

**UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE
CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Year Ended October 31, 2023

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**DARNALL SIKES
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Members of the Board of Directors
University Gateway Economic Development District
Parish of Lafayette, Louisiana

Report on Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the University Gateway Economic Development District (District), a component unit of Consolidated Government of Lafayette, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended October 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the 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 District as of October 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year 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 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 University Gateway Economic Development District 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 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.

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 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 auditor's 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 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 judgment, 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.

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, 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 historic context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's budgetary comparison information on page 18 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The other supplementary information as listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the other supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 16, 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, 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 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 the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Darnall, Sikes & Frederick

(A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants)

February 16, 2024
Lafayette, Louisiana

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

OCTOBER 31, 2023

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash	\$ 1,515,958
Receivables:	
Sales Tax Receivable	<u>42,356</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,558,314</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 10,335</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>10,335</u>
NET POSITION	
Restricted for Economic Development Program	1,547,979
Unrestricted	<u>-</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u>\$ 1,547,979</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2023**

	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities				
Economic Development and Assistance:				
Governmental Activities	\$ 33,235	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (33,235)
 Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 33,235</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>(33,235)</u>
 General Revenues:				
Investment Earnings				642
Sales Taxes				<u>515,356</u>
Total General Revenues				<u>515,998</u>
 Change in Net Position				<u>482,763</u>
 Net Position - Beginning				<u>1,065,216</u>
 Net Position - Ending				<u>\$ 1,547,979</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FUND DESCRIPTIONS

GENERAL FUND

The General Fund is the District's primary operating fund and it accounts for all financial resources of the District except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred in accordance with state and federal laws and according to the Commission's policy. This fund is considered to be a major fund.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

OCTOBER 31, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 1,515,958
Receivables:	
Sales Tax Receivable	<u>42,356</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,558,314</u>
 LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 10,335</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>10,335</u>
Fund Balances:	
Restricted	1,547,979
Unassigned	<u>-</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>1,547,979</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,558,314</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2023**

	<u>General Fund</u>
Revenues:	
Sales Taxes - General	\$ 451,071
Sales Taxes - Hotel/Motel	64,285
Interest Earnings	642
Total Revenues	<u>515,998</u>
Expenditures:	
Current -	
Other Services and Charges	
General Government	1,438
Admin Fees	11,633
Accounting Fees	9,793
Auditing Fees	8,735
Bank Fees	180
Printing and Advertising	444
University Planning	1,012
Total Expenditures	<u>33,235</u>
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>482,763</u>
Fund Balances, Beginning	<u>1,065,216</u>
Fund Balances, Ending	<u>\$ 1,547,979</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Notes to Financial Statements
October 31, 2023

(A) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization- The University Gateway Economic Development District is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana created under Louisiana Revised Statute 33:9038.31-42. The District is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of two appointed members. The District was created out of the City's desire to design, development, and construction of various multi-phased projects designed to encourage economic development, eliminate blighted and vacant property, increase the number of hotel rooms available, generate revenues for infrastructure and other necessary capital expenditures, stimulate job creation by enhancing the feasibility of private sector projects that help to achieve the community's economic goals, and catalyze development in target areas where it might not be otherwise economically feasible, primarily through focusing on projects in the areas of development, rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements, and recreation, and to pursue transportation improvements including, but not limited to, incorporating raised medians and roundabouts, making necessary safety upgrades, and improving pedestrian connectivity along the University Avenue Corridor from Renaud Drive (LA 725) to Jeanne Street.

The economic development district is empowered to levy up to five (5) mills of ad valorem taxes, up to two (2%) percent of sales and use taxes, or up to two (2%) percent of hotel occupancy taxes, or any combination of such taxes, above and in addition to any other ad valorem taxes, sales and use taxes, or hotel occupancy taxes, or combination of such taxes, then in existence or permitted to be in existence within the boundaries of such economic development district.

Basis of Presentation - The accounting and reporting policies of the District conform to accounting policies generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governments. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, as well as any applicable requirements set forth by Audits of State and Local Governmental Units, the industry audit guide issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide.

Financial Reporting Entity - FASB ASC Section 2100 – Defining the Financial Reporting Entity - This report includes all funds, account groups, and component units, which are controlled by or dependent on the University Gateway Economic Development District. Control by or dependence on the District was determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, authority to issue debt, election or appointment of governing body, or other general oversight responsibility. As the Consolidated Government is the governing body of the District, the District is considered to be a component unit of the Consolidated Government. At October 31, 2023, there were no entities that met the criteria to be considered a component unit of the District.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements – The government-wide financial statements consist of a statement of net position and statement of activities to report information about the District as a whole. Eliminations have been made to interfund activities, payables, and receivables. All internal balances in the Statement of Net Position have been eliminated. The District has only one governmental fund.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* include proceeds received from the sale of land inventory. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Notes to Financial Statements
October 31, 2023

(A) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

The accounts of the District are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions.

The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds. All individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation - Measurement focus is a term used to describe “which” transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to “when” the transactions are recorded, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting* as are the fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are awarded.

Governmental fund financial statements 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. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be *available* if they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. 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 government reports the following major governmental fund:

The *general fund* is the government’s primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents – The District’s cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

The district is authorized under state law to deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the United States, or laws of the United States. Under state laws, these deposits must be secured by federal deposit insurance, or the pledge of Securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. State law provides that the amount of the security shall at all times be equal to 100% of the amount on deposit with each depositing authority, except that portion of the deposit insured by federal deposit insurance.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Notes to Financial Statements
October 31, 2023

(A) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

Equity Classifications - In the government-wide statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

Net investment in capital assets– Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted net position – Consists of net position with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position – All other net position that do not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets”.

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. In the fund financial statements, the governmental fund reports the following classifications of fund balance:

Nonspendable – includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not spendable in form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. All amounts reported as nonspendable at October 31, 2023, by the District are nonspendable in form. The District has not reported any amounts that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted – includes amounts restricted by external sources (creditors, laws of other governments, etc.) or by constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes. Committed fund balance is reported pursuant to directives of the District who has the highest level of decision-making authority. Commitments may be modified or rescinded only through actions of the District.

Assigned – includes amounts that the District intends to use for a specific purpose, but do not meet the definition of restricted or committed fund balance. The District may assign amounts to this classification.

Unassigned – includes amounts that have not been assigned to other funds or restricted, committed or assigned to a specific purpose within the General Fund. The District reports all amounts that meet the unrestricted General Fund Balance Policy described below as unassigned.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the District considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the District has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Notes to Financial Statements
October 31, 2023

(A) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting - Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for the General Fund. The budget is formally adopted by the District, prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Notices of its completion and availability are published. After its adoption, any adjustments to the budget must follow the same process. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Prepaid Expenses - Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond year end are recorded as prepaid expenses.

Board of Directors – For the year ended October 31, 2023, the members of the Board of Directors received no compensation or per diem.

(B) CASH AND INTEREST-BEARING DEPOSITS

Under state law, the District may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the Union, or the laws of the United States. The District may invest in certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At October 31, 2023, the District has cash and interest-bearing deposits (book balances) totaling \$1,515,958.

Custodial Credit Risk Relating to Deposits - Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the District’s deposits might not be recovered. The District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk, however, under state law, these deposits, (or the resulting bank balances), must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal bank.

The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Deposit balances (bank balances) at October 31, 2023 are as follows:

Bank Balances	<u>\$ 1,515,958</u>
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At October 31, 2023, the deposits are secured as follows:

Federal Deposit Insurance	\$ 250,000
Pledged Securities (Category 3)	<u>1,265,958</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,515,958</u>

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Notes to Financial Statements
October 31, 2023

(B) CASH AND INTEREST-BEARING DEPOSITS – continued

Pledged securities in Category 3 are comprised of uninsured and unregistered investments with securities held by the pledging institution, or by its trust department or agent, but not in the District's name. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized (Category 3) Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the District that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

(C) DEDICATED REVENUE

During the year ended October 31, 2023, the District received \$515,356 in sales tax revenue. The District recorded \$42,356 as sales tax receivable at October 31, 2023.

(D) SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through February 16, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION**

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

GENERAL FUND

**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE-
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (GAAP BASIS)
YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2023**

	Budget		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final		Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Intergovernmental				
Sales Taxes - General	\$ 442,000	\$ 433,000	\$ 451,071	\$ 18,071
Sales Taxes - Hotel/Motel	70,000	62,000	64,285	2,285
Interest	400	500	642	142
	512,400	495,500	515,998	20,498
Total Revenues				
Expenditures:				
Current -				
Other Services & Charges				
General Government	-	1,700	1,438	262
Admin Fees	15,000	12,500	11,633	867
Accounting Fees	6,000	10,200	9,793	407
Auditing Fees	-	8,800	8,735	65
Bank Fees	180	200	180	20
Consulting Fees	200,000	-	-	-
Legal Fees	5,120	500	-	500
Printing and Advertising	1,050	1,000	444	556
University Planning	-	1,300	1,012	288
	227,350	36,200	33,235	2,965
Total Expenditures				
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	285,050	459,300	482,763	23,463
Fund Balance, Beginning	1,065,216	1,065,216	1,065,216	-
Fund Balance, Ending	\$ 1,350,266	\$ 1,524,516	\$ 1,547,979	\$ 23,463

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Compensation Paid to Members of the Board of Directors
For the Year Ended October 31, 2023

The Board of Directors of the District receive no compensation and are only reimbursed for their expenses incurred related to the District's business, which must have appropriate supporting documentation.

**INTERNAL CONTROL, COMPLIANCE,
AND
OTHER INFORMATION**



**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***

Members of the Board of Directors
University Gateway Economic Development District
Parish of Lafayette, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with 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 of the governmental activities and the major funds of the University Gateway Economic Development District (District), a component unit of Consolidated Government of Lafayette, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended October 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 16, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the 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 the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 a 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 may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District'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 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.

Darnall, Sikes & Frederick

(A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants)

February 16, 2024
Lafayette, Louisiana

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Year Ended October 31, 2023

We have audited the financial statements of the University Gateway Economic Development District, a component unit of Consolidated Government of Lafayette, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended October 31, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated February 16, 2024. We conducted our audit in accordance with 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. Our audit of the financial statements as of October 31, 2023 resulted in an unmodified opinion.

Section I – Summary of Auditors’ Reports

A. Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material Weaknesses	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Control Deficiency	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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Section II – Financial Statement Findings

There were none noted for the year ended October 31, 2023.

Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs.

This section is not applicable for the year ended October 31, 2023.

UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
Schedule of Prior Year Findings
October 31, 2023

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

2022-001 – Local Government Budget Act

CONDITION: Expenditures in the General Fund exceeded budgeted expenditures by greater than five percent.

RECOMMENDATION: The District should implement procedures to ensure that budgets are amended when required.

STATUS: This finding was cleared in the current audit year.

Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs.

There were no Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs in the prior year.

**UNIVERSITY GATEWAY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**
Lafayette, Louisiana

Independent Accountants' Report
On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Year Ended October 31, 2023



**DARNALL SIKES
& FREDERICK**

A CORPORATION OF CERTIFIED
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Directors and Management of
University Gateway Economic Development District
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023. University Gateway Economic Development District's management is responsible for those control and compliance areas identified in the SAUPs.

University Gateway Economic Development District has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the control and compliance areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
- i. ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
Written policies and procedures were obtained and do address the functions noted above.
 - ii. ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
Written policies and procedures were obtained and do address the functions noted above.
 - iii. ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
Written policies and procedures were obtained and do address the functions noted above.
 - iv. ***Receipts/Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all

collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

Written policies and procedures were obtained and do address the functions noted above.

- v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.

Not applicable, the District has no employees.

- vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and do address the functions noted above.

- vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

Not applicable, the District has no employees.

- viii. **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).

Not applicable, the District has no credit cards.

- ix. **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

Not applicable, the District has no employees.

- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

Not applicable, the District has no debt.

- xi. **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and do address the functions noted above.

- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Not applicable, the District has no employees.

2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and
- i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
No exceptions noted.
 - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*
No exceptions noted.
 - iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
No exceptions noted.
 - iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.
Obtained the prior year audit report and observed that there were no audit findings.

3) Bank Reconciliations

- A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:
- Obtained listing of bank accounts from management and management's representation that the listing was complete.*
- i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);
No exceptions noted.
 - ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

No exceptions noted.

- iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

No exceptions noted.

4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

- A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

The District has entered into an agreement with another governmental agency to provide administrative and accounting functions. These procedures were tested as it relates to the agency providing the services.

- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

- i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.

No exceptions noted.

- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.

No exceptions noted.

- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and

No exceptions noted.

- iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

No exceptions noted.

- C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

No exceptions noted.

- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternatively, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.*

- E. Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
No exceptions noted.
 - ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
No exceptions noted.
 - iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
No exceptions noted.
 - iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
No exceptions noted.
 - v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.
No exceptions noted.

5) *Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)*

- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
Obtained listing of locations that process payments and management's representation that the listing was complete.
The District has entered into an agreement with another governmental agency to provide administrative and accounting functions. These procedures were tested as it relates to the agency providing the services.
- B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that
- i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;
No exceptions noted.
 - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
No exceptions noted.
 - iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;
No exceptions noted.
 - iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

No exceptions noted.

- v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

No exceptions noted.

- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and
 - i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and

No exceptions noted.

- ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

No exceptions noted.

- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

No exceptions noted.

6) Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cards (Cards)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

Management has asserted that the District has no credit, debit or fuel cards.

- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and
 - i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and

Not applicable.

- ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

Not applicable.

- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #7B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a “missing receipt statement” that is subject to increased scrutiny.

Not applicable.

7) Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management’s representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:

Management has asserted that there were no travel expenses or reimbursements for the fiscal year.

- i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);

Not applicable.

- ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;

Not applicable.

- iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure #1A(vii); and

Not applicable.

- iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Not applicable.

8) Contracts

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternatively, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active*

vendor list. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and Obtained listing of all contracts in effect and management's representation that the listing was complete.

- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;

No exceptions noted.

- ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);

No exceptions noted.

- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and

No exceptions noted.

- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions noted.

9) Payroll and Personnel

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.

The District has no employees, this section is not applicable.

- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and

- i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);

Not applicable.

- ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;

Not applicable.

- iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and

Not applicable.

- iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

Not applicable.

- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.

Not applicable.

- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Not applicable.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and
- i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and

Not applicable.

- ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

Not applicable.

- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Not applicable.

11) Debt Service

- A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

This section is not applicable. The District has no debt.

- B. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

Not applicable.

12) Fraud Notice

- A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

No misappropriations of public funds or assets noted.

- B. Observe that the entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

This procedure is not applicable. The District does not have a physical office or a website.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Perform the following procedures, **verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."**

- i. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

- ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

- iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

- B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

This procedure is not applicable. The District does not have any employees.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the

documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

Not applicable.

- B. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

Not applicable.

- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:

Not applicable.

- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
- ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
- v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

We were engaged by University Gateway Economic Development District to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those control and compliance areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of University Gateway Economic Development District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those control and compliance areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Darnall, Sikes & Frederick

A Corporation of Certified Public Accountants

Lafayette, Louisiana

February 16, 2024