

**STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS**  
**302 West Washington Street**  
**Room E418**  
**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769**

FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

OF

CITY OF COLUMBUS

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY, INDIANA

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019



**FILED**  
08/13/2020



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SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Clerk-Treasurer	Luann Welmer	01-01-19 to 12-31-20
Mayor	James D. Lienhoop	01-01-19 to 12-31-20
President of the Board of Public Works and Safety	James D. Lienhoop	01-01-19 to 12-31-20
President of the Common Council	Dascal Bunch Tom Dell	01-01-19 to 12-31-19 01-01-20 to 12-31-20
Superintendent of Utilities	Scott Dompke	01-01-19 to 12-31-20
Manager of Finance and Business Operations	Arron O'Neal	01-01-19 to 12-31-20
Airport Director	Brian Payne	01-01-19 to 12-31-20



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING  
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY, INDIANA

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 statement of the City of Columbus (City), for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the City's financial statement and have issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2020, wherein we noted the City followed accounting practices the Indiana State Board of Accounts prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Internal Control over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statement, we considered the City'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 opinion on the financial statement, 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.

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 City's financial statement will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or 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, and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2019-001, that we consider to be material weaknesses.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING  
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*  
(Continued)

***Compliance and Other Matters***


As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's financial statement is 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 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2019-001.

***City of Columbus's Response to Findings***

The City's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. The City's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

***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 City'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 City's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

  
Paul D. Joyce, CPA  
State Examiner

June 29, 2020



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY, INDIANA

**Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program**

We have audited the City of Columbus' (City) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2019. The City's major federal program is identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

***Management's Responsibility***

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for the City's major federal program based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance 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 the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the City's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for the major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the City's compliance.

***Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

In our opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2019.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE  
(Continued)

**Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

Management of the City is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the City's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for the major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.


Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE  
(Continued)

**Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance**

We have audited the financial statement of the City, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statement. We issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2020, which contained a dual opinion on the financial statement. An adverse opinion was issued regarding the presentation in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and an unmodified opinion was issued regarding the presentation in accordance with the Regulatory Basis of Accounting. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the financial statement. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statement as a whole.

  
Paul D. Joyce, CPA  
State Examiner

June 29, 2020

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SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND ACCOMPANYING NOTES

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and accompanying notes presented were approved by management of the City. The schedule and notes are presented as intended by the City.

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Federal Grantor Agency Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Pass-Through Entity or Direct Grant	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipient	Total Federal Awards Expended
<u>Department of Housing and Urban Development</u>					
CDBG - Entitlement Grants Cluster					
Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants	Direct Grant	14.218			
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			B14MC180020	\$ -	\$ 4,396
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			B15MC180020	-	7,025
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			B16MC180020	-	12,613
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			B17MC180020	-	16,970
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT			B18MC180020	-	34,153
Total - Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants				-	75,157
Total - CDBG - Entitlement Grants Cluster				-	75,157
Total - Department of Housing and Urban Development				-	75,157
<u>Department of Transportation</u>					
Federal Transit Cluster					
Federal Transit Formula Grants	Direct Grant	20.507			
IN-2016-029-00 Columbus Transit			IN-2018-014-00/IN-90-X725	-	842,894
IN-2018-014-00/IN-34-0036 COLUMBUS TRANSIT			IN-2019-009-00/IN-90-X736	-	668,313
IN-2019-009-00/IN-90-X736 COLUMBUS TRANSIT			IN-90-X670-00	-	62,314
IN-2016-029-00 Columbus Transit			IN-2016-029-00/IN-90-X698	-	400,840
Total - Federal Transit Formula Grants				-	1,974,361
Buses and Bus Facilities Formula, Competitive, and Low or No Emissions Programs	Direct Grant	20.526			
IN-2018-014-00/IN-34-0036 COLUMBUS TRANSIT			IN-2018-014-00/IN-34-0036	-	360,002
Total - Federal Transit Cluster				-	2,334,363
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster					
Highway Planning and Construction	Indiana Department of Transportation	20.205			
ROCKY FORD ROAD PAVEMENT			DES-0500866	-	77,407
REHAB WESTENEDGE DR N OF US 31 S OF ROCKY FORD ROAD			DES-0500868	-	80,755

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Federal Grantor Agency Cluster Title/Program Title/Project Title	Pass-Through Entity or Direct Grant	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity (or Other) Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipient	Total Federal Awards Expended
TAYLOR ROAD FROM 25TH STREET TO ROCKY FORD			DES-0500875	-	30,402
BRIDGE #96 REPLACEMENT ROCKY FORD ROAD			DES-0710814	-	14,957
COLUMBUS PEOPLE TRAIL-HAW CREEK TRAIL			DES-1173209	-	6,594
PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL INSTALLATION AND ADA UPGRADES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS ALONG 25TH ST			DES-1701063	-	85,375
TALLEY ROAD			DES-1701323	-	56,816
LOWELL ROAD ADDED TRAVEL LANES			DES-1701325	-	52,391
TAYLOR ROAD PHASE II			DES-1702107	-	10,512
TALLEY ROAD BRIDGE 103			DES-1800008	-	23,909
Total - Highway Planning and Construction				-	439,118
Recreational Trails Program PEOPLE TRAIL CLIFTY CREEK	Indiana Department of Transportation	20.219	RT-13-006	-	117,611
Total - Highway Planning and Construction Cluster				-	556,729
Airport Improvement Program REHABILITATE TAXIWAY C REHABILITATE TAXIWAY A3/A4	Direct Grant	20.106	3-18-0012-030-2018	-	345,476
Metropolitan Transportation Planning and State and Non-Metropolitan Planning and Research METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION	Indiana Department of Transportation	20.505	A249-17-G170033 A249-19-G191001	- -	245,861 38,831
Total - Metropolitan Transportation Planning and State and Non-Metropolitan Planning and Research				-	284,692
Total - Department of Transportation				-	3,521,260
Total federal awards expended				\$ -	\$ 3,596,417

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

**Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*A. Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) includes the federal grant activity of the City under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2019. The information in the SEFA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the SEFA presents only a select portion of the operations of the City, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position of the City.

*B. Other Significant Accounting Policies*

Expenditures reported on the SEFA are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments*, or the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement. When federal grants are received on a reimbursement basis, the federal awards are considered expended when the reimbursement is received.

**Note 2. Indirect Cost Rate**

The City has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

**Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results**

Financial Statement:

Type of auditor's report issued:	Adverse as to GAAP; Unmodified as to Regulatory Basis
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weaknesses identified?	yes
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statement noted?	yes

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major program:	
Material weaknesses identified?	no
Significant deficiencies identified?	none reported
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	no

Identification of Major Program and type of auditor's report issued on compliance for it:

<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>	<u>Opinion Issued</u>
Federal Transit Cluster	Unmodified
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000	
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	no

**Section II - Financial Statement Findings**

**FINDING 2019-001**

Subject: Preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards  
Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Noncompliance

*Condition and Context*

The City did not properly review the federal grant information prepared and submitted into the Indiana Gateway for Government Units financial reporting system, which was the source of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA), for accuracy prior to submission.

Due to the lack of effective controls, the SEFA presented for audit contained the following errors:

1. The Highway Planning and Construction grant expenditures were understated by \$26,915.
2. The Airport Improvement Program grant expenditures were understated by \$101,411.

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
(Continued)

3. Not all program names, project titles, and identifying numbers were correct or reported.

Audit adjustments were proposed, accepted by the City, and made to the SEFA.

*Criteria*

The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) is required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) to define the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards. To provide clarifying guidance, the State Examiner compiled the standards contained in the manual, *Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions*. All political subdivisions subject to audit by SBOA are expected to adhere to these standards. The standards include adequate control activities. According to this manual:

"Control activities are the actions and tools established through policies and procedures that help to detect, prevent, or reduce the identified risks that interfere with the achievement of objectives. Detection activities are designed to identify unfavorable events in a timely manner whereas prevention activities are designed to deter the occurrence of an unfavorable event. Examples of these activities include reconciliations, authorizations, approval processes, performance reviews, and verification processes.

An integral part of the control activity component is segregation of duties. . . .

There is an expectation of segregation of duties. If compensating controls are necessary, documentation should exist to identify both the areas where segregation of duties are not feasible or practical and the compensating controls implemented to mitigate the risk. . . .

The Green Book identifies a list of control activity categories that are meant only to illustrate the range and variety of control activities; the list is by no means all inclusive, but is reproduced here for reference purposes: . . .

- Accurate and timely recording of transactions. . . ."

2 CFR 200.508 states in part:

"The auditee must: . . .

- (b) Prepare appropriate financial statements, including the schedule of expenditures of Federal awards in accordance with § 200.510 Financial statements. . . ."

2 CFR 200.510(b) states:

"*Schedule of expenditures of Federal awards*. The auditee must also prepare a schedule of expenditures of Federal awards for the period covered by the auditee's financial statements which must include the total Federal awards expended as determined in accordance with § 200.502 Basis for determining Federal awards expended. While not required, the auditee may choose to provide information requested by Federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities to make the schedule easier to use. For example, when a Federal program has multiple Federal award years, the auditee may list the amount of Federal awards expended for each Federal award year separately. At a minimum, the schedule must:

CITY OF COLUMBUS  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
(Continued)

- (1) List individual Federal programs by Federal agency. For a cluster of programs, provide the cluster name, list individual Federal programs within the cluster of programs, and provide the applicable Federal agency name. For R&D, total Federal awards expended must be shown either by individual Federal award or by Federal agency and major subdivision within the Federal agency. For example, the National Institutes of Health is a major subdivision in the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (2) For Federal awards received as a subrecipient, the name of the pass-through entity and identifying number assigned by the pass-through entity must be included.
- (3) Provide total Federal awards expended for each individual Federal program and the CFDA number or other identifying number when the CFDA information is not available. For a cluster of programs also provide the total for the cluster.
- (4) Include the total amount provided to subrecipients from each Federal program.
- (5) For loan or loan guarantee programs described in § 200.502 Basis for determining Federal awards expended, paragraph (b), identify in the notes to the schedule the balances outstanding at the end of the audit period. This is in addition to including the total Federal awards expended for loan or loan guarantee programs in the schedule.
- (6) Include notes that describe that significant accounting policies used in preparing the schedule, and note whether or not the auditee elected to use the 10% de minimis cost rate as covered in § 200.414 Indirect (F&A) costs."

*Cause*

Management had not established a system of internal control that would have ensured proper reporting of the SEFA.

*Effect*

Without a proper system of internal control in place that operated effectively, material misstatements of the SEFA remained undetected. The SEFA contained the errors identified in the *Condition and Context*.

*Views of Responsible Officials*

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

**Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs**

No matters are reportable.

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AUDITEE-PREPARED DOCUMENT

The subsequent document was provided by management of the City. The document is presented as intended by the City.



Luann G. Welmer, Clerk-Treasurer

## CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

### ***FINDING 2019-001***

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Luann Welmer  
Contact Phone Number: (812) 376-2510

Views of Responsible Official:

We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan:

The oversight of SEFA reporting was due to the Federal Government depositing a reimbursement to an account other than the assigned General Fund checking account. This was a one-time occurrence of a Federal deposit not applied to the General Fund account. The City Clerk Treasurer's Office will closely monitor all accounts for secondary review and continue to work with all departments to provide accurate and timely information for SEFA reporting.

Anticipated Completion Date: Immediately

## OTHER REPORTS

In addition to this report, other reports may have been issued for the City. All reports can be found on the Indiana State Board of Accounts' website: <http://www.in.gov/sboa/>.