



*Auditor's Discussion and Analysis
Financial and Compliance Audit Summary
September 30, 2020*

Presented by:

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**MAULDIN
& JENKINS**
CPAs & ADVISORS

ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT
AUDITOR'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

PURPOSE OF THE AUDITOR'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

- ◆ Engagement Team and Firm Information.
- ◆ Overview of the Audit Opinion.
- ◆ Required Communications under *Government Auditing Standards*.
- ◆ Accounting Recommendations and Related Matters.
- ◆ Answer Questions.

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MAULDIN & JENKINS – GOVERNMENTAL PRACTICE

General Information:

- Founded in 1918. Approximately 330 personnel. Large regional southeastern firm.
- Offices located in Bradenton and Sarasota, Florida; Macon, Atlanta, Savannah and Albany, Georgia; Chattanooga, Tennessee; Birmingham, Alabama; and Columbia, South Carolina.



Governmental Sector:

- Serve a significant number of governmental entities in the Southeast with over 110,000 hours provided annually.
- Largest industry niche served by the Firm (28%).
- Over 100 people with current governmental experience.
- In past three years, have served approximately 500 governments:
 - ✓ 115 cities;
 - ✓ 55 counties;
 - ✓ 55 school systems and 40 charter schools;
 - ✓ 40 state entities;
 - ✓ 45 stand-alone business-type special purpose entities (water/sewer, transit, gas, electric, airports, etc.) which includes nine stand-alone transit systems;
 - ✓ 105 stand-alone governmental special purpose entities (parks/recreation districts, housing, development, industrial, health/welfare, libraries, etc.);
 - ✓ 115 governments awarded the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.
- Experience performing forensic audit services and information technology consultations.
- Experience performing municipal bond debt issuance attestation services serving approximately 50 clients with over \$11 billion in aggregate publicly issued debt instruments.
- Considered to be in the Top 20 total number of Single Audits conducted in the U.S.A.

Engagement Team Leaders for the District Include:

- Wade Sansbury, Engagement Lead Partner: 25 years of experience, 100% governmental
- Daniel Anderson, Engagement Manager: 12 years of experience, 100% governmental
- Meredith Lipson, Quality Assurance Partner: 29 years of experience, 100% governmental

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MAULDIN & JENKINS – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Other Industries and Services Provided by Mauldin & Jenkins:

Each of Mauldin & Jenkins' offices provides a wide variety of services to a broad range of clientele. We have partners and managers who are responsible for specialized practice areas of auditing and accounting, taxes and management advisory services. Their purpose, as leaders in the particular practice area, is to establish policies with respect to technical matters in these specific areas and ensure that the quality of the Firm's practice is maintained.

Industries Served: Over the years, our partners have developed expertise in certain industries representative of a cross section of the Florida economy, including:

- Governmental Entities (state entities, cities, counties, school systems, business type operations, libraries, and other special purpose entities)
- SEC Registrants
- Wholesale Distribution
- Agri-Businesses
- Manufacturing
- Professional Services
- Employee Benefit Plans
- Financial Institutions (community banks, savings and loans, thrifts, credit unions, mortgage companies, and finance companies)
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Retail Businesses
- Long-Term Healthcare
- Construction and Development
- Individuals, Estates and Trusts
- Real Estate Management

Services Provided: This diversity of practice enables our personnel to experience a wide variety of business, accounting and tax situations. We provide the traditional and non-traditional services such as:

- Financial Audit/Review/Compilation
- Compliance Audits and Single Audits
- Agreed-Upon Procedures
- Forensic Audits
- Bond Issuance Services
- Performance Audits
- State Sales Tax Matters
- International Tax Matters
- Business and Strategic Planning
- Profitability Consulting
- Budgeting
- Buy-Sell Agreements and Business Valuation Issues
- Income Tax Planning and Preparation
- Multi-State Income Tax Issues
- Information Systems Consulting
- Cost Accounting Analysis
- Healthcare Cost Reimbursement
- Outsourced Billing Services
- Fixed Asset Inventories
- Succession and Exit Strategy Consulting
- Estate Planning
- Management Information Systems
- Employee Benefit Plan Administration
- Merger/Acquisition and Expansion Financing

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The standard independent auditor's report for governmental units has specific sections of significance to readers of the financial report.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The financial statements are the responsibility of management.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility, as external auditors, 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. We planned and performed our audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

Opinion

We have issued an unmodified audit report which is the highest form of assurance we can render with regard to the fairness of financial information on which we are opining. The financial statements are considered to present fairly the financial position and results of operations as of, and for the year ended, September 30, 2020.

Other Matters

Certain required supplementary information and other information is included in the financial report, and as directed by relevant auditing standards, we have not expressed an opinion or provided any assurance on the respective information.

Other Reporting

Government Auditing Standards require auditors to issue a report on our consideration of internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. We have issued such a report and reference to this report is included in the independent auditor's report.

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REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS

**The Auditor's Responsibility Under *Government Auditing Standards*
and Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America**

Our audit of the financial statements of the Englewood Water District (the "District") for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020, was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error, fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Accordingly, the audit was designed to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about the financial statements. We believe our audit accomplishes that objective.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also performed tests of controls and compliance with laws and regulations that contribute to the evidence supporting our opinion on the financial statements. However, they do not provide a basis for opining on the District's internal control or compliance with laws and regulations.

Accounting Policies

Management has the ultimate responsibility for the appropriateness of the accounting policies used by the District. There are new accounting standards which will be required to be implemented in the coming years. These are discussed later in this document.

In considering the qualitative aspects of the District's accounting policies, we did not identify any significant or unusual transactions or significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. The District's policies relative to the timing of recording of transactions are consistent with GAAP and typical government organizations.

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Management Judgments and Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the preparation of financial statements and are based upon management's current judgment. The process used by management encompasses their knowledge and experience about past and current events and certain assumptions about future events. Management has informed us they used all the relevant facts available to them at the time to make the best judgments about accounting estimates and we considered this information in the scope of our audit. We considered this information and the qualitative aspects of management's calculations in evaluating the District's significant accounting policies. Estimates significant to the financial statements include such items as the estimated lives of depreciable assets, the estimated allowance for uncollectible accounts, and the assumptions used in the actuarial valuations for the pension and other post-employment benefit plans.

Financial Statement Disclosures

The footnote disclosures to the financial statements are also an integral part of the financial statements. The process used by management to accumulate the information included in the disclosures was the same process used in accumulating the financial statements, and the accounting policies described above are included in those disclosures. The overall neutrality, consistency and clarity of the disclosures was considered as part our audit and in forming our opinion on the financial statements.

Significant Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

Audit Adjustments

During our audit of the District's basic financial statements as of and for the year ended September 30, 2020, audit adjustments were required to ensure the financial statements were free from material misstatement. We discussed these entries with management, who agreed and posted the adjustments the District's financial records.

Uncorrected Misstatements

There were no uncorrected misstatements.

Disagreements with Management

We encountered no disagreements with management over the application of significant accounting principles, the basis for management's judgments on significant matters, the scope of the audit or significant disclosures to be included in the financial statements.

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Representation from Management

We requested written representations from management relating to the accuracy of information included in the financial statements and the completeness and accuracy of various information requested by us, during the audit. Management provided those written representations without delay and in an organized manner.

Management's Consultations with Other Accountants

We are not aware of any consultations management had with other accountants about accounting or auditing matters.

Significant Issues Discussed with Management

There were no significant issues discussed with management related to business conditions, plans or strategies that may have affected the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements. We are not aware of any consultations management had with us or other accountants about accounting or auditing matters. No major issues were discussed with management prior to our retention to perform the aforementioned audit.

Independence

We are independent of the District, and all related organizations, in accordance with auditing standards promulgated by the American Institute of Public Accountants and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements

We are not aware of any other documents that contain the audited basic financial statements. If such documents were to be published, we would have a responsibility to determine that such financial information was not materially inconsistent with the audited statements of the District.

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ACCOUNTING RELATED MATTERS

Other Matters Listed Only Within this Annual Auditor's Discussion and Analysis

Cyber-Attacks

Recent headlines have seen no shortages of cyber-attacks. As recently as February 8, 2021, headlines indicated an attack on the City of Oldsmar's water supply system whereby an attacker gained access to the water control system and altered chemical additives to the purification process.

While all attacks are difficult to eliminate, we simply wanted to recommend that you continue to develop and maintain a functioning Cybersecurity Risk Management Program to assist with comprehensively identifying cybersecurity weaknesses, potential threats and risks, and controls used to safeguard information and systems. We also recommend that you continue to investigate, develop and consider implementation of a Cybersecurity Risk Management Program covering Cybersecurity risk assessment, identification of sensitive data, use of strong passwords, software updates/patching cadence, audit security measures, and monitoring and testing of controls in place. A complete Cybersecurity Risk Management Program also encompasses Incident response, disaster recovery, and business continuity policies and procedures, as well as, regular testing of the organization's back-ups. Our Firm has experts in place to help you with these efforts. Please feel free to reach out to us if we may ever be of service to you in these areas.

**Looking Forward: New Governmental
Accounting Standard Board (GASB)
Standards and Pronouncements**



As has been the case for the past ten years, GASB has issued several other new pronouncements which will be effective in future years. The following is a brief summary of the new standards:

- a. **Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*** was issued in January 2017, and is effective for the first reporting period beginning after December 15, 2018. However, in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, in May 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 95 (Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance) which changed the effective date of Statement No. 84 to reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019.

This statement establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities with a focus on: (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity; and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists.

Further, this statement describes four fiduciary funds that should be reported, if applicable: (1) pension and other employee benefit trust funds; (2) investment trust funds; (3) private-purpose trust funds; and (4) custodial funds. Custodial funds generally should report fiduciary activities that are not held in a trust or equivalent arrangement that meets specific criteria.

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- b. Statement No. 87, *Leases*** was issued in June 2017, and is effective for the first reporting period beginning after December 15, 2019. However, in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, in May 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 95 (Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance) which changed the effective date of Statement No. 87 to fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2021. This statement increases the usefulness of governments' financial statements by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the principle that a lease is the financing of the right to use an underlying asset.

Under this statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities.

Definition of a Lease: A lease is defined as a contract that conveys control of the right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset (the underlying asset) as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Examples of nonfinancial assets include buildings, land, vehicles, and equipment. Any contract that meets this definition should be accounted for under the leases guidance, unless specifically excluded in this statement.

Lease Term: The lease term is defined as the period during which a lessee has a non-cancelable right to use an underlying asset, plus the following periods, if applicable:

- Periods covered by a lessee's option to extend the lease if it is reasonably certain, based on all relevant factors, that the lessee will exercise that option;
- Periods covered by a lessee's option to terminate the lease if it is reasonably certain, based on all relevant factors, that the lessee will not exercise that option;
- Periods covered by a lessor's option to extend the lease if it is reasonably certain, based on all relevant factors, that the lessor will exercise that option;
- Periods covered by a lessor's option to terminate the lease if it is reasonably certain, based on all relevant factors, that the lessor will not exercise that option.

A fiscal funding or cancellation clause should affect the lease term only when it is reasonably certain that the clause will be exercised. Lessees and lessors should reassess the lease term only if one or more of the following occur:

- The lessee or lessor elects to exercise an option even though it was previously determined that it was reasonably certain that the lessee or lessor would not exercise that option;
- The lessee or lessor elects not to exercise an option even though it was previously determined that it was reasonably certain that the lessee or lessor would exercise that option;

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- An event specified in the lease contract that requires an extension or termination of the lease takes place.

Short-Term Leases: A short-term lease is defined as a lease that, at the commencement of the lease term, has a maximum possible term under the lease contract of 12 months (or less), including any options to extend, regardless of their probability of being exercised. Lessees and lessors should recognize short-term lease payments as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, respectively, based on the payment provisions of the lease contract.

Lessee Accounting: A lessee should recognize a lease liability and a lease asset at the commencement of the lease term, unless the lease is a short-term lease or it transfers ownership of the underlying asset. The lease liability should be measured at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term (less any lease incentives). The lease asset should be measured at the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability, plus any payments made to the lessor at or before the commencement of the lease term and certain direct costs.

A lessee should reduce the lease liability as payments are made and recognize an outflow of resources (for example, expense) for interest on the liability. The lessee should amortize the lease asset in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset. The notes to financial statements should include a description of leasing arrangements, the amount of lease assets recognized, and a schedule of future lease payments to be made.

Lessor Accounting: A lessor should recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources at the commencement of the lease term, with certain exceptions for leases of assets held as investments, certain regulated leases, short-term leases, and leases that transfer ownership of the underlying asset. A lessor should not derecognize the asset underlying the lease. The lease receivable should be measured at the present value of lease payments expected to be received during the lease term. The deferred inflow of resources should be measured at the value of the lease receivable plus any payments received at or before the commencement of the lease term that relate to future periods.

A lessor should recognize interest revenue on the lease receivable and an inflow of resources (for example, revenue) from the deferred inflows of resources in a systematic and rational manner over the term of the lease. The notes to financial statements should include a description of leasing arrangements and the total amount of inflows of resources recognized from leases.

Contracts with Multiple Components and Contract Combinations: Generally, a government should account for the lease and non-lease components of a lease as separate contracts. If a lease involves multiple underlying assets, lessees and lessors in certain cases should account for each underlying asset as a separate lease contract. To allocate the contract price to different components, lessees and lessors should use contract prices

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for individual components as long as they do not appear to be unreasonable based on professional judgment, or use professional judgment to determine their best estimate if there are no stated prices or if stated prices appear to be unreasonable. If determining a best estimate is not practicable, multiple components in a lease contract should be accounted for as a single lease unit. Contracts that are entered into at or near the same time with the same counterparty and that meet certain criteria should be considered part of the same lease contract and should be evaluated in accordance with the guidance for contracts with multiple components.

Lease Modifications and Terminations: An *amendment* to a lease contract should be considered a lease modification, unless the lessee's right to use the underlying asset decreases, in which case it would be a partial or full lease termination. A lease termination should be accounted for by reducing the carrying values of the lease liability and lease asset by a lessee, or the lease receivable and deferred inflows of resources by the lessor, with any difference being recognized as a gain or loss. A lease modification that does not qualify as a separate lease should be accounted for by re-measuring the lease liability and adjusting the related lease asset by a lessee and re-measuring the lease receivable and adjusting the related deferred inflows of resources by a lessor.

Subleases and Leaseback Transactions: Subleases should be treated as transactions separate from the original lease. The original lessee that becomes the lessor in a sublease should account for the original lease and the sublease as separate transactions, as a lessee and lessor, respectively.

A transaction qualifies for sale-leaseback accounting only if it includes a sale. Otherwise, it is a borrowing. The sale and lease portions of a transaction should be accounted for as separate sale and lease transactions, except that any difference between the carrying value of the capital asset that was sold and the net proceeds from the sale should be reported as a deferred inflow of resources or a deferred outflow of resources and recognized over the term of the lease.

A lease-leaseback transaction should be accounted for as a net transaction. The gross amounts of each portion of the transaction should be disclosed.

- c. **Statement No. 90, *Major Equity Interests*** was issued in August 2018, and is effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018 (meaning June 30, 2020). However, in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, in May 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 95 (Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance) which changed the effective date of Statement No. 90 to reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Under this standard, an equity interest is: (a) a financial interest in a legally separate organization by the ownership shares of the organization's stock; or (b) by otherwise having an explicit, measurable right to the net resources of the organization that is usually based on an investment of financial or capital resources by a government. An equity interest is explicit and measurable if: (a) the government has a present or

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future claim to the net resources of the entity, and (b) the method for measuring the government's share of the entity's net resources is determinable.

If the interest is deemed to be an investment under GASB No. 72, paragraph 64, then the interest should be reported as an investment and measured using the equity method. If the interest is held by a special-purpose government engaged in fiduciary activities, a fiduciary fund, or an endowment or permanent fund, then the amount should be measured at fair value. If interest is 100% of entity, then it is a component unit. We do not expect this new standard to have a significant effect on the Bureau.

- d. Statement No. 91, *Conduit Debt Obligations*** was issued in May 2019, and is effective for the first reporting period beginning after December 15, 2020, meaning for those with year ends of December 31, 2021, and beyond. However, in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, in May 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 95 (Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance) which changed the effective date of Statement No. 91 to reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2021.

The primary objectives of this statement are to provide a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with: (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures. This statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosures.

A conduit debt obligation is defined as a debt instrument meeting **all** of the following characteristics:

- There are at least three parties involved: (1) an issuer, (2) a third-party obligor, and (3) a debt holder (or a debt trustee);
- The issuer and the third-party obligor are not within the same financial reporting entity;
- The debt obligation is not a parity bond of the issuer, nor is it cross-collateralized with other debt of the issuer;
- The third-party obligor (or its agent), not the issuer, ultimately receives the proceeds from the debt issuance;
- The third-party obligor, not the issuer, is primarily obligated for the payment of all amounts associated with the debt obligation (debt service payments).

All conduit debt obligations involve the issuer making a limited commitment. Some issuers extend additional commitments or voluntary commitments to support debt service in the event the third party is, or will be, unable to do so.

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An issuer should not recognize a conduit debt obligation as a liability. However, an issuer should recognize a liability associated with an additional commitment or a voluntary commitment to support debt service if certain recognition criteria are met. As long as a conduit debt obligation is outstanding, an issuer that has made an additional commitment should evaluate at least annually whether those criteria are met. An issuer that has made only a limited commitment should evaluate whether those criteria are met when an event occurs that causes the issuer to reevaluate its willingness or ability to support the obligor's debt service through a voluntary commitment.

This statement also addresses arrangements – often characterized as leases – that are associated with conduit debt obligations. In those arrangements, capital assets are constructed or acquired with the proceeds of a conduit debt obligation and used by third-party obligors in the course of their activities. Payments from third-party obligors are intended to cover and coincide with debt service payments. During those arrangements, issuers retain the titles to the capital assets. Those titles may or may not pass to the obligors at the end of the arrangements.

Issuers should not report those arrangements as leases, nor should they recognize a liability for the related conduit debt obligations or a receivable for the payments related to those arrangements. In addition, the following provisions apply:

- If the title passes to the third-party obligor at the end of the arrangement, an issuer should **not** recognize a capital asset.
- If the title does not pass to the third-party obligor and the third party has exclusive use of the entire capital asset during the arrangement, the issuer should **not** recognize a capital asset until the arrangement ends.
- If the title does not pass to the third-party obligor and the third-party has exclusive use of only portions of the capital asset during the arrangement, the issuer should recognize the entire capital asset and a deferred inflow of resources at the inception of the arrangement. The deferred inflow of resources should be reduced, and an inflow recognized, in a systematic and rational manner over the term of the arrangement.

This statement requires issuers to disclose general information about their conduit debt obligations, organized by type of commitment, including the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the issuers' conduit debt obligations and a description of each type of commitment. Issuers that recognize liabilities related to supporting the debt service of conduit debt obligations also should disclose information about the amount recognized and how the liabilities changed during the reporting period.

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e. **Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020*** was issued in January 2020, and because it is an omnibus standard, contains several different effective dates as follows (as amended by Statement No. 95 issued in May 2020):

- For fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2021, relative to the requirements related to intra-entity transfers of assets and those related to the applicability of Statements 73 and 74.
- For reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021, relative to the requirements related to application of Statement 84 to post-employment benefit arrangements and those related to nonrecurring fair value measurements of assets or liabilities.
- For government acquisitions occurring in reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2021. The requirements related to the measurement of liabilities (and assets, if any) associated with AROs in a government acquisition.
- Other items addressed by this omnibus statement (requirements related to Statement No. 87 and Implementation Guide 2019-3, reinsurance recoveries, and terminology used to refer to derivative instruments) were effective upon issuance.

The objectives of this statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements. This statement addresses a variety of topics and includes specific provisions about the following:

- The effective date of Statement No. 87, Leases, and Implementation Guide No. 2019-3, Leases, for interim financial reports.
- Reporting of intra-entity transfers of assets between a primary government employer and a component unit defined benefit pension plan or defined benefit other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plan.
- The applicability of Statements No. 73, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68, as amended, and No. 74, Financial Reporting for Post-Employment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans, as amended, to reporting assets accumulated for post-employment benefits.
- The applicability of certain requirements of Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities, to post-employment benefit arrangements.
- Measurement of liabilities (and assets, if any) related to asset retirement obligations (AROs) in a government acquisition.
- Reporting by public entity risk pools for amounts that are recoverable from reinsurers or excess insurers.
- Reference to nonrecurring fair value measurements of assets or liabilities in authoritative literature.
- Terminology used to refer to derivative instruments.

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- f. **Statement No. 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates*** was issued in March 2020, and contains two different effective dates. The removal of LIBOR as an appropriate benchmark interest rate is effective for reporting periods ending after December 31, 2021. All other requirements of this statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2020.

As a result of global reference rate reform, the London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) is expected to cease to exist in its current form at the end of 2021, prompting governments to amend or replace financial instruments for the purpose of replacing LIBOR with other reference rates, by either changing the reference rate or adding or changing fallback provisions related to the reference rate.

The objective of this statement is to address those and other accounting and financial reporting implications that result from the replacement of an IBOR. This statement achieves that objective by:

- Providing exceptions for certain hedging derivative instruments to the hedge accounting termination provisions when an IBOR is replaced as the reference rate of the hedging derivative instrument’s variable payment.
- Clarifying the hedge accounting termination provisions when a hedged item is amended to replace the reference rate.
- Clarifying that the uncertainty related to the continued availability of IBORs does not, by itself, affect the assessment of whether the occurrence of a hedged expected transaction is probable.
- Removing LIBOR as an appropriate benchmark interest rate for the qualitative evaluation of the effectiveness of an interest rate swap.
- Identifying a Secured Overnight Financing Rate and the Effective Federal Funds Rate as appropriate benchmark interest rates for the qualitative evaluation of the effectiveness of an interest rate swap.
- Clarifying the definition of reference rate, as it is used in Statement 53, as amended.

- g. **Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*** was issued in March 2020, and is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022, which means year ends of June 30, 2023, and following.

This statement was issued by the GASB to address a gap in generally accepted accounting principles: how do we account for these types of arrangements that do not meet the definition of a service concession arrangement (SCA) covered by GASB Statement No. 60?

Statement No. 94 requires that Public-Private Partnerships and Public-Public Partnerships (“PPPs”) that meet the definition of a lease apply the guidance in Statement No. 87, Leases if: (a) existing assets of the transferor are the only underlying PPP assets, (b) improvements are not required to be made by the operator to those existing assets as

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part of the PPP arrangement, and (c) the PPP does not meet the definition of an SCA. All other PPPs that will not apply the guidance in Statement No. 87 will generally use the accounting guidance contained in Statement No. 60 which was superseded by this new Standard.

Statement No. 94 also establishes accounting and financial reporting requirements for availability payment arrangements (APAs). As defined in this statement, an APA is an arrangement in which a government compensates an operator for services that may include designing, constructing, financing, maintaining, or operating an underlying nonfinancial asset for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. An APA that is related to designing, constructing, and financing a nonfinancial asset in which ownership of the asset transfers by the end of the contract should be accounted for by the government as a financed purchase of the underlying asset.

- h. Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*** was issued in May 2020, and is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022, which means year ends of June 30, 2023, and following.

This statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This statement: (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended.

A SBITA is defined as a contract that conveys control of the right to use another party's (a SBITA vendor's) information technology (IT) software, alone or in combination with tangible capital assets (the underlying IT assets), as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction.

The subscription term includes the period during which a government has a noncancellable right to use the underlying IT assets. The subscription term also includes periods covered by an option to extend (if it is reasonably certain that the government or SBITA vendor will exercise that option) or to terminate (if it is reasonably certain that the government or SBITA vendor will not exercise that option).

Under this statement, a government generally should recognize a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability. A government should recognize the subscription liability at the commencement of the subscription term, which is when the subscription asset is placed into service. The subscription liability should be initially measured at the present value of subscription payments expected to be made during the subscription term. Future subscription payments should be discounted using the interest rate the SBITA vendor charges the

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government, which may be implicit, or the government's incremental borrowing rate if the interest rate is not readily determinable. A government should recognize amortization of the discount on the subscription liability as an outflow of resources (for example, interest expense) in subsequent financial reporting periods.

The subscription asset should be initially measured as the sum of: (1) the initial subscription liability amount, (2) payments made to the SBITA vendor before commencement of the subscription term, and (3) capitalizable implementation costs, less any incentives received from the SBITA vendor at or before the commencement of the subscription term. A government should recognize amortization of the subscription asset as an outflow of resources over the subscription term.

Activities associated with a SBITA, other than making subscription payments, should be grouped into the following three stages, and their costs should be accounted for accordingly:

- Preliminary Project Stage, including activities such as evaluating alternatives, determining needed technology, and selecting a SBITA vendor. Outlays in this stage should be expensed as incurred.
- Initial Implementation Stage, including all ancillary charges necessary to place the subscription asset into service. Outlays in this stage generally should be capitalized as an addition to the subscription asset.
- Operation and Additional Implementation Stage, including activities such as subsequent implementation activities, maintenance, and other activities for a government's ongoing operations related to a SBITA. Outlays in this stage should be expensed as incurred unless they meet specific capitalization criteria.

In classifying certain outlays into the appropriate stage, the nature of the activity should be the determining factor. Training costs should be expensed as incurred, regardless of the stage in which they are incurred.

- i. **Statement No. 97, *Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans*** was issued in June 2020, and is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2021 (year ends of June 30, 2022, and following).

The primary objectives of this statement are to: (1) increase consistency and comparability related to the reporting of fiduciary component units in circumstances in which a potential component unit does not have a governing board and the primary government performs the duties that a governing board typically would perform; (2) mitigate costs associated with the reporting of certain defined contribution pension plans, defined contribution other post-employment benefit (OPEB) plans, and employee benefit plans other than pension plans or OPEB plans (other employee benefit plans) as fiduciary component units in fiduciary fund financial statements; and (3) enhance the relevance, consistency, and comparability of the accounting and financial reporting for Internal

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Revenue Code (IRC) Section 457 deferred compensation plans (Section 457 plans) that meet the definition of a pension plan and for benefits provided through those plans.

This statement requires that for purposes of determining whether a primary government is financially accountable for a potential component unit, except for a potential component unit that is a defined contribution pension plan, a defined contribution OPEB plan, or an other employee benefit plan (for example, certain Section 457 plans), the absence of a governing board should be treated the same as the appointment of a voting majority of a governing board if the primary government performs the duties that a governing board typically would perform. This statement also requires that the financial burden criterion in paragraph 7 of Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities, be applicable to only defined benefit pension plans and defined benefit OPEB plans that are administered through trusts.

This statement: (1) requires that a Section 457 plan be classified as either a pension plan or an other employee benefit plan depending on whether the plan meets the definition of a pension plan, and (2) clarifies that Statement 84, as amended, should be applied to all arrangements organized under IRC Section 457 to determine whether those arrangements should be reported as fiduciary activities.

- j. Other Pending or Current GASB Projects.** As noted by the numerous pronouncements issued by GASB over the past decade, the GASB continues to research various projects of interest to governmental units. Subjects of note include:
- **Re-Examination of the Financial Reporting Model.** GASB has added this project to its technical agenda to make improvements to the existing financial reporting model (established via GASB 34). Improvements are meant to enhance the effectiveness of the model in providing information for decision-making and assessing a government's accountability. GASB anticipates issuing an initial due process document on this project by the end of 2019 with a final standard expected in early 2022.
 - **Conceptual Framework** is a constant matter being looked at by GASB. Current measurement focus statements (for governmental funds) to change to near-term financial resources measurement. May dictate a period (such as 60 days) for revenue and expenditure recognition. May expense things such as supplies and prepaid assets at acquisition. Will look into which balances (at all statement levels) are measured at acquisition and which need to be re-measured at year-end. Final standard is expected in 2022.
 - **Revenue and Expense Recognition** is another long-term project where the GASB is working to develop a comprehensive application model for recognition of revenues and expenses from non-exchange, exchange, and exchange-like transactions. The final standard is expected in 2023.

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- **Compensated Absences** is technical topic being examined by the GASB currently due to significant changes in benefits offered by governmental employers. Current GAAP does not address certain items such as paid time off (PTO) and there is a wide divergence in practice. A final standard on this topic is expected towards the end of 2021.
- **Prior-Period Adjustments, Accounting Changes, and Error Corrections** is a technical topic being examined by the GASB due to a wide diversity in practice regarding required presentation on the face of the financial statements, disclosures, etc. A final standard on this topic is expected in early 2022.

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**COMPLIMENTARY CONTINUING EDUCATION
AND NEWSLETTERS FOR GOVERNMENTAL CLIENTS**

Complimentary Continuing Education. We provide complimentary continuing education for all of our governmental clients. Annually, we pick a couple of significant topics tailored to be of interest to governmental entities. We provide these complimentary services typically in the summer months over a two day period and typically see 40 to 50 people. We obtain the input and services of experienced outside speakers along with providing the instruction utilizing our in-house professionals. We hope the District staff and officials can participate in this opportunity, and that it will be beneficial to them. Examples of subjects addressed in the past include:

- Accounting for Debt Issuances
- American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Updates
- Best Budgeting Practices, Policies and Processes
- CAFR Preparation (several times including a two day hands-on course)
- Capital Asset Accounting Processes and Controls
- Collateralization of Deposits and Investments
- Evaluating Financial and Non-Financial Health of a Local Government
- GASB No. 60, Service Concession Arrangements (webcast)
- GASB No. 61, the Financial Reporting Entity (webcast)
- GASB No.'s 63 & 65, Deferred Inflows and Outflows (webcast)
- GASB No.'s 67 & 68, New Pension Stds. (presented several occasions)
- GASB Updates (ongoing and several sessions)
- Grant Accounting Processes and Controls
- Internal Controls Over Accounts Payable, Payroll and Cash Disbursements
- Internal Controls Over Receivables and the Revenue Cycle
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Issues, Primarily Payroll Matters
- Legal Considerations for Debt Issuances and Disclosure Requirements
- Policies and Procedures Manuals
- Segregation of Duties
- Single Audits for Auditees
- Uniform Grant Reporting Requirements and the New Single Audit

Governmental Newsletters. We produce newsletters tailored to meet the needs of governments. The newsletters have addressed a variety of subjects and are intended to be timely in their subject matter. The newsletters are authored by Mauldin & Jenkins partners and managers, and are not purchased from an outside agency. The newsletters are produced and delivered periodically (approximately six times per year), and are intended to keep you informed of current developments in the government finance environment.

Communication. In an effort to better communicate our complimentary continuing education plans and newsletters, please email Paige Vercoe at pvercoe@mjcpa.com and provide to her individual names, mailing addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers of anyone you wish to participate and be included in our database.

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CLOSING

If you have any questions regarding any items set forth in this memorandum, we will be pleased to discuss it with you at your convenience.

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

We appreciate the opportunity to serve the Englewood Water District and look forward to serving the District in the future. Thank you.