

# PORT OF TACOMA AUDIT COMMITTEE 2019 AUDIT

OCTOBER 31, 2019

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# Scope of work

- To form an opinion on the fairness of presentation for both the Enterprise Fund and the Post-Employment Health Care Benefits Trust of the Port of Tacoma for the year ended December 31, 2019 in accordance with Government Auditing Standards
- Issue an agreed upon procedures engagement based on 2019 net position to satisfy the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency
- If expenditures of federal awards exceed required thresholds, form an opinion on the Port's compliance with the federal program
- Provide our audit opinion on the referenced financial statements above for inclusion in the Port's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report; review that document for accuracy prior to submission
- Issue a management letter with recommendations related to the Port's control environment

## Status of 2019 audit

- Audit is proceeding as scheduled in the timeline we developed with management
- Phases of the audit
  - Planning and risk assessment **Completed**
  - Assessment of internal controls **Completed**
  - Substantive audit procedures **Feb/Mar 2020**
  - Reporting and presentation of audit results
    - Audit on schedule to be issued by end of March 2020
    - Final audit presentation schedule Spring 2020

# Planning and risk assessment

- Audit risk involves the risk of material misstatement in the financial statements
- Audit is designed to provide reasonable—not absolute—assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatements
- Audit risk model – assessed at high, medium or low
  - Inherent risk
  - Control risk
  - Detection risk
- Audit scope and approach is determined based upon results of risk assessment

# Materiality

- The maximum level of misstatement that can be tolerated in the financial statements without causing a reasonable person's judgment about them to be significantly changed or influenced
- Determination considerations
  - Needs and expectations of readers of financial statements
  - Quantitative and qualitative factors
  - Level is re-evaluated throughout audit and at conclusion of audit
- Quantitative elements
  - Critical components to users of financial statements are analyzed
  - A benchmark percentage is calculated
- A threshold is determined for purposes of proposing adjusting journal entries

# Evaluation of internal controls

Internal control is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of defined objectives

- Effectiveness and efficiency of operations
- Reliability of financial reporting
- Compliance with applicable laws and regulations

## Five components of internal control

- Control Environment
- Risk Assessment
- Control Activities
- Information and Communication
- Monitoring

# Our approach to internal control understanding and assessment

## Top-down approach

- Assess entity-level controls and information technology related (general computer) controls
- Identify significant accounts and processes
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls for all main transaction cycles and perform walkthroughs on key controls
- Identify internal control deficiencies, if any

# Significant accounts and processes

- Billings, cash receipts, and receivables
- Procurement, cash disbursements, and payables
- Lease transactions
- Payroll
- Capital projects
- Treasury and investments
- Debt and related accounts
- Pollution (environmental) remediation obligation and contingencies
- Financial close and reporting
- Information technology (general computer controls)

## New GASB Pronouncements Effective This Year (2019)

- GASB 84: Fiduciary Activities – Identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes.
- GASB 88: Debt disclosures – Adds to items required in debt footnote, including unused lines of credit, assets pledged as collateral for debt and terms specified in debt agreements related to significant events.
- GASB 90: Majority Equity Interests – an amendment of GASB No. 14 and No. 61. Primary objective is to improve consistency and comparability of reporting a government's equity interest in a legally separate organization.

# GASB Pronouncements Effective In Future Years

- Effective in 2020
  - GASB 87: Leases – Single model for accounting for leases based on the principle that leases are financings of the right of use an underlying asset
    - Lessor: Recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources
    - Lessee: Recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset
  - GASB 89: Interest Cost - Accounting requirements for interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period.



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