

To the Honorable City Council The City of Garden Grove

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of The City of Garden Grove for the year ended June 30, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and OMB Uniform Guidance, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated May 11, 2020. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

# Significant Audit Findings

## **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted, and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2020. We noted no transactions entered into by the City during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the City's financial statements were:

Management's estimate of amounts recorded as claims and liabilities is based on management's reliance on a third party claims administrator. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the amounts by the third party claims administrator and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of transactions related to net pension and OPEB liabilities based on actuarial information. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the amounts by the actuary and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's determination that certain notes receivable with third parties are fully collectible. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to arrive at that determination and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

There were no particularly sensitive note disclosures affecting the financial statements.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

## Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements, except for two. The two uncorrected immaterial misstatements are adjustments to 1) record compensated absences in the Water and Sewer funds and 2) include the implied rate subsidy in OPEB contributions subsequent to the measurement date. For these uncorrected misstatements, management has determined that the effect is immaterial both individually and in the aggregate, to each effected opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole. There were no material misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures.

## Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

## Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 1, 2020.

## Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the City 's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

## Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the City of Garden Grove's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### **Other Matters**

We applied certain limited procedures to the *management's discussion and analysis, the schedule of changes in the net pension liability and related ratios and the schedule of contributions - miscellaneous, and safety plans, the schedule of changes in OPEB liability and* 

related ratios, and budgetary comparison schedules, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the *combining* and *individual non-major fund financial statements* and the *budgetary comparison schedules*, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the *introductory* and *statistical sections*, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

#### **Restriction on Use**

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the City Council and management of the City of Garden Grove and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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Irvine, California December 1, 2020