

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' COMMUNICATION WITH  
THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

TAMPA PORT AUTHORITY

September 30, 2019



To the Board of Commissioners  
Tampa Port Authority

We have audited the financial statements of the Tampa Port Authority (the "Authority"), for the year ended September 30, 2019 and issued our report thereon dated March 24, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our engagement letter to you dated November 1, 2019. Professional standards also 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 Tampa Port Authority are described in Note B to the financial statements. We noted no transactions entered into by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

The Authority adopted the following new accounting pronouncements during the year ended September 30, 2019:

*GASB Statement 88 Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, Including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements:* The effects of this pronouncement require the Authority to provide additional disclosures relating to the various debt of the Authority. This pronouncement did not have a material effect on the financial statements.

*GASB Statement 89, Accounting for Interest Costs Incurred Before the end of a Construction Period:* The effects of this pronouncement removed the requirement to capitalize interest costs incurred during a construction period. As such, the Authority did not capitalize interest related to its capital activities for the year ended September 30, 2019. The effects of which did not have a material effect on the financial statements.

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 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 financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the collectability of accounts and grants receivable is based on prior experience, historical collection trends and current and anticipated economic conditions. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the valuation estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the useful life of capital assets is based on historical experience, physical condition and external factors affecting future utility. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimated useful life in determining that the net book value of capital assets are 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. Significant disclosures were included in Note H - Long-Term Liabilities.

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

#### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

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

#### *Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. All misstatements identified as a result of audit procedures were corrected by management.

#### *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 March 24, 2020.

### *Management Consultations with Other Independent Auditors*

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 organization’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, the 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*

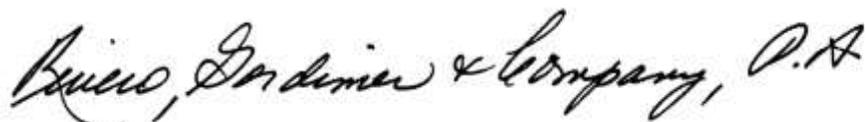
We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Tampa Port Authority’s auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our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

### *Other Matters*

We applied certain limited procedures to the Management’s Discussion and Analysis, the Schedule of Tampa Port Authority’s Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability for the Florida Retirement System and Health Insurance Subsidy Program, the Schedule of Tampa Port Authority’s Contributions for the Florida Retirement System and Health Insurance Subsidy Program, and the combining statement of cash flows for discretely presented component unit, which are 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.

We were engaged to report on Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance, which accompany the financial statements but is 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 State 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.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Commissioners of the Authority and management of Tampa Port Authority and is not intended to be and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Tampa, Florida  
March 24, 2020