

## REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS

June 28, 2017

To the Board of Directors  
NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority:

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities of NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority (Authority), a New York Public Benefit Corporation, which is a discretely presented component unit of the State of New York for the year ended March 31, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated March 1, 2017. 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 Authority are described in the notes to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2017.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority 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.

#### *Significant 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 Authority's financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of accrued compensated absences which is based on estimated accumulated hours and pay rates as of March 31, 2017.
- Management's estimate of the depreciable lives of property and equipment which is based on judgements regarding the length of time an asset will provide value to the Authority.

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- Management's estimate of other postretirement benefits which is based on an actuarial calculation from a third party.
- Management's estimate of the net pension liability and related deferred outflows of resources is based on actuarial assumptions utilized by an actuary applied to the pension plans' census information.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the accounting estimates noted above in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

#### *Financial Statement Disclosures*

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

- The disclosure of capital assets in Note 4 to the financial statements describes the historical cost of the property, plant, and equipment. Note 4 also discloses the current year activity for these classifications.
- The disclosures of obligations under capital lease agreements in Note 8 to the financial statements describes the types of capital leases. Note 8 also identifies the monthly payment, interest rate, and maturity dates of each capital lease balance.
- The disclosure of other postretirement benefits liability in Note 12 to the financial statements describes the assumptions used and the components of the actuarial determined obligation.

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

#### **Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit**

Audit fieldwork was delayed approximately two weeks because of turnover in the Finance office.

#### **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 the following misstatement as follows:

- Deferred outflows of \$6.6 million, pension liability of \$6.5 million and deferred inflows of \$1.2 million were recorded to properly conform with GASBs 68 and 71.

Management has opted to not correct an error of \$53,703 in accounts receivable. Management has determined that this adjustment is immaterial to the financial statements and that it will be corrected in fiscal 2018.

#### **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 as of the date of this letter.

### **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 Authority’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 Authority’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 management’s discussion and analysis, schedule of funding progress, other post employment benefits, schedule of proportionate share of pension liability and schedule of contributions pension plan which is 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.

### **Restriction on Use**

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of the Olympic Regional Development Authority and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Bonadio & Co., LLP