

**CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
San Bernardino, California

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
San Bernardino, California

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of the Measure I Fund of the City of Chino Hills, California (City), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Measure I Fund of the City, as of June 30, 2023, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only the Measure I Fund, a governmental fund, and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City as of June 30, 2023, or the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

(Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

(Continued)

Additional Information

Management is responsible for the accompanying Program Status: Comparison of 5-Year Plan Project Budget to Current Year Expenditures and the Maintenance of Effort: Comparison of Base Level Amount to Annual Expenditures (the “additional information”), which is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the additional information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 6, 2023 on our consideration of the City’s internal control over financial reporting of the Measure I Fund and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City’s internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City’s internal control over financial reporting and compliance, as it relates to the Measure I Fund.


Crowe LLP

Los Angeles, California
December 6, 2023

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
BALANCE SHEET
June 30, 2023

ASSETS

Cash and investments	\$ 1,757,178
Taxes receivable	499,606
Interest receivable	<u>816</u>
 Total assets	 <u><u>\$ 2,257,600</u></u>

LIABILITIES

Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 784
Contract retainage payable	<u>60,057</u>
 Total liabilities	 <u>60,841</u>

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Unavailable Measure I sales tax revenue	<u>174,365</u>
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FUND BALANCES

Restricted for transportation	<u>2,022,394</u>
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Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	 <u><u>\$ 2,257,600</u></u>
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See notes to financial statements.

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE
Year ended June 30, 2023

Revenue

Measure I sales tax	\$ 1,886,251
Net increase/(decrease) in fair value of investments	(15,559)
Interest income (loss)	<u>17,722</u>
Total revenues	1,888,414

Expenditures

Current	
Administrative	6,555
Capital	
Construction	<u>1,002,019</u>
Total expenditures	1,008,574

Net change in fund balance	879,840
Fund balance, beginning of year	<u>1,142,554</u>
Fund balance, end of year	<u><u>\$ 2,022,394</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Reporting Entity: The financial statements are intended to reflect the financial position and changes in financial position of the Measure I Fund of the City of Chino Hills, California (City) only. Accordingly, the financial statements do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City as of June 30, 2023, and the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Measure I: Measure I is the half-cent sales tax collected throughout San Bernardino County for transportation improvements. In 2004, San Bernardino County voters approved the extension of the Measure I sales tax through 2040. See Note 4 for a detailed description of the Measure.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Fund Accounting: The accounts of the City are organized on the basis of funds. A fund is defined as an independent fiscal and accounting entity wherein operations of each fund are accounted for in a separate set of self-balancing accounts that record resources, related benefits, and equity, segregated for the purpose of carrying out specific activities. The City accounts for the Measure I activities within its Measure I Special Revenue Fund.

Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting: The special revenue funds of the City are accounted for using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, revenues are available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred. Operating statements of governmental funds present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current resources.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Deferred Inflows of Resources. Deferred inflows of resources-unavailable revenues represents and acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period. These amounts are deferred and recognized in the period that the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources in the financial statements represent amounts due from other governments at year-end, and not collected with a timeframe to finance current year expenditures.

Fund Balance: Fund balance is reported according to the following classifications: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned based on the relative strength of the constraints that control how specific amounts can be spent.

(Continued)

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Restricted fund balance represents amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or because of constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the City considers restricted funds to have been spent first.

Cash and Investments: Cash and investments are pooled in the City investment pool to facilitate cash management and maximize investment opportunities and yields. Investment income resulting from this pooling is allocated to the respective funds including the Measure I Fund based upon the average cash balance. The investment policies and the risks related to cash and investments, applicable to the Measure I Fund, are those of the City and are disclosed in the City's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements can be obtained at City Hall or by visiting the City's website at www.chinohills.org.

The Measure I Fund's cash and investments are reported at fair value. The fair value measurements are based on the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The Measure I Fund's deposits and withdrawals in the City investment pool are made on the basis of \$1 and not fair value. Accordingly, the Measure I Fund's investment in the City investment pool is measured based on inputs that are uncategorized and not defined as a Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 input.

Maintenance of Effort: In accordance with California Public Utilities Code 190300 and Ordinance No. 04-01 of the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), Local Street Program funds shall not be used to supplant existing local discretionary funds being used for street and highway purposes. The maintenance of effort (MOE) base year level was determined based upon the discretionary General Fund expenditures for transportation-related construction and maintenance activities in fiscal year 2008/2009. The MOE base year level as approved by the SBCTA Board of Directors shall remain in effect until the expiration of Measure I 2010-2040. General Fund expenditures in excess of the MOE base year level will carry over to subsequent fiscal years and can be applied in a future year to offset the amount the local agency may need to meet the MOE requirement. The City's determined MOE base level is \$140,313.

NOTE 3 – TAXES RECEIVABLE

Taxes receivable represents the Measure I sales tax revenues for the fiscal year received from SBCTA after June 30, 2023.

NOTE 4 – MEASURE I FUND

The California State Legislature authorized county transportation authorities to enact local option sales tax measures for transportation improvements in the late 1980s, under provisions of Division 19 (commencing with Section 180000) of the Public Utilities Code. In November 1989, San Bernardino County voters approved passage of Measure I, authorizing SBCTA to impose a half-cent retail transactions and use tax applicable in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County of San Bernardino for the 20-year period between April 1, 1990 and March 31, 2010. SBCTA is authorized to administer the programs described in the Measure.

(Continued)

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 4 – MEASURE I FUND (Continued)

Early in the second decade of Measure I, it became apparent that continuation of the half-cent sales tax would be critical to maintaining funding for transportation in San Bernardino County. SBCTA member jurisdictions and transportation stakeholders worked to identify transportation needs, and an expenditure plan was developed to serve as a basis for the renewal of Measure I. Ordinance No. 04-01 was placed before voters in November 2004, and Measure I was renewed. The new Measure I extends the half-cent sales tax for 30 years, from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2040. The new Measure is referred to as Measure I 2010-2040 to distinguish it from the first Measure I.

Revenue from the tax can only be used for transportation improvement and traffic management programs authorized in the Expenditure Plan.

Measure I 2010-2040 has a return-to-source provision that states that funds shall be allocated to subareas in accordance with the actual revenue collected in each subarea. After deduction of required Board of Equalization fees and authorized administrative costs, revenues generated in each subarea are to be expended on projects of direct benefit to that subarea. Revenues are accounted for separately for each subarea and then allocated to specified project categories in each subarea. These project categories are termed “programs” in the Strategic Plan. Decisions on how revenues are expended within the subareas are made by the SBCTA Board of Directors based upon recommendations of local subarea representatives. Other than the projects identified in the Cajon Pass Expenditure Plan, revenues generated within a subarea can be expended outside of that subarea only upon approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the jurisdictions within the affected subarea. A proportional share of projected State and federal transportation funds is to be reserved for use solely within the Valley subarea and individual Mountain/Desert (Colorado River, Morongo Basin, Mountains, North Desert and Victor Valley) subareas. In the San Bernardino Valley subarea, Measure I 2010-2040 contains the following programs:

- Freeway Program
- Freeway Interchange Program
- Major Street Program
- Local Street Program
- Metrolink/Rail Program
- Express Bus/Bus Rapid Transit Program
- Senior and Disabled Transit Program
- Traffic Management Systems Program

In each of the Mountain/Desert subareas, Measure I 2010-2040 contains the following programs:

- Local Street Program
- Major Local Highway Program
- Senior and Disabled Transit Program

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
 MEASURE I FUND
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGE
 IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL
 Year ended June 30, 2023

	Budget		Actual	Variance From Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Measure I sales tax	\$ 1,678,843	\$ 1,678,843	\$ 1,886,251	\$ 207,408
Net increase/(decrease) in fair value of investments	-	-	(15,559)	(15,559)
Interest income (loss)	-	-	17,722	17,722
Total revenues	<u>1,678,843</u>	<u>1,678,843</u>	<u>1,888,414</u>	<u>209,571</u>
Expenditures				
Current				
Administrative	7,406	7,406	6,555	851
Capital				
Construction	<u>1,804,046</u>	<u>2,886,321</u>	<u>1,002,019</u>	<u>1,884,302</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,811,452</u>	<u>2,893,727</u>	<u>1,008,574</u>	<u>1,885,153</u>
Net change in fund balance	(132,609)	(1,214,884)	879,840	2,094,724
Fund balance, beginning of year	<u>1,142,554</u>	<u>1,142,554</u>	<u>1,142,554</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$ 1,009,945</u>	<u>\$ (72,330)</u>	<u>\$ 2,022,394</u>	<u>\$ 2,094,724</u>

See Note to Required Supplementary Information.

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
MEASURE I FUND
NOTE TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
Year ended June 30, 2023

NOTE 1 – BUDGETARY DATA

The City adopts an annual budget on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The legal level of budgetary control for the City is the Fund.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
 MEASURE I FUND
 PROGRAM STATUS: COMPARISON OF 5-YEAR PLAN PROJECT BUDGET
 TO CURRENT YEAR EXPENDITURES
 Year ended June 30, 2023

The Measure I Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for local streets was adopted by Council Resolution No. 2022R-079 and amended by Council Resolution 2023R-057. Of the funds allocated under the Measure I Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, the following programs were affected during the current fiscal year:

Local Projects	5-Year Plan Project Estimate	Current Fiscal Year Expenditures	Under/(Over) Estimate
ST200003 FY 2019/20 Striping Program	\$ 50,000	\$ 49,938	\$ 62
ST210005 Los Serranos Safe Routes to School East	485,106	286,449	198,657
ST22009 FY 2021/22 Street Improvement Program	1,450,000	427,338	1,022,662
ST22013 Traffic Signal Modification	150,000	21,827	128,173
ST23002 Montecito Drive Transit Access Improvements	73,306	2,334	70,972
ST23003 FY 2022/23 Sidewalk Replacement Program	250,000	155,073	94,927
ST23004 Sierra Vista Dr & Del Norte Ave Improvements	50,740	10,651	40,089
ST23005 FY 2022/23 Street Improvement Program	1,570,000	<u>48,408</u>	1,521,592
Total expenditures as of June 30, 2023		<u>\$ 1,002,018</u>	

CITY OF CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA
 MEASURE I FUND
 MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT: COMPARISON OF BASE LEVEL AMOUNT
 TO ANNUAL EXPENDITURES
 Year ended June 30, 2023

The maintenance of effort base level amount was determined based upon fiscal year 2008/09 spending levels. Excess/(deficient) amounts are carried forward in accordance with the Measure I Strategic Plan. Actual amounts expended in relation to the base level amount in each year subsequent to the base year are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>General Fund Street and Highway Funds Utilized</u>	<u>Base Level Amount</u>	<u>Excess/ (Deficiency)</u>	<u>Cumulative Excess/ (Deficiency)</u>
2010	\$ 250,740	\$ (140,313)	\$ 110,427	\$ 110,427
2011	81,319	(140,313)	(58,994)	51,433
2012	120,607	(140,313)	(19,706)	31,727
2013	281,620	(140,313)	141,307	173,034
2014	254,158	(140,313)	113,845	286,879
2015	465,151	(140,313)	324,838	611,717
2016	950,281	(140,313)	809,968	1,421,685
2017	489,931	(140,313)	349,618	1,771,303
2018	462,182	(140,313)	321,869	2,093,172
2019	621,308	(140,313)	480,995	2,574,167
2020	562,007	(140,313)	421,694	2,995,861
2021	362,700	(140,313)	222,387	3,218,248
2022	474,384	(140,313)	334,071	3,552,319

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Directors
San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
San Bernardino, California

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Measure I Fund (Measure I Fund) of the City of Chino Hills, California (City), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Measure I Fund's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 6, 2023.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting of the Measure I Fund (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

(Continued)

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the Measure I Fund of the City are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.


Crowe LLP

Los Angeles, California
December 6, 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH MEASURE I COMPLIANCE
REQUIREMENTS AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE

To the Board of Directors
San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
San Bernardino, California

Report on Compliance with the Measure I Ordinance

We have audited City of Chino Hills' ("City") compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in Measure I Ordinance (the "Ordinance"), that could have a direct and material effect on the City's compliance with the Ordinance for the year ended June 30, 2023.

In our opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its Ordinance for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on the Ordinance

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the Ordinance. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Ordinance.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the City's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Ordinance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the City's compliance with the requirements of the Ordinance.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Ordinance, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the City's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Ordinance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of the Ordinance on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of the Ordinance will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of the Ordinance that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

(Continued)

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Ordinance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Crowe LLP
Crowe LLP

Los Angeles, California
December 6, 2023