



**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008-2007



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Accountants' Report.....	1
Management's Discussion and Analysis - 2008	3
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Assets – 2008	11
Statement of Activities – 2008	13
Fund Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds – 2008	14
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Assets of Governmental Activities – 2008.....	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds – 2008	18
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities – 2008.....	20
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual – General Fund – 2008	21
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual – Fire Service Fund – 2008.....	22
Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets – Fiduciary Funds – 2008	23
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements – 2008.....	25
Management's Discussion and Analysis - 2007	51
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Assets – 2007	59
Statement of Activities – 2007	61
Fund Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds – 2007	62
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Assets of Governmental Activities – 2007.....	65
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds – 2007	66

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities – 2007	68
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual – General Fund – 2007	69
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual – Fire Service Fund – 2007	70
Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets – Fiduciary Funds – 2007	71
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements – 2007	73
Independent Accountants’ Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	101
Schedule of Findings.....	103
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings.....	119



Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

City of Richmond Heights
Cuyahoga County
26789 Highland Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

To City Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Richmond Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the City), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the City's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Richmond Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the respective budgetary comparisons for the General and Fire Service Funds for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As described in Note 18 of the 2007 Notes to the Basic Financial Statements, the City restated the December 31, 2006 fund balances of the General and Bond Retirement Funds due to incorrect postings of prior year special assessment revenue.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 16, 2010, on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 16, 2010

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

The discussion and analysis of the financial performance of the City of Richmond Heights (the "City") provides an overall review of the City's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the City's financial performance as a whole; readers are encouraged to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the additional information contained in the financial statements and the notes thereof.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2008 are as follows:

- ◆ City income tax revenue totaled \$4,717,603.
- ◆ The assets of the City of Richmond Heights exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$11,469,368. Of this amount, \$4,788,840 may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- ◆ In total, net assets in governmental activities decreased by \$156,958 during 2008. This represents a 1.35 percent decrease from 2007.
- ◆ Total assets decreased by \$368,598, which represents a decrease of approximately 1.05 percent from 2007. The biggest offset to the change was an increase in capital assets, net of depreciation of \$1,936,673.
- ◆ Total liabilities decreased by \$211,640, which represents a decrease of approximately .9 percent. This decrease is due to a decrease in bonds payable of \$405,705 and an increase in OWDA loans payable in the amount of \$180,811.

Using this Annual Financial Report

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the City's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the basic financial statements.

Government-wide financial statements – Reporting the City of Richmond Heights as a Whole

Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities

The Statement of Net Assets presents information on all the City's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increase or decrease in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City is improving or deteriorating. However, in evaluating the overall position of the City, non-financial factors such as the City's tax base, change in property and income tax laws, and the condition of the capital assets should also be considered. Both the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities use the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

The *Statement of Net Assets* and the *Statement of Activities* are divided into the following categories:

- Assets
- Liabilities
- Net assets (assets minus liabilities)
- Program revenues and expenses
- General revenues
- Net assets beginning of year and end of year

Fund Financial Statements - Reporting the City of Richmond Heights's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objects. The City of Richmond Heights, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City of Richmond Heights can be divided into the category of governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on the balance of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements. 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 City's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the government fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate a comparison between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds.

The City of Richmond Heights maintains 21 individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental funds balance sheet and in the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances, for the General Fund, Fire Service Fund, Bond Retirement Fund, Building Improvement Fund, Sewer Improvement Fund and Capital Improvement Capital Projects Fund, all of which are considered to be major funds.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found starting on page 25 of this report.

Government-wide Financial Analysis - City of Richmond Heights as a Whole

As noted earlier, the Statement of Net Assets looks at the City as a whole and can prove to be a useful indicator of the City's financial position.

Table 1 provides a summary of the City's net assets for 2008 as compared to 2007.

Table 1
Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 11,003,513	\$ 13,308,784
Capital assets, net	<u>23,823,379</u>	<u>21,886,706</u>
<i>Total assets</i>	<u>34,826,892</u>	<u>35,195,490</u>
Current liabilities and other liabilities	4,989,385	4,999,916
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	1,376,571	1,190,749
Due in more than one year	<u>16,991,568</u>	<u>17,378,499</u>
<i>Total liabilities</i>	<u>23,357,524</u>	<u>23,569,164</u>
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	6,672,632	4,496,866
Restricted for:		
Debt service	-	206,077
Other purposes	7,896	7,896
Unrestricted	<u>4,788,840</u>	<u>6,915,487</u>
<i>Total net assets</i>	\$ <u><u>11,469,368</u></u>	\$ <u><u>11,626,326</u></u>

Total assets decreased \$368,598 from 2007 to 2008 primarily because of a decrease in the City's cash balances. Total liabilities decreased by \$211,640. This decrease is due to a decrease in general obligation bonds and an increase in OWDA loans payable in the amount of \$405,705 and \$180,811, respectively.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

In order to further understand what makes up the changes in net assets for the current year, the following table gives readers further details regarding the results of activities for the current year as compared to 2007.

Table 2
Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 1,154,682	\$ 1,178,575
Operating grants and contributions	1,380	41,773
Capital grants	<u>51,818</u>	<u>4,776,881</u>
<i>Total program revenues</i>	<u>1,207,880</u>	<u>5,997,229</u>
General revenues:		
Property taxes	4,242,467	3,253,104
Income taxes	4,717,603	4,598,338
Grants and entitlements	1,872,022	1,942,139
Investment income	2,112	158,550
Miscellaneous	<u>369,838</u>	<u>178,737</u>
<i>Total general revenues</i>	<u>11,204,042</u>	<u>10,130,868</u>
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>12,411,922</u>	<u>16,128,097</u>
Expenses:		
General government	1,755,317	1,683,568
Security of persons and property	6,403,653	6,151,280
Transportation	2,601,034	1,509,782
Leisure time activities	513,131	506,157
Community development	454,189	357,229
Basic utility services	298,091	662,989
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>543,465</u>	<u>869,978</u>
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>12,568,880</u>	<u>11,740,983</u>
<i>Change in net assets</i>	\$ <u>(156,958)</u>	\$ <u>4,387,114</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Governmental Activities

Several revenue sources fund our governmental activities with the City income tax being the largest contributor. The City's income tax rate is two percent on gross income and has not changed since 1993. Residents of the City who work in another community and pay the withholding tax for that community receive a 100 percent tax credit on their City tax, the credit limit being 2 percent. During 2008, the revenues generated from this tax amounted to \$4,717,603.

General property taxes are also a significant source of revenues. Although this is a much more stable tax, property taxes constitute only about a third of the general revenues for the City. In addition to the general property taxes, the City has 8.7 mills levied for the Fire Department. The Fire Service Levy provides for a portion of the operating expenditures of the Fire Department, the remainder of funding comes from the General Fund.

Intergovernmental revenues, particularly local government subsidies have, in the past, provided a very stable predictable and significant contribution to the City's General Fund. In 2008, local government subsidies have become less stable with State Budget cuts and county distribution formulas being challenged in court. Estate taxes have also been a significant contributor to this City's budget, but much less stable and not at all predictable. Both of these forms of intergovernmental revenues are at risk due to budget concerns at the State level.

While the City is more aggressively pursuing grants and donations to assist in funding projects that might be funded through the General Fund, none were awarded in 2008.

Interest on all City accounts, except when otherwise designated, is another source of revenue for the General Fund. In the past, interest constituted as much as 25 percent of the total budget. Now, because of the drop in interest rates, this source is much less significant.

Security of Persons and Property and General Government are the major activities of the City generating 65 percent of the governmental expenses. Currently, there are 21 full-time sworn officers in the police department. During 2008, the department continued to place strong emphasis on the training of its employees to keep up with the rapidly changing laws, practices and technology.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

The fire department consists of 20 full-time and 14 part-time fire fighters. All but three of these fire fighters are fully trained paramedics. Again, training plays a crucial role in the day-to-day operation of the fire department. The department handled 1,390 calls for assistance of which approximately 1,065 were for EMS and the rest for fire and fire related incidents.

With several large sanitary sewer construction projects planned or in process, the investment in streets was limited to those streets that experienced sanitary sewer construction or minor repair and resurfacing of various streets.

The City's Funds

Information about the City's major funds starts on page 14. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$12,772,542 and expenditures of \$15,696,389. The net change in fund balance for the year was most significant in the Building Improvement Fund showing a decrease in fund balance of \$1,088,013, which resulted from the City's construction of the new City Hall. The General Fund reflected an increase of \$290,354, increasing the beginning fund balance of \$1,438,493 to \$1,728,847.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The City's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund. An annual appropriation budget is legally required to be prepared for all funds of the City other than agency funds. Council is provided with a detailed line item budget for all departments and after a discussion at a regularly held council meeting, which is open to the public; the budget is adopted by City council. Council must approve legislation for any revisions in the budget that alter totals or the total appropriations for any department or fund. The finance department watches all the departmental budgets closely to monitor compliance with allocated budgets and provides monthly reports to City Council depicting monthly and year-to-date activity.

For the General Fund, budget basis revenue was the same as the original budget estimates of \$7,814,536. The City continues the conservative practice of estimating low in the tax, intergovernmental revenue and interest revenue areas. The final appropriations of \$7,609,029 was sufficient to meet the expenditures for the year, which ended up at \$7,565,990 or \$43,039 less than anticipated due to a conservative budgeting and spending controls.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Table 3 shows fiscal 2008 balances of Capital Assets as compared to 2007:

Table 3
Capital Assets at December 31

	Governmental Activities	
	2008	2007
Land	\$ 1,635,588	\$ 1,635,588
Construction in progress	-	3,461,768
Land Improvements	1,786,198	1,770,037
Buildings and improvements	10,414,646	6,731,349
Machinery and equipment	1,807,234	1,577,397
Vehicles	2,042,917	1,967,635
Infrastructure:		
Roads	10,542,293	9,670,798
Sanitary sewers	3,854,121	3,854,121
Storm sewers	7,586,635	5,626,251
Water lines	2,381,534	2,381,534
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(18,227,787)</u>	<u>(16,789,772)</u>
Total capital assets, net	\$ <u>23,823,379</u>	\$ <u>21,886,706</u>

The City's plan is to maintain its assets, including infrastructure, in excellent condition. Vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances are planned for well in advance by the respective department heads and a scheduled maintenance and replacement timetable is followed to provide peak performance for the maximum time frame. The police car replacement plan is to replace 3 vehicles each year. The older vehicles are sold to the highest bidder at auction.

With regards to the infrastructure, the City's engineering department maintains a comprehensive listing of all the roads, sewer lines and water lines in the City. As part of the City's annual road maintenance program, the Engineer evaluates the condition of each street after each winter and prepares a list of streets to be either resurfaced or crack-sealed and in the case of concrete roads, either replaced or repaired. After approval from Council, the projects are competitively bid to get the best possible pricing from contractors. Related expenditures are paid for out of the Capital Improvement Fund of the City.

The City is committed to a long-term goal of meeting the needs of its infrastructure and facilities. A five-year capital plan is in place that provides for street improvements and adding additional facilities to complement our current structures.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Debt

At December 31, 2008, the City of Richmond Heights had \$18,368,139 in outstanding debt and compensated absences, of which \$10,395,271 was in General Obligation Bonds. Table 4 summarizes the outstanding obligations of the City.

Table 4
Outstanding Debt at Year End

	Governmental Activities	
	2008	2007
General obligation bonds	\$ 10,395,271	\$ 10,800,976
OWDA loans	6,640,761	6,459,950
OPWC loan	114,715	128,914
Police pension	46,831	47,775
Compensated absences	<u>1,170,561</u>	<u>1,131,633</u>
Total	\$ <u>18,368,139</u>	\$ <u>18,569,248</u>

At December 31, 2008, the City's overall legal debt margin was \$23,343,174. At year-end, the outstanding general obligation debt was \$10,395,271. Other obligations include accrued vacation pay and sick leave. More detailed information about the City's long-term liabilities is presented in the notes to the basic financial statements.

Current Related Financial Activities

The City's systems of budgeting and internal controls are prepared to meet the challenges of the future. In conclusion, management has been committed to provide the residents of the City of Richmond Heights with full disclosure of the financial position of the City.

Contacting the City of Richmond Heights's Finance Department

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the City's finances and to show the City's accountability for all money it receives, spends, or invests. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Director of Finance, Lynda Rossiter, City of Richmond Heights, 26789 Highland Road, Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143, telephone (216) 486-2474, or web site at www.richmondheightsohio.org or finance.director@richmondheightsohio.org.

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Net Assets

December 31, 2008

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ (523,218)
Cash with fiscal agent	2,263
Materials and supplies inventory	59,635
Accounts receivable	171,434
Intergovernmental receivable	751,880
Prepaid items	47,475
Taxes receivable	5,084,764
Special assessments receivable	5,409,280
Nondepreciable capital assets	1,635,588
Depreciable capital assets, net	<u>22,187,791</u>
Total assets	<u>34,826,892</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	610,776
Accrued wages and benefits	341,891
Intergovernmental payable	350,784
Accrued interest payable	118,440
Deferred revenue	3,567,494
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	1,376,571
Due in more than one year	<u>16,991,568</u>
Total liabilities	<u>23,357,524</u>
Net assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	6,672,632
Restricted for:	
Other purposes	7,896
Unrestricted	<u>4,788,840</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 11,469,368</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

This page intentionally left blank

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Activities

For The Year Ended December 31,2008

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>			Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Assets Total Governmental Funds
		<u>Charges for Service</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Special Assessments</u>	
Government activities:					
General government	\$ 1,755,317	\$ 320,979	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,434,338)
Security of persons and property	6,403,653	376,534	1,380	-	(6,025,739)
Transportation	2,601,034	114,648	-	51,818	(2,434,568)
Leisure time activities	513,131	133,960	-	-	(379,171)
Community development	454,189	119,002	-	-	(335,187)
Basic utility service	298,091	89,559	-	-	(208,532)
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>543,465</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(543,465)</u>
Total Governmental Activities	\$ <u>12,568,880</u>	\$ <u>1,154,682</u>	\$ <u>1,380</u>	\$ <u>51,818</u>	<u>(11,361,000)</u>

General revenues:	
Property and other local taxes levied for:	
General purposes	3,332,755
Debt service	909,712
Municipal income taxes levied for:	
General purposes	4,717,603
Grants and entitlements not restricted	1,872,022
Investment income	2,112
Miscellaneous income	<u>369,838</u>
Total general revenues	<u>11,204,042</u>
Change in net assets	(156,958)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>11,626,326</u>
Net assets at end of year	\$ <u>11,469,368</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Balance Sheet Governmental Funds

December 31, 2008

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire Service</u>	<u>Bond Retirement</u>
Assets:			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ (548,825)	\$ -	\$ -
Cash with fiscal agents	-	-	2,263
Taxes receivable	2,466,861	1,629,665	832,414
Accounts receivable	79,345	-	-
Intergovernmental receivable	400,065	80,234	48,048
Special assessments receivable	-	-	5,409,280
Internal receivable	1,552,249	-	-
Materials and supplies inventory	9,723	1,700	-
Prepaid items	47,475	-	-
Total Assets	<u>\$ 4,006,893</u>	<u>\$ 1,711,599</u>	<u>\$ 6,292,005</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances:			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 130,619	\$ 6,029	\$ -
Accrued wages	165,983	138,228	-
Intergovernmental payable	116,563	41,879	-
Internal payable	-	728,716	61,169
Deferred revenue	<u>1,864,881</u>	<u>1,709,899</u>	<u>6,289,742</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,278,046</u>	<u>2,624,751</u>	<u>6,350,911</u>
Fund Balances:			
Reserve for encumbrances	-	-	-
Reserve for inventory	9,723	1,700	-
Unreserved (deficit) for:			
General Fund	1,719,124	-	-
Special Revenue Funds	-	(914,852)	-
Debt Service Fund	-	-	(58,906)
Capital Projects Funds	-	-	-
Total Fund Balances (deficits)	<u>1,728,847</u>	<u>(913,152)</u>	<u>(58,906)</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 4,006,893</u>	<u>\$ 1,711,599</u>	<u>\$ 6,292,005</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>Building Improvement</u>	<u>Sewer Improvement</u>	<u>Other Governmental</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,116	\$ 1,491	\$ (523,218)
-	-	-	-	2,263
-	-	-	155,824	5,084,764
-	-	-	92,089	171,434
-	-	-	223,533	751,880
-	-	-	-	5,409,280
-	-	-	436,025	1,988,274
-	-	-	48,212	59,635
-	-	-	-	47,475
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 24,116</u>	<u>\$ 957,174</u>	<u>\$ 12,991,787</u>
\$ -	\$ 202,988	\$ 247,059	\$ 24,081	\$ 610,776
-	-	-	37,680	341,891
-	-	-	192,342	350,784
836,114	176,751	185,524	-	1,988,274
-	-	-	217,396	10,081,918
<u>836,114</u>	<u>379,739</u>	<u>432,583</u>	<u>471,499</u>	<u>13,373,643</u>
21,740	241,217	-	-	262,957
-	-	-	48,212	59,635
-	-	-	-	1,719,124
-	-	-	286,984	(627,868)
-	-	-	-	(58,906)
<u>(857,854)</u>	<u>(620,956)</u>	<u>(408,467)</u>	<u>150,479</u>	<u>(1,736,798)</u>
<u>(836,114)</u>	<u>(379,739)</u>	<u>(408,467)</u>	<u>485,675</u>	<u>(381,856)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 24,116</u>	<u>\$ 957,174</u>	<u>\$ 12,991,787</u>

This page intentionally left blank

City of Richmond Heights

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Assets of Governmental Activities

December 31, 2008

Total Governmental Funds Balances \$ (381,856)

Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Capital Assets Used in Governmental Activities are not Financial Resources and therefore are not reported in the Funds. 23,823,379

Other Long-Term Assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the Funds.

Property and other taxes	\$ 281,728	
Municipal income taxes	550,042	
Special assessments	5,409,280	
Intergovernmental	<u>273,374</u>	
Total		6,514,424

Accrued wages and benefits include contractual required pension contributions not expected to be paid with expendable available fund resources and therefore not reported in the funds. (46,831)

Long-Term Liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and are therefore not reported in the Funds.

Interest payable	(118,440)	
General obligation bonds	(10,395,271)	
Loans payable	(6,755,476)	
Compensated absences	<u>(1,170,561)</u>	
Total		<u>(18,439,748)</u>

Net Assets of Governmental Activities \$ 11,469,368

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire Service</u>	<u>Bond Retirement</u>
Revenues:			
Property taxes	\$ 1,323,706	\$ 1,755,824	\$ 909,712
Municipal income tax	4,698,713	-	-
Other local taxes	82,653	-	-
Intergovernmental	1,109,141	134,388	127,315
Charges for services	73,061	-	-
License and permits	292,312	-	-
Fines and forfeitures	214,288	-	-
Special assessments	-	-	369,471
Investment income	2,112	-	-
Reimbursements received	56,807	-	-
Miscellaneous income	77,127	12,253	-
Total revenues	<u>7,929,920</u>	<u>1,902,465</u>	<u>1,406,498</u>
Expenditures:			
Current operations and maintenance:			
Security of persons and property	3,240,585	2,147,531	-
Public health and welfare	-	-	-
Leisure time activities	290,379	-	-
Community development	454,189	-	-
Basic utility service	44,050	-	-
Transportation	1,479,616	-	-
General government	1,608,722	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	-
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	-	1,108,816
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	647,665
Total expenditures	<u>7,117,541</u>	<u>2,147,531</u>	<u>1,756,481</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>812,379</u>	<u>(245,066)</u>	<u>(349,983)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):			
Proceeds from sale of debt	-	-	-
Premium on sale of debt	-	-	-
Transfers - in	-	40,000	85,000
Transfers - out	(522,025)	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(522,025)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>
Net change in fund balances	290,354	(205,066)	(264,983)
Fund balance (deficit) at beginning of year	<u>1,438,493</u>	<u>(708,086)</u>	<u>206,077</u>
Fund balance (deficit) at end of year	\$ <u>1,728,847</u>	\$ <u>(913,152)</u>	\$ <u>(58,906)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>Building Improvement</u>	<u>Sewer Improvement</u>	<u>Other Governmental</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 170,572	\$ 4,159,814
-	-	-	-	4,698,713
-	-	-	-	82,653
-	-	91,676	468,005	1,930,525
-	-	-	327,222	400,283
89,559	-	-	178,041	559,912
-	-	-	-	214,288
-	-	-	-	369,471
-	-	-	-	2,112
-	-	-	1,380	58,187
<u>27,225</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>179,979</u>	<u>296,584</u>
<u>116,784</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,676</u>	<u>1,325,199</u>	<u>12,772,542</u>
-	-	-	660,332	6,048,448
-	-	-	1,173	1,173
-	-	-	121,632	412,011
-	-	-	-	454,189
-	-	-	-	44,050
-	-	-	506,620	1,986,236
-	-	-	160,500	1,769,222
368,461	1,588,013	637,284	619,671	3,213,429
-	-	-	-	1,108,816
<u>-</u>	<u>11,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>658,815</u>
<u>368,461</u>	<u>1,599,163</u>	<u>637,284</u>	<u>2,069,928</u>	<u>15,696,389</u>
<u>(251,677)</u>	<u>(1,599,163)</u>	<u>(545,608)</u>	<u>(744,729)</u>	<u>(2,923,847)</u>
-	400,000	460,348	-	860,348
-	11,150	-	-	11,150
-	100,000	-	482,025	707,025
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(185,000)</u>	<u>(707,025)</u>
<u>-</u>	<u>511,150</u>	<u>460,348</u>	<u>297,025</u>	<u>871,498</u>
(251,677)	(1,088,013)	(85,260)	(447,704)	(2,052,349)
<u>(584,437)</u>	<u>708,274</u>	<u>(323,207)</u>	<u>933,379</u>	<u>1,670,493</u>
\$ <u>(836,114)</u>	\$ <u>(379,739)</u>	\$ <u>(408,467)</u>	\$ <u>485,675</u>	\$ <u>(381,856)</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Reconciliation of The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ (2,052,349)

Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental Funds report Capital Outlay as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.

Capital Outlay	\$ 3,374,688	
Depreciation	<u>(1,438,015)</u>	
Total		1,936,673

Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the Funds.

Municipal Income Taxes	18,890	
Special Assessments	(409,329)	
Intergovernmental	<u>34,553</u>	
Total		(355,886)

Repayment of Debt Principal is an expenditure in the Governmental Funds, but the repayment reduces Long-Term Liabilities in the Statement of Net Assets. 1,110,591

Debt proceeds and premium provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but have no effect on net assets. (871,498)

Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in Governmental Funds.

Compensated Absences	(38,928)	
Accrued Pension	944	
Accrued Interest on Debt	<u>113,495</u>	
Total		<u>75,511</u>

Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities \$ (156,958)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes In Fund Balances – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual - General Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

	Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 1,306,343	\$ 1,306,343	\$ 1,323,706	\$ 17,363
Municipal income tax	4,682,883	4,682,883	4,635,593	(47,290)
Other local taxes	87,286	87,286	86,405	(881)
Intergovernmental	1,025,251	1,025,251	1,231,958	206,707
Charges for services	63,712	63,712	63,070	(642)
Licenses and permits	295,294	295,294	292,312	(2,982)
Fines and forfeitures	214,206	214,206	212,043	(2,163)
Reimbursements received	57,387	57,387	56,807	(580)
Interest	4,259	4,259	4,216	(43)
Miscellaneous income	<u>77,915</u>	<u>77,915</u>	<u>77,127</u>	<u>(788)</u>
Total revenues	<u>7,814,536</u>	<u>7,814,536</u>	<u>7,983,237</u>	<u>168,701</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	1,561,045	1,565,045	1,581,052	(16,007)
Security of persons and property	3,185,681	3,248,986	3,224,142	24,844
Transportation	1,573,207	1,504,507	1,487,753	16,754
Community environment	459,960	463,700	457,198	6,502
Leisure time activities	<u>336,471</u>	<u>304,766</u>	<u>293,820</u>	<u>10,946</u>
Total expenditures	<u>7,116,364</u>	<u>7,087,004</u>	<u>7,043,965</u>	<u>43,039</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	698,172	727,532	939,272	211,740
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers out	<u>(492,750)</u>	<u>(522,025)</u>	<u>(522,025)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	205,422	205,507	417,247	211,740
Unencumbered fund balance at the beginning of year	225,108	225,108	225,108	-
Prior year encumbrances	<u>81</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>-</u>
Unencumbered fund balance at the end of year	\$ <u>430,611</u>	\$ <u>430,696</u>	\$ <u>642,436</u>	\$ <u>211,740</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Statement Of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes In Fund Balances – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual - Fire Service Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

	Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 1,777,427	\$ 1,777,427	\$ 1,755,824	\$ (21,603)
Intergovernmental	357,049	357,049	134,388	(222,661)
Miscellaneous income	<u>32,554</u>	<u>32,554</u>	<u>12,253</u>	<u>(20,301)</u>
Total revenues	2,167,030	2,167,030	1,902,465	(264,565)
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Security of persons and property	<u>2,104,181</u>	<u>2,191,971</u>	<u>2,138,306</u>	<u>53,665</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>62,849</u>	<u>(24,941)</u>	<u>(235,841)</u>	<u>(210,900)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Advances – in	-	-	290,000	290,000
Transfers – in	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
Net change in fund balance	62,849	(24,941)	94,159	119,100
Unencumbered fund balance at the beginning of year	(532,874)	(532,874)	(532,874)	-
Prior year encumbrances	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Unencumbered fund balance at the end of year	\$ <u>(470,025)</u>	\$ <u>(557,815)</u>	\$ <u>(438,715)</u>	\$ <u>119,100</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

**Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets
Fiduciary Funds**

December 31, 2008

	<u>Agency</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>221,395</u>
Liabilities:	
Deposits held and due to others	\$ <u>221,395</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements

This page intentionally left blank

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 1: The Reporting Entity

The City of Richmond Heights (City) is a charter municipal corporation established and operated under the laws of the State of Ohio. The original charter became effective January 1, 1960 and provides for a mayor-council form of government. Elected officials include seven council members and a mayor.

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the City consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the City. For the City of Richmond Heights this includes: police and fire protection, emergency medical, recreation (including parks), planning, zoning, street maintenance and repair, refuse collection, recycling and general administrative services.

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

The City participates in the Northern Ohio Risk Management Association, which is a shared risk pool, the Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments, which is a jointly governed organization, and the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC), which is a regional council of governments formed to serve as a vehicle for communities wishing to proceed jointly with an aggregation program for the purchase of electricity. These organizations are described in Notes 9 and 15 to the combined financial statements.

The City of Richmond Heights established an independent organization called the Greenwood Farms Historical, Cultural, and Arts Association to facilitate the programming of a historical property on Richmond Road the City acquired. This property is known as the Greenwood Farm or the Phyper property. The City appoints all board members for the Association. The Association will lease the property from the City, determine programming, and facilitate the necessary repairs and renovations to the property needed to provide that programming. The programming and property upkeep are separate from City operations. Under the provisions of Statement No. 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, "The Financial Reporting Entity," the Association is considered a related organization of the City.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the City 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 City also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its governmental activities provided they do not conflict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of the City's accounting policies are described below.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

A. Basis of Presentation

The City's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net assets and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the City as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the City at year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the City's governmental activities of the City. 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 not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the City, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the City.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the City segregates transactions related to certain City 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 City 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. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

B. Fund Accounting

The City 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 are two categories of funds: governmental and fiduciary.

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 following are the City's major governmental funds:

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

B. Fund Accounting (continued)

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

Fire Service Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of expenditures relating to fire services.

Bond Retirement Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term bonded debt principal and interest.

Capital Improvements Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition of major equipment.

Building Improvement Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities.

Sewer Improvement Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major sewer projects.

Fiduciary Fund Type – Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the City under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the City's own programs. The City has no trust funds. The City's agency funds are purely custodial (assets equal liabilities) and thus do not involve measurement of results of operations.

C. Measurement Focus

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the City are included on the Statement of Net Assets, except for fiduciary funds. The statement of activities presents increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenses) in total net assets.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

C. Measurement Focus (continued)

Fund Financial Statements

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

D. Basis of Accounting

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

Revenues – Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the 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 City, available means expected to be received within thirty-one days of year end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the City receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include income taxes, property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from income taxes is recognized in the period in which the income is earned. Revenue from property taxes is recognized in the year for which the taxes are levied. (See Note 6) Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted, matching requirements in which the City must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the City on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

D. Basis of Accounting (continued)

Deferred Revenue

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

Property taxes for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of December 31, 2008, but which were levied to finance year 2009 operations, have been recorded as deferred revenue. Special assessments not received within the available period and grants and entitlements received before eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as deferred revenue. On the modified accrual basis, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue. On governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenues.

Expenditures

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

E. Budgetary Process

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the Tax Budget, the Certificate of Estimated Resources, and the Appropriation Ordinance, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. All funds, other than the agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The legal level of budgetary control is at the object level within each department in the General Fund and at the fund level for all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by ordinance of City Council.

Tax Budget

At the first City Council meeting in July, the Mayor presents the Tax Budget for the following fiscal year to City Council for consideration and passage. The adopted Tax Budget is submitted to the Cuyahoga County Auditor, as Secretary of the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission, by July 20 of each year, for the period January 1 to December 31 of the following year.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

E. Budgetary Process (continued)

Estimated Resources

The Budget Commission determines if the budget substantiates a need to levy all or part of previously authorized taxes and reviews estimated revenue. The Budget Commission certifies its actions to the City by October 1. As part of this certification, the City receives the official Certificate of Estimated Resources, which states the projected revenue of each fund. Prior to December 31, the City must revise its Tax Budget so that the total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing fiscal year will not exceed the amount available as stated in the Certificate of Estimated Resources. The revised Tax Budget then serves as the basis for the annual Appropriation Ordinance. On or about January 1, the Certificate of Estimated Resources is amended to include unencumbered fund balances at December 31 of the preceding year. The Certificate may be further amended during the year if the Director of Finance determines, and the Budget Commission agrees that an estimate needs to be either increased or decreased. The amounts reported in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the final amended Certificate of Estimated Resources issued during 2008.

Appropriations

A temporary Appropriation Ordinance to control expenditures may be passed on or about January 1 of each year for the period January 1 to March 31. An annual Appropriation Ordinance must be passed by April 1 of each year for the period January 1 to December 31. The Appropriation Ordinance fixes spending authority at the object level within each department in the General Fund and at the fund level for all other funds. The Appropriation Ordinance may be amended during the year as new information becomes available, provided that total fund appropriations do not exceed the amount available as stated in the Certificate of Estimated Resources. The allocation of appropriations among departments and objects within a fund may be modified during the year only by an ordinance of City Council. During the year, seven supplemental Appropriation Ordinances were passed which did not have a significant affect on the original Appropriation Ordinance. The budget figures which appear in the statements of budgetary comparisons represent the final appropriation amounts, including all amendments and modifications passed by City Council.

Encumbrances

As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditures of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the non-GAAP budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. The Ohio Revised Code prohibits expenditures plus encumbrances from exceeding appropriations. On the GAAP basis, encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as reservations of fund balances for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental funds.

Lapsing of Appropriations

At the close of each year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriations. The encumbered appropriation balance is carried forward to the succeeding year and is not reappropriated.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the City is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the City's records. Interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

The City utilizes a financial institution to account for a retainage account. The balance in this account is presented as "Restricted Assets: Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents."

Investment procedures are restricted by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during 2008 amounted to \$2,112, none of which was assigned from other funds.

G. Inventory

Inventory is stated at cost on a first-in, first-out basis. The costs of inventory items are recorded as expenditures when purchased.

H. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond December 31, 2008, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method by recording a current asset for the prepaid amount and reflecting the expenditure in the year in which it was consumed.

I. Capital Assets

General capital assets are long-lived assets of the City as a whole. When purchased, such assets are recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds and capitalized (recorded and accounted for) in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net assets but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

Capital asset values were initially determined at December 31, 1994 assigning original acquisition costs when such information was available. In cases where information supporting original costs was not practicably determinable, estimated historical costs were developed. For certain fixed assets, the estimates were calculated by indexing estimated current costs back to the estimated year of acquisition. Donated fixed assets are capitalized at estimated fair market value on the date donated. In 2003, the City had a reappraisal performed to determine capital asset values. The City maintains a capitalization threshold for non-electronic assets of five thousand dollars and electronic assets of one thousand dollars.

The City's infrastructure consists of roads, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, and waterlines. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not. Interest incurred during the construction of capital assets is also capitalized.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

I. Capital Assets (continued)

All capital assets are depreciated except for land and construction in progress. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Useful lives for infrastructure were estimated based on the City's historical records of necessary improvements and replacement. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements	45 years
Buildings and improvements	45 years
Machinery and equipment	7 to 20 years
Vehicles	6 to 12 years
Infrastructure	65 years

J. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, outstanding interfund loans and unpaid amounts for interfund services are reported as "internal receivables/payables". Interfund loans which do not represent available expendable resources are offset by a fund balance reserve account. Interfund balance amounts are eliminated in the statement of net assets.

K. Compensated Absences

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. A liability is accrued for employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the City has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employee wage rates as of December 31, 2008, taking into consideration any limits specified in the City's termination policy.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. For governmental funds, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using expendable available resources. These amounts are recorded in the account Compensated Absences Payable in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The noncurrent portion of the liability is not reported.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

L. 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 are reported as obligations of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources. However, Compensated Absences and contractually required pension contributions (Intergovernmental Payable) that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Bonds and long-term loans are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due.

M. Fund Balance Reserves

Reservations of fund balances are established to identify the existence of assets that, because of their nonmonetary nature or lack of liquidity, represent financial resources not available for current appropriation or expenditure, including amounts legally segregated for a specific future use. Fund balances are reserved for encumbrances and inventories of supplies and materials.

N. Net Assets

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

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

O. Interfund Activity

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

P. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the City Administration and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during 2008.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Q. Estimates

The preparation of the 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.

Note 3: Accountability and Compliance

A. Compliance

The Fire Service Fund, COPS Fund, Senior Disabled Transportation Fund, Bond Retirement Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Street Improvement Fund, and Building Improvement Fund had negative budgetary fund balances of \$438,716, \$44,872, \$1,557, \$58,906, \$808,846, \$381,866, and \$176,751, respectively, at December 31, 2008, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.10. Also, the Fire Service Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Building Improvement Fund, and Sewer Improvement Fund had appropriations in excess of estimated resources in the amount of \$811,316, \$1,147,872, \$463,426, and \$981,852, respectively, as of December 31, 2008, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.39. Also, throughout 2008, the City was in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (D), which requires fiscal officer certification prior to entering into any commitment for the expenditure of funds. The City also made various interfund transfers that were in violation of Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14 – 5705.16. Adjustments were made to the financial statements to eliminate those unallowed transfers. In addition, the following funds/accounts had expenditures plus encumbrances exceeding appropriations as of December 31, 2008, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (B):

Fund/Account	Total Appropriations	Total Expenditures plus Encumbrances	Variance
General Fund:			
Police Department			
Education and Travel	\$ 14,000	\$ 16,025	\$ (2,025)
Supplies and Materials	70,575	99,582	(29,007)
Recreation Department			
Contractual	58,155	61,454	(3,299)
Building Department			
Education and Travel	4,071	6,035	(1,964)
Contractual	41,555	71,552	(29,997)
Supplies and Materials	4,150	6,139	(1,989)
Council			
Personnel	71,669	91,641	(19,972)
Administration			
Education and Travel	5,500	5,817	(317)
Contractual	895,550	895,558	(8)
Fire Service Fund:			
Contractual	53,500	56,178	(2,678)
Street Construction Fund:			
Supplies and Materials	366,050	367,389	(1,339)

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 3: Accountability and Compliance (continued)

B. Accountability

The Fire Service Fund, Bond Retirement Fund, Capital Improvements Fund, Building Improvements Fund, Sewer Improvement Fund, Police Pension Fund and Fire Pension Fund have deficit fund balances of \$913,152, \$58,906, \$836,114, \$379,739, \$408,467, \$155,079, and \$307,412 at December 31, 2008, respectively. These deficits are the result of the application of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The General Fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and provides operating transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

C. Change in Accounting Principles

For 2008, the City has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 49, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pollution Remediation Obligations". GASB Statement No. 49 addresses accounting and financial reporting standards for pollution (including contamination) remediation obligations, which are obligations to address the current or potential detrimental effect of existing pollution by participating in pollution remediation activities such as site assessments and cleanups. The implementation of this Statement did not result in any change to the City's financial statements.

Note 4: Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP basis), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual – All Governmental Fund Types is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget and to demonstrate compliance with State statute. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are:

- (a) Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures/Expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) Encumbrances are treated as expenditures for all funds (budget) rather than as a reservation of fund balance for governmental fund types (GAAP);
- (d) Short-term note proceeds and note principal retirement for governmental funds are operating transactions (budget) as opposed to balance sheet transactions (GAAP).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statements to the budgetary basis statements for the general fund and fire service fund.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 4: Budgetary Basis of Accounting (continued)

**Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources
over (under) Expenditures and other Financing Uses**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire Service Fund</u>
GAAP Basis	\$ 290,354	\$ (205,066)
Increase (Decrease) Due To:		
Revenue Accruals	53,317	290,000
Expenditure Accruals	<u>73,576</u>	<u>9,225</u>
Budget Basis	\$ <u>417,247</u>	\$ <u>94,159</u>

Note 5: Deposits and Investments

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

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

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

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

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

1. U. S. Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the U. S. Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 5: Deposits and Investments (continued)

3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement exceeds the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions; and
6. The State of Ohio Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).

The City may also invest any monies not required to be used for a period of six months or more in the following:

1. Bonds of the State of Ohio;
2. Bonds of any municipal corporation, village, county, township, or other political subdivision of this State, as to which there is no default of principal, interest or coupons; and
3. Obligations of the City.

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. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Deposits

Custodial Credit Risk Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the City will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. At year end, the bank balance was \$(76,573). Although the securities were held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department and all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the City to a successful claim by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The City 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 and deposited either with the City or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured.

Investments

Investments, when purchased, are reported at fair value. As of December 31, 2008, the City had no investments.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 6: Receivables

Receivables at December 31, 2008 consist primarily of taxes, accounts, intergovernmental and accrued interest on investments. All receivables are considered fully collectible.

A. Property Taxes

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

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

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

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

2008 tangible personal property taxes are levied after October 1, 2007, on the value as of December 31, 2007. Collections are made in 2008. Tangible personal property assessments are being phased out – the assessment percentage for all property including inventory for 2008 is 6.25 percent. This will be reduced to zero for 2009. Payments by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable at September 20.

The full tax rate for all City operations for the year ended December 31, 2008, was \$14.10 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real and tangible personal property upon which 2008 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>
Real Estate:	
Residential/Agriculture	\$ 218,775,920
Other Real Estate	89,929,440
Tangible Personal Property:	
Public Utility	2,316,100
General Tangible Personal Property	<u>5,587,427</u>
	\$ <u>316,608,887</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 6: Receivables (continued)

B. Intergovernmental Receivables

A summary of intergovernmental receivables as of December 31, 2008 follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
Homestead and Rollback Reimbursements	\$ 183,819
Local Government	189,408
Auto registration	47,468
Gasoline taxes	158,749
Estate taxes	101,505
CAT tax	32,681
Other	<u>38,250</u>
Total intergovernmental receivable	\$ <u><u>751,880</u></u>

C. Income Taxes

The City levies a municipal income tax of two percent on substantially all income earned within the City; in addition, residents are required to pay tax on income earned outside of the City. The City allows a credit of one hundred percent for income tax paid to another municipality, not to exceed two percent of taxable income.

Employers within the City are required to withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the City either monthly or quarterly. Corporations and other individual taxpayers are required to pay their estimated tax quarterly and file a declaration annually. Income tax proceeds may be used for the purposes of general municipal operations, maintenance, new equipment, extension and enlargement of municipal services and facilities and capital improvements of the City. In 2008, the proceeds were allocated one hundred percent to the General Fund.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 7: Capital Assets

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

	Balance 12/31/2007	Additions	Deletions	Balances 12/31/2008
<u>Governmental activities</u>				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,635,588	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,635,588
Construction in progress	3,461,768	-	(3,461,768)	-
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>5,097,356</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,461,768)</u>	<u>1,635,588</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Land improvements	1,770,037	16,161	-	1,786,198
Buildings and improvements	6,731,349	3,683,297	-	10,414,646
Machinery and equipment	1,577,397	229,837	-	1,807,234
Vehicles	1,967,635	75,282	-	2,042,917
Infrastructure:				
Roads	9,670,798	871,495	-	10,542,293
Storm sewers	3,854,121	-	-	3,854,121
Sanitary sewers	5,626,251	1,960,384	-	7,586,635
Water lines	2,381,534	-	-	2,381,534
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>33,579,122</u>	<u>6,836,456</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,415,578</u>
Less accumulated depreciation:				
Land improvements	(859,676)	(94,303)	-	(953,979)
Buildings and improvements	(1,935,625)	(199,022)	-	(2,134,647)
Machinery and equipment	(1,090,230)	(187,569)	-	(1,277,799)
Vehicles	(1,141,947)	(216,400)	-	(1,358,347)
Infrastructure:				
Roads	(5,786,504)	(463,213)	-	(6,249,717)
Storm sewers	(1,835,249)	(49,859)	-	(1,885,108)
Sanitary sewers	(2,306,758)	(180,017)	-	(2,486,775)
Water lines	(1,833,783)	(47,632)	-	(1,881,415)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(16,789,772)</u>	<u>(1,438,015)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,227,787)</u>
Net capital assets being depreciated	<u>16,789,350</u>	<u>5,398,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,187,791</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ <u>21,886,706</u>	\$ <u>5,398,441</u>	\$ <u>(3,461,768)</u>	\$ <u>23,823,379</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental activities as follows:

General Government	\$ 128,082
Transportation	614,798
Leisure Time Activities	100,654
Basic Utilities Services	254,041
Security of Persons and Property	<u>340,440</u>
	\$ <u>1,438,015</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 8: Shared Risk Pool

The Northern Ohio Risk Management Association (NORMA) is jointly owned and operated by the Cities of Bedford Heights, Chagrin Falls, Eastlake, Highland Heights, Hudson, Maple Heights, Mayfield Heights, Richmond Heights, Solon, University Heights, and South Euclid for the purpose of enabling its members to obtain maximum exposure protection at the least possible cost. The pool has a complete package of coverage, including property, general liability, automobile liability, employee dishonesty, boiler and machinery, and other coverages, supplemented by an umbrella liability policy. The members formed a not-for-profit corporation known as NORMA, Inc. to administer the pool. NORMA is governed by a board of trustees that consists of one representative from each of the participating members. Each entity must commit to the joint venture for terms of three years.

Each member provides operating resources to NORMA based on actuarially determined rates and shares in NORMA's residual equity based on the City's percentage of contributions. In the event of losses, the first \$1,000 to \$2,500 of any valid claim will be paid by the member. The next payment, generally a maximum of \$150,000 per occurrence, will be paid from the self-insurance pool with any excess paid from the stop loss coverage carried by the pool. As of December 31, 2008, NORMA had an aggregate stop loss ranging from \$400,000 to \$750,000 per policy year. Any losses over these amounts would be the obligation of the individual member. If the aggregate claims paid by the pool exceed the available resources, the pool may require the members to make additional supplementary payments up to a maximum of the regular annual payment. This has not been necessary throughout the 20-year history of the pool.

In 2008, the City paid \$85,239 in premiums which represent approximately 5.38 percent of the total premium. Financial information about NORMA can be obtained by contacting Allison Chance, Finance Director, City of Bedford Heights, 5661 Perkins Road, Bedford Heights, Ohio 44146, who serves as the fiscal agent.

Note 9: Risk Management

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disaster. To address such risks, the City joined together with other neighboring cities to form the Northern Ohio Risk Management Association (NORMA, see Note 8) for the purpose of providing property, liability and vehicle insurance and providing for a formalized, jointly administered self insurance fund. The City pays an annual premium to NORMA for its insurance coverage. The agreement for formation of NORMA provides that NORMA will be self-sustaining through member premiums and will reinsure through commercial companies for claims in excess of the limits described in the agreement. This coverage is purchased through the General Fund.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 9: Risk Management (continued)

Claims have not exceeded coverage provided by NORMA in any of the last three years and there were no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year.

The City belongs to the Ohio Public Treasurers Association group rating plan for workers' compensation. The group rating plan is administered by Integrated Consulting Services, LTD. who was paid an annual fee of \$3,575 in 2008. The Ohio Public Treasurers Association group rating plan is intended to achieve lower workers' compensation premium rates for the participants. The City pays the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation a premium based on a rate per \$100 of wages paid. The rate is based on the group's claim history and administrative costs. There are no additional contributions required by a participant other than their annual fee.

The City provides medical, dental, vision and prescription drug benefits for all full-time employees through Aetna, the Delta Dental Plan of Ohio and VSP Vision Care. Monthly premium payments are made from the General and Fire Service Funds. The expenses are allocated by the number of employees in each department multiplied by the fixed premium rate for each employee. The monthly premiums for all benefits are \$1,348 for family coverage, \$956 for an employee plus one additional person and \$448 for single coverage.

Note 10: Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and local ordinances. Employees earn ten to thirty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Earned vacation time is paid upon termination of employment.

Employees earn sick leave at different rates depending upon type of employment. Sick leave accrual is continuous, without limit. Upon retirement or death, employees can be paid for accumulated, unused sick leave, up to a maximum number of hours of 690 for Fire Department employees, 960 for Police Department employees and 600 for all City employees.

As of December 31, 2008, the City's liability for unpaid compensated absences was \$1,170,561.

Note 11: Defined Benefit Pension Plans

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 11: Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (continued)

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

Funding Policy – The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the members in state and local classifications contributed 10 percent of covered payroll, and public safety and law enforcement members contributed 10.1 percent.

The City's contribution rate for 2008 was 14.0 percent, except for those plan members in law enforcement or public safety, for whom the City's contribution was 17.40 percent of covered payroll. The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The City of Richmond Heights's required contributions for pension obligations to the traditional and combined plans for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$299,633, \$272,982, and \$275,835, respectively, 92 percent has been contributed for 2008, which has been recorded as a liability and 100 percent for 2007 and 2006. Contributions to the member-directed plan for 2008 were \$6,140 made by the City of Richmond Heights and \$4,386 made by the plan members.

B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund

Plan Description - The City contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. OP&F provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by the Ohio State Legislature and are codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code. OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the plan. That report may be obtained by writing to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary to fund pension obligations. The City contribution was 19.5 percent for police officers and 24 percent for firefighters. Contribution rates are established by State statute. For 2008, a portion of the City's contribution equal to 6.75 percent of covered payroll was allocated to fund the post-employment health care plan. The City's contributions to OP&F for police and firefighters were \$286,564 and \$313,460 for the year ended December 31, 2008, \$291,504 and \$319,378 for the year ended December 31, 2007, and \$294,651 and \$316,657 for the year ended December 31, 2006. The full amount has been contributed for 2007 and 2006. 69 percent for police and 69 percent for firefighters has been contributed for 2008 with the remainder being reported as a liability.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 11: Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (continued)

In addition to current contributions, the City pays installments on the accrued liability incurred when the State of Ohio established the statewide pension system for police and fire fighters in 1967. As of December 31, 2008, the unfunded liability of the City was \$46,831 payable in semi-annual payments through the year 2049. This is a liability of the City which will not vary.

Note 12: Postemployment Benefits

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

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

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

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

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the covered payroll of active employees. In 2008, local government employers contributed 14 percent of covered payroll (17.4 percent for public safety and law enforcement). Each year, the OPERS retirement board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside for funding post-employment health care benefits. For, 2008, the amount of the employer contribution allocated to fund post-employment health care was 7 percent of covered payroll.

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

The City's contributions allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$149,817, \$108,401, and \$90,602 respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for 2008, 2007 and 2006.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 12: Postemployment Benefits (continued)

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (continued)

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

B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund

Plan Description – The City contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) sponsored healthcare program, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined post-employment healthcare plan administered by OP&F. OP&F provides healthcare benefits including coverage for medical, prescription drugs, dental, vision, Medicare Part B Premium reimbursement and long term care to retirees, qualifying benefit recipients and their eligible dependents.

OP&F provides access to post-retirement healthcare coverage for any person who receives or is eligible to receive a monthly service, disability or survivor benefit check or is a spouse or eligible dependent child of such person.

The Ohio Revised Code allows, but does not mandate, OP&F to provide OPEB benefits. Authority for the OP&F Board of Trustees to provide healthcare coverage to eligible participants and to establish and amend benefits is codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code.

OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the Plan. That report may be obtained by writing to OP&F, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

Funding Policy – OP&F's post-employment healthcare plan was established and is administered as an Internal Revenue Code 401(h) account within the defined benefit pension plan, under the authority granted by the Ohio Revised Code to the OP&F Board of Trustees. The Ohio Revised Code sets the contribution rates for participating employers and for plan members to the OP&F. Participating employers are required to contribute to the pension plan at rates expressed as percentages of the payroll of active pension plan members, currently, 19.5 percent and 24 percent of covered payroll for police and fire employers, respectively.

The Board of Trustees is authorized to allocate a portion of the total employer contributions made to the pension plan to the 401(h) account as the employer contribution for retiree healthcare benefits. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the employer contribution allocated to the healthcare plan was 6.75 percent of covered payroll. The amount of employer contributions allocated to the healthcare plan each year is subject to the trustees' primary responsibility to ensure that pension benefits are adequately funded and also is limited by the provisions of Section 401(h).

The OP&F Board of Trustees is also authorized to establish requirements for contributions to the healthcare plan by retirees and their eligible dependents, or their surviving beneficiaries. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 12: Postemployment Benefits (continued)

B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (continued)

The City's contributions to OP&F which were allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for police and firefighters were \$99,511 and \$89,029 for the year ended December 31, 2008, \$100,860 and \$89,745 for the year ended December 31, 2007, and \$117,105 and \$102,254 for the year ended December 31, 2006. The full amount has been contributed for all three years.

Note 13: Contingencies

The City is a party to legal proceedings seeking damages. The City's management is of the opinion that ultimate disposition of these claims and legal proceedings will not have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the City.

Note 14: Long-Term Obligations

Changes in long-term obligations of the City during 2008 are as follows:

	Original Amount	Balance December 31, 2007	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31, 2008	Due in One Year
General Obligation Bonds						
1999 4.32% Street Improvements	\$ 995,000	\$ 230,000	\$ -	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000
2000 5.30% Street Improvements	875,000	310,000	-	95,000	215,000	105,000
2001 3.35-4.35% Street Improvements	600,000	205,000	-	65,000	140,000	70,000
2001 3.35-5.70% Law Enforcement Building	3,550,000	2,605,000	-	150,000	2,455,000	155,000
2005 3.47% Various Purpose	3,990,000	3,300,000	-	360,000	2,940,000	375,000
2007 3.75-4.00% Various Purpose	4,125,000	4,125,000	-	30,000	4,095,000	60,000
Unamortized Premium – 2007 Various Purpose issue	25,976	25,976	-	1,855	24,121	1,855
2008 4.00-5.50% Fire Station Bay addition	400,000	-	400,000	-	400,000	70,000
Unamortized premium – 2008 Fire Station Bay addition	11,150	-	11,150	-	11,150	2,230
Total general obligation bonds	<u>14,581,150</u>	<u>10,800,976</u>	<u>411,150</u>	<u>816,855</u>	<u>10,395,271</u>	<u>954,085</u>
OWDA Loans						
Monticello Avenue Sewer 4.56%	200,000	96,584	-	11,070	85,514	11,581
Chardon Road Sewer 4.56%	1,554,105	1,058,556	-	71,815	986,741	75,127
Brushview Road Sewer 4.12%	439,366	314,653	-	19,699	294,954	20,519
Highland Road - Meadowlane 3.79%	648,031	487,950	-	28,283	459,667	29,365
Richmond Road (to Highland Road) 3.90%	923,490	773,032	-	37,137	735,895	38,600
Sunset/Skyline Sewer Construction 3.20%-3.59%	1,036,790	918,618	-	41,658	876,960	43,166
Dunbarton/Cary Jay- Construction 3.41%	564,812	522,164	-	22,250	499,914	23,015
Richmond Rd et al Sewers 3.35%	1,265,403	920,416	161,896	47,625	1,034,687	23,270
Richmond Road and Side Streets 3.25%	<u>1,769,784</u>	<u>1,367,977</u>	<u>298,452</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,666,429</u>	<u>64,880</u>
Total OWDA loans	<u>8,401,781</u>	<u>6,459,950</u>	<u>460,348</u>	<u>279,537</u>	<u>6,640,761</u>	<u>329,523</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 14: Long-Term Obligations (continued)

	Original Amount	Balance December 31, 2007	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31, 2008	Due in One Year
Other Long-Term Obligations						
City of Highland Heights OPWC Loan	190,923	128,914	-	14,199	114,715	9,546
Police Pension Liability	n/a	47,775	-	944	46,831	984
Compensated Absences	n/a	1,131,633	38,928	-	1,170,561	82,433
Total other long-term obligations	190,923	1,308,322	38,928	15,143	1,332,107	92,963
Total long-term debt	\$ 23,173,854	\$18,569,248	\$ 910,426	\$ 1,111,535	\$ 18,368,139	\$ 1,376,571

The City's overall legal debt margin was \$23,343,174 at December 31, 2008. The unvoted legal debt margin was \$7,096,424. Principal and interest requirements to retire the Long-Term General Obligation Bonds, Police Pension Liability, OWDA (Ohio Water Development Authority) Loans, and the Special Assessment Bonds as of December 31, 2008, are as follows:

	General Obligation		Police Pension		OWDA Loans	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2009	\$ 950,000	\$ 443,895	\$ 984	\$ 1,979	\$ 275,630	\$ 178,683
2010	1,070,000	402,629	1,027	1,936	297,513	176,563
2011	1,010,000	357,954	1,071	1,892	309,335	164,741
2012	1,045,000	316,305	1,117	1,846	321,634	152,442
2013	1,060,000	272,667	1,165	1,798	334,428	139,648
2014-2018	3,815,000	765,365	6,618	8,196	1,825,351	491,307
2019-2023	1,410,000	116,915	8,166	6,648	1,327,194	166,342
2024-2028	-	-	10,077	4,737	283,247	12,147
Thereafter	-	-	16,606	2,553	-	-
	\$ 10,360,000	\$ 2,675,730	\$ 46,831	\$ 31,585	\$ 4,974,332	\$ 1,481,873

	OPWC Loan		Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2009	\$ 9,546	\$ -	\$ 1,236,160	\$ 624,557
2010	9,546	-	1,378,086	581,128
2011	9,546	-	1,329,952	524,587
2012	9,546	-	1,377,297	470,593
2013	9,546	-	1,405,139	414,113
2014-2018	47,785	-	5,694,754	1,264,868
2019-2023	19,200	-	2,764,560	289,905
2024-2028	-	-	293,324	16,884
Thereafter	-	-	16,606	2,553
	\$ 114,715	\$ -	\$ 15,495,878	\$ 4,189,188

General obligation bonds are the direct obligation of the City and will be paid from the Bond Retirement, Debt Service Fund using property tax revenues. The 2001 3.35 percent Law Enforcement Building general obligation bonds were issued at a premium of \$7,439. Special assessment bonds will be paid from special assessment proceeds levied against benefited property owners. In the event that a property owner would fail to pay the assessment, payment would be made by the City.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 14: Long-Term Obligations (continued)

The Monticello Avenue Sewer, Chardon Road Sewer, Brushview Road Sewer and Highland Road - Meadowlane OWDA loan liabilities are being paid from the Bond Retirement, Debt Service Fund. The City also entered into contractual agreements for new construction and design loans from OWDA. Under the terms of these agreements, OWDA will reimburse, advance, or directly pay the construction costs of the approved projects. OWDA will capitalize administrative costs and construction interest and add them to the total amounts of the final loans. OWDA loans will be paid with Special Assessment revenue. The Richmond Road & Side Streets OWDA loan is not closed and therefore, the amortization of that liability is not included in the above table.

During the year and in prior years, the City obtained partial proceeds from two Ohio Water Development Authority ("OWDA") loans that relate to the Richmond Road sewer improvements to be repaid in semi-annual principal and interest payments beginning in 2006. The City has not yet collected the total proceeds to be received on this loan and as a result, the debt maturity schedule above does not reflect any amounts for principal or interest. When the loan is finalized and a final amortization schedule has been provided by OWDA, the principal and interest will be included above.

The Police Pension Liability will be paid from Property Tax revenue in the Police Pension Fund. The Compensated Absences will be paid by the fund from which the employee's salary is paid.

During 2002, the City entered into a contractual agreement with the City of Highland Heights for the construction of sanitary sewer lines on Highland Road. Richmond Heights is responsible for the portion of the lines that run through the City. The project was financed by a loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission in the name of the City of Highland Heights.

The total amount owed to the City of Highland Heights as of December 31, 2008, is \$114,715 and has been recorded as a Intergovernmental Payable in the government-wide financial statements and will be repaid from special assessments levied on the affected properties.

Note 15: Jointly Governed Organization

A. Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments

The City is a member of the Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments (ESRCOG). The ESRCOG was formed, by written agreement pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 167.01, in 1972 to foster cooperation between member municipalities through sharing of resources for mutual benefit. Other members include the Cities of Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights and the Villages of Gates Mills and Mayfield. The governing body of ESRCOG is a council comprised of one representative from each of the six participating municipalities. The Council adopts a budget for ESRCOG annually. Each member's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Council.

ESRCOG established a subsidiary organization, the Suburban Police Anti-Crime Network (SPAN), which provides for the interchange and sharing of police personnel and police equipment to be utilized by all members.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 15: Jointly Governed Organization (continued)

A. Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments (continued)

In 2008, the City contributed \$14,000. Financial information can be obtained from Robert G. Tribby, Finance Director, City of Mayfield Heights, at 6154 Mayfield Road, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124-3207, who serves as fiscal agent.

B. Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council

The City is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC). NOPEC is a regional council of governments formed under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. NOPEC was formed to serve as a vehicle for communities wishing to proceed jointly with an aggregation program for the purchase of electricity. NOPEC is currently comprised over 100 communities who have been authorized by ballot to purchase electricity on behalf of their citizens. The intent of NOPEC is to provide electricity at the lowest possible rates while at the same time insuring stability in prices by entering into long-term contracts with suppliers to provide electricity to the citizens of its member communities.

NOPEC is governed by a General Assembly made up of one representative from each member community. The representatives from each county then elect one person to serve on the eight member NOPEC Board of Directors. The Board oversees and manages the operation of the aggregation program. The degree of control exercised by any participating government is limited to its representation in the General Assembly and on the Board. The City did not contribute to NOPEC during 2008. Financial information can be obtained by contacting NOPEC, 31320 Solon Road, Suite 20, Solon, OH 44139.

Note 16: Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2008, consisted of the following:

Transfer to	Transfer From		
	General Fund	Other Governmental	Total
Fire service fund	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000
Bond Retirement Fund	-	85,000	85,000
Building Improvement Fund	-	100,000	100,000
Nonmajor governmental funds	<u>482,025</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>482,025</u>
Total	\$ <u>522,025</u>	\$ <u>185,000</u>	\$ <u>707,025</u>

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations; to segregate money for anticipated capital projects; to provide additional resources for current operations or debt service; and to return money to the fund from which it was originally provided once a project is completed.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

Note 17: Subsequent Events

On November 17, 2009, City Council approved the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$555,000 by the City for the purpose of improving the City's fire station.

On November 17, 2009, City Council approved the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$1,555,000 by the City for the purpose of street improvements.

On November 17, 2009, City Council approved the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$110,000 by the City for the purpose of improving the City's police department.

On November 17, 2009, City Council approved the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$110,000 by the City for the purpose of improving the City's Service Department.

On November 17, 2009, City Council approved the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$2,140,000 by the City for the purpose of refunding existing police station improvement bonds.

On November 17, 2009, City Council approved the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$845,000 by the City for the purpose of street improvements.

Note 18: Related Party Transactions

The City purchased materials totaling \$4,021 from PDQ Signs during 2008. This business is co-owned by Donald O'Toole, a City Council member. These purchases did not require Council approval.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

The discussion and analysis of the financial performance of the City of Richmond Heights (the "City") provides an overall review of the City's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the City's financial performance as a whole; readers are encouraged to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the additional information contained in the financial statements and the notes thereof.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2007 are as follows:

- ◆ City income tax revenue totaled \$4,598,338.
- ◆ The assets of the City of Richmond Heights exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$11,626,326. Of this amount, \$6,915,487 may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- ◆ In total, net assets in governmental activities increased by \$4,387,114 during 2007. This represents a 61 percent increase from 2006.
- ◆ Total assets increased by \$6,828,095, which represents an increase of approximately 24 percent from 2006. The biggest change was an increase in capital assets, net of depreciation of \$5,295,854.
- ◆ Total liabilities increased by \$2,440,981, which represents an increase of approximately 12 percent. This increase is due to the payment of the 2006 note issuance in the amount of \$2,700,000 and an increase in bonds payable and OWDA loans payable in the amount of \$4,125,000 and \$1,006,271, respectively.

Using this Annual Financial Report

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the City's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the basic financial statements.

Government-wide financial statements – Reporting the City of Richmond Heights as a Whole

Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities

The Statement of Net Assets presents information on all the City's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increase or decrease in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City is improving or deteriorating. However, in evaluating the overall position of the City, non-financial factors such as the City's tax base, change in property and income tax laws, and the condition of the capital assets should also be considered. Both the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities use the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

The *Statement of Net Assets* and the *Statement of Activities* are divided into the following categories:

- Assets
- Liabilities
- Net assets (assets minus liabilities)
- Program revenues and expenses
- General revenues
- Net assets beginning of year and end of year

Fund Financial Statements - Reporting the City of Richmond Heights's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objects. The City of Richmond Heights, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the City of Richmond Heights can be divided into the category of governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on the balance of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements. 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 City's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the government fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate a comparison between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds.

The City of Richmond Heights maintains 21 individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental funds balance sheet and in the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances, for the General Fund, Fire Service, Bond Retirement Fund, Building Improvement Fund, Sewer Improvement Fund, and Capital Improvement Capital Projects fund, all of which are considered to be major funds.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found starting on page 73 of this report.

Government-wide Financial Analysis - City of Richmond Heights as a Whole

As noted earlier, the Statement of Net Assets looks at the City as a whole and can prove to be a useful indicator of the City's financial position.

Table 1 provides a summary of the City's net assets for 2007 as compared to 2006.

Table 1
Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 13,308,784	\$ 11,776,543
Capital assets, net	<u>21,886,706</u>	<u>16,590,852</u>
<i>Total assets</i>	<u>35,195,490</u>	<u>28,367,395</u>
Current liabilities and other liabilities	4,999,916	6,641,369
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	1,190,749	1,169,373
Due in more than one year	<u>17,378,499</u>	<u>13,317,441</u>
<i>Total liabilities</i>	<u>23,569,164</u>	<u>21,128,183</u>
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	4,496,866	3,273,029
Restricted for:		
Debt service	206,077	47,942
Other purposes	7,896	6,940
Unrestricted	<u>6,915,487</u>	<u>3,911,301</u>
<i>Total net assets</i>	\$ <u>11,626,326</u>	\$ <u>7,239,212</u>

Total assets increased \$6,828,095 from 2006 to 2007 primarily because of the construction in progress and the construction of sanitary sewer lines. Total liabilities increased by \$2,440,981. This increase is due to the issuance of the general obligation bonds and an increase in OWDA loans payable in the amount of \$4,125,000 and \$1,006,271, respectively. The increase is offset by the payment of the notes payable of \$2,700,000.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

In order to further understand what makes up the changes in net assets for the current year, the following table gives readers further details regarding the results of activities for the current year as compared to 2006.

Table 2
Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 1,178,575	\$ 1,150,908
Operating grants and contributions	41,773	-
Capital grants and special assessments	<u>4,776,881</u>	<u>46,619</u>
<i>Total program revenues</i>	<u>5,997,229</u>	<u>1,197,527</u>
General revenues:		
Property taxes	3,253,104	3,227,952
Income taxes	4,598,338	4,336,812
Grants and entitlements	1,942,139	1,439,186
Investment income	158,550	161,490
Miscellaneous	<u>178,737</u>	<u>248,572</u>
<i>Total general revenues</i>	<u>10,130,868</u>	<u>9,414,012</u>
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>16,128,097</u>	<u>10,611,539</u>
Expenses:		
General government	1,683,568	1,660,941
Security of persons and property	6,151,280	5,975,742
Transportation	1,509,782	2,203,079
Leisure time activities	506,157	487,324
Community development	357,229	320,910
Basic utility services	662,989	756,506
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>869,978</u>	<u>589,243</u>
<i>Total expenses</i>	<u>11,740,983</u>	<u>11,993,745</u>
<i>Change in net assets</i>	\$ <u>4,387,114</u>	\$ <u>(1,382,206)</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Governmental Activities

Several revenue sources fund our governmental activities with the City income tax being the largest contributor. The City's income tax rate is two percent on gross income and has not changed since 1993. Residents of the City who work in another community and pay the withholding tax for that community receive a 100 percent tax credit on their City tax, the credit limit being 2 percent. During 2007, the revenues generated from this tax amounted to \$4,598,338.

General property taxes are also a significant source of revenues. Although this is a much more stable tax, property taxes constitute only about a third of the general revenues for the City. In addition to the general property taxes, the City has 8.7 mills levied for the Fire Department. The Fire Service Levy provides for a portion of the operating expenditures of the Fire Department, the remainder of funding comes from the General Fund.

Intergovernmental revenues, particularly local government subsidies have, in the past, provided a very stable predictable and significant contribution to the City's General Fund. In 2007, local government subsidies have become less stable with State Budget cuts and county distribution formulas being challenged in court. Estate taxes have also been a significant contributor to this City's budget, but much less stable and not at all predictable. Both of these forms of intergovernmental revenues are at risk due to budget concerns at the State level.

The City has also more aggressively pursued grants and donations to help fund particular projects that might have been funded through the general fund. Grants have helped fund the City's annual tree planting program; police equipment; paramedic training as well as sanitary sewer construction in several areas of the City.

Interest on all City accounts, except when otherwise designated, is another source of revenue for the General Fund. In the past, interest constituted as much as 25 percent of the total budget. Now, because of the drop in interest rates, this source is much less significant.

Security of Persons and Property and General Government are the major activities of the City generating 67 percent of the governmental expenses. Currently, there are 21 full-time sworn officers in the police department. During 2007, the department continued to place strong emphasis on the training of its employees to keep up with the rapidly changing laws, practices and technology.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

The fire department consists of 19 full-time and 14 part-time fire fighters. All but three of these fire fighters are fully trained paramedics. Again, training plays a crucial role in the day-to-day operation of the fire department. The department handled 1,397 calls for assistance of which approximately 1,040 were for EMS and the rest for fire and fire related incidents.

With several large sanitary sewer construction projects planned or in process, the investment in streets was limited to those streets that experienced sanitary sewer construction or minor repair and resurfacing of various streets.

The City's Funds

Information about the City's major funds starts on page 64. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$12,839,165 and expenditures of \$17,966,435. The net change in fund balance for the year was most significant in the Capital Improvements Fund showing an increase in fund balance of \$1,905,958, which resulted from the bond issuance to pay down the notes payable recorded in that fund. The net change in fund balance for the year was also significant in the Building Improvements Fund showing a decrease in fund balance of \$1,118,969, which resulted from capital projects recorded in that fund. The General Fund reflected an increase of \$264,309, increasing the beginning restated fund balance of \$1,174,184 to \$1,438,493. Overall the revenue base continues to meet City obligations and reflects the current solid financial condition of the City as a whole.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The City's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund. An annual appropriation budget is legally required to be prepared for all funds of the City other than agency funds. Council is provided with a detailed line item budget for all departments and after a discussion at a regularly held council meeting, which is open to the public; the budget is adopted by City council. Council must approve legislation for any revisions in the budget that alter totals or the total appropriations for any department or fund. The finance department watches all the departmental budgets closely to monitor compliance with allocated budgets and provides monthly reports to City Council depicting monthly and year-to-date activity.

For the General Fund, budget basis revenue was the same as the original budget estimates of \$8,625,000. The City continues the conservative practice of estimating low in the tax, intergovernmental revenue and interest revenue areas. The final appropriations of \$7,778,716 was sufficient to meet the expenditures for the year, which ended up at \$7,663,194 or \$115,522 less than anticipated due to a conservative budgeting and spending controls.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Table 3 shows fiscal 2007 balances of Capital Assets as compared to 2006:

Table 3
Capital Assets at December 31

	Governmental Activities	
	2007	2006
Land	\$ 1,635,588	\$ 1,587,958
Construction in progress	3,461,768	1,790,077
Land Improvements	1,770,037	1,531,567
Buildings and improvements	6,731,349	6,709,592
Machinery and equipment	1,577,397	1,435,184
Vehicles	1,967,635	1,563,836
Infrastructure:		
Roads	9,670,798	7,730,378
Storm sewers	3,854,121	3,806,310
Sanitary sewers	5,626,251	3,707,942
Water lines	2,381,534	2,381,534
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(16,789,772)</u>	<u>(15,653,526)</u>
Total capital assets, net	\$ <u>21,886,706</u>	\$ <u>16,590,852</u>

The City's plan is to maintain its assets, including infrastructure, in excellent condition. Vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances are planned for well in advance by the respective department heads and a scheduled maintenance and replacement timetable is followed to provide peak performance for the maximum time frame. The police car replacement plan is to replace 3 vehicles each year. The older vehicles are either traded in to the dealers or sold to the highest bidder at auction.

With regards to the infrastructure, the City's engineering department maintains a comprehensive listing of all the roads, sewer lines and water lines in the City. As part of the City's annual road maintenance program, the Engineer evaluates the condition of each street after each winter and prepares a list of streets to be either resurfaced or crack-sealed and in the case of concrete roads, either replaced or repaired. After approval from Council, the projects are competitively bid to get the best possible pricing from contractors. Related expenditures are paid for out of the Capital Improvement Fund of the City.

The City is committed to a long-term goal of meeting the needs of its infrastructure and facilities. A five-year capital plan is in place that provides for street improvements and adding additional facilities to complement our current structures.

City of Richmond Heights

Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Debt

At December 31, 2007, the City of Richmond Heights had \$18,569,248 in outstanding debt and compensated absences, of which \$10,800,976 was in General Obligation Bonds. Table 4 summarizes the outstanding obligations of the City.

Table 4
Outstanding Debt at Year End

	Governmental Activities	
	2007	2006
General obligation bonds	\$ 10,800,976	\$ 7,465,000
OWDA loans	6,459,950	5,719,176
OPWC loan	128,914	133,647
Police pension	47,775	48,643
Compensated absences	<u>1,131,633</u>	<u>1,120,348</u>
Total	\$ <u>18,569,248</u>	\$ <u>14,486,814</u>

At December 31, 2007, the City's overall legal debt margin was \$23,343,174. At year-end, the outstanding general obligation debt was \$10,800,976. Other obligations include accrued vacation pay and sick leave. More detailed information about the City's long-term liabilities is presented in the notes to the basic financial statements.

Current Related Financial Activities

The City's systems of budgeting and internal controls are prepared to meet the challenges of the future. In conclusion, management has been committed to provide the residents of the City of Richmond Heights with full disclosure of the financial position of the City.

Contacting the City of Richmond Heights's Finance Department

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the City's finances and to show the City's accountability for all money it receives, spends, or invests. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Director of Finance, Lynda Rossiter, City of Richmond Heights, 26789 Highland Road, Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143, telephone (216) 486-2474, or web site at www.richmondheightsohio.org or finance.director@richmondheightsohio.org.

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Net Assets

December 31, 2007

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,199,434
Cash with fiscal agent	2,263
Materials and supplies inventory	40,194
Accrued interest receivable	2,104
Accounts receivable	151,233
Intergovernmental receivable	895,588
Prepaid items	51,489
Taxes receivable	5,147,870
Special assessments receivable	5,818,609
Nondepreciable capital assets	5,097,356
Depreciable capital assets, net	<u>16,789,350</u>
Total assets	<u>35,195,490</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	328,359
Accrued wages and benefits	284,939
Intergovernmental payable	382,477
Accrued interest payable	231,935
Deferred revenue	3,772,206
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	1,190,749
Due in more than one year	<u>17,378,499</u>
Total liabilities	<u>23,569,164</u>
Net assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	4,496,866
Restricted for:	
Debt service	206,077
Other purposes	7,896
Unrestricted	<u>6,915,487</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 11,626,326</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

This page intentionally left blank

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Activities

For The Year Ended December 31,2007

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>			<u>Net (Expenses)</u>
		<u>Charges for Service</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Special Assessments</u>	<u>Revenues and Changes in Net Assets</u>
					<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Government activities:					
General government	\$ 1,683,568	\$ 379,476	\$ 956	\$ -	\$ (1,303,136)
Security of persons and property	6,151,280	385,711	5,575	-	(5,759,994)
Transportation	1,509,782	59,818	-	4,776,881	3,326,917
Leisure time activities	506,157	155,999	35,242	-	(314,916)
Community development	357,229	117,924	-	-	(239,305)
Basic utility service	662,989	79,647	-	-	(583,342)
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>869,978</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(869,978)</u>
Total Governmental Activities	\$ <u>11,740,983</u>	\$ <u>1,178,575</u>	\$ <u>41,773</u>	\$ <u>4,776,881</u>	<u>(5,743,754)</u>

General revenues:

Property and other local taxes levied for:

General purposes	2,352,658
Debt service	900,446
Municipal income taxes levied for:	
General purposes	4,598,338
Grants and entitlements not restricted	1,942,139
Investment income	158,550
Miscellaneous income	<u>178,737</u>

Total general revenues 10,130,868

Change in net assets 4,387,114

Net assets at beginning of year 7,239,212

Net assets at end of year \$ 11,626,326

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Balance Sheet Governmental Funds

December 31, 2007

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire Service</u>	<u>Bond Retirement</u>
Assets:			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ (835,368)	\$ -	\$ 203,814
Cash with fiscal agents	-	-	2,263
Taxes receivable	2,426,401	1,691,611	868,458
Accounts receivable	67,109	-	-
Accrued interest receivable	2,104	-	-
Intergovernmental receivable	576,360	58,060	48,069
Special assessments receivable	-	-	5,818,609
Internal receivable	1,421,545	-	-
Materials and supplies inventory	8,005	1,700	-
Prepaid items	51,489	-	-
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,717,645</u>	<u>\$ 1,751,371</u>	<u>\$ 6,941,213</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances:			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 66,546	\$ 2,855	\$ -
Accrued wages	128,990	128,300	-
Intergovernmental payable	146,349	45,756	-
Internal payable	-	532,875	-
Deferred revenue	<u>1,937,267</u>	<u>1,749,671</u>	<u>6,735,136</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,279,152</u>	<u>2,459,457</u>	<u>6,735,136</u>
Fund Balances:			
Reserve for encumbrances	81	-	-
Reserve for inventory	8,005	1,700	-
Unreserved (deficit) for:			
General Fund	1,430,407	-	-
Special Revenue Funds	-	(709,786)	-
Debt Service Fund	-	-	206,077
Capital Projects Funds	-	-	-
Total Fund Balances (deficits)	<u>1,438,493</u>	<u>(708,086)</u>	<u>206,077</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 3,717,645</u>	<u>\$ 1,751,371</u>	<u>\$ 6,941,213</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>Building Improvement</u>	<u>Sewer Improvement</u>	<u>Other Governmental</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ -	\$ 830,282	\$ -	\$ 1,000,706	\$ 1,199,434
-	-	-	-	2,263
-	-	-	161,400	5,147,870
-	-	-	84,124	151,233
-	-	-	-	2,104
-	-	-	213,099	895,588
-	-	-	-	5,818,609
-	-	-	-	1,421,545
-	-	-	30,489	40,194
-	-	-	-	51,489
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 830,282</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,489,818</u>	<u>\$ 14,730,329</u>
\$ 2,395	\$ 122,008	\$ 16,579	\$ 117,976	\$ 328,359
-	-	-	27,649	284,939
-	-	-	190,372	382,477
582,042	-	306,628	-	1,421,545
-	-	-	<u>220,442</u>	<u>10,642,516</u>
<u>584,437</u>	<u>122,008</u>	<u>323,207</u>	<u>556,439</u>	<u>13,059,836</u>
136,042	90,534	24,112	39,510	290,279
-	-	-	30,489	40,194
-	-	-	-	1,430,407
-	-	-	540,830	(168,956)
-	-	-	-	206,077
<u>(720,479)</u>	<u>617,740</u>	<u>(347,319)</u>	<u>322,550</u>	<u>(127,508)</u>
<u>(584,437)</u>	<u>708,274</u>	<u>(323,207)</u>	<u>933,379</u>	<u>1,670,493</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 830,282</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,489,818</u>	<u>\$ 14,730,329</u>

This page intentionally left blank

City of Richmond Heights

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Assets of Governmental Activities

December 31, 2007

Total Governmental Funds Balances \$ 1,670,493

Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Capital Assets Used in Governmental Activities are not Financial Resources and therefore are not reported in the Funds. 21,886,706

Other Long-Term Assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the Funds.

Property and other taxes	\$ 281,728	
Municipal income taxes	531,152	
Special assessments	5,818,609	
Intergovernmental	<u>238,821</u>	
Total		6,870,310

Accrued wages and benefits include contractual required pension contributions not expected to be paid with expendable available fund resources and therefore not reported in the funds. (47,775)

Long-Term Liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and are therefore not reported in the Funds.

Interest payable	(231,935)	
General obligation bonds	(10,800,976)	
Loans payable	(6,588,864)	
Compensated absences	<u>(1,131,633)</u>	
Total		<u>(18,753,408)</u>

Net Assets of Governmental Activities \$ 11,626,326

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire Service</u>	<u>Bond Retirement</u>
Revenues:			
Property taxes	\$ 1,281,695	\$ 902,131	\$ 900,446
Municipal income tax	4,565,764	-	-
Other local taxes	72,770	-	-
Intergovernmental	1,258,162	77,734	81,116
Charges for services	90,609	-	-
License and permits	279,751	-	-
Fines and forfeitures	161,130	-	-
Special assessments	-	-	364,362
Investment income	143,143	-	-
Miscellaneous income	47,105	4,157	-
Total revenues	<u>7,900,129</u>	<u>984,022</u>	<u>1,345,924</u>
Expenditures:			
Current operations and maintenance:			
Security of persons and property	3,084,750	2,093,873	-
Public health and welfare	-	-	-
Leisure time activities	316,977	-	-
Community development	357,229	-	-
Basic utility service	459,866	-	-
Transportation	941,435	-	-
General government	1,435,563	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	-
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	-	1,085,230
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	541,559
Total expenditures	<u>6,595,820</u>	<u>2,093,873</u>	<u>1,626,789</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>1,304,309</u>	<u>(1,109,851)</u>	<u>(280,865)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):			
Proceeds from sale of debt	-	-	-
Premium on sale of debt	-	-	-
Transfers - in	-	625,000	250,000
Transfers - out	(1,040,000)	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(1,040,000)</u>	<u>625,000</u>	<u>250,000</u>
Net change in fund balances	264,309	(484,851)	(30,865)
Fund balance (deficit) at beginning of year - restated	<u>1,174,184</u>	<u>(223,235)</u>	<u>236,942</u>
Fund balance (deficit) at end of year	\$ <u>1,438,493</u>	\$ <u>(708,086)</u>	\$ <u>206,077</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>Building Improvements</u>	<u>Sewer Improvement</u>	<u>Other Governmental</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 168,832	\$ 3,253,104
-	-	-	-	4,565,764
-	-	-	-	72,770
35,242	-	494,839	1,152,718	3,099,811
-	-	-	339,373	429,982
79,647	-	-	156,647	516,045
-	-	-	10,000	171,130
-	-	-	-	364,362
-	-	-	15,407	158,550
-	-	79,122	77,263	207,647
<u>114,889</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>573,961</u>	<u>1,920,240</u>	<u>12,839,165</u>
-	-	-	666,274	5,844,897
-	-	-	1,663	1,663
-	-	-	107,131	424,108
-	-	-	-	357,229
-	-	-	-	459,866
-	-	-	548,307	1,489,742
-	-	-	164,714	1,600,277
942,400	1,753,272	1,950,083	1,332,905	5,978,660
-	-	-	-	1,085,230
<u>152,021</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,131</u>	<u>724,763</u>
<u>1,094,421</u>	<u>1,769,324</u>	<u>1,950,083</u>	<u>2,836,125</u>	<u>17,966,435</u>
<u>(979,532)</u>	<u>(1,769,324)</u>	<u>(1,376,122)</u>	<u>(915,885)</u>	<u>(5,127,270)</u>
2,867,436	646,277	698,232	919,326	5,131,271
18,054	4,078	-	3,844	25,976
-	-	-	415,000	1,290,000
-	-	-	(250,000)	(1,290,000)
<u>2,885,490</u>	<u>650,355</u>	<u>698,232</u>	<u>1,088,170</u>	<u>5,157,247</u>
1,905,958	(1,118,969)	(677,890)	172,285	29,977
<u>(2,490,395)</u>	<u>1,827,243</u>	<u>354,683</u>	<u>761,094</u>	<u>1,640,516</u>
\$ <u>(584,437)</u>	\$ <u>708,274</u>	\$ <u>(323,207)</u>	\$ <u>933,379</u>	\$ <u>1,670,493</u>

City of Richmond Heights

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, 2007

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ 29,977

Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental Funds report Capital Outlay as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.

Capital Outlay	\$ 6,432,100	
Depreciation	<u>(1,136,246)</u>	
Total		5,295,854

Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the Funds.

Municipal Income Taxes	32,574	
Special Assessments	3,233,166	
Intergovernmental	<u>(4,608)</u>	
Total		3,261,132

Repayment of Debt Principal is an expenditure in the Governmental Funds, but the repayment reduces Long-Term Liabilities in the Statement of Net Assets. 1,085,230

Debt and premium proceeds provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but have no effect on net assets. (5,157,247)

Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in Governmental Funds.

Compensated Absences	(11,285)	
Accrued Pension	868	
Accrued Interest on Debt	<u>(117,415)</u>	
Total		<u>(127,832)</u>

Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities \$ 4,387,114

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes In Fund Balances – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual – General Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 1,381,509	\$ 1,381,509	\$ 1,281,695	\$ (99,814)
Municipal income tax	5,240,304	5,240,304	4,621,995	(618,309)
Other local taxes	106,338	106,338	93,791	(12,547)
Intergovernmental	1,058,628	1,058,628	1,026,555	(32,073)
Charges for services	74,952	74,952	66,108	(8,844)
Licenses and permits	114,670	114,670	251,552	136,882
Fines and forfeitures	216,528	216,528	190,980	(25,548)
Interest	192,043	192,043	169,384	(22,659)
Miscellaneous income	<u>240,028</u>	<u>240,028</u>	<u>61,294</u>	<u>(178,734)</u>
Total revenues	<u>8,625,000</u>	<u>8,625,000</u>	<u>7,763,354</u>	<u>(861,646)</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	1,477,845	1,517,695	1,393,059	124,636
Security of persons and property	3,097,951	3,109,951	3,077,325	32,626
Transportation	837,385	853,335	923,526	(70,191)
Basic utilities service	546,300	546,300	559,341	(13,041)
Community environment	390,551	390,551	354,284	36,267
Leisure time activities	<u>303,859</u>	<u>320,884</u>	<u>315,659</u>	<u>5,225</u>
Total expenditures	<u>6,653,891</u>	<u>6,738,716</u>	<u>6,623,194</u>	<u>115,522</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>1,971,109</u>	<u>1,886,284</u>	<u>1,140,160</u>	<u>(746,124)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers out	<u>(1,040,000)</u>	<u>(1,040,000)</u>	<u>(1,040,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	931,109	846,284	100,160	(746,124)
Unencumbered fund balance at the beginning of year - restated	94,334	94,334	94,334	-
Prior year encumbrances	<u>30,614</u>	<u>30,614</u>	<u>30,614</u>	<u>-</u>
Unencumbered fund balance at the end of year	\$ <u>1,056,057</u>	\$ <u>971,232</u>	\$ <u>225,108</u>	\$ <u>(746,124)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes In Fund Balances – Budget (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) and Actual – Fire Service Fund

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 968,058	\$ 968,058	\$ 902,131	\$ (65,927)
Intergovernmental	95,742	95,742	85,602	(10,140)
Miscellaneous	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>4,157</u>	<u>(843)</u>
Total revenues	1,068,800	1,068,800	991,890	(76,910)
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Security of persons and property	<u>2,058,272</u>	<u>2,099,372</u>	<u>2,085,995</u>	<u>13,377</u>
Excess of revenues under expenditures	<u>(989,472)</u>	<u>(1,030,572)</u>	<u>(1,094,105)</u>	<u>(63,533)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers – in	<u>950,000</u>	<u>950,000</u>	<u>625,000</u>	<u>(325,000)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(39,472)	(80,572)	(469,105)	(388,533)
Unencumbered fund balance at the beginning of year	(66,269)	(66,269)	(66,269)	-
Prior year encumbrances	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>
Unencumbered fund balance at the end of year	\$ <u><u>(103,241)</u></u>	\$ <u><u>(144,341)</u></u>	\$ <u><u>(532,874)</u></u>	\$ <u><u>(388,533)</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

City of Richmond Heights

**Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets
Fiduciary Funds**

December 31, 2007

	<u>Agency</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>206,395</u>
Liabilities:	
Deposits held and due to others	\$ <u>206,395</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements

This page intentionally left blank

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 1: The Reporting Entity

The City of Richmond Heights (City) is a charter municipal corporation established and operated under the laws of the State of Ohio. The original charter became effective January 1, 1960 and provides for a mayor-council form of government. Elected officials include seven council members and a mayor.

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the City consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the City. For the City of Richmond Heights this includes: police and fire protection, emergency medical, recreation (including parks), planning, zoning, street maintenance and repair, refuse collection, recycling and general administrative services.

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

The City participates in the Northern Ohio Risk Management Association, which is a shared risk pool, the Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments, which is a jointly governed organization, and the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC), which is a regional council of governments formed to serve as a vehicle for communities wishing to proceed jointly with an aggregation program for the purchase of electricity. These organizations are described in Notes 9 and 16 to the combined financial statements.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the City 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 City also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its governmental activities provided they do not conflict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of the City's accounting policies are described below.

A. Basis of Presentation

The City's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net assets and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the City as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

A. Basis of Presentation (continued)

Government-Wide Financial Statements (continued)

The statement of net assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the City at year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the City'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 not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the City, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the City.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the City segregates transactions related to certain City 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 City at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

B. Fund Accounting

The City 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 are two categories of funds: governmental and fiduciary.

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 following are the City's major governmental funds:

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

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

B. Fund Accounting (continued)

Fire Service Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of expenditures relating to fire services.

Bond Retirement Fund – This fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term bonded debt principal and interest.

Capital Improvements Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition of major equipment.

Building Improvement Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities.

Sewer Improvement Fund – This fund is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major sewer projects.

Fiduciary Fund Type – Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the City under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the City's own programs. The City has no trust funds. The City's agency funds are purely custodial (assets equal liabilities) and thus do not involve measurement of results of operations.

C. Measurement Focus

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the City are included on the Statement of Net Assets, except for fiduciary funds. The statement of activities presents increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenses) in total net assets.

Fund Financial Statements

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

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

Revenues – Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the 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 City, available means expected to be received within thirty-one days of year end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the City receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include income taxes, property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from income taxes is recognized in the period in which the income is earned. Revenue from property taxes is recognized in the year for which the taxes are levied. (See Note 6) Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted, matching requirements in which the City must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the City on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

Deferred Revenue

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

Property taxes for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of December 31, 2007, but which were levied to finance year 2008 operations, have been recorded as deferred revenue. Special assessments not received within the available period and grants and entitlements received before eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as deferred revenue. On the modified accrual basis, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue. On governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenues.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

D. Basis of Accounting (continued)

Expenditures

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

E. Budgetary Process

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the Tax Budget, the Certificate of Estimated Resources, and the Appropriation Ordinance, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. All funds, other than the agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The legal level of budgetary control is at the object level within each department in the General Fund and at the fund level for all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by ordinance of City Council.

Tax Budget

At the first City Council meeting in July, the Mayor presents the Tax Budget for the following fiscal year to City Council for consideration and passage. The adopted Tax Budget is submitted to the Cuyahoga County Auditor, as Secretary of the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission, by July 20 of each year, for the period January 1 to December 31 of the following year.

Estimated Resources

The Budget Commission determines if the budget substantiates a need to levy all or part of previously authorized taxes and reviews estimated revenue. The Budget Commission certifies its actions to the City by October 1. As part of this certification, the City receives the official Certificate of Estimated Resources, which states the projected revenue of each fund. Prior to December 31, the City must revise its Tax Budget so that the total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing fiscal year will not exceed the amount available as stated in the Certificate of Estimated Resources. The revised Tax Budget then serves as the basis for the annual Appropriation Ordinance. On or about January 1, the Certificate of Estimated Resources is amended to include unencumbered fund balances at December 31 of the preceding year. The Certificate may be further amended during the year if the Director of Finance determines, and the Budget Commission agrees that an estimate needs to be either increased or decreased. The amounts reported in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the final amended Certificate of Estimated Resources issued during 2007.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

E. Budgetary Process (continued)

Appropriations

A temporary Appropriation Ordinance to control expenditures may be passed on or about January 1 of each year for the period January 1 to March 31. An annual Appropriation Ordinance must be passed by April 1 of each year for the period January 1 to December 31. The Appropriation Ordinance fixes spending authority at the object level within each department in the General Fund and at the fund level for all other funds. The Appropriation Ordinance may be amended during the year as new information becomes available, provided that total fund appropriations do not exceed the amount available as stated in the Certificate of Estimated Resources. The allocation of appropriations among departments and objects within a fund may be modified during the year only by an ordinance of City Council. During the year, six supplemental Appropriation Ordinances were passed which did not have a significant affect on the original Appropriation Ordinance. The budget figures which appear in the statements of budgetary comparisons represent the final appropriation amounts, including all amendments and modifications passed by City Council.

Encumbrances

As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditures of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the non-GAAP budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. The Ohio Revised Code prohibits expenditures plus encumbrances from exceeding appropriations. On the GAAP basis, encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as reservations of fund balances for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental funds.

Lapsing of Appropriations

At the close of each year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriations. The encumbered appropriation balance is carried forward to the succeeding year and is not reappropriated.

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the City is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the City's records. Interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

The City utilizes a financial institution to account for a retainage account. The balance in this account is presented as "Restricted Assets: Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents."

During 2007, investments were limited to repurchase agreements, non negotiable certificates of deposit, federal home loan mortgage corporation notes, federal home loan bank bonds, federal national mortgage association notes and STAR Ohio, the State Treasurer's Investment Pool.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents (continued)

Except for nonparticipating investment contracts, investments are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices. Nonparticipating investment contracts such as nonnegotiable certificates of deposit and repurchase agreements are reported at cost.

STAR 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 does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price which is the price the investment could be sold for on December 31, 2007.

Investment procedures are restricted by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during 2007 amounted to \$143,143, of which \$84,743 was assigned from other funds. Investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the City are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents.

G. Inventory

Inventory is stated at cost on a first-in, first-out basis. The costs of inventory items are recorded as expenditures when purchased.

H. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond December 31, 2007, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method by recording a current asset for the prepaid amount and reflecting the expenditure in the year in which it was consumed.

I. Capital Assets

General capital assets are long-lived assets of the City as a whole. When purchased, such assets are recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds and capitalized (recorded and accounted for) in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net assets but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

Capital asset values were initially determined at December 31, 1994 assigning original acquisition costs when such information was available. In cases where information supporting original costs was not practicably determinable, estimated historical costs were developed. For certain fixed assets, the estimates were calculated by indexing estimated current costs back to the estimated year of acquisition. Donated fixed assets are capitalized at estimated fair market value on the date donated. In 2003, the City had a reappraisal performed to determine capital asset values. The City maintains a capitalization threshold for non-electronic assets of five thousand dollars and electronic assets of one thousand dollars.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

I. Capital Assets (continued)

The City's infrastructure consists of roads, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, and waterlines. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not. Interest incurred during the construction of capital assets is also capitalized.

All capital assets are depreciated except for land and construction in progress. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Useful lives for infrastructure were estimated based on the City's historical records of necessary improvements and replacement. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements	45 years
Buildings and improvements	45 years
Machinery and equipment	7 to 20 years
Vehicles	6 to 12 years
Infrastructure	65 years

J. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, outstanding interfund loans and unpaid amounts for interfund services are reported as "internal receivables/payables". Interfund loans which do not represent available expendable resources are offset by a fund balance reserve account. Interfund balance amounts are eliminated in the statement of net assets.

K. Compensated Absences

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. A liability is accrued for employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the City has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employee wage rates as of December 31, 2007, taking into consideration any limits specified in the City's termination policy.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. For governmental funds, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using expendable available resources. These amounts are recorded in the account Compensated Absences Payable in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The noncurrent portion of the liability is not reported.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

L. 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 are reported as obligations of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources. However, Compensated Absences and contractually required pension contributions (Intergovernmental Payable) that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Bonds and long-term loans are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due.

M. Fund Balance Reserves

Reservations of fund balances are established to identify the existence of assets that, because of their nonmonetary nature or lack of liquidity, represent financial resources not available for current appropriation or expenditure, including amounts legally segregated for a specific future use. Fund balances are reserved for encumbrances and inventories of supplies and materials.

N. Net Assets

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

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

O. Interfund Activity

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

P. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the City Administration and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during 2007.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Q. Estimates

The preparation of the 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.

Note 3: Accountability and Compliance

A. Compliance

The Fire Service Fund, Fire Pension Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and Sewer Improvement Fund had negative budgetary fund balances of \$532,874, \$44,872, \$554,774, and \$267,129, respectively, at December 31, 2007, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.10. Also, the Fire Service Fund, Bond Retirement Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Building Improvement Fund, and Sewer Improvement Fund had appropriations in excess of estimated resources in the amount of \$149,341, \$390,808, \$1,041,766, \$828,243, and \$934,397, respectively, as of December 31, 2007, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.39. Also, throughout 2007, the City was in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (D), which requires fiscal officer certification prior to entering into any commitment for the expenditure of funds. The City also made various interfund transfers that were in violation of Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14 – 5705.16. Adjustments were made to the financial statements to eliminate those unallowed transfers. In addition, the following funds/accounts had expenditures plus encumbrances exceeding appropriations as of December 31, 2007, in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (B):

Fund/Account	Total Appropriations	Total Expenditures plus Encumbrances	Variance
General Fund:			
Recreation Department			
Personnel	\$ 203,234	\$ 209,178	\$ (5,944)
Building Department			
Education and Travel	3,500	6,261	(2,761)
Administration			
Education and Travel	4,000	5,391	(1,391)
Contractual	839,350	883,509	(44,159)
Service Department			
Personnel	765,085	777,516	(12,431)
Fire Service Fund:			
Education and Travel	7,500	7,750	(250)
Recreation Program Fund:			
Personnel	68,532	70,282	(1,750)
Bond retirement Fund:			
Debt Service	1,620,000	4,441,220	(2,821,220)
Capital Improvement Fund:			
Capital Outlay	913,091	1,065,878	(152,788)
Sewer Improvement Fund:			
Contractual	1,449,112	1,963,965	(514,854)

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 3: Accountability and Compliance (continued)

B. Accountability

The Police Pension Fund and Fire Pension Fund have deficit fund balances of \$156,979, and \$348,925 at December 31, 2007, respectively. These deficits are the result of the application of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The General Fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and provides operating transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

C. Change in Accounting Principles

For 2007, the City has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 45, "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions", GASB Statement No. 48, "Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues", and GASB Statement No. 50, "Pension Disclosures".

GASB Statement No. 45 improves the relevance and usefulness of financial reporting by requiring systematic, accrual-basis measurement and recognition of OPEB costs over a period that approximates employees' years of service and providing information about actuarial accrued liabilities associated with OPEB and whether and to what extent progress is being made in funding the plan. An OPEB liability at transition was determined in accordance with this Statement for both the OPERS and the OP&F postemployment healthcare plans in the amount of \$6,410 and \$32,315, respectively, which are the same as the previously reported liabilities.

GASB Statement No. 48 addresses how to account for the exchange of an interest in expected cash flows from collecting specific receivables or specific future revenues for immediate cash payments. The statement established criteria used to determine whether the transaction should be recorded as revenue or as a liability (a sale or a collateralized borrowing). The implementation of this statement did not result in any change to the financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 50 requires employers contributing to defined benefit pension plans to include the legal or contractual maximum contribution rates in the notes to the financial statements. The implementation of this statement did not result in any change to the financial statements.

Note 4: Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP basis), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual – All Governmental Fund Types is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget and to demonstrate compliance with State statute. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are:

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 4: Budgetary Basis of Accounting (continued)

- (a) Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures/Expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) Encumbrances are treated as expenditures for all funds (budget) rather than as a reservation of fund balance for governmental fund types (GAAP);
- (d) Short-term note proceeds and note principal retirement for governmental funds are operating transactions (budget) as opposed to balance sheet transactions (GAAP).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statements to the budgetary basis statements for the general fund and fire service fund.

Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources over (under) Expenditures and other Financing Uses

	<u>General</u>	<u>Fire Service Fund</u>
GAAP Basis	\$ 264,309	\$ (484,851)
Increase (Decrease) Due To:		
Revenue Accruals	(136,775)	7,868
Expenditure Accruals	(27,455)	7,878
Outstanding encumbrances	81	-
Budget Basis	\$ <u>100,160</u>	\$ <u>(469,105)</u>

Note 5: Deposits and Investments

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

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

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

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 5: Deposits and Investments (continued)

Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

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

1. U. S. Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the U. S. Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement exceeds the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions; and
6. The State of Ohio Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).

The City may also invest any monies not required to be used for a period of six months or more in the following:

1. Bonds of the State of Ohio;
2. Bonds of any municipal corporation, village, county, township, or other political subdivision of this State, as to which there is no default of principal, interest or coupons; and
3. Obligations of the City.

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. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Deposits

Custodial Credit Risk Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the City will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. At year end, \$1,189,160 of the City's bank balance of \$1,589,160 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although the securities were held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department and all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the City to a successful claim by the FDIC.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 5: Deposits and Investments (continued)

The City 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 and deposited either with the City or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured.

Investments

Investments, when purchased, are reported at fair value. As of December 31, 2007, the City had no investments.

Note 6: Receivables

Receivables at December 31, 2007 consist primarily of taxes, accounts, intergovernmental and accrued interest on investments. All receivables are considered fully collectible.

A. Property Taxes

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility, and tangible personal property located in the City. Property tax revenue received during 2007 for real and public utility property taxes represents collections of the 2006 taxes. Property tax payments received during 2007 for tangible personal property (other than public utility property) is the 2007 taxes.

2007 real property taxes are levied after October 1, 2007 on the assessed value as of January 1, 2007, the lien date. Assessed values are established by the Ohio Revised Code at 35 percent of appraised market value. 2007 real property taxes are collected in and intended to finance 2008 operations.

Taxes collected on tangible personal property (other than public utility) in one calendar year are levied in the prior calendar year on assessed values during and at the close of the most recent fiscal year of the taxpayer that ended on or before March 31 of that calendar year, and at the tax rates determined in the preceding year.

Tangible personal property used in business (except for public utilities) is currently assessed for *ad valorem* taxation purposes at 25 percent of its true value. The tangible personal property tax is being phased out – the assessment percentage for all property including inventory for 2007 is 12.5 percent. This will be reduced to 6.25 percent for 2008 and zero for 2009. Amounts paid by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20.

Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Certain public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at 50 percent of its true value. Public utility property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property taxes described previously.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 6: Receivables (continued)

A. Property Taxes (continued)

The full tax rate for all City operations for the year ended December 31, 2007, was \$14.10 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The assessed values of real and tangible personal property upon which 2007 property tax receipts were based are as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>
Real Estate:	
Residential/Agriculture	\$ 216,695,170
Other Real Estate	89,326,080
Tangible Personal Property:	
Public Utility	3,788,710
General Tangible Personal Property	<u>15,125,029</u>
	\$ <u>324,934,989</u>

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

The Cuyahoga County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the County including the City. The Cuyahoga County Auditor periodically remits to the City its portion of the taxes collected. Property taxes receivables represent real tangible personal property taxes, public utility taxes and outstanding delinquencies which are measurable as of December 31, 2007 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next year are measurable, amounts to be received during the available period are not subject to reasonable estimation at December 31, nor are they intended to finance 2007 operations. The receivable is offset by Deferred Revenue.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 6: Receivables (continued)

B. Intergovernmental Receivables

A summary of intergovernmental receivables as of December 31, 2007 follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
Homestead and Rollback Reimbursements	\$ 173,021
Local Government	148,625
Auto registration	26,763
Gasoline taxes	159,732
Estate taxes	316,116
CAT tax	23,722
Other	<u>47,609</u>
Total intergovernmental receivable	<u>\$ 895,588</u>

C. Income Taxes

The City levies a municipal income tax of two percent on substantially all income earned within the City; in addition, residents are required to pay tax on income earned outside of the City. The City allows a credit of one hundred percent for income tax paid to another municipality, not to exceed two percent of taxable income.

Employers within the City are required to withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the City either monthly or quarterly. Corporations and other individual taxpayers are required to pay their estimated tax quarterly and file a declaration annually. Income tax proceeds may be used for the purposes of general municipal operations, maintenance, new equipment, extension and enlargement of municipal services and facilities and capital improvements of the City. In 2007, the proceeds were allocated one hundred percent to the General Fund.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 7: Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2007, was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>12/31/2006</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balances</u> <u>12/31/2007</u>
<u>Governmental activities</u>				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,587,958	\$ 47,630	\$ -	\$ 1,635,588
Construction in progress	<u>1,790,077</u>	<u>2,176,064</u>	<u>(504,373)</u>	<u>3,461,768</u>
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>3,378,035</u>	<u>2,223,694</u>	<u>(504,373)</u>	<u>5,097,356</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Land improvements	1,531,567	238,470	-	1,770,037
Buildings and improvements	6,709,592	21,757	-	6,731,349
Machinery and equipment	1,435,184	142,213	-	1,577,397
Vehicles	1,563,836	403,799	-	1,967,635
Infrastructure:				
Roads	7,730,378	1,940,420	-	9,670,798
Storm sewers	3,806,310	47,811	-	3,854,121
Sanitary sewers	3,707,942	1,918,309	-	5,626,251
Water lines	<u>2,381,534</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,381,534</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>28,866,343</u>	<u>4,712,779</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,579,122</u>
Less accumulated depreciation:				
Land improvements	(783,410)	(76,266)	-	(859,676)
Buildings and improvements	(1,783,168)	(152,457)	-	(1,935,625)
Machinery and equipment	(929,264)	(160,966)	-	(1,090,230)
Vehicles	(944,596)	(197,351)	-	(1,141,947)
Infrastructure:				
Roads	(5,481,747)	(304,757)	-	(5,786,504)
Storm sewers	(1,785,758)	(49,491)	-	(1,835,249)
Sanitary sewers	(2,159,432)	(147,326)	-	(2,306,758)
Water lines	<u>(1,786,151)</u>	<u>(47,632)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,833,783)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(15,653,526)</u>	<u>(1,136,246)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,789,772)</u>
Net capital assets being depreciated	<u>13,212,817</u>	<u>3,576,533</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,789,350</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ <u>16,590,852</u>	\$ <u>5,800,227</u>	\$ <u>(504,373)</u>	\$ <u>21,886,706</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental activities as follows:

General Government	\$ 67,111
Transportation	473,480
Leisure Time Activities	82,617
Basic Utilities Services	203,123
Security of Persons and Property	<u>309,915</u>
	\$ <u>1,136,246</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 8: Shared Risk Pool

The City is a member of the Northern Ohio Risk Management Association (NORMA). NORMA is a joint self-insurance pool organized pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code 2744.081 and is defined as a shared risk pool for financial reporting purposes. It was established to enable its members to obtain property, liability and vehicle insurance through a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance fund.

Other members include the Cities of Bedford Heights, Eastlake, Highland Heights, Hudson, Maple Heights, Mayfield Heights, Solon, South Euclid and the Village of Chagrin Falls. NORMA is governed by a Board of Trustees that consists of the Mayor from each of the participating members.

Each member must remain a member for at least three years from the commencement date of October 1, 1987 with the exception of the Cities of Eastlake and Solon whose commencement date is October 1, 1989 and the City of Maple Heights, whose commencement date is October 1, 1993. After the initial three years, each member may extend its term in three year increments.

Each member provides operating resources to NORMA based on actuarially determined rates. In the event of losses, the first \$2,500 of any valid claim will be paid by the member. The next payment, generally a maximum of \$100,000 per occurrence, will come from the self insurance pool with any excess paid from the stop loss coverage carried by the pool. Any loss over these amounts would be the obligation of the individual member. If the aggregate claims paid by the pool exceed the available resources, the pool may require the members to make additional supplementary payments up to a maximum of the regular annual payment.

In 2007, the City paid \$78,617 in premiums which represent approximately 5.54 percent of the total premium. Financial information about NORMA can be obtained by contacting Mark P. Cegelka, Finance Director, City of Bedford Heights, 5661 Perkins Road, Bedford Heights, Ohio 44146, who serves as the fiscal agent.

Note 9: Risk Management

The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disaster. To address such risks, the City joined together with other neighboring cities to form the Northern Ohio Risk Management Association (NORMA, see Note 8) for the purpose of providing property, liability and vehicle insurance and providing for a formalized, jointly administered self insurance fund. The City pays an annual premium to NORMA for its insurance coverage. The agreement for formation of NORMA provides that NORMA will be self-sustaining through member premiums and will reinsure through commercial companies for claims in excess of the limits described in the agreement. This coverage is purchased through the General Fund.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 9: Risk Management (continued)

Claims have not exceeded coverage provided by NORMA in any of the last three years and there were no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year.

The City also elected to join the NORMA group rating plan for workers' compensation. The group rating plan is administered by CompManagement, Inc. who was paid an annual fee of \$4,731 in 2007. The NORMA group rating plan is intended to achieve lower workers' compensation premium rates for the participants. The City pays the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation a premium based on a rate per \$100 of wages paid. The rate is based on the group's claim history and administrative costs. There are no additional contributions required by a participant other than their annual fee.

The City provides medical, dental, vision and prescription drug benefits for all full-time employees through the QualChoice Health Plan and the Delta Dental Plan of Ohio. Monthly premium payments are made from the General and Fire Service Funds. The expenses are allocated by the number of employees in each department multiplied by the fixed premium rate for each employee. The monthly premiums for all benefits are \$1,343.83 for family coverage, \$951.53 for an employee plus one additional person and \$456.80 for single coverage.

Note 10: Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and local ordinances. Employees earn ten to thirty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Earned vacation time is paid upon termination of employment.

Employees earn sick leave at different rates depending upon type of employment. Sick leave accrual is continuous, without limit. Upon retirement or death, employees can be paid for accumulated, unused sick leave, up to a maximum number of hours of 690 for Fire Department employees, 960 for Police Department employees and 600 for all City employees.

As of December 31, 2007, the City's liability for unpaid compensated absences was \$1,131,633.

Note 11: Defined Benefit Pension Plans

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 11: Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Members of the member directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to OPERS, 277 E. Town St., Columbus, OH 43215-4642 or by calling (614) 222-6705 or (800)-222-7377.

The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2007, members in state and local classifications contributed 9.5 percent of covered payroll, public safety members contributed 9.75 percent, and law enforcement members contributed 10.1 percent.

The City's contribution rate for 2007 was 13.85 percent, except for those plan members in law enforcement or public safety, for whom the City's contribution was 17.17 percent of covered payroll. For the period January 1 through June 30, a portion of the City's contribution equal to 5 percent of covered payroll was allocated to fund the post-employment health care plan; for the period July 1 through December 31, 2007 this amount was increased to 6 percent. Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined. State statute sets a maximum contribution rate for the City of 14 percent, except for public safety and law enforcement, where the maximum employer contribution rate is 18.1 percent.

The City's required contributions for pension obligations to the traditional and combined plans for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$272,982, \$275,835, and \$271,226, respectively, 90 percent has been contributed for 2007, which has been recorded as a liability and 100 percent for 2006 and 2005. Contributions to the member-directed plan for 2007 were \$5,178 made by the City of Richmond Heights and \$3,552 made by the plan members.

B. Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund

The City of Richmond Heights contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. OP&F provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by the Ohio State Legislature and are codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code. OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the plan. That report may be obtained by writing to OP&F, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary, while employers are required to contribute 19.5 percent for police officers and 24 percent for firefighters. Contributions are authorized by state statute. The City of Richmond Heights's contributions to OP&F for police and firefighters were \$291,504 and \$319,378 for the year ended December 31, 2007, \$294,651 and \$316,657 for the year ended December 31, 2006, and \$273,752 and \$291,177 for the year ended December 31, 2005. The full amount has been contributed for 2006 and 2005. 69 percent for police and 69 percent for firefighters has been contributed for 2007 with the remainder being reported as a liability.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 12: Postemployment Benefits

A. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

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

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

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

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the covered payroll of active employees. In 2007, local government employers contributed 13.85 percent of covered payroll (17.17 percent for public safety and law enforcement). Each year, the OPERS retirement board determines the portion of the employer contribution rate that will be set aside for funding post-employment health care benefits. The amount of the employer contributions which was allocated to fund post-employment health care was 5.00 percent of covered payroll from January 1 through June 30, 2007 and 6.00 percent from July 1 through December 31, 2007.

The retirement board is also authorized to establish rules for the payment of a portion of the health care benefits by the retiree or the retiree's surviving beneficiaries. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. Active members do not make contributions to the post-employment health care plan.

The City's contributions allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$108,401, \$90,602 and \$80,066 respectively.

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

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 12: Postemployment Benefits (continued)

B. Police and Firemen's Disability and Pension Fund

Plan Description – The City contributes to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) sponsored healthcare program, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined post-employment healthcare plan administered by OP&F. OP&F provides healthcare benefits including coverage for medical, prescription drugs, dental, vision, Medicare Part B Premium reimbursement and long term care to retirees, qualifying benefit recipients and their eligible dependents.

OP&F provides access to post-retirement healthcare coverage for any person who receives or is eligible to receive a monthly service, disability, or survivor benefit or is a spouse or eligible dependent child of such person.

The Ohio Revised Code allows, but does not mandate, OP&F to provide OPEB benefits. Authority for the OP&F Board of Trustees to provide healthcare coverage to eligible participants and to establish and amend benefits is codified in Chapter 742 of the Ohio Revised Code.

OP&F issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial information and required supplementary information for the Plan. That report may be obtained by writing to OP&F, 140 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5164.

Funding policy – OP&F's post-employment healthcare plan was established and is administered as an Internal Revenue Code 401(h) account within the defined benefit pension plan, under the authority granted by the Ohio Revised Code to the OP&F Board of Trustees. The Ohio Revised Code sets the contribution rates for participating employers and for plan members to the OP&F. Participating employers are required to contribute to the pension plan at rates expressed as percentages of the payroll of active pension plan members, currently, 19.50 percent and 24.00 percent of covered payroll for police and fire employers, respectively.

The Board of Trustees is authorized to allocate a portion of the total employer contributions made to the pension plan to the 401(h) account as the employer contribution for retiree healthcare benefits. For the year ended December 31, 2007, the employer contribution allocated to the healthcare plan was 6.75 percent of covered payroll. The amount of employer contributions allocated to the healthcare plan each year is subject to the trustees' primary responsibility to ensure that pension benefits are adequately funded and also is limited by the provisions of Section 401(h).

The OP&F Board of Trustees is also authorized to establish requirements for contributions to the healthcare plan by retirees and their eligible dependents, or their surviving beneficiaries. Payment amounts vary depending on the number of covered dependents and the coverage selected. Active members do not make contributions to the OPEB Plan.

The City's contributions to OP&F which were allocated to fund post-employment health care benefits for police and firefighters were \$100,860 and \$89,745 for the year ended December 31, 2007, \$117,105 and \$102,254 for the year ended December 31, 2006, and \$113,753 and \$106,755 for the year ended December 31, 2005.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 13: Contingencies

The City is a party to legal proceedings seeking damages. The City's management is of the opinion that ultimate disposition of these claims and legal proceedings will not have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the City.

Note 14: Note Debt

The City's note activity, including amounts outstanding, interest rates and the governmental fund in which the note is reported is as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>12/31/06</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>12/31/07</u>
Capital Projects Funds				
Street Resurfacing Fund				
2007-2008 4.25%	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ (400,000)	\$ -
Capital Improvements Fund				
2007-2008 4.25%	200,000	-	(200,000)	-
Building Improvement Fund				
2007-2008, 4.25%	<u>2,100,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,100,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
	\$ <u>2,700,000</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>(2,700,000)</u>	\$ <u>-</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 15: Long-Term Obligations

Changes in long-term obligations of the City during 2007 are as follows:

	Original Amount	Balance December 31, 2006	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31, 2007	Due in One Year
General Obligation Bonds						
1997 4.74% Street Improvements	\$ 435,000	\$ 55,000	\$ -	\$ 55,000	\$ -	\$ -
1999 4.32% Street Improvements	995,000	340,000	-	110,000	230,000	115,000
2000 5.30% Street Improvements	875,000	405,000	-	95,000	310,000	95,000
2001 3.35-4.35% Street Improvements	600,000	265,000	-	60,000	205,000	65,000
2001 3.35-5.70% Law Enforcement Building	3,550,000	2,750,000	-	145,000	2,605,000	150,000
2005 3.47% Various Purpose	3,990,000	3,650,000	-	350,000	3,300,000	360,000
2007 3.75-4.00% Various Purpose	4,125,000	-	4,125,000	-	4,125,000	30,000
Unamortized Premium – 2007 Various Purpose issue	<u>25,976</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,976</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,976</u>	<u>1,855</u>
Total general obligation bonds	<u>14,595,976</u>	<u>7,465,000</u>	<u>4,150,976</u>	<u>815,000</u>	<u>10,800,976</u>	<u>816,855</u>
OWDA Loans						
Monticello Avenue Sewer 4.56%	200,000	107,166	-	10,582	96,584	11,070
Chardon Road Sewer 4.56%	1,554,105	1,127,205	-	68,649	1,058,556	71,815
Brushview Road Sewer 4.12%	439,366	333,565	-	18,912	314,653	19,699
Highland Road - Meadowlane 3.79%	648,031	515,190	-	27,240	487,950	28,283
Richmond Road (to Highland Road) 3.90%	923,490	808,762	-	35,730	773,032	37,137
Sunset/Skyline Sewer Construction 3.20%-3.59%	1,036,790	958,819	-	40,201	918,618	41,658
Dunbarton/Cary Jay- Construction 3.41%	564,812	540,279	-	18,115	522,164	22,250
Richmond/White/Chardonview/Chardon Construction 3.35%	1,265,403	966,484	-	46,068	920,416	47,625
Richmond Road and Side Streets 3.25%	<u>1,769,784</u>	<u>361,706</u>	<u>1,006,271</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,367,977</u>	<u>-</u>
Total OWDA loans	<u>8,401,781</u>	<u>5,719,176</u>	<u>1,006,271</u>	<u>265,497</u>	<u>6,459,950</u>	<u>279,537</u>
Other Long-Term Obligations						
City of Highland Heights OPWC Loan	190,923	133,647	-	4,733	128,914	14,199
Police Pension Liability	n/a	48,643	-	868	47,775	944
Compensated Absences	<u>n/a</u>	<u>1,120,348</u>	<u>11,285</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,131,633</u>	<u>79,214</u>
Total other long-term obligations	<u>190,923</u>	<u>1,302,638</u>	<u>11,285</u>	<u>5,601</u>	<u>1,308,322</u>	<u>94,357</u>
Total long-term debt	\$ <u>23,162,704</u>	\$ <u>14,486,814</u>	\$ <u>5,168,532</u>	\$ <u>1,086,098</u>	\$ <u>18,569,248</u>	\$ <u>1,190,749</u>

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 15: Long-Term Obligations (continued)

The City's overall legal debt margin was \$23,343,174 at December 31, 2007. The unvoted legal debt margin was \$7,096,424. Principal and interest requirements to retire the Long-Term General Obligation Bonds, Police Pension Liability, OWDA (Ohio Water Development Authority) Loans, and the Special Assessment Bonds as of December 31, 2007, are as follows:

	General Obligation		Police Pension		OWDA Loans	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2008	\$ 815,000	\$ 447,061	\$ 944	\$ 2,019	\$ 231,912	\$ 162,746
2009	880,000	422,764	984	1,979	241,373	153,285
2010	995,000	386,691	1,027	1,936	251,224	143,433
2011	930,000	345,579	1,071	1,892	261,483	133,175
2012	960,000	307,530	1,117	1,846	272,165	122,493
2013-2017	4,275,000	943,278	6,345	8,469	1,497,006	437,908
2018-2022	1,920,000	206,720	7,830	6,984	1,181,290	146,863
2023-2027	-	-	9,662	5,152	235,109	9,335
Thereafter	-	-	18,795	3,327	-	-
	<u>\$ 10,775,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,059,623</u>	<u>\$ 47,775</u>	<u>\$ 33,604</u>	<u>\$ 4,171,557</u>	<u>\$ 1,309,238</u>

	OPWC Loan		Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2008	\$ 14,199	\$ -	\$ 1,062,055	\$ 611,826
2009	9,546	-	1,131,903	578,028
2010	9,546	-	1,256,797	532,060
2011	9,546	-	1,202,100	480,646
2012	9,546	-	1,242,828	431,869
2013-2017	47,731	-	5,826,082	1,389,655
2018-2022	28,800	-	3,137,920	360,567
2023-2027	-	-	244,771	14,487
Thereafter	-	-	18,795	3,327
	<u>\$ 128,914</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15,123,251</u>	<u>\$ 4,402,465</u>

General obligation bonds are the direct obligation of the City and will be paid from the Bond Retirement, Debt Service Fund using property tax revenues. The 2001 3.35 percent Law Enforcement Building general obligation bonds were issued at a premium of \$7,439. Special assessment bonds will be paid from special assessment proceeds levied against benefited property owners. In the event that a property owner would fail to pay the assessment, payment would be made by the City.

The Monticello Avenue Sewer, Chardon Road Sewer, Brushview Road Sewer and Highland Road - Meadowlane OWDA loan liabilities are being paid from the Bond Retirement, Debt Service Fund. The City also entered into contractual agreements for new construction and design loans from OWDA. Under the terms of these agreements, OWDA will reimburse, advance, or directly pay the construction costs of the approved projects. OWDA will capitalize administrative costs and construction interest and add them to the total amounts of the final loans. OWDA loans will be paid with Special Assessment revenue. The Richmond Road and Side Streets and the Richmond/White/Chardonview/Chardon OWDA loans are not closed and therefore, the amortization of those liabilities are not included in the above table.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 15: Long-Term Obligations (continued)

During the year and in prior years, the City obtained and has obtained partial proceeds from two Ohio Water Development Authority (“OWDA”) loans that relate to the Richmond Road sewer improvements to be repaid in semi-annual principal and interest payments beginning in 2006. The City has not yet collected the total proceeds to be received on these loan and as a result, the debt maturity schedule above does not reflect any amounts for principal or interest. When the loan is finalized and a final amortization schedule has been provided by OWDA, the principal and interest will be included above.

The Police Pension Liability will be paid from Property Tax revenue in the Police Pension Fund. The Compensated Absences will be paid by the fund from which the employee’s salary is paid.

During 2002, the City entered into a contractual agreement with the City of Highland Heights for the construction of sanitary sewer lines on Highland Road. Richmond Heights is responsible for the portion of the lines that run through the City. The project was financed by a loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission in the name of the City of Highland Heights.

The total amount owed to the City of Highland Heights as of December 31, 2007, is \$128,914 and has been recorded Intergovernmental Payable in the government-wide financial statements and will be repaid from special assessments levied on the affected properties.

Note 16: Jointly Governed Organization

Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments

The City is a member of the Eastern Suburban Regional Council of Governments (ESRCOG). The ESRCOG was formed, by written agreement pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 167.01, in 1972 to foster cooperation between member municipalities through sharing of resources for mutual benefit. Other members include the Cities of Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights and the Villages of Gates Mills and Mayfield. The governing body of ESRCOG is a council comprised of one representative from each of the six participating municipalities. The Council adopts a budget for ESRCOG annually. Each member’s degree of control is limited to its representation on the Council.

ESRCOG established a subsidiary organization, the Suburban Police Anti-Crime Network (SPAN), which provides for the interchange and sharing of police personnel and police equipment to be utilized by all members.

In 2007, the City contributed \$14,000. Financial information can be obtained from Robert G. Tribby, Finance Director, City of Mayfield Heights, at 6154 Mayfield Road, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124-3207, who serves as fiscal agent.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 16: Jointly Governed Organization (continued)

Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council

The City is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC). NOPEC is a regional council of governments formed under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. NOPEC was formed to serve as a vehicle for communities wishing to proceed jointly with an aggregation program for the purchase of electricity. NOPEC is currently comprised over 100 communities who have been authorized by ballot to purchase electricity on behalf of their citizens. The intent of NOPEC is to provide electricity at the lowest possible rates while at the same time insuring stability in prices by entering into long-term contracts with suppliers to provide electricity to the citizens of its member communities.

NOPEC is governed by a General Assembly made up of one representative from each member community. The representatives from each county then elect one person to serve on the eight member NOPEC Board of Directors. The Board oversees and manages the operation of the aggregation program. The degree of control exercised by any participating government is limited to its representation in the General Assembly and on the Board. The City did not contribute to NOPEC during 2007. Financial information can be obtained by contacting NOPEC, 31320 Solon Road, Suite 20 Solon, OH 44139.

Note 17: Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2007, consisted of the following:

<u>Transfer to</u>	<u>Transfer From</u>		
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other Governmental</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fire service fund	\$ 625,000	\$ -	\$ 625,000
Bond retirement Fund	-	250,000	250,000
Nonmajor governmental funds	<u>415,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>415,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,040,000</u>	<u>\$ 250,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,290,000</u>

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations; to segregate money for anticipated capital projects; to provide additional resources for current operations or debt service; and to return money to the fund from which it was originally provided once a project is completed.

City of Richmond Heights

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (continued)

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Note 18: Restatement of Fund Balance

For fiscal year 2007, the City has restated fund balances of the General Fund and the Bond Retirement Fund to correct prior year special assessment revenue that was incorrectly posted. These fund adjustments were made to record special assessment revenue in the proper fund. The fund adjustments had the following effect on fund balances as previously reported:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bond Retirement</u>
Fund Balances, December 31, 2006	\$ 1,363,184	\$ 47,942
Fund Balance Adjustments	<u>(189,000)</u>	<u>189,000</u>
Restated Fund Balances, December 31, 2006	\$ <u>1,174,184</u>	\$ <u>236,942</u>

Note 19: Related Party Transactions

The City purchased materials totaling \$910 from PDQ Signs during 2007. This business is co-owned by Donald O'Toole, a City Council member. These purchases did not require Council approval.



Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

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

City of Richmond Heights
Cuyahoga County
26789 Highland Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

To the Members of City Council:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Richmond Heights, Cuyahoga County, (the City) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 16, 2010, wherein we noted in Note 18 of the 2007 Notes to the Basic Financial Statements, the City restated the December 31, 2006 fund balances for the General and Bond Retirement Funds due to incorrect posting of prior year special assessment. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the City's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the City's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

We consider findings 2008-002, 2008-003, and 2008-008 through 2008-011 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the City's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also material weaknesses. Of the significant deficiencies described above, we believe findings number 2008-002, 2008-003, and 2008-008 through 2008-010 are also material weaknesses.

We also noted certain internal control matters that we reported to the City's management in a separate letter dated September 16, 2010.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the City's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2008-001 through 2008-007.

We also noted certain noncompliance or other matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the City's management in a separate letter dated September 16, 2010.

The City's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the City's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and City Council. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

September 16, 2010

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2008-001

Material Noncompliance

Finding For Recovery – Repaid Under Audit

During a review of the City's expenditures, we noted the City made a payroll advance to Martel Mann in the amount of \$100 with check number 41074. No evidence or supporting documentation could be provided by the City to show this payroll advance was paid back.

In accordance with the foregoing facts and pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.28, a Finding for Recovery for public money illegally expended is hereby issued against Martel Mann in the amount of \$100 and in favor of the City of Richmond Heights.

Lynda Rossiter, City Director of Finance, repaid this Finding on July 8, 2010.

Officials' Response: Payroll advances are no longer allowed according to the Director of Finance.

FINDING NUMBER 2008-002

Material Noncompliance and Material Weakness

Transfers and Advances

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.14 provides that no transfer can be made from one fund of a subdivision to any other fund, by order of the court or otherwise, with certain limited exceptions. The transfers permitted under Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.14 require a resolution passed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the taxing authority, except transfers from the General Fund, which require a resolution passed by a simple majority. In addition to the transfers permitted under Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.14, Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.15 and 5705.16 provide that the taxing authority, with the approval of the Tax Commissioner and the Court of Common Pleas, may transfer from one fund to another.

Additionally, Auditor of State Bulletin 97-003 provides guidance on the legality and accounting treatment of inter-fund cash advances. Advances may be an effective method of resolving cash flow problems without incurring additional interest expense from short-term loans and to provide the necessary funding for reimbursable grants.

Inter-fund cash advances are subject to the following requirements:

1. Advances must be clearly labeled as such and distinguished from a transfer. Advances are intended to temporarily reallocate cash from one fund to another and involve an expectation of repayment. Transfers are intended to permanently reallocate cash between funds and are governed by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 to 5705.16.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-002 (continued)

Material Noncompliance and Material Weakness

Transfers and Advances

2. In order to advance cash from one fund to another, there must be statutory authority to use the money in the fund advancing the cash ("creditor" fund) for the same purpose for which the fund receiving the cash ("debtor" fund) was established.
3. The reimbursement from the debtor fund to the creditor fund must not violate any restrictions on the use of the money to be used to make the reimbursement, and
4. Advances must be approved by formal resolution of the City Council.

During our review of transfers, we noted three transfer transactions in 2007 that did not meet any of the exceptions described in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.14. The transfers were:

From the Capital Improvement Fund to the General Fund for \$150,000;
From the Capital Improvement Fund to the Fire Service Fund for \$80,000; and
From the Capital Improvement Fund to the Fire Service Fund for \$100,000.

Also, we noted in the Street Construction Fund, the actual transfers made of \$275,000 exceeded the amount authorized by Council of \$250,000. The additional \$25,000 appropriation was not approved until after year end, which is unallowable. In our opinion, budgetary actions approved after year end are unallowable.

During our review of the advances made in 2007, it was noted that none of the four advances made were authorized by Council. Also, three of the advances made did not meet the requirements set forth in AOS Bulletin 97-003. The advances were:

From the Street Improvement Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund for \$156,000;
From the Building Improvement Fund to the Fire Service Fund for \$253,500; and
From the Building Improvement Fund to the Sewer Improvement Fund for \$291,500.

During 2008, there were two transfers identified that were authorized by Council after year end, which in our opinion, is unallowable. The transfers were:

From the General Fund to the Bond Retirement Fund for \$262,000; and
From the General Fund to the Senior/Disabled Transportation Fund for \$1,600.

Audit adjustments to reverse these unallowable transactions were prepared and these transfers and advances were removed from the financial statements.

To be in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code, we recommend the City make only those transfer transactions allowed by Revised Code Sections 5705.14-5705.16 and that all transfers be authorized by Council. All advances made should be authorized by Council and meet the requirements set forth in AOS Bulletin 97-003.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-002 (continued)

Material Noncompliance and Material Weakness

Transfers and Advances

Prior to 2005, the City had advanced monies from the General Fund to both the Capital Improvement Fund and the Sewer improvement Fund. These advances totaled \$66,768. These advances have not been repaid.

We recommend the City review AOS bulletin 97-003 to assure that advances are properly completed and approved and also either repay the \$66,768 advances to the General Fund from the Capital Improvement and Sewer Improvement funds or convert the advance to a transfer. The steps to convert an advance to a transfer are listed below.

Auditor of State Bulletin 97-003 states:

If, after an advance is made, the taxing authority determines that the transaction should, in fact, be treated as a transfer, the following procedures should be followed:

1. The necessary formal procedures for approval of the transfer should be completed;
2. The transfer should be formally recorded on the records of the subdivision; and
3. The entries recording the cash advance should be reversed to, in effect, repay the advance with the proceeds of the transfer.

Officials' Response: This finding is the result of transfers and advances made from related funds or funds supporting the same purpose and transfers and advances authorized by Council at the beginning of the year for previous year end purposes. The Director of Finance made these transfers and advances using the best of her knowledge at the time. She has since learned differently and applied the new knowledge at the time of obtaining that knowledge.

The impact of the reversal of these transfers and advances and the restatement of the fund balances resulted in Finding Number 2008-004; Finding Number 2008-005; Finding Number 2008-006; and Finding Number 2008-007.

FINDING NUMBER 2008-003

Material Noncompliance and Material Weakness

Annual Reporting

Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 states GAAP-basis entities must file annual reports within 150 days of their fiscal year end. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38, the City may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required annual financial reports. This section also states that at the time the report is filed with the Auditor of State, the City must publish notice in a newspaper that the report has been completed and is available for public inspection at the office of the Finance Director.

Although the City filed annual reports by the required deadline, the annual reports filed with the Auditor of State were incomplete and misstated. At the start of our audit (February 2010), the fiscal year 2008 report was still being drafted by the City. Governments should not file reports with the Auditor of State that are incomplete or misstated solely to meet the required deadline and avoid fines and penalties.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-003 (continued)

Material Noncompliance and Material Weakness

Annual Reporting

Failing to file annual reports that are complete and accurate could be a symptom of an inadequate accounting system, inadequate training of personnel in understanding the accounting and reporting process, un-posted or un-reconciled records, or other significant issues affecting the control environment, or which may even pose fraud risks.

The City also failed to publish notices in a newspaper that the reports had been completed and were available for public inspection at the office of the Director of Finance as required.

We recommend the City prepare their financial reports in a more timely fashion so that any annual reports filed with the Auditor of State are complete and accurate. We further recommend the City publish the required notice in a newspaper that the reports are completed and available for public inspection at the office of the Director of Finance.

Officials' Response: The Director of Finance has attempted to shift the timing of preparing the budget of the current year from the beginning of that year to the end of the previous year, allowing for the preparation of the conversion information and related note and management information to be accomplished in a timely manner. This shift has occurred more in the 2010 year and should allow for the 2010 financial statements to be prepared completely and submitted to the Auditor of State by their deadline of May 31. Working with the Local Government Services will also benefit the City in the preparation of accurate and timely statements. The availability of financial statements will then be advertised as required.

FINDING NUMBER 2008-004

Material Noncompliance

Appropriations Exceeding Estimated Resources

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.39 prohibits appropriations from each fund from exceeding the total estimated resources.

During our testing, we noted the following funds had appropriations exceeding estimated resources at December 31, 2007:

Fund	Estimated Resources as of December 31, 2007	Appropriations as of December 31, 2007	Variance
Fire Service	\$1,952,531	\$2,101,872	(\$149,341)
Bond Retirement	1,229,192	1,620,000	(390,808)
Capital Improvement	792,324	1,834,091	(1,041,766)
Building Improvement	1,759,000	2,587,243	(828,243)
Sewer Improvement	514,715	1,449,112	(934,397)

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-004 (continued)

Material Noncompliance

Appropriations Exceeding Estimated Resources

During our testing, we noted the following funds had appropriations exceeding estimated resources at December 31, 2008:

Fund	Estimated Resources as of December 31, 2008	Appropriations as of December 31, 2008	Variance
Fire Service	\$1,634,155	\$2,445,471	(\$811,316)
Capital Improvement	(231,806)	916,066	(1,147,872)
Building Improvement	1,339,928	1,803,354	(463,426)
Sewer Improvement	(291,240)	690,612	(981,852)

Appropriating over estimated resources could lead to deficit spending.

We recommend the City monitor appropriations and amend the certificate of estimated resources to ensure that appropriations do not exceed estimated resources.

Officials' Response: See response to Finding 2008-002.

FINDING NUMBER 2008-005

Material Noncompliance

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 (B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing unit from expending money unless it has been appropriated. Budgetary expenditures as enacted by the City may not exceed appropriations at the legal level of control for all funds.

During our testing, we noted the following funds/accounts had expenditures plus encumbrances exceeding appropriations as of December 31, 2007:

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)**

FINDING NUMBER 2008-005 (continued)

Material Noncompliance

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations

Fund/Account	Total Appropriations	Total Expenditures plus Encumbrances	Variance
General Fund			
<u>Recreation Department</u>			
Personnel	\$203,234	\$209,178	(\$5,944)
<u>Building Department</u>			
Education and Travel	3,500	6,261	(2,761)
<u>Administration</u>			
Education and Travel	4,000	5,391	(1,391)
Contractual	839,350	883,509	(44,159)
<u>Service Department</u>			
Personnel	765,085	777,516	(12,431)
Fire Service Fund			
Education and Travel	7,500	7,750	(250)
Recreation Program Fund			
Personnel	68,532	70,282	(1,750)
Bond Retirement Fund			
Debt Service	1,620,000	4,441,220	(2,821,220)
Capital Improvement Fund			
Capital Outlay	913,091	1,065,878	(152,788)
Sewer Improvement Fund			
Contractual	1,449,112	1,963,965	(514,854)

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)**

FINDING NUMBER 2008-005 (continued)

Material Noncompliance

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations

During our testing, we noted the following funds/accounts had expenditures plus encumbrances exceeding appropriations as of December 31, 2008:

Fund/Account	Total Appropriations	Total Expenditures plus Encumbrances	Variance
General Fund			
<u>Police Department</u>			
Education and Travel	\$14,000	\$16,025	(\$2,025)
Supplies and Materials	70,575	99,582	(29,007)
<u>Recreation Department</u>			
Contractual	58,155	61,454	(3,299)
<u>Building Department</u>			
Education and Travel	4,071	6,035	(1,964)
Contractual	41,555	71,552	(29,997)
Supplies and Materials	4,150	6,139	(1,989)
<u>Council</u>			
Personnel	71,669	91,641	(19,972)
<u>Administration</u>			
Education and Travel	5,500	5,817	(317)
Contractual	895,550	895,558	(8)
Fire Service Fund			
Contractual	53,500	56,178	(2,678)
Street Construction Fund			
Supplies and Materials	366,050	367,389	(1,339)

Expending monies in excess of appropriations can lead to deficit spending.

We recommend the City expend only those monies which have been properly appropriated.

Officials' Response: See response to Finding 2008-002.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-006

Material Noncompliance

Negative Cash Fund Balances

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.10 states money that is paid into a fund must be used only for the purposes for which such a fund has been established. As a result, a negative fund balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another fund.

Our testing showed that in addition to negative fund balances noted throughout 2007, the following funds had negative fund balances at year end for 2007:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Funds Available</u>
Fire Service Fund	(\$532,875)
Fire Pension Fund	(44,872)
Capital Improvement Fund	(554,774)
Sewer Improvement Fund	(267,129)

Our testing showed that in addition to negative fund balances noted throughout 2008, the following funds had negative fund balances at year end for 2008:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Funds Available</u>
Fire Service Fund	(\$438,716)
Senior / Disabled Transportation Fund	(1,557)
Bond Retirement Fund	(58,906)
Capital Improvement Fund	(808,846)
Street Improvement Fund	(381,866)
Building Improvement Fund	(176,751)

This could result in deficit spending by the City.

We recommend the City monitor fund balances more closely throughout the year to prevent negative fund balances.

Officials' Response: See response to Finding 2008-002.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

**FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)**

FINDING 2008-007

Material Noncompliance

Appropriations over Actual Resources

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.36(A)(4) states that upon a determination by the fiscal officer of a subdivision that the revenue to be collected by the subdivision will be less than the amount included in an official certificate and that the amount of the deficiency will reduce available resources below the level of current appropriations, the fiscal officer shall certify the amount of the deficiency to the commission, and the commission shall certify an amended certificate reflecting the deficiency. The following funds had deficiencies at December 31, 2007 and 2008:

For the 2007 year, the below funds had actual resources which were less than their appropriations:

Fund	Unencumbered 1/1/07 Balance	Actual Receipts	Total		Variance
			Actual Resources	Total Appropriations	
Fire Service Fund	(\$66,269)	\$1,616,890	\$1,550,621	\$2,101,872	(\$551,251)
Capital Improvement Fund	(374,826)	240,724	(134,102)	1,834,091	(1,968,193)
Building Improvement Fund	1,749,000	650,355	2,399,355	2,587,243	(187,888)

For the 2008 year, the below funds had actual resources which were less than their appropriations:

Fund	Unencumbered 1/1/08 Balance	Actual Receipts	Total		Variance
			Actual Resources	Total Appropriations	
Fire Service Fund	(\$532,874)	\$2,232,465	\$1,699,591	\$2,445,471	(\$745,880)
Bond Retirement Fund	206,077	1,491,498	1,697,575	1,756,510	(58,935)
Capital Improvement Fund	(690,806)	116,784	(574,022)	916,066	(1,490,088)
Building Improvement Fund	739,928	511,150	1,251,078	1,803,354	(552,276)
Sewer Improvement Fund	(291,240)	674,625	383,385	690,612	(307,227)

The City failed to obtain an amended certificate and reduce appropriations as required. This could result in deficit spending by the City

To be in compliance with the above Revised Code Section, The City should obtain a reduced certificate and reduce appropriations when appropriations exceed available resources and estimated revenues are greater than actual revenues.

Officials' Response: See response to Finding 2008-002.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-008

Material Weakness

Statement on Auditing Standards 112 – Financial Reporting

Paragraph 18 of the *Statement on Auditing Standards 112* documents that the identification by the auditor of a material misstatement in the financial statements for the period under audit that was not initially identified by the entity's internal control is a strong indicator of a material weakness even if management subsequently corrects the misstatement.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Director of Finance and City Council and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements is complete and accurate. Financial reports and revenue and expense ledgers should be reviewed to ensure they accurately reflect the financial activity of the City.

The following weaknesses were noted and subsequent were adjustments made to the financial statements and, where applicable, to the City's accounting records for 2007:

- In 2007, the City misclassified property tax, other local taxes and intergovernmental revenues on their trial balances in the amounts of \$133,492, \$421,487 and \$554,979 respectively.
- In 2007, the City illegally advanced money from the Building Improvement Fund to the Fire Service Fund in the amount of \$253,500.
- In 2007, the City posted a payable of \$4,733 to the Bond Retirement Fund – General Government instead of Principal Retirement.
- In 2007, the City illegally advanced money from the Street Improvement Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$156,000. Also, the City misposted License and Permit revenues as Bond Proceeds in the amount of \$79,647.
- In 2007, the City misclassified a FEMA grant, law enforcements grants, fines and forfeitures, inspection fees, and bond proceeds of \$956, \$5,575, \$10,000, \$156,647, and \$5,131, respectively, as miscellaneous revenue.
- In 2007, the City illegally advanced money from the Building Improvement Fund to the Sewer Improvement Fund in the amount of \$291,500.
- In 2007, the City failed to record OPWC grant funds paid directly to vendors for sewer and street projects as intergovernmental revenues and capital outlay expenditures in the amount of \$494,839 to the Sewer Improvement Fund and \$684,514 to the Street Improvement Fund.
- In 2007, the City misclassified \$66,241 of property tax revenue as intergovernmental revenue in the Fire Service Fund.
- In 2007, the City misclassified \$202,049 of property tax revenue as special assessment revenue in the Bond Retirement Fund.
- In 2007, the City failed to record the premium on the sale of bonds and the corresponding amortization of the premium.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-008 (continued)

Material Weakness

Statement on Auditing Standards 112 – Financial Reporting

- In 2007, the City improperly approved a transfer after year end between the Street Construction Fund and the Bond Retirement Fund for \$25,000 and also improperly approved an advance after year end between the Rescue Squad Fund and the Fire Pension Fund for \$45,000.
- In 2007, the City posted \$2,136 of gas tax revenues in the State Highway Fund that should have been posted to the Street Construction Fund.
- In 2007, the City failed to record capitalized interest on their loans in the Street Improvement Fund and Sewer Improvement Fund in the amounts of \$6,255 and \$21,545 respectively.
- In 2007, the City failed to allocate interest revenue to the Street Construction Fund and State Highway Fund in the amount of \$12,157 and \$3,250, respectively, from the General Fund as required.
- In 2007, the City incorrectly calculated an estate tax receivable in the Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$153,266 which should have been recorded as a receivable in the General Fund in the amount of \$316,116.
- In 2007, the City understated Accounts Payable in the Building Improvement Fund by \$107,253.
- In 2007, the City understated special assessments receivable in the Bond Retirement Fund by \$477,085.
- In 2007, the City miscalculated their capital assets which resulted in an understatement of depreciable capital assets – net of accumulated depreciation in the amount of \$1,092,527.
- In 2007, the City's reconciled book balances were over the reconciled bank balances which resulted in the General Fund's fund balance being overstated by \$21,920.
- In 2007, the City overstated their reserve for encumbrances in the Capital Improvement Fund by \$549,422.
- The City misposted \$189,000 of special assessment revenue in the General Fund rather than the Bond Retirement Fund in 2006 which caused a restatement of fund balances in the current year.
- The City reported incorrect original and final budgeted revenues and expenditures along with incorrect actual revenues and expenditures on their Budget and Actual statements for the General Fund and Fire Service Fund.
- The City reported materially misstated and inaccurate information in the Management Discussion and Analysis and Notes to Basic Financial Statements that required significant revisions.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-008 (continued)

Material Weakness

Statement on Auditing Standards 112 – Financial Reporting

The following weaknesses were noted and subsequent adjustments were made to the financial statements and, where applicable, to the City's accounting records for 2008:

- In 2008, the City misclassified \$89,559 of cell tower fees as miscellaneous revenue rather than licenses and permits.
- In 2008, the City made an illegal transfer of \$162,000 from the Building Bond Fund to the Fire Service Fund. The City attempted to post a correcting entry to reverse the transfer but ended up reclassifying the transfer as miscellaneous revenue in the Fire Service Fund and an expense in the Building Bond Fund. We have removed this entry for 2008.
- In 2008, the City attempted to reverse an advance of \$545,000 made in 2007; however, the entry booked by the City recorded the transaction as a transfer in 2008. Also, the advance the City was attempting to reverse was removed during the 2007 audit because it was unallowable. A correcting entry has been made to the financial statements.
- In 2008, the City misclassified \$178,041 of inspection fees as miscellaneous revenue and charges for services rather than licenses and permits.
- In 2008, the City failed to record OPWC grant funds paid directly to vendors for sewer projects as intergovernmental revenues and capital outlay expenditures in the amount of \$91,676 to the Sewer Improvement Fund.
- In 2008, the City understated their accounts payable in the Building Improvement Fund by \$202,988 by not properly accruing applicable obligations.
- In 2008, the City recorded accounts payable of \$248,747 in the Capital Improvement Fund that were actually accounts payable of \$247,059 in the Building Improvement Fund and \$1,689 in the Street Improvement Fund.
- In 2008, the City failed to record current year encumbrances of \$21,730 in the Street Improvement Fund and \$241,217 in the Building Improvement Fund.
- In 2008, the City illegally transferred \$262,000 from the General Fund to the Bond Retirement Fund and \$1,600 from the General Fund to the Senior/Disabled Transportation Fund. The approval for these transfers came after year end; therefore, making them unallowable.
- In 2008, the City failed to record an \$11,150 premium on the sale of bonds and the corresponding amortization of the premium.
- In 2008, the City recorded Note Proceeds of \$1,475,000 in the Street Improvement Fund and \$525,000 in the Building Improvement Fund; however, the Note was not issued and the proceeds were not received until January of 2009. These Note Proceeds have been removed from the 2008 financial statements.
- In 2008, the City understated special assessments receivable in the Bond Retirement Fund by \$293,396.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-008 (continued)

Material Weakness

Statement on Auditing Standards 112 – Financial Reporting

- In 2008, the City tried to repay an advance of \$45,000 between the Fire Pension Fund and the Rescue Squad Fund. This repayment was recorded as a transfer on the City's 2008 financial statements. This advance was disallowed as part of our 2007 audit due to the authorization coming after year end. We have removed the transfer from the 2008 financial statements.
- In 2008, the City miscalculated their capital assets which resulted in an overstatement of non-depreciable capital assets in the amount of \$3,461,768 and an understatement of depreciable capital assets – net of accumulated depreciation in the amount of \$3,550,019.
- In 2008, the City failed to record capitalized interest on their loans in the Sewer Improvement fund in the amount of \$23,424.
- In 2008, the City misclassified \$22,895 of miscellaneous revenue as debt proceeds in the Street Improvement Fund.
- In 2008, the City's reconciled book balances were over the reconciled bank balances which resulted in the General Fund's fund balance being overstated by \$18,475.
- In 2008, the City incorrectly reclassified the Deferred Revenue portion of Income Tax Receivables on their full accrual statements. The error in the City's entry caused Deferred Revenue on the Statement of Net Assets to be understated by \$742,634 and caused Income Tax Receipts on the Statement of Activities to be overstated by \$742,634.
- In 2008, the City failed to complete their Budget vs. Actual statements for the General Fund and the Fire Service Fund. The City submitted the same statements that were prepared for 2007.
- The City reported materially misstated and inaccurate information in the Management Discussion and Analysis and Notes to Basic Financial Statements that required significant revisions.

The lack of controls over the posting of financial transactions and financial reporting can result in errors and irregularities that may go undetected and decreases the reliability of financial data throughout the year.

We recommend City Council improve their policies and procedures for controls over recording of financial transactions and over financial reporting to help ensure the information accurately reflects the activity of the City and thereby increasing the reliability of the financial data throughout the year.

Officials' Response: These adjustments are the result of errors made by the finance department and by the conversion firm. This list will be reviewed carefully by the Director of Finance and her staff to ensure that they are not repeated.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-009

Material Weakness

Bank Reconciliations

A necessary step in the internal control over financial reporting is to determine the accuracy of both the balance of the bank and the balance of cash in the accounting records. The reconciliation process accounts for the differences between the balances appearing on the bank statements and the balance of cash according to the City's records.

Cash and investment bank accounts were not reconciled on a timely basis during 2007 and 2008. The year-end reconciliations were not finalized until 2010. There were many reconciling items for each year and many were several months old. The reconciliations provided no evidence that they were reviewed by a supervisor.

Reconciliations should be prepared and reviewed on a timely basis. Without accurate bank reconciliations the City has no assurance that the cash balances recorded in the City's records are correct. Consequently, the City may be spending money that it does not have available. Failure to perform monthly bank reconciliations in a timely manner can make it more difficult to identify reconciling items and compromises the controls designed to aid in the detection of errors and/or irregularities which could lead to a loss/theft of City assets. In addition, the management of the City is not provided with timely and accurate financial information that is vital to the continued operations of the City, which could also have a negative material effect or impact on the City's financial statements.

We recommend that timely reconciliations be prepared and reviewed/approved. All reconciling items should be resolved on a timely basis and adequate documentation be maintained to support them.

Officials Response: The finance staff has been working diligently with the RITA support personnel to develop a comprehensive procedure for bank reconciliation. In the meantime, they have been reconciling pieces of the process to ensure that receipts are recorded and the disbursements are recorded and processed.

FINDING NUMBER 2008-010

Material Weakness

Capital Asset Records

A capital asset management system is a system of methods, policies and procedures that address the acquisition, use, control, protection, maintenance and disposal of assets. Accurate accounting for assets is required for the correct and complete presentation of capital assets' financial information. While reviewing and testing the City's capital assets, we noted the following:

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-010 (continued)

Material Weakness

Capital Asset Records

- Depreciation amounts have not changed for assets dated 2004 and earlier.
- No detail listing exists for 2004 asset additions.
- Incorrect depreciation amounts were calculated either in the first year or subsequent year of assets.
- Depreciation amounts were taken for assets whose useful life had already expired.
- Funds issued by the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) on the City's behalf for infrastructure projects were not recorded in the City's financial system and thus not included as asset additions with corresponding depreciation on the City's capital asset listings.
- Asset additions included items that were below the capitalization threshold established by the City.
- The last official inventory taken of assets was performed as of December 31, 2003.
- The City utilizes several Excel spreadsheets to account for additions and depreciation. These spreadsheets contained incorrect formulas for footing and depreciation calculations.
- There was some minor consistency issues associated with the useful lives used within the same class of capital assets.

Based on the above issues, the City may be over-depreciating assets dated 2004 and earlier. Monies paid directly to contractors for OPWC projects are not being recorded in the City's financial system. Depreciation amounts are not being calculated correctly since there were formula errors contained in the Excel spreadsheets used to account for additions/depreciation. Assets are being added that shouldn't be based on the City's capitalization threshold. Useful lives used may be inconsistent within the same asset class.

To avoid incorrect reporting of capital asset information on the financial statements, the City should:

- Review its 2004 and earlier capital asset information to make sure depreciation is not being taken on assets whose useful life has already expired.
- Make sure all monies paid directly to contractors by OPWC for infrastructure projects are recorded in the City's financial system. By doing so, asset additions and depreciations amounts would be identified.
- The City should review its capitalization threshold since items are added that are below the current threshold amount.
- To properly account for the City's capital assets, the City should perform an official physical inventory of its assets since it has been several years since one has been performed. This would identify the assets still used by the City, the current location and condition of the assets and also make sure items are properly tagged. It may also identify items that are no longer used/functional and should be disposed of and removed from the listing.
- To avoid incorrect calculations for depreciation, the City should review its current listings to make sure all formula errors within their spreadsheets are resolved.
- The City should be consistent in applying useful lives to the same asset class.

**CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007
(CONTINUED)**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (CONTINUED)
--

FINDING NUMBER 2008-010 (continued)

Material Weakness

Capital Asset Records

Officials' Response: The capital asset threshold and the useful life of asset classes as determined in the fixed asset policy needs to be reviewed and changed, if necessary, and then followed as approved. The inventorying and tagging of all assets of the City is more than can be accomplished by the current city staff of any department. Even when we had an intern assisting the supervision of that intern was beyond the time capacity of the staff. Therefore, I recommend that we hire an outside firm to inventory and tag the capital assets of the City. As a result of that inventory, the assets can then be put into the Fixed Asset Module that we currently own and can then utilize from that point forward to track our capital (over the agreed to threshold) and fixed assets (under the agreed to threshold).

FINDING NUMBER 2008-011

Significant Deficiency

Agency Fund Deposits – Open Item Reconciliation

The City could not provide a reconciled open item listing of guaranteed deposits on hand as of December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2008 for their Building Bond Fund and Sidewalk Bond Fund. This was due to the fact that no reconciliation is done between the system fund balances for these funds and any guaranteed deposits on hand.

By not performing a reconciliation of system fund balances to guaranteed deposits on hand, the City has an increased fraud risk over their building and sidewalk deposit collections. With no reconciliation, overpayments or unauthorized payments could occur without being detected.

We also noted that any fees which are withheld from the refunding of deposits are not being remitted to the City's General Fund. These fees are remaining in the Building Bond Agency Fund and Sidewalk Bond Agency Fund. At December 31, 2008, the Building Bond Fund and Sidewalk Bond Fund had total combined fund balances of \$221,395. Since the City does not perform a reconciliation, the City cannot identify how much of this total balance belongs to their General Fund as operating monies, and how much actually belongs in their Building Bond Fund and Sidewalk Bond Fund to cover any outstanding guaranteed deposits.

We recommend the City establish proper reconciliation controls over their Building Bond Agency Fund and Sidewalk Bond Agency Fund. Any discrepancies should be investigated and resolved. Any unclaimed funds within these Agency funds in excess of five years should be remitted to the General Fund. Also, any inspection fees issued by the City should be remitted to the City's General Fund so that these monies may be appropriated and used for City operations.

Officials' Response: The Director of Finance and the Assistant Building Commissioner need to work in collaboration to develop a reconciliation method between the building department software and the finance department software. Once that reconciliation method is developed, then the ongoing Fund Balance as accumulated from years past needs to be reviewed to determine the source of the deposit and the action needed to address it.

**CITY OR RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2006-001	ORC Section 5705.39 – Appropriations Exceeding Estimated Resources	No	Repeated – See Finding 2008-004
2006-002	ORC Section 5705.41(D)(1) – Proper Encumbering	No	Partially Corrected – Reported in Management Letter
2006-003	ORC Section 5705.14 – Transfers	No	Repeated – See Finding 2008-002
2006-004	Cash Management	No	Repeated – See Finding 2008-009
2006-005	Fire Fighter Vacation Time	Yes	Corrected

This Page is Intentionally Left Blank.



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS

CUYAHOGA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
DECEMBER 2, 2010**