

REQUIRED COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

To the Board of Trustees
City of Roanoke Pension Plan
Roanoke, Virginia

We have audited the financial statements of the City of Roanoke Pension Plan (the “Plan”) for the year ended June 30, 2022. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government 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 March 28, 2022. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Plan are described in Note B to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2022. We noted no transactions entered into by the Plan 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 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 financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the Plan’s financial statements were:

- Management’s estimate of the disclosed net pension liability, which is based on actuarial calculations and a variety of assumptions, is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
- Estimates of the fair value of certain investments.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most important disclosures affecting the financial statements include those regarding assumptions and estimates used by actuaries and those related to investments, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Significant Audit Matters (Continued)

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

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. There were no corrected or uncorrected misstatements noted.

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 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 December 16, 2022, a copy of which is attached.

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 Plan's 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 Plan'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 to the required supplementary information (RSI), as listed in the table of contents, which supplement 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.

Other Matters (Continued)

We were engaged to report on the Schedule of Investment Expenses, Schedule of Administrative Expenses, Schedule of Payments for Professional Services, and certain schedules within the Investment Section (Summary of Investments, Schedule of Portfolio Holdings, Schedule of Fees and Commissions, and Schedule of Brokerage Fees), which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the introductory section, the remainder of the investment section, the actuarial section, and the statistical section, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Restriction on Use

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

Brown, Edwards & Company, L.L.P.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Roanoke, Virginia
December 16, 2022



RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATION

Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building
215 Church Avenue, SW, Room 465
Roanoke, Virginia 24011
540.853.2062 fax: 540.853.6142

December 16, 2022

Brown, Edwards & Company, L.L.P.
Certified Public Accountants
3906 Electric Road
Roanoke, Virginia 24018

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the City of Roanoke Pension Plan (the "Plan"), which comprise the statement of fiduciary net position of the Plan as of June 30, 2022 and the statement of changes in fiduciary net position 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 accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

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 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. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of December 16, 2022, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated March 28, 2022, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility 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.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 7) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 8) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the entity is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.
- 9) We have provided the planning communication letter to all members of those charged with governance as requested.

Information Provided

- 10) We have provided you with:
 - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, and other matters and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
 - b) 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 or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 11) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 12) 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.
- 13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
 - a) Management,
 - b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control,
 - c) Service organizations used by the entity, or
 - d) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 15) We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or waste or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 16) We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- 17) We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Government – Specific

- 18) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 19) We have taken timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud, noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, or abuse that you have reported to us, if applicable.
- 20) We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations, if applicable.
- 21) We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 22) We have identified to you any investigations or legal proceedings that have been initiated with respect to the period under audit.
- 23) We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions, for the report, if applicable.
- 24) The Plan has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance or net position.
- 25) We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts; and legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 26) As applicable, we have identified and disclosed to you all instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws and regulations that we believe have a material effect on the financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, and any other instances that warrant the attention of those charged with governance.
- 27) As applicable, we have identified and disclosed to you all instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of noncompliance with provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.

Government – Specific (Continued)

- 28) As applicable, we have identified and disclosed to you all instances that have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of abuse that could be quantitatively or qualitatively material to the financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- 29) There are no violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.
- 30) The Plan 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.
- 31) The Plan has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 32) The financial statements include all component units, appropriately present majority equity interests in legally separate organizations and joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- 33) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities, in accordance with GASB Statement No. 34, as amended, and GASB Statement No. 84, as amended.
- 34) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 35) Investments, derivative instruments, and land and other real estate held by endowments are properly valued.
- 36) Provisions for uncollectible receivables have been properly identified and recorded.
- 37) Special and extraordinary items are appropriately classified and reported, if applicable.
- 38) Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- 39) We believe that the actuarial assumptions and methods used to measure pension liabilities and costs for financial accounting purposes are appropriate in the circumstances.
- 40) We have not completed the process of evaluating the impact that will result from adopting new Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) statements that are not yet effective, as discussed in the notes to financial statements. The entity is therefore unable to disclose the impact that adopting these statements will have on its financial position and the results of its operations when the statements are adopted.
- 41) We agree with the findings of specialists in evaluating the pension liability and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialist in 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.
- 42) We have appropriately disclosed the entity'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 is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- 43) We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- 44) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.

Government – Specific (Continued)

- 45) With respect to the supplementary information on which an in-relation-to opinion is issued.
- a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the supplementary information in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
 - b) If the supplementary information is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.
- 46) We have no knowledge of any omission from the participants' data provided to the Plan's actuary for the purpose of determining the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits and other actuarially determined amounts in the financial statements.
- 47) We acknowledge our estimate of the disclosed net pension liability, which is based on actuarial calculations and assumptions, as disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
- 48) We have no knowledge of any changes in:
- a) The actuarial methods or assumptions used in calculating amounts recorded or disclosed in the financial statements, except for those disclosed in the supplementary information.
 - b) Plan provisions between the actuarial valuation date and the date of this letter.
- 49) All required amendments to and filing of trust documents with the appropriate agencies have been made.
- 50) We have evaluated and classified subsequent events as recognized or not recognized through the date of this letter.
- 51) To the extent our normal procedures and controls related to our financial close or other reporting processes at any of our locations were adversely impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, we took appropriate actions and safeguards to reasonably ensure the fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 52) Other than as disclosed in the notes to the financial statements, no other impacts from the COVID-19 outbreak are necessary to be reflected in those financial statements.
- 53) Disclosures included in the financial statements regarding the relevant significant business, financial, and reporting impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak accurately reflect management's full consideration of such impacts.
- 54) We reaffirm the representations made to you in our letter dated January 3, 2022 regarding your audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

Signature:

Harold R. Harlow, Jr.

Title:

Acting Retirement Systems Manager