# CAPITOL CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Report to the Board of Directors

For the Year Ended June 30, 2015





Sacramento

Walnut Creek

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Los Angeles

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To the Board of Directors of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority Oakland, CA

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (Authority) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given those limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

We have included in this letter a summary of communications with the Board of Directors as required by professional auditing standards. We would also like to thank the Authority's management and staff for the courtesy and cooperation extended to us during the course of our engagement.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, Board of Directors, and others within the organization, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Oakland, California February 10, 2016

Macias Gini & O'Connell LAP

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#### **REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS**

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (the "Authority") for the year ended June 30, 2015. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated October 21, 2015. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

## **Significant Audit Findings**

### Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 2 to the basic financial statements. As described in Note 2 to the basic financial statements, the Authority adopted the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 69, *Government Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations*.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the basic financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the basic financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the Authority's basic financial statements were:

Management's useful life estimates for capital assets are based on the economic life of the assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the useful life estimates for capital assets in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the basic financial statements have been noted above.

The basic financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

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#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the basic financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

## Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated February 10, 2016.

## Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Authority's basic financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### **Other Matters**

We applied certain limited procedures on Management's Discussion and Analysis, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.