HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY San Bernardino, California

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FROM JULY 1, 2022 TO JANUARY 3, 2023 (Date of Withdrawal)

TABLE OF CONTENTS From July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023 (Date of Withdrawal)

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Board of Directors High Desert Corridor JPA San Bernardino, California

Independent Auditors' Report

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the High Desert Corridor JPA (Authority), as of January 3, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents, for the period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities the General Fund of the Authority, as of January 3, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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 Authority, 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 opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 4 to the financial statements, the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority dissolved due to the San Bernardino County's withdrawal from the Authority as part of the approved plan dated March 1, 2022. 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 opinions. 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 Board of Directors High Desert Corridor JPA San Bernardino, California Page 2

Auditing Standards 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, 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 Authority'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.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted Management's Discussion and Analysis 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.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Board of Directors High Desert Corridor JPA San Bernardino, California Page 3

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 31, 2023, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Gruber and Lopez, Inc.

Gruber and Lopez, Anc.

Newport Beach, California December 31, 2023

Statement of Net Position

January 3, 2023

	Governmental Activities	
Assets Cash and cash equivalents	\$	-
Total Assets		-
Liabilities Accounts payable		-
Total Liabilities		-
Net position Unrestricted		-
Total Net Position	\$	

Statement of Activities

For the Period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023

	Governmental Activities				
		- ·	Net (expense)		
		Operating	Revenue and		
	Expenses	Grants and Contributions	Changes in Net Position		
Function/Programs Public ways and facilities:		Contributions			
Professional and administrative services	\$ 1,374,561	\$ 1,236,500	\$ (138,061)		
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 1,374,561	\$ 1,236,500	(138,061)		
General revenues: Investment earnings (loss)			7,775		
Total General Revenues			7,775		
Change in net position			(130,286)		
Net position at beginning of year			130,286		
Net position at end of year			\$ -		

Balance Sheet Governmental Fund

January 3, 2023

	General Fund	
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	-
Total Assets	\$	-
Liabilities and Fund Balances		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$	-
Total Liabilities		-
Fund balance:		
Unassigned		-
Total Fund Balance		-
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$	-

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Fund to the Statement of Net Postion

January 3, 2023

Total Fund Balance - Governmental Fund	\$ -
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net position are different because:	
None	 -
Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$ -

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Fund

For the Period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023

	General Fund	
Revenues		
Intergovernmental	\$ 1,236,500	
Investment earnings	7,775	
Total Revenues	1,244,275	
Expenditures		
Current:		
Public ways and facilities		
Services and supplies	90,941	
Total Expenditures	90,941	
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	1,153,334	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)		
Residual equity transfer to LA County Metropolitan		
Transportation Authority	1,283,620	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,283,620	
Net Change in Fund Balance	(130,286)	
Fund Balance - beginning	130,286	
Fund Balance - ending	<u>\$ </u>	

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities

For the Period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Government Fund	\$ (130,286)	
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of activities are different because:		
None	 -	
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$ (130,286)	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS January 3, 2023

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Reporting Entity

The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (the Authority) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formed pursuant to the provisions of the Government Code of the State of California, and is comprised by seven local governmental entities. These entities are the County of Los Angeles, the San Bernardino County, the Town of Apple Valley, and the Cities of Adelanto, Palmdale, Lancaster, and Victorville. The Authority was initially formed pursuant to a Joint Powers Agreement dated November 8, 2006, which was subsequently amended on March 13, 2007.

The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors made up of nine members, including one Board of Supervisor each from San Bernardino County (First District) and the Los Angeles County (Fifth District). The San Bernardino County Board member can appoint three additional members from San Bernardino County, the City of Adelanto, the City of Victorville, the City of Hesperia, and the Town of Apple Valley. The Los Angeles County Board member can appoint three additional members from Los Angeles County, the City of Palmdale and the City of Lancaster. A ninth member is appointed jointly by the First District Supervisor of San Bernardino and the Fifth District Supervisor of Los Angeles County and appointed by action of the Board.

The Authority proposes to create and establish the High Desert Corridor, a sixty-three mile stretch of freeway connecting the Los Angeles County communities of Palmdale/Lancaster with the San Bernardino County communities of Victorville, Apple Valley, and Adelanto. Members may contribute annually to provide financial support to further the purpose of the Authority. The Authority's Board has designated the San Bernardino County with administrative oversight of the Authority.

The accompanying financial statements reflect only the accounts of the High Desert Corridor JPA and are not intended to present the financial position of the individual members taken as a whole. See Note 4 for the San Bernardino County's dissolution from the Authority.

Basis of Presentation

Government-wide and fund financial statements

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities display information about the primary government (the Authority).

The Statement of activities presents direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Authority's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented instead as general revenues.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS January 3, 2023

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Basis of Presentation (continued)

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the Authority's fund, which include only governmental funds.

The Authority reports the following major governmental fund:

The *General Fund* accounts for the activities of the government's efforts to establish the freeway connecting the Los Angeles County communities of Palmdale/Lancaster with the San Bernardino County communities of Victorville, Apple Valley, and Adelanto.

Basis of Accounting

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Authority gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include grants, entitlements, and donations. Revenues from grants, entitlements, and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Under this method, revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Interest and certain State and Federal grants are accrued when their receipt occurs within 270 days after the end of the accounting period so as to be both measurable and available. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Amounts reported as program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Authority's policy to use restricted resources first, and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Cash and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition.

The Authority maintains its cash with the San Bernardino County's (County) Treasury for investment purposes to maximize interest earnings. Interest on the pooled funds is allocated based on the Authority's average daily balance. The Authority's share of the investment activity in the pooled funds managed by the County is not material to the total held by the County. The equity in the County Treasury is carried at fair value based on the value of each participating dollar as provided in the County Treasurer. The Authority had no deposit or investment policy that addressed a specific type of risk. The San Bernardino County's Treasurer's investment pool is subject to oversight by the Treasury Oversight Committee.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS January 3, 2023

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Due From Other Governments

Due from other governments receivables are recorded at their gross value and, where appropriate, are reduced by the portion that is considered uncollectible. Receivables consist primarily of grant claims that have been filed but not received as of year-end. Management believes its receivables balance to be fully collectible and, accordingly, no allowance for doubtful accounts has been recorded. As of January 3, 2023, there were no amounts due from other governments.

Deferred Inflows of Resources – Unavailable Revenues

Unavailable revenues are reported in the general fund and represent revenue received more than 270 days following year end and, therefore, unavailable to pay liabilities of the current period. Unavailable revenue received after 270 days is fully recognized as revenue in the government-wide financial statements. As of January 3, 2023, there were no deferred inflows of resources.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimations and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Fund Balances

Governmental funds report fund balances in classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Authority is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds can be spent. Fund balance classifications for governmental funds are made up of the following:

- *Nonspendable Fund Balance*: Amounts cannot be spent because they are: (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. Due to the nature or form of the resources, they generally cannot be expected to be converted into cash or a spendable form.
- *Restricted Fund Balance*: Amounts are restricted by external parties, i.e., creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws/regulations of other governments or restricted by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- *Committed Fund Balance*: Amounts can only be used for a specific purpose pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Authority's highest level of decision making authority. The formal action must occur prior to the end of the reporting period, however, the amount may be determined in the subsequent period. These are self-imposed limitations on available resources. These committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government removes or changes the specified use by taking the same level of action it employed to previously commit those amounts. These committed amounts would be approved and adopted by formal action of the Board.
- Assigned Fund Balance: Amounts are constrained by the Authority's intent to be used for specific purposes that are neither restricted nor committed. The intent will be expressed by the Authority's Board of Directors.
- Unassigned Fund Balance: Is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes all amounts not contained in the other classifications. Unassigned amounts are available for any purpose.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS January 3, 2023

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fund Balances (continued)

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use when an expenditure is incurred, it is the Authority's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed. It is the Authority's policy to consider committed amounts as being reduced first, followed by assigned amounts, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

The Authority's Board establishes, modifies and/or rescinds fund balance commitments by passage of an ordinance or resolution.

Note 2: CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash, cash equivalents, and investments include balances of monies deposited with the San Bernardino County Treasurer which are pooled and invested for the purpose of increasing earnings through investment activities. Interest earned on pooled investments is deposited to the Authority's account based upon the Authority's average daily deposit balance during the allocation period.

See the San Bernardino County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for details of their investment policy and disclosures related to investment credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest rate risk, and custodial credit risk, as required by GASB Statement No. 40 and fair value hierarchy disclosures required by GASB Statement No.72.

Note 4: WITHDRAWAL

As of January 3, 2023, the San Bernardino County's withdrawal from the Authority has been completed in accordance with Board of Directors decision on March 1, 2022. Effective July 1, 2022, the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority is dissolving due to the San Bernardino County's withdrawal from the Authority. The former members and directors formed a new successor joint powers authority on September 26,2022, among the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, City of Lancaster, City of Palmdale, City of Victorville, and the City of Adelanto. The complete dissolution was completed during the period July 1, 2022 through January 3, 2023. The final transfer of close out funds of \$1,283,620 was sent to the LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority on September 8, 2022.

Note 5: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through December 31, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and has determined that there are no transactions that will have a significant impact on the Authority.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget to Actual For the Period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023

	General Fund							
	Original Budget				Actual		F	riances with inal Budget Positive Negative)
Revenues Intergovernmental Investment earnings (loss)	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,236,500 7,775	\$	1,236,500 7,775
Total Revenues		-		-		1,244,275		1,244,275
Expenditures Services and supplies				-		90,941		(90,941)
Total Expenditures		-		-		90,941		(90,941)
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures		_		-		1,153,334		1,153,334
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Residual equity transfer to								
LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority		-		_		1,283,620		(1,283,620)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)				-		1,283,620		(1,283,620)
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$		\$	-	:	(130,286)	\$	(130,286)
Fund Balance - beginning						130,286		
Fund Balance - ending					\$			

NOTE TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION January 3, 2023

Note 1: SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET TO ACTUAL

Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and are used as a management control device for the General Fund. The Authority adopts and controls its budget by major object code. Expenditures may exceed an object code budget as long as overall expenditures are within the adopted budget's total appropriation. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. The Management of the Authority prepares and submits a proposed budget to the Board of Directors for review. After reviewing the proposed budget and making such revisions as it may deem advisable, a final budget is prepared and adopted. Revisions to the adopted budget must be presented to the Board of Directors by Management of the Authority and approved by resolution.

Due to the withdrawal plan, there were no budgeted amounts during the dissolution period.

OTHER REPORTS



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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

Board of Directors High Desert Corridor JPA San Bernardino, California

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 governmental activities and General Fund of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (the Authority), as of January 3, 2023 and for the period July 1, 2022 to January 3, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 31, 2023.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority'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 Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority'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 a 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we considered to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from 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. 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*.

Board of Directors High Desert Corridor JPA San Bernardino, California Page 2

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

Gruber and Lopez, Inc.

Gruber and Lopez, Anc.

Newport Beach, California December 31, 2023