

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

This Page Left Intentionally Blank

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
<i>Memorandum on Internal Control</i>	1
Schedule of Significant Deficiency	3
Schedule of Other Matters	5
Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies	19

This Page Left Intentionally Blank

MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

To the City Council of
the City of San Rafael, California

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the City of San Rafael (City) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the City'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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 City's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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. We consider the deficiency in internal control included on the Schedule of Significant Deficiency to be a significant deficiency.

Included in the Schedule of Other Matters are recommendations not meeting the above definitions that we believe are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency.

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Significant Deficiency and Schedule of Other Matters. The City's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, City Council, others within the organization, and agencies and pass-through entities requiring compliance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Maye & Associates

Pleasant Hill, California
November 21, 2022

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL
SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY**

2022-01 Inaccurate Building Permit Fees

The rates charged in the City’s permit billing system should be consistent with the City’s Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council and on the City’s website.

As noted in the prior year Memorandum on Internal Control comment 2021-01, we again noted that the rates charged in the City’s permit billing system are not consistent with the City’s Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council.

During the fiscal year 2022 audit, we tested twenty-five receipts and recalculated the fees using the City’s Master Fee Schedule and noted five receipts for building permits that we recalculated, but could not arrive at the same amount charged. Based on our recalculations using the City’s Master Fee Schedule, the building permit fees that should have been charged, and the related amount undercharged were as follows:

Receipt Number	Building Permit Fee Charged	Building Permit Fee That Should Have Been Charged Based on Master Fee Schedule	Undercharged
003-00001681	\$3,997.00	\$4,820.20	\$(823.20)
017-00000203	2,317.00	3,140.20	(823.20)
017-00001783	1,210.00	1,714.00	(504.00)
003-00003680	918.10	1,251.64	(333.54)
003-00004064	947.50	1,285.60	(338.10)

We understand that the Community Development Department (CDD) staff determined that the Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council and posted on the City’s website included incorrect building permit fees and CDD staff believed that the correct fees had been charged.

We also noted one receipt for an investigation fee (receipt # 003-00003019) and one receipt for a building permit renewal fee (receipt # 017-00001262) that were not listed on the revised Master Fee Schedule, nor supported by an ordinance or resolution. The CDD staff indicated that the Master Fee Schedule is being updated to incorporate these fees that were charged.

Although City staff believe that the correct fees were charged for the building permits, investigation fee and building permit renewal fees, we were unable to verify that the correct fees were charged based on the Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council. Therefore, the City’s building permit fees, investigation fees, fire prevention inspection fees and building permit renewal fees revenues may be understated.

We understand that the City plans to present an updated Master Fee Schedule to Council to ensure that accurate charges are approved and presented on the City’s website. We recommend that the City develop a process to ensure that the fees approved by City Council are properly entered into the City’s permit billing system to ensure proper fees are charged. In addition, we recommend that the City ensure that the Master Fee Schedule on the City’s website agrees to the Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL
SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY**

2022-01 Inaccurate Building Permit Fees (Continued)

Management's Response:

The City has been in process of resolving the issue and is currently undergoing a large-scale revision to the master fee schedule which will be presented to council with the December 19, 2022, meeting. Going forward, when a fee change is approved by Council, Finance will be responsible for ensuring the approved fee change has been uploaded to the website, the changes have been entered into the billing system properly and the fee change is implemented on the effective date approved by Council. To formalize this, Finance will create a checklist and will require sign-off as each item is reviewed.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

2022-02 Purchasing Policy Compliance and Clarification of Requirements

The City’s Purchasing Policy should indicate when the use of a purchase order, contract, or both is required, including any exceptions, as necessary. The City’s Purchasing Policy defines a contract as including, but not being “limited to, a purchase order, a contract for services, a contract for maintenance, leasing of property or equipment, an addendum or change order, a letter agreement, a memorandum of understanding, or memorandum of agreement.” The Purchasing Policy defines a purchase order as “a standardized form to be utilized in contracts for materials, supplies, labor and equipment.” The Purchasing Policy does not specify whether a purchase order and a contract are required for all purchases, but we understand it is the City’s practice to obtain both documents for purchases.

During the fiscal year 2022 audit, we selected twenty-five disbursements for testing of supporting documentation and compliance with the City’s Purchasing Policy and noted two disbursements for which the disbursements were supported by a contract, however, they were not supported by a purchase order. We also noted one disbursement that was supported by a purchase order, but not a contract. For similar types of transactions tested, we noted that these types of disbursements were supported by both a purchase order and a contract.

For one of the disbursements noted above, City staff indicated that the staff overseeing the initial project and contract is no longer with the City and that a purchase order was not created for the vendor and contract for the project due to a staff oversight. And, for the second disbursement noted above, City staff indicated that they did not think it was necessary for a purchase order to be created as the vendor is used for on-call repair sidewalk repair services. Lastly, for the third disbursement noted above, City staff indicated that the purchase order was created without a contract, due to a staff oversight. Although that appears reasonable, there does not appear to be such an exemption in the City’s Purchasing Policy for the use of a contract, purchase order or both. Therefore, the City is not in compliance with the Purchasing Policy for these purchases.

We recommend that the City ensure all purchases comply with purchase documentation requirements and revise the Purchasing Policy to clarify those requirements to reflect current practices.

Management’s Response:

The City’s expanded use of purchase orders is relatively new to purchasing procedures within the City and, as the City remains decentralized in administration of contracts and purchase orders, departmental practices for use of purchase orders varies. The City will review its purchasing policy and make and necessary amendments to develop a comprehensive purchasing policy to be adhered to by all departments consistently.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

2022-03 Current Contracts

The City should ensure that all contracts with outside parties are current.

During the fiscal year 2022 audit, we selected twenty-five disbursements for testing of supporting documentation and noted one disbursement in the amount of \$97,615 made to the Transportation Authority of Marin, for which the most recent contract in place expired on January 1, 2011.

We understand that the City is currently working on a revised contract with the Transportation Authority of Marin, however, the City should develop procedures to ensure that all contracts are current to ensure that payments to outside parties are valid and properly supported.

Management's Response:

The City considers the selected payment to be an anomaly, however, will perform a review of contracts with local agencies to ensure the validity of the agreement. The updated agreement in question is currently in process.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

NEW GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS OR PRONOUNCEMENTS NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The following comment represents new pronouncements taking affect in the next few years. We have cited them here to keep you informed of developments.

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEARS 2022, 2023 and 2024:

GASB 99 – Omnibus 2022

The objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The practice issues addressed by this Statement are as follows:

- Classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement No. 53, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments*, that do not meet the definition of either an investment derivative instrument or a hedging derivative instrument
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 87, *Leases*, as amended, related to the determination of the lease term, classification of a lease as a short term lease, recognition and measurement of a lease liability and a lease asset, and identification of lease incentives
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*, related to (a) the determination of the public-private and public-public partnership (PPP) term and (b) recognition and measurement of installment payments and the transfer of the underlying PPP asset
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, related to the subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) term, classification of a SBITA as a short term SBITA, and recognition and measurement of a subscription liability
- Extension of the period during which the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is considered an appropriate benchmark interest rate for the qualitative evaluation of the effectiveness of an interest rate swap that hedges the interest rate risk of taxable debt
- Accounting for the distribution of benefits as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Disclosures related to nonmonetary transactions
- Pledges of future revenues when resources are not received by the pledging government

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 99 – Omnibus 2022 (Continued)

- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements—and Management’s Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments*, as amended, related to the focus of the government-wide financial statements
- Terminology updates related to certain provisions of Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*
- Terminology used in Statement 53 to refer to resource flows statements.

The Requirements of this Statement are Effective as Follows:

The requirements in paragraphs 26–32 related to extension of the use of LIBOR, accounting for SNAP distributions, disclosures of nonmonetary transactions, pledges of future revenues by pledging governments, clarification of certain provisions in Statement 34, as amended, and terminology updates related to Statement 53 and Statement 63 are effective upon issuance.

The requirements in paragraphs 11–25 related to leases, PPPs, and SBITAs are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2022, and all reporting periods thereafter.

The requirements in paragraphs 4–10 related to financial guarantees and the classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement 53 are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter.

Earlier application is encouraged and is permitted by individual topic.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will enhance comparability in the application of accounting and financial reporting requirements and will improve the consistency of authoritative literature. Consistent authoritative literature enables governments and other stakeholders to more easily locate and apply the correct accounting and financial reporting provisions, which improves the consistency with which such provisions are applied. The comparability of financial statements also will improve as a result of this Statement. Better consistency and comparability improve the usefulness of information for users of state and local government financial statements.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2022/23:

GASB 91 – Conduit Debt Obligations

The primary objectives of this Statement are to provide a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures. This Statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosures.

A conduit debt obligation is defined as a debt instrument having *all* of the following characteristics:

- There are at least three parties involved:
 - (1) an issuer
 - (2) a third-party obligor, and
 - (3) a debt holder or a debt trustee.
- The issuer and the third-party obligor are not within the same financial reporting entity.
- The debt obligation is not a parity bond of the issuer, nor is it cross-collateralized with other debt of the issuer.
- The third-party obligor or its agent, not the issuer, ultimately receives the proceeds from the debt issuance.
- The third-party obligor, not the issuer, is primarily obligated for the payment of all amounts associated with the debt obligation (debt service payments).

All conduit debt obligations involve the issuer making a limited commitment. Some issuers extend additional commitments or voluntary commitments to support debt service in the event the third party is, or will be, unable to do so.

An issuer should not recognize a conduit debt obligation as a liability. However, an issuer should recognize a liability associated with an additional commitment or a voluntary commitment to support debt service if certain recognition criteria are met. As long as a conduit debt obligation is outstanding, an issuer that has made an additional commitment should evaluate at least annually whether those criteria are met. An issuer that has made only a limited commitment should evaluate whether those criteria are met when an event occurs that causes the issuer to reevaluate its willingness or ability to support the obligor's debt service through a voluntary commitment.

This Statement also addresses arrangements—often characterized as leases—that are associated with conduit debt obligations. In those arrangements, capital assets are constructed or acquired with the proceeds of a conduit debt obligation and used by third-party obligors in the course of their activities. Payments from third-party obligors are intended to cover and coincide with debt service payments. During those arrangements, issuers retain the titles to the capital assets. Those titles may or may not pass to the obligors at the end of the arrangements.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 91 – Conduit Debt Obligations (Continued)

Issuers should not report those arrangements as leases, nor should they recognize a liability for the related conduit debt obligations or a receivable for the payments related to those arrangements. In addition, the following provisions apply:

- If the title passes to the third-party obligor at the end of the arrangement, an issuer should not recognize a capital asset.
- If the title does not pass to the third-party obligor and the third party has exclusive use of the entire capital asset during the arrangement, the issuer should not recognize a capital asset until the arrangement ends.
- If the title does not pass to the third-party obligor and the third party has exclusive use of only portions of the capital asset during the arrangement, the issuer, at the inception of the arrangement, should recognize the entire capital asset and a deferred inflow of resources. The deferred inflow of resources should be reduced, and an inflow recognized, in a systematic and rational manner over the term of the arrangement.

This Statement requires issuers to disclose general information about their conduit debt obligations, organized by type of commitment, including the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the issuers' conduit debt obligations and a description of each type of commitment. Issuers that recognize liabilities related to supporting the debt service of conduit debt obligations also should disclose information about the amount recognized and how the liabilities changed during the reporting period.

How the Changes in this Statement will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will improve financial reporting by eliminating the existing option for issuers to report conduit debt obligations as their own liabilities, thereby ending significant diversity in practice. The clarified definition will resolve stakeholders' uncertainty as to whether a given financing is, in fact, a conduit debt obligation. Requiring issuers to recognize liabilities associated with additional commitments extended by issuers and to recognize assets and deferred inflows of resources related to certain arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations also will eliminate diversity, thereby improving comparability in reporting by issuers. Revised disclosure requirements will provide financial statement users with better information regarding the commitments issuers extend and the likelihood that they will fulfill those commitments. That information will inform users of the potential impact of such commitments on the financial resources of issuers and help users assess issuers' roles in conduit debt obligations.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 94 – Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements

The primary objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-public partnership arrangements (PPPs). As used in this Statement, a PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Some PPPs meet the definition of a service concession arrangement (SCA), which the Board defines in this Statement as a PPP in which (1) the operator collects and is compensated by fees from third parties; (2) the transferor determines or has the ability to modify or approve which services the operator is required to provide, to whom the operator is required to provide the services, and the prices or rates that can be charged for the services; and (3) the transferor is entitled to significant residual interest in the service utility of the underlying PPP asset at the end of the arrangement.

This Statement also provides guidance for accounting and financial reporting for availability payment arrangements (APAs). As defined in this Statement, an APA is an arrangement in which a government compensates an operator for services that may include designing, constructing, financing, maintaining, or operating an underlying nonfinancial asset for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction.

PPPs - This Statement requires that PPPs that meet the definition of a lease apply the guidance in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended, if existing assets of the transferor that are not required to be improved by the operator as part of the PPP arrangement are the only underlying PPP assets and the PPP does not meet the definition of an SCA. This Statement provides accounting and financial reporting requirements for all other PPPs: those that either (1) meet the definition of an SCA or (2) are not within the scope of Statement 87, as amended (as clarified by this Statement). The PPP term is defined as the period during which an operator has a noncancellable right to use an underlying PPP asset, plus, if applicable, certain periods if it is reasonably certain, based on all relevant factors, that the transferor or the operator either will exercise an option to extend the PPP or will not exercise an option to terminate the PPP.

A transferor generally should recognize an underlying PPP asset as an asset in financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. However, in the case of an underlying PPP asset that is not owned by the transferor or is not the underlying asset of an SCA, a transferor should recognize a receivable measured based on the operator's estimated carrying value of the underlying PPP asset as of the expected date of the transfer in ownership. In addition, a transferor should recognize a receivable for installment payments, if any, to be received from the operator in relation to the PPP. Measurement of a receivable for installment payments should be at the present value of the payments expected to be received during the PPP term. A transferor also should recognize a deferred inflow of resources for the consideration received or to be received by the transferor as part of the PPP. Revenue should be recognized by a transferor in a systematic and rational manner over the PPP term.

This Statement requires a transferor to recognize a receivable for installment payments and a deferred inflow of resources to account for a PPP in financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus. Governmental fund revenue would be recognized in a systematic and rational manner over the PPP term.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

**GASB 94 – Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements
(Continued)**

This Statement also provides specific guidance in financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus for a government that is an operator in a PPP that either (1) meets the definition of an SCA or (2) is not within the scope of Statement 87, as amended (as clarified in this Statement). An operator should report an intangible right-to-use asset related to an underlying PPP asset that either is owned by the transferor or is the underlying asset of an SCA. Measurement of the right-to-use asset should be the amount of consideration to be provided to the transferor, plus any payments made to the transferor at or before the commencement of the PPP term, and certain direct costs. For an underlying PPP asset that is not owned by the transferor and is not the underlying asset of an SCA, an operator should recognize a liability measured based on the estimated carrying value of the underlying PPP asset as of the expected date of the transfer in ownership. In addition, an operator should recognize a liability for installment payments, if any, to be made to the transferor in relation to the PPP. Measurement of a liability for installment payments should be at the present value of the payments expected to be made during the PPP term. An operator also should recognize a deferred outflow of resources for the consideration provided or to be provided to the transferor as part of the PPP. Expense should be recognized by an operator in a systematic and rational manner over the PPP term.

This Statement also requires a government to account for PPP and non-PPP components of a PPP as separate contracts. If a PPP involves multiple underlying assets, a transferor and an operator in certain cases should account for each underlying PPP asset as a separate PPP. To allocate the contract price to different components, a transferor and an operator should use contract prices for individual components as long as they do not appear to be unreasonable based on professional judgment or use professional judgment to determine their best estimate if there are no stated prices or if stated prices appear to be unreasonable. If determining the best estimate is not practicable, multiple components in a PPP should be accounted for as a single PPP.

This Statement also requires an amendment to a PPP to be considered a PPP modification, unless the operator's right to use the underlying PPP asset decreases, in which case it should be considered a partial or full PPP termination. A PPP termination should be accounted for by a transferor by reducing, as applicable, any receivable for installment payments or any receivable related to the transfer of ownership of the underlying PPP asset and by reducing the related deferred inflow of resources. An operator should account for a termination by reducing the carrying value of the right-to-use asset and, as applicable, any liability for installment payments or liability to transfer ownership of the underlying PPP asset. A PPP modification that does not qualify as a separate PPP should be accounted for by remeasuring PPP assets and liabilities.

APAs - An APA that is related to designing, constructing, and financing a nonfinancial asset in which ownership of the asset transfers by the end of the contract should be accounted for by a government as a financed purchase of the underlying nonfinancial asset. This Statement requires a government that engaged in an APA that contains multiple components to recognize each component as a separate arrangement. An APA that is related to operating or maintaining a nonfinancial asset should be reported by a government as an outflow of resources in the period to which payments relate.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 96 – Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements

This Statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended.

A SBITA is defined as a contract that conveys control of the right to use another party's (a SBITA vendor's) information technology (IT) software, alone or in combination with tangible capital assets (the underlying IT assets), as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction.

The subscription term includes the period during which a government has a noncancelable right to use the underlying IT assets. The subscription term also includes periods covered by an option to extend (if it is reasonably certain that the government or SBITA vendor will exercise that option) or to terminate (if it is reasonably certain that the government or SBITA vendor will not exercise that option).

Under this Statement, a government generally should recognize a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability. A government should recognize the subscription liability at the commencement of the subscription term, —which is when the subscription asset is placed into service. The subscription liability should be initially measured at the present value of subscription payments expected to be made during the subscription term. Future subscription payments should be discounted using the interest rate the SBITA vendor charges the government, which may be implicit, or the government's incremental borrowing rate if the interest rate is not readily determinable. A government should recognize amortization of the discount on the subscription liability as an outflow of resources (for example, interest expense) in subsequent financial reporting periods.

The subscription asset should be initially measured as the sum of (1) the initial subscription liability amount, (2) payments made to the SBITA vendor before commencement of the subscription term, and (3) capitalizable implementation costs, less any incentives received from the SBITA vendor at or before the commencement of the subscription term. A government should recognize amortization of the subscription asset as an outflow of resources over the subscription term.

Activities associated with a SBITA, other than making subscription payments, should be grouped into the following three stages, and their costs should be accounted for accordingly:

- Preliminary Project Stage, including activities such as evaluating alternatives, determining needed technology, and selecting a SBITA vendor. Outlays in this stage should be expensed as incurred.
- Initial Implementation Stage, including all ancillary charges necessary to place the subscription asset into service. Outlays in this stage generally should be capitalized as an addition to the subscription asset.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 96 – Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (Continued)

- Operation and Additional Implementation Stage, including activities such as subsequent implementation activities, maintenance, and other activities for a government's ongoing operations related to a SBITA. Outlays in this stage should be expensed as incurred unless they meet specific capitalization criteria.

In classifying certain outlays into the appropriate stage, the nature of the activity should be the determining factor. Training costs should be expensed as incurred, regardless of the stage in which they are incurred.

If a SBITA contract contains multiple components, a government should account for each component as a separate SBITA or nonsubscription component and allocate the contract price to the different components. If it is not practicable to determine a best estimate for price allocation for some or all components in the contract, a government should account for those components as a single SBITA.

This Statement provides an exception for short-term SBITAs. Short-term SBITAs have a maximum possible term under the SBITA contract of 12 months (or less), including any options to extend, regardless of their probability of being exercised. Subscription payments for short-term SBITAs should be recognized as outflows of resources.

This Statement requires a government to disclose descriptive information about its SBITAs other than short-term SBITAs, such as the amount of the subscription asset, accumulated amortization, other payments not included in the measurement of a subscription liability, principal and interest requirements for the subscription liability, and other essential information.

How the Changes in this Statement will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will improve financial reporting by establishing a definition for SBITAs and providing uniform guidance for accounting and financial reporting for transactions that meet that definition. That definition and uniform guidance will result in greater consistency in practice. Establishing the capitalization criteria for implementation costs also will reduce diversity and improve comparability in financial reporting by governments. This Statement also will enhance the relevance and reliability of a government's financial statements by requiring a government to report a subscription asset and subscription liability for a SBITA and to disclose essential information about the arrangement. The disclosures will allow users to understand the scale and important aspects of a government's SBITA activities and evaluate a government's obligations and assets resulting from SBITAs.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2023/24:

GASB 100 – Accounting for Changes and Error Corrections

The primary objective of this Statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability

This Statement defines *accounting changes* as changes in accounting principles, changes in accounting estimates, and changes to or within the financial reporting entity and describes the transactions or other events that constitute those changes. As part of those descriptions, for (1) certain changes in accounting principles and (2) certain changes in accounting estimates that result from a change in measurement methodology, a new principle or methodology should be justified on the basis that it is preferable to the principle or methodology used before the change. That preferability should be based on the qualitative characteristics of financial reporting—understandability, reliability, relevance, timeliness, consistency, and comparability. This Statement also addresses corrections of errors in previously issued financial statements.

This Statement prescribes the accounting and financial reporting for (1) each type of accounting change and (2) error corrections. This Statement requires that (a) changes in accounting principles and error corrections be reported retroactively by restating prior periods, (b) changes to or within the financial reporting entity be reported by adjusting beginning balances of the current period, and (c) changes in accounting estimates be reported prospectively by recognizing the change in the current period. The requirements of this Statement for changes in accounting principles apply to the implementation of a new pronouncement in absence of specific transition provisions in the new pronouncement. This Statement also requires that the aggregate amount of adjustments to and restatements of beginning net position, fund balance, or fund net position, as applicable, be displayed by reporting unit in the financial statements.

This Statement requires disclosure in notes to financial statements of descriptive information about accounting changes and error corrections, such as their nature. In addition, information about the quantitative effects on beginning balances of each accounting change and error correction should be disclosed by reporting unit in a tabular format to reconcile beginning balances as previously reported to beginning balances as restated.

Furthermore, this Statement addresses how information that is affected by a change in accounting principle or error correction should be presented in required supplementary information (RSI) and supplementary information (SI). For periods that are earlier than those included in the basic financial statements, information presented in RSI or SI should be restated for error corrections, if practicable, but not for changes in accounting principles.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2024/25:

GASB 101 – Compensated Absences

The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures.

Recognition And Measurement

This Statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. Leave is attributable to services already rendered when an employee has performed the services required to earn the leave. Leave that accumulates is carried forward from the reporting period in which it is earned to a future reporting period during which it may be used for time off or otherwise paid or settled. In estimating the leave that is more likely than not to be used or otherwise paid or settled, a government should consider relevant factors such as employment policies related to compensated absences and historical information about the use or payment of compensated absences. However, leave that is more likely than not to be settled through conversion to defined benefit postemployment benefits should not be included in a liability for compensated absences.

This Statement requires that a liability for certain types of compensated absences—including parental leave, military leave, and jury duty leave—not be recognized until the leave commences. This Statement also requires that a liability for specific types of compensated absences not be recognized until the leave is used.

This Statement also establishes guidance for measuring a liability for leave that has not been used, generally using an employee’s pay rate as of the date of the financial statements. A liability for leave that has been used but not yet paid or settled should be measured at the amount of the cash payment or noncash settlement to be made. Certain salary-related payments that are directly and incrementally associated with payments for leave also should be included in the measurement of the liabilities.

With respect to financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus, this Statement requires that expenditures be recognized for the amount that normally would be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

Notes To Financial Statements

This Statement amends the existing requirement to disclose the gross increases and decreases in a liability for compensated absences to allow governments to disclose only the net change in the liability (as long as they identify it as a net change). In addition, governments are no longer required to disclose which governmental funds typically have been used to liquidate the liability for compensated absences.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 101 – Compensated Absences (Continued)

How the Changes in this Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The unified recognition and measurement model in this Statement will result in a liability for compensated absences that more appropriately reflects when a government incurs an obligation. In addition, the model can be applied consistently to any type of compensated absence and will eliminate potential comparability issues between governments that offer different types of leave.

The model also will result in a more robust estimate of the amount of compensated absences that a government will pay or settle, which will enhance the relevance and reliability of information about the liability for compensated absences.

This Page Left Intentionally Blank

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2021-01 Inaccurate Building Permit Fees

The rates charged in the City's permit billing system should be consistent with the City's Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council and on the City's website.

We tested twenty-five receipts and recalculated the fees using the City's Master Fee Schedule and we noted one receipt for a building permit in the amount of \$78,946 that we recalculated, but could not arrive at the same amount. Based on our recalculation using the City's Master Fee Schedule, the building permit fee that should have been charged was \$83,137.

The Community Development Department (CDD) staff determined that the Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council and posted on the City's website included incorrect building permit fees and CDD staff believed that the correct fees had been charged, resulting in the fee of \$78,946.

Although City staff believe that the correct fees were charged, we were unable to verify that the correct fees were charged based on the Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council. Therefore, the City's building permit fees may be understated due to the use of a lower fee schedule.

We understand that the City plans to present an updated Master Fee Schedule to Council to ensure that accurate charges are approved and presented on the City website. We recommend that the City develop a process to ensure that the fees approved by City Council are properly entered into the City's permit billing system to ensure proper fees are charged. In addition, we recommend that the City ensure that the Master Fee Schedule on the City's website agree to the Master Fee Schedule approved by City Council.

Current Status:

See current year comment 2022-01.

2021-02 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) Preparation

The City should report all Federal awards expended in the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) each fiscal year in accordance with the requirements of OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements Subpart D Section 200.302(b)(1).

During our testing of the City's June 30, 2020 SEFA provided for our audit, we noted that the City incorrectly included non-federal expenditure amounts in the SEFA. After further research by the City, it was determined that the SEFA overstated federal expenditures of \$299,054 for the Highway Planning and Construction Program (CFDA # 20.205) and \$398,282 for the Disaster Grants Program (CFDA # 97.036). After those corrections were made, it was determined that the City did not need a Single Audit for the year ended June 30, 2020.

We understand that the City accounts for federal award expenditures in the same general ledger accounts that the City accounts for local match expenditures. During the preparation of the SEFA by the City's outside consultant, the entire account balance was used, and the amounts reported did not exclude the non-federal amounts.

Incorrect reporting not only misstates the SEFA, but it also means the City is not in compliance with the reporting requirements of the OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements. As a result, future federal funding could be adversely affected.

**CITY OF SAN RAFAEL
MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL**

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2021-02 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) Preparation (Continued)

The City should develop procedures and policies to centralize the reporting of grant activity to ensure that all data is readily available when year-end grant activity reporting is necessary. The procedures and policies should facilitate the preparation of the SEFA so that annual expenditures for all grant programs are accurately included on the SEFA. In addition, City staff, including those in departments other than Finance that manage grants, must familiarize themselves with the guidelines for determining federal awards expended contained in the Uniform Guidance.

Current Status:
Implemented.