

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
CITY OF MILWAUKEE**

COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE
AND MANAGEMENT

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2015

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Required Communication of Internal Control Related Matters Identified in the Audit to Those Charged with Governance	1
Other Communications to Those Charged with Governance	
Two Way Communication Regarding Your Audit	2 – 4
Communication of Other Control Deficiencies, Recommendations and Informational Points to Management that are not Material Weaknesses or Significant Deficiencies	5 – 6
Required Communications by the Auditor to Those Charged with Governance	7 – 10
Management Representations	

**REQUIRED COMMUNICATION OF INTERNAL CONTROL RELATED MATTERS IDENTIFIED IN THE
AUDIT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE**

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
777 E Wisconsin Ave, 32nd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5313
tel 414 777 5500
fax 414 777 5555
bakertilly.com

To the Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (the Authority) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing 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 its internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of its internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Authority's Board of Commissioners, and others within the organization and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
August 2, 2016

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

TWO WAY COMMUNICATION REGARDING YOUR AUDIT

As part of our audit of your financial statements, we are providing communications to you throughout the audit process. Auditing requirements provide for two-way communication and are important in assisting the auditor and you with more information relevant to the audit.

As this past audit is concluded, we use what we have learned to begin the planning process for next year's audit. It is important that you understand the following points about the scope and timing of our next audit:

- a. We address the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.
- b. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:
 - > Identify types of potential misstatements.
 - > Consider factors that affect the risks of material misstatement.
 - > Design tests of controls, when applicable, and substantive procedures.

We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits done in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance and that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

- c. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for fair presentation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material misstatements, whether caused by errors or fraud, are detected.
- d. We address the significant risks or material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.

TWO WAY COMMUNICATION REGARDING YOUR AUDIT (continued)

- e. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material noncompliance related to the federal and state awards whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of the federal and state awards and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:
- > Identify types of potential noncompliance.
 - > Consider factors that affect the risks of material noncompliance.
 - > Design tests of controls, when applicable, and other audit procedures.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and OMB's *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance).

We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits done in accordance with *Government Accounting Standards* and the Uniform Guidance, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe (a) the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, (b) the scope of testing internal control over compliance for major programs and major program compliance and the result of that testing and to provide an opinion on compliance but not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance and, (c) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the Uniform Guidance in considering internal control over compliance and major program compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

- f. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for reporting material noncompliance while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the entity's federal and state awards. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material noncompliance, whether caused by error or fraud, is detected.
- g. Your financial statements contain components, as defined by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which we also audit.
- h. In connection with our audit, we intend to place reliance on the audit of the financial statements of Carver Park Tax Credit Limited Partnership, Highland Park Community, LLC, Cherry Court Development, LLC, Convent Hill, LLC, Scattered Sites, LLC, Westlawn Renaissance, LLC, and Lapham Park, LLC, component units of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, as of December 31, 2015 and for the year then ended completed by SVA Certified Public Accountants, S.C. All necessary conditions have been met to allow us to make reference to the component auditors.

TWO WAY COMMUNICATION REGARDING YOUR AUDIT (continued)

We are very interested in your views regarding certain matters. Those matters are listed here:

- a. We typically will communicate with your top level of management unless you tell us otherwise.
- b. We understand that the Board of Commissioners has the responsibility to oversee the strategic direction of your organization, as well as the overall accountability of the entity. Management has the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the entity.
- c. We need to know your views about your organization's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.
- d. Which matters do you consider warrant particular attention during the audit, and are there any areas where you request additional procedures to be undertaken?
- e. Have you had any significant communications with regulators or grantor agencies?
- f. Are there other matters that you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements or the federal awards?

Also, is there anything that we need to know about the attitudes, awareness, and actions of the Authority concerning:

- a. The Authority's internal control and its importance in the entity, including how those charged with governance oversee the effectiveness of internal control?
- b. The detection or the possibility of fraud?

We also need to know if you have taken actions in response to developments in financial reporting, laws, accounting standards, governance practices, or other related matters, or in response to previous communications with us.

With regard to the timing of our audit, here is some general information. If necessary, we may do preliminary financial audit work during the months of October-December, and sometimes early January. Our final fieldwork is scheduled during April and May to best coincide with your readiness and report deadlines. After fieldwork, we wrap up our financial audit procedures at our office and may issue drafts of our report for your review. Final copies of our report and other communications are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final fieldwork, but may vary depending on a number of factors. We typically perform the single audit fieldwork during the financial audit. After single audit fieldwork, we wrap up our single audit procedures at our office and then issue drafts of our report for your review. Final copies of our Report on Federal Awards are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final single audit fieldwork, but may vary depending upon a number of factors.

Keep in mind that while this communication may assist us with planning the scope and timing of the audit, it does not change the auditor's sole responsibility to determine the overall audit strategy and the audit plan, including the nature, timing, and extent of procedures necessary to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

We realize that you may have questions on what this all means, or wish to provide other feedback. We welcome the opportunity to hear from you.

**COMMUNICATION OF OTHER CONTROL DEFICIENCIES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND
INFORMATIONAL POINTS TO MANAGEMENT THAT ARE NOT MATERIAL WEAKNESSES OR
SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES**

INFORMATIONAL POINTS

CYBER RISK ASSESSMENT

Cybersecurity is a growing challenge for many governments as threats and vulnerabilities constantly evolve. Information security is a significant issue for many organizations and is no longer considered to be strictly an Information Technology (IT) issue. The potential impacts of a security breach can be financial, operational, and reputational. Cyber risk should be a high priority and evaluated on a regular basis.

Security breaches can come in a number of forms, which are continually evolving with advances in and increased use of technology. It is important for governments to assess what types of information they have that are vulnerable to cyber-attack. Items to consider include processing, collecting, and/or storing personal information about employees, taxpayers, and/or customers. Social security numbers, bank accounts, addresses, medical information, birth dates, and credit cards are all common examples of information existing in systems of governmental entities. In addition, general ledger data and other supporting files can be compromised. Several instances of ransomware have been reported in governmental entities like yours during the last year. Ransomware restricts access to your files and demands a ransom to the malware operator in order to release the restriction. It is important to take inventory of all the information that flows through your systems in order to properly secure your data.

We recommend performing a cyber risk assessment to align the internal controls and processes with the organizational objectives, initiatives, resources, and risk appetites with regards to cyber risk. We have cybersecurity experts on staff that are available to assist with this assessment.

GOVERNMENT FRAUD PREVENTION AND DETECTION: NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT

When it comes to preventing and detecting fraud in government, being proactive is critical. In fact, government is the second most likely industry to be impacted by fraud. According to the audit standards, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management. To get started, your government should conduct a fraud risk assessment to identify where and how fraud might occur and what individuals may be in a position to commit fraud. Once you've identified your entity's fraud risk areas, the next step is to develop a fraud risk assessment and investigation policy.

As you begin your fraud risk assessment or develop tools to prevent and detect fraud, it is important to keep in mind the following information provided by the Association of Certified fraud Examiners:

- > Misappropriation of assets accounts for 80 percent of fraud
- > The primary internal control weaknesses observed are lack of internal controls, lack of management review, override of existing internal controls and poor tone at the top
- > A tip is the most effective tool to catch a fraudster followed by management review
- > The professional requirements and objectives of a financial audit are different than a forensic audit. Due to the nature of a financial audit, less than 10 percent of frauds have been discovered as a result of a forensic audit conducted by an independent accounting firm.

If your government has not gone through a fraud risk assessment or does not have a plan to prevent and detect fraud, we recommend that this be done and then updated on a regular basis. We are available to assist you with this process.

INFORMATIONAL POINTS (cont.)

INTERPRETING YOUR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS POST-GASB No. 68

Now that your financial statements reflect the new pension requirements of GASB Statement No. 68, what has changed and how do you interpret this new information? In summary, GASB Statement No. 68 required governmental entities participating in the Employee's Retirement System of the City of Milwaukee (ERS) to report their proportionate share of the plan's activity and net pension asset.

As of the December 31, 2014 measurement date used for your 2015 financial statements, ERS reported total resources available to provide pension benefits of \$4.953 billion. They also reported a total liability for pensions of \$5.066 billion. This resulted in a net pension liability of \$113 million. Your government's proportionate share of the liability is \$1,450,000. There are also pension-related deferred outflows or inflows due to timing of contributions and smoothing of activity.

The implementation of this new standard does not affect how you fund or pay for your pension contributions to the ERS.

The accounting and reporting of pensions has become more complex with the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68. We are available to answer any questions on how this new accounting standard affects your financial statements.

OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT (OPEB) REPORTING CHANGES ON THE HORIZON

GASB Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, addresses reporting by OPEB plans that administer benefits on behalf of governments. GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, addresses reporting by governments that provide OPEB to their employees and for governments that finance OPEB for employees of other governments. The new OPEB standards parallel the pension standards GASB Nos. 67 and 68. Together, the pension and OPEB standards provide consistent and comprehensive guidance for all postemployment benefits.

OPEB plans will implement the new standards beginning with the year end December 31, 2017. Governments that provide OPEB benefits to their employees will need to implement these standards beginning with the year end December 31, 2018.

This standard has similarities to the previous OPEB standards, most notably the definition of an OPEB and the option of the alternative measurement method for small governments. However, the calculation and reporting of the OPEB liability and various required disclosures will change under the new standards, becoming similar to the pension standards.

To implement this standard, your government will need to plan ahead for obtaining a new actuarial study. The selection of a measurement date and timing for the study will be important to consider well in advance of implementation. We are available to further discuss this standard, the timing, and impact on your government.

REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS BY THE AUDITOR TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

To the Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Thank you for using Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP as your auditor.

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (the Authority) for the year ended December 31, 2015 and have issued our report thereon dated August 2, 2016. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS AND THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

The objective of a financial statement audit is the expression of an opinion on the financial statements. We conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, *Government Auditing Standards* and OMB's *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). These standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud. Our audit included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit does not relieve management or the Board of Commissioners of their responsibilities.

We considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting to determine the 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 Authority's internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for a major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority'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. Also, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, we examined, on a test basis, evidence about the Authority's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the Authority's compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance, it does not provide a legal determination on the Authority's compliance with those requirements.

We have issued a separate document which contains the results of our audit procedures to comply with the Uniform Guidance.

To the Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

OTHER INFORMATION IN DOCUMENTS CONTAINING AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our responsibility does not extend beyond the audited financial statements identified in this report. We do not have any obligation to and have not performed any procedures to corroborate other information contained in client prepared documents, such as official statements related to debt issues.

PLANNED SCOPE AND TIMING OF THE AUDIT

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our prior year Communication to Those Charged with Governance and Management dated August 3, 2015.

QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF THE ENTITY'S SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PRACTICES

Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note I to the financial statements. As described in Note I to the financial statements, the Authority changed accounting policies related to financial reporting for pensions by adopting Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68* in 2015. Accordingly, the accounting change has been retrospectively applied to prior periods presented as if the policy has always been used. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements are:

- Management's estimate of the other post employment benefit plan actuarial accrued liability which impacts the annual required contribution is based on several key assumptions that are set by management with the assistance of an independent third party actuary. These assumptions include anticipated investment rate of return, health care cost trends, projected salary increases, mortality and certain cost amortization periods.
- Management's estimate of the net pension liability and the deferred outflows and inflows related to pensions which impacts the reported pension expense are based on information provided by the Employee's Retirement System of the City of Milwaukee.

We evaluated key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Financial Statement Disclosures

The disclosures in the notes to the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

To the Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN PERFORMING THE AUDIT

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management.

In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

DISAGREEMENTS WITH MANAGEMENT

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

CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter. This letter follows this required communication.

INDEPENDENCE

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP and the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Relating to our audit of the financial statements of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2015, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP hereby confirms that we are, in our professional judgment, independent with respect to the Authority in accordance with the Code of Professional Conduct issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We provided no services to the Authority other than audit services provided in connection with the audit of the current year's financial statements and the following nonaudit services which in our judgment do not impair our independence.

- > Financial statement preparation
- > Veterans Housing Project agreed upon procedures

To the Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

INDEPENDENCE (cont.)

None of these nonaudit services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS OR ISSUES

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

OTHER MATTERS

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information which accompanies the financial statements but is not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

RESTRICTION ON USE

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

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the information included in this letter and any other matters. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
August 2, 2016

MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
CITY OF MILWAUKEE

Tom Barrett
Mayor

Antonio M. Perez
Secretary-Executive Director

Board of Commissioners

August 2, 2016

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
777 E Wisconsin Ave
32nd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Housing Authority as of December 31, 2015 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities and the aggregate discretely presented component units, of the Housing Authority and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter.
2. The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have engaged you to advise us in fulfilling that responsibility. The financial statements include all properly classified funds of the business unit and all component units required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to be included in the financial reporting entity.
3. We acknowledge our responsibility 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.

Housing Management
809 N. Broadway, 3rd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 286-5824 Voice
(414) 286-0833 Fax

Community Services
650 W. Reservoir Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 286-5100 Voice
(414) 286-3169 Fax
(414) 286-3504 TDD

Housing Operations
5125 W. Lisbon Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53210
(414) 286-2192 Voice
(414) 286-8742 Fax

Maintenance Operations
2411 N. 51st St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210
(414) 286-2931 Voice
(414) 286-0208 Fax

Modernization & Development
5125 W. Lisbon Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53210
(414) 286-2951 Voice
(414) 286-8742 Fax

Rent Assistance
5011 W. Lisbon Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53210
(414) 286-5650 Voice
(414) 286-5094 Fax
(414) 286-5645 TDD

4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
5. Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, if any, are reasonable.
6. Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
7. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No other events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
8. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal and state awards.
9. All known audit and bookkeeping adjustments have been included in our financial statements, and we are in agreement with those adjustments.
10. There are no known or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements. There are no unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
11. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Housing Authority is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

12. We have provided you with:
 - a. Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, documentation, and other matters and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
 - b. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c. Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - d. Minutes of the meetings of Board of Commissioners or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
13. We have disclosed to you results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
14. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
 - a. Management,
 - b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
 - c. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
15. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others.

16. We have no knowledge of known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

17. We have disclosed to you all known related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Other

18. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.

19. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.

20. We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.

21. We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions, for our report.

22. The Housing Authority has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.

23. We are responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits, debt contracts, and IRS arbitrage regulations; and we have identified and disclosed to you all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.

24. There are no:

- a. Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, federal, state, and local laws or regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance, except those already disclosed in the financial statement, if any.
- b. Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- c. Restrictions of net position that were not properly authorized and approved.
- d. Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.
- e. Violations of restrictions placed on revenues as a result of bond resolution covenants such as revenue distribution or debt service funding.

25. In regards to the nonattest services performed by you listed below, we have 1) accepted all management responsibility; 2) designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services; 3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and 4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

- a. Financial statement preparation
- b. Veterans Housing Project agreed upon procedures

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

26. The Housing Authority has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

27. The Housing Authority has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statement in the event of noncompliance.

28. The financial statements include all component units as well as joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.

29. The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.

30. Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.

31. The Housing Authority has no derivative financial instruments such as contracts that could be assigned to someone else or net settled, interest rate swaps, collars or caps.

32. Provisions for uncollectible receivables, if any, have been properly identified and recorded.

33. Expenses have been appropriately classified in the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position.

34. Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position.

35. Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.

36. Deposits and investment securities are properly classified as to risk, and investments are properly valued. Collateralization agreements with financial institutions, if any, have been properly disclosed.

37. Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.

38. Tax-exempt bonds issued have retained their tax-exempt status.

39. We have appropriately disclosed the Housing Authority's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position were properly recognized under the policy.

40. We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
41. With respect to the supplementary information, (SI):
- a. We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SI in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the SI, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SI have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
 - b. If the SI is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.
42. We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the findings of specialists in evaluating the other post employment benefits obligation and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.
43. We agree with the restatement presented in the current year's financial statements.
44. We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the information provided by the Employee's Retirement System of the City of Milwaukee as audited by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP relating to the net pension liability and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows and have adequately considered the reasonableness of the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We also assume responsibility for the census data that has been reported to the plan.
45. We are responsible for the supplementary financial information required by HUD's Uniform Financial Reporting Standards for HUD Housing programs and the information submitted to HUD through FASS submission templates is supported by the financial statements and underlying accounting records.
46. There have been no communications from HUD concerning non-compliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
47. With respect to federal award programs:
- a. We are responsible for understanding and complying with and have complied with the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, *OMB's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), including requirements relating to preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA).


- b. We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SEFA in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and we believe the SEFA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SEFA have not changed from those used in the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the SEFA.
- c. If the SEFA is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the SEFA no later than the date we issue the SEFA and the auditors' report thereon.
- d. We have identified and disclosed to you all of our government programs and related activities subject to the Uniform Guidance and included in the SEFA, expenditures made during the audit period for all awards provided by federal agencies in the form of grants, federal cost reimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.
- e. We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with the requirements of laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements related to each of our federal programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that are considered to have a direct and material effect on each major federal program.
- f. We are responsible for establishing and maintaining, and have established and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal programs that provide reasonable assurance that we are administering our federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that could have a material effect on our federal programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended. Also, no changes have been made in the internal control over compliance or other factors to the date of this letter that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action taken with regard to control deficiencies reported in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- g. We have made available to you all contracts and grant agreements (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal agencies or pass-through entities relevant to the programs and related activities.
- h. We have received no requests from a federal agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- i. We have complied with the direct and material compliance requirements (except for noncompliance disclosed to you), including when applicable, those set forth in the OMB Compliance Supplement relating to federal awards and have identified and disclosed to you all amounts questioned and any known noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements of federal awards.
- j. We have disclosed any communications from grantors and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditors' report.
- k. Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in the Uniform Guidance.
- l. We have disclosed to you our interpretation of compliance requirements that may have varying interpretations.
- m. We have made available to you all documentation related to the compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.

- n. We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period affecting noncompliance during the reporting period.
- o. We are not aware of any instances of noncompliance with direct and material compliance requirements that occurred subsequent to the period covered by the auditors' report.
- p. No changes have been made in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control over compliance, subsequent to the date as of which compliance was audited.
- q. Federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the financial statements have been prepared.
- r. The copies of federal program financial reports provided you are true copies of the reports submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
- s. We have charged costs to federal awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- t. We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the summary schedule of prior audit findings to include all findings required to be included by the Uniform Guidance, and we have provided you with all information on the status of the follow-up on prior audit findings by federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities, including all management decisions.
- u. We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the auditee section of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance.
- v. We are responsible for preparing and implementing a corrective action plan for each audit finding.
- w. We have disclosed to you all contracts or other agreements with our service organizations, and we have disclosed to you all communications from the service organization relating to noncompliance at the service organizations.

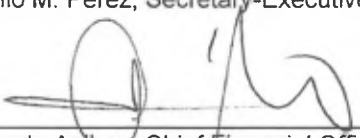
Sincerely,

Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

Signed: _____


Antonio M. Perez, Secretary-Executive Director

Signed: _____


Fernando Anbar, Chief Financial Officer

Signed: _____


Rick Koffarnus, Accounting Manager