

CITY OF ELMHURST, ILLINOIS

MANAGEMENT LETTER

December 31, 2016





1415 W. Diehl Road, Suite 400
Naperville, Illinois 60563

Certified Public Accountants & Advisors
Members of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

The Honorable Mayor
Members of the City Council
and Management
City of Elmhurst, Illinois

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Elmhurst, Illinois (the City) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that 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 a combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Sikich LLP

Naperville, Illinois
June 28, 2017

OTHER COMMENTS

Future Accounting Pronouncements

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued a number of pronouncements that may impact the City in the future.

GASB Statement 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*, establishes requirements for those pensions and pension plans that are not administered through a trust meeting specified criteria. The provisions in Statement No. 73 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2015—except those provisions that address employers and governmental nonemployer contributing entities for pensions that are not within the scope of Statement No. 68, which are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

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 and replaces GASB Statement No. 43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*. Statement No. 74 addresses the financial reports of defined benefit OPEB plans that are administered through trusts that meet specified criteria. The statement builds upon the existing framework for financial reports of defined benefit OPEB plans, which includes a statement of fiduciary net position (the amount held in a trust for paying retirement benefits) and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position. Statement No. 74 enhances note disclosures and RSI for both defined benefit and defined contribution OPEB plans. Statement No. 74 also requires the presentation of new information about annual money-weighted rates of return in the notes to the financial statements and in 10-year RSI schedules. The provisions in Statement No. 74 are effective for OPEB plan or sponsoring employer financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

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 and replaces the requirements of GASB Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as they relate to governments that provide benefits through OPEB plans administered as trusts or similar arrangements that meet certain criteria. Statement No. 75 requires governments providing defined benefit OPEB to recognize their long-term obligation for OPEB as a liability for the first time, and to more comprehensively and comparably measure the annual costs of OPEB benefits. The Statement also enhances accountability and transparency through revised and new note disclosures and required supplementary information (RSI). The provisions in Statement No. 75 are effective for financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018.

GASB Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units - an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*, requires blending of a component unit incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The requirements of this statement are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

OTHER COMMENTS (Continued)

Future Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*, provides recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of a split-interest agreement. The requirements of this statement are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73*, addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in the required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. The requirements of this standard are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. Earlier application is encouraged.

GASB Statement No. 83, *Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*, addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain asset retirement obligations (AROs). This statement requires disclosure of information about the nature of a government's AROs, the methods and assumptions used for the estimate of the liabilities, and the estimated remaining useful life of the associated tangible capital assets. The requirements of this statement are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019. Earlier application is encouraged.

GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, is intended to improve guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. This statement establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments and the criteria is generally focused on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of a fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. The requirements of this statement are effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019. Earlier application is encouraged.

GASB Statement No 85, *Omnibus 2017*, addresses a number of issues across a spectrum of topics including issues related to blending component units where the primary government is a business type activity that reports basic financial statements in a single column, accounting for goodwill, fair value measurement and application related to real estate held by insurance activities and measuring certain investments at cost or amortized cost, and various issues related to accounting and reporting for postemployment benefits (pensions and other postemployment benefits [OPEB]). Statement No 85 is effective for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, early application is allowed and encouraged.

We will advise the City of any progress made by GASB in developing this and other future pronouncements that may have an impact on the financial position and changes in financial position of the City.