



November 8, 2019

To the Honorable Board of Commissioners
of the Ventura County Transportation Commission
Ventura, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of the Ventura County Transportation Commission (the "Commission") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated November 8, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated May 14, 2019. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Commission are described in Note 1 to the basic financial statements.

New Accounting Standards

GASB Statement No. 83

In November 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 83, *Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*. This Statement establishes criteria for determining the timing and pattern of recognition of a liability and a corresponding deferred outflow of resources for asset retirement obligations (ARO). This Statement requires that recognition occur when the liability is both incurred and reasonably estimable. The determination of when the liability is incurred should be based on the occurrence of external laws, regulations, contracts, or court judgments, together with the occurrence of an internal event that obligates a government to perform asset retirement activities. Laws and regulations may require governments to take specific actions to retire certain tangible capital assets at the end of the useful lives of those capital assets, such as decommissioning nuclear reactors and dismantling and removing sewage treatment plants. Other obligations to retire tangible capital assets may arise from contracts or court judgments. Internal obligating events include the occurrence of contamination, placing into operation a tangible capital asset that is required to be retired, abandoning a tangible capital asset before it is placed into operation, or acquiring a tangible capital asset that has an existing ARO. Application of this statement did not have a material effect on the Commission's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

GASB Statement No. 88

In April 2018, GASB issued Statement No. 88, *Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements*. This Statement is to improve the information that is disclosed in notes to government financial statements related to debt, including direct borrowings and direct placements. Application of this statement did not have a material effect on the Commission's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

No other new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2019. We noted no transactions entered into by the Commission during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

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

- Management's estimate of the depreciation on capital assets is based on the industry standard and past experience on actual useful life of the asset groups. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation on capital assets in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the net pension liability is based on the actuarial valuation on total pension liability and based on audited financial statements on fiduciary net position for CalPERS plans. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net pension liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the net OPEB liability is based on the actuarial valuation on total OPEB liability. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net OPEB liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were:

- Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
- Note 7 – Pension Plan
- Note 8 – Other Postemployment Benefit Plan
- Note 12 – Disbursements to Local Agencies

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

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

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

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated November 8, 2019.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

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

Other Audit Findings or Issues

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

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the Management's Discussion & Analysis, Budgetary Comparison Schedules, Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, Schedule of Pension Contributions, Schedule of Changes in the Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule of OPEB Contributions, and Notes to the Required Supplementary Information, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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

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Restriction on Use

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

Very truly yours,

The Park Group, LLP

Santa Ana, California