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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Board of Park Commissioners Licking Park District Licking County P.O. Box 590 Lancaster RD Granville, Ohio 43023

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Licking Park District, Licking County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District'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 District 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 fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the District as of December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, and its 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 21, 2003 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 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.

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Betty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and the Board of Park Commissioners 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 than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

July 21, 2003

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Type		
	General	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Intergovernmental	\$480,661	\$7,100	\$487,761
Programs	16,132	0	16,132
Gifts and Donations	1,297	0	1,297
Rental Fees	9,815	0	9,815
Sales	1,637	0	1,637
Contracts - Services	3,152	0	3,152
Other Receipts	13,264	0	13,264
Total Cash Receipts	525,958	7,100	533,058
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Salaries and Benefits	325,568	0	325,568
Supplies	17,778	0	17,778
Equipment	27,045	0	27,045
Contracts - Repair	5,150	0	5,150
Contracts - Services	51,492	0	51,492
Capital Outlay	38,328	7,100	45,428
Debt:		0	
Payment of Principal	10,455	0	10,455
Payment of Interest	7,208	0	7,208
Other	51,774	0	51,774
Total Cash Disbursements	534,798	7,100	541,898
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(8,840)	0	(8,840)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements			
and Other Financing Disbursements	(8,840)	0	(8,840)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	107,207	0	107,207
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$98,367	\$0	\$98,367
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$24,046	\$0	\$24,046

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

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Type		
	General	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:			
Intergovernmental	\$530,659	\$152,037	\$682,696
Programs	20,705	0	20,705
Gifts and Donations	2,161	0	2,161
Rental Fees	9,050	0	9,050
Sales	524	0	524
Contracts - Services	3,152	0	3,152
Other Receipts	8,020	0	8,020
Total Cash Receipts	574,271	152,037	726,308
Cash Disbursements: Current:			
Salaries and Benefits	277,584	0	277,584
Supplies	19,595	0	19,595
Equipment	42,716	0	42,716
Contracts - Repair	6,876	0	6,876
Contracts - Services	52,240	0	52,240
Capital Outlay	150,560	152,037	302,597
Other	52,450	0	52,450
Total Cash Disbursements	602,021	152,037	754,058
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(27,750)	0	(27,750)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements			
and Other Financing Disbursements	(27,750)	0	(27,750)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	134,957	0	134,957
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$107,207	\$0	\$107,207
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$8,954	\$0	\$8,954

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Licking Park District, Licking County, (the District) 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 District is directed by a three-member Board of Commissioners appointed by the probate judge of Licking County. The District acquires lands for conversion into forest reserves and for the conservation of the natural resources, including streams, lakes, submerged lands and swamp lands. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of same as the Board deems conducive to the general welfare.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District 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

As permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, the Licking County Treasurer holds the District's cash as custodian for the District. The District's assets are held in the County's cash and investment pool, and are valued at the Treasurer's reported carrying amount.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District 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.

This fund is used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The District had the following significant Capital Projects Fund:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Capital Projects Fund

Capital Projects Fund – This fund is used for capital outlay expenditures related to park facilities.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the function level and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. Appropriation authority includes current year appropriations plus encumbrances carried over from the prior year (if any). The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. 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. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

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.

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 District uses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

2. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001 follows:

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$538,536	\$525,958	(\$12,578)
Capital Projects	0	7,100	7,100
Total	\$538,536	\$533,058	(\$5,478)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

-	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$563,462	\$558,844	\$4,618
Capital Projects	0	7,100	(7,100)
Total	\$563,462	\$565,944	(\$2,482)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$617,365	\$574,271	(\$43,094)
Capital Projects	0	152,037	\$152,037
Total	\$617,365	\$726,308	\$108,943

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$615,970	\$610,975	\$4,995
Capital Projects	0	152,037	(\$152,037)
Total	\$615,970	\$763,012	(\$147,042)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

3. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Acquisition Revenue Bonds	\$109,682	6%
Tractor Leases	6,381	6%
Total	\$116,063	

The District issued revenue bonds on February 23, 2000 in the amount of \$130,000 at 6.00% for a term of ten years to pay part of the cost of acquiring real estate. Interest and principal payments are due annually to the General Fund of Licking County. The Bonds are collateralized by revenues of the District.

On October 16, 1998 and on August 18, 1999, the District entered into equipment leases for New Holland tractors. Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	Acquisition	
	Revenue	Tractor
	Bonds	Leases
Year ending December 31:		
2003	\$17,663	\$7,119
2004	17,663	0
2005	17,663	0
2006	17,663	0
2007	17,663	0
2008 – 2010	52,989	0
Total	\$141,304	\$7,119

4. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The District's full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS 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 2002 and 2001, members of PERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The District contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries in 2001 and 2002. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Government belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio ("PEP"), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty insurance for its members. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

5. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Casualty Coverage

PEP retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust PEP's retained earnings, APEEP covers PEP losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

PEP retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$10,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$700,000 for 2001 and \$1,250,000 for 2002. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$10,000 if the annual aggregate is reached and all specific losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Operating Fund and Guarantee Fund pay for losses and loss adjustment expenses should they exceed operating contributions.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31:

Casualty Coverage	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$20,174,977	\$19,358,458
Liabilities	(8,550,749)	(8,827,588)
Retained earnings	<u>\$11,624,228</u>	<u>\$10,530,870</u>

Property Coverage	2002	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$2,565,408	1,890,323
Liabilities	(655,318)	(469,100)
Retained earnings	<u>\$1,910,090</u>	<u>\$1,421,223</u>

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

Board of Park Commissioners Licking Park District Licking County P.O. Box 590 Lancaster Rd Granville. Ohio 43023

To the Board of Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Licking Park District, Licking County (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated July 21, 2003. 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 District'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 District in a separate letter dated July 21, 2003.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District'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 District in a separate letter dated July 21, 2003.

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Licking County
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Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and the Board of Park Commissioners, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

July 21, 2003



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LICKING PARK DISTRICT

LICKING 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 SEPTEMBER 16, 2003