

**CITY OF WATERVLIET LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
CODE OF ETHICS**

I. Persons Subject to this Code

This Code of Ethics (Code) applies to all members of the City of Watervliet Local Development Corporation (WLDC) and to all officers and employees of the WLDC.

II. General Rule with Respect to Conflicts of Interest

No person subject to this Code should have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity or incur any obligation of any nature that is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties in the public interest.

III. Standards

- (a) No person subject to this Code should accept other employment that will impair his or her independence of judgment in the exercise of official duties.
- (b) No person subject to this Code should accept employment or engage in any business or professional activity that will require him or her to disclose confidential information which he or she has gained by reason of his or her official position or authority.
- (c) No person subject to this Code should disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the course of his or her official duties nor use such information to further his or her personal interests.
- (d) No person subject to this Code should use or attempt to use his or her official position to secure unwarranted privileges or exemptions for himself, herself or others.
- (e) No person subject to this Code should engage in any transaction as representative or agent of the WLDC with any business entity in which he or she has a direct or indirect financial interest that might reasonably tend to conflict with the proper discharge of his or her official duties.
- (f) A person subject to this Code should not by his or her conduct give reasonable basis for the impression that any person can improperly influence him or her, unduly enjoy his or her favor in the performance of his or her official duties, or that he or she is affected by the kinship, rank, position or influence of any party or person.

- (g) A person subject to this Code should abstain from making personal investments in enterprises that he or she has reason to believe may be directly involved in decisions to be made by he or she or that will otherwise create substantial conflict between his or her duty in the public interest and his or her private interest.
- (h) A person subject to this Code should endeavor to pursue a course of conduct that will not raise suspicion among the public that he or she is likely to be engaged in acts that are in violation of his or her trust.
- (i) If any person subject to this Code, or any firm or association of which such person is a member, or corporation a substantial portion of the stock of which is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such person, sells goods or services to any person, firm, corporation or association that has received or will receive financial assistance from the WLDC during such person's tenure as a member or officer or employee of the WLDC, he or she must file with the WLDC a written statement disclosing such sale, which statement will be open to public inspection.
- (j) If any person subject to this Code has a financial interest, direct or indirect, having a value of \$10,000.00 or more in a project undertaken by the WLDC, or that the WLDC is considering undertaking, he or she must file with WLDC a written statement that he or she has such a financial interest in such activity, which statement will be open to public inspection.
- (k) Any member who has a material interest (Interested Member) in a matter which relates to the affairs of the WLDC may not be present at a meeting, while the matter is being considered nor vote on the matter unless members who do not have an interest in the matter agree that the interest should not disqualify the Interested Member from being present while the matter is being considered and from voting on the matter.
- (l) No person subject to this Code of Ethics may accept or arrange for any loan or extension of credit from the WLDC or any affiliate of the WLDC.

IV. Reporting and Investigation of Violations; Sanctions

- (a) Any person subject to this Code who has credible information that a violation of this Code has occurred, is occurring or is imminent must promptly bring such information to the attention of the Governance Committee.
- (b) Unless otherwise directed by a vote of the members, the Governance Committee will have responsibility for investigating and responding to violations reported under this section. The Governance Committee will also ensure that all the members (other than any member who is

the subject of a report) are promptly informed of all violations reported under this section that are considered credible and meritorious.

- (c) If the members determine that a violation of this Code has occurred, the members will determine the appropriate actions to be taken after considering all relevant facts and circumstances. Such actions may include a recommendation to the appointing body for the removal of a member or termination of the employment of an officer or employee and will be reasonably designed to:
 - (i) deter future violations of this Code or other wrongdoing; and
 - (ii) promote accountability for adherence to the policies of this Code and other applicable policies.

In determining the appropriate sanction in a particular case, the members may consider the following matters:

- (i) the nature and severity of the violation;
 - (ii) whether the violation was a single occurrence or repeated occurrences;
 - (iii) whether the violation appears to have been intentional or inadvertent;
 - (iv) whether the individual involved had been advised prior to the violation as to the proper course of action; and
 - (v) whether or not the individual in question had committed other violations in the past.
- (d) Persons subject to this Code are reminded that violations of this Code may also constitute violations of law that may result in civil or criminal penalties for the individual involved.