

## RESOLUTION NO. 1854

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DISTRIBUTORS WASHINGTON SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION FORM RELATED TO THE NATIONWIDE OPIOID LITIGATION

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**WHEREAS**, multiple states, counties, and cities throughout the nation have brought lawsuits over the last few years against various entities within the pharmaceutical supply chain who manufacture, distribute, and dispense prescription opioids (the “Opioid Distributors”); and

**WHEREAS**, after a 6-month trial at the close of the evidence, the State of Washington reached a settlement with the Opioid Distributors for up to \$518 million, with more than \$476 million to be directed toward addressing the opioid epidemic, paid over a 17-year period starting in December 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington cities and counties with populations over 10,000 can join this settlement, and if a sufficient number join, they will receive up to \$215 million that must be spent on efforts to combat the opioid epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, a local government can either spend the money itself or elect to pool its money with other local governments on a regional basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the proceeds can only be used for approved purposes, such as treatment for opioid use disorder (“OUD”), support for people in treatment and recovery, providing connections to care for people who have—or are at risk of developing—OUD, addressing the needs of persons with OUD in the criminal justice system, training, and research; and

**WHEREAS**, in order for the settlement to be finalized, Washington local governments that filed suit against these opioid distributors need to sign the Participation Form releasing their claims and then dismiss them with prejudice, and ninety percent (90%) of Washington local governments with a population of over 10,000 that did not file a lawsuit against the Opioid Distributors (such as the City of Lake Forest Park) need to sign the Participation Form releasing their potential claims; and

**WHEREAS**, as of August 9, 2022, only 17 of the 125 cities and counties with populations over 10,000 have joined by signing the Participation Form, but if not enough join, the settlement is void and neither the State nor Washington cities or counties will get any settlement money; and

**WHEREAS**, almost all of the other states in the country have similar agreements already, and no other state (and their local governments) have decided not to approve the national settlement; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds it is in the best interest of the City to execute the Participation Form to ensure the settlement receives sufficient participation by local governments and to help combat the opioid epidemic in this State;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park, as follows:

Section 1. AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT. The City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park authorizes the Mayor to sign the Distributors Washington Settlement Participation Form, included herewith as Attachment 1.

Section 2. CORRECTIONS. The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto

**PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE** of the members of the Lake Forest Park City Council this 8th day of September, 2022.

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Johnson  
Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt McLean  
City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: September 2, 2022  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: September 8, 2022  
RESOLUTION NO.: 1854

**ATTACHMENT 1  
to Resolution 1854**

**Exhibit F  
Subdivision Settlement Participation Form**

Governmental Entity:	City of Lake Forest Park	State:	Washington
Authorized Official:	Jeff Johnson, Mayor		
Address 1:	17425 Ballinger Way NE		
Address 2:			
City, State, Zip:	Lake Forest Park, WA 98155		
Phone:	206.368.5440		
Email:	phill@cityoflfp.gov		

The governmental entity identified above ("*Governmental Entity*"), in order to obtain and in consideration for the benefits provided to the Governmental Entity pursuant to the Settlement Agreement dated May 2, 2022 ("*Distributors Washington Settlement*"), and acting through the undersigned authorized official, hereby elects to participate in the Distributors Washington Settlement, release all Released Claims against all Released Entities, and agrees as follows.

1. The Governmental Entity is aware of and has reviewed the Distributors Washington Settlement, including the Distributor Global Settlement Agreement dated July 21, 2021 ("*Global Settlement*") attached to the Distributors Washington Settlement as Exhibit H, understands that all terms in this Participation Form have the meanings defined therein, and agrees that by signing this Participation Form, the Governmental Entity elects to participate in the Distributors Washington Settlement and become a Participating Subdivision as provided therein.
2. The Governmental Entity shall, within 14 days of October 1, 2022 and prior to the filing of the Consent Judgment, secure the dismissal with prejudice of any Released Claims that it has filed.
4. The Governmental Entity agrees to the terms of the Distributors Washington Settlement pertaining to Subdivisions as defined therein.
5. By agreeing to the terms of the Distributors Washington Settlement and becoming a Releasor, the Governmental Entity is entitled to the benefits provided therein, including, if applicable, monetary payments beginning after December 1, 2022.
6. The Governmental Entity agrees to use any monies it receives through the Distributors Washington Settlement solely for the purposes provided therein.
7. The Governmental Entity submits to the jurisdiction of the Washington Consent Judgment Court for purposes limited to that court's role as provided in, and for resolving disputes to the extent provided in, the Distributors Washington Settlement. The Governmental Entity likewise agrees to arbitrate before the National Arbitration Panel as provided in, and for resolving disputes to the extent otherwise provided in the Distributors Washington Settlement.

8. The Governmental Entity has the right to enforce the Distributors Washington Settlement as provided therein.
9. The Governmental Entity, as a Participating Subdivision, hereby becomes a Releasor for all purposes in the Distributors Washington Settlement, including, but not limited to, all provisions of Section XI of the Global Settlement, and along with all departments, agencies, divisions, boards, commissions, districts, instrumentalities of any kind and attorneys, and any person in their official capacity elected or appointed to serve any of the foregoing and any agency, person, or other entity claiming by or through any of the foregoing, and any other entity identified in the definition of Releasor, provides for a release to the fullest extent of its authority. As a Releasor, the Governmental Entity hereby absolutely, unconditionally, and irrevocably covenants not to bring, file, or claim, or to cause, assist or permit to be brought, filed, or claimed, or to otherwise seek to establish liability for any Released Claims against any Released Entity in any forum whatsoever. The releases provided for in the Distributors Washington Settlement are intended by the Agreement Parties to be broad and shall be interpreted so as to give the Released Entities the broadest possible bar against any liability relating in any way to Released Claims and extend to the full extent of the power of the Governmental Entity to release claims. The Distributors Washington Settlement shall be a complete bar to any Released Claim.
10. The Governmental Entity hereby takes on all rights and obligations of a Participating Subdivision as set forth in the Distributors Washington Settlement.
11. In connection with the releases provided for in the Distributors Washington Settlement, each Governmental Entity expressly waives, releases, and forever discharges any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States or other jurisdiction, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to § 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads:

**General Release; extent.** A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, and that if known by him or her would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

A Releasor may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those which it knows, believes, or assumes to be true with respect to the Released Claims, but each Governmental Entity hereby expressly waives and fully, finally, and forever settles, releases and discharges, upon the date the Distributors Washington Settlement becomes effective pursuant to Section II.B of the Distributors Washington Settlement, any and all Released Claims that may exist as of such date but which Releasors do not know or suspect to exist, whether through ignorance, oversight, error, negligence or through no fault whatsoever, and which, if known, would materially affect the Governmental Entities' decision to participate in the Distributors Washington Settlement.

12. Nothing herein is intended to modify in any way the terms of the Distributors Washington Settlement, to which Governmental Entity hereby agrees. To the extent this Participation Form is worded differently from Exhibit F to the Distributors Washington Settlement or interpreted differently from the Distributors Washington Settlement in any respect, the Distributors Washington Settlement controls.

I have all necessary power and authorization to execute this Participation Form on behalf of the Governmental Entity.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jeff Johnson

Title: Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_