

CITY OF MILPITAS
REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2020

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For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

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REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS

To the City Council of
the City of Milpitas, California

We have audited the basic financial statements of the City of Milpitas, California, for the year ended June 30, 2020. We did not audit the discretely presented component unit financial statements of Terrace Gardens, Inc. as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, which represent 1.10%, 1.62%, and 1.15% of the assets, net position and revenues, respectively, of the primary government. These component unit financial statements were audited by another auditor, whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for this entity, is based solely on the report of the other auditor.

Professional standards require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* and Uniform Guidance.

Significant Audit Findings

Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by City are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year, except as follows:

GASB 95 – Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance

The primary objective of this Statement is to provide temporary relief to governments and other stakeholders in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. That objective is accomplished by postponing the effective dates of certain provisions in Statements and Implementation Guides that first became effective or are scheduled to become effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2018, and later.

The City implemented the provisions of Statement No. 95 in fiscal year 2019-20.

Unusual Transactions, Controversial or Emerging Areas

We noted no transactions entered into by the City during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period. However, events that occurred during fiscal year June 30, 2020 discussed below could have an impact on the financial statements:

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) a global pandemic and recommended containment and mitigation measures worldwide. The COVID-19 outbreak in the United States has caused business disruption through mandated and voluntary closings of businesses and shelter in place orders for all but those deemed essential services. While the business disruption is currently expected to be temporary, there is considerable uncertainty around the duration of the closings and shelter in place orders. However, the ultimate financial impact and duration cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

Accounting Estimates

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

Estimated Fair Value of Investments: As of June 30, 2020, the City held approximately \$398.9 million of cash and investments as measured by fair value as disclosed in Note 3 to the Financial Statements. Fair value is essentially market pricing in effect as of June 30, 2020. These fair values are not required to be adjusted for changes in general market conditions occurring subsequent to June 30, 2020.

Estimated Depreciation: Management's estimate of the depreciation is based on useful lives determined by management. These lives have been determined by management based on the expected useful life of assets as disclosed in Note 8 to the financial statements. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimated Net Pension Liabilities and Pension-Related Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources: Management's estimate of the net pension liabilities and deferred outflows/inflows of resources are disclosed in Note 11 to the financial statements and are based on accounting valuations determined by the California Public Employees Retirement System, which are based on the experience of the City. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimated Net OPEB Liability and OPEB-Related Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources: Management's estimate of the net OPEB liability are disclosed in Note 12C to the financial statements and is based on actuarial study determined by a consultant, which is based on the experience of the City. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimated Total OPEB Liability and OPEB-Related Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources: Management's estimate of the total OPEB liability are disclosed in Note 12D to the financial statements and is based on actuarial study determined by a consultant, which is based on the experience of the City. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimated Compensated Absences: Accrued compensated absences, which are comprised of accrued vacation and sick leave, is estimated using accumulated unpaid leave hours and hourly pay rates in effect at the end of the fiscal year, and are disclosed in Note 12F to the financial statements. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the accrued compensated absences and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimated Claims Liabilities: Management's estimate of the claims liabilities payable is disclosed in Note 13 to the financial statements and is based on estimates determined by the City's risk pool and third party claims administrator, which are based on the claims experience of the City. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Disclosures

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.

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely uncorrected misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. We have no such misstatements to report to the City Council.

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 a management representation letter dated November 4, 2020.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

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

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the City’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 Information Accompanying the Financial Statements

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information that accompanies and 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 required supplementary information and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the required supplementary information.

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

We were not engaged to report on the Introductory and Statistical Sections which accompany the financial statements, but are not required supplementary information. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

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

Maze & Associates

Pleasant Hill, California
November 4, 2020