

# CITY OF WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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## MANAGEMENT LETTER



FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2022

475 Main Street  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
Phone: 630.293.2200  
Fax: 630.293.3028  
[www.westchicago.org](http://www.westchicago.org)



June 28, 2023

The Honorable City Mayor  
Members of the City Council  
City of West Chicago, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the City of West Chicago (City), Illinois, for the year ended December 31, 2022, we considered its internal control structure in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

We do not intend to imply that our audit failed to disclose commendable aspects of your system and structure. For your consideration, we herein submit our comments and suggestions which are designed to assist in effecting improvements in internal controls and procedures. Those less significant matters, if any, which arose during the course of the audit, were reviewed with management as the audit field work progressed.

The accompanying comments and recommendations are intended solely for the information and use of the Finance Committee, City Council, management, and others within the City of West Chicago, Illinois.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed many of these comments and suggestions with various City personnel. We would be pleased to discuss our comments and suggestions in further detail with you at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to review the procedures necessary to bring about desirable changes.

We commend the Administrative Services Department for the well-prepared audit package and we appreciate the courtesy and assistance given to us by the entire City staff.

*Lauterbach & Amen, LLP*

LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP

## CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1. **GASB STATEMENT NO. 94 PRIVATE-PUBLIC AND PUBLIC-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS AND AVAILABILITY PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

#### Comment

In March, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 94, Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements, which provides guidance regarding the information needs of financial statement users to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by improving the comparability of financial statements among governments that enter into public-private and public-public partnerships (PPPs) and availability payment arrangements (APAs) and by enhancing the understandability, reliability, relevance, and consistency of information about PPPs and APAs. GASB Statement No. 94, Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements is applicable to the City's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

#### Recommendation

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will work directly with the City to review the new criteria associated with PPPs and PPAs to determine the appropriate financial reporting for these activities under GASB Statement No. 94.

#### Management's Response

Management acknowledges this comment and, if applicable, will work to implement it by December 31, 2023, as required by GASB.

### 2. **GASB STATEMENT NO. 96 SUBSCRIPTION-BASED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ARRANGEMENTS**

#### Comment

In May 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, which provides guidance regarding the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) by governments. It establishes uniform accounting and financial reporting requirements for SBITAs, improves the comparability of financial statements among governments that have entered into SBITAs, and enhances the understandability, reliability, relevance, and consistency of information about SBITAs. GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements* is applicable to the City's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

#### Recommendation

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will work directly with the Village to review the new SBITA criteria in conjunction with the City's current arrangements to determine the appropriate financial reporting for these activities under GASB Statement No. 96.

#### Management's Response

Management acknowledges this comment and, if applicable, will work to implement it by December 31, 2023, as required by GASB.

## PRIOR RECOMMENDATION

### 1. GASB STATEMENT NO. 87 LEASES

#### Comment

In June 2017, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*, which provides guidance regarding the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 95, *Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance*, which was issued as temporary relieve to governments and other stakeholders in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases* is applicable to the City's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022.

#### Recommendation

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will work directly with the City to review the new lease criteria in conjunction with the City's current leases to determine the appropriate financial reporting for these activities under GASB Statement No. 87.

#### Status

As the City has no material leases, there was no impact on the financial statements in the current year, therefore this comment is considered implemented. The City and Lauterbach & Amen will continue to monitor leases in the future to determine if additional reporting is required. This comment is implemented and will not be repeated.