**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA**
**LUCAS COUNTY**

**SINGLE AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA**
**LUCAS COUNTY**
**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

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# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area
Lucas County
5100 West Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43615-2100

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

## Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

### *Opinions*

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 Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Lucas County, Ohio (District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic 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 respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Lucas County, Ohio as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the respective budgetary comparisons for the General and Federal Grants Funds for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### *Basis for Opinions*

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. 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 District, 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 opinions.

### Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 17 to the financial statements, the District restated the beginning capital asset balances to properly report construction in progress in the Governmental Activities. The restatement had no effect on net position. 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District’s ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***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 opinions. 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 District’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.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District’s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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 management's discussion and analysis and schedules of net pension and other post-employment benefit liabilities and pension and other post-employment benefit contributions 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.

***Supplementary information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 6, 2024, on our consideration of the District’s internal control over financial reporting and 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 District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 6, 2024

***Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

The discussion and analysis of Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area's (the District) financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

**Financial Highlights**

**Key financial highlights for 2023 are as follows:**

- Net position of governmental activities increased $18.4 million, which represents an 11.1% increase from 2022. Business-type activities did not have any activity in 2023.
- General revenues accounted for $36 million in revenue or 62.6% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, grants and contributions accounted for $21.5 million or 37.4% of total revenues of $57.6 million.
- The District had $39.2 million in expenses related to governmental activities; only $21.5 million of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues (primarily property taxes and unrestricted intergovernmental revenues) of $36 million were adequate to provide for these programs.
- Among major funds, the general fund had $33.4 million in revenues and $31.3 million in expenditures and other financing uses. The general fund's fund balance increased $2.1 million to $10.3 million for 2023. The net decrease of all governmental funds was $489,038.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of two parts – *management's discussion and analysis and* the *basic financial statements*. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the District:

These statements are as follows:

1. *The Government-Wide Financial Statements* – These statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the District's overall financial status.

2. *The Fund Financial Statements* – These statements focus on individual parts of the District, reporting the District's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data.

**Government-wide Statements**

The government-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the government's assets, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the District's net position and how they have changed. Net-position (the difference between the District's assets, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources) is one way to measure the District's financial health or position.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position are an indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating.
- To assess the overall health of the District you need to consider additional nonfinancial factors such as the District's tax base and the condition of the District's capital assets.

The government-wide financial statements of the District are divided into two categories:

- <u>Governmental Activities</u> – Most of the District's basic services are reported here. State and federal grants and property taxes finance most of these activities. Benefits provided through governmental activities are not necessarily paid for by the people receiving them.
- <u>Business-type activity</u> - The District has one business-type activity, retail operations.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's most significant funds, not the District as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the District uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes.

***Governmental Funds*** – Most of the District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements.

***Proprietary Funds*** – Proprietary funds use the same basis of accounting as business-type activities; therefore, these statements will essentially match.

***Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

**Government-Wide Financial Analysis**

The following table provides a comparison of the District's net position between December 31, 2023 and 2022:

| | Governmental Activities | | Business-type Activities | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2023 | Restated 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | Restated 2022 |
| Current and other assets | $68,781,874 | $70,569,951 | $12,687 | $12,687 | $68,794,561 | $70,582,638 |
| Net OPEB Asset | 0 | 1,757,170 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,757,170 |
| Capital assets, Net | 184,792,185 | 166,228,101 | 0 | 0 | 184,792,185 | 166,228,101 |
| Total assets | 253,574,059 | 238,555,222 | 12,687 | 12,687 | 253,586,746 | 238,567,909 |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | 10,584,485 | 2,929,927 | 0 | 0 | 10,584,485 | 2,929,927 |
| Net Pension Liability | 19,647,674 | 4,882,144 | 0 | 0 | 19,647,674 | 4,882,144 |
| Net OPEB Liability | 421,880 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 421,880 | 0 |
| Long-term debt outstanding | 26,581,025 | 28,673,120 | 0 | 0 | 26,581,025 | 28,673,120 |
| Other liabilities | 2,859,503 | 4,348,188 | 0 | 0 | 2,859,503 | 4,348,188 |
| Total liabilities | 49,510,082 | 37,903,452 | 0 | 0 | 49,510,082 | 37,903,452 |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | 31,095,139 | 38,386,724 | 0 | 0 | 31,095,139 | 38,386,724 |
| Net position | | | | | | |
| Net Investment in capial assets | 160,031,631 | 139,228,101 | 0 | 0 | 160,031,631 | 139,228,101 |
| Restricted | 17,050,928 | 20,643,964 | 0 | 0 | 17,050,928 | 20,643,964 |
| Unrestricted | 6,470,764 | 5,322,908 | 12,687 | 12,687 | 6,483,451 | 5,335,595 |
| Total net position | $183,553,323 | $165,194,973 | $12,687 | $12,687 | $183,566,010 | $165,207,660 |

The net pension liability (NPL) is reported by the District pursuant to GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." The net OPEB liability (NOL) is reported by the District pursuant to GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

***Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability*.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the District's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension/OPEB benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the District is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan as against the public employer. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

***Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the District's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows. As a result of implementing GASB 75, the District is reporting a net OPEB liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to OPEB on the accrual basis of accounting.

**Changes in Net Position** – The following table provides a comparison of the changes in net position for fiscal year 2023 and 2022:

| | Governmental Activities | | Business-type Activities | | Totals | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2023 | Restated 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | Restated 2022 |
| Revenues | | | | | | |
| Program revenues: | | | | | | |
| Charges for Services and Sales | $1,598,584 | $1,323,581 | $0 | $22 | $1,598,584 | $1,323,603 |
| Capital Grants and Contributions | 19,910,809 | 11,065,346 | 0 | 0 | 19,910,809 | 11,065,346 |
| General revenues: | | | | | | |
| Property Taxes | 32,260,951 | 31,317,548 | 0 | 0 | 32,260,951 | 31,317,548 |
| Intergovernmental Revenue, Unrestricted | 2,012,964 | 2,618,009 | 0 | 0 | 2,012,964 | 2,618,009 |
| Investment Earnings | 1,148,367 | 172,154 | 0 | 0 | 1,148,367 | 172,154 |
| Miscellaneous | 623,647 | 716,694 | 0 | 0 | 623,647 | 716,694 |
| Total revenues | 57,555,322 | 47,213,332 | 0 | 22 | 57,555,322 | 47,213,354 |
| Program Expenses | | | | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 38,382,483 | 28,197,570 | 0 | 0 | 38,382,483 | 28,197,570 |
| Debt Service: | | | | | | |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | 814,489 | 342,250 | 0 | 0 | 814,489 | 342,250 |
| Total expenses | 39,196,972 | 28,539,820 | 0 | 0 | 39,196,972 | 28,539,820 |
| Change in Net Position | 18,358,350 | 18,673,512 | 0 | 22 | 18,358,350 | 18,673,534 |
| Beginning Net Position, Restated | 165,194,973 | 146,521,461 | 12,687 | 12,665 | 165,207,660 | 146,534,126 |
| Ending Net Position | $183,553,323 | $165,194,973 | $12,687 | $12,687 | $183,566,010 | $165,207,660 |

*Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited*
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

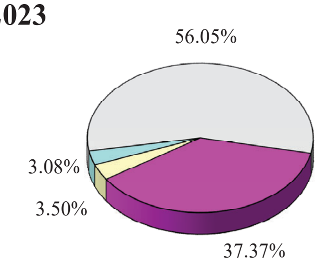
### *Governmental Activities*

Net position of governmental activities increased $18.4 million or 11.1% during 2023. The increase in capital grants and contributions combined with a large amount of capitalized expenses (increased capital assets) account for the majority of the increase. These increases represent the completion of phase two of the Glass City Metropark and continued work on the Glass City Riverwalk.

Property taxes made up 56.05% of revenues for governmental activities for the District in fiscal year 2023. Program revenues represented a large portion of revenues as a result of capital development grants received in 2023. The District's reliance upon tax revenues is demonstrated by the following graph:

| Revenue Sources | 2023 | Percent of Total |
|---|---|---|
| Property Taxes | $32,260,951 | 56.05% |
| Program Revenues | 21,509,393 | 37.37% |
| Intergovernmental | 2,012,964 | 3.50% |
| General Other | 1,772,014 | 3.08% |
| Total Revenue | $57,555,322 | 100.00% |

**2023**




The District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

For the General Fund, the final budget basis revenue increased when compared to original budget estimates. Final budget basis expenditures and other financing uses increased when compared to original budget figures. Revenues and expenditures were conservatively estimated, reflected by a positive variance with the final budget.

In 2023, the District's General Fund balance increased by $2.1 million or 26% from 2022. This is primarily a result of decreased transfers to other funds. The receipt of property tax revenue to the Debt Service fund as required by the issuance of 2022 tax anticipation bonds decreased General Fund revenues by $1.9 million when compared to 2022. Expenditures and transfers out from the General Fund decreased $3.9 million during 2023 when compared to 2022.

*Federal Grants Fund* – This fund is used to account for federal grants and associated projects. The fund increased $1.7 million in 2023 due to the timing of grant receipts vs. expenditures.

*Glass City Riverwalk Fund* – This fund was new in 2021 and accounts for the construction of the Glass City Riverwalk. Both transfers in from the General Fund and expenditures decreased when compared to 2022. Bond proceeds from 2022 provided the majority of the funding for the construction.

### *Business-Type Activities*

The Retail Operations Fund was established in 2005 to separately account for retail operations activity that was previously accounted for in the General Fund. In 2023, there was no activity in the fund.

*Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited*
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

## CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

### *Capital Assets*

At the end of fiscal 2023 the District had $184,792,185 net of accumulated depreciation invested in land, antiques and art, construction in progress, buildings, land improvements, machinery and equipment and infrastructure. The following table shows fiscal year 2023 and 2022 balances:

| | Governmental Activities | | Increase (Decrease) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 2023 | Restated 2022 | |
| Land | $84,314,606 | $82,285,187 | $2,029,419 |
| Antiques and Art | 553,061 | 553,061 | 0 |
| Construction In Progress | 50,830,575 | 33,927,775 | 16,902,800 |
| Land Improvements | 29,008,154 | 28,515,402 | 492,752 |
| Buildings | 31,282,750 | 30,572,272 | 710,478 |
| Machinery and Equipment | 7,424,845 | 7,145,175 | 279,670 |
| Leased Machinery and Equipment | 948,153 | 0 | 948,153 |
| Infrastructure | 16,229,867 | 15,963,297 | 266,570 |
| Less: Accumulated Depreciation | (35,799,826) | (32,734,068) | (3,065,758) |
| Totals | $184,792,185 | $166,228,101 | $18,564,084 |

The increases across all categories of capital assets are indicative the continued growth and expansion of the Metroparks.

Additional information on the District's capital assets can be found in Note 9.

***Management's Discussion and Analysis - Unaudited***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

***Debt***

At December 31, 2023, the District had $26,581,025 in noncurrent liabilities, $4,575,719 due within one year. The following table summarizes the District's noncurrent liabilities outstanding as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|---|---|
| Governmental Activities: | | |
| Tax Anticipation Bonds | $23,960,000 | $27,000,000 |
| Compensated Absences | 1,820,471 | 1,673,120 |
| Leases Payable | 800,554 | 0 |
| Total Governmental Activities | $26,581,025 | $28,673,120 |

## ECONOMIC FACTORS

The Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area acquires lands for the conservation of significant natural, historical and cultural resources. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of same as the Board deems conducive to the general welfare. The District receives the majority of its funding from property taxes, state and federal grants and charges for services (facility rentals). The District employs 158 full time, 8 part-time, and 89 seasonal/intern employees. The Board periodically reviews program and rental fees to help offset the costs of park operations.

## REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to reflect the District's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Matt Cleland, Chief Financial Officer, Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, 5100 W. Central Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43615-2100.

METROPARKS TOLEDO

## *Statement of Net Position*
## *December 31, 2023*

| | Governmental Activities | Business-Type Activities | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Assets:** | | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | $ 25,060,890 | $ 12,687 | $ 25,073,577 |
| Receivables: | | | |
| Taxes | 37,288,301 | 0 | 37,288,301 |
| Accounts | 200,581 | 0 | 200,581 |
| Intergovernmental | 6,092,144 | 0 | 6,092,144 |
| Prepaid Items | 139,958 | 0 | 139,958 |
| Non-Depreciable Capital Assets | 135,698,242 | 0 | 135,698,242 |
| Depreciable Capital Assets, Net | 49,093,943 | 0 | 49,093,943 |
| **Total Assets** | 253,574,059 | 12,687 | 253,586,746 |
| **Deferred Outflows of Resources:** | | | |
| Pension | 9,310,930 | 0 | 9,310,930 |
| OPEB | 1,273,555 | 0 | 1,273,555 |
| **Total Deferred Outflows of Resources** | 10,584,485 | 0 | 10,584,485 |
| **Liabilities:** | | | |
| Accounts Payable | 1,563,579 | 0 | 1,563,579 |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable | 447,772 | 0 | 447,772 |
| Intergovernmental Payable | 284,999 | 0 | 284,999 |
| Unearned Revenue | 458,957 | 0 | 458,957 |
| Accrued Interest Payable | 104,196 | 0 | 104,196 |
| Noncurrent liabilities: | | | |
| Due within one year | 4,575,719 | 0 | 4,575,719 |
| Due in more than one year: | | | |
| Net Pension Liability | 19,647,674 | 0 | 19,647,674 |
| Net OPEB Liability | 421,880 | 0 | 421,880 |
| Other Amounts Due in More Than One Year | 22,005,306 | 0 | 22,005,306 |
| **Total Liabilities** | 49,510,082 | 0 | 49,510,082 |
| **Deferred Inflows of Resources:** | | | |
| Property Tax Levy for Next Year | 30,956,000 | 0 | 30,956,000 |
| OPEB | 139,139 | 0 | 139,139 |
| **Total Deferred Inflows of Resources** | 31,095,139 | 0 | 31,095,139 |

(Continued)

| | Governmental Activities | Business-Type Activities | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Net Position:** | | | |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets | 160,031,631 | 0 | 160,031,631 |
| Restricted For: | | | |
| Capital Projects | 9,112,970 | 0 | 9,112,970 |
| Other Purposes | 7,773,336 | 0 | 7,773,336 |
| Expendable | 124,622 | 0 | 124,622 |
| Nonexpendable | 40,000 | 0 | 40,000 |
| Unrestricted | 6,470,764 | 12,687 | 6,483,451 |
| **Total Net Position** | $ 183,553,323 | $ 12,687 | $ 183,566,010 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Statement Of Activities*
## *For The Year Ended December 31, 2023*

| | | Program Revenues | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Expenses | Charges for Services and Sales | Capital Grants and Contributions |
| **Governmental Activities:** | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | $ 38,382,483 | $ 1,598,584 | $ 19,910,809 |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | 814,489 | 0 | 0 |
| **Totals** | $ 39,196,972 | $ 1,598,584 | $ 19,910,809 |

**General Revenues:**

Property Taxes

Intergovernmental Revenues, Unrestricted

Investment Earnings

Miscellaneous

Total General Revenues and Transfers

Change in Net Position

Net Position Beginning of Year, Restated

Net Position End of Year

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position

| Governmental Activities | Business-Type Activities | Total |
|---|---|---|
| $ (16,873,090) | $ 0 | $ (16,873,090) |
| (814,489) | 0 | (814,489) |
| (17,687,579) | 0 | (17,687,579) |
| | | |
| 32,260,951 | 0 | 32,260,951 |
| 2,012,964 | 0 | 2,012,964 |
| 1,148,367 | 0 | 1,148,367 |
| 623,647 | 0 | 623,647 |
| 36,045,929 | 0 | 36,045,929 |
| 18,358,350 | 0 | 18,358,350 |
| 165,194,973 | 12,687 | 165,207,660 |
| $ 183,553,323 | $ 12,687 | $ 183,566,010 |

## Balance Sheet
## Governmental Funds
## December 31, 2023

| | General | Federal Grants | Glass City Riverwalk | Other Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Assets:** | | | | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | $ 5,737,241 | $ 1,508,375 | $ 6,793,918 | $ 11,021,356 | $ 25,060,890 |
| Receivables: | | | | | |
| Property Taxes | 33,443,813 | 0 | 0 | 3,844,488 | 37,288,301 |
| Accounts | 189,538 | 0 | 0 | 11,043 | 200,581 |
| Intergovernmental | 1,740,360 | 503,737 | 63,700 | 3,784,347 | 6,092,144 |
| Prepaid Items | 121,142 | 1,288 | 2,793 | 14,735 | 139,958 |
| Advance to Other Funds | 5,165,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,165,000 |
| **Total Assets** | $ 46,397,094 | $ 2,013,400 | $ 6,860,411 | $ 18,675,969 | $ 73,946,874 |
| **Liabilities:** | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | $ 284,359 | $ 2,758 | $ 1,026,054 | $ 250,408 | $ 1,563,579 |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable | 395,529 | 0 | 10,116 | 42,127 | 447,772 |
| Intergovernmental Payable | 261,574 | 0 | 1,416 | 22,009 | 284,999 |
| Unearned Revenue | 449,258 | 0 | 0 | 9,699 | 458,957 |
| Advances from Other Funds | 0 | 1,005,000 | 0 | 4,160,000 | 5,165,000 |
| **Total Liabilities** | 1,390,720 | 1,007,758 | 1,037,586 | 4,484,243 | 7,920,307 |
| **Deferred Inflows of Resources:** | | | | | |
| Unavailable Amounts | 7,559,571 | 406,993 | 0 | 1,309,305 | 9,275,869 |
| Property Tax Levy for Next Fiscal Year | 27,111,512 | 0 | 0 | 3,844,488 | 30,956,000 |
| **Total Deferred Inflows of Resources** | 34,671,083 | 406,993 | 0 | 5,153,793 | 40,231,869 |
| **Fund Balances:** | | | | | |
| Nonspendable | 5,286,142 | 1,288 | 2,793 | 54,735 | 5,344,958 |
| Restricted | 0 | 597,361 | 5,820,032 | 651,892 | 7,069,285 |
| Committed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9,990,252 | 9,990,252 |
| Assigned | 1,971,708 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,971,708 |
| Unassigned | 3,077,441 | 0 | 0 | (1,658,946) | 1,418,495 |
| **Total Fund Balances** | 10,335,291 | 598,649 | 5,822,825 | 9,037,933 | 25,794,698 |
| **Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances** | $ 46,397,094 | $ 2,013,400 | $ 6,860,411 | $ 18,675,969 | $ 73,946,874 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Reconciliation Of Total Governmental Fund Balances*
## *To Net Position Of Governmental Activities*
## *December 31, 2023*

| | |
|---|---|
| **Total Governmental Fund Balances** | $ 25,794,698 |
| ***Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:*** | |
| Capital Assets used in governmental activities are not resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. | 184,792,185 |
| Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred inflows in the funds. | 9,275,869 |
| The net pension/OPEB liabilities are not due and payable in the current period; therefore, the liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds. | (9,624,208) |
| Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds: | |
| GO Bond Payable | (23,960,000) |
| Accrued Interest Payable | (104,196) |
| Compensated Absences Payable | (1,820,471) |
| Leases Payable | (800,554) |
| ***Net Position of Governmental Funds*** | $ 183,553,323 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances*
## *Governmental Funds*
## *For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

| | General | Federal Grants | Glass City Riverwalk | Other Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | |
| Property Taxes | $ 27,708,257 | $ 0 | $ 0 | $ 3,745,098 | $ 31,453,355 |
| Intergovernmental Revenues | 2,946,501 | 14,637,404 | 196,000 | 2,553,857 | 20,333,762 |
| Fines and Forfeitures | 1,862 | 0 | 0 | 1,446 | 3,308 |
| Charges for Services | 1,105,244 | 0 | 0 | 189,600 | 1,294,844 |
| Sales | 299,108 | 0 | 0 | 1,324 | 300,432 |
| Donations | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,520,181 | 2,520,181 |
| Investment Earnings | 792,031 | 0 | 53,905 | 302,431 | 1,148,367 |
| All Other Revenue | 588,299 | 0 | 7,053 | 28,295 | 623,647 |
| **Total Revenue** | 33,441,302 | 14,637,404 | 256,958 | 9,342,232 | 57,677,896 |
| **Expenditures:** | | | | | |
| Current: | | | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 20,942,835 | 12,896,060 | 14,751,670 | 6,509,214 | 55,099,779 |
| Debt Service: | | | | | |
| Principal Retirement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,187,599 | 3,187,599 |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | 0 | 0 | 0 | 827,709 | 827,709 |
| **Total Expenditures** | 20,942,835 | 12,896,060 | 14,751,670 | 10,524,522 | 59,115,087 |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures | 12,498,467 | 1,741,344 | (14,494,712) | (1,182,290) | (1,437,191) |
| **Other Financing Sources (Uses):** | | | | | |
| Transfers In | 0 | 0 | 8,130,405 | 2,237,901 | 10,368,306 |
| Transfers Out | (10,368,306) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (10,368,306) |
| Lease Issued | 0 | 0 | 0 | 948,153 | 948,153 |
| **Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)** | (10,368,306) | 0 | 8,130,405 | 3,186,054 | 948,153 |
| Net Change in Fund Balance | 2,130,161 | 1,741,344 | (6,364,307) | 2,003,764 | (489,038) |
| **Fund Balances at Beginning of Year** | 8,205,130 | (1,142,695) | 12,187,132 | 7,034,169 | 26,283,736 |
| **Fund Balances End of Year** | $ 10,335,291 | $ 598,649 | $ 5,822,825 | $ 9,037,933 | $ 25,794,698 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Reconciliation Of The Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures And Changes In Fund Balances Of Governmental Funds To The Statement Of Activities For The Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023*

| | |
|---|---|
| **Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds** | $ (489,038) |
| ***Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because*** | |
| Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays and contributions exceeded depreciation. | 18,564,084 |
| Revenues and transfers in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. | (122,574) |
| Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows. | 1,620,842 |
| Except for amounts reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liabilities are reported as pension expense in the statement of activities. | (3,320,279) |
| The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, but has no effect on net position. | |
| Lease Initiated | (948,153) |
| The repayment of principal of long-term debt consumes current financial resources of governmental funds, however, it does not effect net assets. | 3,187,599 |
| In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due. | 13,220 |
| Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. | (147,351) |
| ***Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities*** | $ 18,358,350 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

| | Original Budget | Final Budget | Actual | Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | |
| Property Taxes | $ 27,074,076 | $ 27,074,076 | $ 27,680,740 | $ 606,664 |
| Intergovernmental Revenue | 3,125,275 | 3,125,275 | 2,943,452 | (181,823) |
| Fines and Forfeitures | 2,734 | 2,734 | 1,610 | (1,124) |
| Charges for Services | 1,183,800 | 1,183,800 | 1,140,366 | (43,434) |
| Sales | 334,334 | 334,334 | 127,862 | (206,472) |
| Investment Earnings | 229,302 | 229,302 | 612,837 | 383,535 |
| All Other Revenue | 500,000 | 2,193,235 | 622,249 | (1,570,986) |
| Total Revenues | 32,449,521 | 34,142,756 | 33,129,116 | (1,013,640) |
| **Expenditures:** | | | | |
| Current: | | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 24,039,788 | 24,039,788 | 22,545,374 | 1,494,414 |
| Total Expenditures | 24,039,788 | 24,039,788 | 22,545,374 | 1,494,414 |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures | 8,409,733 | 10,102,968 | 10,583,742 | 480,774 |
| **Other Financing Sources (Uses):** | | | | |
| Transfers Out | (10,272,306) | (10,368,306) | (10,368,306) | 0 |
| Advances In | 0 | 0 | 4,938,085 | 4,938,085 |
| Advances Out | 0 | 0 | (5,175,000) | (5,175,000) |
| Total Other Financing Sources (Uses): | (10,272,306) | (10,368,306) | (10,605,221) | (236,915) |
| Net Change in Fund Balance | (1,862,573) | (265,338) | (21,479) | 243,859 |
| Fund Balance at Beginning of Year | 2,645,942 | 2,645,942 | 2,645,942 | 0 |
| Prior Year Encumbrances | 1,693,245 | 1,693,245 | 1,693,245 | 0 |
| Fund Balance at End of Year | $ 2,476,614 | $ 4,073,849 | $ 4,317,708 | $ 243,859 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) Special Revenue Fund – Federal Grants Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

| | Original Budget | Final Budget | Actual | Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | |
| Intergovernmental Revenue | $ 29,563,594 | $ 32,180,870 | $ 16,500,857 | $(15,680,013) |
| All Other Revenue | 0 | 382,765 | 0 | (382,765) |
| Total Revenues | 29,563,594 | 32,563,635 | 16,500,857 | (16,062,778) |
| **Expenditures:** | | | | |
| Current: | | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 29,946,359 | 32,563,635 | 14,841,746 | 17,721,889 |
| Total Expenditures | 29,946,359 | 32,563,635 | 14,841,746 | 17,721,889 |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures | (382,765) | 0 | 1,659,111 | 1,659,111 |
| **Other Financing Sources (Uses):** | | | | |
| Advances In | 0 | 0 | 995,000 | 995,000 |
| Advances Out | 0 | 0 | (1,570,115) | (1,570,115) |
| Total Other Financing Sources (Uses): | 0 | 0 | (575,115) | (575,115) |
| Net Change in Fund Balance | (382,765) | 0 | 1,083,996 | 1,083,996 |
| Fund Balance at Beginning of Year | 39,014 | 39,014 | 39,014 | 0 |
| Prior Year Encumbrances | 382,765 | 382,765 | 382,765 | 0 |
| Fund Balance at End of Year | $ 39,014 | $ 421,779 | $ 1,505,775 | $ 1,083,996 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## Statement of Net Position
## Proprietary Fund
## December 31, 2023

| | Retail Operations |
|---|---|
| **ASSETS:** | |
| Current assets: | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | $ 12,687 |
| Total Assets | 12,687 |
| **LIABILITIES:** | |
| Total Liabilities | 0 |
| **NET POSITION:** | |
| Unrestricted | 12,687 |
| Total net position | $ 12,687 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## *Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position*
## *Proprietary Fund*
## *For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

| | Retail Operations |
|---|---|
| **Operating Revenues:** | |
| **Total Operating Revenues** | $ 0 |
| **Operating Expenses:** | |
| **Total Operating Expenses** | 0 |
| **Change in Net Position** | 0 |
| **Net Position Beginning of Year** | 12,687 |
| **Net Position End of Year** | $ 12,687 |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

METROPARKS TOLEDO

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### A. Reporting Entity

The Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Lucas County, Ohio (the District), is a body politic and corporate established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by a five-member Board of Commissioners appointed by the probate judge of Lucas County. The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that were included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading.

The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. The District acquires lands for the conservation of significant natural, historical and cultural resources. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of same as the Board deems conducive to the general welfare.

The Board of Park Commissioners appoints a Director who is responsible for appointment of a Treasurer to act as fiscal agent for the District and custodian of all funds.

The accompanying basic financial statements comply with the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, "*The Financial Reporting Entity*," as amended by GASB Statement No. 39 *"Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units"*, in that the financial statements include all organizations, activities, functions and component units for which the District (the reporting entity) is financially accountable. Financial accountability is defined as the appointment of a voting majority of a legally separate organization's governing body and either the District's ability to impose its will over the organization or the possibility that the organization will provide a financial benefit to, or impose a financial burden on, the District. Based on the foregoing, the District does not have any component units.

The accounting policies and financial reporting practices of the District conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of its significant accounting policies.

### B. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting

The accounting system is organized and operated on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses. The various funds are grouped into the categories governmental and proprietary.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**B. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting** (Continued)

***Governmental Funds*** - These are funds through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The acquisition, use and balances of the District's expendable financial resources and the related current liabilities (except those accounted for in the proprietary funds) are accounted for through governmental funds. The measurement focus is upon determination of "financial flow" (sources, uses and balances of financial resources). The following are the District's major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Federal Grants Fund – This fund is used to account grant monies received from the federal government.

Glass City Riverwalk Fund – This fund is used to account for the Glass City Riverwalk project construction. The construction is being funded with transfers from the General Fund and through the issuance of general obligation notes.

The other governmental funds of the District account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

***Proprietary Fund*** - The proprietary fund is accounted for on a "economic resources" measurement focus. This measurement focus provides that all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the proprietary funds are included on the statement of net position. The proprietary fund operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net total position.

Retail Operations Fund - The retail operations fund accounts for the retail operations at the Wildwood Farmhouse and the Providence General Store.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**C. Basis of Presentation – Financial Statements**

***Government-wide Financial Statements*** – The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities.

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. This is the same approach used in the preparation of the proprietary fund financial statements but differs from the manner in which governmental fund financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each segment of the business-type activities of the District and for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the District.

***Fund Financial Statements*** – Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental and proprietary fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. The enterprise fund is presented in a single column on the face of the proprietary fund statements.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. The financial statements for governmental funds are a balance sheet, which generally includes only current assets and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, and a statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances, which reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**C. Basis of Presentation – Financial Statements** (Continued)

The proprietary fund type is accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of this fund is included on the statement of net position. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net total position. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the District finances and meets the cash flow needs of its proprietary activity.

**D. Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting represents the methodology utilized in the recognition of revenues and expenditures or expenses reported in the financial statements. The accounting and reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed by the governmental funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. The term "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period, which for the District is considered to be 60 days after fiscal year end. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the fund liability is incurred, if measurable, except for unmatured interest on general long-term debt which is recognized when due.

Revenue considered susceptible to accrual at year end includes interest on investments and grants and entitlements. Other revenue, including fines, fees, sales, certain charges for services and miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenue when received in cash because generally these revenues are not measurable until received.

Property taxes measurable as of December 31, 2023 but which are not intended to finance 2023 operations and delinquent property taxes, whose availability is indeterminate, are recorded as deferred inflows of resources.

The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes by the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary fund. Revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

***Revenues – Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions –*** Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**D. Basis of Accounting** (Continued)

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

**E. Budgetary Process**

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources and the appropriation resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources and the appropriation resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year.

All funds, other than the agency fund, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated; however, only governmental funds are required to be reported. The legal level of budgetary control is at the object level within each fund. Budgetary modifications may only be made by resolution of the District Board.

1. Tax Budget

The District Treasurer submits an annual tax budget for the following fiscal year to the District Board of Commissioners by July 15 for consideration and passage. The adopted budget is submitted to the County Auditor, as Secretary of the County Budget Commission, by July 20 of each year for the period January 1 to December 31 of the following year.

2. Estimated Resources

The County Budget Commission reviews estimated revenue and determines if the budget substantiates a need to levy all or part of previously authorized taxes. The Budget Commission then certifies its actions to the District by September 1 of each year. As part of the certification process, the District receives an official certificate of estimated resources stating the projected receipts by fund. Prior to December 31, the District must revise its budget so that the total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing fiscal year do not exceed the amount available as stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget then serves as the basis for the annual appropriations measure. On or about January 1, the certificate of estimated resources is amended to include any unencumbered fund balances from the preceding year. The certificate may be further amended during the year if a new source of revenue is identified or if actual receipts exceed current estimates. The amounts reported on the budgetary statement reflect the amounts in the final amended official certificate of estimated resources issued during 2023.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**E. Budgetary Process** (Continued)

3. Appropriations

A temporary appropriation resolution to control expenditures may be passed on or about January 1 of each year for the period January 1 through March 31. An annual appropriation resolution must be passed by April 1 of each year for the period January 1 through December 31. The appropriation resolution establishes spending controls at object level within each fund, and may be modified during the year by resolution of the District Board of Commissioners. Total fund appropriations may not exceed the current estimated resources as certified by the County Budget Commission. Expenditures may not legally exceed budgeted appropriations at the object level within each fund. The allocation of appropriations within a fund may be modified with the approval of the District Board Commissioners. During 2023, several supplemental appropriations measures were necessary to budget the use of contingency funds. Administrative control is maintained through the establishment of more detailed line-item budgets. The budgetary figures, which appear on the budgetary statements, are provided on the budgetary basis to provide a comparison of actual results with the final budget, including all amendments and modifications.

4. Lapsing of Appropriations

At the close of each fiscal year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriations. The encumbered appropriation balance is carried forward to the subsequent fiscal year and need not be reappropriated.

5. Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The District's budgetary process accounts for certain transactions on a basis other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The major differences between the budgetary basis and the GAAP basis lie in the manner in which revenues and expenditures are recorded. Under the budgetary basis, revenues and expenditures are recognized on a cash basis. Utilizing the cash basis, revenues are recorded when received in cash and expenditures when paid. Under the GAAP basis, revenues and expenditures are recorded on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**E. Budgetary Process** (Continued)

6. Budgetary Basis of Accounting (Continued)

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statements to the budgetary basis statements for the General Fund and major Special Revenue Funds.

| | Net Change in Fund Balance | |
|---|---|---|
| | General Fund | Federal Grants Fund |
| GAAP Basis (as reported) | $2,130,161 | $1,741,344 |
| Increase (Decrease): | | |
| Accrued Revenues at December 31, 2023 received during 2024 | (5,927,516) | (96,744) |
| Accrued Revenues at December 31, 2022 received during 2023 | 5,338,101 | 16,266 |
| Accrued Expenditures at December 31, 2023 paid during 2024 | 1,390,720 | 1,007,758 |
| Accrued Expenditures at December 31, 2022 paid during 2023 | (1,472,158) | (1,580,740) |
| 2023 Prepaids for 2024 | (121,142) | (1,288) |
| Outstanding Encumbrances | (1,359,645) | (2,600) |
| Budget Basis | ($21,479) | $1,083,996 |

**F. Cash and Investments**

During fiscal year 2023, cash and cash equivalents included amounts in demand deposits and the State Treasury Asset Reserve (STAR Ohio). STAR Ohio is a very liquid investment and is reported as a cash equivalent in the basic financial statements.

The District pools its cash for investment and resource management purposes. Each fund's equity in pooled cash and investments represents the balance on hand as if each fund maintained its own cash and investment account. See Note 4, "Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments."

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**G. Investments**

Investment procedures and interest allocations are restricted by provisions of the Ohio Constitution, the Ohio Revised Code, and the District's Investment Policies. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 31, *"Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools"*, the District records all its investments at fair value except for nonparticipating investment contracts (certificates of deposit) which are reported at cost. All investment income, including changes in the fair value of investments, are recognized as revenue in the operating statements. Fair value is determined by quoted market prices. See Note 4, "Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments."

The District's investment in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company and is recognized as an external investment pool by the District. The District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For fiscal year 2023, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding $100 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to $250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the $250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during 2023 amounted to $792,031 which includes $126,332 assigned from other funds.

**H. Capital Assets and Depreciation**

Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than $5,000.

1. Property, Plant and Equipment - Governmental Activities

Governmental activities capital assets are acquired or constructed for governmental activities and are recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds and are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost for assets not purchased in recent years). These assets are reported in the Governmental Activities column of the Government-wide Statement of Net Position, but they are not reported in the Balance sheet of the governmental funds.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**H. Capital Assets and Depreciation** (Continued)

1. Property, Plant and Equipment - Governmental Activities (Continued)

Contributed capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date received. Infrastructure capital assets (e.g., driveways, fencing, retaining walls and other assets that are immovable and of value only to the District) are capitalized if the cost or estimated historical cost to purchase or construct equals or exceeds $5,000. Governmental activities capital asset values were initially determined by identifying historical costs where such information was available. In cases where information supporting original cost was not obtainable, estimated historical costs were developed. For certain capital assets, the estimates were arrived at by indexing estimated current costs back to the estimated year of acquisition.

2. Depreciation

All capital assets, other than land, antiques and art, and construction in progress, are depreciated. Depreciation has been provided using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

| Description | Governmental and Business-Type Activities Estimated Lives (in Years) |
|---|---|
| Buildings | 40 |
| Land Improvements | 20 |
| Machinery and Equipment | 10 |
| Infrastructure | 20 |

**I. Long-Term Obligations**

Long-term liabilities are being repaid from the following fund:

| Obligation | Fund |
|---|---|
| Compensated Absences | General Fund, Cardinal Fund, Education Fund, Glass City Riverwalk Fund |
| Tax Anticipation Bond | Debt Service Fund |
| Leases | New Capital Construction Fund |

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**J. <u>Compensated Absences</u>**

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 16, *"Accounting for Compensated Absences,"* vacation and compensatory time are accrued as liabilities when an employee's right to receive compensation is attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employee will be compensated through paid time off or some other means, such as cash payments at termination or retirement. Leave time that has been earned but is unavailable for use as paid time off or as some other form of compensation because an employee has not met the minimum service time requirement, is accrued to the extent that it is considered to be probable that the conditions for compensation will be met in the future.

Sick leave is accrued using the vesting method, whereby the liability is recorded on the basis of leave accumulated by employees who are eligible to receive termination payments as of the balance sheet date, and on leave balances accumulated by other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments.

For governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as a liability and expenditure to the extent payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements. These amounts are recorded in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated leave are paid. The noncurrent portion of the liability is not recorded.

**K. <u>Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)</u>**

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deduction from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plans. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

**L. <u>Net position</u>**

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction of improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**M. Interfund Activity**

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and after nonoperating revenues/expenses in proprietary funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

**N. Interfund Assets/Liabilities**

Receivables and payables resulting from transactions between funds for services provided or goods received are classified as "due from other funds" or "due to other funds" on the balance sheet. Long-term interfund loans are classified as "advances to/from other funds."

**O. Fund Balance**

In the fund financial statements, fund balance for governmental funds is reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purpose for which amounts in the funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components – nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned.

*Nonspendable* – Nonspendable fund balance includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally contractually required to be maintained intact.

*Restricted* – Restricted fund balance consists of amounts that have constraints placed on them either externally by third parties (creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments) or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Enabling legislation authorizes the District to assess, levy, charge or otherwise mandate payment of resources (from external resource providers) and includes a legally enforceable requirement (compelled by external parties) that those resources be used only for the specific purposes stipulated in the legislation.

*Committed* – Committed fund balance consists of amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the District's highest level of decision making authority. For the District, these constraints consist of resolutions passed by District Board of Commissioners. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed previously to commit those amounts.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**O. Fund Balance** (Continued)

*Assigned* – Assigned fund balance consists of amounts intended to be used by the District for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board. In addition, the Director of Finance is authorized to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated. The Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated resources and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget in the General Fund.

*Unassigned* – Unassigned fund balance consists of amounts that have not been restricted, committed or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund as well as negative fund balances in all other governmental funds.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use unrestricted resources first (committed, assigned and unassigned), then restricted resources as they are needed.

**P. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**Q. Operating Revenues and Expenses**

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the proprietary funds. For the District, these revenues are sales charges generated through the sale of goods at one of the two District gift shops. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the fund. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

**R. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/ expenditure) until then. For the District, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the government-wide statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 10 and 11.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES** (Continued)

**R. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources** (Continued)

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the District, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes, pension, OPEB and unavailable revenue. On the government-wide statement of net position and governmental funds balance sheet, property taxes that are intended to finance future fiscal periods are reported as deferred inflows.

In addition, the governmental funds balance sheet reports deferred inflows which arise only under a modified accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, the item, unavailable amounts, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable amounts for property taxes, sales taxes, special assessments, and state levied shared taxes. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide statement of net position explained in Notes 10 and 11.

**S. Unearned Revenue**

The amounts reported as unearned revenue on the government-wide statement of net position and governmental funds balance sheet represent amounts received by the District in advance of services to be performed. Examples of such include deposits for future use of facilities and educational programs. The District will recognize the revenue upon the completion of these events.

**T. Fair Market Value**

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within 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.

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

## NOTE 2 – FUND DEFICITS

At December 31, 2023, the following funds had deficit fund balances:

| Fund | Fund Deficit |
|---|---|
| Education Fund (Special Revenue) | $9,708 |
| State Grants Fund (Special Revenue) | 973,611 |
| Local and Other Grants Fund (Special Revenue) | 662,858 |
| Grand Total | $1,646,177 |

The deficits arise from the recognition of certain liabilities under the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the budgetary basis of accounting the deficits do not exist. The General Fund provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

## NOTE 3 – FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

| Fund Balances | General | Federal Grants | Glass City Riverwalk | Other Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nonspendable: | | | | | |
| Endowments | $0 | $0 | $0 | $40,000 | $40,000 |
| Advances to Other Funds | 5,165,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,165,000 |
| Prepaid Items | 121,142 | 1,288 | 2,793 | 14,735 | 139,958 |
| Total Nonspendable | 5,286,142 | 1,288 | 2,793 | 54,735 | 5,344,958 |
| Restricted: | | | | | |
| Land Acquistion | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,540 | 5,540 |
| Law Enforcement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17,826 | 17,826 |
| Endowment Earnings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 124,622 | 124,622 |
| Capital Improvements | 0 | 597,361 | 5,820,032 | 503,904 | 6,921,297 |
| Total Restricted | 0 | 597,361 | 5,820,032 | 651,892 | 7,069,285 |
| Committed: | | | | | |
| Park Programs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,183,002 | 7,183,002 |
| Membership Activities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13,647 | 13,647 |
| Capital Improvements | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,793,603 | 2,793,603 |
| Total Committed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9,990,252 | 9,990,252 |
| Assigned: | | | | | |
| Goods and Services | 1,203,417 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,203,417 |
| Projected Budget Deficit | 768,291 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 768,291 |
| Total Assigned | 1,971,708 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,971,708 |
| Unassigned (Deficit) | 3,077,441 | 0 | 0 | (1,658,946) | 1,418,495 |
| Total Fund Balances | $10,335,291 | $598,649 | $5,822,825 | $9,037,933 | $25,794,698 |

**NOTE 4 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS**

Cash resources of several individual funds are combined to form a pool of cash, cash equivalents and investments.

Statutes require the classification of funds held by the District into three categories. Category 1 consists of "active" funds - those funds required to be kept in a "cash" or "near cash" status for immediate use by the District. Such funds must be maintained either as cash in the District Treasury or in depository accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts.

Category 2 consists of "inactive" funds - those funds not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive funds may be deposited or invested only as certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories.

Category 3 consists of "interim" funds - those funds which are not needed for immediate use but, which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim funds may be invested or deposited in the following securities:

- United States treasury notes, bills, bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States;
- Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the federal national mortgage association, federal home loan bank, federal farm credit bank, federal home loan mortgage corporation, government national mortgage association, and student loan marketing association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
- Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
- Interim deposits in eligible institutions applying for interim funds;
- Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
- No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in the first two bullets of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions, and
- The State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio).

**NOTE 4 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS** (Continued)

**A. Deposits**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute.

Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

At year end the carrying amount of the District's deposits was $15,703,330 and the bank balance was $15,722,948. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) covered $874,482 of the bank balance and $14,848,466 was uninsured and collateralized with securities held in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System.

**B. Investments**

The District's investments at December 31, 2023 were as follows:

| | | | Investment Maturities (in Years) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Fair Value | Credit Rating | < 1 year | 1-3 years |
| Star Ohio - NAV | $2,394,650 | AAAm [2] | $2,394,650 | $0 |
| Negotiable C/D's | 3,485,745 | N/A | 1,310,732 | 2,175,013 |
| FHLB | 1,831,527 | Aaa [1], AA+ [2] | 731,279 | 1,100,248 |
| FHLMC | 142,268 | Aaa [1], AAA [2] | 0 | 142,268 |
| US Treasury Note | 1,516,057 | N/A | 1,251,835 | 264,222 |
| Total Investments | $9,370,247 | | $5,688,496 | $3,681,751 |

[1] Moody's Investor Service
[2] Standard & Poor's

*Interest Rate Risk* – The Ohio Revised Code generally limits security purchases to those that mature within five years of settlement date. The District has no policy that limits investment purchases beyond the requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

*Investment Credit Risk* – The District has no investment policy that limits its investment choices other than the limitation of State statute for "interim" funds described previously.

**NOTE 4 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS** (Continued)

**B. Investments** (Continued)

*Concentration of Credit Risk* – The District places no limit on the amount the District may invest in one issuer. Of the District's total investments, 25.6% are Star Ohio, 37.2% are Negotiable C/D's, 19.5% are FHLB, 16.2% are US Treasury Notes and 1.5% are FHLMC.

*Custodial Credit Risk* – For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no policy on custodial credit risk and is governed by Ohio Revised Code as described under Deposits.

**NOTE 5- PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real estate and public utility property, and tangible personal property used in business and located in the County. Real property taxes (other than public utility) collected during 2023 were levied after October 1, 2022 on assessed values as of January 1, 2022, the lien date. Assessed values were established by the County Auditor at 35% of appraised market value. All property is required to be revalued every six years. The last revaluation was completed in 2023. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due January 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due February and the remainder payable in July. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Certain public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at 88 percent of its true value. Public utility property taxes are payable on the same dates as the real property taxes described previously.

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the County including the Metropolitan Park District. The County Auditor periodically remits to the District its portion of the taxes collected.

The full tax rate for the District's operations for the year ended December 31, 2023 was $4.30 per $1,000 of assessed value. The assessed value upon which the 2023 property tax receipts were based was $9,158,559,440. This amount constitutes $8,612,326,550 in real property assessed and $546,232,890 in public utility property.

Ohio law prohibits taxation of property from all taxing authorities in excess of 1% of assessed value without a vote of the people. Under current procedures, the District's share is .43% (4.30 mills) of assessed value.

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*
*For the Year Ended December 31, 2023*

**NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at December 31, 2023 consisted of taxes, accounts, intergovernmental and advance receivables. All receivables other than those offset by deferred inflows of resources are considered collectable in full.

**NOTE 7 - INTERFUND BALANCES**

Following is a summary of advances to/from other funds at December 31, 2023:

| Fund | Advances to Other Funds | Advances From Other Funds |
|---|---|---|
| General Fund | $5,165,000 | $0 |
| Federal Grants Fund | 0 | 1,005,000 |
| Other Governmental Funds | 0 | 4,160,000 |
| Totals | $5,165,000 | $5,165,000 |

The advances were required due to various project costs being authorized in advance of the revenue proceeds schedule. Funds are scheduled to be returned to the General Fund upon the completion of the projects.

**NOTE 8 - TRANSFERS**

Following is a summary of transfers in and out for all funds for 2023:

| Fund | Transfer In | Transfer Out |
|---|---|---|
| Governmental Activities: | | |
| General Fund | $0 | $10,368,306 |
| Glass City Riverwalk Fund | 8,130,405 | 0 |
| Other Governmental Funds | 2,237,901 | 0 |
| Totals | $10,368,306 | $10,368,306 |

***Notes to the Basic Financial Statements***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

## NOTE 9 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Summary by category of changes in governmental activities capital assets at December 31, 2023:

| ***Historical Cost:*** Class | Restated December 31, 2022 | Additions | Deletions | December 31, 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Non-depreciable Capital assets:*** | | | | |
| Land | $82,285,187 | $2,029,419 | $0 | $84,314,606 |
| Antiques and Art | 553,061 | 0 | 0 | 553,061 |
| Construction in Progress | 33,927,775 | 16,902,800 | 0 | 50,830,575 |
| Total Non-depreciable Capital assets | 116,766,023 | 18,932,219 | 0 | 135,698,242 |
| ***Capital assets being depreciated:*** | | | | |
| Buildings | 30,572,272 | 710,478 | 0 | 31,282,750 |
| Land Improvements | 28,515,402 | 492,752 | 0 | 29,008,154 |
| Infrastructure | 15,963,297 | 266,570 | 0 | 16,229,867 |
| Machinery and Equipment | 7,145,175 | 279,670 | 0 | 7,424,845 |
| Leased Machinery and Equipment | 0 | 948,153 | 0 | 948,153 |
| Total Cost | $198,962,169 | $21,629,842 | $0 | $220,592,011 |

| ***Accumulated Depreciation:*** Class | December 31, 2022 | Additions | Deletions | December 31, 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buildings | ($13,075,566) | ($866,283) | $0 | ($13,941,849) |
| Land Improvements | (12,092,674) | (901,327) | 0 | (12,994,001) |
| Infrastructure | (3,178,387) | (589,385) | 0 | (3,767,772) |
| Machinery and Equipment | (4,387,441) | (594,217) | 0 | (4,981,658) |
| Leased Machinery and Equipment | 0 | (114,546) | 0 | (114,546) |
| Total Depreciation | ($32,734,068) | ($3,065,758) | $0 | ($35,799,826) |
| ***Net Value:*** | $166,228,101 | | | $184,792,185 |

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. Pensions are a component of exchange transactions-–between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability represents the District's proportionate share of each pension plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the District's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The District cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the District does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation including pension.

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *intergovernmental payable* on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

***Plan Description – Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)***

Plan Description - District employees participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with defined contribution features. While members (e.g. District employees) may elect the member-directed plan and the combined plan, substantially all employee members are in OPERS' traditional plan; therefore, the following disclosure focuses on the traditional pension plan.

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional plan. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377.

Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group. The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional plan as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information, including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

| **Group A**<br>Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013 or five years after January 7, 2013 | **Group B**<br>20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013 | **Group C**<br>Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013 |
|---|---|---|
| **State and Local** | **State and Local** | **State and Local** |
| **Age and Service Requirements:**<br>Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit | **Age and Service Requirements:**<br>Age 60 with 60 months of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit | **Age and Service Requirements:**<br>Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit |
| **Formula:**<br>2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30 | **Formula:**<br>2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30 | **Formula:**<br>2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35 |

Final average Salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount. The initial amount of a member's pension benefit is vested upon receipt of the initial benefit payment for calculation of an annual cost-of-living adjustment.

When a benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a 3.00% simple annual COLA. For those retiring subsequent to January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3.00%.

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

Benefits in the Combined Plan consist of both an age-and-service formula benefit (defined benefit) and a defined contribution element. The defined benefit element is calculated on the basis of age, FAS, and years of service. Eligibility regarding age and years of service in the Combined Plan is the same as the Traditional Pension Plan. The benefit formula for the defined benefit component of the plan for State and Local members in transition Groups A and B applies a factor of 1.00% to the member's FAS for the first 30 years of service.

A factor of 1.25% is applied to years of service in excess of 30. The benefit formula for transition Group C applies a factor of 1.0% to the member's FAS and the first 35 years of service and a factor of 1.25% is applied to years in excess of 35. Persons retiring before age 65 with less than 30 years of service credit receive a percentage reduction in benefit. The defined contribution portion of the benefit is based on accumulated member contributions plus or minus any investment gains or losses on those contributions.

Defined contribution plan benefits are established in the plan documents, which may be amended by the OPERS's Board of Trustees. Member-Directed Plan and Combined Plan members who have met the retirement eligibility requirements may apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the Combined Plan consists of the member's contributions plus or minus the investment gains or losses resulting from the member's investment selections. Combined plan members wishing to receive benefits must meet the requirements for both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Member-directed participants must have attained the age of 55, have money on deposit in the defined contribution plan and have terminated public service to apply for retirement benefits. The amount available for defined contribution benefits in the Member-Directed Plan consists of the members' contributions, vested employer contributions and investment gains or losses resulting from the members' investment selections. Employer contributions and associated investment earnings vest over a five-year period, at a rate of 20% each year. At retirement, members may select one of several distribution options for payment of the vested balance in their individual OPERS accounts. Options include the annuitization of the benefit (which includes joint and survivor options), partial lump-sum payments (subject to limitations), a rollover of the vested account balance to another financial institution, receipt of entire account balance, net of taxes withheld, or a combination of these options. When members choose to annuitize their defined contribution benefit, the annuitized portion of the benefit is reclassified to a defined benefit. For additional information, see the Plan Statement in the OPERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Beginning in 2022, the Combined Plan will be consolidated under the Traditional Pension Plan (defined benefit plan) and the Combined Plan option will no longer be available for new hires beginning in 2022.

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

| | State and Local | Public Safety | Law Enforcement |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2023** | | | |
| Employer | 14.0% | 18.1% | 18.1% |
| Employee * | 10.0% | ** | *** |
| **2023** | | | |
| Employer: | | | |
| Pension | 14.0% | 18.1% | 18.1% |
| Post-employment health care benefits *** | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total Employer | 14.0% | 18.1% | 18.1% |
| Employee | 10.0% | 12.0% | 13.0% |

* Member contributions within the combined plan are not used to fund the defined benefit retirement allowance.

** This rate is determined by OPERS' Board and has no maximum rate established by ORC.

*** This rate is also determined by OPERS' Board, but is limited by ORC to not more than 2.0 percent greater than the Public Safety rate.

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**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The District's contractually required contribution was $1,620,842 for 2023.

***Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions***

The net pension liability for OPERS was measured as of December 31, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

| | OPERS |
|---|---|
| Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | $19,647,674 |
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability-2023 | 0.066512% |
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability-2022 | 0.056114% |
| Percentage Change | 0.010398% |
| Pension Expense | $4,003,966 |

At December 31, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

| | OPERS |
|---|---|
| **Deferred Outflows of Resources** | |
| Differences between expected and actual experience | $652,613 |
| Changes of assumptions | 207,564 |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments | 5,600,205 |
| Change in proportionate share | 1,229,706 |
| District contributions subsequent to the measurement date | 1,620,842 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | $9,310,930 |
| **Deferred Inflows of Resources** | |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | $0 |

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

$1,620,842 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

| | OPERS |
|---|---|
| Year Ending December 31: | |
| 2024 | $1,681,751 |
| 2025 | 1,616,555 |
| 2026 | 1,648,413 |
| 2027 | 2,743,369 |
| Total | $7,690,088 |

***Actuarial Assumptions - OPERS***

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the values of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and cost trends. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review or modification as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

| | December 31, 2022 |
|---|---|
| Wage Inflation | 2.75 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA (Pre 1/7/13 retirees) | 3 percent simple |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA (Post 1/7/13 retirees) | 3 percent simple through 2023. 2.05 percent simple, thereafter |
| Investment Rate of Return | 6.9 percent |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Individual Entry Age |

| | December 31, 2021 |
|---|---|
| Wage Inflation | 2.75 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA (Pre 1/7/13 retirees) | 3 percent simple |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA (Post 1/7/13 retirees) | 3 percent simple through 2022. 2.05 percent simple, thereafter |
| Investment Rate of Return | 6.9 percent |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Individual Entry Age |

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on 130% of the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality tables (males and females) for State and Local Government divisions and 170% of the Pub-2010 Safety Employee Mortality tables (males and females) for the Public Safety and Law Enforcement divisions. Post-retirement mortality rates are based on 115% of the PubG-2010 Retiree Mortality Tables (males and females) for all divisions. Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality Tables (males and females) for all divisions. For all of the previously described tables, the base year is 2010 and mortality rates for a particular calendar year are determined by applying the MP-2020 mortality improvement scales (males and females) to all of these tables.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five year period ended December 31, 2020.

During 2022, OPERS managed investments in three investment portfolios: the Defined Benefit portfolio, the Health Care portfolio, and the Defined Contribution portfolio. The Defined Benefit portfolio contains the investment assets for the Traditional Pension Plan, the defined benefit component of the Combined Plan and the annuitized accounts of the Member-Directed Plan. Within the Defined Benefit portfolio contributions into the plans are all recorded at the same time, and benefit payments all occur on the first of the month. Accordingly, the money-weighted rate of return is considered to be the same for all plans within the portfolio. The annual money-weighted rate of return expressing investment performance, net of investment expenses and adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested, for the Defined Benefit portfolio was a loss of 12.1 percent for 2022.

The allocation of investment assets with the Defined Benefit portfolio is approved by the Board of Trustees as outlined in the annual investment plan. Plan assets are managed on a total return basis with a long-term objective of achieving and maintaining a fully funded status for the benefits provided through the defined benefit pension plans. The long-term expected rate of return on defined benefit investment assets was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real estate rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected real rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adjusted for inflation. Best estimates of geometric rates of return were provided by the Board's investment consultant. For each major class that is included in the Defined Benefit portfolio's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2022, these best estimates are summarized below:

| Asset Class | Target Allocation | Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (Arithmetic) |
|---|---|---|
| Fixed Income | 22.00 % | 2.62 % |
| Domestic Equities | 22.00 | 4.60 |
| Real Estate | 13.00 | 3.27 |
| Private Equity | 15.00 | 7.53 |
| International Equities | 21.00 | 5.51 |
| Risk Parity | 2.00 | 4.37 |
| Other Investments | 5.00 | 3.27 |
| Total | 100.00 % | |

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS** (Continued)

***Discount Rate*** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.9 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members and those of the contributing employers are made at the statutorily required rates. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefits payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

***Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*** The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 6.9 percent, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (5.9 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (7.9 percent) than the current rate:

| | 1% Decrease (5.90%) | Current Discount Rate (6.90%) | 1% Increase (7.90%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| District's proportionate share of the net pension liability | $29,431,560 | $19,647,674 | $11,509,236 |

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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

***Net OPEB Liability***

The net OPEB liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for OPEB. OPEB is a component of exchange transactions--between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net OPEB liability represents the District's proportionate share of each OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net OPEB liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the District's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The District cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which OPEB are financed; however, the District does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation including OPEB.

GASB 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB asset. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term net OPEB liability on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in intergovernmental payable on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

***Plan Description – Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)***

Plan Description - The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) administers three separate pension plans: the traditional pension plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan; the member-directed plan, a defined contribution plan; and the combined plan, a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan.

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care trust, which funds multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage and deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement to qualifying benefit recipients of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. This trust is also used to fund health care for member-directed plan participants, in the form of a Retiree Medical Account (RMA). At retirement or refund, member directed plan participants may be eligible for reimbursement of qualified medical expenses from their vested RMA balance.

Currently, Medicare-eligible retirees are able to select medical and prescription drug plans from a range of options and may elect optional vision and dental plans. Retirees and eligible dependents enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B have the option to enroll in a Medicare supplemental plan with the assistance of the OPERS Medicare Connector. The OPERS Medicare Connector is a relationship with a vendor selected by OPERS to assist retirees, spouses and dependents with selecting a medical and pharmacy plan. Monthly allowances, based on years of service and the age at which the retiree first enrolled in OPERS coverage, are deposited into an HRA. For non-Medicare retirees and eligible dependents, OPERS sponsors medical and prescription coverage through a professionally managed self-insured plan. An allowance to offset a portion of the monthly premium is offered to retirees and eligible dependents. The allowance is based on the retiree's years of service and age when they first enrolled in OPERS coverage.

Medicare-eligible retirees who choose to become re-employed or survivors who become employed in an OPERS-covered position are prohibited from participating in an HRA. For this group of retirees, OPERS sponsors secondary coverage through a professionally managed self-insured program. Retirees who enroll in this plan are provided with a monthly allowance to offset a portion of the monthly premium. Medicare-eligible spouses and dependents can also enroll in this plan as long as the retiree is enrolled.

OPERS provides a monthly allowance for health care coverage for eligible retirees and their eligible dependents. The base allowance is determined by OPERS. For those retiring on or after January 1, 2015, the allowance has been determined by applying a percentage to the base allowance. The percentage applied is based on years of qualifying service credit and age when the retiree first enrolled in OPERS health care. Monthly allowances range between 51 percent and 90 percent of the base allowance. Those who retired prior to January 1, 2015, will have an allowance of at least 75 percent of the base allowance.

Effective January 1, 2022, OPERS discontinued the group plans currently offered to non-Medicare retirees and re-employed retirees. Instead, eligible non-Medicare retirees will select an individual medical plan. OPERS will provide a subsidy or allowance via an HRA allowance to those retirees who meet health care eligibility requirements. Retirees will be able to seek reimbursement for plan premiums and other qualified medical expenses. These changes are reflected in the December 31, 2020, measurement date health care valuation.

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

In order to qualify for postemployment health care coverage, age and service retirees under the traditional pension and combined plans must have 20 or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit with a minimum age of 60, or generally 30 years of qualifying service at any age. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by OPERS meets the definition of an Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement 75. Current retirees eligible (or who become eligible prior to January 1, 2022) to participate in the OPERS health care program will continue to be eligible after January 1, 2022. Eligibility requirements will change for those retiring after January 1, 2022, with differing eligibility requirements for Medicare retirees and non-Medicare retirees. See OPERS' Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced below for additional information.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require OPERS to provide health care to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided to the Board in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml, by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 800-222-7377.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund postemployment health care through their contributions to OPERS. When funding is approved by OPERS' Board of Trustees, a portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans. Beginning in 2018, health care is not being funded.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In 2023, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of earnable salary and public safety and law enforcement employers contributed at 18.1 percent. These are the maximum employer contribution rates permitted by the Ohio Revised Code. Active member contributions do not fund health care.

Each year, the OPERS Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside to fund health care plans. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2023. The OPERS Board is also authorized to establish rules for the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries to pay a portion of the health care provided. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. The employer contribution as a percentage of covered payroll deposited into the RMA for participants in the Member-Directed Plan for 2023 was 4.0 percent.

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The District's contractually required contribution was $0 for 2023.

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

***OPEB Liabilities (Asset), OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

The net OPEB liability and total OPEB liability for OPERS were determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2021, rolled forward to the measurement date of December 31, 2022, by incorporating the expected value of health care cost accruals, the actual health care payment, and interest accruals during the year. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the retirement plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

| | OPERS |
|---|---|
| Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | $421,880 |
| Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability-2023 | 0.066910% |
| Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability-2022 | 0.056101% |
| Percentage Change | 0.010809% |
| OPEB Expense | ($683,687) |

At December 31, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

| | OPERS |
|---|---|
| **Deferred Outflows of Resources** | |
| Changes of assumptions | $412,061 |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments | 837,868 |
| Change in proportionate share | 23,626 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | $1,273,555 |
| **Deferred Inflows of Resources** | |
| Changes in assumptions | $33,905 |
| Differences between expected and actual experience | 105,234 |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | $139,139 |

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

| | OPERS |
|---|---|
| Year Ending December 31: | |
| 2024 | $161,962 |
| 2025 | 306,417 |
| 2026 | 261,274 |
| 2027 | 404,763 |
| Total | $1,134,416 |

***Actuarial Assumptions - OPERS***

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the values of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and cost trends. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review or modification as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan and include the types of coverage provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of costs between OPERS and plan members. The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2021, rolled forward to the measurement date of December 31, 2022. The actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions applied to all prior periods included in the measurement in accordance with the requirements of GASB 74:

| | |
|---|---|
| Wage Inflation | 2.75 percent |
| Projected Salary Increases, including inflation | 2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation |
| Single Discount Rate: | |
| Current measurement date | 5.22 percent |
| Prior measurement date | 6.00 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return: | |
| Current measurement date | 6.00 percent |
| Prior measurement date | 6.00 percent |
| Municipal Bond Rate: | |
| Current measurement date | 4.05 percent |
| Prior measurement date | 1.84 percent |
| Health Care Cost Trend Rate: | |
| Current measurement date | 5.5 percent initial, 3.5 percent ultimate in 2036 |
| Prior measurement date | 5.5 percent initial, 3.5 percent ultimate in 2034 |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Individual Entry Age Normal |

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on 130% of the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality tables (males and females) for State and Local Government divisions and 170% of the Pub-2010 Safety Employee Mortality tables (males and females) for the Public Safety and Law Enforcement divisions. Post-retirement mortality rates are based on 115% of the PubG-2010 Retiree Mortality Tables (males and females) for all divisions. Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality Tables (males and females) for all divisions. For all of the previously described tables, the base year is 2010 and mortality rates for a particular calendar year are determined by applying the MP-2020 mortality improvement scales (males and females) to all of these tables.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five year period ended December 31, 2020.

During 2022, OPERS managed investments in three investment portfolios: the Defined Benefit portfolio, the Health Care portfolio and the Defined Contribution portfolio. The Health Care portfolio includes the assets for health care expenses for the Traditional Pension Plan, Combined Plan and Member-Directed Plan eligible members. Within the Health Care portfolio, if any contributions are made into the plans, the contributions are assumed to be received continuously throughout the year based on the actual payroll payable at the time contributions are made. Health care-related payments are assumed to occur mid-year. Accordingly, the money-weighted rate of return is considered to be the same for all plans within the portfolio. The annual money-weighted rate of return expressing investment performance, net of investment expenses and adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested, for the Health Care portfolio was a loss of 15.6 percent for 2022.

The allocation of investment assets with the Health Care portfolio is approved by the Board of Trustees as outlined in the annual investment plan. Assets are managed on a total return basis with a long-term objective of continuing to offer a sustainable health care program for current and future retirees. OPERS' primary goal is to achieve and maintain a fully funded status for the benefits provided through the defined pension plans. Health care is a discretionary benefit. The long-term expected rate of return on health care investment assets was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adjusted for inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return were provided by OPERS investment consultant. For each major asset class that is included in the Health Care's portfolio's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2022, these best estimates are summarized in the following table:

| Asset Class | Target Allocation | Weighted Average Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (Arithmetic) |
|---|---|---|
| Fixed Income | 34.00 % | 2.56 % |
| Domestic Equities | 26.00 | 4.60 |
| Real Estate Investment Trust | 7.00 | 4.70 |
| International Equities | 25.00 | 5.51 |
| Risk Parity | 2.00 | 4.37 |
| Other investments | 6.00 | 1.84 |
| Total | 100.00 % | |

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

***Discount Rate*** A single discount rate of 5.22 percent was used to measure the OPEB liability on the measurement date of December 31, 2022. A single discount rate of 6.00 percent was used to measure the OPEB liability on the measurement date of December 31, 2021. Projected benefit payments are required to be discounted to their actuarial present value using a single discount rate that reflects (1) a long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments (to the extent that the health care fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits), and (2) tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate are not met). This single discount rate was based on an expected rate of return on the health care investment portfolio of 6.00 percent and a municipal bond rate of 4.05 percent (Fidelity Index's "20-Year Municipal GO AA Index").

The projection of cash flows used to determine this single discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rate. Based on these assumptions, the health care fiduciary net position and future contributions were sufficient to finance health care costs through 2054. As a result, the long-term expected rate of return on health care investments was applied to projected costs through the year 2054, the duration of the projection period through which projected health care payments are fully funded.

***Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate*** The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) calculated using the single discount rate of 5.22 percent, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (4.22 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (6.22 percent) than the current rate:

| | 1% Decrease (4.22%) | Current Discount Rate (5.22%) | 1% Increase (6.22%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) | $1,435,889 | $421,880 | ($414,842) |

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS** (Continued)

***Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rate*** Changes in the health care cost trend rate may also have a significant impact on the net OPEB liability (asset). The following table presents the net OPEB liability (asset) calculated using the assumed trend rates and the expected net OPEB liability (asset) if it were calculated using a health care cost trend rate that is 1.0 percent lower or 1.0 percent higher than the current rate.

Retiree health care valuations use a health care cost-trend assumption that changes over several years built into the assumption. The near-term rates reflect increases in the current cost of health care; the trend starting in 2023 is 5.50 percent. If this trend continues for future years, the projection indicates that years from now virtually all expenditures will be for health care. A more reasonable alternative is that in the not-too-distant future, the health plan cost trend will decrease to a level at, or near, wage inflation. On this basis, the actuaries project premium rate increases will continue to exceed wage inflation for approximately the next decade, but by less each year, until leveling off at an ultimate rate, assumed to be 3.50 percent in the most recent valuation.

| | 1% Decrease | Current Health Care Cost Trend Rate Assumption | 1% Increase |
|---|---|---|---|
| District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability | $395,438 | $421,880 | $451,643 |

**NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS**

Detail of the changes in long-term debt and other long-term obligations of the District for the year ended December 31, 2023 are as follows:

| | | | Balance at December 31, 2022 | Additions | Deductions | Balance at December 31, 2023 | Amount Due Within One Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Governmental Activities:** | | | | | | | |
| 2022 | Tax Anticipation Bonds | 2.98% | $27,000,000 | $0 | ($3,040,000) | $23,960,000 | $3,130,000 |
| | Compensated Absences | | 1,673,120 | 1,820,471 | (1,673,120) | 1,820,471 | 1,159,683 |
| | Leases | | 0 | 948,153 | (147,599) | 800,554 | 286,036 |
| | Total Long-Term Obligations | | $28,673,120 | $2,768,624 | ($4,860,719) | $26,581,025 | $4,575,719 |

**NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS** (Continued)

**A. Principal and Interest Requirements**

Principal and interest requirements to retire long-term debt outstanding at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

| | Tax Anticipation Bonds | |
|---|---|---|
| Years | Principal | Interest |
| 2024 | $3,130,000 | $714,488 |
| 2025 | 3,220,000 | 621,150 |
| 2026 | 3,320,000 | 525,130 |
| 2027 | 3,415,000 | 426,128 |
| 2028 | 3,515,000 | 324,292 |
| 2029-2030 | 7,360,000 | 330,854 |
| Totals | $23,960,000 | $2,942,042 |

**NOTE 13 – LEASES**

The District leases 28 vehicles and 2 mowers. The following is a schedule of future lease payments as of December 31, 2023:

| Years | Principal | Interest | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2024 | $286,036 | $79,530 | $365,566 |
| 2025 | 290,159 | 75,407 | 365,566 |
| 2026 | 157,586 | 50,769 | 208,355 |
| 2027 | 38,678 | 10,377 | 49,055 |
| 2028 | 28,095 | 5,774 | 33,869 |
| Totals | $800,554 | $221,904 | $1,022,458 |

**NOTE 14 -RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. <u>General Insurance</u>**

The District is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees. The District insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Government belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (the "Plan"), a unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management programs and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.
Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and has remain unchanged. OPRM had 801 members as of December 31, 2023.

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**NOTE 14 -RISK MANAGEMENT** (Continued)

**A. General Insurance** (Continued)

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, with the exception of a qualified opinion related to recording premiums and membership fees earned in full as of December 31, 2023. Those premiums and fees should be earned pro-rata over the individual coverage and membership periods of each policy. The financial statements reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2023:

| | 2023 |
|---|---|
| Assets | $23,113,696 |
| Liabilities | (16,078,587) |
| Net Position - Unrestricted | $7,035,109 |

You can read the complete audited financial statements for The Ohio Plan Risk Management at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

**B. Health Insurance**

The Lucas County Commissioners manage a self-funded insurance program for dental, prescription drug, and health benefits. The programs are administered by a third-party, which provides claims review and processing services. Metroparks is charged for its proportionate share of the costs of covered employees.

**C. Workers Compensation**

The Lucas County Commissioners also maintains a Self-Funded Workers' Compensation fund. Metroparks is charged for its proportionate share of the costs of covered employees.

**NOTE 15 -CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

The District receives financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the District at December 31, 2023.

***Notes to the Basic Financial Statements***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

**NOTE 16 – CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE**

For 2023 the District implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 94, "Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements," and Statement No. 96, "Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements."

GASB Statement No. 94 clarifies accounting and financial reporting requirements for public-private and public-public partnership arrangements and availability payment arrangements.

GASB Statement No. 96 provides guidance on accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements for government end users.

The implementation of these Statements had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

**NOTE 17 – RESTATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

During 2023, it was discovered that capital assets were not properly reported for the District.

The correction needed to properly report capital assets had the following effect on net position as reported December 31, 2022:

| | Governmental Activities |
|---|---|
| Net Position/Fund Balance December 31, 2022 | $153,111,409 |
| Adjustments: | |
| Correction of Construction in Progress | 12,083,564 |
| Restated Net Position/Fund Balance December 31, 2022 | $165,194,973 |

**NOTE 18 - COMPLIANCE**

Contrary to Ohio law, the District did not allocate receipts to the proper funds.

**NOTE 19 - SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

The District issued tax anticipation bonds on October 9, 2024 in the amount of $18.5 million.

METROPARKS
TOLEDO

# *Required Supplementary Information*

## *Schedule of District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability*
## *Last Ten Years*

**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

| Year | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| District's proportion of the net pension liability | 0.050562% | 0.050562% | 0.052460% | 0.051309% |
| District's proportionate share of the net pension liability | $5,960,601 | $6,098,342 | $9,086,721 | $11,651,339 |
| District's covered-employee payroll | $6,291,123 | $5,717,553 | $5,569,735 | $6,244,063 |
| District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll | 94.75% | 106.66% | 163.14% | 186.60% |
| Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability | 86.36% | 86.45% | 81.80% | 77.25% |

Source: District Treasurer's Office and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Notes: The District implemented GASB Statement 68 in 2015.
The schedule is reported as of the measurement date of the Net Pension Liability.

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0.049519% | 0.050081% | 0.051367% | 0.051750% | 0.056114% | 0.066512% |
| $7,768,593 | $13,716,170 | $10,153,035 | $7,663,048 | $4,882,144 | $19,647,674 |
| $6,070,665 | $5,794,360 | $6,821,949 | $7,025,680 | $8,171,223 | $9,793,535 |
| 127.97% | 236.72% | 148.83% | 109.07% | 59.75% | 200.62% |
| 84.66% | 74.70% | 82.17% | 86.88% | 92.62% | 75.74% |

## *Schedule of District Pension Contributions*
## *Last Ten Years*

**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

| Year | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Contractually required contribution | $747,274 | $729,435 | $813,106 | $850,063 |
| Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution | 747,274 | 729,435 | 813,106 | 850,063 |
| Contribution deficiency (excess) | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| District's covered-employee payroll | $5,717,553 | $5,569,735 | $6,244,063 | $6,070,665 |
| Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll | 13.07% | 13.10% | 13.02% | 14.00% |

Source: District Treasurer's Office and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Notes: The District implemented GASB Statement 68 in 2015.

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $863,648 | $1,003,990 | $1,033,538 | $1,195,499 | $1,425,581 | $1,620,842 |
| 863,648 | 1,003,990 | 1,033,538 | 1,195,499 | 1,425,581 | 1,620,842 |
| $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| $5,794,360 | $6,821,949 | $7,025,680 | $8,171,223 | $9,793,535 | $11,071,078 |
| 14.90% | 14.72% | 14.71% | 14.63% | 14.56% | 14.64% |

***Schedule of District's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability (Asset)***
***Last Seven Years***

**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

| Year | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|---|---|---|---|
| District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) | 0.051145% | 0.050487% | 0.050761% |
| District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) | $5,166,040 | $5,482,501 | $6,618,036 |
| District's covered payroll | $6,244,063 | $6,070,665 | $5,794,360 |
| District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll | 82.74% | 90.31% | 114.22% |
| Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability (asset) | 54.50% | 54.14% | 46.33% |

Source: District Treasurer's Office and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Notes: The District implemented GASB Statement 75 in 2018.
Information prior to 2017 is not available.
The schedule is reported as of the measurement date of the Net OPEB Liability.

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.051454% | 0.052020% | 0.056101% | 0.066910% |
| $7,107,133 | ($926,777) | ($1,757,170) | $421,880 |
| $6,821,949 | $7,025,680 | $8,171,223 | $9,793,535 |
| 104.18% | (13.19%) | (21.50%) | 4.31% |
| 47.80% | 115.57% | 128.23% | 94.79% |

## *Schedule of District's Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) Contributions*
## *Last Ten Years*

**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

| Year | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Contractually required contribution | $114,351 | $111,395 | $124,881 | $60,707 |
| Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution | 114,351 | 111,395 | 124,881 | 60,707 |
| Contribution deficiency (excess) | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| District's covered payroll | $5,717,553 | $5,569,735 | $6,244,063 | $6,070,665 |
| Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll | 2.00% | 2.00% | 2.00% | 1.00% |

Source: District Treasurer's Office and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Notes: The District implemented GASB Statement 75 in 2018.

See accompanying notes to the Required Supplementary Information.

| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| $5,794,360 | $6,821,949 | $7,025,680 | $8,171,223 | $9,793,535 | $11,071,078 |
| 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

***Notes to the Required Supplemental Information***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

## NET PENSION LIABILITY

### OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (OPERS)

*Changes in benefit terms*: There were no changes in benefit terms for the period 2014-2023.

*Changes in assumptions*:

2014-2016: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions.

2017: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:
- Reduction in actuarial assumed rate of return from 8.00% to 7.50%
- Decrease in wage inflation from 3.75% to 3.25%
- Change in future salary increases from a range of 4.25%-10.02% to 3.25%-10.75%
- Amounts reported beginning in 2017 use mortality rates based on the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant mortality table.

2018: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions.

2019: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:
- Reduction in actuarial assumed rate of return from 7.50% to 7.20%

2020: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:
- Change in COLA from 3.00% to 1.4% for post 1/7/13 retirees.

2022: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:
- Change in COLA from 1.4% to 0.5% for post 1/7/13 retirees.

2023: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:
- Change in COLA from 0.5% to 3.00% for post 1/7/13 retirees.
- Reduction in actuarial assumed rate of return from 7.20% to 6.90%.
- Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 General Employee/Safety Employee mortality tables.
- Post-retirement mortality rates are based on PubG-2010 Retiree mortality tables.
- Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree mortality tables for all divisions.

2023: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions.

***Notes to the Required Supplemental Information***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

**NET OPEB LIABILITY (ASSET)**

**OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (OPERS)**

*Changes in benefit terms*: There were no changes in benefit terms for the periods 2018-2022, and 2023.

2023: Group plans for non-Medicare retirees and re-employed retirees replaced with individual medical plans. OPERS will provide a subsidy or allowance via an HRA.

*Changes in assumptions*:

For 2018, the single discount rate changed from 4.23% to 3.85%.

2019: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:
- The single discount rate changed from 3.85% to 3.96%.
- Reduction in actuarial assumed rate of return from 6.50% to 6.00%
- Change in health care cost trend rate from 7.5% to 10%
- The Municipal Bond Rate changed from 3.31% to 3.71%

2020: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:
- The single discount rate changed from 3.96% to 3.16%.
- Change in health care cost trend rate from 10.0% to 10.5%
- The Municipal Bond Rate changed from 3.71% to 2.75%

2022: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:
- The single discount rate changed from 3.16% to 6.00%.
- Change in health care cost trend rate from 10.5% to 8.5%
- The Municipal Bond Rate changed from 2.75% to 2.00%

2023: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:
- Change in health care cost trend rate from 8.5% to 5.5%
- The Municipal Bond Rate changed from 2.00% to 1.84%
- Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 General Employee/Safety Employee mortality tables.
- Post-retirement mortality rates are based on PubG-2010 Retiree mortality tables.
- Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree mortality tables for all divisions.

***Notes to the Required Supplemental Information***
***For the Year Ended December 31, 2023***

**NET OPEB LIABILITY (ASSET)** (Continued)

**OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (OPERS)** (Continued)

2023: The following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:
- The Municipal Bond Rate changed from 1.84% to 4.05%
- The single discount rate changed from 6.00% to 5.22%.

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**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA**
**LUCAS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

| **FEDERAL GRANTOR**<br>***Pass Through Grantor***<br>**Program / Cluster Title** | **Federal AL Number** | **Pass Through Entity Identifying Number** | **Total Federal Expenditures** |
|---|---|---|---|
| **U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OFFICE** | | | |
| ***Passed through Ohio Environmental Protection Agency*** | | | |
| Great Lakes Program - Blue Creek Restoration | 66.469 | 00E03190-0 | $71,877 |
| Great Lakes Program - Secor Metropark Prairie Ditch | 66.469 | 00E03017 | 46,544 |
| Great Lakes Program - Audubon State Nature Preserve | 66.469 | 00E03189-0 | 333,696 |
| Total AL #66.469 | | | 452,117 |
| **Total U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office** | | | **452,117** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** | | | |
| ***Passed Through Ohio Department of Transportation*** | | | |
| National Infrastructure Investments | 20.933 | 114239 | 10,392,341 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Transportation** | | | **10,392,341** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE** | | | |
| ***Passed Through Ohio Department of Natural Resources*** | | | |
| Coastal Zone Management Administration Awards | 11.419 | NA20NOS4190084 | 100,000 |
| ***Passed Through Ducks Unlimited, Inc.*** | | | |
| Habitat Conservation | 11.463 | NA20NMF4630312 | 153,479 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Commerce** | | | **253,479** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE** | | | |
| ***Passed Through Ohio Department of Justice*** | | | |
| Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants | 16.710 | 2020ULWX0060 | 44,858 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Justice** | | | **44,858** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY** | | | |
| ***Passed Through City of Toledo*** | | | |
| COVID-19 Coronavirus Sate and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | 21.027 | SLRFP1610 | 1,000,000 |
| ***Passed Through Lucas County*** | | | |
| COVID-19 Coronavirus Sate and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | 21.027 | | 1,500,000 |
| Total AL #21.027 | | | 2,500,000 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Treasury** | | | **2,500,000** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE** | | | |
| ***Passed Through Ohio Department of Agriculture*** | | | |
| Forest Health Protection | 10.680 | 23-DG-11094200-226 | 2,300 |
| Cooperative Forestry Assistance - Reforestation in Downtown | 10.664 | 19-DG-11420000-004 | 24,014 |
| Cooperative Forestry Assistance - Reforestation Initiative | 10.664 | 21-DG-11094200-020 | 26,572 |
| Total AL #10.664 | | | 50,586 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Agriculture** | | | **52,886** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR** | | | |
| ***Passed Through Ohio Department of Natural Resources*** | | | |
| Outdoor Recreation_Aquisition, Development and Planning | 15.916 | 39-01482 | 750,000 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Interior** | | | **750,000** |
| **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINSTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING** | | | |
| ***Passed Through Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation*** | | | |
| Paralysis Resource Center | 93.325 | 90PRRC0006-01-00 | 780 |
| **Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living** | | | **780** |
| **Total Expenditures of Federal Awards** | | | **$14,446,461** |

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.*

**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA**
**LUCAS COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**
**2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

## NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Lucas County, Ohio (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2023. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the District.

## NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

## NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

The District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

## NOTE D – MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

Certain Federal programs require the District to contribute non-Federal funds (matching funds) to support the Federally-funded programs. The District has met its matching requirements. The Schedule does not include the expenditure of non-Federal matching funds.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area
Lucas County
5100 West Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43615-2100

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 *(Government Auditing Standards)*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Lucas County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 6, 2024, wherein we noted the District restated the beginning capital assets balances to properly report construction in progress in the Governmental Activities.

***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2023-001 and 2023-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-001.

***District's Response to Findings***

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

***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 District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 6, 2024

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

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# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area
Lucas County
5100 West Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43615-2100

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

## Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

### *Qualified Opinions*

We have audited Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area, Lucas County, Ohio's (District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

*Qualified Opinion on Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning, National Infrastructure Investments, and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*

In our opinion, except for the noncompliance described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinions* section of our report, Metropolitan Park District of the Toledo Area complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning, National Infrastructure Investments, and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for the year ended December 31, 2023.

### *Basis for Qualified Opinions*

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 audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance 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 District 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 qualified opinions on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

*Matters Giving Rise to Qualified Opinion on Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning, National Infrastructure Investments, and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*

As described in findings 2023-003 and 2023-004 in the accompanying schedule of findings, the District did not comply with requirements regarding the following:

| Finding # | Assistance Listing # | Program (or Cluster) Name | Compliance Requirement |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2023-003 | 15.916<br>21.027 | Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | Procurement and Suspension and Debarment |
| 2023-004 | 20.933 | National Infrastructure Investment | Reporting |

Compliance with such requirements is necessary, in our opinion, for the District to comply with the requirements applicable to that program.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

The District's 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 District's federal programs.

***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 District'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 Uniform Guidance 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 District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, 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 District'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 District'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 Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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.

***Other Matters***

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the noncompliance finding identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

**Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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 a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or 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 a federal program 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 a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2023-003 and 2023-004, to be material weaknesses.

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.

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's responses to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

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 this testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

November 6, 2024

**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA**
**LUCAS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS**
**2 CFR § 200.515**
**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

## 1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *(d)(1)(i)* | **Type of Financial Statement Opinion** | Unmodified |
| *(d)(1)(ii)* | **Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?** | Yes |
| *(d)(1)(ii)* | **Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?** | No |
| *(d)(1)(iii)* | **Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?** | Yes |
| *(d)(1)(iv)* | **Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?** | Yes |
| *(d)(1)(iv)* | **Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?** | No |
| *(d)(1)(v)* | **Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion** | Qualified |
| *(d)(1)(vi)* | **Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?** | Yes |
| *(d)(1)(vii)* | **Major Programs (list):** | Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning – AL #15.916<br>National Infrastructure Investments – AL #20.933<br>COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – AL # 21.027 |
| *(d)(1)(viii)* | **Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs** | Type A: > $ 750,000<br>Type B: all others |
| *(d)(1)(ix)* | **Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?** | No |

## 2. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

### FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

**Noncompliance and Material Weakness**

**Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10(D)** provides in part that all revenue derived from a source other than the general property tax and which the law prescribes shall be used for a particular purpose, shall be paid into a special fund for such purpose.

The District inappropriately recorded $3,844,488 of property taxes collected pursuant to a 2020 District property tax levy in the General Fund. Since the District's 2022 tax anticipation bonds pledge property taxes received pursuant to this levy to repay that debt, the District should have recorded this receivable in the Debt Service Fund. Audit adjustments are reflected in the financial statements and in the accounting records correcting the misstatement.

The lack of controls over the posting of financial transactions decreases the reliability of financial data at year-end and can result in undetected errors and irregularities. The District should implement controls to help ensure all transactions are reviewed to help ensure posting to the proper funds.

**Officials' Response:**

See corrective action plan.

### FINDING NUMBER 2023-002

**Financial Reporting – Material Weakness**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, Terms of Engagement, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16. Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Cod. 1100 paragraph .101 states a governmental accounting system must make it possible both: (a) to present fairly and with full disclosure the funds and activities of the governmental unit in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, and (b) to determine and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions.

The following errors requiring adjustments to the financial statements were identified:

- Non-depreciable capital assets in Governmental Activities in the amount of $12,083,564 were incorrectly recorded in the wrong audit period and a restatement was made to adjust beginning net position; and
- The District was the beneficiary of $1,943,931of an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) project sent directly to the vendor in 2022. The District did not record these receipts and related disbursements in 2022 as required in the Federal Grants Fund, but instead recorded the activity in 2023. An adjustment was made to decrease intergovernmental revenue and parks and recreation expense in 2023 to remove this activity.

These errors were not identified and corrected prior to the District preparing its financial statements and notes to the financial statements due to deficiencies in the District's internal controls over financial statement monitoring. Failing to prepare accurate financial statements could lead the Board of Commissioners to make misinformed decisions. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to correct these errors. In addition to the adjustment noted above, we also identified additional misstatements ranging from $24,700 to $1,610,820, which we have brought to the District's attention.

The District should adopt policies and procedures over financial reporting, including a final review of the financial statements and notes to the financial statements by the Chief Financial Officer and Board of Commissioners to help identify and correct errors and omissions.

**Officials' Response:**

See corrective action plan.

## 3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

**1. Procurement and Suspension and Debarment**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Finding Number:** | **2023-003** |
| **Assistance Listing Number and Title** | **Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning – AL #15.916 / COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – AL #21.027** |
| **Federal Award Identification Number / Year:** | **2023** |
| **Federal Agency:** | **U.S. Department of Interior / U.S. Department of Treasury** |
| **Compliance Requirement:** | **Procurement and Suspension and Debarment** |
| **Pass-Through Entity:** | **Ohio Department of Natural Resources** |
| **Repeat Finding from Prior Audit?** | **No** |

**Noncompliance and Material Weakness**

**2 CFR § 1400.332** requires participants to include a term or condition in lower-tier transactions requiring lower-tier participants to comply with Subpart C of the OMB Guidance in 2 CFR Part 180. 2 CFR Part 180, Subpart C, Paragraph 300 instructs, "when you enter into a covered transaction with another person at the next lower tier, you must verify that the person with whom you intend to do business is not excluded or disqualified. You do this by:

(a) Checking SAM Exclusions; or

(b) Collecting a certification from that person; or

(c) Adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that person.

Additionally, in **31 CFR § 19.300**, the U.S. Department of Treasury requires participants entering into a covered transaction with another person at the next lower tier, to verify that the person with whom they intend to do business is not excluded or disqualified by:

(a) Checking the EPLS; or

(b) Collecting a certification from that person if allowed by this rule; or

(c) Adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that person.

Additionally, District Policy: Federal Procurement System Standards – Debarment and Suspension, Procurement, states that for contracts over $25,000, the District shall confirm that the vendor is not debarred or suspended by either checking the Federal government's System for Award Management, which maintains a list of such debarred or suspended vendors at www.sam.gov; collecting a certification from the vendor; or adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that vendor.

The District did not have the proper internal controls in place to verify that all entities, with whom the District had entered into covered transactions, had not been suspended or debarred. During testing of Outdoor Recreation Acquisition, Development, and Planning and Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, we noted in each program the District entered into a contract with a vendor for more than $25,000 and, there was no evidence the District checked the SAM exclusions, collected a certification from the entity, or added a clause or condition to the covered transaction with the vendor. Due to the deficient internal control structure, the required verifications were not completed for the two awarded contracts during Fiscal Year 2023.

Failing to have the appropriate controls in place may result in vendors receiving federal funds that are suspended or debarred.

Prior to contracting with vendors that will be paid with federal funds, the District should verify the vendor is not suspended or debarred by checking the SAM exclusions, collecting a certification from the vendor, or adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with the vendor.

**Officials' Response:**

See corrective action plan.

**2. Reporting**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Finding Number:** | **2023-004** |
| **Assistance Listing Number and Title** | **National Infrastructure Investments – AL #20.933** |
| **Federal Award Identification Number / Year:** | **2023** |
| **Federal Agency:** | **U.S. Department of Transportation** |
| **Compliance Requirement:** | **Reporting** |
| **Pass-Through Entity:** | **Ohio Department of Transportation** |
| **Repeat Finding from Prior Audit?** | **No** |

**Noncompliance and Material Weakness**

**2 CFR § 1201.1** except as otherwise provided in this part, the Department of Transportation adopts the Office of Management and Budget Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR part 200).

**2 CFR § 200.328** states unless otherwise approved by OMB, the Federal awarding agency must solicit only the OMB-approved governmentwide data elements for collection of financial information (at time of publication the Federal Financial Report or such future, OMB-approved, governmentwide data elements available from the OMB-designated standards lead). This information must be collected with the frequency required by the terms and conditions of the Federal award, but no less frequently than annually nor more frequently than quarterly except in unusual circumstances. The Federal awarding agency must use OMB-approved common information collections, as applicable, when providing financial and performance reporting information.

The District's grant agreement states on or before the 20th day of the first month of each quarter and until the budget period end date of December 31, 2026, the Recipient shall submit to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) a Quarterly Project Progress Report and Recertification. During testing we noted four out of four (100%) of the District's quarterly reports were submitted to USDOT with the incorrect expenditures, report period or grant period. Due to the deficient internal control structure, elements of the reporting requirements were not properly submitted during Fiscal Year 2023.

Failure to properly submit quarterly reports could result in ODOT taking action against the District for failure to comply with programmatic requirements.

The District should implement policies and procedures to review the reports prior to submission to ODOT, to help ensure the reports are complete and accurate.

**Officials' Response:**

See corrective action plan.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**
**2 CFR § 200.511(c)**
**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Finding Number:** | 2023-001 |
| **Planned Corrective Action:** | An additional review of the cash basis reports in contrast to the GAAP basis financial statements will be conducted to ensure consistency. |
| **Anticipated Completion Date:** | April 1, 2025 |
| **Responsible Contact Person:** | Matt Cleland, Chief Fiscal Officer |
| **Finding Number:** | 2023-002 |
| **Planned Corrective Action:** | Metroparks has vacated the position responsible for asset reporting and has been working to recruit a candidate in an effort to improve performance in this area. A contract will be issued to conduct a full audit and update assets and integrate them into the new CityWorks software. In addition the position of Grants Coordinator has been created and filled to handle grants management functions which will ensure activities are recorded in the correct reporting period. |
| **Anticipated Completion Date:** | 2025 |
| **Responsible Contact Person:** | Matt Cleland, Chief Fiscal Officer |
| **Finding Number:** | 2023-003 |
| **Planned Corrective Action:** | Metroparks has internal controls in place to verify that all entities, with whom the District had entered into covered transactions, had not been suspended or debarred. These controls consist of verifying the vendor is not suspended or debarred by checking the Auditor of State's site reporting findings for recovery. Metroparks will continue to check the Auditor of State's site and has now added the additional check at www.sam.gov. |
| **Anticipated Completion Date:** | October 1, 2024 |
| **Responsible Contact Person:** | Matt Cleland, Chief Fiscal Officer |
| **Finding Number:** | 2023-004 |
| **Planned Corrective Action:** | The position of Grants Coordinator has been created and filled to handle grants management functions which will ensure proper quarter end dates and expenditures appropriate for the period are reported. Under the new process, the Grant Coordinator collaborates with the Construction Financial Administrator to complete forms which are then reviewed with the Director of Grants and CFO prior to submission. |
| **Anticipated Completion Date:** | October 1, 2024 |
| **Responsible Contact Person:** | Matt Cleland, Chief Fiscal Officer |



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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA**

**LUCAS COUNTY**

**AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

**This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.**

**Certified for Release 11/19/2024**

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