



**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**



**Dave Yost • Auditor of State**



**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Independent Accountants' Report.....	1
Management's Discussion & Analysis .....	3
Basic Financial Statements	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Assets.....	11
Statement of Activities .....	12
Fund Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds .....	13
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balance To Net Assets of Governmental Activities.....	14
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures And Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds .....	15
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures And Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds To the Statement of Activities.....	16
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Budget Basis) – General Fund.....	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Budget Basis) – Golf Course Special Revenue Fund.....	18
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements .....	19
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> .....	37
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings.....	39

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District  
Franklin County  
1069 West Main Street  
Westerville, Ohio 43081

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, Franklin County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. 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. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, Franklin County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the respective budgetary comparisons for the General and Golf Course Funds for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 4, 2011, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *Management's discussion and analysis* as listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any other assurance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "D" and "Y".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

February 4, 2011

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

---

The discussion and analysis of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District's financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2008. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The District's total net assets increased \$16,566,465.
- General revenues of governmental activities accounted for \$31,139,601 of all governmental revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, grants, contributions, and interest accounted for \$1,641,754 of total governmental revenues of \$32,781,355.
- The District had \$16,214,890 in expenses related to governmental activities. \$1,641,754 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants, contributions, and interest. General revenues (primarily property taxes and grants and entitlements not restricted) of \$31,139,601 were adequate to provide for these programs.

**USING THIS ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. These statements are organized so that the reader can understand the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District's financial situation as a whole and also give a detailed view of the District's financial condition.

The Statement Of Net Assets and the Statement Of Activities provide information about the activities of the District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the District's finances. The fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term, as well as the amount of funds available for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column.

**REPORTING THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE**

One of the most important questions asked about the District is "How did we do financially during 2008?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, which appear first in the District's financial statements, report information on the District as a whole and its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the District's net assets and changes in those assets. This change in net assets is important because it informs the reader that, for the District as a whole, the financial position of the District has improved or diminished. In evaluating the overall financial health, the reader of these financial statements needs to take into account non-financial factors that also impact the District's financial well-being. Some of these factors include the District's tax base and the condition of capital assets.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

---

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the District has only one kind of activity.

Governmental Activities – All of the District's services are reported here including administrative services, education, park operations, park planning, park promotion, rental property, natural resource management, golf course operations, and park safety.

**REPORTING THE DISTRICT'S MOST SIGNIFICANT FUNDS**

*Fund Financial Statements*

The analysis of the District's major funds begins on page 7. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds – not the District as a whole. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's major funds. The District's major funds are the General Fund, the Golf Course Special Revenue Fund, and the Capital Improvement Capital Projects Fund.

**Governmental Funds** – All of the District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps to determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future on services provided to our residents. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements.

**THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE**

As stated previously, the Statement Of Net Assets provides the perspective of the District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the District's net assets for 2008 compared to 2007.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

**THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE (Continued)**

	Table 1		Increase (Decrease)
	Net Assets		
	Governmental Activities 2008	2007	
<b>Assets</b>			
Current And Other Assets	\$ 32,470,691	\$ 28,807,362	\$ 3,663,329
Land, Wetlands, Land Restoration And Construction In Progress	119,825,212	108,495,875	11,329,337
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	29,199,850	27,698,469	1,501,381
Total Assets	<u>181,495,753</u>	<u>165,001,706</u>	<u>16,494,047</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current And Other Liabilities	13,043,250	13,133,475	(90,225)
Long-Term Liabilities:			
Due Within One Year	48,509	48,585	(76)
Due In More Than One Year	655,292	637,409	17,883
Total Liabilities	<u>13,747,051</u>	<u>13,819,469</u>	<u>(72,418)</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Invested In Capital Assets	149,025,062	136,194,344	12,830,718
Restricted For:			
Capital Outlay	11,837,072	1,265,646	10,571,426
Other Purposes	344,336	460,663	(116,327)
Educational Programs:			
Expendable	138,967	105,775	33,192
Nonexpendable	267,054	267,054	-
Gardens At Inniswood -			
Nonexpendable	452,558	452,558	-
Unrestricted	5,683,653	12,436,197	(6,752,544)
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 167,748,702</u>	<u>\$ 151,182,237</u>	<u>\$ 16,566,465</u>

Total assets increased \$16,494,047. Land, wetlands, land restoration and construction in progress increased \$11,329,337 due to additions primarily relating to the continuing development of Whittier Park and various Greenway Phase projects. Depreciable capital assets increased \$1,501,381 due to infrastructure development, including roads and trails within the District.

The current and other liabilities decreased \$90,225 primarily due to a decrease in retainage payable as a result of the completion of projects existing in the prior year.

Invested in capital assets increased \$12,830,718. This is primarily due to current year capital assets additions exceeding current year depreciation. Land, land restoration, construction in progress, and infrastructure, which includes roads and trails, experienced the largest increases.

Restricted net assets for capital outlay increased \$10,571,426. This is primarily the result of the District receiving monies from unrestricted sources during the year but not having expensed such monies.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

**THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE (Continued)**

Unrestricted net assets decreased \$6,752,544. This is primarily due to the District utilizing unrestricted monies for capital needs during the year.

Table 2 shows the changes in net assets for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007.

Table 2  
Changes In Net Assets

	2008	2007	Increase/ (Decrease)
<b>Revenues</b>			
Program Revenues:			
Charges For Services	\$ 1,555,282	\$ 1,588,233	\$ (32,951)
Operating Grants, Contributions, And Interest	67,476	120,680	(53,204)
Capital Grants And Contributions	18,996	199,386	(180,390)
Total Program Revenues	<u>1,641,754</u>	<u>1,908,299</u>	<u>(266,545)</u>
General Revenues:			
Property Taxes	12,608,556	12,335,414	273,142
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	331,740	770,790	(439,050)
Grants And Entitlements Not Restricted			
To Specific Programs:			
Operating	6,295,728	6,798,481	(502,753)
Capital	11,877,423	668,509	11,208,914
Contributions And Donations	8,857	474	8,383
Miscellaneous	17,297	77,055	(59,758)
Total General Revenues	<u>31,139,601</u>	<u>20,650,723</u>	<u>10,488,878</u>
Total Revenues	<u>32,781,355</u>	<u>22,559,022</u>	<u>10,222,333</u>
<b>Program Expenses</b>			
Administration	2,011,556	2,063,927	(52,371)
Education	2,465,230	2,210,735	254,495
Park Operations	5,950,681	5,507,206	443,475
Park Planning	767,863	351,644	416,219
Park Promotion	765,464	785,258	(19,794)
Rental Property	181,510	131,579	49,931
Natural Resource Management	343,783	384,911	(41,128)
Golf Course	1,293,339	1,246,693	46,646
Park Safety	2,435,464	2,688,895	(253,431)
Total Expenses	<u>16,214,890</u>	<u>15,370,848</u>	<u>844,042</u>
Increase In Net Assets	<u>16,566,465</u>	<u>7,188,174</u>	<u>9,378,291</u>
Net Assets At Beginning Of Year	<u>151,182,237</u>	<u>143,994,063</u>	<u>7,188,174</u>
Net Assets At End Of Year	<u>\$ 167,748,702</u>	<u>\$ 151,182,237</u>	<u>\$ 16,566,465</u>

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

---

**GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

Program revenues, which are primarily represented by charges for District services, fines and charges generated by the golf course, as well as restricted intergovernmental revenues, restricted interest earnings and restricted donations, were \$1,641,754 of total revenues for 2008 and were lower than 2007. The decrease is primarily related to less grant money being received this year as a result of the District receiving capital contributions in the prior year.

As previously mentioned, general revenues were \$31,139,601 of total revenues for 2008. The largest source of revenue for the District is provided through unrestricted grants and entitlements. The .65 mill property tax levy is the second largest source of revenue for the District. This levy is a ten-year levy that started in 1999 and continued through 2008.

Governmental program expenses as a percentage of total governmental expenses for 2008 are expressed as follows:

Administration	12.41%
Education	15.20
Park Operations	36.70
Park Planning	4.73
Park Promotion	4.72
Rental Property	1.12
Natural Resource Management	2.12
Golf Course	7.98
Park Safety	15.02
	<hr/>
	100.00%

The above chart clearly indicates that the District's major source of expenses, 36.70 percent, is related to park operations. All other forms of governmental operations represent 63.30 percent of expenses.

**THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS**

Information about the District's major governmental funds begins on page 12. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$32,617,473 and expenditures of \$29,039,886. The General Fund balance decreased \$6,944,193 as a result of the District transferring monies to the Capital Improvement Capital Projects Fund to fund capital related projects.

The Golf Course Special Revenue Fund balance decreased \$48,411 from the prior year. This was the result of the District experiencing a decrease in its revenue sources relating to golf course fees and rent.

The Capital Improvement Capital Projects Fund balance increased \$10,577,635, as a result of the District transferring property tax revenues to this fund from the General Fund to fund capital projects.

**GENERAL FUND BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The District's budget is adopted on a fund basis. Before the budget is adopted, the Board reviews detailed budget worksheets of each program within the General Fund and then adopts the budget on a fund basis.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

---

**GENERAL FUND BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS (Continued)**

Original General Fund budgeted revenues were \$19,698,262. The final budgeted revenues and other financing sources were \$19,758,351 resulting in a \$60,089 increase. The increase is related to the District closing a fund during the year and transferring the remaining balance to the General Fund. Actual revenues and other financing sources were less than final budgeted revenues and other financing sources by \$287,322, which is due to a decrease in State shared taxes and investment earnings which was the result of the struggling economy.

During 2008, the General Fund operated on one appropriation measure. Actual expenditures and other financing uses were greater than the final budgeted expenditures and other financing uses by \$1,520,121 due to a transfer made by the District during the year exceeding estimates.

The General Fund's ending fund balance was \$1,807,443 below the final budgeted amount.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

At the end of 2008, the District had \$149,025,062 invested in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) for governmental activities, an increase of \$12,830,718 from the prior year. The increase in capital assets is primarily related to an increase in land, land restoration, and construction in progress for the various Greenway Phase projects and the continuing development of Whittier Park projects and infrastructure additions, including roads and trails.

See Note 7 of the Notes To The Basic Financial Statements for more detailed capital assets information.

**CURRENT ISSUES**

With the close of 2008, we can look back with pride on the accomplishments of the District over the past year. More than six million visitors enjoyed time in the District partaking in a great variety of fun outdoor activities such as wildlife viewing, taking healthy hikes, sharing family picnics, enjoying programs or just relaxing amidst the wonders of nature.

The Grange Insurance Audubon Center is now under construction in Scioto Audubon Metro Park on the Whittier Peninsula. This will be the first nature center in the heart of a major American city. It is scheduled to open in July 2009. Audubon Ohio will operate the Center as part of a partnership with the District and the City of Columbus.

Our education staff works extensively with local schools to provide a variety of programs and activities that help the students understand the natural world. Notably, we provided programs for 48 Columbus City Schools that were designed to help inner city students understand the lessons necessary for passing science achievement tests. The hands-on science activities in the District helped these students improve their scores by 34 percent. More than 200,000 children and adults participated in programs in the District in 2008.

The District completed more major wildlife habitat restoration projects in 2008 than in any previous year. Several wetland and forest communities were restored along Big Darby Creek. The downstream section of Hellbranch Run is being restored to a natural stream condition. This section of the stream was channelized several decades ago when Interstate-71 was constructed. The District, with funding from Ohio EPA, is working to improve the water quality of Hellbranch Run with this natural stream design. These projects attract wildlife to the District and help to improve water quality in Big Darby Creek.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Unaudited)**

---

**CURRENT ISSUES (Continued)**

The Greenway Trail system continued to expand. Trail extensions were completed in Battelle Darby Creek, along the Alum Creek Greenway Trail and on the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail. In addition, the District was able to secure an option to acquire an 11-mile long trail easement along the Camp Chase Railroad. This trail easement will become part of the Ohio to Erie Trail, which will link Cleveland to Cincinnati through Columbus. The Ohio to Erie Trail, which is now 70 percent complete, will be the nation's longest off-road, paved trail when it is completed.

The District began acquiring land for two new parks in 2008 in addition to acquiring property to protect Big Darby Creek and for the Greenway Trail system. Eight properties were acquired adding 740 acres of protected open space. Five of the eight properties were acquired with grants or donations.

**CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, creditors, and investors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact William Ruff, Finance Director, Columbus And Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, 1069 West Main Street, Westerville, Ohio 43081.

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b><u>Assets:</u></b>	
Equity In Pooled Cash And Investments	\$ 14,952,301
Due From Other Governments (See Note 6)	3,881,988
Prepaid Items	57,725
Property Taxes Receivable	13,103,751
Cash And Cash Equivalents With Fiscal Agents	474,926
Land, Wetlands, Land Restoration And Construction In Progress (See Note 7)	119,825,212
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net (See Note 7)	29,199,850
<i>Total Assets</i>	181,495,753
<b><u>Liabilities:</u></b>	
Accounts Payable	43,055
Accrued Wages And Benefits Payable	478,171
Contracts Payable	469,185
Matured Compensated Absences Payable	525
Retainage Payable	139,689
Due To Other Governments	145,586
Loans Payable (See Note 17)	100,000
Deferred Revenue	11,667,039
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year (See Note 11)	48,509
Due In More Than One Year (See Note 11)	655,292
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	13,747,051
<b><u>Net Assets:</u></b>	
Invested In Capital Assets	149,025,062
Restricted For:	
Capital Outlay	11,837,072
Other Purposes	344,336
Educational Programs:	
Expendable	138,967
Nonexpendable	267,054
Gardens At Inniswood - Nonexpendable	452,558
Unrestricted	5,683,653
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	\$ 167,748,702

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue And Changes In Net Assets
		Charges For Services	Operating Grants, Contributions, And Interest	Capital Grants And Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b><u>Governmental Activities:</u></b>					
Administration	\$ 2,011,556	\$ 4,710	\$ 37,362	\$ -	\$ (1,969,484)
Education	2,465,230	89,256	23,844	-	(2,352,130)
Park Operations	5,950,681	-	5,697	-	(5,944,984)
Park Planning	767,863	-	-	-	(767,863)
Park Promotion	765,464	-	-	-	(765,464)
Rental Property	181,510	405,902	-	-	224,392
Natural Resource Management	343,783	-	573	18,996	(324,214)
Golf Course	1,293,339	1,052,570	-	-	(240,769)
Park Safety	2,435,464	2,844	-	-	(2,432,620)
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$ 16,214,890</b>	<b>\$ 1,555,282</b>	<b>\$ 67,476</b>	<b>\$ 18,996</b>	<b>\$ (14,573,136)</b>
<b><u>General Revenues:</u></b>					
					12,608,556
					331,740
					.
					6,295,728
					11,877,423
					8,857
					17,297
<b>Total General Revenues</b>					<b>31,139,601</b>
Change In Net Assets					16,566,465
Net Assets At Beginning Of Year					151,182,237
Net Assets At End Of Year					<b>\$ 167,748,702</b>

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Golf Course</u>	<u>Capital Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b><u>Assets:</u></b>					
Equity In Pooled Cash And Investments	\$ 2,460,982	\$ 433,846	\$ 11,478,632	\$ 578,841	\$ 14,952,301
Cash And Cash Equivalents					
With Fiscal Agents	5,000	-	-	469,926	474,926
Receivables:					
Property Taxes	13,103,751	-	-	-	13,103,751
Due From Other Governments (See Note 6)	2,966,921	-	915,067	-	3,881,988
Prepaid Items	57,725	-	-	-	57,725
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>18,594,379</b>	<b>433,846</b>	<b>12,393,699</b>	<b>1,048,767</b>	<b>32,470,691</b>
<b><u>Liabilities And Fund Balances:</u></b>					
<b><u>Liabilities:</u></b>					
Accounts Payable	4,982	132	37,941	-	43,055
Accrued Wages And Benefits Payable	444,277	33,894	-	-	478,171
Contracts Payable	-	-	469,185	-	469,185
Matured Compensated Absences Payable	391	134	-	-	525
Retainage Payable	-	-	139,689	-	139,689
Due To Other Governments	135,289	10,297	-	-	145,586
Loans Payable	-	-	100,000	-	100,000
Deferred Revenue	15,702,474	-	72,305	-	15,774,779
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>16,287,413</b>	<b>44,457</b>	<b>819,120</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,150,990</b>
<b><u>Fund Balances:</u></b>					
Reserved For Encumbrances	449,752	18,680	1,552,951	-	2,021,383
Reserved For Permanent Endowments	-	-	-	574,157	574,157
Unreserved:					
Undesignated, Reported In:					
General Fund	1,857,214	-	-	-	1,857,214
Special Revenue Funds	-	370,709	-	-	370,709
Capital Projects Funds	-	-	10,021,628	190,188	10,211,816
Permanent Funds	-	-	-	284,422	284,422
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>2,306,966</b>	<b>389,389</b>	<b>11,574,579</b>	<b>1,048,767</b>	<b>15,319,701</b>
<b>Total Liabilities And Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$ 18,594,379</b>	<b>\$ 433,846</b>	<b>\$ 12,393,699</b>	<b>\$ 1,048,767</b>	<b>\$ 32,470,691</b>

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO  
NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

---

<b>Total Governmental Fund Balances</b>	\$ 15,319,701
<b>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement Of Net Assets are different because:</b>	
Capital Assests used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. These assets consist of:	
Land	107,377,237
Wetlands	844,401
Land Restoration	4,698,502
Construction In Progress	6,905,072
Other Capital Assets	55,249,068
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(26,049,218)</u>
Total	149,025,062
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds:	
Municipal Income Taxes	-
Property Taxes	1,436,712
Due From Other Governments	<u>2,671,028</u>
Total	4,107,740
Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. Those liabilities consist of:	
Compensated Absences	<u>(703,801)</u>
<b>Net Assets Of Governmental Activities</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 167,748,702</u></u></b>

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Golf Course</u>	<u>Capital Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Property Taxes	\$ 12,272,163	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,272,163
Intergovernmental	6,321,544	-	12,021,491	-	18,343,035
Charges For Services	89,256	38,200	4,710	-	132,166
Golf Course	-	776,483	-	-	776,483
Fines And Forfeitures	2,844	-	-	-	2,844
Investment Earnings	244,453	-	54,898	34,912	334,263
Increase In Fair Value Of Investments	-	-	-	10,917	10,917
Rent	405,902	241,087	-	-	646,989
Contributions And Donations	20,224	-	21,346	39,746	81,316
Miscellaneous	17,271	26	-	-	17,297
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>19,373,657</b>	<b>1,055,796</b>	<b>12,102,445</b>	<b>85,575</b>	<b>32,617,473</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Current Operations And Maintenance:					
Administration:					
Salaries And Benefits	988,576	-	-	-	988,576
All Other	800,417	1,855	-	-	802,272
Education	2,313,198	-	-	-	2,313,198
Park Operations	4,897,681	43,191	154,301	20,975	5,116,148
Park Planning	342,828	-	421,669	-	764,497
Park Promotion	765,722	-	-	-	765,722
Rental Property	118,511	-	-	-	118,511
Natural Resource Management	347,520	-	-	-	347,520
Golf Course	35,362	1,059,161	-	-	1,094,523
Park Safety	2,309,907	-	-	-	2,309,907
Capital Outlay	462,172	-	13,956,840	-	14,419,012
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>13,381,894</b>	<b>1,104,207</b>	<b>14,532,810</b>	<b>20,975</b>	<b>29,039,886</b>
Excess Of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	5,991,763	(48,411)	(2,430,365)	64,600	3,577,587
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>					
Proceeds From Sale Of Capital Assets	12,085	-	-	-	12,085
Transfers - In (See Note 14)	59,959	-	13,008,000	-	13,067,959
Transfers - Out (See Note 14)	(13,008,000)	-	-	(59,959)	(13,067,959)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(12,935,956)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,008,000</b>	<b>(59,959)</b>	<b>12,085</b>
<b>Net Change In Fund Balance</b>	<b>(6,944,193)</b>	<b>(48,411)</b>	<b>10,577,635</b>	<b>4,641</b>	<b>3,589,672</b>
<b>Fund Balances At Beginning Of Year</b>	<b>9,251,159</b>	<b>437,800</b>	<b>996,944</b>	<b>1,044,126</b>	<b>11,730,029</b>
<b>Fund Balances At End Of Year</b>	<b>\$ 2,306,966</b>	<b>\$ 389,389</b>	<b>\$ 11,574,579</b>	<b>\$ 1,048,767</b>	<b>\$ 15,319,701</b>

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

---

**Net Change In Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds** \$ 3,589,672

**Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement Of Activities are different because:**

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement Of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. In the current period, these amounts are:

Capital Asset Additions	14,286,430	
Depreciation	(1,417,681)	
Excess Of Capital Outlay Over Depreciation Expense		12,868,749

The proceeds from the sale of capital assets are reported as revenue in the governmental funds. However, the cost of capital assets is removed from the capital assets account in the Statement Of Net Assets and offset against the proceeds from the sale of capital assets resulting in a loss on the disposal of capital assets in the Statement Of Activities.

Proceeds From Sale Of Capital Assets	(12,085)	
Loss On Disposal Of Capital Assets	(25,946)	
		(38,031)

Some revenues that will not be collected for several months after the District's year-end are not considered "available" revenues and are deferred in the governmental funds. Deferred revenues changed by these amounts this year:

Property Taxes	336,393	
Intergovernmental	(169,311)	
Charges For Services	(3,200)	
		163,882

Some items reported as expenses in the Statement Of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds. These activities consist of:

Increase In Compensated Absences		(17,807)

**Change In Net Assets Of Governmental Activities** \$ 16,566,465

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Budgetary Actual</u>	<u>Variance Positive (Negative)</u>
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>				
Property Taxes	\$ 11,909,694	\$ 11,909,694	\$ 12,272,163	\$ 362,469
Intergovernmental	6,882,568	6,882,698	6,346,638	(536,060)
Charges For Services	106,000	106,000	89,240	(16,760)
Fines And Forfeitures	-	-	2,844	2,844
Investment Earnings	450,000	450,000	244,453	(205,547)
Rent	298,000	298,000	406,152	108,152
Contributions And Donations	25,000	25,000	20,224	(4,776)
Miscellaneous	27,000	27,000	9,775	(17,225)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>19,698,262</b>	<b>19,698,392</b>	<b>19,391,489</b>	<b>(306,903)</b>
<b><u>Expenditures:</u></b>				
Current Operations And Maintenance:				
Administration:				
Salaries And Benefits	1,022,154	1,022,154	983,020	39,134
All Other	1,001,384	1,001,384	1,069,246	(67,862)
Education	2,371,462	2,371,462	2,302,639	68,823
Park Operations	5,048,649	5,048,649	4,874,293	174,356
Park Planning	345,054	345,054	338,625	6,429
Park Promotion	957,814	957,814	869,219	88,595
Rental Property	141,785	141,785	113,277	28,508
Natural Resource Management	375,514	375,514	355,100	20,414
Golf Course	29,975	29,975	36,301	(6,326)
Park Safety	2,360,385	2,360,385	2,295,892	64,493
Capital Outlay	573,959	573,959	512,268	61,691
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>14,228,135</b>	<b>14,228,135</b>	<b>13,749,880</b>	<b>478,255</b>
Excess Of Revenues Over Expenditures	5,470,127	5,470,257	5,641,609	171,352
<b><u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u></b>				
Proceeds From Sale Of Capital Assets	-	-	13,935	13,935
Refund Of Prior Year Receipts	-	-	(8,176)	(8,176)
Refund Of Prior Year Expenditures	-	-	5,646	5,646
Transfers - In	-	59,959	59,959	-
Transfers - Out	(11,017,800)	(11,017,800)	(13,008,000)	(1,990,200)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(11,017,800)</b>	<b>(10,957,841)</b>	<b>(12,936,636)</b>	<b>(1,978,795)</b>
<b>Net Change In Fund Balance</b>	<b>(5,547,673)</b>	<b>(5,487,584)</b>	<b>(7,295,027)</b>	<b>(1,807,443)</b>
<b>Fund Balance At Beginning Of Year</b>	<b>8,919,328</b>	<b>8,919,328</b>	<b>8,919,328</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</b>	<b>386,931</b>	<b>386,931</b>	<b>386,931</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Fund Balance At End Of Year</b>	<b>\$ 3,758,586</b>	<b>\$ 3,818,675</b>	<b>\$ 2,011,232</b>	<b>\$ (1,807,443)</b>

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS)  
GOLF COURSE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Budgetary Actual</u>	<u>Variance Positive (Negative)</u>
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>				
Charges For Services	\$ 36,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 38,200	\$ 2,200
Golf Course	870,000	870,000	776,483	(93,517)
Rent	294,000	294,000	241,087	(52,913)
Miscellaneous	-	-	26	26
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>1,055,796</u>	<u>(144,204)</u>
<b><u>Expenditures:</u></b>				
Current Operations And Maintenance:				
Administration	5,755	5,755	3,360	2,395
Park Operations	29,800	29,800	43,191	(13,391)
Golf Course	1,066,030	1,066,030	1,061,744	4,286
Capital Outlay	100,000	100,000	6,800	93,200
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>1,201,585</u>	<u>1,201,585</u>	<u>1,115,095</u>	<u>86,490</u>
<i>Net Change In Fund Balance</i>	(1,585)	(1,585)	(59,299)	(57,674)
<i>Fund Balance At Beginning Of Year</i>	459,752	459,752	459,752	-
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	<u>14,581</u>	<u>14,581</u>	<u>14,581</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Fund Balance At End Of Year</i>	<u>\$ 472,748</u>	<u>\$ 472,748</u>	<u>\$ 415,034</u>	<u>\$ (57,674)</u>

See Accompanying Notes To The Basic Financial Statements

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

---

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY**

The Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District (the "District") is a body politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it under the authority of Section 1545.01, Ohio Revised Code.

The District's governing body is a three member Board of Commissioners appointed by the probate judge of Franklin County. The District is classified as a related organization of Franklin County.

The District acquires land for conversion into forest reserves and for the conservation of natural resources, including streams, lakes, submerged lands and swamp lands. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve, protect and promote the use of same as the Board deems conducive to the general welfare. These activities are directly controlled by the Board through the budgetary process and are included within this report.

In evaluating how to define the District for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all agencies, departments and organizations making up the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District and its potential component units consistent with *Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity."*

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the District is financially accountable. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the District, in that the District approves the organization's budget, the issuance of its debt, or the levying of its taxes. The District has no component units.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to local governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The District also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its governmental activities provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of the District's accounting policies are described below.

**BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a Statement Of Net Assets and a Statement Of Activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Statement Of Net Assets and the Statement Of Activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include all financial activities of the District. The statements usually distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. The District, however, has no activities that are classified as business-type.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

The Statement Of Net Assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the District at year-end. The Statement Of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the District.

*FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

During the year, the District segregates transactions related to certain District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

**FUND ACCOUNTING**

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain District functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. All funds of the District are governmental funds.

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purpose for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. The following are the District's major governmental funds:

General Fund – This fund is the operating fund of the District and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Golf Course – This fund accounts for the operation of the Blacklick Woods Golf Course.

Capital Improvement – This fund accounts for various acquisition, construction and improvement projects. These projects are financed from tax dollars, local resources and federal and State grants.

The other governmental funds of the District account for contributions and donations and other resources whose use is restricted for a particular purpose.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**MEASUREMENT FOCUS**

*GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and liabilities associated with the operation of the District are included on the Statement Of Net Assets. The Statement Of Activities presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total net assets.

*FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the Balance Sheet. The Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures And Changes In Fund Balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

**BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

*REVENUES – EXCHANGE AND NON-EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS*

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the year in which the resources are measurable and become available. “Measurable” means that the amount of the transaction can be determined and “available” means that the resources will be collected within the current year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current year. For the District, available means expected to be received within 31 days of year-end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the year for which the taxes are levied (See Note 5). Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On the modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at year-end: state-levied locally shared taxes and grants.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

*DEFERRED REVENUE*

Deferred revenues arise when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied.

Property taxes for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of December 31, 2008, but were levied to finance 2009 operations, have been recorded as deferred revenue. Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met have also been recorded as deferred revenue.

On governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue.

*EXPENSES/EXPENDITURES*

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

**CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled. Monies for all funds, except for money held by Franklin County and the Inniswood Permanent Fund, are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the District's records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity In Pooled Cash And Investments" on the financial statements. The District also has an amount with Franklin County, who processes the District's payroll, to cover any payroll adjustments. The cash in the Inniswood Permanent Fund is held by the Columbus Foundation. The balances in these accounts are presented on the financial statements as "Cash And Cash Equivalents With Fiscal Agents."

During 2008, the District's investments were limited to the Allegiant Government Mortgage Fund Class I #406 Mutual Fund, repurchase agreement and the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAROhio). Non-participating investment contracts such as repurchase agreement is reported at cost. The remaining investments in the mutual fund are reported at fair value which is based on the Fund's share price.

The District has invested funds in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAROhio) during 2008. STAROhio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAROhio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAROhio are valued at STAROhio's share price which is the price the investment could be sold for on December 31, 2008.

Interest income is distributed to the funds according to Ohio constitutional and statutory requirements. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during 2008 amounted to \$244,453 which includes \$99,370 assigned from other funds.

Investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase and investments of the cash management pool are reported as cash equivalents on the financial statements.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**PREPAID ITEMS**

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond December 31, 2008, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which the services are consumed.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

General capital assets are capital assets that are associated with and generally rise from governmental activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide Statement Of Net Assets but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

Capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost, which is determined by indexing the current replacement cost back to the year of acquisition) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values on the date donated. The District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$1,000. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are expensed.

All reported capital assets, except Land, Wetlands, Land Restoration, and Construction In Progress, are depreciated. The District has elected to report Wetlands and Land Restoration as separate, non-depreciable capital assets. The value of Wetlands is the cost the District incurred to restore or create Wetlands on District property. Land Restoration is the cost incurred to restore acquired land back to its natural habitat by removing levees and planting trees and grasses. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Useful lives for Infrastructure were estimated based on the District's historical records of necessary improvements and replacements.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Descriptions</u>	<u>Estimated Life</u>
Land Improvements	10 - 25 years
Buildings	40 years
Equipment	7 years
Furnishings	5 years
Radios	5 years
Vehicles	5 years
Computer Equipment	6 years
Infrastructure:	
Roads	10-50 years
All Purpose Trails	50 years
Other Paved Areas	5-30 years

In the case of the initial capitalization of general infrastructure assets, the District chose to include all such items regardless of their acquisition date.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**ACCRUED LIABILITIES AND LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements.

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year.

**COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination method. An accrual for earned sick leave is made to the extent that it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments. The liability is an estimate based upon the District's past experience of making termination payments.

The entire compensated absences liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. On the governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as liabilities and expenditures to the extent that payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements. These amounts are recorded in the account "Matured Compensated Absences Payable" in the funds from which the employees will be paid.

**FUND BALANCE RESERVES**

Reserves of fund equity in governmental funds indicate that a portion of fund balance is not available for expenditure or is legally segregated for a specific future use. Fund equity reserves have been established for encumbrances, capital improvements, and education. The reserve for capital improvements recognizes contributions used to support capital related improvements and maintenance at the Inniswood Park gardens. The reserve for education recognizes contributions and interest earnings received that are to be used to support the educational activities of the District.

**INTERNAL ACTIVITY**

Transfers within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the Statement of Activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**NET ASSETS**

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Board or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net assets restricted for other purposes include funds for the operation of recreational activities.

The District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

The government-wide Statement Of Net Assets reports \$13,039,987 of restricted net assets, none of which is restricted by enabling legislation.

**BUDGETARY PROCESS**

All funds of the District are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources and the appropriation resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level. The Finance Director has been authorized to allocate appropriations to the function and object level within each fund.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the Finance Director. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts reflect the amounts in the amended certificate in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the year, including all supplemental appropriations.

**ESTIMATES**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 3 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

While reporting financial position and results of operations on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis, as provided by law, is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget And Actual (Budget Basis) is presented for the General Fund and the Golf Course Special Revenue Fund on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget.

The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
- (b) Expenditures are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
- (c) Encumbrances are treated as expenditures (budget basis) rather than as a reservation of fund balance (GAAP basis).
- (d) Investments are recorded at fair value (GAAP basis) rather than at cost (budget basis).
- (e) Unrecorded cash represents amounts received but not included as revenue on the budget basis operating statements. These amounts are included as revenue on the GAAP basis operating statements.

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the GAAP basis to the budget basis for the General Fund and the Golf Course Special Revenue Fund are as follows:

Net Change in Fund Balance		
	General Fund	Golf Course Fund
GAAP Basis	\$ (6,944,193)	\$ (48,411)
Increases (Decreases) Due To:		
Revenue Accruals	25,344	-
Expenditure Accruals	78,572	7,924
Encumbrances	(454,734)	(18,812)
Unrecorded Cash - 2008	(16)	-
Budget Basis	\$ (7,295,027)	\$ (59,299)

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENTS**

State statutes classify monies held by the District into three categories.

Active monies are public monies necessary to meet current demands on the treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the District's Treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Board has identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury notes, bills, bonds, or other obligations or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed 30 days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio); and,
8. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days in an amount not to exceed 25 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purchase of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

*Custodial Credit Risk:* Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. At December 31, 2008, \$7,730,307 of the District's bank balance of \$7,980,307 was uninsured and collateralized. Although the securities were held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department and all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim to the FDIC.

The District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured.

*Investments:* As of December 31, 2008, the District had the following investments. All investments, except the Allegiant Government Mortgage Fund Class I #406 Mutual Fund, are in an internal investment pool.

	Fair Value	Investment Maturities (in Years)	
		Less than 1	1 - 2
STAROhio	\$ 6,801,214	\$ 6,801,214	\$ -
Allegiant Government Mortgage Fund Class I #406 Mutual Fund	469,926	-	469,926
Repurchase Agreement	6,899,000	6,899,000	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 14,170,140</b>	<b>\$ 13,700,214</b>	<b>\$ 469,926</b>

*Interest Rate Risk:* As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses caused by rising interest rates, the District's investment policy requires that, to the extent possible, investments will match anticipated cash flow requirements. No investment shall be made unless the Finance Director, at the time of making the investment, reasonably expects it can be held to its maturity. Unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District, the District will not directly invest in securities maturing more than five years from the date of investment.

*Credit Risk:* STAROhio carries a rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor's. The Allegiant Government Mortgage Fund Class I #406 Mutual Fund carries a rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAROhio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the Mutual Fund be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The District has no policy regarding credit risk.

*Custodial Credit Risk:* Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover the value of investments or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. At December 31, 2008, \$6,899,000 of the District's investments were exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAX**

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility and tangible personal property (used in business) located in Franklin County. Property tax revenue received during 2008 for real and public utility property taxes represents collections of 2007 taxes. Property tax payments received during 2008 for tangible personal property (other than public utility property) are for 2008 taxes.

2008 real property taxes are levied after October 1, 2008, on the assessed value as of January 1, 2008, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2008 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2009.

Public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value; public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value. 2008 public utility property taxes became a lien December 31, 2007, are levied after October 1, 2008, and are collected in 2009 with real property taxes.

2008 tangible personal property taxes are levied after October 1, 2007, on the value as of December 31, 2007. Collections are made in 2008. In prior years, tangible personal property was assessed at 25 percent of true value for capital assets and 23 percent of true value for inventory. The tangible personal property tax is being phased out – the assessment percentage for all property including inventory for 2008 is 6.25 percent. This will be reduced to zero for 2009.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Tangible personal property taxes paid by multi-county taxpayers are due by September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20.

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the county, including the Columbus And Franklin County Metropolitan Park District. The County Auditor periodically remits to the District its portion of the taxes. Property taxes receivable represents real and tangible personal property taxes, public utility taxes and outstanding delinquencies which are measurable as of December 31, 2008, and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. In the governmental funds, the entire receivable has been offset by deferred revenue since the current taxes were not levied to finance 2008 operations, and the collection of delinquent taxes during the available period is not subject to reasonable estimation. On a full accrual basis, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as revenue while the remainder of the receivable is deferred.

The full tax rate for all District operations for the year ended December 31, 2008, was \$0.65 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real and tangible personal property upon which 2008 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAX (Continued)**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>
Real Property:	
Agricultural/Residential	\$ 19,036,047,390
Commercial/Industrial/Mineral	7,795,862,850
Public Utility Real	11,034,340
Tangible Personal Property:	
General Business	633,871,972
Public Utility	553,976,680
Total	<u>\$ 28,030,793,232</u>

The District had a .65 mill property tax levy that started in 1999 and ran through 2008, for the purpose of conserving natural resources; developing, improving, maintaining, and operating the various parks and other properties of the District; and for acquiring, developing, improving, maintaining and operating additional lands. The District records all of the levy monies in the General Fund. Transfers to the Capital Improvement Capital Projects Fund will be made when funds are needed to complete projects.

**NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at December 31, 2008, consisted of Property Taxes and Due From Other Governments. All receivables are considered fully collectible and will be collected within one year, with the exception of Property Taxes. Property Taxes, although ultimately collectible, include some portion of delinquents that will not be collected within one year.

A summary of the principal items due from other governments follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
Local Government	\$ 2,393,681
Homestead And Rollback	562,496
Personal Property Reimbursement	10,244
Bulletproof Vest Grant	500
Pleasant Valley Quarry Habitat Restoration Grant	10,461
Darby Creek Watershed - WRRSP	901,622
WHIP Reimbursement	2,984
Total Due From Other Governments	<u>\$ 3,881,988</u>

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets activity for the year ended December 31, 2008, was as follows:

	Balance At 12/31/2007	Additions	Deletions	Balance At 12/31/2008
<u>Governmental Activities</u>				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 99,415,662	\$ 7,990,399	\$ (28,824)	\$ 107,377,237
Wetlands	844,401	-	-	844,401
Land Restoration	971,854	3,726,648	-	4,698,502
Construction In Progress	7,263,958	5,444,817	(5,803,703)	6,905,072
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	<u>108,495,875</u>	<u>17,161,864</u>	<u>(5,832,527)</u>	<u>119,825,212</u>
Depreciable Capital Assets:				
Land Improvements	2,829,949	1,128,531	-	3,958,480
Buildings	20,791,564	562,449	(41,300)	21,312,713
Equipment	3,520,497	299,591	(67,270)	3,752,818
Furnishings	107,768	22,326	-	130,094
Radios	255,280	-	(4,467)	250,813
Vehicles	1,425,994	115,794	(78,244)	1,463,544
Computer Equipment	222,349	41,925	(18,044)	246,230
Infrastructure	23,376,723	757,653	-	24,134,376
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	<u>52,530,124</u>	<u>2,928,269</u>	<u>(209,325)</u>	<u>55,249,068</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Land Improvements	(948,365)	(303,731)	-	(1,252,096)
Buildings	(7,121,691)	(526,233)	32,900	(7,615,024)
Equipment	(2,869,091)	(215,608)	67,270	(3,017,429)
Furnishings	(101,303)	(6,081)	-	(107,384)
Radios	(214,395)	(18,597)	4,467	(228,525)
Vehicles	(1,102,128)	(145,586)	78,244	(1,169,470)
Computer Equipment	(173,937)	(24,641)	17,237	(181,341)
Infrastructure	(12,300,745)	(177,204)	-	(12,477,949)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(24,831,655)</u>	<u>(1,417,681)</u>	<u>200,118</u>	<u>(26,049,218)</u>
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	<u>27,698,469</u>	<u>1,510,588</u>	<u>(9,207)</u>	<u>29,199,850</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 136,194,344</u>	<u>\$ 18,672,452</u>	<u>\$ (5,841,734)</u>	<u>\$ 149,025,062</u>

\* Depreciation expense was charged to governmental programs as follows:

Administration	\$ 76,990
Education	136,054
Park Operations	824,603
Rental Property	54,599
Golf Course	194,059
Park Safety	131,376
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$ 1,417,681</u>

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

**OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Plan Description - The District participates in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20 percent per year). Under the member-directed plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of the member and vested employer contributions plus any investment earnings. The combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. Under the combined plan, OPERS invests employer contributions to provide a formula retirement benefit similar to the traditional pension plan benefit. Member contributions, the investment of which is self-directed by the members, accumulate retirement assets in a manner similar to the member-directed plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost-of-living adjustments to members of the traditional pension and combined plans. Members of the member-directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or (800) 222-7377.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2008, members in state and local classifications contributed 10.0 percent of covered payroll and public safety and law enforcement members contributed 10.1 percent.

The District's contribution rate for 2008 was 14.0 percent, except for those plan members in law enforcement or public safety, for whom the District's contribution was 17.4 percent of covered payroll.

The District's required contributions for pension obligations to the traditional pension and combined plans for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$535,907, \$561,933, and \$629,497, respectively; 92.95 percent has been contributed for 2008 and 100 percent for 2007 and 2006. No contributions to the member-directed plan were made by the District or plan members in 2008.

**NOTE 9 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Plan Description - OPERS maintains a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care plan for qualifying members of both the traditional pension and the combined plans. Members of the member-directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits, including post-employment health care. The plan includes a medical plan, a prescription drug program and Medicare Part B premium reimbursement.

To qualify for post-employment health care coverage, age-and-service retirees under the traditional pension and combined plans must have 10 or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, OPERS to provide health care benefits to its eligible members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

---

**NOTE 9 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (Continued)**

Disclosures for the health care plan are presented separately in the OPERS' financial report which may be obtained by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or (800) 222-7377.

Funding Policy - The post-employment health care plan was established under, and is administered in accordance with, Internal Revenue Code 401 (h). State statute requires that public employers fund post-employment health care through their contributions to OPERS. A portion of each employer's contribution to the traditional pension or combined plans is set aside for the funding of post-employment health care.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the covered payroll of active members. In 2008, state and local employers contributed at a rate of 14.0 percent of covered payroll (17.4 percent for public safety and law enforcement). Each year, the OPERS Retirement Board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside for funding post-employment health care benefits. For 2008, the amount of the employer contributions which was allocated to fund post-employment health care was 7.0 percent of covered payroll.

The OPERS Retirement Board is also authorized to establish rules for the payment of a portion of the health care benefits by the retiree or their surviving beneficiaries. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected.

The District's contributions allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$535,907, \$429,503, and \$307,906, respectively; 92.95 percent has been contributed for 2008 and 100 percent for 2007 and 2006.

The Health Care Preservation Plan (HCPP) adopted by the OPERS Retirement Board on September 9, 2004, was effective January 1, 2007. Member and employer contribution rates increased as of January 1, 2006, January 1, 2007, and January 1, 2008, which allowed additional funds to be allocated to the health care plan.

**NOTE 10 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

**COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

Vacation leave accumulates at the completion of each two-week payroll cycle, reflecting hours worked and longevity, beginning with the full-time employees' first payroll period. Part-time employees are eligible to earn vacation at a rate of .025 for each hour worked. Vacation can be accumulated up to a maximum of two years for full-time employees and up to 40 hours for part-time employees. Employees are paid for earned, unused vacation leave at the time of termination of employment.

Sick leave is earned bi-weekly at the rate of 2.3077 hours for each week worked, beginning with the date of appointment to a full-time position, and can be accumulated without limit. Employees with 10 or more years of continuous full-time employment with the District who voluntarily leave employment, retire, or die, are paid for one-fourth of the sick leave balance accrued through the last date of service up to a maximum of 30 days.

Full-time hourly employees working in excess of designated work hours are entitled to compensatory time, while part-time and seasonal employees working in excess of designated work hours will be paid for overtime. Compensatory time may be accumulated up to 240 hours. Employees who accumulate in excess of 240 hours will be paid for the excess hours at the next pay date. Employees are paid for earned, unused compensatory time at the time of termination of employment.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 10 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (Continued)**

Holiday time may be accumulated by full-time employees, but must be used prior to year-end.

**INSURANCE**

The District provides hospitalization and surgical insurance through United Healthcare of Ohio, Inc. The prescription drug plan is provided through Express Scripts, Inc. Dental insurance is provided through Aetna Dental. Vision insurance is provided through United Healthcare Vision. Life insurance is provided through Unimerica Workplace Benefits.

**DEFERRED COMPENSATION**

District employees may participate in the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan or the County Commissioners Association of Ohio Deferred Compensation Plan. These plans were created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Participation is on a voluntary payroll deduction basis. The plan permits deferral of compensation until future years. According to both plans, the deferred compensation is not available until termination, retirement, death or an unforeseeable emergency.

**NOTE 11 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

The change in the District's long-term obligations during the year consisted of the following:

<u>Types / Issues</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/07</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>Retired</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/08</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
<u>Governmental Activities</u>					
Compensated Absences	\$ 685,994	90,019	72,212	703,801	\$ 48,509

Compensated absences will be paid from the General Fund and the Golf Course Special Revenue Fund.

**NOTE 12 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During 2008, the District contracted with several companies for various types of insurance coverage as follows:

Westfield Group	Property (\$1,000 deductible)	\$ 19,023,886
	Inland Marine (\$500 deductible)	3,012,244
	Boiler and Machinery (\$1,000 deductible)	19,023,886
	Crime (\$500 deductible)	10,000
	General Liability - Occurrence	1,000,000
	- Aggregate	2,000,000
Ohio Farmers	Automobile Liability	1,000,000
	Bond for Finance Director	500,000
	Public Officials (\$10,000 deductible)	1,000,000
	Employment Practices (\$10,000 deductible)	1,000,000
American Alternative	Commercial Umbrella (\$10,000 Retention	10,000,000

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 12 - RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

The District pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three years. There has been no significant change in coverage from last year.

**NOTE 13 - CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS**

At December 31, 2008, the District's significant contractual commitments consisted of:

Projects	Contract Amount	Amount Completed	Balance at 12/31/2008
Whittier Metro Park	\$ 2,177,862	\$ 1,943,196	\$ 234,666
Sheets Stream Restoration/Reforestation	1,126,021	940,897	185,124
Blacklick Creek Greenway Phase 9	913,388	666,035	247,353
Darby Creek Greenway Trail	569,454	546,443	23,011
Pleasant Valley Quarry Reclamation	501,925	478,379	23,546
Blacklick Creek Greenway At State Route 33	315,746	308,701	7,045
Glacier Ridge Water Service	243,542	239,393	4,149
Angel Stream Restoration/Reforestation	220,561	151,659	68,902
Camp Chase Trail	190,308	70,644	119,664
Site Lighting	98,782	270	98,512
Blacklick Creek Greenway Phase 10	92,700	36,734	55,966
Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail Phase 7	28,836	18,302	10,534
Cold Storage Building	25,650	20,023	5,627
Cedar Ridge Restroom - South End	21,170	7,395	13,775
WRRSP Project	8,500	-	8,500
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 6,534,445</b>	<b>\$ 5,428,071</b>	<b>\$ 1,106,374</b>

**NOTE 14 - INTERFUND ACTIVITY**

Transfers made during the year ended December 31, 2008, were as follows:

		Transfers To		
		General Fund	Capital Improvement Fund	Total
Transfers From	General Fund	\$ -	\$ 13,008,000	\$ 13,008,000
	Nonmajor Funds	59,959	-	59,959
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 59,959</b>	<b>\$ 13,008,000</b>	<b>\$ 13,067,959</b>

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(Continued)**

**NOTE 14 - INTERFUND ACTIVITY (Continued)**

The transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund was made to fund capital projects of the District. The transfer from the Nonmajor Funds to the General Fund was the result of the District closing a fund and transferring the remaining monies to the General Fund.

**NOTE 15 - CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

**FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS**

For the period January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008, the District received federal and State grants for specific purposes that are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies or their designees. Such audits could lead to a request for reimbursement to the grantor agency for expenditures disallowed under the terms of the grant. Based on prior experience, the District believes such disallowance, if any, would be immaterial.

**NOTE 16 - DONOR RESTRICTED ENDOWMENTS**

The District's permanent funds include donor restricted endowments. Endowments, in the amount of \$719,612, represent the principal portion. The amount of net appreciation in donor restricted investments that is available for expenditures by the District is \$121,599 and is included as held in trust for educational programs. State law permits the District to appropriate, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent, net appreciation, realized and unrealized, unless the endowment terms specify otherwise. The endowments indicate that the interest should be used to provide educational programs.

**NOTE 17 - SHORT-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

Changes in the short-term obligation during 2008 were as follows:

	Balance at December 31, 2007	Increase	Decrease	Balance at December 31, 2008
Ohio Department Of Development Loan 0% - 2008	\$ -	100,000	-	\$ 100,000

The 2008 Ohio Department Of Development Loan, authorized in the amount of \$100,000, is being used to finance the remediation and cleanup of contaminated soil at the Whittier Metro Park. The loan activity is reflected in the Capital Improvement Capital Projects Fund which received the proceeds and will repay the debt in 2009.

**NOTE 18 - SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

On May 5, 2009, the voters elected to replace a 0.65 mil existing levy and approved an increase of 0.10 mil to constitute a tax for the benefit of the District for the purpose of conserving and improving natural resources, wildlife habitat, streams and natural areas; developing, improving, maintaining and operating Battelle Darby Creek, Blacklick Woods, Blendon Woods, Chestnut Ridge, Clear Creek, Glacier Ridge, Heritage Trail, Highbanks, Inniswood Metro Gardens, Pickerington Ponds, Prairie Oaks, Scioto Audubon, Sharon Woods, Slate Run, Three Creeks Metro Parks and other properties of the District; and acquiring, developing, improving, maintaining, and operating additional lands for park and trail purposes. The levy will commence in 2009, with collections beginning in 2010.



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District  
Franklin County  
1069 West Main Street  
Westerville, Ohio 43081

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, Franklin County, (the District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 4, 2011. 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in more than a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated February 4, 2011.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, the audit committee, Board of Park Commissioners and others within the District. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

February 4, 2011

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b><i>Explain</i></b>
2007-001	Appropriations Exceeding Estimated Resources	No	Repeated in Management Letter
2007-002	Amended Appropriations	Yes	

**This Page is Intentionally Left Blank.**



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

## **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

**This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.**

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
MARCH 29, 2011**