Basic Financial Statements
June 30, 2019
(With Independent Auditor's Report Thereon)



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Board of Commissioners Ohio Expositions Commission 717 East 17th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43215

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, prepared by Kennedy Cottrell Richards LLC, for the audit period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Ohio Expositions Commission is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

January 9, 2020



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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ohio Expositions Commission Franklin County 717 East 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43215

To the Board of Commissioners:

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, Ohio (the Commission), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Commission's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

Ohio Expositions Commission Independent Auditors' Report Page 2

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in its financial position and its cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Other Matters**

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *management's discussion and analysis*, and schedules of net pension and other postemployment benefit liabilities, and schedules of pension and other postemployment benefit contributions, as listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

## Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 19, 2019, on our consideration of the Commission'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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on 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 Commission's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KENNEDY COTTRELL RICHARDS LLC Kennedy Cottrell Richards LLC

Gahanna, Ohio December 19, 2019

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

The discussion and analysis of the Ohio Expositions Commission (the Commission) financial performance provides an overall review of the financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2019. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Commission's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the auditor's opinion page, notes to the basic financial statements, and the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Commission's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the new reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current and prior year is required to be presented, and is presented in the MD&A.

## **Using this Financial Report**

This annual report consists of two parts, the MD&A and the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include a statement of net position, statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and a statement of cash flows. Since the Commission only uses one fund for its operations, the entity wide and the fund presentations information is the same.

## **Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for 2019 are as follows:

- Total net position decreased \$5,075,975, which represents a 5.9% decrease from 2018.
- Total assets decreased \$3,554,017 which represents a 3.5% decrease from 2018.
- Overall liabilities increased \$4,120,754 with the largest part of this increase coming due to an increase of \$3,608,400 in net pension liability.
- Fair revenues increased by \$897,883 in Fiscal Year 2019 (2018 Ohio State Fair).
- Operating expenses increased \$2,649,753 during the fiscal year. The largest increase was in payroll and fringe benefits \$924,832 and depreciation, \$837,895.

#### **Statement of Net Position**

This statement includes all assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term, using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resources focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

Table 1 provides a summary of the Ohio Expositions Commission's net position at June 30, 2019 and 2018.

## Table 1 Net Position

	2019	2018
Assets:		
Current and Other Assets	\$ 6,959,560	\$ 7,877,964
Capital Assets, net	90,422,615	93,058,228
Total Assets	97,382,175	100,936,192
Deferred Outflows		
OPEB	327,165	276,703
Pension	*	*
	2,207,536	872,704
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	2,534,701	1,149,407
Liabilities:		
Current Liabilities	5,360,464	5,406,276
Non-Current Liabilities	13,782,898	9,616,332
Total Liabilities	19,143,362	15,022,608
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
OPEB	57,929	251,905
Pension	222,612	1,242,138
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	280,541	1,494,043
Net Position:		
Invested in capital assets	90,422,615	93,058,228
Restricted net assets	90,422,613 875,000	93,030,220
	· ·	(7.490.290)
Unrestricted net assests	(10,804,642)	(7,489,280)
Total net position	\$ 80,492,973	\$ 85,568,948

For fiscal year 2019, current assets decreased \$914,533 which represents a 11.6% decrease from 2018. This consists of a decrease of \$390,594 in cash and cash equivalents, which is due to an increase in operating expenses in 2019. Non-current assets decreased \$2,639,484 which represents a 2.8% decrease from 2018. The main capital project during Fiscal Year 2019 was the renovation Celeste Center.

For fiscal year 2019, overall liabilities increased \$4,120,754, with the largest increase being \$3,608,400 in net pension liability.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the Commission at June 30, 2019 and is reported pursuant to GASB 68 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions-an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." For fiscal year 2018, the Commission adopted 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 Commission'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.

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

GASB 68 requires the net pension liability to equal the Commission's share of the Traditional plan's collective:

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

GASB notes the 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 these promises is a present obligation of the Commission, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the Commission as liabilities since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the Commission 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 the 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 system to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement system 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.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

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. As explained above, changes in pension benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of the net pension liability, but are outside the control of the Commission. In event that contributions, investment returns and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required pension payments, state statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension is satisfied, this liability is separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the Commission'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 the net pension liability and net OPEB liability, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

As a result of implementing GASB 75, the Commission is reporting a net OPEB liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to OPEB on the accrual basis of accounting.

The net pension and net OPEB liabilities and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources all fluctuated significantly in comparison with the prior fiscal year-end. These fluctuations are primarily the result of changes in benefit terms, changes in actuarial assumptions, and greater than expected returns on pension plan investments.

## Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

While the Statement of Net Position provides information about the financial status of the Commission at year end, the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents the results of the business activities over the course of the fiscal year and information as to how the Net Position changed during the year. This change, combined with the prior year net asset total reconciles to the total Net Position at the end of the fiscal year.

Table 2 shows a summary of the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018.

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Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

Table 2
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position

		2019	2018
Operating revenues:			
Fair sources	\$	8,922,003 \$	8,024,120
Nonfair sources	_	6,624,597	6,973,963
Total		15,546,600	14,998,083
Operating expenses:			
Payroll and fringe benefits		8,035,836	7,111,004
Purchased services		3,515,665	3,380,267
Depreciation		6,720,947	5,883,052
Other Operating Expenses		2,651,626	2,393,877
Utilities		2,489,679	2,294,572
Maintenance and repair	_	1,662,256	1,363,484
Total operating expenses	_	25,076,009	22,426,256
Operating loss		(9,529,409)	(7,428,173)
Nonoperating revenues - state assistance		363,750	363,750
Loss on disposal of asset	_	<u> </u>	(5,000)
Loss before capital contributions	_	(9,165,659)	(7,069,423)
State capital contributions	_	4,089,684	6,881,008
Change in net position		(5,075,975)	(188,415)
Net position - beginning of fiscal year, restated	_	85,568,948	85,757,363
Net position - end of fiscal year	\$_	80,492,973 \$	85,568,948

Total operating revenues increased \$548,517 (or 3.6%) from 2018 to 2019. The main factor in this was a better performing 2018 fair.

Operating expenses increased \$2,649,753 (or 11.8%) during the fiscal year. The largest increases were in depreciation, \$837,895 and payroll, \$924,832. The increase in payroll was related to a significant increase in GASB 68 related to pension expense plus negotiated 2019 wage increases, step and longevity increases.

State capital contributions decreased from \$6,881,008 to \$4,089,684 during Fiscal Year 2019, which is mainly a function of the completion of new capital projects which are paid out of the Capital Fund 7026. The Commission makes a request for these capital expenditures every two years through the capital budgeting process of the State of Ohio. The projects are then prioritized, bid out, and completed according to the State guidelines as provided by the Department of Administrative Services and the Office of Budget and Management.

Management's Discussion and Analysis As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

## **Management Operational Analysis**

At June 30, 2019 the Ohio Expositions Commission had total assets of \$97,382,175 and total net position of \$80,492,973. The largest portion of the Commission's assets is comprised of the capital assets that make up this large, multi-event facility. The mission of the agency is "to professionally operate and maintain for public benefit a year-round, service oriented event facility and produce the annual Ohio State Fair."

The Ohio Expositions Commission has taken concerted steps to maintain financial stability on a long-term basis. The Commission's strategy is to continue to analyze pricing strategies, improve market penetration and improve the quality of management and administration, as well as the physical facility. This effort is intended to increase both participants and guests at the Fair as well as non-fair clients and their visitors.

The annual Ohio State Fair must meet all developmental, social, and political expectations while being supported by a reasonable pricing system. The primary fiscal and programmatic challenge of the Ohio State Fair lies in achieving public expectations, such as providing extensive support to the Junior Fair, while not negatively impacting the annual operating budget of the Ohio Expositions Commission.

Many fair visitors believe that prices for entry, admission and midway rides should be nominal. This is consistent with the Commission's, the Governor's, and the General Assembly's fiscal goals, a concerted attempt is made to keep Fair prices affordable. In fact, the Fair is currently not designed to break even in and of itself. Fair revenue is dependent upon paid attendance, which is related to admission and midway prices, and fair revenue is also dependent upon the weather. The Ohio Expositions Commission relies on a strong non-fair operation to financially buffer these Fair revenue factors and support the total annual operation of the Commission.

The Commission continues to face challenges for the entertainment dollar. The number of entertainment options available to consumers continues to grow, increasing competition for the consumer's disposable income and available time. The Commission also continues to face challenges in the area of securing entertainment for the Ohio State Fair. With increased local competition for big-name entertainment, from other government supported agencies (Columbus Zoo and Schottenstein Center) and private venues such as Nationwide Arena and Mapfre Stadium as well as the increase in music festivals, it is increasingly difficult to fill the Celeste Center with entertainment for a 12-day fair.

The Commission continues to face increasing challenges on non-fair events as well. The event facility business has become extremely competitive, especially in the Columbus area. The Ohio Expo Center competes with a convention center and two arenas for events presently held at the Ohio Expo Center, as well as any new ones. Because the Commission is financially dependent on these non-fair events, we must continue to address our facility's image if we are to remain competitive in this marketplace. It is imperative that we also act to improve the appearance of the Ohio Expo Center and the impression it makes on our guests and potential contractors.

#### **Contacting the Ohio Expositions Commission**

This financial report is designed to provide the citizens, taxpayers, and customers of the Ohio Expositions Commission with a general overview of the Commission's finances and to show the Commission's accountability for the monies it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact Doug Smalley, the Commission's Finance Director, 717 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211, (614) 644-4025 or e-mail to: d.smalley@expo.state.oh.us.

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## Statement of Net Position As of June 30, 2019

Assets	_	2019
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 3)	\$	5,307,012
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (note 3)		1,198,648
Accounts receivable		149,100
Intergovernmental receivable Prepaid fair expenses		168,142 115,860
Total current assets		6,938,762
Non-current assets:		0,720,702
Net Pension Asset		20,798
Capital assets, non-depreciable		24,919,488
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation (note 4)		65,503,127
Total non-current assets		90,443,413
Total assets	\$	97,382,175
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
OPEB		327,165
Pension	_	2,207,536
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$	2,534,701
Liabilities		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$	1,145,913
Accrued liabilities		467,480
Unearned income Due to others (note 3)		3,355,775 323,648
Workers' compensation liability		67,648
Total current liabilities	_	5,360,464
Non-current liabilities:	_	2,200,101
Compensated absences (note 8)		819,343
Net Pension Liability		8,694,312
Net OPEB Liability		3,986,389
Workers' compensation liability	_	282,854
Total non-current liabilities	_	13,782,898
Total liabilities	\$	19,143,362
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
OPEB		57,929
Pension		222,612
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	280,541
Net Position		
Invested in capital assets	\$	90,422,615
Restricted		875,000
Unrestricted	_	(10,804,642)
Total net position	\$	80,492,973

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

## Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2019

	2019
Operating revenues: Fair sources  Nonfair sources	8,922,003 6,624,597
Total	15,546,600
Operating expenses: Payroll and fringe benefits Purchased services Depreciation Utilities Maintenance and repair Premiums Supplies and materials Printing and advertising Rentals Meals Communication and postage Motor vehicle Travel Equipment Refunds	8,035,836 3,515,665 6,720,947 2,489,679 1,662,256 860,603 798,382 473,275 177,743 20,489 191,803 81,632 25,505 19,699 2,495
Total operating expenses	25,076,009
Operating loss	(9,529,409)
Nonoperating revenues - state assistance	363,750
Loss before capital contributions	(9,165,659)
State capital contributions	4,089,684
Change in net position	(5,075,975)
Net position - beginning of fiscal year	85,568,948
Net position - end of fiscal year \$	80,492,973

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2019

		2019
Cash flows from operating activities: Cash received from fair sources Cash received from nonfair sources Cash received for harness racing funds Cash payments for harness racing funds Cash payments for payroll and personal services Cash payments for utilities and maintenance Cash payments for other services and charges	\$	9,045,400 6,746,774 323,648 (344,976) (9,823,165) (4,177,721) (2,528,654)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		(758,694)
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities: State operating assistance received	_	363,750
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	_	363,750
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities: State capital assistance received Acquisition and construction of equipment	_	4,089,684 (4,085,334)
Net cash provided by capital and related financing activities	_	4,350
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(390,594)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		6,896,254
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	6,505,660
Reconciliation of operating loss to net cash used for operating activities: Operating loss Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash used in operating	\$	(9,529,409)
activities: Depreciation (Increase)/decrease in assets:		6,720,947
Accounts receivable Prepaid fair expenses Net Pension Asset Deferred Outflow of Resources - OPEB Deferred Outflow of Resources - Pension		496,713 27,226 3,871 (50,462) (1,334,832)
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities: Accounts payable Accrued liabilities Unearned income Due to others Net Pension Liability Net OPEB Liability		(339,875) 22,241 297,852 (21,328) 3,608,400 604,814
Workers' compensation liability Deferred Inflow of Resources - OPEB Deferred Inflow of Resources - Pension	_	(51,350) (193,976) (1,019,526)
Total adjustments	_	8,770,715
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$	(758,694)

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### NOTE 1 – ORGANIZATION AND REPORTING ENTITY

The Ohio Expositions Commission (the Commission), a primary government of the State of Ohio, is a state-governed body of the State of Ohio (the State). The Commission was created in 1961, pursuant to Sections 991.01 to 991.07 of the Ohio Revised Code (the Code) for the purpose of producing an annual agricultural exposition or fair and to maintain and manage the state-owned Expositions Center facilities for the purpose of conducting expositions, fairs and exhibits.

The Commission is governed by a 13-member Board of Commissioners. Nine of the members are appointed by the Governor of Ohio with the advice and consent of the Ohio Senate. The Director of Development, Director of Agriculture, and the chairs of the Ohio House and Senate Agriculture Committees fill the remaining positions on the Commission.

The Commission is not subject to federal or state income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and, accordingly, no provision for income taxes is required.

#### NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of significant accounting policies consistently applied by management in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

Basis of Accounting – The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are recognized in the period earned or incurred. All transactions are accounted for in a single enterprise fund.

Reporting Entity – Within the State of Ohio's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Commission is included as part of the primary Government. The Commission's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Commission is financially responsible. The accompanying financial statements include all accounts, activities, and functions of the Commission and are not intended to present the net position, results of operations, or cash flows of the State taken as a whole. The financial information presented herein for the Commission will be incorporated within the State's financial statements.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Commission receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include state appropriations. On an accrual basis, state appropriations are recognized in the period in which all eligibility requirements are met. 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, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Commission on a reimbursement basis.

Cash and Cash Equivalents – The Treasurer of the State of Ohio (Treasurer) acts, as the custodian of the funds for the State. Cash and cash equivalents of the Office are pooled and invested by the Treasurer. Account integrity is maintained through a series of checks and balances with the Auditor, Treasurer, and the Office of Budget and Management.

The cash and cash equivalents with the Treasurer has the general characteristics of a demand deposit account whereby additional cash can be deposited at any time and can also be effectively withdrawn at any time, within certain budgetary limitations, without prior notice or penalty.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts – Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Management provides for probably uncollectable accounts through a provision for bad debt expense and an adjustment to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual receivables. There was no allowance for doubtful accounts deemed necessary as of June 30, 2019.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

Capital and Building Improvement Assistance – The State provides financial assistance for the acquisition of property and equipment. This assistance is recorded as capital contributions as the Commission incurs the cost of the project.

Assistance for the acquisition of property and equipment is credited to capital contributions as the related qualified expenditures are incurred. Depreciation on fixed assets resulting from capital assistance is allocated to net position using the straight-line method over the same lives as described for the related property and equipment as noted below.

Capital assets include property and equipment, which are stated at historical cost or estimated historical cost and include expenditures of \$5,000 or more which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets. Routine maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.

Property and equipment consisting of certain improvements owned by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) other than buildings (including roads, curbs and gutters, and sidewalks) have not been capitalized by the Commission and are not recorded as assets on the Commissions books.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets, as follows:

Description	Years
Land improvements	20
Buildings and improvements	20-45
Equipment and vehicles	3-10
Furniture and fixtures	5-15

Assets acquired with capital grants are included in capital assets and depreciation on those assets is included in the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position.

Prepaid Fair Expenses – The Ohio State Fair's (Fair) prepaid expenses are recorded for cash disbursed prior to services being performed. These items include cash disbursed for the Fair in the fiscal year prior to the Fair taking place.

Unearned Income - Unearned income is recorded for cash received prior to services being performed. These items include deposits on rental contracts and cash received for the Fair in the fiscal year prior to the Fair taking place.

Compensated Balances – The Commission accounts for compensated absences in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 16, Accounting for Compensated Absences. Vacation, compensatory time and personal leave benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributed to services already rendered and it is probable that the Commission will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means, such as a termination or retirement payment.

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 a minimum service time requirement is accrued to the extent it is considered to be probable that the conditions for compensation will be met in the future.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. 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 cash payments. Included in the compensated absences liability is an amount accrued for salary-related payments directly and incrementally associated with the payment of compensated absences upon termination.

Net Position is displayed in three components as follows:

- Invested in Capital Assets This consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- **Restricted** This consists of net position that is legally restricted by law through Ohio Legislature. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, generally it is the Commission's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources when they are needed.
- Unrestricted This consists of net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

Classification of Revenues – The Commission has classified its revenues as either operating or nonoperating. Operating Revenues include activities that have the characteristics of exchange transactions including fair revenues and nonfair revenues. Non-operating revenue includes activities that have the characteristics of non-exchange transactions, such as state assistance.

Uses of Estimates and Uncertainties of Financial Results – The accounting and reporting policies of the Commission conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions 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.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. For the Commission, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 6 and 7.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the Commission, deferred inflows of resources include pension and OPEB. The deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are explained in Notes 6 and 7.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

The Commission's annual financial results are dependent upon the success of that year's Fair. The financial results of the Fair are uncertain and vary depending on uncertainties such as weather conditions. In addition, the Commission is dependent upon the State for funding significant capital acquisitions and for operating assistance.

## **NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

The deposit of the Commission monies is governed by the provisions of the Code. In accordance with these statutes, only financial institutions located in Ohio are eligible to hold public deposits. All investing transactions are conducted by the Treasurer of State. The statutes permit the Treasurer of State to invest the Commission's monies in certificates of deposit, savings accounts, money market accounts, the State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio), and obligations of the United States government or certain agencies thereof.

Public depositories must provide security for all public funds on deposit. These institutions may either specifically collateralize individual accounts in addition to amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or may pledge a pool of government securities valued at least 105% of the total value of public monies on deposit at the institution. Repurchase agreements must be secured by specific government securities. These securities must be obligations of or guaranteed by the United States and mature or be redeemable within five years of the date of the related repurchase agreement.

State law does not require security for public deposits and investments maintained in the Commission's name.

During 2019, the Commission complied with the provisions of these statutes.

- (a) Deposits The majority of the Commission's cash is in the State Rotary Fund which are commingled state funds invested by the Treasurer of State. At June 30, 2019 the carrying amount and bank balance of the Commission's deposits with the Treasurer of State was \$5,303,012. In addition, the Commission had \$4,000 of cash on hand at June 30, 2019.
- (b) Restricted Cash At June 30, 2019, \$323,648 was collected from harness racing participants registering for the 2019 Fair. These monies are held in the State Rotary Fund and will be remitted to others who manage the Fair harness racing event. At June 30, 2019, \$875,000 was held in State Fair Reserve Fund to be accessed by legislative approval in case of poor weather fairs.
- (c) Credit Risk All risk disclosures required by GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures*, are expected to be found in the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

**NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS** 

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2019 was as follows:

	<b>July 1, 2018</b>	Additions	<b>Deletions</b>	June 30, 2019
Capital assets not being depreciated: Land Construction in progress	\$ 2,930,999 5,616,577	\$ - 4,085,333	\$ - 9,523,161	\$ 2,930,999 178,749
Total capital assets not being depreciated	8,547,576	4,085,333	9,523,161	3,109,748
Capital assets being depreciated: Land improvements Buildings and improvements Equipment, furniture and fixtures Vehicles	23,642,135 133,539,061 4,807,219 44,404	9,249,038 274,124	- - - -	23,642,135 142,788,099 5,081,343 44,404
Total capital assets being depreciated	162,032,819	9,523,162	-	171,555,981
Less: Accumulated depreciation: Land improvements Buildings and improvements Equipment, furniture and fixtures Vehicles	11,985,247 62,279,544 3,212,972 44,404	1,094,003 5,386,995 239,949	- - - -	13,079,250 67,666,539 3,452,921 44,404
Total accumulated depreciation	77,522,167	6,720,947		84,243,114
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	84,510,652	2,802,215	-	87,312,867
Total capital assets, net	\$ 93,058,228	\$ 6,887,548	\$ 9,523,161	\$ 90,422,615

Included in additions for fiscal year 2019 are \$178,749 for projects in progress. These projects include the renovation of the Coliseum.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### **NOTE 5 – LEASED PROPERTY**

In May 1998, the Commission entered into an operating lease with the Crew Soccer Stadium Limited Liability Company (the Crew) for a period of twenty-five years. The Commission leased land, which has a cost and carrying value of approximately \$111,000, on which the Crew designed and constructed a stadium. The Commission is entitled to an annual rent payment of \$77,000 through the year ending March 31, 2024. The Commission will retain thirty percent of all parking revenue collected for the Crew sponsored events at the stadium.

The Commission also has operating leases with the Days Inn and McDonalds. The McDonald's' lease commenced in May 1996 and was for a period of twenty years. The Commission extended the term of the lease for a period of five years expiring in 2021. The Commission is currently entitled to an annual rent payment of \$43,730. The Days Inn lease commenced in December 1986 and was for a period of thirty years. The Commission extended the term of the lease for an additional twenty years in 2016. The Commission is entitled to 4.00% of the gross room rent which amounted to \$49,000 for the year ended June 30, 2019.

#### NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

#### Net Pension (Asset)/Liability

The net pension (asset)/liability reported on the statement of net position represents a (asset)/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 (asset)/liability represents the Commission'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 (asset)/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 Commission's obligation for this (asset)/liability to annually required payments. The Commission cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the Commission 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 (asset)liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the fiscal year would be included in accrued liabilities on the accrual basis of accounting.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (continued)

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

Plan Description – Commission 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.

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 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 CAFR referenced above for additional information):

Group A		
Eligible to retire prior to		
January 7, 2013 or five years		
after January 7, 2013		

State and Local

Age 60 with 5 years of service credit

or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit

2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of

service for the first 30 years and 2.5%

for service years in excess of 30

Age and Service Requirements:

Formula:

## January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013

## State and Local

Group B

20 years of service credit prior to

#### Age and Service Requirements: Age 60 with 5 years of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit

#### Formula:

2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30

#### Group C

Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013

#### State and Local

#### Age and Service Requirements:

Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit

#### Formula:

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.

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 percent 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 percent.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (continued)**

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

2019 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates		
Employer	14.0	%
Employee	10.0	%
2019 Actual Contribution Rates		
Employer		
Pension	14.0	%
Post-employment Health Care Benefits	0.0	
Total Employer	14.0	<u>_</u> %
Employee	10.0	%

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Commission's contractually required pension contribution was \$644,276 for 2019.

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

The net pension asset and net pension liability for OPERS was measured as of December 31, 2018, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension asset and net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Commission's proportion of the net pension asset and net pension liability was based on the Commission'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	OPERS	
	Traditional	Combined	
	Plan	Plan	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net			
Pension (Asset)/Liability	\$8,694,312	(\$20,798)	\$8,673,514
Current Measurement Date	0.031745%	0.018599%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.032419%	0.018121%	
Change in Proportionate Share	-0.000674%	0.000478%	
Pension Expense	\$1,513,347	(\$7,208)	\$1,506,139

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (continued)**

At June 30, 2019, the Commission reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	OPERS raditional Plan	OPERS ombined Plan	 Total
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			 
Differences between expected and			
actual experience	\$ 401	\$ -	\$ 401
Net difference between projected and			
actual earnings on pension plan investments	1,180,061	4,480	1,184,541
Changes of assumptions	756,860	4,646	761,506
Changes in proportionate share	11,968	894	12,862
Commission contributions subsequent to the			
measurement date	248,226	-	248,226
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 2,197,516	\$ 10,020	\$ 2,207,536
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and			
actual experience	\$ 114,161	\$ 8,494	\$ 122,655
Changes in proportionate share	96,514	3,443	99,957
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 210,675	\$ 11,937	\$ 222,612

\$248,226 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from Commission contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending	OPERS Traditional Plan		OPERS Combined Plan		Total
June 30:					
2020	\$	743,955	\$	342	\$ 744,297
2021		336,368		(555)	335,813
2022		109,476		(457)	109,019
2023		548,816		944	549,760
2024		-		(897)	(897)
Thereafter		<u>-</u>		(1,294)	(1,294)
Total	\$	1,738,615	\$	(1,917)	\$ 1,736,698

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### **NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (continued)**

## 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 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2018, using the following actuarial assumptions and methods applied to all prior periods included in the measurement:

Wage Inflation 3.25%

Projected Salary Increases 3.25% - 10.75% (includes wage inflation at 3.25%)
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA Pre-1/7/13 Retirees: 3% Simple; Post-1/7/13 Retirees: 3% Simple through 2018, then 2.15% Simple

Investment Rate of Return 7.20%

Actuarial Cost Method Individual entry age normal

Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Employees mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvement back to the observation period base year of 2006. The base year for males and females was then established to be 2015 and 2010, respectively. Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvement back to the observation period base year of 2006. The base year for males and females was then established to be 2015 and 2010, respectively. Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on the RP-2014 Disabled mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvement back to the observation period base year of 2006. The base year for males and females was then established to be 2015 and 2010, respectively. Mortality rates for a particular calendar year are determined by applying the MP-2015 mortality improvement scale to all of the above described tables.

The allocation of investment assets with the Defined Benefit portfolio is approved by the OPERS 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (continued)**

The table below displays the Board-approved asset allocation policy for 2018 and the long-term expected real rates of return:

		Weighted Average Long-Term
	Target	Expected Real Rate of Return
Asset Class	Allocation	(Arithmetic)
Fixed Income	23.00 %	2.79 %
Domestic Equities	19.00	6.21
Real Estate	10.00	4.90
Private Equity	10.00	10.81
International Equities	20.00	7.83
Other investments	18.00	5.50
Total	100.00 %	5.95 %

The long-term rate of return on defined benefit investment assets was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real 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.

During 2018, 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 2.94 percent for 2018.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension (asset)/liability was 7.2 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 (asset)/liability.

Sensitivity of the Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the Commission's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.2 percent, as well as what the Commission's proportionate share of the net pension (asset)/liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.2 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.2 percent) than the current rate:

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## NOTE 6 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (continued)

				Current		
	1	% Decrease (6.20%)	Discount Rate (7.20%)		1% Increase (8.20%)	
Commission's proportionate share of the net pension liability						
Traditional Plan	\$	12,844,027	\$	8,694,312	\$	5,245,861
Combined Plan		(6,882)		(20,798)		(30,874)

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Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN

#### Net OPEB Liability

The net OPEB liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for other post-employment benefits (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 Commission'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 Commission's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Commission cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which OPEB are financed; however, the Commission 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 liability. 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 accrued liabilities on accrual basis of accounting.

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

**Health Care Plan Description** - The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS. OPERS administers three separate plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan with defined contribution features.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN (continued)**

As of December 2016, OPERS maintains one health care trust, the 115 Health Care Trust (115 Trust), which was established in 2014 to initially provide a funding mechanism for a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA), as the prior trust structure could not support the HRA. In March 2016, OPERS received two favorable rulings from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) allowing OPERS to consolidate health care assets into the 115 Trust. The 401(h) Health Care Trust (401(h) Trust) was a pre-funded trust that provided health care funding for eligible members of the Traditional Pension Plan and the Combined Plan through December 31, 2015, when plans funded through the 401(h) Trust were terminated. The Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association Trust (VEBA Trust) accumulated funding for retiree medical accounts for participants in the Member-Directed Plan through June 30, 2016. The 401(h) Trust and the VEBA Trust were closed as of June 30, 2016 and the net positions transferred to the 115Ttrust on July 1, 2016. Beginning in 2016, the 115 Trust, established under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 115, is the funding vehicle for all health care plans.

The OPERS health care plans are reported as other post-employment benefit plans (OPEB) based on the criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Periodically, OPERS modifies the health care program design to improve the ongoing solvency of the plans. Eligibility requirements for access to the OPERS health care options have changed over the history of the program for Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan members. Prior to January 1, 2015, 10 or more years of service were required to qualify for health care coverage. Beginning January 1, 2015, generally, members must be at least age 60 with 20 years of qualifying service credit to qualify for health care coverage or 30 years of qualifying service at any age. Beginning 2016, Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan retirees enrolled in Medicare A and B were eligible to participate in the OPERS Medicare Connector (Connector). The Connector, a vendor selected by OPERS, assists eligible retirees in the selection and purchase of Medicare supplemental coverage through the Medicare market. Retirees that purchase supplemental coverage through the Connector may receive a monthly allowance in their HRA that can be used to reimburse eligible health care expenses.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, OPERS to provide OPEB benefits to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <a href="https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml#CAFR">https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml#CAFR</a>, by writing OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 1-800-222-7377.

*Funding Policy* - The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund health care through their contributions to OPERS. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In fiscal year 2019, the Commission contributed at a rate of 14 percent of earnable salary. The Ohio Revised Code currently limits the employer contribution rate not to exceed 14 percent of covered payroll. A portion of each employer contribution may be set aside for the funding of post-employment health care coverage. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was zero for fiscal year 2019.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN (continued)**

## OPEB Liability, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

The net OPEB liability for OPERS was measured as of December 31, 2018, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Commission's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the Commission's share of contributions to the retirement system relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	OPERS
	Health Care
	Plan
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$3,986,389
Current Measurement Date	0.030576%
Prior Measurement Date	0.0311400%
Change in Proportionate Share	-0.000564%
OPEB Expense	\$360,376

At June 30, 2019, the Commission reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

-	<b>OPERS</b>	
	Не	alth Care
		Plan
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>		
Differences between expected and		
actual experience	\$	1,350
Net difference between projected and		
actual earnings on pension plan investments		182,752
Changes of assumptions		128,527
Changes in proportionate share		14,536
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$	327,165
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>		
Differences between expected and		
actual experience	\$	10,816
Changes in proportionate share		47,113
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	57,929

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN (continued)**

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

	OPERS		
	Health Care		
Fiscal Year Ending	Plan		
June 30:			
2020	\$	132,998	
2021		14,777	
2022		29,396	
2023		92,065	
Total	\$	269,236	

## 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 health care costs for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of costs between the System and plan members. The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2018, rolled forward to the measurement date of December 31, 2017. The actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Wage Inflation	3.25%
Projected Salary Increases	3.25% - 10.75% (includes wage inflation at 3.25%)
Single Discount Rate	3.96%
Investment Rate of Return	6.00%
Municipal Bond Rate	3.71%
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	10.0% initial, 3.25% ultimate in 2029
Actuarial Cost Method	Individual entry age normal

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN (continued)**

Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Employees mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvement back to the observation period base year of 2006. The base year for males and females was then established to be 2015 and 2010, respectively. Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvement back to the observation period base year of 2006. The base year for males and females was then established to be 2015 and 2010, respectively. Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on the RP-2014 Disabled mortality table for males and females, adjusted for mortality improvement back to the observation period base year of 2006. The base year for males and females was then established to be 2015 and 2010, respectively. Mortality rates for a particular calendar year are determined by applying the MP-2015 mortality improvement scale to all of the above described tables.

The allocation of investment assets within the Health Care portfolio is approved by the Board 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. The System's primary goal is to achieve and maintain a fully funded status for benefits provided through the defined pension plans. Health care is a discretionary benefit.

The table below displays the Board-approved asset allocation policy for 2018 and the long-term expected real rates of return:

	Weighted Average Long-Term				
	Target Expected Real Rate of R				
Asset Class	Allocation	(Arithmetic)			
Fixed Income	34.00 %	2.42 %			
Domestic Equities	21.00	6.21			
REITs	6.00	5.98			
International Equities	22.00	7.83			
Other investments	17.00	5.57			
Total	100.00 %	5.16 %			

The long-term rate of return on health care investment assets was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real 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.

During 2018, 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, contributions into the plans are assumed to be received continuously throughout the year based on the actual payroll payable at the time contributions are made, and 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 5.60 percent for 2018.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## **NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN (continued)**

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 3.96 percent. 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 discount rate was based on an expected rate of return on the health care investment portfolio of 6.00% and a municipal bond rate of 3.71%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the 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 2031. As a result, the long-term expected rate of return on health care investments was applied to projected costs through the year 2031, and the municipal bond rate was applied to all health care costs after that date.

Sensitivity of the Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the Commission's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 3.96 percent, as well as what the Commission's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (2.96 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (4.96 percent) than the current rate:

	Single						
	19	% Decrease	Di	scount Rate	1	% Increase	
	(2.96%) (3.96%)		(3.96%)	(4.96%)			
Commission's proportionate share							
of the net OPEB liability	\$	5,100,077	\$	3,986,389	\$	3,100,712	

Changes in the health care cost trend rate may also have a significant impact on the net OPEB liability. The following table presents the net OPEB liability calculated using the assumed trend rates, and the expected net OPEB liability if it were calculated using a health care cost trend rate that is 1.0% lower or 1.0% 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 2019 is 10.0%. 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 3.25% in the most recent valuation.

	Current						
	1% Decrease (9.00%)		Trend Rate (10.00%)		1% Increase (11.00%)		
Commission's proportionate share						_	
of the net OPEB liability	\$	3,831,784	\$	3,986,389	\$	4,164,451	

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### **NOTE 8 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

Commission employees can earn vacation, sick, and personal leave at various rates as specified by Ohio law. Employees accrue vacation leave at a rate of 3.1 hours every two weeks for the first five years of employment, up to a maximum of 9.2 hours every two weeks after twenty-five years of employment. Employees may accrue a maximum of three years vacation leave credit. At termination or separation from service, vested employees are paid at their full rate of pay for 100 percent of unused vacation and personal leave. Non-overtime-exempt employees may also be paid 100 percent of any unused compensatory time.

Sick leave for all employees is accumulated at a rate of 3.1 hours every two weeks. Sick leave benefits vest after five years of credited service for AFSCME employees and after one year of continuous service for other employees. Sick leave is paid at 100 percent of the employee's pay rate when used for the first 40 hours of the benefit year, at 70 percent of the employee's pay rate when used for 40.1 through 80 hours of the benefit year, and again at 100 percent of the employee's pay rate when used for any amount in excess of 80 hours of the benefit year. Annually, up to 80 hours of sick leave that was accrued in the current year and remains unused in December may be cashed out at varying rates.

Changes in compensated absences for the years ended June 30, 2019 are as follows:

	2019
Beginning balance Additions	\$ 863,610 421,185
Deductions	(399,975)
Ending balance	884,820
Amount due within one year (included in accrued liabilities on the statement of net position)	\$ 65,477

#### **NOTE 9 - CONTINGENCIES**

From time to time the Commission has been named in various public liability and property damage claims and suits arising in the ordinary course of business. While ultimate liability, if any from these proceedings is presently indeterminable, in the opinion of management, these matters should not have a material adverse effect on the Commission's financial statements.

#### **NOTE 10 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During fiscal year 2019, the Commission had, and expects to have in the future, transactions with other state agencies. The Commission recognized approximately \$168,000 in rental fee revenues from other agencies of the State during fiscal year 2019. State agencies are charged essentially the same rental fees as those charged to third parties.

In addition, the Commission paid other state agencies for processing of payroll, general ledger, and fixed asset ledger. The Commission expensed approximately \$368,000 during fiscal year 2019 for these services at rates comparable to those charged to other agencies of the State for these services.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### **NOTE 10 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (Continued)**

The Commission maintains special agreements with the following three separate agencies of the State in which these state agencies rent certain buildings and space on the Commission grounds in exchange for services provided:

The Ohio Department of Transportation provides maintenance and renovation work on the roadways, curbs and parking lots of the Commission.

The State Highway Patrol operates a full-time post on the Commission's property and provides law enforcement on this property. In addition, the State Highway Patrol provides traffic control and law enforcement during the Fair. Both of these services are required by State law.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) leases and maintains a large and extensive exhibit at the Fair. In addition, ODNR maintains a Civilian Conservation Corps district office on the Commission's grounds.

The basic financial statements do not give effect to these activities inasmuch as there is no reliable basis for determining their financial impact.

#### NOTE 11 – STATE FAIR RESERVE

The Ohio Legislature passed a House Bill (Am. Sub. H.B. No. 283, Section 49) which established a State Fair Reserve of \$700,000. The reserve may be used if admission revenues for the Ohio State Fair are less than ninety percent of the projected admission revenues. The Commission must declare a state of fiscal exigency and request a release of funds by the Director of Budget and Management. The Director of Budget and Management then must approve the release of funds, and may make changes or stipulations before release of the funds. The outstanding balance of available funds was approximately \$1,000,000 at June 30, 2019.

#### **NOTE 12 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The State retains the risk associated with claims arising from vehicle liability, property loss and tort liability. The State also maintains a public employees blanket bond through a private carrier. However, the Commission is responsible for the replacement of equipment that may be lost or damaged as a result of the operations of the Commission. In addition, employees of the Commission have the option of participating in the Ohio Med Health Plan, a self-insured health benefit plan of the State. The Commission pays a premium each month to the State based on the number of employees opting for plan participation and the types of coverage selected by its employees. At the end of the year, the State allocates the incurred but not reported (IBNR) health benefits claim liability (actuarial determined) or refund to its departments based upon the department's percent of total monthly premiums. The IBNR claim liability was included in accounts payable at June 30, 2019 approximated \$66,246. Additional disclosures are expected to be found in the State's CAFR.

There were no changes to the above policies during the current fiscal year. Claims experience over the past three years indicates that there were no instances of losses exceeding insurance coverage.

All other risk disclosures are expected to be found in the State's CAFR for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### **NOTE 13 – WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

The Commission participates in a plan that pays workers' compensation benefits to beneficiaries who have been injured on the job with any of certain state agencies and state universities. The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (Bureau) calculates the estimated amount of cash needed in the subsequent fiscal year to pay the claims for these workers and sets rates to collect this estimated amount from these participating state agencies and universities in that subsequent one-year period. As these already-injured workers' claims will be paid out over a period of time, the Bureau also actuarially calculates estimated amounts that will be paid in future periods.

Changes in workers' compensation liabilities for the years ended June 30, 2019 are as follows:

	2019
Beginning Balance (Deductions) additions, net	\$401,852 (51,350)
Ending Balance	\$350,502
Amount due within one year	\$67,648

Additions and deductions are shown net, since it is impracticable for the Commission to determine these amounts separately.

#### **NOTE 14 - CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS**

At June 30, 2019, the Ohio Expositions Commission had the following outstanding contractual commitments:

Celeste Center Renovation			
		Contract	Amount
Vendor	Contract	Amount	Outstanding
Davis Wince	Design Services	\$ 712,625.00	\$ 21,611.93
Michael Schuster Architects	Design Services	591,054.00	589,935.15
		\$1,303,679.00	\$611,547.08

The outstanding balance noted above represents the difference between the contract amount and the total services completed and stored to-date through the end of the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

#### NOTE 15 – CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND RESTATEMENT OF NET POSITION

For fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the Commission has implemented the following:

GASB Statement No. 83 "Certain Asset Retirement Obligations" will enhance comparability of financial statements among governmental by establishing uniform criteria for governments to recognize and measure certain asset retirement obligations, including obligations that may not have been previously reported. The implementation of this statement did not have an effect on the financial statement of the Commission.

GASB Statement No. 88 "Certain disclosures related to Debt, Including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements" improves the information that is disclosed in the notes of the governmental financial statements related to debt, including direct borrowings and direct placements. This statement also clarifies which liabilities governments should include when disclosing information related to debt. The implementation of this statement did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Commission.

Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability
Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Last Six Fiscal Years (1)

	2019		2018		2017		2016		2015		2014	
Proportion of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability												
Traditional Plan	0.0	03174500%	0.	03241900%	0.	03211850%	0.	03297400%	0.	03270700%	0.0	03270700%
Combined Plan	0.01859900%		0.	0.01812100% 0.01005400%		01005400%	0.00987000%		0.01027100%		0.01027100%	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability												
Traditional Plan	\$	8,694,312	\$	5,085,912	\$	7,308,666	\$	5,711,512	\$	3,944,829	\$	3,855,729
Combined Plan	\$	(20,798)	\$	(24,669)	\$	(5,596)	\$	(4,803)	\$	(3,955)	\$	(1,078)
Covered Payroll	\$	4,435,002	\$	4,411,369	\$	4,247,093	\$	4,176,307	\$	4,050,921	\$	4,007,143
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability as												
a Percentage of Covered Payroll		195.57%		114.73%		171.95%		136.64%		97.28%		96.19%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension (Asset)/Liability												
Traditional Plan		74.70%		84.66%		77.25%		81.08%		86.45%		86.36%
Combined Plan		126.64%		137.28%		116.55%		116.90%		114.83%		104.56%

<sup>(1)</sup> Information prior to 2014 is not available.

Amounts presented as of the Commission's measurement date, which is December 31.

Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability
Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

## Last Three Fiscal Years (1)

		2019		2018		2017
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability Health Care Plan	0.0	03057600%	0.	03114000%	0.0	03073200%
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability Health Care Plan	\$	3,986,389	\$	3,381,575	\$	3,104,073
Covered Payroll	\$	4,435,002	\$	4,411,369	\$	4,247,093
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll		89.88%		76.66%		73.09%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability Health Care Plan		46.33%		54.14%		68.52%

<sup>(1)</sup> Information prior to 2017 is not available.

Amounts presented as of the Commission's measurement date, which is December 31.

Required Supplementary Information Schedule of Contributions Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Last Seven Fiscal Years (1)

	 2019	2018		2017		2016		2015		2014		2013	
Contractually Required Contribution Pension OPEB	\$ 644,276 -	\$	606,643 22,468	\$	542,807 65,137	\$	506,960 84,493	\$	497,643 82,940	\$	501,419 60,170	\$	460,657 100,143
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	 (644,276)		(629,111)		(607,944)		(591,453)		(580,583)		(561,589)		(560,800)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ _	\$	_	\$	_	\$		\$	-	\$		\$	_
Covered payroll	\$ 4,601,971	\$	4,493,650	\$	4,342,457	\$	4,224,664	\$	4,147,021	\$	4,011,350	\$	4,005,714
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll Pension	14.00%		13.50%		12.50%		12.00%		12.00%		12.50%		11.50%
OPEB	0.00%		0.50%		1.50%		2.00%		2.00%		1.50%		2.50%

<sup>(1)</sup> Information prior to 2013 is not available.

Notes to Required Supplementary Information For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019

## Net Pension Liability - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Changes of benefit terms - There were no significant changes of benefit terms in 2019.

Changes of assumptions - Amounts reported in 2017 reflect changes in both demographic and economic assumptions, with the most notable being a reduction in the actuarially assumed rate of return from 8.0% down to 7.5%, for the defined benefit investments. Amounts reported in 2019 reflect a reduction in the actuarially assumed rate of return from 7.5% down to 7.2%, for the defined benefit investments

## Net OPEB Liability - Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

Changes of benefit terms - There were no significant changes of benefit terms in 2019.

Changes of assumptions - For 2018, the single discount rate changed from 4.23 percent to 3.85 percent. Amounts reported in 2019 reflect changes in both demographic and economic assumptions, with the most notable being a reduction in the actuarially assumed rate of return from 6.5% down to 6.0%, for the defined benefit investments



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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

Ohio Expositions Commission Franklin County 717 East 17th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43211

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, Ohio (the Commission) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 19, 2019.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Commission's financial statements. 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 internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

## Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Ohio Expositions Commission Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards

## Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Commission's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

KENNEDY COTTRELL RICHARDS LLC

Kennedy Cottrell Richards LLC

Gahanna, Ohio

December 19, 2019



#### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

#### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED
JANUARY 21, 2020