



CPAs and
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The Honorable Members
St. Louis County Council
St. Louis County, Missouri

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of St. Louis County, Missouri for the year ended December 31, 2016. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance, 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 January 17, 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 St. Louis County, Missouri 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 2016. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit 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.

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 St. Louis County, Missouri's financial statements were:

Management records investments at their estimated fair value.

Management records an estimated liability for claims incurred based on management's estimate of amounts that will ultimately become payable.

Management calculates the net pension liability and net other postemployment benefit obligation based upon actuarially determined funding requirements.

Management records an estimate of accrued compensated absences that will ultimately be paid to employees.

Management records infrastructure capital assets at their estimated fair value and depreciates capital assets over their estimated useful lives.

Management records assets related to the service concession arrangements at estimated historical cost and the present value of installment payments receivable.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates in determining that they are 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 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. The following summarizes uncorrected misstatements of the financial statements. Management has determined that their effects are immaterial to the financial statements taken as a whole:

- To increase accounts payable and expenditures in the Emergency Communications Fund. \$28,567
- To decrease accounts payable and expenditures in the Capital Projects Fund. \$152,715
- To increase other assets and other liabilities in the Agency Fund – Public Administrator (no effect on fund balance). \$6,622,540
- To decrease cash and due to other taxing districts in the Agency Fund - Collector (no effect on fund balance). \$4,443,717

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 June 21, 2017.

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 governmental unit'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 governmental unit'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, budgetary comparison information (General Fund and major special revenue funds), schedule of changes in net pension liability and related ratios and schedule of employer contributions, which are 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.

We were engaged to report on combining statements for the General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and Fiduciary Funds which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. 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 introductory section, statistical section, and all other budgetary information, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. 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 it.

Restriction on Use

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

Kerber, Eck & Braeckel LLP

St. Louis, Missouri
June 21, 2017