

(I) PROVIDE THAT NO OPERATING CONTRACT SHALL BE ENTERED INTO FOR A TERM IN EXCESS OF FIVE YEARS; PROVIDED, THAT ANY SUCH CONTRACT MAY BE RENEWED FOR SUCCESSIVE TERMS, EACH OF WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE YEARS. ANY SUCH OPERATING CONTRACT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO TERMINATION BY THE BOARD FOR CAUSE ONLY.

53. COMPENSATION FOR CONTRACTOR.

COMPENSATION TO THE CONTRACTOR UNDER THE OPERATING CONTRACT MAY, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD, BE IN THE FORM OF (1) A FEE PAID BY THE BOARD TO THE CONTRACTOR FOR SERVICES, (2) A PAYMENT BY THE CONTRACTOR TO THE BOARD FOR THE RIGHT TO OPERATE THE SYSTEM, OR (3) SUCH OTHER ARRANGEMENT AS THE BOARD MAY PRESCRIBE; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE COMPENSATION SHALL BEAR A REASONABLE RELATIONSHIP TO THE BENEFITS TO THE AUTHORITY AND TO THE ESTIMATED COSTS THE AUTHORITY WOULD INCUR IN DIRECTLY PERFORMING THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES DELEGATED UNDER THE OPERATING CONTRACT; AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT NO SUCH CONTRACT SHALL CREATE ANY RIGHT IN THE CONTRACTOR (1) TO MAKE OR CHANGE ANY RATE OR FARE OR ALTER OR CHANGE THE SERVICE SPECIFIED IN THE CONTRACT TO BE PROVIDED OR (2) TO SEEK JUDICIAL RELIEF BY ANY FORM OF ORIGINAL ACTION, REVIEW OR OTHER PROCEEDINGS FROM ANY RATE OR FARE OR SERVICE PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD. ANY ASSERTION, OR ATTEMPTED ASSERTION, BY THE CONTRACTOR OF THE RIGHT TO MAKE OR CHANGE ANY RATE OR FARE OR SERVICE PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD SHALL CONSTITUTE CAUSE FOR TERMINATION OF THE OPERATING CONTRACT. THE OPERATING CONTRACT MAY PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL MANAGEMENT.

54. SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR.

THE BOARD SHALL ENTER INTO AN OPERATING CONTRACT ONLY AFTER FORMAL ADVERTISEMENT AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL INTERESTED AND QUALIFIED PARTIES, INCLUDING PRIVATE TRANSIT COMPANIES RENDERING TRANSIT SERVICE WITHIN THE ZONE; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT, IF THE AUTHORITY ACQUIRES TRANSIT FACILITIES FROM ANY AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL OR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VII, § 19 OF THIS TITLE, THE AUTHORITY SHALL ASSUME THE OBLIGATIONS OF ANY OPERATING CONTRACT WHICH THE TRANSFEROR AGENCY MAY HAVE ENTERED INTO.

ARTICLE XII

COORDINATION OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

55. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THAT THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC IN EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL TRANSIT SERVICE AND IN THE FINANCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE AUTHORITY AND OF THE PRIVATE TRANSIT COMPANIES REQUIRES THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SEGMENTS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSIT SYSTEM BE OPERATED, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, AS A