Deering Park Stewardship District

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

September 30, 2023

Deering Park Stewardship District

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District
Brevard and Volusia Counties, Florida

Report on Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Deering Park Stewardship District (the "District"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of Deering Park Stewardship District as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate 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 one year beyond the financial statement date, including currently known information that may raise substantial doubt thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives 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 GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. 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. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- 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. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- 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.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, 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 a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

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

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board* who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about 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 obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated June 28, 2024 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts.

The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Deering Park Stewardship District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Berger Toombs Elam Gaines & Frank

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
Certified Public Accountants PL
Fort Pierce, Florida

June 28, 2024

Deering Park Stewardship District
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Management's discussion and analysis of Deering Park Stewardship District (the "District") financial performance provides an analysis of the District's financial activities. The analysis provides summary financial information for the District and should be read in conjunction with the District's financial statements.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District's basic financial statements comprise three components; 1) *Government-wide financial statements,* 2) *Fund financial statements,* and 3) *Notes to financial statements.* The *Government-wide financial statements* present an overall picture of the District's financial position and results of operations. The *Fund financial statements* present financial information for the District's major funds. The *Notes to financial statements* provide additional information concerning the District's finances.

The *Government-wide financial statements* include the **statement of net position** and the **statement of activities**. These statements use accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. Emphasis is placed on the net position of governmental activities and the change in net position. Governmental activities are primarily supported by developer contributions.

The **statement of net position** presents information on all assets and liabilities of the District, with the difference between assets and liabilities reported as net position. Net position is reported in three categories; 1) net investment in capital assets 2) restricted, and 3) unrestricted. Assets, liabilities, and net position are reported for all Governmental activities.

The **statement of activities** presents information on all revenues and expenses of the District and the change in net position. Expenses are reported by major function and program revenues relating to those functions are reported, providing the net cost of all functions provided by the District. To assist in understanding the District's operations, expenses have been reported as governmental activities. Governmental activities funded by the District include general government.

Fund financial statements present financial information for governmental funds. These statements provide financial information for the major funds of the District. Governmental fund financial statements provide information on the current assets and liabilities of the funds, changes in current financial resources (revenues and expenditures), and current available resources.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Fund financial statements include a **balance sheet** and a **statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances** for all governmental funds. A **statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances – budget and actual** is provided for the District's General Fund. *Fund financial statements* provide more detailed information about the District's activities. Individual funds are established by the District to track revenues that are restricted to certain uses or to comply with legal requirements.

The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private sector business. In the government-wide **statement of net position**, the governmental activities column is presented on a consolidated basis and is reported on a full-accrual economic resource basis, which recognizes all noncurrent assets and receivables as well as all noncurrent debt and obligations. The effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the *government-wide financial statements*. In contrast, the governmental fund financial statements are grouped into funds to account for and to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The *fund financial statements* are presented using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis where as revenues are recorded when collected in the current period or within 90 days of year-end and expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred. The difference between the two statements arises primarily from the long-term economic focus of the *government-wide statements* versus the current financial resources focus of the *fund financial statements*. A reconciliation of the *government-wide* and the *fund financial statement* is provided to illustrate these differences.

Notes to financial statements provide additional detail concerning the financial activities and financial balances of the District. Additional information about the accounting practices of the District, investments of the District, capital assets and long-term debt are some of the items included in the *notes to financial statements.*

Financial Highlights

The following are the highlights of financial activity for the year ended September 30, 2023.

- The District's total assets were exceeded by total liabilities by $(9,532) (net position).
- Governmental activities revenues totaled $52,442 while governmental activities expenses totaled $59,200.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Financial Analysis of the District

The following schedule provides a summary of the assets, liabilities and net position of the District and is presented by category.

Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	**2022***
Current assets	$ 24,867	$ 13,200
Current liabilities	34,399	15,974
Net Position		
Unrestricted	$ (9,532)	$ (2,774)

*Unaudited

The increase in current assets is related to the increase in due from developer.

The increase in current liabilities is related to the increase in accounts payable and due to developer.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Financial Analysis of the District

The following schedule provides a summary of the assets, liabilities and net position of the District and is presented by category for comparison purposes.

Change In Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022*
Program Revenues		
Operating contributions	$ 52,442	$ 39,272
Expenses		
General government	50,882	47,073
Interest and other charges	8,318	-
Total Expenses	59,200	47,073
Change in Net Position	(6,758)	(7,801)
Net Position - Beginning of Year	(2,774)	5,027
Net Position - End of Year	$ (9,532)	$ (2,774)

*Unaudited

The increase in operating contributions and general government is related to the continued development of the District.

The increase in interest and other charges is related to the payment of certain costs in anticipation of issuing bonds.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The budget exceeded actual governmental expenditures primarily due to less supervisor fees and legal fees than were anticipated.

There were no amendments to the September 30, 2023 budget.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

Deering Park Stewardship District does not anticipate any economic factors to have a significant effect on operations in 2024.

Request for Information

The financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Deering Park Stewardship District's finances for all those with an interest. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to the Deering Park Stewardship District's Finance Department at 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431.

Deering Park Stewardship District
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 8,976
Due from developer	15,891
Total Current Assets	24,867
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	20,081
Due to developer	14,318
Total Liabilities	34,399
NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	$ (9,532)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Deering Park Stewardship District
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues: Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenues and Changes in Net Position: Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:			
General government	$ (50,882)	$ 52,442	$ 1,560
Interest and other charges	(8,318)	-	(8,318)
Total Governmental Activities	$ (59,200)	$ 52,442	(6,758)
	Change in Net Position		(6,758)
	Net Position - October 1, 2022		(2,774)
	Net Position - September 30, 2023		$ (9,532)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Deering Park Stewardship District
BALANCE SHEET –
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
September 30, 2023

	General	Debt Service	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 8,976	$ -	$ 8,976
Due from developer	7,573	8,318	15,891
Total Assets	$ 16,549	$ 8,318	$ 24,867
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 11,763	$ 8,318	$ 20,081
Due to developer	6,000	8,318	14,318
Total Liabilities	17,763	16,636	34,399
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Unavailable revenues	4,786	-	4,786
Fund balances			
Unassigned	(6,000)	(8,318)	(14,318)
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	$ 16,549	$ 8,318	$ 24,867

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Funds Fund Balance to Governmental Activities Net Position:	
Total Governmental Funds Fund Balance	$ (14,318)
Unavailable revenues at the fund level are recognized when earned at the government-wide level.	4,786
Net Position of Governmental Activities	$ (9,532)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Deering Park Stewardship District
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

	General	Debt Service	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues			
Developer contributions	$ 47,656	$ -	$ 47,656
Expenditures			
Current:			
General government	50,882	-	50,882
Debt service			
Other	-	8,318	8,318
Total Expenditures	50,882	8,318	59,200
Net change in fund balances	(3,226)	(8,318)	(11,544)
Fund Balances - October 1, 2022	(2,774)	-	(2,774)
Fund Balances - September 30, 2023	$ (6,000)	$ (8,318)	$ (14,318)

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Funds Changes in Fund Balance to the Change in net Position for Governmental Activities:	
Net Change in Fund Balances	$ (11,544)
Unavailable revenues are recognized as deferred inflows of resources at the fund level. Revenues are recognized when earned at the government-wide level. This is the current year change.	4,786
Change in Net Position	$ (6,758)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Deering Park Stewardship District
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues				
Developer contributions	$ 98,490	$ 98,490	$ 47,656	$ (50,834)
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	98,490	98,490	50,882	47,608
Net change in fund balances	-	-	(3,226)	(3,226)
Fund Balances - October 1, 2022	-	-	(2,774)	(2,774)
Fund Balances - September 30, 2023	$ -	$ -	$ (6,000)	$ (6,000)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Deering Park Stewardship District (the "District") have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The District's more significant accounting policies are described below.

1. Reporting Entity

The District was established on September 4, 2020 by Brevard and Volusia Counties, Florida pursuant to Florida House Bill #1303 and Chapter 2005-338, Laws of Florida, as amended (the "Act"), as a Stewardship District. The District was established for the purposes of financing and managing the acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation of the infrastructure necessary for development within its jurisdiction. The District is authorized to issue bonds for the purpose, among others, of financing, funding, planning, establishing, acquiring, constructing district roads, landscaping, and other basic infrastructure projects within or without the boundaries of the Deering Park Stewardship District. The District is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors who are elected for two and four year terms.

In October 2021, two Districts, Deering Park Center Community Development District and Farmton-Brevard Community Development District located within the boundaries of Deering Park Stewardship District, merged with Deering Park Stewardship District, the surviving entity.

As required by GAAP, these financial statements present the Deering Park Stewardship District (the primary government) as a stand-alone government. The reporting entity for the District includes all functions of government in which the District's Board exercises oversight responsibility including, but not limited to, financial interdependency, selection of governing authority, designation of management, significant ability to influence operations and accountability for fiscal matters.

Based upon the application of the above-mentioned criteria as set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board the District has identified no component units.

2. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The basic financial statements of the District are composed of the following:

- Government-wide financial statements
- Fund financial statements
- Notes to financial statements

a. Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Government-wide financial statements report all non-fiduciary information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include separate columns for the governmental and business-type activities of the primary government.

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

a. Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)

Governmental activities normally are supported by operating contributions and interest. Program revenues include charges for services, and payments made by parties outside of the reporting government's citizenry if that money is restricted to a particular program. Program revenues are netted with program expenses in the statement of activities to present the net cost of each program.

b. Fund Financial Statements

The underlying accounting system of the District is organized and operated on the basis of separate funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Governmental resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

Fund financial statements for the primary government's governmental funds are presented after the government-wide financial statements. These statements display information about major funds individually.

Governmental Funds

The District has various policies governing the fund balance classifications.

Nonspendable Fund Balance – This classification consists of amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted Fund Balance – This classification includes amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.

Assigned Fund Balance – This classification consists of the Board of Supervisors' intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The assigned fund balances can also be assigned by the District's management company.

Unassigned Fund Balance – This classification is the residual classification for the government's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. Unassigned fund balance is considered to be utilized first when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

b. Fund Financial Statements (Continued)

Governmental Funds (Continued)

The District classifies fund balance according to Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 54 – Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. The Statement requires the fund balance for governmental funds to be reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent.

Fund Balance Spending Hierarchy – For all governmental funds except special revenue funds, when restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balances are combined in a fund, qualified expenditures are paid first from restricted or committed fund balance, as appropriate, then assigned and finally unassigned fund balances.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collected within the current period or soon thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. Interest associated with the current fiscal period is considered to be an accrual item and so has been recognized as revenue of the current fiscal period.

Under the current financial resources measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The reported fund balance is considered to be a measure of “available spendable resources”. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they are said to present a summary of sources and uses of “available spendable resources” during a period.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types excludes amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities.

NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

3. Basis of Presentation

Governmental Major Funds

General Fund – The General Fund is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Debt Service Fund – Accounts for debt service requirements to retire the special assessment revenue bonds which were used to finance the construction of District infrastructure improvements.

4. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position or Equity

a. Cash and Investments

Florida Statutes require state and local governmental units to deposit monies with financial institutions classified as "Qualified Public Depositories," a multiple financial institution pool whereby groups of securities pledged by the various financial institutions provide common collateral from their deposits of public funds. This pool is provided as additional insurance to the federal depository insurance and allows for additional assessments against the member institutions, providing full insurance for public deposits.

The District is authorized to invest in those financial instruments as established by Section 218.415, Florida Statutes. The authorized investments consist of:

1. Direct obligations of the United States Treasury;
2. The Local Government Surplus Funds Trust or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized pursuant to the Florida Interlocal Cooperative Act of 1969;
3. Interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts in authorized qualified public depositories;
4. Securities and Exchange Commission, registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency.

Cash equivalents include time deposits, certificates of deposit and all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less.

b. Budgets

Budgets are prepared and adopted after public hearings for the governmental funds, pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes. The District utilizes the same basis of accounting for budgets as it does for revenues and expenditures in its general fund. The legal level of budgetary control is at the fund level. All budgeted appropriations lapse at year end. Formal budgets are adopted for the general fund. As a result, deficits in the budget variance columns of the accompanying financial statements may occur.

NOTE B – CASH

All deposits are held in qualified public depositories and are included on the accompanying balance sheet and statement of net position as cash.

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned. The District does not have a formal deposit policy for custodial credit risk. The District does, however, follow the provisions of Chapter 280, Florida Statutes regarding deposits and investments. As of September 30, 2023, the District's bank balance was $5,764 and the carrying value was $8,976. The District controls its exposure to custodial credit risk because it maintains all deposits in a qualified public depository in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 280, Florida Statutes, which means that all deposits are fully insured by Federal Depositors Insurance or collateralized under Chapter 280, Florida Statutes.

The District had no investments at September 30, 2023.

NOTE C – ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

A significant portion of the District's activity is dependent upon the continued involvement of the Developer, the loss of which could have a material adverse effect on the District's operations. During the fiscal year, all voting members of the Board of Supervisors were employed by the Developer or a related entity. The District received $52,442 in operating contributions from the Developer for the year ended September 30, 2023. Additionally, the District has a net balance due from the Developer of $1,573 as of September 30, 2023.

NOTE D – RISK MANAGEMENT

The government is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the government carries commercial insurance. The District has not filed any claims under this commercial coverage.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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*

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District
Brevard and Volusia Counties, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents, of Deering Park Stewardship District, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Deering Park Stewardship District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit 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 Deering Park Stewardship District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Deering Park Stewardship District's internal control.

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 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. 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 consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

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

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Deering Park Stewardship District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Berger Toombs Elam
Gaines + Frank

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
Certified Public Accountants PL
Fort Pierce, Florida

June 28, 2024

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MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District
Brevard and Volusia Counties, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Deering Park Stewardship District as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2024.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Florida Auditor General.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued 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* and our Independent Auditor's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professionals Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated June 28, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report. There were no findings or recommendations in the prior financial audit report.

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not Deering Park Stewardship District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific conditions met. In connection with our audit, we determined that Deering Park Stewardship District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for Deering Park Stewardship District. It is management's responsibility to monitor the Deering Park Stewardship District's financial condition; our financial condition assessment was based in part on the representations made by management and the review of the financial information provided by the same as of September 30, 2023.

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Specific Information

The information provided below was provided by management and has not been audited; therefore, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, the Deering Park Stewardship District reported:

1) The total number of district employees compensated in the last pay period of the District's fiscal year: 0
2) The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the District's fiscal year: 3
3) All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency: $0
4) All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency: $30,584
5) Each construction project with a total cost of at least $65,000 approved by the District that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1, 2022, together with the total expenditures for such project: N/A.
6) A budget variance based on thebudget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the District amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes: The budget was not amended.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)8, Rules of the Auditor General, the Deering Park Stewardship District reported:

1) The rate or rates of non-ad valorem special assessments imposed by the District: Developer funded.
2) The amount of special assessments collected by or on behalf of the District: Total special assessments collected was N/A.
3) The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the District and the terms of such bonds: No outstanding bonds as of September 30, 2023.

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

To the Board of Supervisors
Deering Park Stewardship District

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not note any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of Supervisors, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Berger Toombs Elam
Gaines + Frank

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
Certified Public Accountants PL
Fort Pierce, Florida

June 28, 2024