



December 12, 2017

To the Board of Directors
of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Menlo Park, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District (the “District”) for the year ended June 30, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, 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 May 15, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with 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 District are described in Note 1 to the basic financial statements. As described in Note 1 to the basic financial statements, the District changed the accounting policies related to the following:

GASB Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosure*. This Statement requires governments that enter into tax abatement agreements to disclose the following information about the agreements: 1) Brief descriptive information, such as the tax being abated, the authority under which tax abatements are provided, eligibility criteria, the mechanism by which taxes are abated, provisions for recapturing abated taxes, and the types of commitments made by tax abatement recipients. 2) The gross dollar amount of taxes abated during the period 3) Commitments made by a government, other than to abate taxes, as part of a tax abatement agreement. This statement did not have a significant impact on the District’s financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 78, *Pensions Provided through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans* (GASB 78). This Statement amends the scope and applicability of Statement 68 to exclude pensions provided to employees of state or local governmental employers through a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that (1) is not a state or local governmental pension plan, (2) is used to provide defined benefit pensions both to employees of state or local governmental employers and to employees of employers that are not state or local governmental employers, and (3) has no predominant state or local governmental employer (either individually or collectively with other state or local governmental employers that provide pensions through the pension plan). This Statement establishes requirements for recognition and measurement of pension expense, expenditures, and liabilities; note disclosures; and required supplementary information for pensions that have the characteristics described above. This statement did not have a significant impact on the District’s financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units* (GASB 80). The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by clarifying the financial statement presentation requirements for certain component units. This Statement amends the blending requirements for the financial statement presentation of component units of all state and local governments. The additional criterion requires blending of a component unit incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The additional criterion does not apply to component units included in the financial reporting entity pursuant to the provisions of Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units*. This statement did not have a significant impact on the District's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017.

GASB Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues* (GASB 82). The objective of this Statement is to address certain issues that have been raised with respect to Statements No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, and No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68*, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68. Specifically, this Statement addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. This statement did not have a significant impact on the District's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017.

No other new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2017. We noted no transactions entered into by the District 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 District's financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the depreciation on capital assets is based on the industry standard and past experience on actual useful life of the asset groups. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation on capital assets in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the annual other post employment benefit ("OPEB") cost is based on the actuarial valuation. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the annual OPEB cost in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the net pension liabilities is based on the actuarial valuation on total pension liability and based on audited financial statements on fiduciary net position for CalPERS plans. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net pension liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

To the Board of Directors
of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Menlo Park, California
Page 3

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were:

- Note 1 – Reporting Entity and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
- Note 8 – Pension Plans
- Note 10 – Other Post Employment Benefits
- Note 13 – Commitments and Contingencies

The 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.

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 each opinion unit's 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 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 12, 2017.

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 District'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.

To the Board of Directors
of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Menlo Park, California
Page 4

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 governmental unit'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 Management's Discussion and Analysis, Budgetary Comparison Schedules, Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule of the Contributions, and the Schedules of Funding Progress, which are required supplementary information ("RSI") that 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.

We were engaged to report on the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual, and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, 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 and Statistical Sections, 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 use of the Board of Directors and management of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The PwC Group, LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Walnut Creek, California