

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
September 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors  
Tradition Community Development District 9  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

**Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Tradition Community Development District 9, ("District") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the District as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

**Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical

context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about 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 do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated June 21, 2024, on our consideration of the Tradition Community Development District 9's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, rules, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

### **Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

We have also issued our report dated June 21, 2024 on our consideration of the District's compliance with requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, as required by Rule 10.556(10) of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. The purpose of that report is to provide an opinion based on our examination conducted in accordance with attestation Standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

*DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.  
Fort Pierce, Florida  
June 21, 2024

## TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Tradition Community Development District 9 (the “District”) discussion and analysis is designed to (a) assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues, (b) provide an overview of the District’s financial activity and financial statements, (c) identify changes in the District’s financial position, (d) identify any material deviations from the District’s budget, and (e) identify individual fund issues or concerns.

Since the Management’s Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is designed to focus on the current year’s activities, resulting changes and currently known facts, please read it in conjunction with the Auditor’s Report (beginning on page 1) and the District’s financial statements (beginning on page 7.)

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Net position increased \$370,713 from prior year.
- Total costs of all programs were \$702,951 in 2023 compared to \$696,720 in 2022.
- At September 30, 2023, the District’s governmental funds reported combined ending fund balance of \$809,121.

### USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities (pages 7 & 8) provide information about the activities of the District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the District’s finances. Fund Financial Statements begin on page 9. For governmental activities, these Statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund Financial Statements also report the District’s operations in more detail by providing information about the District’s most significant funds.

### REPORTING THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Our analysis of the District as a whole begins on page 6. One of the most important questions asked about the District’s finances is, “Is the District as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year’s activities?” The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the District as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These Statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used in most private-sector companies. All of the current year’s revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two Statements report the District’s net position and changes in them. You can think of the District’s net position –the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure the District’s financial health, or financial position. Over time, *increases* or *decreases* in the District’s net position, is one indicator of whether its *financial* health is improving or deteriorating.

Statement of Net Position

	2023	2022
Current Assets	\$ 809,121	\$ 795,333
Capital Assets	15,972,561	16,020,561
Total Assets	16,781,682	16,815,894
Current Liabilities	628,408	642,668
Long-Term Liabilities	17,494,276	17,884,941
Total liabilities	18,122,684	18,527,609
Net Position		
Net Invested in Capital Assets	(1,901,715)	(2,239,380)
Restricted for Debt Service	560,464	541,187
Restricted for Capital Service	(3,821)	41
Unrestricted	4,070	(13,563)
Total net position	\$ (1,341,002)	\$ (1,711,715)

The District assets are made up of primarily capital assets of \$15,972,561 and liabilities are mainly long-term debt in the amount of \$17,494,276.

Governmental Activities

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the District has one activity. The changes in net position of governmental activities were \$370,713.

Change in Net Position

	2023	2022
Program Revenues	\$ 1,031,346	\$ 23,163
General Revenues	42,318	5,343
Total Revenues	1,073,664	28,506
Expenses		
General Government	113,623	119,150
Interest on Long-Term Debt	589,328	577,570
Total Expenses	702,951	696,720
Change in Net Position	370,713	(668,214)
Net position - Beginning of Year	(1,711,715)	(1,043,501)
Net position - End of Year	\$ (1,341,002)	\$ (1,711,715)

**FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Governmental funds – all of the District’s services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District’s general

government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps one determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs.

### Governmental Type Funds

As of year-end, the governmental funds (as presented on page 9) reported a fund balance of \$809,121 which represented an increase of \$31,251 from prior year.

## **CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

### Capital Assets

At September 30, 2023, the District had \$15,972,561 invested in Improvements other than buildings and construction in process. Construction in process has not completed as of September 30, 2023 and therefore is not depreciated to date. More detailed information about the District's capital assets is presented in the notes of the financial statements.

### Debt

At September 30, 2023, the District had \$17,874,276 Bonds outstanding for its governmental activities. More detailed information about the District's capital debt is presented in the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

## **ECONOMIC FACTORS, NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND OTHER INFORMATION**

For the fiscal year 2024, the District anticipates that the cost of general operations will remain fairly constant. In connection with the District's future infrastructure maintenance and replacement plan, the District Board has included in the budget, an estimate of those anticipated future costs and has assigned a portion of current available resources for that purpose.

## **CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens and members with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the District Finance Department at 2501A Burns Road, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410.

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

September 30, 2023

**ASSETS**

Cash	\$ 4,070
Restricted	
Investments	805,051
Capital Assets	
Depreciable	623,868
Non-depreciable	<u>15,348,693</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 16,781,682</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION**

**LIABILITIES**

Accrued Interest Payable	\$ 248,408
Bonds Payable, Due Within One Year	380,000
Bonds Payable, Due in More Than One Year	<u>17,494,276</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>18,122,684</u>

**NET POSITION**

Net Investment in Capital Assets	(1,901,715)
Restricted for	
Debt Service	560,464
Capital Projects	(3,821)
Unrestricted	<u>4,070</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u>\$ (1,341,002)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement



**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended September 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues	Net (Expense) Revenues and Changes in Net Position
		Operating Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities			
General Government	\$ 113,623	\$ 1,031,346	\$ 917,723
Interest on long-term debt	589,328	-	(589,328)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 702,951	\$ 1,031,346	\$ 328,395
General Revenues:			
Investment Earnings			28,310
Equity Transfer			14,008
Total General Revenues			42,318
Change in Net Position			370,713
Net Position - October 1, 2022			(1,711,715)
Net Position - September 30, 2023			\$ (1,341,002)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

September 30, 2023

	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>CAPITAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>FUND</u>	<u>PROJECTS</u>	<u>GOVERNMENTAL</u>
			<u>ACTIVITIES</u>
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>			
Cash	\$ 4,070	\$ -	\$ 4,070
Restricted			
Investments	-	805,051	805,051
Prepaid Items	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,070</u>	<u>\$ 805,051</u>	<u>\$ 809,121</u>
<b><u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</u></b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>			
Unassigned	4,070	-	4,070
Restricted			
Debt Service	-	808,872	808,872
Capital Projects	-	(3,821)	(3,821)
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	<u>4,070</u>	<u>805,051</u>	<u>809,121</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u>\$ 4,070</u>	<u>\$ 805,051</u>	<u>\$ 809,121</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**  
**RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES**  
**TO NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**  
September 30, 2023

Total Governmental Fund Balances in the Balance Sheet	\$	809,121
Amount reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:		
Capital asset used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds:		
Governmental capital assets		16,068,693
Less accumulated depreciation		(96,132)
Certain liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		
Accrued interest payable		(248,408)
Original issue premium		(494,276)
Governmental bonds payable		(17,380,000)
Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$</u>	<u>(1,341,002)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN**  
**FUND BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**Year Ended September 30, 2023**

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Developer Contributions	\$ -	\$ 1,345	\$ 1,345
On-Roll Assessments	65,815	964,186	1,030,001
Interest Income	3,433	24,877	28,310
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>69,248</u>	<u>990,408</u>	<u>1,059,656</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
General Government	65,623	-	65,623
Debt Service:			
Principal	-	375,000	375,000
Interest	-	601,790	601,790
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>65,623</u>	<u>976,790</u>	<u>1,042,413</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	3,625	13,618	17,243
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES):</b>			
Equity Transfer	14,008	-	14,008
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/(USES)</b>	<u>14,008</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,008</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES AND OTHER SOURCES (USES)</b>	17,633	13,618	31,251
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>			
Beginning of Year	(13,563)	791,433	777,870
End of Year	<u>\$ 4,070</u>	<u>\$ 805,051</u>	<u>\$ 809,121</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN**  
**FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**Year Ended September 30, 2023**

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$	31,251
Amount reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.		375,000
Certain items reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported expenditures in the governmental funds:		
Change in accrued interest payable		1,797
Current year provision for depreciation		(48,000)
Provision for amortization of bond premium		10,665
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$</u>	<u>370,713</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement

# TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Tradition Community Development District 9 (the “District”) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The District was formerly known as Westchester Community Development District 9 and lawfully changed its name to Tradition Community Development District 9 effective August 14, 2006. The following is a summary of the more significant policies:

#### Reporting Entity

The District is an independent unit of special-purpose local government of the State of Florida created by law and established in accordance with the Uniform Community Development District Act of 1980, Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, as amended by ordinance of St. Lucie County, Florida, effective on March 11, 2003 (date of inception) as amended. The Act provides for a five member Board of Supervisors to serve as the governing body of the District. The District has no component units. Its purpose is to manage and finance basic community development systems, facilities and services, including capital infrastructure.

#### Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements - Government-wide financial statements, including the statement of net position and statement of activities, present information about the District as a whole. These statements include the nonfiduciary financial activity of the primary government and its component units.

Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the District’s governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and are thereby clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues, with certain exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function or business segment is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the District.

The effects of interfund activity have been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

# TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Basis of Presentation (continued)

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District in the governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary funds. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is reported in a separate column. Non-major funds are aggregated and reported in a single column. Because the focus of governmental fund financial statements differs from the focus of government-wide financial statements, a reconciliation is presented with each of the governmental fund financial statements.

#### Major Governmental Fund Types

General Fund - The general fund is the general operating fund of the District. All general tax revenue and other receipts that are not allocated by law or contractual agreement to another fund are accounted for in this fund. The general operating expenditures, fixed charges and capital improvement costs that are not paid through other funds are paid from the general fund.

#### Assessments

Assessments are non-ad valorem assessments on benefited lands within the District. Assessments are levied to pay for the operations and maintenance of the District. The fiscal year for which annual assessments are levied begins on October 1 with discounts available for payments through February 28 and become delinquent on April 1. The District's annual assessments for operations are billed and collected by the County Tax Collector. The amounts remitted to the District are net of applicable discounts or fees and include interest on monies held from the day of collection to the day of distribution.

#### Equity Classifications

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report non spendable and restricted fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Assignments of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change. Under GASB 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, fund balances are required to be reported according to the following classifications:

Non-Spendable Fund Balance – Amounts that are (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. “Not in spendable form” includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash (such as inventories and prepaid amounts) and items such as long-term amount of loans and notes receivable, as well as property acquired for resale. The corpus (or principal) of a permanent fund is an example of an amount that is legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

# TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Equity Classifications (continued)

Restricted Fund Balance – Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes stipulated by (a) external resource providers such as creditors (by debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed Fund Balance – Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action (resolution) of the Board of Supervisors. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the Board of Supervisors taking the same formal action (resolution) that imposed the constraint originally. Resources accumulated pursuant to stabilization arrangements sometimes are reported in this category.

Assigned Fund Balance – Includes spendable fund balance amounts established by the Board of Supervisors that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted nor committed.

Unassigned Fund Balance – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

The District first uses committed fund balance, followed by assigned fund balance and then unassigned fund balance when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Florida Statutes require state and local governmental units to deposit monies with a financial institution classified as a “Qualified Public Depository,” which is a state insurance pool for banks and other financial institutions. The pool requires each bank to render as collateral a percentage of all state and local monies on deposit. Upon default of a particular financial institution within the pool, the pooled collateral is used to reinstate the state and local government deposits. This pool is additional insurance above the federal depository insurance. The District has cash deposits only with qualifying institutions as of September 30, 2023.

#### Deposits and Investments

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand and demand deposits (interest and non-interest bearing).



# TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Deposits and Investments (continued)

The District has elected to proceed under the Alternative Investment Guidelines as set forth in Section 218.415 (17) Florida Statutes. The District may invest any surplus public funds in the following:

- a) The Local Government Surplus Trust Funds, or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized pursuant to the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act;
- b) Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency;
- c) Interest bearing time deposits or savings accounts in qualified public depositories;
- d) Direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury.

Securities listed in paragraph c and d shall be invested to provide sufficient liquidity to pay obligations as they come due. In addition, surplus funds may be deposited into certificates of deposit which are insured.

The District records all interest revenue related to investment activities in the respective funds and reports investments at fair value.

#### Credit Risk:

Florida Statutes require the money market mutual funds held by the District to have the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency. The holdings are exempt from this requirement at September 30, 2023.

#### Interest Rate Risk:

Florida Statutes state that the investment portfolio be structured in such manner as to provide sufficient liquidity to pay obligations as they come due. All holdings are currently liquid.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk:

GASB 40 requires disclosure when investments are more than 5% in any one issuer. All investments held by the District are exempt from this requirement.

#### Custodial Credit Risk:

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At September 30, 2023, the District is exempt from this requirement.

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

**NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

Deposits and Investments (continued)

Fair Value Measurement - When applicable, the District measures and records its investments using fair value measurement guidelines established in accordance with GASB Statements. The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques.

These guidelines recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy, in order of highest priority, as follows:

- Level 1: Investments whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical investments in active markets that the District has the ability to access;
- Level 2: Investments whose inputs - other than quoted market prices - are observable either directly or indirectly; and,
- Level 3: Investments whose inputs are unobservable.

The fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the entire fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used should maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, sidewalks and similar items) are reported in the government activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 (amount not rounded) and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Property, plant and equipment of the District are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Improvements Other Than Buildings	15

# TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Unearned Revenue

Governmental funds report unearned revenue in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned.

#### Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the Bonds. Bonds payable are reported net of applicable premiums or discounts. Bond issuance costs are expensed when incurred.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

The statement of net position reports, as applicable, a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to future reporting period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. For example, the District would record deferred outflows of resources related to debit amounts resulting from current and advance refundings resulting in the defeasance of debt (i.e. when there are differences between the reacquisition price and the net carrying amount of the old debt).

The statement of net position reports, as applicable, a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to future reporting period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For example, when an asset is recorded in the governmental fund financial statements, but the revenue is not available, the District reports a deferred inflow of resources until such times as the revenue becomes available.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Management Company

The District has contracted with a management company to perform management advisory services, which include financial and accounting advisory services. Certain employees of the management company also serve as officers (Board appointed non-voting positions) of the District. Under the agreement, the District compensates the management company for management, accounting, financial reporting, and other administrative costs.

### NOTE B - BUDGETARY INFORMATION

The District is required to establish a budgetary system and an approved Annual Budget. Annual Budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

The District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements.

- a) Each year the District Manager submits to the District Board a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following October 1.
- b) Public hearings are conducted to obtain public comments.
- c) Prior to October 1, the budget is legally adopted by the District Board.
- d) All budget changes must be approved by the District Board.
- e) The budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.
- f) Unused appropriation for annually budgeted funds lapse at the end of the year.

### NOTE C – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

#### Deposits

The District's cash balances, including certificates of deposit, were entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by a collateral pool pledged to the State Treasurer. Florida Statutes Chapter 280, "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act", requires all qualified depositories to deposit with the Treasurer or another banking institution eligible collateral equal to various percentages of the average daily balance for each month of all public deposits in excess of any applicable deposit insurance held. The percentage of eligible collateral (generally, U.S. Governmental and agency securities, state or local government debt, or corporate bonds) to public deposits is dependent upon the depository's financial history and its compliance with Chapter 280. In the event of a failure of a qualified public depository, the remaining public depositories would be responsible for covering any resulting losses.

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

**NOTE C – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Investments**

The District’s investments were held as follows at September 30, 2023:

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Credit Risk</u>	<u>Maturities</u>
US Bank Money Market 5 - CT	\$ 805,051	N/A	N/A
Total Investments	<u>\$ 805,051</u>		

Custodial credit risk - For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of the investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no formal policy for custodial risk. The investments listed in the schedule above are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form.

Credit risk - For investments, credit risk is generally the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Investment ratings by investment type are included in the preceding summary of investments.

Concentration risk - The District places no limit on the amount the District may invest in any one issuer.

Interest rate risk - The District does not have a formal policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Fair Value Measurement - When applicable, the District measures and records its investments using fair value measurement guidelines established in accordance with GASB Statements. The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques.

These guidelines recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy, in order of highest priority, as follows:

- Level 1: Investments whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices for identical investments in active markets that the District has the ability to access;
- Level 2: Investments whose inputs - other than quoted market prices - are observable either directly or indirectly; and,
- Level 3: Investments whose inputs are unobservable.

The fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the entire fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used should maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

**NOTE D - CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>10/01/2022</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>09/30/2023</u>
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Construction in progress	\$ 15,348,693	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,348,693
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>15,348,693</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,348,693</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated				
Improvements Other Than Buildings	\$ 720,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 720,000
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	<u>720,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>720,000</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Improvements Other Than Buildings	48,132	48,000	-	96,132
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>48,132</u>	<u>48,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>96,132</u>
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated -Net	<u>671,868</u>	<u>(48,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>623,868</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets - Net	<u>\$ 16,020,561</u>	<u>\$ (48,000)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15,972,561</u>

Depreciation expense of \$48,000 was charged to general government.

**NOTE E – LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

**\$17,755,000 Special Assessment Bonds, Series 2021** – On July 27, 2021, the District issued \$17,755,000 Special Assessment Bonds, Series 2021. The Bonds were issued to finance the acquisition and construction of certain improvements for the benefit of the property within the District. The Bonds are payable in annual principal installments through May 2052. The bond bears interest ranging from 2.3% to 4.0% payable semi-annually on the first day of each May and November. Principal is due serially each May 1, commencing May 2023.

The Bond Indenture has certain restrictions and requirements relating principally to the use of proceeds to pay for the infrastructure improvements and the procedures to be followed by the District on assessments to property owners. The District agreed to levy special assessments in annual amounts adequate to provide payment of debt service and to meet the reserve requirements. The requirements have been met for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

September 30, 2023

**NOTE E – LONG-TERM LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)**

The following is a summary of activity in the long-term debt of the District for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	Balance 10/01/2022	Additions	Reductions	Balance 09/30/2023	Due Within One Year
Special Assessment					
Bonds, Series 2021	\$ 17,755,000	\$ -	\$ 375,000	\$ 17,380,000	\$ 380,000
	17,755,000	-	375,000	17,380,000	380,000
Unamortized bond premium	504,941	-	10,665	494,276	-
	<u>\$ 18,259,941</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 385,665</u>	<u>\$ 17,874,276</u>	<u>\$ 380,000</u>

The annual requirements to amortize the principal and interest of bonded debt outstanding as of September 30, 2023 are as follows:

September 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 380,000	\$ 597,478	\$ 977,478
2025	390,000	588,795	978,795
2026	400,000	579,940	979,940
2027	410,000	570,855	980,855
2028	420,000	560,720	980,720
2029-2033	2,290,000	2,628,274	4,918,274
2034-2038	2,655,000	2,279,875	4,934,875
2039-2043	3,095,000	1,859,975	4,954,975
2044-2048	3,750,000	1,252,100	5,002,100
2049-2052	3,590,000	275,000	3,865,000
	<u>\$ 17,380,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,193,012</u>	<u>\$ 28,573,012</u>

**NOTE F - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; natural disasters; and environmental remediation. The District has obtained commercial insurance from independent third parties to mitigate the costs of these risks; coverage may not extend to all situations. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage over the past three years. The District budgeted a deficit that would be funded from prior year surpluses of Tradition Community Development District 1 (TD 1). The Districts are bound by an Inter-Local agreement where revenues and expenses are received and paid out of TD1, and revenues and expenses are allocated out of TD1 to the other Districts, District 1 is the Administration District of the inter-local agreement. A reduction of available surplus would have a substantial effect on the District’s assessments.

**NOTE G – DEPENDENCY ON SUPPORT**

The District receives the majority of its funding from maintenance assessments paid by the developer, the loss of which could have a material adverse effect on the District operations.

**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES – BUDGET AND ACTUAL –**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**Year Ended September 30, 2023**

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Developer Contributions	\$ -	\$ 140,816	\$ -	\$ (140,816)
On-Roll Assessments	66,725	65,815	65,815	-
Other Income	-	13,262	-	(13,262)
Interest Income	-	3,416	3,433	17
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>66,725</u>	<u>223,309</u>	<u>69,248</u>	<u>(154,061)</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
General Government				
Administrative	36,053	45,435	38,873	6,562
Maintenance	30,672	26,750	26,750	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>66,725</u>	<u>72,185</u>	<u>65,623</u>	<u>6,562</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	-	151,124	3,625	(147,499)
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Equity Transfer	-	-	14,008	14,008
Surplus/(Deficit) (Notes to RSI)	-	(151,124)	-	151,124
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>(151,124)</u>	<u>14,008</u>	<u>165,132</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,633</u>	<u>\$ 17,633</u>



**TRADITION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 9**  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

The District is required to establish a budgetary system and an approved Annual Budget for the general fund. The District's budgeting process is based on estimates of cash receipts and cash expenditures which are approved by the Board. The budget approximates a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (generally accepted accounting principles).

An operating budget was adopted and maintained by the governing board for the District pursuant to the requirements of Florida Statutes. The budget is adopted using the same basis of accounting that is used in preparation of the fund financial statements. The legal level of budgetary control, the level at which expenditures may not exceed budget, is in the aggregate. Any budget amendments that increase the aggregate budgeted appropriations must be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Actual general fund expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

The variance between budgeted and actual general fund revenues is considered significant. The actual general fund expenditures for the current fiscal year were lower than budgeted amounts due primarily to anticipated costs which were not incurred in the current fiscal year.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S 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*

Board of Directors  
Tradition Community Development District 9  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

We have audited in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Tradition Community Development District 9, as of September 30, 2023 and for the year ended, which collectively comprise the Tradition Community Development District 9's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 21, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting.

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 misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a 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. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these 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.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Purpose of this Report

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.  
Fort Pierce, Florida  
June 21, 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
SECTION 218.415, FLORIDA STATUTES, REQUIRED BY RULE 10.556(10) OF THE  
AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Board of Directors  
Tradition Community Development District 9  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

We have examined the District's compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes with regards to the District's investments during the year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2023.

*DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

DiBartolomeo, McBee Hartley & Barnes, P.A.  
Fort Pierce, Florida  
June 21, 2024

Management Letter

Board of Directors  
Tradition Community Development District 9  
Port St. Lucie, Florida

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of the Tradition Community Development District 9 as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated June 21, 2024.

**Auditors' Responsibility**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

**Other Reporting Requirements**

We have issued our Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and Independent Accountants' Report on an examination conducted in accordance with AICPA Professional Standards, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those report, which are dated June 21, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

**Prior Audit Findings**

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no findings or recommendations made in the preceding annual audit report.

**Official Title and Legal Authority**

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The information required is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

## **Financial Condition and Management**

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the District. It is management's responsibility to monitor the District's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

## **Specific Information**

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, the Tradition Community Development District 9 reported:

- a. The total number of district employees compensated in the last pay period of the District's fiscal year as N/A.
- b. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the district's fiscal year as N/A.
- c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as N/A.
- d. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency as N/A.
- e. The District does not have any construction projects with a total cost of at least \$65,000 that are scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported.
- f. The District amended its final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes, as included on page 23.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)7, Rules of the Auditor General, the Tradition Community Development District 9 reported:

- a. The rate or rates of non-ad valorem special assessments imposed by the District range from \$559 to \$1,322 per residential unit.
- b. The total amount of special assessments collected by or on behalf of the District as \$1,030,001.
- c. The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the district as \$17,380,000.

**Additional Matters**

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

**Purpose of this Letter**

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of Supervisors, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes*

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes, P.A.  
Fort Pierce, Florida  
June 21, 2024