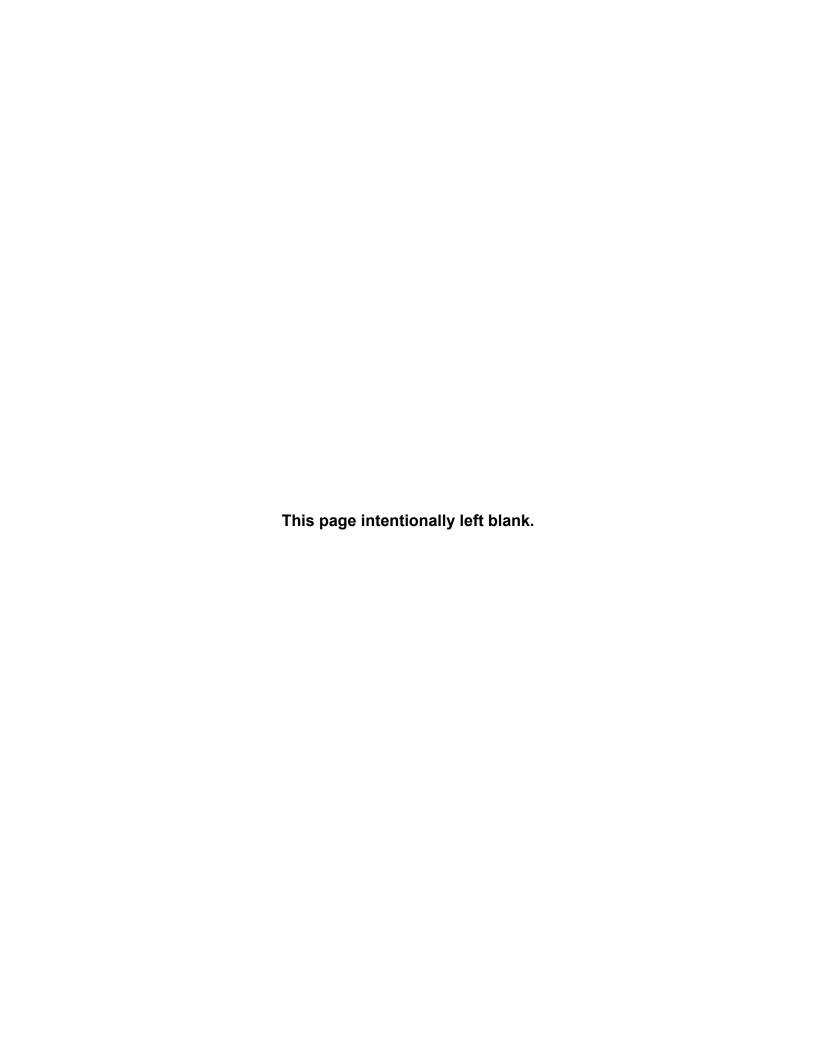




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Stark County Regional Planning Commission Stark County 201 Third Street, N.E., Suite 201 Canton, Ohio 44702-1231

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County, Ohio, (the Commission) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the 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 that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Commission prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the Commission as of December 31, 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 19, 2004 on our consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001 Stark County Regional Planning Commission Stark County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

We performed our audit to form an opinion on the financial statements of the Commission, taken as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Receipts and Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board of Commissioners, federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other then these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

July 19, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Taxes	\$3,831		\$3,831
Charges for Services	54,489		54,489
Licenses and Permits	24,438		24,438
Intergovernmental	1,637,359	\$78,075	1,715,434
Other Revenue	62,437		62,437
Total Cash Receipts	1,782,554	78,075	1,860,629
Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services - Salaries and Wages	1,177,403		1,177,403
Personal Services - Employee Benefits	400,854		400,854
Supplies and Materials	52,511	8,637	61,148
Purchased Services	268,665	62,676	331,341
Capital Outlay	8,005	3,200	11,205
Other Allocations	67,975	1,952	69,927
Total Cash Disbursements	1,975,413	76,465	2,051,878
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(192,859)	1,610	(191,249)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	489,775	17,648	507,423
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	<u>\$296.916</u>	\$19.258	<u>\$316.174</u>
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$144,682	\$28,445	\$173,127

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County, (the Commission) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Commission is directed by a sixty-one member Board. The Board consists of representatives from participating political subdivisions, the county commissioners, and appointed citizens. The Commission formulates and reviews plans affecting long and short term social, economic, and governmental development within the region. The participating subdivisions are:

Alliance	Canton	Canal Fulton
Louisville	Massillon	North Canton
Stark County	Canton Township	Jackson Township
Lake Township	Lexington Township	Marlboro Township
Nimishillen Township	Osnaburg Township	Plain Township
Sandy Township	Washington Township	Beach City
Brewster	East Canton	East Sparta
Hartville	Hills and Dales	Limaville
Magnolia	Meyers Lake	Minerva
Navarre	Waynesburg	Wilmot

The Commission's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Commission is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments with Fiscal Agent

As required by Ohio Revised Code, the Stark County Treasurer is the custodian of the Commission's monies. The Commission's assets are held in the County's cash and investment pool, and are valued at the County Treasurer's reported carrying amount. The Commission's carrying amount of cash on deposit with the County at December 31, 2003 was \$316,174. The Stark County Treasurer is responsible for maintaining adequate depository collateral for all funds in the Stark County's pooled and deposit accounts and ensuring that all monies are invested in accordance with Ohio Revised Code.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting

The Commission uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Commission classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Fund

This fund is used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Commission had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

Geographic Information System Fund – This fund receives monies from the Stark County Auditor, Stark County Sanitary Engineer and Stark County Area Transportation Study which is used for preparation work, digital photography and flying aerials.

E. Budgetary Process

The Commission budgets each fund annually.

1. Appropriations

The Board annually approves appropriations and subsequent amendments. Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund and account level of control. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1.

3. Encumbrances

The Commission reserves (encumbers) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 2.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the basis of accounting the Commission uses.

2. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$2,556,550	\$1,782,554	(\$773,996)
Special Revenue	107,693	78,075	(29,618)
Total	\$2,664,243	\$1,860,629	(\$803,614)

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$2,156,855	\$2,120,095	(\$36,760)
Special Revenue	107,693	104,910	(2,783)
Total	\$2,264,548	\$2,225,005	(\$39,543)

3. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Commission's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2003, OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Commission contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2003. The Commission has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Commission has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- · Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles:
- Inland Marine; and
- Commercial Crime.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 (Continued)

4. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Health Insurance

The Commission is also insured for employee health insurance through Stark County. The County has elected to provide benefits through a self-insured program. The maintenance of these benefits are accounted for in the County's Self Insurance internal service fund. An excess coverage insurance (stop loss) policy covers annual claims in excess of \$150,000 per individual and \$8,026,539 for the County as a whole. Incurred but not reported claims of \$775,205 have been accrued as a liability.

5. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, based on prior experience, management believes such refunds, if any, would not be material.

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

Federal Grantor/ Pass Through Grantor/ Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal CFDA Number	Receipts	Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (Passed Through Ohio Department of Transportation)				
Highway Planning and Construction Grant	PTS 2076 003 031	20.205	\$306,704	\$306,704

The accompanying notes to this schedule are an integral part of this schedule.

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

NOTE A--SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Schedule of Receipts and Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) summarizes activity of the Commission's federal award programs. The Schedule has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

NOTE B -- MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

The Highway Planning and Construction Grant, CFDA #20.205, requires the Commission contribute non-Federal funds (matching funds) to support this Federally-funded program. The Commission has complied with the matching requirements. The expenditures of non-Federal matching funds are not included on the Schedule.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Stark County Regional Planning Commission Stark County 201 Third Street, N.E., Suite 201 Canton, Ohio 44702-1231

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the financial statements of Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County, Ohio, (the Commission) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated July 19, 2004. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

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

However, we noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Commission in a separate letter dated July 19, 2004.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Commission in a separate letter dated July 19, 2004.

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Stark County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on
Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management and the Board of Commissioners, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

July 19, 2004



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Stark County Regional Planning Commission Stark County 201 Third Street, N.E., Suite 201 Canton, Ohio 44702-1231

To the Commission Members:

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County, Ohio, (the Commission) with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2003. The Commission's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Commission's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance occurred with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Commission's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the Commission's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Commission complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2003.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the Commission is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Commission's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

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Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and Internal Control Over
Compliance in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133
Page 2

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Commission members, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

July 19, 2004

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unqualified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any other reportable control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material non- compliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any other reportable internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unqualified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under § .510?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Highway Planning and Construction, CFDA #20.205
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 300,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee?	Yes

2. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None



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STARK COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION STARK 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED AUGUST 17, 2004