

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY**

(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
 (A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors and CRA Executive Director  
**Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency**  
City of Opa-locka, Florida

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### *Opinions*

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, and the major fund of the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (the "Agency"), a component unit of the City of Opa-locka, Florida as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Agency's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, and the major fund of the Agency, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Basis for Opinions*

We conducted our audit 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Agency and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### *Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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.

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 Agency's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### ***Auditors' Responsibilities 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 auditors' report that includes our opinions. 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 judgment 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 Agency'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 judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Agency'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.

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 4 through 9, and the budgetary comparison schedule and related note on pages 20 and 21, 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 we 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 our report dated December 19, 2024 on our consideration of the Agency's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 Agency'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 Agency's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Marcum LLP*

Miami, FL  
December 19, 2024

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**(Required Supplementary Information)**

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**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (the "Agency" or "CRA") is designed to provide an objective and easy to read analysis of the financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, and conditions. The MD&A provides a broad overview and short and long-term analyses of the Agency's activities based on information presented in the financial statements. Specifically, this information is designed to assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues, provide an overview of the Agency's financial activity and identify changes in the Agency's financial position and its ability to address the next year's challenges. Finally, the MD&A will identify any material deviations from the approved budget.

On December 4, 2013, the Agency entered into an Inter-local Cooperation Agreement with the City of Opa-locka (the "City") and Miami-Dade County (the "County") which established the Agency's financing plan and became effective October 1, 2014. Based on the cooperative agreement, the City and County are required to collect tax increment revenues on behalf of the Agency. The tax increment revenues must be used in accordance with the approved budget and the City of Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency Redevelopment Plan ("OCRA Redevelopment Plan") and the terms and conditions of the Inter-local Cooperation Agreement.

- 1) Delegation of Power
- 2) Miami-Dade County Taxing Authority of other Taxing Authority
- 3) Implementation of the Plan
- 4) City/County Coordination
- 5) Project Financing
- 6) Citizen Participation
- 7) Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency Board
- 8) Project Management, Administration and Coordination
- 9) Assurances of Affirmative Action
- 10) Indemnification of Others
- 11) Miscellaneous

The Agency is an independent entity and a component unit of the City. The Agency has presented its financial statements in accordance with the reporting model required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement ("GASB") No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments*, as amended.

The information contained in this MD&A is only a component of the entire financial statement report. Readers should take time to read and evaluate all sections of the report, including the footnotes and required supplementary information provided.

## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- For fiscal year 2023, the Agency's tax increment revenue actual receipts were \$1,707,511. Meanwhile expenditures were disbursed at \$374,700.
- The Agency's total net revenues for the fiscal year were \$1,395,722.
- Fund balance for the fiscal year increased by \$1,395,722 over the prior year fund balance of \$3,388,318, resulting in a current fund balance of \$4,784,040.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Agency's basic financial statements are comprised of three components:

- Government-wide financial statements
- Fund financial statements
- Notes to the basic financial statements
- Required supplementary information.

In addition, the Agency's report contains the required supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

## **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The government-wide financial statements provide readers with a broad overview of the Agency's finances, in a manner comparable to a private-sector business. In addition, the government-wide statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

The *Statement of Net Position* presents all the information on the Agency's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Agency is improving or deteriorating.

The *Statement of Activities* presents information showing how the Agency's net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in revenues are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal years.

The government-wide financial statements present functions of the Agency that are principally supported by tax increment financing (governmental activities). The governmental activities of the Agency include general government activities and redevelopment projects. The Agency has no business-type activities.

The government-wide financial statements are found on pages 10-11 of this report.

## **Fund Financial Statements**

Governmental fund financial statements provide readers with an overview of each fund and its related function in a traditional format. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that maintain control over resources segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Agency, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate legal compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Agency utilized one fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023: the *General Fund*, which accounts for the operating activities of the Agency.

**Governmental funds** - are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, the governmental funds financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Since the focus of governmental funds is narrower than government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By comparing, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Agency's near-term financing decisions. The "Balance Sheet – General Fund" and "Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – General Fund" provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

Budgetary comparison schedule, which constitutes Required Supplementary Information pursuant to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB"), is provided to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 12 and 14 of this report. The reconciliations between the governmental fund and governmental activities are found on pages 13 and 15.

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

The notes to the basic financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and the fund financial statements. These notes to the financial statements can be found beginning on page 16 of this report.

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents the required supplementary information concerning the Agency's budget to actual results for the General Fund for fiscal year 2023. The required supplementary information can be found on page 20 and 21 of this report.

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

As previously noted, net position may serve, over time, as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Agency, assets exceeded liabilities by \$4,784,040 at the close of fiscal year 2023. Approximately 84% of the Agency's total assets is composed of cash.

**SUMMARY OF NET POSITION**

	<u>As of September 30,</u>		<u>Change</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Assets:				
Current assets:				
Cash	\$ 3,995,454	\$ 3,368,247	\$ 627,207	19%
Restricted cash held in escrow	650,000	-	650,000	100%
Non-current assets:				
Due from other governments	583,469	583,469	-	0%
Total assets	<u>5,228,923</u>	<u>3,951,716</u>	<u>1,277,207</u>	32%
Liabilities:				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	47,354	35,263	12,091	34%
Due to other governments	77,206	197,812	(120,606)	-164%
Total current liabilities	124,560	233,075	(108,515)	
Non-current liabilities:				
Due to other governments	320,323	330,323	(10,000)	
Total liabilities	<u>444,883</u>	<u>563,398</u>	<u>(227,030)</u>	
Net position	<u>\$ 4,784,040</u>	<u>\$ 3,388,318</u>	<u>\$ 1,504,237</u>	44%

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION**

	For the year ended September 30,		Change	
	2023	2022	\$	Percent
Revenues				
Property taxes	\$ 1,707,511	\$ 1,303,462	\$ 404,049	31%
Interest	62,911	-	62,911	
Total revenues	<u>1,770,422</u>	<u>1,303,462</u>	<u>466,960</u>	36%
Expenses				
General government	374,700	191,445	183,255	96%
Total expenses	<u>374,700</u>	<u>191,445</u>	<u>183,255</u>	96%
Increase in net position	<u>1,395,722</u>	<u>1,112,017</u>	<u>283,705</u>	26%
Net position, beginning	<u>3,388,318</u>	<u>2,276,301</u>	<u>1,112,017</u>	49%
Net position, ending	<u>\$ 4,784,040</u>	<u>\$ 3,388,318</u>	<u>\$ 1,395,722</u>	41%

In fiscal year 2023, the \$1,707,511 tax increment revenues received from taxing authorities comprised both County (\$562,525) and City (\$1,144,986). The Agency's net position increased by 41%. Key elements of the increase in 2023 were as follows:

- Total revenues increased by \$466,960 or 36% in FY2023 when compared to FY2022 due to increases in property tax increment revenues and interest collected.
- Total expenses in FY2023 were \$374,700, representing an increase of \$183,255 or 96% in comparison to FY2022. The increase is mostly attributed to an increase in homeowner and rental assistance during the fiscal year.

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS - GOVERNMENTAL FUND**

The focus of the Agency's governmental fund is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of expendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Agency's financing requirements. Unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year. At the end of fiscal year 2023, the Agency's governmental fund reported an ending fund balance of \$4,784,040. The increase is attributable to the combination of an increase in tax increment revenues and underspent appropriations for fiscal year 2023.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**GENERAL BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The following information is presented to assist the reader in comparing the original/final budget (adopted) and the actual results. There were no amendments from the original to final budget of fiscal years 2022 and 2023, as shown in the Budgetary Comparison Schedule below. The Agency underspent in the two (2) consecutive years mentioned yielding a fund balance over \$4.8 million in fiscal year 2023.

	<u>Budgeted Amounts for 2023</u>			<b>Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)</b>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property taxes	\$ 1,716,989	\$ 1,716,989	\$ 1,707,511	\$ (9,478)
Interest	-	-	62,911	62,911
Miscellaneous revenue	24,000	24,000	-	(24,000)
Total revenues	<u>1,740,989</u>	<u>1,740,989</u>	<u>1,770,422</u>	<u>29,433</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General government	1,243,462	1,243,462	374,700	868,762
Total expenditures	<u>1,243,462</u>	<u>1,243,462</u>	<u>374,700</u>	<u>868,762</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ 497,527</u>	<u>\$ 497,527</u>	<u>1,395,722</u>	<u>\$ 898,195</u>
Fund balance, beginning			<u>3,388,318</u>	
Fund balance, ending			<u>\$ 4,784,040</u>	

**Revenue**

Budgeted tax increment revenue in the amount of \$1,716,989 is comprised of the City of Opa-locka's contribution of \$1,144,986 and Miami Dade County's allocation of \$562,525.

**Expenditures**

Actual expenditures were below appropriations primarily due to changes in Management and understaffing of the agency for the various projects.

**CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

**Capital Assets**

The Agency had no capital assets for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

**LONG-TERM DEBT**

The Agency had no debt for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND RATES**

The Agency Board approved the 2023-2024 budget in the amount of \$2,082,394. Tax increment revenue projections were based upon actual values from the County's Property Appraiser's Office and the City of Opa-locka. The Tax Increment Financing (TIF) increase was attributable to an increase in property valuations within the Agency's district. The Agency anticipates further TIF revenue growth in the coming years as perennial increases in property values continue and future redevelopment projects break ground.

**REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Agency's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to Mr. Jason Walker, Interim Executive Director of the Opa-locka CRA, 780 Fisherman Street Fourth Floor, City of Opa-locka Florida, 33054.

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## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Current assets:	
Cash	\$ 3,995,454
Restricted cash held for escrow	650,000
Total current assets	4,645,454
Non-current assets:	
Due from other governments (Note 5)	583,469
Total assets	5,228,923
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable	47,354
Due to other governments (Note 5)	77,206
Total current liabilities	124,560
Non-current liabilities:	
Due to other governments (Note 5)	320,323
Total liabilities	444,883
<u>NET POSITION</u>	
Restricted for:	
Community redevelopment	4,784,040
Total net position	\$ 4,784,040

See notes to basic financial statements

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenue Charges for Services	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Governmental activities:			
General government	\$ 374,700	\$ -	\$ (374,700)
Total governmental activities	374,700	-	(374,700)
General revenue:			
Tax increment revenue			1,707,511
Interest			62,911
Total general revenue			1,770,422
Change in net position			1,395,722
Net position beginning			3,388,318
Net position, ending			\$ 4,784,040

See notes to basic financial statements

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
 (A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
**BALANCE SHEET - GENERAL FUND**  
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash	\$ 3,995,454
Due from other governments (Note 5)	583,469
Restricted cash held in escrow	650,000
Total assets	\$ 5,228,923
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts payable	\$ 47,354
Due to other governments (Note 5)	397,529
Total liabilities	444,883
<u>FUND BALANCE</u>	
Nonspendable	
Due from other governments	583,469
Restricted for:	
Community redevelopment	4,200,571
Total fund balance	4,784,040
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 5,228,923

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
RECONCILIATION OF THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Total General Fund balance	\$ 4,784,040
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Government-wide Statement of Net Position are different because:	
No items exist	<u>-</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 4,784,040</u>

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
 (A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES  
 IN FUND BALANCE - GENERAL FUND  
 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	General Fund
Revenues:	
Property taxes	\$ 1,707,511
Interest	62,911
Total revenues	1,770,422
Expenditures:	
Operating expenditures:	
General government	374,700
Total expenditures	374,700
Net change in fund balance	1,395,722
Fund balance, beginning	3,388,318
Fund balance, ending	\$ 4,784,040

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCE OF THE GENERAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Net change in fund balance - total General Fund	\$ 1,395,722
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Government-wide Statement of Activities are different because:	
No items exist	<u>-</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 1,395,722</u>

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**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The summary of significant accounting policies of the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (the “Agency” or “CRA”) is presented to assist the reader in interpreting the basic financial statements. The policies are considered essential and should therefore be read in conjunction with the basic financial statements.

The financial statements of the Agency have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“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 more significant of the Agency’s accounting policies are described below.

**a. Financial Reporting Entity**

The Agency is an independent government agency that was fully established in 2013 by the City of Opa-locka (the “City”) and Miami-Dade County, under Chapter 163 of the Florida Statutes. The purpose of the Agency is to formulate a workable program for utilizing appropriate private and public resources to eliminate and prevent the development or spread of slum and blighted areas within the City. To achieve this mission, the Agency is charged with the responsibility of eliminating conditions of blight that exist within the City and helping to improve the quality of life by revitalizing the City’s physical, economic, educational, and social resources. The designated CRA area comprises some 514 acres, approximately 18% of the City.

Community Redevelopment Agencies (“CRA”) are a common governmental tool for redevelopment in the State of Florida and operate on a budget generated by an increase in property taxes within the area. Once a CRA is established, a percentage of the increase in real property taxes goes to the CRA. This tax increment is used to finance the redevelopment projects outlined in the Community Redevelopment Plan. Thus, the principal mission of the Agency is the preservation or enlargement of the community redevelopment area’s tax base from which taxing authorities receive tax revenues to carry out public initiatives that stimulate the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the community redevelopment area.

On December 4, 2013, the Agency entered an Inter-local Cooperation Agreement with the City and Miami-Dade County (the “County”) effective October 1, 2014. Based on the cooperative agreement, the City and County collect tax increment revenues on behalf of the Agency. The tax increment revenues must be used in accordance with the approved budget, the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency Redevelopment Plan, and the terms and conditions of the Inter-local Cooperation Agreement.

**b. Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all the Agency’s activities. The Statement of Net Position reports all financial and capital resources of the Agency, as well as any corresponding current long-term liabilities. The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function and, 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a specific function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported as general revenues. The Agency does not have any business-type activities.

**c. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

*Government-wide Financial Statements*

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements are met. Expenses are recorded when liabilities are incurred.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**c. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)**

*Governmental Fund Financial Statements*

Governmental fund financial statements (i.e., balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance) are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are available when they are collectable within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Revenues susceptible to accrual are property taxes, interest on investments, and intergovernmental revenues. Interest on invested funds is recognized when earned. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

The Agency reports the following major governmental fund:

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

**d. Use of Restricted Funds**

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Agency's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

**e. Cash**

The Agency's cash includes cash on hand in a deposit account with a financial institution. The Agency utilizes City National Bank for its banking activities.

**f. Capital Assets**

Capital assets, such as lands, furniture, and equipment, are reported in the governmental-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the Agency as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$1,000 and an estimated useful life of more than one year. Property and equipment purchased or acquired is carried at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Donated or contributed capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value on the date received. As of September 30, 2023, the Agency has not acquired any capital assets.

**g. Nature and Purpose of Classifications of Fund Balance**

In the fund financial statements, a governmental fund reports fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the Agency is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Amounts that are restricted to specific purposes either by, a) constraints placed on the use of resources by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or, b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation are classified as restricted fund balances. Amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by the Agency's Board of Directors (the "Board") through an ordinance or resolution are classified as committed fund balances. Amounts that are constrained by the Agency's intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed are classified as assigned fund balances. Assignments are made by Agency management based on the Board's direction. Non-spendable fund balances include amounts that cannot be spent because they are either, (a) not in spendable form or, (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Unassigned fund balance represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**h. Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets, liabilities, disclosures of contingent liabilities, revenues, and expenditures/expenses reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. These estimates include assessing the collectability of receivables and the useful lives of capital assets. Although these estimates as well as all estimates are based on management's knowledge of current events and actions it may undertake in the future, they may ultimately differ with actual results.

**i. Implementation of GASB Statements:**

The GASB Statements applicable for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 and implemented by the Agency did not have a significant impact on the financial statements.

**NOTE 2 – CASH DEPOSITS**

All deposits of the Agency are placed in a bank that qualifies as a public depository pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Security or Public Deposits Act. Every qualified public depository is required by this law to deposit with the State Treasurer eligible collateral equal to, or more than, an amount to be determined by the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer is required to ensure that all funds are entirely collateralized throughout the fiscal year. Accordingly, the CRA's deposits are considered fully insured or collateralized in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statements.

**NOTE 3 – RESTRICTED ASSETS**

Restricted assets include \$650,000 in escrow for property purchases that will close in the future period.

**NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

The Agency has no capital assets.

**NOTE 5 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Agency received tax increment revenues from the County and the City in the amounts of \$562,525 and \$1,144,986, respectively, totaling \$1,707,511 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, which are reflective as tax increment revenues in the accompanying financial statements.

Due from other governments of \$583,469 represents receipts due from the City, while due to other governments in the amounts of \$77,206 and \$330,320 totaling \$397,529 represents funds due to the City's General Fund and Water and Sewer Fund.

**NOTE 6 – TAX INCREMENT REVENUE**

The primary source of revenues is tax increment funds received through the City and the County. This revenue is computed by multiplying the operating tax rate for the City and the County by the increased value of property located within the boundaries of the redevelopment area of the Agency, over the base property value, less five percent (administrative fee). Both the City and the County are required to annually fund this amount without regard to tax collections or other obligations.

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

**NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Agency is exposed to various risks of loss for worker's compensation, general liability and other various risks of loss related to theft, errors, and omissions. The Agency is covered for such risks under the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust through the City of Opa-locka. The Agency is not aware of any open litigation.

In addition, the Agency does not have any employees and therefore, does not have any benefit related costs. The CRA uses City personnel and contractors to perform all operational activities.

**NOTE 8 – SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

In December 2023, the Agency completed the purchase of new property in the amount of \$650,000.

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**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

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**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE (UNAUDITED)  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 1,716,989	\$ 1,716,989	\$ 1,707,511	\$ (9,478)
Interest	-	-	62,911	62,911
Miscellaneous revenue	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>	-	<u>(24,000)</u>
Total revenues	<u>1,740,989</u>	<u>1,740,989</u>	<u>1,770,422</u>	<u>29,433</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	<u>1,243,462</u>	<u>1,243,462</u>	<u>374,700</u>	<u>868,762</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,243,462</u>	<u>1,243,462</u>	<u>374,700</u>	<u>868,762</u>
Net changes in fund balance	<u>\$ 497,527</u>	<u>\$ 497,527</u>	1,395,722	<u>\$ 898,195</u>
Fund balance, beginning			<u>3,388,318</u>	
Fund balance, ending			<u>\$ 4,784,040</u>	

**OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
(A COMPONENT UNITY OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA)  
**NOTE TO THE BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1 – BUDGETS AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING**

The budget for the general fund is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”). Pursuant to the By-Laws of the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (“Agency” or “CRA”), as adopted on July 22, 2015, the Executive Director must prepare an annual budget and work program for approval by the Board of Directors for each fiscal year, and such other budgets as the Board may determine. The Agency is not authorized to expend any monies other than those authorized in the budget except that the Board shall amend the budget from time to time as may be necessary. As agreed to in the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the County and the City, the County must approve the Agency’s annual budget prior to expenditures of any funds contributed by the City or the County, except for the payment of debt service and related payments for which tax increment financing (“TIF”) revenues have been pledged. Further, without such approval, all required agency costs must be funded through City advances or other eligible sources and not from the TIF fund revenues.

A draft of the annual budget is prepared, approved by the Board of Directors, and submitted to the County no later than 10 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Should changes in the millage rates require modification of the budget, the budget must be revised and made final, and submitted to the County on or before the 15th day of the beginning of the fiscal year. The budget is then legally enacted through the passage of a resolution. The legal level of control, the level at which expenditures may not exceed the budget, is at the fund level.

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**COMPLIANCE SECTION**

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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 Directors and CRA Executive Director  
**Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency**  
City of Opa-locka, 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (the "Agency"), a component unit of the City of Opa-locka, Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Agency's financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 19, 2024.

***Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Agency'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 the Agency's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Agency's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items MW2023-001 and MW2023-002 to be material weaknesses.

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. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item SD2023-001 to be a significant deficiency.

### ***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Agency's financial statements are free from 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 financial statements. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of finding and responses as item SD2023-001.

### ***Agency's Responses to Findings***

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Agency's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The Agency's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

### ***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 result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency'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 Agency's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Marcum LLP*

Miami, FL  
December 19, 2024

**MANAGEMENT LETTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE  
AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

To the Board of Directors and CRA Executive Director  
**Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency**  
City of Opa-locka, Florida

***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the financial statements of the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (the “Agency”), a component unit of the City of Opa-locka, Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated December 19 2024.

***Auditors’ Responsibility***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; 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 Auditor General.

***Other Reporting Requirements***

We have issued our Independent Auditors’ Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; Schedule of Findings and Responses and Independent Accountants’ Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated December 19, 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. The status of audit findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report have not been addressed and are repeated in the schedule of findings and responses.

### ***Official Title and Legal Authority***

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The information is disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

### ***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 the Agency has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the Agency did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

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 the Agency. It is management's responsibility to monitor the Agency's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and review of financial information provided by same. Our assessment was performed as of the fiscal year end.

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 have reported related items in the schedule of findings and responses.

### ***Specific Information***

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

- a. The total number of Agency employees compensated in the last pay period of the Agency's fiscal year as 0.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the Agency's fiscal year as 7.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$0.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as \$99,164
- e. Each construction project with a total cost of at least \$65,000 approved by the Agency that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported, together with that total expenditures for such project as \$0.
- f. A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the Agency amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes, if any, would be noted on page 20.

*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 which 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 Directors, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Marcum LLP*

Miami, FL  
December 19, 2024

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH  
FLORIDA STATUTES**

To the Board of Directors and CRA Executive Director  
**Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency**  
City of Opa-locka, Florida

We have examined the Opa-locka Community Redevelopment Agency (the “Agency”), a component unit of the City of Opa-locka, Florida, compliance with Sections 163.387(6) and 163.387(7), Florida Statutes for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. Management of the Agency is responsible for the Agency’s compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Agency’s compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Agency complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Agency complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the examination engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Agency’s compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Agency complied, in all material respects, with Sections 163.387(6) and 163.387(7), Florida Statutes for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

This report is intended solely to describe our testing of compliance with aforementioned sections of the Florida Statutes, and it is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Marcum LLP*

Miami, FL  
December 19, 2024

# OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

#### *MATERIAL WEAKNESS*

#### **MW2023-001 – LACK OF INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL CLOSE AND REPORTING (REPEAT FINDING)**

##### *Criteria*

The Agency should implement Accounting Policies and Procedures to ensure the financial statement closing process is completed in a timely manner. Such policies and procedures should consider establishing proper controls which are designed and implemented to address the Financial Close and Reporting process of the Agency.

##### *Condition*

The Agency is currently not performing its monthly and annual financial reporting closing process in a timely manner.

##### *Cause*

The Agency has not properly established monthly and year-end financial closing procedures to ensure all transactions are properly captured and reported in the general ledger in a timely manner.

##### *Effect*

A lack of completing required closing procedures led to preliminary misstatements to the financial statements and a significant number of adjusting journal entries and reversal entries to be posted after the commencement of the audit. The lack of internal controls may lead to current and future accounting errors. Errors discovered after the Agency's prior-period financial statements are issued are reported as prior-period adjustments (see Note 7 of the 2021 financial statements).

# OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

#### *MATERIAL WEAKNESS (CONTINUED)*

#### **MW2023-001 – LACK OF INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL CLOSE AND REPORTING (REPEAT FINDING) (CONTINUED)**

##### *Recommendation*

The Agency should ensure that adequate procedures and internal controls are in place to ensure that the financial reports are complete and accurate and completed in a timely manner. We believe that the year-end closing could proceed more quickly and smoothly by developing a logical order for closing procedures and assigning responsibility for completing the procedures to specific Agency personnel. In order to make the financial reports generated by the accounting system as meaningful as possible, the Agency should reconcile the general ledger accounts on a monthly basis. A benefit of monthly reconciliations is that errors do not accumulate but can be identified and attributed to a particular period. This makes it easier to perform future reconciliations. Also, it provides for accurate and timely financial reports which are relied upon Agency management for operational decisions.

##### *Current Year Status*

This condition still exists in fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. The working trial balance for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 was provided on August 14, 2024. The Agency is currently not performing its monthly and annual financial reporting closing process in a timely manner.

##### *Views Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Action*

See accompanying corrective action plan.

#### **MW2023-002 – FLORIDA AUDITOR GENERAL FINDINGS (REPEAT FINDING)**

##### *Criteria*

Prudent accounting practices include policies, procedures and controls over the safeguarding, recording, processing and reporting of the Agency's financial operations and transactions.

# OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

#### *MATERIAL WEAKNESS (CONTINUED)*

#### **MW2023-002 – FLORIDA AUDITOR GENERAL FINDINGS (REPEAT FINDING) (CONTINUED)**

##### *Condition*

On May 23, 2019, the Auditor General of the State of Florida (the “AG”) prepared a report on the City of Opa-locka, Florida, pursuant to an operational audit conducted by the AG. As a result of the audit, multiple findings and recommendations were submitted specifically related to the Agency seeking actual or proposed corrective action plans.

##### *Cause*

The Agency is not prioritizing the importance to establish and adhere to prudent polices, procedures and controls over the safeguarding, recording, processing and reporting of the Agency’s financial operations and transactions.

##### *Effect*

A lack of proper policies, procedures and controls over financial operations and transactions may lead to a misappropriation of assets, financial statement misstatements, and/or non-compliant transactions.

##### *Recommendation*

The Agency should designate a member of management to take timely action to resolve issues identified or proposed action plans to formally address issues cited in the AG report in a timely manner.

##### *Current Year Status*

The Auditor General report dated May 23, 2019, contained 99 findings and related recommendations. During fiscal year 2023, the Auditor General performed an audit follow up and it was noted certain findings prescribed in the 2019 report were addressed; however, as of December 19, 2024, several items remain open.

# OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

#### *MATERIAL WEAKNESS (CONTINUED)*

#### **MW2023-002 – FLORIDA AUDITOR GENERAL FINDINGS (REPEAT FINDING) (CONTINUED)**

#### *Views Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Action*

See accompanying corrective action plan.

#### *SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY*

#### **SD2023-001 – NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES (REPEAT FINDING)**

#### *Criteria*

Chapter 2019-163, Laws of Florida, amended Section 163.387(8), Florida Statutes, to require that each community redevelopment agency (CRA) meeting the specified \$100,000 threshold provide for a separate audit and that the resultant audit report accompany the county or municipality annual financial report filed with the Department of Financial Services (see Sections 163.387(8)(c) and 218.32(3)(b), Florida Statutes). In addition, Chapter 2021-116, Laws of Florida, amended Section 218.39(1)(h), Florida Statutes, to require the separate audit to be filed with the Auditor General. In accordance with Auditor General Rule 10.557(3), the CRA audit report must include basic financial statements, notes to the financial statements, and management's discussion and analysis and other required supplementary information. As such, a CRA must have an annual financial audit of its accounts and financial statements completed within 9 months after the end of its fiscal year.

#### *Condition*

The Agency did not issue and file the September 30, 2020 Financial Statements with the Auditor General by June 30, 2021 as required by Florida Statutes.

# OPA-LOCKA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

#### *SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY (CONTINUED)*

#### **SD 2023-001 – NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES (REPEAT FINDING) (CONTINUED)**

##### *Cause*

The Agency does not have an established Financial Statements review policy and procedure to ensure all year-end amounts and disclosures as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”), are properly and accurately captured and reported in the Financial Statements in a timely manner. The City of Opa-locka, Florida (the “City”) 2019 annual financial report was issued on June 28, 2021. Subsequent to that, the City’s 2019 annual financial report was recalled, restated and then re-issued by the predecessor auditor on June 23, 2022. These delays ultimately led the Agency to engage Marcum to perform the September 30, 2020 audit on March 4, 2022, which was after the required submission date of June 30, 2021.

##### *Effect*

The Agency did not comply with Florida Statute 218.39(1)(h) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020.

##### *Recommendation*

The Agency should ensure that adequate procedures and internal controls are in place to ensure that the Financial Statements are completed and submitted in a timely manner. These controls should include controls requiring the reconciliation of account balances to the appropriate supporting documentation (e.g., general ledger, internal reports, note disclosures, etc.), the use of a disclosure checklist, and adequate training of staff with required governmental accounting and financial reporting standards.

##### *Current Status*

The Agency provided Marcum with the fiscal year end September 30, 2023 working trial balance on August 14, 2024 to begin the audit. This was after the required submission date of June 30, 2024. The Agency did not comply with Florida Statute 218.39(1)(h) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

##### *Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions*

See accompanying corrective action plan.



## Corrective Action Plan FY2023 Audit Findings

### MW2023-001 LACK OF INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL CLOSE AND REPORTING

The City of Opa-locka has reviewed and identified areas of weakness in the accounting system and financial structure of the Finance Department. The City is continually recruiting staff with experience in accounting.

Additionally, the City has implemented an approach to hire temporary accountants to assist with efforts in meeting the goal of timely transaction recording.

The City is taking full corrective action on this item with revolving interviews being held for permanent and temporary project-based accounting professionals.

Responsible Party: Mr. Jason Walker, Executive Director and Ms. Niema Gantt, Finance Director

### MW2023-002 FLORIDA AUDITOR GENERAL FINDINGS

In April of 2023 the City OF Opa-locka provided State of Florida, Auditor General's Office a required Operational Audit Preliminary and Tentative Findings response. To date, their office is satisfied with the Corrective Actions taken by the City of Opa-locka and Opa-locka CRA. This should be an eliminated finding with issuance of FY24 financials.

Responsible Party: Mr. Jason Walker, Executive Director, Ms. Sha'mecca Lawson, Interim City Manager, Ms. Niema Gantt, Finance Director and Mr. Robert Anathan, Budget Administrator

### SD2023-001 NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUES

The City of Opa-locka has taken full corrective action, although its declared financial emergency, turnover in staffing and management, accounting software deficiencies, and gaps in operations resulted in untimely audits reports as required by Florida Statues. Measures taken have allowed the City of Opa-locka to issue financials of FY2020, FY2021 and FY 2022 between October of 2022 and February of 2024 for the City of Opa-locka and Opa-locka CRA. FY 2023 audit report for Opa-locka CRA is scheduled for issuance before 12/31/2024.

Responsible Party: Mr. Jason Walker, Executive Director, Ms. Sha'mecca Lawson, Interim City Manager, and Ms. Niema Gantt, Finance Director

  
Jason Walker, Interim Executive Director