

# DRAFT

## Management Letter

March 7, 2024

To the Honorable Mayor and  
City Council Members of the  
City of Montgomery, Texas:

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Statement on Auditing Standards No. 115, *Communicating Internal Control Related Matters Identified in an Audit* (SAS 115), provides guidance to auditors on communicating internal control matters to management and the governing body, board of directors, or equivalent body.

It is important to note when reviewing findings reported within this letter that classification of the findings is based on the definitions required by SAS 115 as further discussed below. Please note that these classifications are based on the potential impact to the financial statements, not necessarily the likelihood of actual loss to City of Montgomery, Texas (the “City”). Accordingly, the City’s assessment of the “significance” or ranking of severity will likely be substantially different based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, its assessment of risk and the cost benefit of making the change.

Our report is as follows:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the City’s system of internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be an other matter.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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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 findings and additional comments are as follows:

***CURRENT YEAR MATTER***

***Other Matter:***

**2023.001 EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF APPROPRIATIONS**

**Finding**

As disclosed in the notes to the financial statements, expenditures exceeded appropriations at the legal level of control in the general fund.

**Recommendation**

The City should ensure that expenditures do not exceed appropriations approved by City Council in accordance with the local government code. If the original authorization is insufficient, an amendment should be proposed to City Council in sufficient time so not to impede the City's normal procurement process.

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

We would like to thank the City Council and the City's management for their cooperation during the course of our audit. Please feel free to contact us at your convenience to discuss this report or any other concerns that you may have.

**DRAFT**  
BELT HARRIS PECHACEK, LLLP

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*Certified Public Accountants*  
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