

October 13, 2022

The Board of Directors San Mateo County Transit District San Carlos, California

We have audited the financial statements of San Mateo County Transit District (District) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated October 13, 2022. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

# Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards.

As communicated in our letter dated May 5, 2022, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of its respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the District solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

We have provided our comments regarding internal controls during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards dated October 13, 2022.

## Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

#### Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and other firms utilized in the engagement, if applicable, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

## **Significant Risks Identified**

As stated in our auditor's report, professional standards require us to design our audit to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement whether caused by fraud or error. In designing our audit procedures, professional standards require us to evaluate the financial statements and assess the risk that a material misstatement could occur. Areas that are potentially more susceptible to misstatements, and thereby require special audit considerations, are designated as "significant risks". We have identified the following as significant risks.

- Revenue Recognition Generally Accepted Auditing Standards require a presumed risk of improper revenue recognition, unless otherwise noted.
- Management Override of Controls Management Override of Controls was determined to be an overall financial statement risk, which is standard financial statement level risk for audit engagements.

## **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

## Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the District is included in Note 1 to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during year. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

#### Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on 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 markedly from management's current judgments. The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are related to the Management's estimate of the leases receivable, insurance liability, net pension liability and related deferrals, net other postemployment benefit liability and related deferrals is based on actuarial valuations performed by actuarial specialists. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the insurance liability, the net pension liability and the net other postemployment benefit liability and determined that these estimates are reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

#### Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the District's financial statements relate to the discount rates used in estimating the net pension liability and net other postemployment benefit liabilities which are described note 8 to the financial statements and note 9 to the financial statements, respectively.

## Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

#### **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. Uncorrected misstatements or matters underlying those uncorrected misstatements could potentially cause future-period financial statements to be materially misstated, even though the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements currently under audit. There were no uncorrected or corrected misstatements identified as a result of our audit procedures.

# **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

## Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report

For purposes of this letter, professional standards require that we communicate any circumstances that affect the form and content of our auditor's report. For these purposes there has been a modification to our opinion. An emphasis of matter paragraph has been included in the report as a result of implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncement 87, *Leases*. We express no opinion on neither the Required Supplementary Information nor Supplementary Information in the financial statements. Additionally, the audit was performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management which are included in the management representation letter dated October 13, 2022.

# **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

# Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with the District, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating conditions affecting the entity, and operating plans and strategies that may

affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the District's auditors.

# **Modification of the Auditor's Report**

Esde Sailly LLP

We have made the following modification to our auditor's report.

We added emphasis of matter paragraphs to our Independent Auditor's Report for the implementation of GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. Our opinions were not modified with respect to these matters.

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

Menlo Park, California