

**TOWN OF PARADISE
TRANSPORTATION FUND**

Audited Financial Statements
and Compliance Report

June 30, 2023

TOWN OF PARADISE
TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT FUNDS

Audited Financial Statements
and Compliance Report

June 30, 2023

Audited Financial Statements

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Town Council
Town of Paradise, California

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Transportation Fund (Fund) of the Town of Paradise (the Town), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the 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 Fund of the Town as of June 30, 2023 and the changes in financial position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with 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. 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 Town 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 opinion.

Emphasis-of-Matter

As discussed in Note B, the financial statements present only the Town of Paradise Transportation Fund and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the Town as of June 30, 2023, the changes in financial position, or where applicable, its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

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.

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 opinion. 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 and *Government Auditing Standards*

To the Town Council
Town of Paradise, California

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 and *Government 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 Town'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.

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

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, 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. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 21, 2024, on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting related to the Fund and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters, and the Transportation Development Act. 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 Town'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 Town's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Richardson & Company, LLP

February 21, 2024

TOWN OF PARADISE
TRANSPORTATION FUND

BALANCE SHEET

June 30, 2023

ASSETS

Cash and investments
Due from other governments \$ 547,623

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 547,623

LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF
RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCE

LIABILITIES

Due to other funds \$ 196,249
Accounts payable 1,867

TOTAL LIABILITIES 198,116

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Unavailable revenue 547,623

TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES 547,623

FUND BALANCE

Unassigned (198,116)

TOTAL FUND BALANCE (198,116)

TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF
RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCE \$ 547,623

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TOWN OF PARADISE
TRANSPORTATION FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

REVENUES		
Local Transportation Funds		\$ 432,867
	TOTAL REVENUES	<u>432,867</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Streets and roads		58,860
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>58,860</u>
OTHER FINANCING USES		
Transfers in		11
Transfers out		<u>(919,466)</u>
	TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	<u>(919,455)</u>
	NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(545,448)
Fund balance at beginning of year		<u>347,332</u>
	FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ (198,116)</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

TOWN OF PARADISE
TRANSPORTATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2023

NOTE A – ORGANIZATION

The Town of Paradise (the Town) receives funds under the provisions of the Transportation Development Act (TDA) from the Butte County Local Transportation Fund (LTF) primarily under Article 8, Sections 99400(a) and 99402. The fund represents amounts available after the determination by the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG), the transportation planning agency administering TDA funds, of amounts needed to meet the transportation needs of the County not otherwise being met. The Town's Article 4, Section 99400(a) LTF Funds are to be used for local streets and roads, and projects provided for use by pedestrian and bicycles and Article 8, Section 99402 LTF funds are to be used for local street and road projects. The Town contracts for bus services through BCAG's transit fund, Butte Regional Transit (BRT), and BRT claims Article 4 LTF and State Transit Assistance funds directly to support the transportation system. The Transportation Fund is used to account for these TDA funds received by the Town.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation: The financial statements of the Town's Transportation Fund (the Fund) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Reporting Entity: The financial statements are intended to present the financial position and results of operations of only those transactions recorded in the Fund. The Fund is included in the financial statements of the Town.

Fund Accounting: The accounts of the Town are organized on the basis of funds. A fund is an accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts established to record the financial position and results of operations of a specific governmental activity.

The Town utilizes the special revenue fund type of the governmental fund group to account for the activities of the Transportation Fund. Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for a specific purpose.

Basis of Accounting: The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. A special revenue fund is accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by special revenue funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual, i.e., when they become both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period, which is generally 90 days. TDA revenues are recognized when all eligibility requirements have been met and the amounts are received within 90 days. The amount reported as deferred inflows of resources represent amounts that do not meet both "measurable" and "available" criteria for recognition in the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

When the restricted and non-restricted type resources are available for use, it is the Town's policy to use restricted resources first, then non-restricted resources as they are needed.

Deferred Inflows of Resources: Deferred inflows of resources in governmental funds arise when a potential revenue source does not meet both the "measurable" and "available" criteria for recognition in the current period. Deferred inflows of resources consisted of TDA revenues for which all eligibility requirements had been met at year end, but the amounts were not received from BCAG within the 90-day availability period.

TOWN OF PARADISE
TRANSPORTATION FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

June 30, 2023

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Fund Balance: Restrictions of fund balance represent amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers or through enabling legislation. The restrictions of fund balance are according to the provisions of the Transportation Development Act for transportation-related expenditures.

NOTE C – CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Transportation Fund’s cash is held in the Town Treasury. The Town maintains cash and investments in the State of California’s Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and other money market funds and allocates interest to the various funds based upon the average daily cash balances. Investments held in the Town’s cash accounts are available on demand to the Transportation Fund and are stated at cost, which approximates fair value. The Town’s investment policy, interest rate risk and credit risk may be found in the notes to the Town’s basic financial statements.

NOTE D – DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS

Due from other governments consists of the following at June 30, 2023:

Transportation Development Act:	
Local Transportation Fund	
Fiscal year 2022/23	\$ 260,887
Fiscal year 2021/22	<u>286,736</u>
Total due from other governments	<u>\$ 547,623</u>

NOTE E - TRANSFERS

In 2023, the Town transferred \$908,815, \$4,531, and \$6,120 of LTF funds out of the Transportation Fund to the Capital Projects Fund, General Fund and State Gas Tax Fund, respectively, for various streets and roads improvement projects.

NOTE F – CONTINGENCIES

On November 8, 2018, the Camp Fire, one of the most destructive wildfires in California history, started in Pulga and spread rapidly through Concow and in the Town of Paradise and Magalia. The Fire ultimately burned over 153,000 acres, destroyed more than 18,000 structures, and claimed at least 85 lives. The Fire was declared a major disaster at both the Federal and State levels.

Due to the displacement of a significant portion of the Town’s population, which is used to allocate TDA funds to jurisdictions within Butte County, a significant decrease in transit services and funding for streets and roads has been experienced, unless a different method for allocating TDA funds is developed.



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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*
AND THE TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT

To the Town Council
Town of Paradise, California

We have audited, in accordance with 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 Transportation Fund of the Town of Paradise (the Town), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Fund's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 21, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Town's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town'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 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 a material weakness. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town'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 financial statements. Our audit was further made to determine that Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds allocated and received by the Town were expended in conformance with the applicable statutes, rules and regulations of the TDA and Section 6666 of the California Code of Regulations. 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* or the TDA.

To the Town Council
Town of Paradise, California

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* and the TDA in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Richardson & Company, LLP

February 21, 2024