

REPORT TO THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

AUDIT WRAP UP: YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023



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FULL REPORT

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The following communication was prepared as part of our audit, has consequential limitations, and is intended solely for the information and use of those charged with governance (e.g., Borough Assembly) and, if appropriate, management of the Borough, and is not intended and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Welcome

December 22, 2023

Honorable Mayor and Members of the Borough Assembly
Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska

Professional standards require us to communicate with you regarding matters related to the audit, that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. On July 31, 2023, we presented an overview of our plan for the audit of the financial statements, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and Schedule of State Financial Assistance, of Kenai Peninsula Borough (the Borough) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, including a summary of our overall objectives for the audit, and the nature, scope, and timing of the planned audit work.

This communication is intended to elaborate on the significant findings from our audit, including our views on the qualitative aspects of the Borough's accounting practices and policies, management's judgments and estimates, financial statement disclosures, and other required matters.

We are pleased to be of service to the Borough and look forward to meeting with you on January 2, 2024 to discuss our audit findings, as well as other matters that may be of interest to you, and to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully,

BDO USA

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Executive Summary

Status of Our Audit

We have completed our audit of the financial statements, federal and state awards as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023. Our audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* (GAS) issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. This audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

- ▶ The objective of our audit was to obtain reasonable - not absolute - assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements.
- ▶ The scope of the work performed was substantially the same as that described to you in our earlier Audit Planning communications.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and released our report on December 22, 2023.
- ▶ We have issued our report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the Borough's Single Audit Report, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) and Schedule of State Financial Assistance (SSFA), and released our report dated December 22, 2023.





Status of Our Audit, continued

- ▶ In planning and performing our audit of the SEFA and SSFA, we considered the Borough's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal and state programs to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with GAS, Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and the State of Alaska Audit Guide and Compliance Supplement for State Single Audits (State Audit Guide), but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance.
- ▶ Our responsibility for other information in documents containing the Borough's audited financial statements (e.g., budgetary comparisons, schedules of pension and OPEB amounts) does not extend beyond the financial information identified in the audit report, and we are not required to perform procedures to corroborate such other information. However, in accordance with professional standards, we have read the information included by the Borough and considered whether such information, or the manner of its presentation, was materially inconsistent with its presentation in the financial statements. Our responsibility also includes calling to management's attention any information that we believe is a material misstatement of fact. We have not identified any material inconsistencies or concluded there are any material misstatements of facts in the other information that management has chosen not to correct.
- ▶ All records and information requested by BDO were freely available for our inspection.
- ▶ Management's cooperation was excellent. We received full access to all information that we requested while performing our audit, and we acknowledge the full cooperation extended to us by all levels of Borough personnel throughout the course of our work.

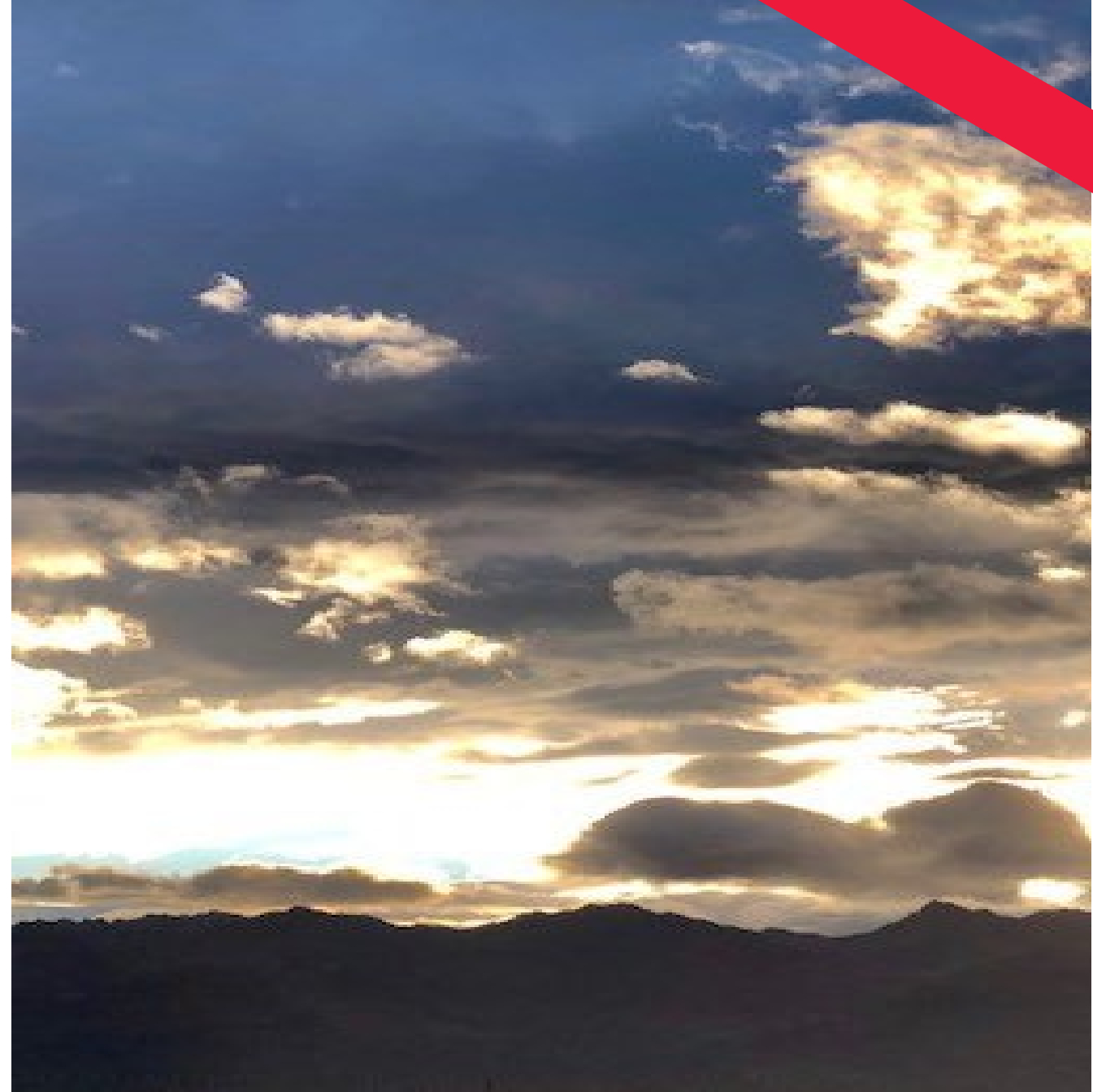
Results of the Audit

ACCOUNTING PRACTICES AND POLICIES

The following summarizes the more significant required communications related to our audit concerning the Borough's accounting practices, policies, and estimates:

The Borough's significant accounting practices and policies are those included in Note 1 to the financial statements. These accounting practices and policies are appropriate, comply with the applicable financial reporting framework and industry practice, were consistently applied, and are adequately described within Note 1 to the financial statements.

- ▶ A summary of recently issued accounting pronouncements is included in Note N to the Borough's financial statements.
- ▶ GASB 96 Implementation - The Borough adopted GASB 96 - Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) - Effective for the year-ended June 30, 2023. This statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users. This statement, among other things, defines a SBITAs, establishes results in a right-to-use subscription asset (an intangible asset) and a corresponding subscription liability, provides capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, and requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA.
- ▶ There were no other changes in significant accounting policies and practices during 2023.



Results of the Audit

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

Significant estimates are those that require management's most difficult, subjective, or complex judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates about the effects of matters that are inherently uncertain. There are no significant estimates identified as applicable to 2023.

- ▶ The Borough's other accounting estimates, including a description of management's processes and significant assumptions used in development of the estimates, are disclosed in Note 1 of the financial statements.
- ▶ The Borough changed the process for estimation of sales tax receivables during 2023. The Borough historically has calculated the amount of sales tax receivable by using the percentage of receipts as of a date in July or August from the prior year then extrapolating the remainder of the 60-day receivable based on the remaining prorated percentage received in the prior year. Due to the COVID-19 and economic factors the Borough has changed their methodology to calculate sales tax receivable based on actuals for the 60-day period.
- ▶ Management did not make any significant changes to the processes or significant assumptions used to develop the significant accounting estimates in 2023.

Accounting Estimates

Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts - Several of the Borough's accounts receivable are from granting agencies; these are considered by management to be 100% collectible. Customer accounts receivables, including amounts due related to taxes, assessments, interest income, and various user charges are reviewed by management periodically to determine a reasonable amount of allowance, based on known factors, past history, and age of the outstanding amount.

Net Pension/OPEB Liabilities - The net pension/ OPEB liabilities and related deferred inflow and outflows of resources are estimated based on actuarial and other actual contribution data provided by the Borough by the PERS Plan Administrator.

Closure and Post Closure Obligations - Accounting rules prescribe that the Borough record the ultimate cost of closure and monitoring as the landfill is being filled. The Borough has estimated the cost of closure and monitoring material and supplies to cap and close, the cost of ongoing monitoring. This amount has been reported on the statement of net assets.

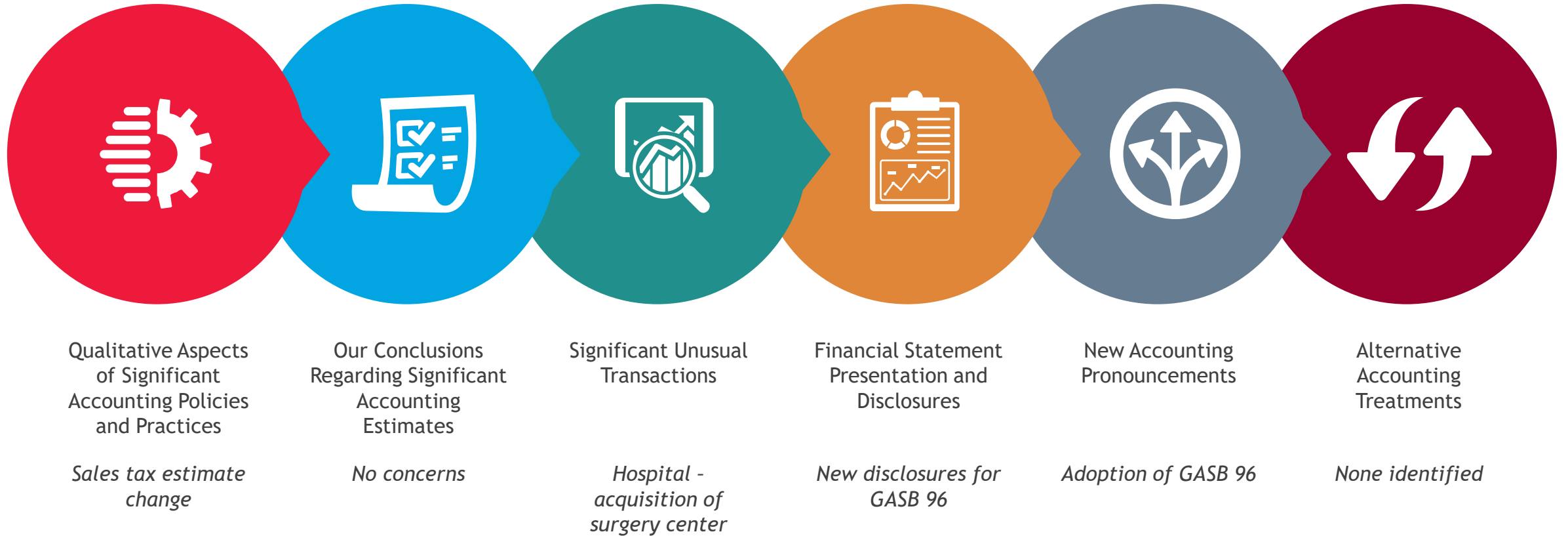
Insurance Claims Reserve - The Borough is self-insured for property/casualty, workers' compensation, and health insurance. Claims payable and IBNR are based on estimates of claims incurred.

Discount Rate - The Borough is determining discount rate based on lessee or lessor relationship as well as length of agreement for calculations related to leases receivable and payable and SBITA's.

Results of the Audit

QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF THE BOROUGH'S FINANCIAL REPORTING

A discussion will be held regarding the quality of the Borough's financial reporting, which included:



Results of the Audit

CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

There were no corrected misstatements for the Borough, other than those that were clearly trivial, related to accounts and/or disclosures that we brought to the attention of management.

There were no uncorrected misstatements for the Borough, other than those that were clearly trivial, related to accounts and/or disclosures that we presented to management.

GROUP AUDIT

The audit of the Borough requires the inclusion of financial information for all components of the reporting entity. The reporting entity is comprised of the Borough and its “component unit” as defined by GAAP. This collection of individual reporting entities comprise the “Group”. Our audit is considered the “Group” Audit.

Included in the Borough’s audit is the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, Central Peninsula General Hospital and South Peninsula Hospital. All of these audits were performed by BDO. Where relevant, we have included information in this report as it related to the component units.

South Peninsula Hospital -

- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and released our report on November 21, 2023.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the Hospital's Single Audit Report, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA), and released our report dated November 21, 2023.



Results of the Audit

Central Peninsula General Hospital -

- ▶ Significant item: Central Peninsula General Hospital acquired a surgery center in Kenai in fiscal year 2023. The Hospital hired an expert to perform a valuation of the assets acquired for proper allocation of the purchase price into capital assets and goodwill.
- ▶ Uncorrected disclosure: There were some leases added in 2023 that related to 2022. The total of these leases in capital assets at June 30, \$1,154,617, less amortization of \$151,472. Total value of the lease payable at June 30, 2022, was \$1,042,762. The difference would be to 2022 net position of \$39,617. These were run through as additions on the capital assets footnote, long-term liabilities footnote, and the cash flow for 2023, overstating these items. In addition, the 2022 balances for capital assets and lease liabilities were understated.
- ▶ There were two corrected misstatements. First, an entry for \$274,205 to reclass balances from construction in progress accounts to receivables as these were related to intergovernmental balances with the Borough at year end. This also included an adjustment to SBITA Workday which has been adjusted due to identified charges that should have been included in the Lease Asset. Second, adjustments related to the recording of GASB 96 assets and liabilities were recorded, although BDO provided technical assistance in this area.
- ▶ There were two significant deficiencies reported to the Hospital: (1) accounting for significant and unusual transactions related to the acquisition and adoption of GASB 96 and GASB 87 (second year). (2) Internal control over payroll rates for the major program tested as part of the state single audit.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and released our report on December 21, 2023.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the Hospital's Single Audit Report, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) and Schedule of State Financial Assistance (SSFA), and released our report dated December 21, 2023.

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District -

- ▶ There were no audit adjustments and no uncorrected misstatements noted.
- ▶ There were two control deficiencies reported to the District associated with Super Users and Access Review.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and released our report on October 31, 2023.
- ▶ We have issued an unmodified opinion on the District's Single Audit Report, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) and Schedule of State Financial Assistance (SSFA), and released our report dated October 31, 2023.



Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Borough’s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion(s) on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Borough’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Borough’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

We are required to communicate, in writing, to those charged with governance all material weaknesses and significant deficiencies that have been identified in the Borough’s internal control over financial reporting. The definitions of control deficiency, significant deficiency and material weakness follow:

Category	Definition
Control Deficiency	A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting 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.
Significant Deficiency	A deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.
Material Weakness	A deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Company’s financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

In conjunction with our audit of the financial statements, we noted no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In conjunction with our audit of the financial statements, we noted no material weaknesses.

- ▶ We have communicated to management of the Borough control deficiencies and provided suggestions for improvement of those deficiencies that were identified as a result of our audit that we did not consider to be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies.

Control Deficiency	Comments
Superuser Risk	The Finance Director and Controller both have administrative access to the financial accounting systems (Innoprise, CitySuite). The Borough should continue audit trail reporting and monitoring to ensure controls over this authority and access.

Recommendation	Comments
Landfill	We recommend the Borough undergo an updated landfill assessment for the fiscal year 2024 audit, as the last landfill post-closure study was done in 2015. The Borough has communicated they will be undergoing a new landfill study in 2024.



Additional Required Communications

Other Required Communications

Following is a summary of other required items, along with specific discussion points as they pertain to the Borough:

Requirement	Discussion Point
Significant changes to planned audit strategy or significant risks initially identified	There were no significant changes to the planned audit strategy or significant risks initially identified and previously communicated to those charged with governance as part of our Audit Planning communications.
Obtain information from those charged with governance relevant to the audit	There were no matters noted relevant to the audit, including, but not limited to: violations or possible violations of laws or regulations; risk of material misstatements, including fraud risks; or tips or complaints regarding the Company's financial reporting that we were made aware of as a result of our inquiry of those charged with governance.
Nature and extent of specialized skills or knowledge needed related to significant risks	There were no specialized skills or knowledge needed, outside of the core engagement team, to perform the planned audit procedures or evaluate audit results related to significant risks.
Consultations with other accountants	We are not aware of any consultations about accounting or auditing matters between management and other independent public accountants. Nor are we aware of opinions obtained by management from other independent public accountants on the application of requirements of an applicable financial reporting framework.
Significant findings and issues arising during the audit in connection with the Borough's related parties	We have evaluated whether the identified related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately identified, accounted for, and disclosed and whether the effects of the related party relationships and transactions, based on the audit evidence obtained, prevent the financial statements from achieving fair presentation.
Significant findings or issues arising during the audit that were discussed, or were the subject of correspondence, with management	There were no significant findings or issues arising during the audit that were discussed, or were the subject of correspondence, with management.

Other Required Communications

Following is a summary of other required items, along with specific discussion points as they pertain to the Company:

Requirement	Discussion Point
Disagreements with management	There were no disagreements with management about matters, whether or not satisfactorily resolved, that individually or in aggregate could be significant to the Borough's financial statements or to our auditor's report.
Significant difficulties encountered during the audit	There were no significant difficulties encountered during the audit. There were delays associated with the audit of Central Peninsula General Hospital that prevented the Borough from issuing their financial statements in planned timeframes.
Matters that are difficult or contentious for which the auditor consulted outside the engagement team	There were no difficult or contentious matters that we consulted with others outside the engagement team that we reasonably determined to be relevant to those charged with governance regarding their oversight of the financial reporting process.
Representations requested from management	Please refer to the management representation letter.

Independence

Our engagement letter to you dated July 18, 2023, describes our responsibilities in accordance with professional standards and certain regulatory authorities and *Government Auditing Standards* with regard to independence and the performance of our services. This letter also stipulates the responsibilities of the Borough with respect to independence as agreed to by the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Please refer to that letter for further information.



Attachment

Please refer to the Representation Letter attached for further information.





Appendix



Finance Department

144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 714-2170 • (907) 714-2376 Fax

Peter A. Micciche
Borough Mayor

December 22, 2023

BDO USA, P.C.
3601 C Street, Suite 600
Anchorage AK, 99503
Ladies and gentlemen:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit(s) of the financial statements of Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska (the Borough), which comprise the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We confirm that we are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation in the financial statements of financial position, changes in net position, and cash flows in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of the date of this representation letter, as entered on the first page, the following representations made to you during your audit(s):

- (1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated July 18, 2023, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- (2) We have fulfilled our responsibility, as set out in the terms of the aforementioned audit engagement letter, for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- (3) The financial statements include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required to be included in the financial

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reporting entity by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. All funds required to be presented as major funds are identified and presented as such.

- (4) We have made available to you:
- (a) All financial records, and related data and federal and state awards (including amendments, if any, and any other correspondence with federal and state agencies or pass-through entities relevant to federal programs and related activities), including the names of all related parties and all relationships and transactions with related parties, as agreed upon in the terms of the aforementioned audit engagement letter.
 - (b) All additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - (c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - (d) Minutes of the meetings of the Borough that were held from July 1, 2022 to the date of this letter, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- (5) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with or deficiencies in financial reporting practices.
- (6) There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements or schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) or schedule of state financial assistance (SSFA). There are no corrected or uncorrected financial statement misstatements relating to accounts and disclosures identified.
- (7) You have identified and discussed with us in the course of the audit the deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting listed immediately below:

Control Deficiencies Other Than Material Weaknesses or Significant Deficiencies
Superuser risk: The Finance Director and Controller both have administrative access to the financial accounting systems (Innoprise, CitySuite). The Borough should continue audit trail reporting and monitoring to ensure controls over this authority and access.

- (8) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud or noncompliance. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud or noncompliance. We have no knowledge of any:
- (a) Fraud or suspected fraud involving management or involving employees who have significant roles in internal control, whether or not perceived to have a material effect on the financial statements.
 - (b) Fraud or suspected fraud involving others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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- (c) Allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Government received in communications from employees, former employees, regulatory agencies, law firms, predecessor accounting firms, or others.
 - (d) Instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- (9) We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.
- (10) The following, where applicable and material, have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements:
- (a) The identity of all related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including revenues, expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties.
 - (b) Arrangements with financial institutions involving compensating balances or other arrangements involving restrictions on cash balances and line-of-credit or similar arrangements.
 - (c) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Borough is contingently liable.
 - (d) Significant estimates and material concentrations known to management that are required to be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In that regard, all accounting estimates that could be material to the financial statements, including key factors and significant assumptions underlying those estimates, have been identified, and we believe the estimates are reasonable in the circumstances. The methods, significant assumptions, and the data used in making the accounting estimates and the related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement, and disclosure that is in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
 - (e) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, including:
 - Pending or anticipated tax refunds, other potential or pending claims, lawsuits by or against any branch of government or others;
 - Written or oral guarantees, endorsements, or unused letters of credit;
 - Unusual guarantees; or
 - Labor claims or negotiations.

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Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require loss contingencies to be accrued if it is probable an asset has been impaired or a liability incurred at the statement of financial position date and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. Such contingencies must be disclosed, but may not be accrued, if the loss is reasonably possible (but not probable) or the loss is probable but the amount of loss cannot be reasonably estimated.

(f) Commitments, such as:

- Major capital asset purchase agreements;
- More-than-one-year employment arrangements or contracts with suppliers or customers, or one-year-or-longer term leases;
- Deferred compensation, bonuses, pensions plans, or severance pay; or
- Pending sale or merger of all or a portion of the business or of an interest therein or acquisition of all or a portion of the business, assets or securities of another entity;

(g) Joint ventures or other participations, the detailed transactions of which are not carried on our books.

(11) There are no:

- (a) Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws or regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects could be material to the financial statements whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency.
- (b) Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- (c) Side agreements or other arrangements (either written or oral) that have not been disclosed to you.
- (d) Restrictions of net position that were not properly authorized and approved, or reclassifications of net position that have not been properly reflected in the financial statements.

(12) Receivables recorded in the financial statements represent valid claims against debtors for transactions arising on or before the statement of financial position date and have been appropriately reduced to their estimated net realizable value.

(13) The Borough has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

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- (14) We have appropriately disclosed the Borough's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- (15) We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements, including debt covenants, that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance. We have also complied with the SEC disclosure rules for reporting annual financial information and material events to repositories in accordance with SEC Rule N.240, 15c2-12.
- (16) No discussions have taken place with your firm's personnel regarding employment with the Borough.
- (17) We are responsible for compliance with laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us and we have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts.
- (18) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- (19) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, contributions, and general revenues. Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- (20) In regards to the preparation of the financial statements and related footnote disclosures, preparation of the GASB 68/75 entries and related footnote disclosures, and the preparation of the require Form SF - SAC Data Collection Form, performed by you, we have: (1) assumed all management responsibilities, (2) designated an individual (within senior management) with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services, (3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and (4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.
- (21) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the supplementary information in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America and we believe it is fairly presented. The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information have not changed from the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
- (22) Required supplementary information is measured and presented in accordance with prescribed guidelines.
- (23) An actuary has been used to measure pension and other postretirement liabilities and costs, and there is involvement with a multiemployer plan (State of Alaska PERS). A specialist was used to assist in the determination of landfill and IBRN estimates. Regarding the use of these specialists, we agree with the findings of specialists in evaluating the pension, OPEB, landfill and IBNR estimates and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialist in

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determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

(24) With respect to federal and state award programs:

- (a) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with, the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), and the *State of Alaska Audit Guide and Compliance Supplement for the State Single Audits* (State Audit Guide) including requirements relating to the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) and schedule of state financial assistance (SSFA).
- (b) We have, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, identified and disclosed to you in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) and the schedule of state financial assistance (SSFA), expenditures made during the audit period for all government programs and related activities provided by federal and state agencies in the form of federal and state awards, grants, federal cost-reimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.
- (c) We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the SEFA and SSFA related notes in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance, and we believe the SEFA and SSFA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and State Audit Guide. The methods of measurement or presentation of the SEFA and SSFA have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the SEFA and SSFA.
- (d) We have notified you of federal awards and funding increments that were received for awards received before December 26, 2014, and differentiated those awards from awards received on or after December 26, 2014, and subject to the audit requirements of the Uniform Guidance.
- (e) We will include the auditor's report on the SEFA and SSFA in any document that contains the SEFA and SSFA, and that indicates you have reported on such information.
- (f) If the SEFA and SSFA is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the SEFA no later than the date we issue the SEFA and the auditor's report thereon.
- (g) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with in all material respects, the requirements of federal and state statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal and state awards related to each of our federal and state programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of federal and state statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions considered to have a direct and material effect on each federal and state program.

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- (h) We are responsible for establishing and maintaining, and have established and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal and state programs that provides reasonable assurance that we are managing our federal and state awards in compliance with federal and state statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions that could have a material effect on our federal and state programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended. Also, subsequent to the date of the auditor's report as of which compliance was audited, no changes have occurred in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance as reported in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- (i) We have made available to you all federal and state award contracts and grant agreements (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal and state agencies or pass-through entities relating to each major federal and state program and related activities that have taken place with federal and state agencies or pass-through entities.
- (j) We have received no requests from a federal or state agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- (k) We have complied, in all material respects, with the direct and material compliance requirements, including when applicable, those set forth in the *OMB Compliance Supplement and State Audit Guide*, relating to federal and state awards and have identified and disclosed to you all amounts questioned and all known noncompliance with the direct and material requirements of federal and state awards, including the results of other audits or program reviews. We also know of no instances of noncompliance occurring subsequent to the end of the period audited.
- (l) We have disclosed to you any communications from federal and state awarding agencies and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditor's report.
- (m) Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in the Uniform Guidance and the State Audit Guide.
- (n) We have disclosed to you our interpretations of compliance requirements that are subject to varying interpretations, if any.
- (o) We have made available to you all documentation related to compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal and state program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.
- (p) We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence with respect to conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period that affect noncompliance during the reporting period.

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- (q) Federal and state program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the basic financial statements have been prepared, and are prepared on a basis consistent with the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) and the schedule of state financial assistance (SSFA).
 - (r) The copies of federal and state program financial reports provided to you are true copies of the reports submitted or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
 - (s) We have monitored subrecipients, as necessary, to determine that they have expended subawards in compliance with applicable federal statutes, regulations and terms and conditions of the subaward and have met other pass-through entity requirements of the Uniform Guidance and State Audit Guide.
 - (t) We have considered the results of subrecipients' audits and have made any necessary adjustments to our books and records.
 - (u) We have charged costs to federal and state awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
 - (v) We are responsible for, and have accurately completed, the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance. The final version of the applicable audit reporting package, which includes your signed auditor's reports, that we will submit to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) will be identical to the final version of such documents that you provided to us.
 - (w) We have identified and disclosed to you the findings received and related corrective actions taken for previous audits, attestation engagements, internal or external monitoring, and other studies directly related to the audit objectives of the compliance audit, including findings received and corrective actions taken from the end of the audit period covered by the compliance audit report to the date of the auditor's report.
 - (x) We are responsible for and have ensured the reporting package does not contain protected personally identifiable information.
- (25) There have been no known or suspected breaches of sensitive information (e.g., personnel files) caused by cyber-attack or other means, or other cybersecurity incidents, where the breach or other incident could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- (26) In connection with any electronic presentation of the financial statements and your audit report thereon on our web site, we acknowledge that:
- We are responsible for the preparation, presentation, and content of the financial statements in the electronic format.
 - If your audit report is presented on our web site, the full financial statements upon which you reported and to which you appended your signed report will be presented.
 - We will clearly indicate in the electronic presentation on our web site the financial information that is subject to your audit report. We will clearly differentiate any

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information that may also be presented by us on or in connection with our web site that was contained in the published version of the financial statements and other supplementary information, but which is not part of the audited financial statements or other financial information covered by your audit report.

- We have assessed the security over financial statement information and the audit report presented on our web site, and are satisfied that procedures in place are adequate to ensure the integrity of the information provided. We understand the risk of potential misrepresentation inherent in publishing financial information on our web site through internal failure or external manipulation.
- If the electronic financial statements are generally made available to the public on our web site, we will include a notification to the reader that such financial statements are presented for convenience and information purposes only, and while reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the integrity of such information, they should not be relied on. A copy of the printed financial statements will be provided on request.

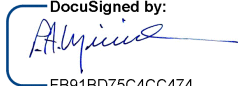
(27) Our annual report comprises the following documents: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

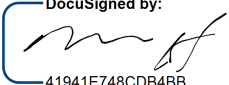
Such documents are consistent with the financial statements, and do not contain any material misstatements. The final version of the documents that comprise the annual report will be provided to you when available, and prior to our issuance of the documents to any third parties.


(28) We have considered climate-related events and conditions when preparing the financial statements and necessary disclosures, and have communicated to you such matters, if any, and their impact on our financial reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, no events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the statement of financial position date and through the date of this representation letter, as entered on the first page, that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs,

Very truly yours,

DocuSigned by:

12/22/2023
FB91BD75C4CC474...
Peter Micciche, Borough Mayor

DocuSigned by:

12/22/2023
41941E748CDB4BB
Brandi Harbaugh, Finance Director



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