

S E W A R D A N D M O N D E

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
296 STATE STREET
NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06473-2165
(203) 248-9341
FAX (203) 248-5813

February 17, 2023

Board of Directors
Estuary Transit District
17 Industrial Park Drive, Suite 6
Village of Centerbrook
Essex, CT 06409

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of Estuary Transit District (the District) for the year ended June 30, 2022, and have issued our report thereon dated February 17, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, Government Auditing Standards, the Uniform Guidance, and the Connecticut State Single Audit Act

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Generally accepted accounting principles provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI) to supplement the basic financial statements. Our responsibility with respect to the Management's Discussion and Analysis, which supplements the basic financial statements, is to apply certain limited procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. However, the RSI will not be audited and, because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance, we did not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. Our responsibility for this supplementary information, as described by professional standards, is to evaluate the presentation of the supplementary information in relation to the financial statements as a whole and to report on whether the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal and state program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the Connecticut State Single Audit Act.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit.

Also, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the Connecticut State Single Audit Act, we examined, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement and Office of Policy and Management's Compliance Supplement to the Connecticut State Single Audit Act* applicable to each of its major federal and state programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the District's compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with those requirements.

Planned Scope, Timing of the Audit, Significant Risks, and Other

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously discussed with management.

We have identified the following significant risks of material misstatement as part of our audit planning:

- Management override of controls
- COVID-19 pandemic
- Improper revenue recognition

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 Estuary Transit District are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. As described in Note 2 the District adopted Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 87, Leases. Under this standard, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and a right-to-use lease asset. We noted no transactions entered into by Estuary Transit District 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.

As discussed in Note 1 of the financial statements, the Estuary Transit District approved the merger with Middletown Transit District effective July 1, 2022.

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.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop accounting estimates and determined that those estimates were reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no 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 the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial, accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' 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 February 17, 2023.

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 Estuary Transit District's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' 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 Estuary Transit District'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 RSI, which is required supplementary information that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management of Estuary Transit District and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,