## Garden District's Security District New Orleans, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements
And Accompanying Reports And Information

For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

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Required Supplementary Information (Part I)

New Orleans, Louisiana Management's Discussion And Analysis For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

Our discussion and analysis of the Garden District's Security District's financial performance provides an overview of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019. Please read it in conjunction with the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

#### Financial Highlights

The financial statements included in this report provide insight into the financial status for the year.

- The Security District's operations increased total net position by \$49,490, and resulted in ending net position of \$1,084,395, or an increase of 4.8%.
- The total spending (expenses) for the governmental activity was \$811,843 for the year, which was \$49,490 less than the taxes and interest received for this activity, which totaled \$861,333.
- The interest earned on bank accounts and funds held in custody (at the Board of Liquidation, City Debt) was \$31,422 for the year.

#### **Overview Of The Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of three parts: Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section), the basic financial statements (including the notes to the financial statements), and required supplementary and other information, including other reports and schedules by certified public accountants and management. The Security District's operations are conducted through a general fund.

The basic financial statements are divided into the two following types:

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statements in this section include the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities.

The Statement of Net Position includes all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by private businesses. The difference between total assets and total liabilities is net position, which may provide a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Security District is improving or deteriorating.

# Garden District's Security District New Orleans, Louisiana Management's Discussion And Analysis For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Security District's assets changed as a result of current year operations. The statement is also prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. In this method, all revenues and expenditures are recognized regardless of when the cash is received or disbursed.

#### Fund Financial Statements

Due to the nature of the entity and its present operations, the Security District uses only the governmental type of fund. The basic services of the Security District are reported in the general fund, which focuses on how money flows into and out of the Security District and the balance left at the end of the year. The revenues and expenditures of the general fund are reported (in the Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures And Changes In Fund Balance) using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. Governmental fund information (presented in the Balance Sheet) helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Security District's program. We describe the relationship (or difference) between the governmental activities (reported in the Statement Of Net Position and the Statement Of Activities) and governmental funds in reconciliations immediately following the fund financial statements.

#### Financial Analysis Of The Security District

Summary Statement Of Net Position As Of December 31, 2019 And 2018

	2019	2018
Current and other assets Total assets	<u>\$ 1,215,378</u>	\$ 1,112,124
Current liabilities Total liabilities	130,983	77,219
Net Position Unrestricted	1,084,395	1,034,905
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 1,084,395</u>	<u>\$1,034,905</u>

Unrestricted net position are resources that do not have any limitations on how these amounts may be used or expended. As noted earlier, the net position of the District increased by \$49,490 or 4.8% during the year.

New Orleans, Louisiana Management's Discussion And Analysis For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Summary Statement Of Activities For The Years Ended December 31, 2019 And 2018

		2018
Ad valorem taxes Interest and other	\$ 829,911 31,422	\$ 814,619 14,490
Total Revenues	861,333	829,109
Expenses General government	811,843	_812,300
Increase (Decrease) In Net Position	<u>\$ 49,490</u>	\$ 16,809

The Security District's total revenues increased by \$32,224 or 3.9%. The total costs of all programs and services decreased by \$457 or 0.06%. Revenues increased due to a slight increase in ad valorem tax collected and also an increase in interest earned compared to 2018. Total expenses decreased slightly due to small decreases in insurance and accounting fees along with a slight increase in patrol costs.

#### **Budgetary Highlights**

The original budget was amended during the year in order to revise the beginning fund balance to reflect the actual 2018 year-end balance.

The variances between budgeted and actual amounts are summarized as follows:

Revenue – Overall favorable variance of \$49,184 or 6.1%, due to:

- The actual tax collected was higher than anticipated in the budget along with higher than anticipated interest earned.

Expenditures – Overall favorable variance of \$73,319 or 8.3%, due to:

- Decrease in the patrol costs compared to the budget.
- Decrease in various other expenses compared to budgeted amounts.

New Orleans, Louisiana Management's Discussion And Analysis For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### **Economic Factors And Next Year's Budget And Rates**

For 2020, the Security District has decreased the millage rate from 9.75 mills to 9.00 mills on each parcel of real property. Expenses in 2020 are budgeted at the same amount as budgeted in 2019 which is an increase relative to the actual expenses in 2019. Overall, the Security District expects that next year's results will closely reflect the budgeted amounts.

#### Contacting The District's Financial Management

This report is designed to provide our residents of the Security District and others with a general overview of the Security District's finances and to show the Security District's accountability for the money it received. Any questions about this report or requests for additional information may be directed to the Security District's Executive Director, Ms. Shelley Landrieu, located at 5329 Dryades Street, Unit A, New Orleans, Louisiana 70115.

**Financial Section** 

#### PEDELAHORE & CO., LLP

Certified Public Accountants

#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Board of Commissioners Garden District's Security District New Orleans, Louisiana

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Garden District's Security District (the Security District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Security District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility 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; this includes 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.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of Garden District's Security District, as of December 31, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Other Matters

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 2 through 5 and 24 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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 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 inquires 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 Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Security District's basic financial statements. The schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head, political subdivision head or chief executive officer, listed as other supplementary information in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the Security District.

The schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head, political subdivision head or chief executive officer is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 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 schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head, political subdivision head or chief executive officer is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the 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 September 14, 2020, on our consideration of the Security District's internal control over financial reporting and 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 Security 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.

Metairie, Louisiana

Vedelalore & Con LAP

September 14, 2020

## Statement Of Net Position December 31, 2019

	Statement A
Assets Cash Receivables - Due from Board of Liquidation, City Debt Prepaid expenses	\$ 73,905 1,131,382 10,091
Total Assets	_1,215,378
Liabilities Accounts payable Other accrued expenses  Total Liabilities	118,317 12,666 130,983
Net Position Unrestricted  Total Nat Position	1,084,395
Total Net Position	\$ 1,084,395

## Statement Of Activities For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Sta	atement B
Expenditures		
Patrol and security services	\$	674,968
Patrol extra		70,171
Enhanced security program		461
Insurance		8,689
Administrative fee		42,162
Accounting and auditing		7,800
Telephone, postage, and supplies		4,062
GPS monitoring, e-mail alerts, updates		2,400
Legal		175
Website		955
Total Expenditures		811,843
Revenues		
Ad valorem taxes (net of collection fees)		829,911
Interest earned		31,422
Total Revenues	6 <del></del>	861,333
Change In Net Position		49,490
Net Position At Beginning Of Year	_1	,034,905
Net Position At End Of Year	\$ 1	,084,395

## Balance Sheet

## General Fund - Governmental Fund December 31, 2019

	Statement C
Assets Cash Receivables - Due from Board of Liquidation, City Debt Prepaid expenses	\$ 73,905 1,131,382 10,091
Total Assets	\$ 1,215,378
Liabilities And Fund Balance	
Accounts payable	\$ 118,317
Other accrued expenses	12,666
Total Liabilities	130,983
Fund balance	
Nonspendable - prepaid items	10,091
Unassigned	1,074,304
Total Fund Balance	1,084,395
Total Liabilities And Fund Balance	\$ 1,215,378

Reconciliation Of The Governmental Funds Balance Sheet To The Government - Wide Statement Of Net Position December 31, 2019

	Statement D
Fund Balance - Governmental Fund (Statement C)	\$ 1,084,395
Amount reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position (government-wide financial statements) are different because:	
There are no differences noted	-
Net Position Of Governmental Activities (Statement A)	\$ 1,084,395

## Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures, And Changes In Fund Balance

## General Fund - Governmental Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Statement E
Revenues	
Ad valorem taxes (net of collection fees)	\$ 829,911
Interest earned	31,422
interest carried	
Total Revenues	861,333
Expenditures	
Patrol and security services	674,968
Patrol extra	70,171
Enhanced security program	461
Insurance	8,689
Administrative fee	42,162
Accounting and auditing	7,800
Telephone, postage, and supplies	4,062
GPS monitoring, e-mail alerts, updates	2,400
Legal	175
Website	955
Total Expenditures	811,843
Net Change In Fund Balance	49,490
	<b>1</b>
Fund Balance At Beginning Of Year	1,034,905
Fund Balance At End Of Year	\$ 1,084,395

# Reconciliation Of The Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures And Changes In Fund Balances Of Governmental Funds To The Statement Of Activities For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 1. Introduction

The Garden District's Security District (the Security District) is a special taxing district created by Act 86 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1998 of the Louisiana Legislature (Louisiana Revised Statute 33:2740.38 re-designated as Louisiana Revised Statute 33:9091.2), for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the security of the Garden District in the City of New Orleans.

The Security District is governed by a Board consisting of eleven members (commissioners) who are residents within the Security District. The commissioners are appointed by certain organizations within the Security District, the mayor, and the state senator and state representative of the Security District. Commissioners are appointed on a rotating and staggered schedule of three-year terms, and serve without compensation.

The boundaries of the Security District are areas bounded by and including both sides of Carondelet Street, Jackson Avenue, Magazine Street, and Louisiana Avenue. The Security District serves over 2,500 residents and businesses and includes approximately 1,600 taxable properties.

The Security District has no employees and has contracted out the administrative function of the organization to an independent contractor that provides an office and professional staff.

As approved by a majority of voters of the Security District in November 1998, the operations of the Security District was funded beginning in 1999 by the imposition of a special ad valorem tax on all taxable real property within the District. The tax was renewed for another eight years by a majority of the voter in April of 2018.

#### Note 2. Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Basis of Presentation

The financial statements of the Security District have been prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis For State and Local Governments, issued in June 1999.

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 2. Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Reporting Entity

The Garden District's Security District is the basic level of government, which has financial accountability and control over all affairs of the Security District related to promoting and encouraging the security of the Garden District in Orleans Parish. The Security District is not included in any other governmental "reporting entity" as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncement, because the majority of Board members are appointed by the public, and said Board has decision making authority, the authority to set rates (within legally prescribed limits), the power to designate management, the ability to significantly influence operations, and has primary accountability for fiscal matters. In addition, there are no component units as defined in GASB Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, which are included in the Security District's reporting entity.

#### **Fund Accounting**

Due to the nature of the organization and its present operations, all revenues and expenditures of the Security District are accounted for in the General Fund, a governmental fund type. This fund is the general operating fund of the Security District. It is used to account for all financial resources of the Security District.

#### Basis of Accounting

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the Security District as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the Security District. Information contained in these statements reflects the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange transactions occur regardless of when cash is received or disbursed. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions.

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 2. Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

The amounts reflected in the General Fund Statements, are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. Measurement focus refers to what is being measured; basis of accounting refers to timing of when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. All revenues and expenditures of the Security District are accounted for in the General Fund (a governmental fund type). Governmental funds use a current financial resources measurement focus and are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual, i.e., when they become measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred, if measurable.

#### Reconciliation

Explanation of certain differences and the related reconciliations between the fund financial statements and government-wide financial statements are presented on pages 13 and 15.

#### **Budget Practices**

The proposed budget, prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, is submitted to the Board of Commissioners prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The budget is made available for public inspection and is then legally adopted by the Board. The budget is established and controlled by the Security District, and is amended during the year, as necessary. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of the year and must be reappropriated for the following year to be expended.

#### Deposits

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in interest bearing demand deposits. Under state law, the Security District may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 2. Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

At December 31, 2019, the Security District had cash (book balances) totaling \$73,905 in interest bearing demand deposits. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. 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 agent bank. At December 31, 2019, the Security District had \$79,313 in deposits (collected bank balances) all of which was secured by FDIC insurance or the pledge of securities.

#### Investments

The Security District does not have any investments other than cash invested in an interest bearing checking account. Funds held in a custodial account of the Board of Liquidation, City Debt, are invested in money market accounts, certificates of deposit and/or full faith and credit obligations of the United States Government.

#### Receivables

For purposes of the government-wide financial statements, taxes receivable are shown net of an allowance for uncollectible taxes, which is estimated at \$37,000 as of December 31, 2019. Additionally, the City of New Orleans withholds taxes collected for various purposes, including taxes paid under protest for subsequent adjustments by the assessor and also for other claims for refunds by residents.

#### **Equity Classification**

In the government-wide financial statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in one component called unrestricted. Unrestricted net position consists of resources that are not legally segregated for a specific future use.

#### Governmental Fund Balances

The Security District has adopted GASB No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, which significantly changed the reporting of fund balance in the balance sheets of governmental type funds.

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 2. Summary Of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balances are classified as follows:

- 1. Non-spendable amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in non-spendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- 2. Restricted amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of state or federal laws or because of constraints externally imposed by creditors, grantors, or citizens.
- 3. Committed amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board of Commissioners.
- 4. Assigned amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.
- 5. Unassigned all amounts not included in other spendable classifications.

#### Risk Management

The Security District is exposed to various risk of loss related to torts; and theft of, damage to and destruction of assets. To handle such risk of loss, the Security District maintains commercial insurance policies covering general liability and property insurance. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage during the year ended December 31, 2019.

#### Estimates

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

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 3. Ad Valorem Taxes

Annually, the Security District submits a plan to the City Council of New Orleans to levy and collect a special ad valorem tax, not to exceed 19.00 mills, on all taxable real property situated within the boundaries of the Security District.

The City of New Orleans levies and collects the special taxes for the Security District in the same manner and at the same time as all other ad valorem taxes on property subject to taxation by the City of New Orleans are levied and collected. Specifically, with regards to the Security District, the special ad valorem taxes are levied on January 1 of the current year based on assessed values as of August 15 of the prior year. Ad valorem taxes are due January 1 and become delinquent on February 1. The City is permitted to retain two percent (2%) of the amount collected as a collection fee and two percent (2%) of the amount assessed as an assessor fee.

Tax receipts are paid over to the Board of Liquidation, City Debt, day by day as collected. The Board of Liquidation, City Debt, serves in a custodial capacity for the Security District, and the funds collected are deposited in a special account until warranted by the Security District.

The Security District records the ad valorem taxes as receivables and revenues in the year the taxes become due.

#### Note 4. Receivables – Due From Board Of Liquidation, City Debt

Receivables totaling \$1,131,382 at December 31, 2019, represent funds held in a custodial account of the Board of Liquidation, City Debt. These funds, which have not been warranted by the Security District as of December 31, 2019, consist of ad valorem tax collections and interest earned on funds held in custody.

#### Note 5. Pension Plan

The Security District has no employees and is not a member of any retirement plan.

#### Note 6. Litigation And Claims

As of December 31, 2019, the Security District was not involved in or aware of any pending or threatened litigation.

Notes To Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### Note 7. Compensation Paid To Board Members And Agency Head

The members of the Board of Commissioners of the Security District receive no compensation for their services.

The President of the governing board of commissioners of the District (agency head or chief executive office) serves without compensation, remuneration, benefit or otherwise.

#### Note 8. Other Commitments And Contingencies

The Security District has a contract/security services agreement with a company that provides guard patrol services for the protection of the property and persons located within the boundaries of the Security District.

The most recent contract term with this company has expired. The contract is currently on a month to month automatic renewal unless terminated. Total expenditures under this contract for 2019 were \$674,968.

The Security District also has an agreement with an independent contractor that provides administrative and support services to the Security District. In 2017, the Security District approved renewal of the contract effective February 1, 2017 with a two-year term ending on January 31, 2019. The contract is currently on month to month automatic renewal. Total expenditures for 2019 in conjunction with this agreement were \$42,162.

#### Note 9. Subsequent Events

In preparing the financial statements, the Security District has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through September 14, 2020, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

As a result of the spread of COVID-19 coronavirus, economic uncertainties have arisen which may impact the financial condition of the District; however, any potential impact is unknown at this time.

Required Supplementary Information (Part II)

## Schedule Of Revenues, Expenditures, And Changes In Fund Balance Budget And Actual - General Fund For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

Variance **Budgeted Amounts** Actual Favorable % Original Final Amounts (Unfavorable) Variance Revenues Ad valorem taxes (net of fees) 807,149 807,149 829,911 22,762 Interest earned 5,000 5,000 31,422 26,422 **Total Revenues** 812,149 812,149 861,333 49,184 6.1 **Expenditures** Patrol and security services 700,000 700,000 674,968 25,032 Patrol extra 75,000 75,000 70,171 4,829 Enhanced security program 10,000 10,000 461 9,539 Insurance 25,000 25,000 8,689 16,311 Legal fees 10,000 10,000 175 9,825 Administrative fee 42,162 42,162 42,162 Accounting and auditing 6,000 6,000 7,800 (1,800)Telephone, postage, and supplies 4,062 4,000 4,000 (62)GPS monitor, e-mail alerts, updates 2,400 6,000 6,000 3,600 Website 2,000 2,000 955 1,045 Contingency 5,000 5,000 5,000 **Total Expenditures** 8.3 885,162 885,162 811,843 73,319 Net Change In Fund Balance 49,490 (73,013)(73,013)122,503 1,034,905 Fund Balance At Beginning Of Year 964,689 1,034,905

See auditor's report and accompanying notes.

\$ 961,892

\$ 1,084,395

\$ 122,503

\$ 891,676

Fund Balance At End Of Year

Other Reports And Information

## Garden District's Security District New Orleans, Louisiana

Supplementary Information For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

# Schedule of Compensation, Benefits And Other Payments To Agency Head, Political Subdivision Head Or Chief Executive Officer

The schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head, political subdivision head or chief executive officer is presented in compliance with Act 706 of the 2014 Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

The Security District has no employees and the President, Mr. Wendell LeGardeur and immediate past President, Mr. Fred Buras (agency head, political subdivision head or chief executive officer) of the governing board of commissioners serve without compensation, remuneration, benefits or otherwise.

Accordingly, there are no applicable payments to report.

Purpose	<u>An</u>	<u>10unt</u>
Salary	\$	-
Benefits		
Car allowance		
Vehicle provided by government		1400 1400
Per diem		<b>₩</b> 01
Reimbursements		=
Travel		ē.
Registration fees		-
Conference travel		8 <del>4</del>
Continuing professional education fees		-
Housing		9 <del>-1</del>
Unvouchered expenses		=
Special meals		-

Other Reports And Information

### PEDELAHORE & Co., LLP

Certified Public Accountants

Independent Auditor's Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

To the Board of Commissioners Garden District's Security District New Orleans, 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 fund of Garden District's Security District (the Security District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Security District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents, and have issued our report thereon dated September 14, 2020.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Security District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Security District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Security 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 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.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

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

#### Purpose of this Report

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management of the District and the Legislative Auditor for the State of Louisiana and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Metairie, Louisiana

Edelahout Co., LLD

September 14, 2020

Summary Schedule Of Prior Year Findings For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

The Garden District's Security District respectfully submits the following schedule of prior year audit findings for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Section I – Internal Control And Compliance Material To The Financial Statements

None

Section II - Internal Control And Compliance Material To Federal Awards

Not Applicable

Section III - Management Letter

None Issued

Schedule Of Current Year Findings For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

## Section I - Summary Of Auditor's Results

None Issued

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified	
Internal control over financial reporting:		
Material weakness(es) identified?	yes	X_no
Significant deficiency or a combination of control deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	yes	Xno
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	yes	Xno
Section II – Internal Control And Compliance Mater	rial To Federal A	wards
Not Applicable		
Section III – Management Letter		

## PEDELAHORE & CO., LLP

Certified Public Accountants

ROBERT J. MORA, CPA MARY H. VALIGOSKY, CPA MILTON B. CAVALIER, CPA JENNIFER L. DORAN, CPA MEMBER AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPA'S SOCIETY OF LOUISIANA CPA'S

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Commissioners Garden District's Security District New Orleans, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by Garden District's Security District (Security District) and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the period ending December 31, 2019. The Security District's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

#### Written Policies and Procedures

- 1. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe that they address each of the following categories and subcategories (if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations):
  - a) Budgeting, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget
  - b) *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.
  - c) Disbursements, including processing, reviewing, and approving
  - d) *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).

- e) *Payroll/Personnel*, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked.
- f) *Contracting*, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process
- g) Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-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)
- h) *Travel and expense reimbursement*, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers
- i) *Ethics*, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) requirement that all employees, including elected officials, annually attest through signature verification that they have read the entity's ethics policy.
- j) **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- k) 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, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and to0s needed to recover operations after a critical event.

Results of Procedures: Procedure #1 was only performed on item k) Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity, as the other policy and procedures had no exceptions in 2018. The District has not yet formalized a written policy and procedure for Disaster Recovery; however, it has procedures in place as to backup of critical financial statement data.

Management's Response: The District will review current policies and procedures, determine if additional policies and procedures need to be added, and then formalize these into writing.

#### **Board or Finance Committee**

- 2. 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:
  - a) 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.
  - b) For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general

- fund and major special revenue funds, as well as monthly financial statements (or budget-to-actual comparisons, if budgeted) for major proprietary funds.
- c) For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unrestricted fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unrestricted 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 unrestricted fund balance in the general fund.

Results of Procedures: N/A – The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District had no exceptions for 2018.

#### Bank Reconciliations

- 3. Obtain a listing of client 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 selected each account, and observe that:
  - a) Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged);
  - b) Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management/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
  - c) Management has documentation reflecting that it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Result of Procedures: The District has one bank account – the main operating account. The selected reconciliation was prepared within the two-month time-frame and no reconciling items were outstanding for more than one month past the closing date; therefore no research was necessary. The Board Treasurer initialed the bank statement as to his review, however the corresponding bank reconciliation did not have an indication of review.

Management's Response: The bank reconciliations will also be forwarded to the Treasurer for review in addition to the bank statements.

#### **Collections**

- 4. Obtain a listing of <u>deposit sites</u> 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).
- 5. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of <u>collection locations</u> and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies

and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, 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:

- a) Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.
- b) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.
- c) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not 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.
- d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee verifies the reconciliation.
- 6. Inquire of management that all employees who have access to cash are covered by a bond or insurance policy for theft.
- 7. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under "Bank Reconciliations" above (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). Alternately, 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. Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
  - a) Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - b) Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
  - c) Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
  - d) 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).
  - e) Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Results of Procedures: N/A – The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District had no exceptions for 2018.

# Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases/payments, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)

- 8. 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).
- 9. For each location selected under #8 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, inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:

- a) At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.
- b) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- 10. For each location selected under #8 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:
  - a) Observe that the disbursement matched the related original invoice/billing statement.
  - b) Observe that the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.

Results of Procedures: N/A – The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District had no exceptions for 2017/2018.

#### Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards

- 11. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-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.
- 12. 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:
  - a) Observe that 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) was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the authorized card holder. [Note: Requiring such approval may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality); these instances should not be reported.]
  - b) Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
- 13. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 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 (i.e. each card should

have 10 transactions subject to testing). 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).

Results of Procedures: N/A – The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District does not have credit cards and there were no exceptions for 2018.

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

- 14. 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, 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:
  - a) If reimbursed using a per diem, agree the reimbursement rate to those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov).
  - b) If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
  - c) 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 policy (procedure #1h).
  - d) Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Results of Procedures: N/A - The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District had no travel or travel- related expense reimbursements, and there were no exceptions for 2017/2018.

#### Contracts

- 15. 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. Alternately, 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:
  - a) Observe that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
  - b) Observe that the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).

- c) If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment.
- d) 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.

Results of Procedures: N/A – The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District had no exceptions in 2017/2018.

#### Payroll and Personnel

- 16. Obtain a listing of employees/elected officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees/officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
- 17. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees/officials selected under #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
  - a) Observe that all selected employees/officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory). (Note: Generally, an elected official is not eligible to carn leave and does not document his/her attendance and leave. However, if the elected official is earning leave according to policy and/or contract, the official should document his/her daily attendance and leave.)
  - b) Observe that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.
  - c) Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
- 18. Obtain a listing of those employees/officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees/officials, obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations, agree the hours to the employee/officials' cumulate leave records, and agree the pay rates to the employee/officials' authorized pay rates in the employee/officials' personnel files.
- 19. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, and workers' compensation premiums have been paid, and associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Results of Procedures:  $N/\Lambda$  – The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District has no employees.

#### Ethics

- 20. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under "Payroll and Personnel" above obtain ethics documentation from management, and:
  - a. Observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the fiscal period.
  - b. Observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official attested through signature verification that he or she has read the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period.

Results of Procedures:  $N/\Lambda$  - The tests of this procedure were not performed as the Security District has no employees/elected officials.

#### Debt Service

- 21. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all bonds/notes on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each bond/note issued.
- 22. 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.

Results of Procedures: N/A — The tests for this procedure were not performed as the Security District has no debt.

#### Other

- 23. 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.
- 24. 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.

Results of Procedures: Management has reported that there has been no misappropriation of public funds or assets. The District's website has the fraud hotline number listed under both "Important Numbers" tab and "FAQ" tab.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C 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.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C 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.

Metairie, Louisiana September 14, 2020

edelahor & Co. LLP

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