



# Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank

Certified Public Accountants PL

600 Citrus Avenue  
Suite 200  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

772/461-6120 // 461-1155  
FAX: 772/468-9278

November 20, 2023

City of Westlake  
Inframark Infrastructure Management Services  
210 N University Drive, Suite 703  
Coral Springs, FL 33071

## **The Objective and Scope of the Audit of the Financial Statements**

You have requested that Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines and Frank (“we”) audit the financial statements of City of Westlake, (the “District”), which comprise governmental activities and each major fund as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements. We are pleased to confirm our acceptance and our understanding of this audit engagement by means of this letter for the year ending September 30, 2023, and thereafter if mutually agreed upon by City of Westlake and Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines and Frank.

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users made on the basis of these financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

## **The Responsibilities of the Auditor**

We will conduct our audit in accordance with (GAAS). Those standards require that we comply with applicable ethical requirements. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Fort Pierce / Stuart

City of Westlake  
November 20, 2023  
Page 2

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing concerning any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we have identified during the audit.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for the reasonable period of time.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of internal control, an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected exists, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS.

We will maintain our independence in accordance with the standards of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards.

City of Westlake  
November 20, 2023  
Page 3

## **The Responsibilities of Management and Identification of the Applicable Financial Reporting Framework**

Management is responsible for:

1. Identifying and ensuring that the District complies with the laws and regulations applicable to its activities, and for informing us about all known violations of such laws or regulations, other than those that are clearly inconsequential;
2. The design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the District involving management, employees who have significant roles in internal control, and others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements; and
3. Informing us of its knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the District received in communications from employees, former employees, analysts, regulators, short sellers, vendors, customers or others.

The Board is responsible for informing us of its views about the risks of fraud within the entity, and its knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity.

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that management acknowledges and understands that it has responsibility:

1. To evaluate subsequent events through the date the financial statements are issued or available to be issued, and to disclose the date through which subsequent events were evaluated in the financial statements. Management also agrees that it will not conclude on subsequent events earlier than the date of the management representation letter referred to below;
2. For the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparations of fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
3. To provide us with:
  - a. Access to all information of which management is aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements including information relevant to disclosures;
  - b. Draft financial statements, including information relevant to their preparation and fair presentation, when needed to allowed for the completion of the audit in accordance with the proposed timeline;

City of Westlake  
November 20, 2023  
Page 4

- c. Additional information that we may request from management for the purpose of the audit; and
- d. Unrestricted access to persons within the District from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

As part of our audit process, we will request from management written confirmation concerning representations made to us in connection with the audit, including among other items:

1. That management has fulfilled its responsibilities as set out in the terms of this engagement letter; and
2. That it believes the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

## **Reporting**

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of City of Westlake's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the Board of City of Westlake. We cannot provide assurance that an unmodified opinion will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinion, add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph(s), or withdraw from the engagement.

## **Records and Assistance**

During the course of our engagement, we may accumulate records containing data that should be reflected in the of City of Westlake books and records. The District will determine that all such data, if necessary, will be so reflected. Accordingly, the District will not expect us to maintain copies of such records in our possession.

The assistance to be supplied, including the preparation of schedules and analyses of accounts, has been discussed and coordinated with an Inframark Accountant. The timely and accurate completion of this work is an essential condition to our completion of the audit and issuance of our audit report, which must be completed and filed with the Auditor General within nine (9) months after the end of the fiscal year. If the information is timely provided, the District shall receive a draft by May 15, 2024, and if the draft is timely reviewed by Management, the District shall receive the final audit by June 15, 2024.

City of Westlake  
November 20, 2023  
Page 5

### **Other Relevant Information**

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, a copy of our most recent peer review report has been provided to you, for your information.

Either party may unilaterally terminate this agreement, with or without cause, upon sixty (60) days written notice subject to the condition that the District will pay all invoices for services rendered prior to the date of termination.

### **Fees, Costs and Access to Workpapers**

Our fees for the services described above are based upon the value of the services performed and the time required by the individuals assigned to the engagement, plus direct expenses. Invoices for fees will be submitted in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the terms of this engagement. Billings are due upon submission. Our fee for the services described in this letter for the year ending September 30, 2023 will not exceed \$7,500, unless the scope of the engagement is changed, the assistance which of City of Westlake has agreed to furnish is not provided, or unexpected conditions are encountered, in which case we will discuss the situation with you before proceeding. All other provisions of this letter will survive any fee adjustment.

In the event we are requested or authorized by of City of Westlake or are required by government regulation, subpoena, or other legal process to produce our documents or our personnel as witnesses with respect to our engagement for of City of Westlake, of City of Westlake will, so long as we are not a party to the proceeding in which the information is sought, reimburse us for our professional time and expenses, as well as the fees and expenses of our counsel, incurred in responding to such requests.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank and constitutes confidential information. However, you acknowledge and grant your assent that representatives of the cognizant or oversight agency or their designee, other government audit staffs, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office shall have access to the audit documentation upon their request and that we shall maintain the audit documentation for a period of at least three years after the date of the report, or for a longer period if we are requested to do so by the cognizant or oversight agency.

Access to requested documentation will be provided under the supervision of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank audit personnel and at a location designated by our Firm.

City of Westlake  
November 20, 2023  
Page 6

### **Information Security – Miscellaneous Terms**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank is committed to the safe and confidential treatment of City of Westlake's proprietary information. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank is required to maintain the confidential treatment of client information in accordance with relevant industry professional standards which govern the provision of services described herein. City of Westlake agrees that it will not provide Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank with any unencrypted electronic confidential or proprietary information, and the parties agree to utilize commercially reasonable measures to maintain the confidentiality of City of Westlake's information, including the use of collaborate sites to ensure the safe transfer of data between the parties.

If any term or provision of this engagement letter is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such term or provision will be deemed stricken and all other terms and provisions will remain in full force and effect.

Because Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank will rely on of City of Westlake and its management and Board of Supervisors to discharge the foregoing responsibilities, City of Westlake holds harmless and releases Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, its partners, and employees from all claims, liabilities, losses and costs arising in circumstances where there has been a known misrepresentation by a member of City of Westlake's management, which has caused, in any respect, Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank's breach of contract or negligence. This provision shall survive the termination of this arrangement for services.

This letter constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of agreement between Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank and of City of Westlake, superseding all proposals, oral or written, and all other communications, with respect to the terms of the engagement between the parties.



Berger, Toombs, Elam,  
Gaines & Frank  
Certified Public Accountants PL

City of Westlake  
November 20, 2023  
Page 7

Please sign and return the attached copy of this letter to indicate your acknowledgment of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our audit of the financial statements including our respective responsibilities.

Sincerely,


*Berger Toombs Elam  
Gaines + Frank*

BERGER, TOOMBS, ELAM, GAINES & FRANK  
J. W. Gaines, CPA

Confirmed on behalf of the addressee:

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6815 Dairy Road  
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

813.788.2155  
[BodinePerry.com](http://BodinePerry.com)

### Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

To the Partners of  
Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL  
and the Peer Review Committee of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

November 30, 2022

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL (the firm), in effect for the year ended May 31, 2022. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Standards).

A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review as described in the Standards may be found at [aicpa.org/prsummary](http://aicpa.org/prsummary). The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

#### Firm's Responsibility

The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported in conformity with professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

#### Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control, and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review.

#### Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including a compliance audit under the Single Audit Act.

As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL, in effect for the year ended May 31, 2022, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)*, or *fail*. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PLC, has received a peer review rating of *pass*.



Bodine Perry

(BERGER\_REPORT22)



**ADDENDUM TO ENGAGEMENT LETTER BETWEEN BERGER, TOOMBS,  
ELAM, GAINES AND FRANK AND CITY OF WESTLAKE  
(DATED NOVEMBER 20, 2023)**

**Public Records.** Auditor shall, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes, comply with the public records laws of the State of Florida, and specifically shall:

- a. Keep and maintain public records required by the District to perform the services or work set forth in this Agreement; and
- b. Upon the request of the District's custodian of public records, provide the District with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law; and
- c. Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following completion of the Agreement if the Auditor does not transfer the records to the District; and
- d. Upon completion of the Agreement, transfer, at no cost to the District, all public records in possession of the Auditor or keep and maintain public records required by the District to perform the service or work provided for in this Agreement. If the Auditor transfers all public records to the District upon completion of the Agreement, the Auditor shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public disclosure requirements. If the Auditor keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the Agreement, the Auditor shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the District, upon request from the District's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the District.

Auditor acknowledges that any requests to inspect or copy public records relating to this Agreement must be made directly to the District pursuant to Section 119.0701(3), Florida Statutes. If notified by the District of a public records request for records not in the possession of the District but in possession of the Auditor, the Auditor shall provide such records to the District or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time. Auditor acknowledges that should Auditor fail to provide the public records to the District within a reasonable time, Auditor may be subject to penalties pursuant to Section 119.10, Florida Statutes.

**IF THE AUDITOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE AUDITOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT/CONTRACT, THE AUDITOR MAY CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS FOR THE DISTRICT AT:**

**INFRAMARK  
INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
210 NORTH UNIVERSITY DRIVE, SUITE 702  
CORAL SPRINGS, FL 33071  
TELEPHONE: 954-603-0033  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_**

**E-VERIFY REQUIREMENTS.** Auditor shall comply with and perform all applicable provisions of Section 448.095, *Florida Statutes*. Accordingly, beginning January 1, 2021, to the extent required by Florida Statute, Auditor shall register with and use the United States Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all newly hired employees. The District may terminate this Agreement immediately for cause if there is a good faith belief that the Auditor has knowingly violated Section 448.091, Florida Statutes.

If the Auditor anticipates entering into agreements with a subcontractor for the Work, Auditor will not enter into the subcontractor agreement without first receiving an affidavit from the subcontractor regarding compliance with Section 448.095, *Florida Statutes*, and stating that the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with an unauthorized alien. Auditor shall maintain a copy of such affidavit for the duration of the agreement and provide a copy to the District upon request.

In the event that the District has a good faith belief that a subcontractor has knowingly violated Section 448.095, *Florida Statutes*, but the Auditor has otherwise complied with its obligations hereunder, the District shall promptly notify the Auditor. The Auditor agrees to immediately terminate the agreement with the subcontractor upon notice from the District. Further, absent such notification from the District, the Auditor or any subcontractor who has a good faith belief that a person or entity with which it is contracting has knowingly violated s. 448.09(1), Florida Statutes, shall promptly terminate its agreement with such person or entity.

By entering into this Agreement, the Auditor represents that no public employer has terminated a contract with the Auditor under Section 448.095(2)(c), *Florida Statutes*, within the year immediately preceding the date of this Agreement.

**Auditor: J.W. Gaines**

**District: City of Westlake**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_



**By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title: Director**

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date: November 20, 2023**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_