brought and payment in full or the satisfaction of such claim, cause of action or prosecution and the payment of all expenses and charges incurred by the Agency (and its officers, members, agents or employees) relating to the enforcement of the provisions therein stated.

Section 4.04. (A) All notices and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed given when mailed by United States registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

(i) TO THE AGENCY:

Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency
335 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor
Syracuse, New York 13202

WITH A COPY TO:

Barclay Damon Tower
125 East Jefferson Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
Attn: Jeffrey W. Davis, Esq.

(ii) IF TO THE COMPANY:

Finger Lakes Railway Corp.
68 Border City Road
Geneva, New York 14456
Attn: R. Eric Betke

WITH A COPY TO:

Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP
One Commerce Plaza, 19th Floor
Albany, New York 12260
Attn: Robert M. Gach, Esq.

(B) The Agency and the Company may, by notice given hereunder, designate any other or different addresses to which subsequent notices, certificates and other communications shall be sent.

Section 4.05. All covenants and agreements herein contained by or on behalf of the Agency and the Company shall bind and inure to the benefit of the respective successors and assigns of the Agency and the Company whether so expressed or not provided, however, upon execution and delivery of the Project Documents, this Preliminary Agreement shall terminate.

Section 4.06. The obligations and agreements of the Agency contained herein shall be deemed the obligations and agreements of the Agency, and not of any member, officer, agent or employee of the Agency in his or her individual capacity, and the members, officers, agents and employees of the Agency shall not be liable personally hereon or be subject to any personal liability or accountability based upon or in respect hereof or of any action contemplated hereby. The obligations and agreements of the Agency contained herein shall not constitute or give rise to an obligation of the State of New York or of Onondaga County, New York and neither the State of New York nor Onondaga County, New York shall be liable thereon, and further, such obligations and agreements shall not constitute or give rise to a general obligation of the Agency, but rather shall constitute limited obligations of the Agency payable solely from the revenues of the Agency derived and to be derived from the lease, sale or other disposition of the Project.

Section 4.07. Notwithstanding any provision of this Preliminary Agreement to the contrary, the Agency shall not be obligated to take any action pursuant to any provision hereof unless (A) the Agency shall have been requested to do so in writing by the Company; and (B) if compliance with such request is reasonably expected to result in the incurrence by the Agency (or any member, officer, agent or employee of the Agency) of any liability, fees, expenses or other costs, the Agency shall have received from the Company security or indemnity satisfactory to the Agency for protection against all such liability and for the reimbursement of all such fees, expenses and other costs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have entered into this Preliminary Agreement as of the day and date first written above.

ONONDAGA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

By: _____
Robert M. Petrovich
Executive Director

FINGER LAKES RAILWAY CORP.

By: _____

Signature Page to Preliminary Agreement
Page 2 of 2