



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County
201 W. Main Street
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Warren County Transportation Improvement District, Warren County, Ohio (the District), a component unit of Warren County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying 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 the Warren County Transportation Improvement District, Warren County, Ohio as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting 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 assurance.

Supplementary information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued¹ our report dated September 18, 2024, 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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio
September 18, 2024

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WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(UNAUDITED)

This discussion and analysis of the Warren County Transportation Improvement District's (the District's) financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023. 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 notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for 2023 are as follows:

- The District's net position increased by \$7,937,861 to a year-end total of \$24,692,417.
- During the period, the District generated \$30,028,176 of revenues and incurred expenses of \$22,090,315.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of two parts – management's discussion and analysis and the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the District. These statements are as follows:

1. *The Government-Wide Financial Statements* – These statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the District's overall financial status.
2. *The Fund Financial Statements* – These statements focus on individual parts of the District, reporting the District's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data.

Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the District's assets and liabilities. All current year revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the District's net position and how it has changed. Net position (the difference between the District's assets and liabilities) is one way to measure the District's financial health or condition.

Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position can be used as an indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively. However, since the District is essentially a conduit for infrastructure projects and neither takes title to the underlying assets nor records a receivable for pledged long-term revenues, the District expects that its net position will decrease (and fluctuate) over time. As such, while many political subdivisions can be analyzed, in part, by looking at whether net position is increasing or decreasing, this is not necessarily true for the District.

The government-wide financial statements of the District reflect the following category for its activities:

Governmental Activities – The District's programs and services are reported as governmental activities and include general government and highways and streets.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
 WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
 (UNAUDITED)

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's funds, not the District as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the District uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes.

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 available for spending in future periods. 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 you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements when there are differences.

DISTRICT SUMMARY

The District as a Whole

The following table provides a summary of the District's Net Position at December 31:

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
Current Assets	\$ 26,429,702	\$ 16,999,329
Total Assets	26,429,702	16,999,329
Current Liabilities	1,737,285	244,773
Total Liabilities	1,737,285	244,773
Net Position:		
Unrestricted	24,692,417	16,754,556
Total Net Position	\$ 24,692,417	\$ 16,754,556

Current assets increased in 2023 as the District continued to accumulate resources from funding partners to advance projects of the District. Current and other liabilities increased as the District had more contracts payable activity open at December 31, 2023 compared to December 31, 2022.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(UNAUDITED)

The following table provides a summary of the District's changes in net position for the years ended December 31:

	Governmental Activities	
	2023	2022
Revenues		
General Revenues:		
Interest	\$ 694,319	\$ 82,050
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services	56,546	34,045
Capital Grants and Contributions	29,277,311	11,590,553
Total Revenues	<u>30,028,176</u>	<u>11,706,648</u>
Program Expenses		
General Government	437,555	173,567
Highways and Streets	21,652,760	2,794,894
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	77,609
Total Expenses	<u>22,090,315</u>	<u>3,046,070</u>
Change in Net Position	7,937,861	8,660,578
Beginning Net Position	16,754,556	8,093,978
Ending Net Position	<u>\$ 24,692,417</u>	<u>\$ 16,754,556</u>

Governmental Activities

During 2023, Net Position of the District's governmental activities increased by \$7,937,861. Capital grants and contributions of \$29,277,311 were the result of contracts and intergovernmental agreements with funding partners while charges for services of \$56,546 were earned in connection with District managing certain projects during the year. Total expenses for the period of \$22,090,315 were related to the administrative cost of operating the District (\$437,555) as well as transportation project engineering, design and construction costs (\$21,652,760) that has been classified as a *Highways and Streets*-type of program expense.

The District's Funds

The District's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$23,957,706 at December 31, 2023, which was an increase from December 31, 2022 of \$7,269,833. This increase was the result of the District's capital project funds receiving intergovernmental revenue (as agreed to by its funding partners via intergovernmental agreements) at a faster pace than project-related expenses were incurred. Additionally, during 2023, the General Fund's balance increased by \$313,310, as operating and project expenses were outpaced by charges for services and interest revenue.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(UNAUDITED)

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

As of December 31, 2023, the District reported no capital assets.

Debt

At December 31, 2023, the District had no debt outstanding.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

As with most infrastructure projects to be undertaken by local governments, the challenge facing the District is the future of both state and federal funding. With careful planning and monitoring of the District's finances and continued cooperation with local, state and federal officials, the District is confident that funding challenges can be overcome to develop, implement and construct the improvements envisioned to improve the prosperity, health, safety, and welfare of the people of Warren County and the State of Ohio.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report, or requests for additional financial information, should be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer, Warren County Transportation Improvement District, 210 West Main Street, Lebanon, Ohio 45036.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 24,882,326
Due From Other Governments	1,533,743
Prepaid Assets	13,633
Total Assets	26,429,702
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	28,538
Contracts Payable	1,659,701
Unearned Revenue	49,046
Total Liabilities	1,737,285
Net Position:	
Unrestricted	24,692,417
Total Net Position	\$ 24,692,417

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

		Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Change in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
General Government	\$ 437,555	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (437,555)
Highways and Streets	21,652,760	56,546	29,277,311	7,681,097
Total Governmental Activities	22,090,315	56,546	29,277,311	7,243,542
		General Revenues:		
		Interest		694,319
		Total General Revenues		694,319
		Changes in Net Position		7,937,861
		Net Position at Beginning of Year		16,754,556
		Net Position at End of Year		\$ 24,692,417

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

Major Governmental Funds										
	General	Series 2016 Bond Issuance Capital Project Fund	State Route 63 Corridor Capital Project Fund	Warren County BOCC Capital Improvement Program Fund	State Route 48 and US 22 3 Capital Improvement Fund	Kings Mill Kings Island Drive Capital Project Fund	King Avenue Improvement Fund	I-75 and State Route 73 Interchange Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:										
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 621,819	\$ 3,629,995	\$ 1,497,027	\$ 636,257	\$ 5,205,238	\$ 6,619,523	\$ 1,645,126	\$ 1,421,416	\$ 3,605,925	\$ 24,882,326
Due From Other Governments	-	-	238,154	-	583,638	-	627,818	-	84,133	1,533,743
Prepaid Assets	-	13,633	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,633
Interfund Receivable	44,523	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,523
Total Assets	\$ 666,342	\$ 3,643,628	\$ 1,735,181	\$ 636,257	\$ 5,788,876	\$ 6,619,523	\$ 2,272,944	\$ 1,421,416	\$ 3,690,058	\$ 26,474,225
Liabilities:										
Accounts Payable	\$ 28,538	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,538
Contracts Payable	-	20,058	10,396	35,523	6,905	-	1,091,925	180,424	314,470	1,659,701
Interfund Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,523	44,523
Unearned Revenue	49,046	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49,046
Total Liabilities	77,584	20,058	10,396	35,523	6,905	-	1,091,925	180,424	358,993	1,781,808
Deferred Inflows of Resources:										
Unavailable Revenue - Intergovernmental	-	-	238,154	-	444,232	-	-	-	52,325	734,711
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	-	-	238,154	-	444,232	-	-	-	52,325	734,711
Fund Balance:										
Restricted:										
Infrastructure Projects	-	3,623,570	1,486,631	600,734	5,337,739	6,619,523	1,181,019	1,240,992	3,342,163	23,432,371
Assigned	64,133	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64,133
Unassigned	524,625	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(63,423)	461,202
Total Fund Balance	588,758	3,623,570	1,486,631	600,734	5,337,739	6,619,523	1,181,019	1,240,992	3,278,740	23,957,706
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balance	\$ 666,342	\$ 3,643,628	\$ 1,735,181	\$ 636,257	\$ 5,788,876	\$ 6,619,523	\$ 2,272,944	\$ 1,421,416	\$ 3,690,058	\$ 26,474,225

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to
Net Position of Governmental Activities
December 31, 2023

Total Governmental Fund Balances \$ 23,957,706

Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of
Net Position are Different Because:

Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period
expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred inflows of
resources in the funds:

Intergovernmental Revenues 734,711

Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 24,692,417

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Major Governmental Funds

	General	Series 2016 Bond Issuance Capital Project Fund	State Route 63 Corridor Capital Project Fund	Warren County BOCC Capital Improvement Program Fund	State Route 48 and US 22 3 Capital Improvement Fund	Kings Mill Kings Island Drive Capital Project Fund	King Avenue Improvement Fund	I-75 and State Route 73 Interchange Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:										
Charges for Services	\$ 56,546	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56,546
Intergovernmental	-	-	3,426,461	7,632,828	2,920,771	9,058,598	627,818	2,774,355	1,898,452	28,339,283
Interest	694,319	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	694,319
Other	-	-	270,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	270,000
Total Revenues	750,865	-	3,696,461	7,632,828	2,920,771	9,058,598	627,818	2,774,355	1,898,452	29,360,148
Expenditures:										
General Government	437,555	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	437,555
Highways and Streets	-	573,551	3,871,708	989,703	4,135,719	3,647,270	1,822,872	3,539,829	3,072,108	21,652,760
Total Expenditures	437,555	573,551	3,871,708	989,703	4,135,719	3,647,270	1,822,872	3,539,829	3,072,108	22,090,315
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	313,310	(573,551)	(175,247)	6,643,125	(1,214,948)	5,411,328	(1,195,054)	(765,474)	(1,173,656)	7,269,833
Other Financing Sources (Uses):										
Transfers-In	-	1,784,904	572,419	700,000	3,972,530	-	844,696	1,243,451	1,686,611	10,804,611
Transfers-Out	-	-	-	(8,319,707)	-	-	-	-	(2,484,904)	(10,804,611)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-	1,784,904	572,419	(7,619,707)	3,972,530	-	844,696	1,243,451	(798,293)	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	313,310	1,211,353	397,172	(976,582)	2,757,582	5,411,328	(350,358)	477,977	(1,971,949)	7,269,833
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period	275,448	2,412,217	1,089,459	1,577,316	2,580,157	1,208,195	1,531,377	763,015	5,250,689	16,687,873
Fund Balance at End of Period	\$ 588,758	\$ 3,623,570	\$ 1,486,631	\$ 600,734	\$ 5,337,739	\$ 6,619,523	\$ 1,181,019	\$ 1,240,992	\$ 3,278,740	\$ 23,957,706

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO
*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, 2023*

Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Governmental Funds	\$	7,269,833
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*Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of
Activities are Different Because:*

Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not Provide Current Financial Resources are not Reported as Revenues in the Funds, Rather These Revenues are Reported as Deferred Inflows of Resources		668,028
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Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$	7,937,861
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

1. REPORTING ENTITY

The Warren County Transportation Improvement District (the District) is a body politic and corporate, created for the purpose of financing, constructing, maintaining, repairing, and operating selected transportation projects. The District was specifically created pursuant to Chapter 5540 of the Ohio Revised Code, as amended. The District was created by action of the Board of Warren County Commissioners on January 27, 2011.

The District is governed by a Board of Trustees that acts as the authoritative and legislative body of the entity. The Board is comprised of seven members of whom five are voting and two are non-voting. Each Board member serves a term of two years and there are no term limits for reappointment. The five voting Board members are appointed by the Board of Warren County Commissioners. The Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and the President of the Ohio Senate each appoint one non-voting member. None of the Board members receive compensation for serving on the Board.

District Officers consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer, who are elected annually from among the voting members of the Board. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer serve at the pleasure of the Board and are subject to removal by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Board at any time. The Chairman's responsibilities are to preside at all meetings of the Board and be the chief officer of the District. The Secretary-Treasurer serves as the fiscal officer of the District.

The District is reported as a component unit of Warren County, Ohio, as defined by the provisions of GASB statement numbers 14 and 39. As such, its activities are reported within the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

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

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 governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the District's accounting policies are described below.

2A. Basis of Presentation

The District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a Statement of Net Position 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 Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The Statement of Net Position 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 limitations. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or 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. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

2B. Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There is one category of funds: Governmental.

Governmental Funds - Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically 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 purposes 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 District has the following major governmental funds:

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

Series 2016 Bond Issuance Capital Project Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for infrastructure projects permitted by the debt issuance agreement.

State Route 63 Corridor Capital Project Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for infrastructure projects along the State Route 63 Corridor.

Warren County BOCC Capital Improvement Program Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for certain infrastructure projects that have been agreed to by the Warren County Board of County Commissioners through an intergovernmental agreement with the District.

State Route 48 and US 22 3 Capital Improvement Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for infrastructure projects along State Route 48 and US 22 3.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Kings Mill Kings Island Drive Capital Project Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for infrastructure projects along Kings Mill and Kings Island Drive.

King Avenue Improvement Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for infrastructure projects along King Avenue.

I-75 and State Route 73 Interchange Fund – Accounts for resources to be used for infrastructure projects at the I-75 and State Route 73 interchange.

2C. Measurement Focus

Governmental-Wide Financial Statements - The government-wide financial statements are prepared using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the District are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Activities presents increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenses) in total net position.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

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 are generally 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.

Classification of Fund Balance

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions," the District's fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

1. Nonspendable

The District classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. At December 31, 2023, the District did not report any fund balance classified as nonspendable.

2. Restricted

Fund balance is restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

3. Committed

The District's Board can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the District's Board amends the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements. At December 31, 2023, the District did not report any fund balance classified as committed.

4. Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent resources set aside for purchase commitments by the Secretary-Treasurer.

5. Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

2D. Basis of Accounting

The 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 the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred inflows of resources 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 fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of the fiscal year-end.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Non-exchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal 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 fiscal 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.

Deferred Inflows of Resources – In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. These amounts are deferred and recognized as inflow of resources in the periods that the amounts become available or for the periods in which they are to be used.

Unearned Revenue - Unearned revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied.

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.

2E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the balance sheet and statement of net position. During 2023, the District invested in STAR Ohio.

STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants. The District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

For 2023, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours advance notice for deposits and withdrawals of \$100 million or more is appreciated. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million per day.

For purposes of the statement of net position, the funds in the cash management pool are considered to be cash equivalents.

2F. Receivables

Receivables, when presented, generally consist of intergovernmental receivables arising from voluntary non-exchange transactions.

2G. Capital Assets

The District reports no capital assets. Title to assets maintained by the District as part of project related expenditures will transfer to the County or State upon project completion.

2H. 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 are incurred and are paid in a timely manner with current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds. Long-term loans are recognized as a liability on the governmental fund financial statements when due.

2I. Interfund Transactions

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 and eliminated in the Statement of Activities. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

2J. Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through constitutional provision, enabling legislation, or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The District is somewhat unique in that it has issued debt to construct infrastructure improvements that are capital assets of legally separate entities. Since the District must report the corresponding debt issued as a liability, but with no corresponding capital asset to recognize, the District's net position is decreased.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

2K. 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 those estimates.

3. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Monies held by the District are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands upon the District. Active deposits must be maintained either as cash by the District, 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 District 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 that 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.

The District has an Investment Policy that authorizes the Secretary-Treasurer to make investments of available monies from the funds of the District in securities as authorized by State law. These include:

- Bonds, notes, or other obligations of or guaranteed by the United States, or those for which the faith of the United States is pledged for payment of principal and interest thereon but does not include stripped principal or interest obligations of such obligations;
- Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities directly issued by a Federal government agency or instrumentality;
- Interim deposits in Board-approved depositories;
- Bonds and other obligations of the State;
- No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in the first two bullet points above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided such investments are made only through banks and savings and loan institutions authorized by R.C. 135.03;
- The State Treasury Asset Reserve (STAR Ohio).

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk 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 the possession of an outside party. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money have been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by:

- Eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured; or
- Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

At year-end, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$14,500,650 and the bank balance was \$14,594,522. Federal depository insurance covered \$250,000 of the bank balance. The remaining \$14,344,522 was collateralized in a manner described above.

Investments

As of December 31, 2023, the District had investments in STAR Ohio totaling \$10,381,676.

The District has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in state statutes. STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service.

4. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS

As of December 31, 2023, the District has entered into various intergovernmental agreements with the Warren County Commissioners, Warren County Engineers Office, and various other local governments with nexus to Warren County to provide funding to the District to facilitate the development and implementation of the District's projects.

Additionally, the District's Board has authorized a 3 percent management fee (charged to the entity contracting with the District) to assist and manage certain projects authorized by the District's Board.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

5. CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

As of December 31, 2023, the District had open, unpaid contractual commitments related to engineering and design work of approximately \$22.6 million.

6. INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Transfers

During 2023, the District made the following transfers to provide resources for current project expenses:

From	To	Amount
I71 Fields Ertel Mason-Montgomery Rd Interchange Fund	Series 2016 Bond Issuance Capital Project Fund	\$ 195,364
Southwest Warren County Capital Projects Fund	Series 2016 Bond Issuance Capital Project Fund	1,589,540
US 22 SR 3 Corridor Capital Projects Fund	Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	700,000
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	Fields Ertel Road Widening Capital Project Fund	305,642
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	US 22 SR 3 Corridor Capital Projects Fund	700,000
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	SR 48 Over Little Miami River Capital Projects Fund	644,969
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	State Route 63 and Gateway Capital Project Fund	36,000
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	State Route 63 Corridor Capital Project Fund	572,419
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	King Avenue Improvement Fund	844,696
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	SR 48 22 3 Improvement Fund	3,972,530
Warren County BOCC Cap. Imp. Program Fund	I75 SR 73 Interchange Fund	1,243,451
		<u>\$ 10,804,611</u>

Advances

At December 31, 2023, the SR 741 and Remick Blvd. Capital Project Fund had an open advance to the General Fund in the amount of \$44,523. This advance was made during 2023 to provide resources for current period project expenses.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- General Liability
- Public Officials Liability
- Crime

There have been no claims resulting from these risks since the inception of the District. Additionally, there have been no significant changes in coverage during the year.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The District evaluated the effects subsequent events would have on the financial statements through the date of the auditor's report, which is the date that financial statements were available for issuance.

9. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the District has implemented the following Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements:

- *GASB 94, Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships (PPP) and Availability Payment Arrangements (APA)*
- *GASB 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*
- *GASB 99, Omnibus 2022*

The implementation of these GASB Statements did not have an effect on the District's 2023 financial statements.

**WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</u>			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Transportation:</i>			
Highway Planning & Construction			
Highway Planning & Construction - SR 63 – Union Road to SR741	20.205	PID 112121	\$ 247,854
Highway Planning & Construction - SR 48 and US22/SR3 Intersection Improvements	20.205	PID 112909	544,419
Highway Planning & Construction - I-75 & SR 73 Interchange Improvements	20.205	PID 113717	2,496,920
Highway Planning & Construction - SR 741 and Remick Blvd. Intersection Improvements	20.205	PID 113721	411,360
Highway Planning & Construction - Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road	20.205	PID 113722	<u>26,259</u>
Total AL Number 20.205/Highway Planning & Construction			<u>3,726,812</u>
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			<u>3,726,812</u>
Total			<u><u>\$ 3,726,812</u></u>

AL - Assistance Listing Number

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

**WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Warren County Transportation Improvement District (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2023. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the District.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

The District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE D - MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

Certain Federal programs require the District to contribute non-Federal funds (matching funds) to support the Federally-funded programs. The District has met its matching requirements. The Schedule does not include the expenditure of non-Federal matching funds.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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800-282-0370

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County
210 W. Main Street
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Warren County Transportation Improvement District, Warren County, (the District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 18, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2023-001 and 2023-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. 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 or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and / or corrective action plan. The District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio
September 18, 2024

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County
210 N. Main Street
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited Warren County Transportation Improvement District's (the District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the Warren County Transportation Improvement District's major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2023. Warren County Transportation Improvement District's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Warren County Transportation Improvement District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for the major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

The District's Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the District's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the District's compliance with the requirements of the major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Warren County Transportation Improvement District
Warren County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance
Required by the Uniform Guidance
Page 3

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of this testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio
September 18, 2024

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**WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
WARREN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

<i>(d)(1)(i)</i>	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iii)</i>	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(v)</i>	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(vi)</i>	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(vii)</i>	Major Programs (list):	Highway Planning and Construction
<i>(d)(1)(viii)</i>	Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
<i>(d)(1)(ix)</i>	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No

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

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

Material Weakness

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, Terms of Engagement, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

**FINDING NUMBER 2023-001
(Continued)**

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Cod. 1100 paragraph .101 states a governmental accounting system must make it possible both: (a) to present fairly and with full disclosure the funds and activities of the governmental unit in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and (b) to determine and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions.

During the GAAP conversion, the District included intergovernmental receivable amounts that would not be reimbursed by ODOT. The following financial statement errors were noted:

- State Route 63 Fund - Intergovernmental Receivable and Deferred Inflows were overstated by \$329,244.
- State Route 48 and 22 and 3 Fund - Intergovernmental Receivable and Deferred Inflows were overstated by \$190,385.
- State Route 741 Remick Blvd Fund- Intergovernmental Receivable and Deferred Inflows were understated by \$33,425.

The District's management should implement a system to review the financial statements for errors and omissions. This will help ensure the statements are complete and accurate.

The District corrected the financial statements and accounting records, where appropriate.

To help ensure the District's financial statements are complete and accurate, the District should implement internal control procedures to identify and correct errors and omissions in the recording of financial transactions.

Officials' Response:

Management agrees with the finding and wishes to provide additional context to this item by noting that during the course of assembling the accrual-based financial statements that concluded on May 24, 2024, the TID used certain estimates and assumptions to determine the amount of receivables to record from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for certain project-related amounts that potentially could be eligible for reimbursement from ODOT as of December 31, 2023. However, as more time elapsed from May 24, 2024 to the date that the auditors concluded their fieldwork, more actual information about project-related expenses eligible for reimbursement became known with less uncertainty surrounding such amounts, and so it was determined in connection with the audit that the TID's originally recorded amounts for receivables that were based on certain estimates and assumptions needed to be adjusted.

FINDING NUMBER 2023-002

Material Weakness

2 CFR Subpart F § 200.510(b) requires the auditee to prepare a Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) for the period covered by the District's financial statements which must include the total federal awards expended as determined in accordance with § 200.502.

At a minimum, the schedule must:

- (1) List individual Federal programs by Federal agency.
- (2) For Federal awards received as a subrecipient, the name of the pass-through entity and identifying number assigned by the pass-through entity must be included.

**FINDING NUMBER 2023-002
(Continued)**

- (3) Provide total Federal awards expended for each individual Federal program and the Assistance Listings (AL) number or other identifying number when the AL information is not available.
- (4) Include the total amount provided to subrecipients from each Federal program.
- (5) For loan or loan guarantee programs described in § 200.502 Basis for determining Federal awards expended, paragraph (b), identify in the notes to the schedule the balances outstanding at the end of the audit period.
- (6) Include notes that describe the significant accounting policies used in preparing the schedule, and note whether or not the auditee has elected to use the 10 percent de minimis cost rate as covered in § 200.414 Indirect (F&A) costs.

Federal expenditures for Highway Planning and Construction Program (AL# 20.205) were overstated by \$2,430,569.

Errors and omissions on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) could adversely affect future grant awards in addition to causing an inaccurate assessment of major federal programs that would be subjected to audit. Adjustments, to which management has agreed, are reflected in the Schedule.

District management should implement a system to review the Schedule for errors and omissions.

This will help ensure the Schedule is complete and accurate and major federal programs are correctly identified for reporting purposes.

Officials' Response:

Management agrees with the finding and wishes to provide additional context to this item by noting that the primary change to the TID's SEFA was the removal of one expenditure that was relatively unique in the way it was funded and managed that caused the TID to initially believe that the expenditure should be shown on its 2023 SEFA, but during the course of the audit, it was determined that this one expenditure should not be included on its 2023 SEFA, and thus needed to be adjusted.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

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Warren County Transportation Improvement District

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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

2 CFR § 200.511(c)

December 31, 2023

Finding Number: 2023-001
Planned Corrective Action: The TID will begin making more frequent reimbursement requests from ODOT (at least once per quarter). More frequent reimbursement requests will result in additional actual data that will allow estimates of receivables to be more accurate.
Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2024
Responsible Contact Person: Dan Corey

Finding Number: 2023-002
Planned Corrective Action: The TID will reach out to ODOT more frequently than once per year to determine what amounts should be reported as expenditures of federal awards resulting in more accurate real-time data.
Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2024
Responsible Contact Person: Dan Corey

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



WARREN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

WARREN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 9/26/2024

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov