

**VERANO CENTER
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Supervisors
Verano Center Community Development District
City of Port St. Lucie, Florida

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St. Lucie, Florida ("District") as of and for the fiscal 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 the major fund of the District as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the fiscal 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 (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. 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

The District's 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 GAAS 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 GAAS, 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 Information Included in the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the other information included in the financial report. The other information comprises the information for compliance with FL Statute 218.39 (3) (c) but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 16, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 District's 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.



February 16, 2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Our discussion and analysis of Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St. Lucie, Florida ("District") provides a narrative overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the District's Independent Auditor's Report, basic financial statements, accompanying notes and supplementary information to the basic financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The assets of the District exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year resulting in a net position balance of \$9,771,666.
- The change in the District's total net position in comparison with the prior fiscal year was \$493, an increase. The key components of the District's net position and change in net position are reflected in the table in the government-wide financial analysis section.
- At September 30, 2023, the District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$963, an increase of \$493 in comparison with the prior fiscal year.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as the introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources with the residual amount being reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

The government-wide financial statements include all governmental activities that are principally supported by special assessment revenues. The District does not have any business-type activities. The governmental activities of the District include the general government (management) function.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District has one fund category: governmental funds.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a District's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the District's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains one governmental funds for external reporting. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the general fund, which is considered a major fund.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of an entity's financial position. In the case of the District, assets exceeded liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

Key components of the District's net position are reflected in the following table:

	NET POSITION	
	SEPTEMBER 30,	
	2023	2022
Current and other assets	\$ 963	\$ 470
Capital assets, net of depreciation	9,770,703	9,770,703
Total assets	9,771,666	9,771,173
Current liabilities	-	-
Total liabilities	-	-
Net position		
Investment in capital assets	9,770,703	9,770,703
Unrestricted	963	470
Total net position	\$ 9,771,666	\$ 9,771,173

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (Continued)

The District's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, land improvements, and infrastructure); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These assets are used to provide services to residents; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

The District's net position increased during the most recent fiscal year.

Key elements of the change in net position are reflected in the following table:

	CHANGES IN NET POSITION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30,	
	2023	2022
Revenues:		
Program revenues		
Charges for services	\$ 8,400	\$ 8,225
Total revenues	8,400	8,225
Expenses:		
General government	7,907	7,786
Total expenses	7,907	7,786
Change in net position	493	439
Net position - beginning	9,771,173	9,770,734
Net position - ending	\$ 9,771,666	\$ 9,771,173

As noted above and in the statement of activities, the cost of all governmental activities during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 was \$7,907. The costs of the District's activities were paid by program revenues.

GENERAL BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS

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 budgeted amounts, 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.

CAPITAL ASSETS

At September 30, 2023, the District had \$9,770,703 invested in capital assets for its governmental activities. More detailed information about the District's capital assets is presented in the notes of the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND OTHER EVENTS

For the subsequent fiscal year, the District anticipates conveying its capital assets to other entities for ownership and maintenance.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, land owners, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the financial resources it manages and the stewardship of the facilities it maintains. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Verano Center Community Development District's Finance Department at 5385 N. Nob Hill Road, Sunrise, Florida, 33351.

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 963
Capital assets	
Nondepreciable	9,770,703
Total assets	9,771,666
 LIABILITIES	
Total liabilities	-
 NET POSITION	
Investment in capital assets	9,770,703
Unrestricted	963
Total net position	\$ 9,771,666

See notes to the financial statements

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

<u>Functions/Programs</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>	<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Primary government:			
Governmental activities:			
General government	\$ 7,907	\$ 8,400	\$ 493
Total governmental activities	<u>7,907</u>	<u>8,400</u>	<u>493</u>
			<u>493</u>
			<u>9,771,173</u>
			<u>\$ 9,771,666</u>

See notes to the financial statements

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	Major Fund	Total
	General	Governmental Funds
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 963	\$ 963
Total assets	\$ 963	\$ 963
 LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Liabilities:	\$ -	\$ -
Total liabilities	-	-
 Fund balances:		
Unassigned		
General fund	963	963
Total fund balances	963	963
 Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 963	\$ 963

See notes to the financial statements

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

Fund balance - governmental funds	\$	963
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:</p> <p>Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in the governmental funds. The statement of net position includes those capital assets, net of any accumulated depreciation, in the net position of the government as a whole.</p>		
Cost of capital assets		9,770,703
Net position of governmental activities		\$ 9,771,666

See notes to the financial statements

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	Major Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	General	
REVENUES		
Assessments	\$ 8,400	\$ 8,400
Total revenues	8,400	8,400
EXPENDITURES		
Current:		
General government	7,907	7,907
Total expenditures	7,907	7,907
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	493	493
Fund balances - beginning	470	470
Fund balances - ending	\$ 963	\$ 963

See notes to the financial statements

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

NOTE 1 – NATURE OF ORGANIZATION AND REPORTING ENTITY

Verano Center Community Development District ("the District") (formerly Montage Reserve Center Community Development District prior to a name change on February 13, 2006) was created on April 25, 2005 pursuant to Ordinance No. 2005-17 enacted by the City Commission of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida, under the "Uniform Community Development District Act of 1980", otherwise known as Chapter 190, Florida Statutes. The Act provides among other things, the power to manage basic services for community development, power to borrow money and issue Bonds, and to levy and assess non-ad valorem assessments for the financing and delivery of capital infrastructure.

The District was established for the purposes of financing and managing the acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation of a portion of the infrastructure necessary for community development within the District.

The District is governed by the Board of Supervisors ("Board"), which is composed of five members. The Supervisors are elected by the owners of the property within the District. The Board of Supervisors of the District exercise all powers granted to the District pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes. Verano Development LLC ("Developer"), which is indirectly owned by Kolter Communities LLC ("Kolter"), owns a majority of the land within the District. At September 30, 2023, all of the Board members are affiliated with Kolter.

The Board has the final responsibility for:

1. Assessing and levying assessments.
2. Approving budgets.
3. Exercising control over facilities and properties.
4. Controlling the use of funds generated by the District.
5. Approving the hiring and firing of key personnel.
6. Financing improvements.

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statements. Under the provisions of those standards, the financial reporting entity consists of the primary government, organizations for which the District is considered to be financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the District are such that, if excluded, the financial statements of the District would be considered incomplete or misleading. There are no entities considered to be component units of the District; therefore, the financial statements include only the operations of the District.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* include 1) charges to customers who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or segment. (Operating-type special assessments for maintenance and debt service are treated as charges for services.); and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other items not included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement* focus and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Assessments are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are to be recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

Assessments

Assessments are non-ad valorem assessments on benefitted property within the District. Operating and Maintenance Assessments are based upon adopted budget and levied annually at a public hearing of the District. Debt Service Assessments are levied when Bonds are issued and assessed and collected on an annual basis. The District may collect assessments directly or utilize the uniform method of collection (Chapter 197.3632, Florida Statutes). Direct collected assessments are due as determined by annual assessment resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Assessments collected under the uniform method are mailed by County Tax Collector on November 1 and due on or before March 31 of each year. Property owners may prepay a portion or all of the Debt Service Assessments on their property subject to various provisions in the Bond documents.

Assessments and interest associated with the current fiscal period are considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. The portion of assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period.

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund

The general fund is the general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

As a general rule, the effect of inter-fund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first for qualifying expenditures, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity

Restricted Assets

These assets represent cash and investments set aside pursuant to Bond covenants or other contractual restrictions.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity (Continued)

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).

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.

The District records all interest revenue related to investment activities in the respective funds. Investments are measured at amortized cost or reported at fair value as required by generally accepted accounting principles.

Inventories and Prepaid Items

Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

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 two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition 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.

No depreciation has been taken as all depreciable capital assets are considered under construction. In the governmental fund financial statements, amounts incurred for the acquisition of capital assets are reported as fund expenditures. No depreciation has been taken in the current fiscal year.

Unearned Revenue

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

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity (Continued)

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 sources while discounts 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

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

Fund Equity/Net Position

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.

The District can establish limitations on the use of fund balance as follows:

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. The Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover differences in estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Assignments are generally temporary and normally the same formal action need not be taken to remove the assignment.

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.

Net position is the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources less liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position in the government-wide financial statements are categorized as net investment in capital assets, restricted or unrestricted. Net investment in capital assets represents net position related to infrastructure and property, plant and equipment. Restricted net position represents the assets restricted by the District's Bond covenants or other contractual restrictions. Unrestricted net position consists of the net position not meeting the definition of either of the other two components.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Other Disclosures

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 reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3 – 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 all governmental funds. 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 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 4 – DEPOSITS

The District's cash balances 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.

NOTE 5 – CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance
<u>Governmental activities</u>				
Capital assets, not being depreciated				
Land and land improvements	\$ 2,392,883	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,392,883
Infrastructure under construction	7,377,820	-	-	7,377,820
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	9,770,703	-	-	9,770,703
Governmental activities capital assets	\$ 9,770,703	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,770,703

Most of the improvements denoted on the schedule above were acquired from the Developer, in accordance with the Assignment and Acquisition Agreement entered into between the Developer and the District. The total cost of the project was originally estimated at \$244 million, of which roughly \$111 million was to be used on community infrastructure and the rest would be allocated between the infrastructures of Verano Districts #1-5. The project has been modified with a total projected cost of approximately \$300,000,000 to be constructed through 2030.

NOTE 5 – CAPITAL ASSETS (Continued)

In prior fiscal years, infrastructure totaling \$19,008,076 was conveyed to other entities for ownership and maintenance responsibilities. The capital assets are expected to be conveyed during the next fiscal year.

NOTE 6 – DEVELOPER TRANSACTIONS

The Developer owns a majority of the land within the District; therefore, assessment revenues in the general fund include the assessments levied on those lots owned by the Developer.

NOTE 7 – CONCENTRATION

A significant portion of the District's activity is dependent upon the continued involvement of the Developer, the loss of which could have a material adverse effect on the District's operations.

NOTE 8 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Verano Community Development Districts are a combination of six separate community development districts. To facilitate the financing, construction, acquisition, operation, and maintenance of community-wide infrastructure and District-specific infrastructure for the mixed use development of regional impact currently encompassing all of the lands located within the District and to better assure compliance with the development order pertaining to Verano as it relates to such infrastructure, the Districts have entered into a District Interlocal Agreement. Verano Center and Verano Districts #1-5 have delegated to Verano #5, among other things, the power and authority to act on behalf of all the Districts to finance, acquire, construct, operate, and maintain community infrastructure benefiting only the property within a single District, such as Community Infrastructure and District Infrastructure collectively referred to as Public Infrastructure. The interlocal agreement has been amended between Verano Center and the Districts and now allow for any of the Districts to become the issuer to finance the public infrastructure. Verano #5 would act as the administrative entity on behalf of all of the Districts. During a prior fiscal year the Special assessment Bonds Series 2006 were refunded with a bond issue from Verano #1, therefore no debt is shown on the Districts statement of net position.

During a prior fiscal year, the Districts determined that it is in the best interest of the Districts to delegate certain powers, privileges, responsibilities and authority, specifically with respect to the acquisition, construction, operation and maintenance of public infrastructure and financing thereof, to Verano #5, effective October 1, 2019.

NOTE 9 – MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

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 of the District. Under the agreement, the District compensates the management company for management, accounting, financial reporting, computer and other administrative costs.

The Districts have also entered into an Inter-local Agreement to Provide Maintenance of Stormwater Management for Verano Community Development Districts with the City of Port St. Lucie ("City"). Maintenance of the storm water system shall include, but is not limited to: maintenance of swales, conveyance channels, and waterways to ensure proper functioning; maintenance of berms and drainage way to ensure structural integrity; and the operation and maintenance of storm water control structures. The City agrees to pay the District a sum equal to 75% of the stormwater utility fees collected by the City from within the District area (as defined in the agreement). This agreement shall run in perpetuity; however, each party has the right to terminate the agreement, with or without cause, by written notice sent six months prior to such termination. The agreement was transferred to Verano #5, effective October 1, 2019.

NOTE 10 – 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; and natural disasters. The District has obtained commercial insurance from independent third parties to mitigate the costs of these risks; coverage may not extend to all situations. There were no settled claims during the past three years.

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

	Budgeted Amounts Original & Final	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
REVENUES			
Assessments	\$ 8,400	\$ 8,400	\$ -
Total revenues	8,400	8,400	-
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General government	8,400	7,907	493
Total expenditures	8,400	7,907	493
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	\$ -	493	\$ 493
Fund balance - beginning		470	
Fund balance - ending		\$ 963	

See notes to required supplementary information

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
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).

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.

**VERANO CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA
OTHER INFORMATION – DATA ELEMENTS
REQUIRED BY FL STATUTE 218.39(3)(C)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
UNAUDITED**

<u>Element</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Number of District employees compensated in the last pay period of the District's fiscal year being reported.	0
Number of independent contractors compensated to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the District's fiscal year being reported.	1
Employee compensation	0
Independent contractor compensation	\$7,400
Construction projects to begin on or after October 1; (\$65K)	Not applicable
Budget variance report	See the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund
Non ad valorem special assessments;	Not applicable
Special assessment rate	Operations and maintenance - \$.011 - \$230.52 Debt service - \$0.0
Special assessments collected	\$8,400
Outstanding Bonds:	Not applicable



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

To the Board of Supervisors
Verano Center Community Development District
City of 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 financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St. Lucie, Florida ("District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our opinion thereon dated February 16, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, 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.

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 and correct 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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and 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

The purpose of this report is 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.

Gray & Associates

February 16, 2024



Grau & Associates
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**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**

To the Board of Supervisors
Verano Center Community Development District
City of Port St. Lucie, Florida

We have examined Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St. Lucie, Florida's ("District") compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, in accordance with Rule 10.556(10) of the Auditor General of the State of Florida during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023. Management is responsible for District's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced in Section 218.415, Florida Statutes. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with specified requirements.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the examination engagement.

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, management, and the Board of Supervisors of Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St. Lucie, Florida and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Grau & Associates

February 16, 2024



**MANAGEMENT LETTER PURSUANT TO THE RULES OF
THE AUDITOR GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

To the Board of Supervisors
Verano Center Community Development District
City of Port St. Lucie, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St. Lucie, Florida ("District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated February 16, 2024.

Auditor's 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 Florida Auditor General.

Other Reports and Schedule

We have issued our Independent Auditor's 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 Auditor's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, Section 601, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated February 16, 2024, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Purpose of this Letter

The purpose of this letter is to comment on those matters required by Chapter 10.550 of the Rules of the Auditor General for the State of Florida. Accordingly, in connection with our audit of the financial statements of the District, as described in the first paragraph, we report the following:

- I. Current year findings and recommendations.**
- II. Status of prior year findings and recommendations.**
- III. Compliance with the Provisions of the Auditor General of the State of Florida.**

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

We wish to thank Verano Center Community Development District, City of Port St Lucie, Florida and the personnel associated with it, for the opportunity to be of service to them in this endeavor as well as future engagements, and the courtesies extended to us.

Grau & Associates

February 16, 2024

REPORT TO MANAGEMENT

I. CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None

II. PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None

III. COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Unless otherwise required to be reported in the auditor's report on compliance and internal controls, the management letter shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. A statement as to whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

There were no significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022.

2. Any recommendations to improve the local governmental entity's financial management.

There were no such matters discovered by, or that came to the attention of, the auditor, to be reported for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

3. 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.

There were no such matters discovered by, or that came to the attention of, the auditor, to be reported, for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

4. The name or official title and legal authority of the District are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

5. The District has not met one or more of the financial emergency conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

6. We applied financial condition assessment procedures and no deteriorating financial conditions were noted as of September 30, 2023. It is management's responsibility to monitor 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.

7. Management has provided the specific information required by Section 218.39(3)(c) in the Other Information section of the financial statements on page 20.