



BROWN ARMSTRONG

Certified Public Accountants

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Santa Barbara (the County) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, *Government Auditing Standards*, and U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 1, 2015. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The County adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68*, during the fiscal year 2015. We noted no transactions entered into by the County during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were the year-end estimate of net pensions liabilities and related deferred outflows and inflows, year-end estimates of accruals for accounts payable, estimate for self-insurance liability, estimates for housing loan receivables and deferred housing loan payments, and estimate of contingent settlement liability with the State of California and contract service provides relating to the Santa Barbara County Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) Fund:

We evaluated management's estimates of the net pension liabilities and related deferred outflows and inflows which are based on actuarial reports prepared and provided by an independent third party. Management's estimate of the year-end payables is based on the information received from the individual departments. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate of payables in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole. We also evaluated the self-insurance liability as determined by the County using actuarial reports prepared and provided by an independent third party. Additionally, we reviewed management's analysis and supporting documents relating to the housing loan receivables and deferred housing loan payments. Furthermore,

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we reviewed management's analysis and supporting documents relating to the contingent settlement liability with the State of California and contract service providers for ADMHS Fund and determined that it is reasonable and conservative.

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

Note 14 – Self-Insurance

Note 15 – Commitments and Contingencies

Note 21 – Pensions

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. The attached schedule summarizes uncorrected misstatements of the financial statements. Management has determined that their effects are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated August 26, 2015.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the County's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

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

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Santa Barbara County Employees' Retirement System Schedule of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, the Santa Barbara County Employees' Retirement System Schedule of the County's Contributions, the schedule of funding progress for the County of Santa Barbara's Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) plan, and the respective budgetary comparison for the General and Major Special Revenue funds, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the

basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, the budgetary comparison for the Capital Projects fund, and the Combining and Individual Non-Major Fund Financial Statements and Schedules, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on Introductory Section and Statistical Section, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of Board of Supervisors and management of the County and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

BROWN ARMSTRONG
ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION

Brown Armstrong
Accountancy Corporation

Bakersfield, California
August 26, 2015

Client: **County of Santa Barbara**
 Engagement: **County of Santa Barbara**
 Period Ending: **6/30/15**
 Workpaper: **Unadjusted Journal Entries Report**

Account	Description	Debit	Credit
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Passed Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 1
 To show the service concession arrangement assets for the County Bowl that were not being properly capitalized in the 2015 CAFR that relates to the current year.

Dr	Capital Assets, not being depreciated	\$ 3,506,749	
Cr	Deferred service concession arrangements		\$ (3,506,749)
Total		\$ 3,506,749	\$ (3,506,749)

Passed Adjusting Journal Entries JE # 2
 To adjust the affordable housing loan receivable and deferred balances based on the estimated current year changes in the balances.

Dr	Deferred housing loan payments	\$ 2,236,222	
Cr	Housing loans receivable		\$ (2,236,222)
Total		\$ 2,236,222	\$ (2,236,222)