

**ORANGE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

SINGLE AUDIT
Year ended June 30, 2022

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Orange, California

SINGLE AUDIT
Year ended June 30, 2022

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

Board of Directors
Orange County Transportation Authority
Orange, 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, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise OCTA's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 16, 2022.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered OCTA'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 OCTA's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of OCTA'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. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and 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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2022-001 to be a material weakness.

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 described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2022-002 to be a significant deficiency.

(Continued)

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether OCTA's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, including the applicable provisions of the State of California Transportation Development Act (TDA), Title 21 of the California Code of Regulations, Public Utilities Code Section 99245, and California Government Code §8879.50 (collectively "Transportation Development Act"), 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*, including the Transportation Development Act.

OCTA's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on OCTA's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. OCTA's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

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.



Crowe LLP

Costa Mesa, California
November 16, 2022

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

Board of Directors
Orange County Transportation Authority
Orange, California

Report on Compliance for Major Federal Program

Opinion on Major Federal Program

We have audited Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on OCTA's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2022. OCTA's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, OCTA complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2022.

Basis for Opinion on Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); 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). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of OCTA and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for the major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of OCTA's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to OCTA's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on OCTA's compliance based on our audit. 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 GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about OCTA's compliance with the requirements of the major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 OCTA's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of OCTA's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances 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 OCTA's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on 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 a 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 a 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

(Continued)

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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.

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

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of OCTA as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise OCTA's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated November 16, 2022, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. 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 basic financial statements. 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 basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, 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 basic financial statements as a whole.



Crowe LLP

Costa Mesa, California
December 21, 2022

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
Year ended June 30, 2022

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Grant/Pass-Through Identification Number	Federal Expenditures	Passed Through to Subrecipients
<u>U.S. Department of Transportation</u>				
Direct Programs:				
Federal Transit Cluster:				
Federal Transit - Capital Improvement Grants	20.500	Multiple	\$ 23,349,185	\$ -
COVID-19 - Federal Transit - Capital Improvement Grants	20.500	CA-2022-024	9,407,272	-
Federal Transit - Formula Grants	20.507	Multiple	72,511,715	-
COVID-19 - Federal Transit - Formula Grants	20.507	Multiple	201,378,430	3,504,231
State of Good Repair Program	20.525	Multiple	5,367,514	-
Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program	20.526	Multiple	7,064,074	-
Total Federal Transit Cluster			319,078,190	3,504,231
Transit Services Programs Cluster:				
Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities	20.513	CA-2021-190	2,291,380	-
COVID-19 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities	20.513	Multiple	782,616	-
Job Access and Reverse Commute Program	20.516	CA-37-X113	376,620	346,869
Total Transit Services Programs Cluster			3,450,616	346,869
Passed Through California Department of Transportation:				
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster:				
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	Multiple	17,553,690	-
Metropolitan Transportation Planning and State and Non-Metropolitan Planning and Research				
	20.505	RGA 74A1147	19,527	-
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			340,102,022	3,851,100
<u>U.S. Department of Homeland Security</u>				
Direct Programs:				
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	97.039	059-91032	38,628	-
Office of Security Operations:				
National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program	97.072	OCTA2020OTA-NCP459	150,302	-
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			188,930	-
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$ 340,290,952	\$ 3,851,100

See accompanying notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
Year ended June 30, 2022

NOTE 1 - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Schedule) presents only the expenditures incurred by OCTA that are reimbursable under federal programs of federal financial assistance for the year ended June 30, 2022. For the purposes of this schedule, federal financial assistance includes both federal financial assistance received directly from a federal agency, as well as federal funds received indirectly by OCTA from a non-federal agency or other organization. The information in this schedule 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). Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the basic financial statements. Program expenditures in excess of the maximum federal reimbursement authorized or the portion of the program expenditures that were funded with state, local or other non-federal funds are excluded from the accompanying schedule.

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. OCTA has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

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 Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

NOTE 2 – TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT (TIFIA) PROGRAM LOAN

In July 2017, OCTA executed a TIFIA loan agreement with the United States Department of Transportation in an amount not to exceed \$628,930,000 to finance a portion of OCTA's I-405 improvement project. There were no TIFIA draws during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. On September 9, 2021, OCTA prepaid the amount of funds drawn to date on the TIFIA Loan, plus accrued interest, totaling \$314,000,000 to the United States Department of Transportation to close the transaction.

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
 SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
 Year ended June 30, 2022

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP:

Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified?

 X Yes No

Significant deficiency(ies) identified?

 X Yes None reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?

 Yes X No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major federal programs:

Material weakness(es) identified?

 Yes X No

Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?

 Yes X None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major federal programs:

Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?

 Yes X No

Identification of major federal programs:

Federal Assistance Listing Number

Name of Federal Program or Cluster

20.500 / 20.507 / 20.525 / 20.526

Federal Transit Cluster

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:

\$ 3,000,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

 X Yes No

(Continued)

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
Year ended June 30, 2022

SECTION II – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

**Finding 2022-001 – Financial Accounting and Reporting for State Transit Assistance Fund
(Material Weakness)**

Criteria

State Transit Assistance Funds (STAF) and Local Transportation Funds (LTF) are subject to compliance with the Transportation Development Act (TDA) requirements which includes Title 21 section 6634 of the California Code of Regulations(CCR). Section 6634 (a) indicates no operator or transit service claimant shall be eligible to receive moneys during the fiscal year from the local transportation fund and the state transit assistance fund for operating costs in an amount that exceeds its actual operating cost less fare revenues, local support, federal operating assistance, and other amounts as described in CCR Section 6634.

Condition

OCTA functions as both the transportation planning agency and claimant (operator) for the County of Orange. As such, OCTA receives LTF and STAF monies into the respective special revenue funds. These monies are then transferred in accordance with TDA requirements to the Orange County Transit District (OCTD), as the claimant, to be used in operations or capital activities. The OCTD fund received excess allocation of operating monies resulting in a transfer back to STAF in the amount of \$16,219,881.

Cause

OCTA performs a quarterly review of transfers of TDA monies from the LTF fund and STAF fund to the OCTD fund in order to evaluate compliance with TDA laws and regulations. The calculation review process included a review of LTF allocations in compliance with 21 CCR 6634 but this review did not encompass STAF allocations. This gave rise to STAF allocations in excess of eligible amounts.

Effect

The OCTD fund was required to return excess STAF allocations in the amount of \$16,219,881 to the STAF fund.

Recommendation

Crowe recommends that OCTA amend their quarterly review of TDA allocations to include a review of both LTF and STAF allocations for compliance with Title 21 CCR 6634.

Management's Response

Management agrees with the recommendation and has implemented a control to discontinue systematic transfers from the STAF fund to OCTD fund. It was anticipated there would be sufficient expenditures to claim the entire STAF allocation this fiscal year, however expenditures for OCTD underran the budget by \$20 million for the year, which led to a shortfall of expenditures to claim. Going forward, staff will perform a quarterly review of TDA allocations to include both LTF and STAF allocations to ensure all transfers have corresponding eligible expenditures. Separately, in March 2022, the Board approved a new reserve policy that would reserve excess revenues in a long-term operating reserve. Staff has been working with the State to allow for the establishment of reserve funds to be eligible for purposes of claiming funds consistent with this new OCTA policy. The State has indicated that this would be acceptable so staff will continue to work with the State on updating the guidelines to specifically allow transfers for this purpose.

(Continued)

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
Year ended June 30, 2022

Finding 2022-002 – Preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Significant Deficiency)

Criteria

2 CFR 200.510 (b) requires "...the auditee to prepare a schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) for the period covered by the financial statements which must include the total federal awards expended. At a minimum, the schedule must (3) provide total federal awards expended for each individual federal program and the [related] Assistance Listings Number... (4) include the total amount provided to subrecipients from each Federal Program." In addition, the auditee should ensure they have proper internal controls to ensure that the SEFA is fairly stated in relation to the financial statements.

Condition

During our review of the SEFA provided by management it was noted that the SEFA did not include presentation of expenditures passed through to subrecipients. There were approximately \$3.5 million in expenditures to subrecipients for the Federal Transit Cluster that were excluded. Additionally, the SEFA overstated expenditures for the Federal Transit Cluster by approximately \$1 million as a result of accruing expenditures which had already been recognized during the year and \$4.5 million as a result of missing an accrual and recognizing in the prior year.

Cause

Management's review of the SEFA did not include timely review of subrecipient activity. Additionally, management's review of expenditures included on the SEFA was not conducted at a precision sufficient to identify duplicate expenditures or amounts requiring accrual.

Effect

As a result, the expenditures presented as passed through to subrecipients on the SEFA for the Federal Transit Cluster were understated by approximately \$3.5 million. Additionally, the total expenditures on the SEFA for the Federal Transit Cluster were overstated by approximately \$5.5 million.

Recommendation

We recommend that management strengthen their review process over the SEFA to ensure that all expenditures are appropriately and accurately reflected and that all minimum requirements as noted in 2 CFR 200.510 (b) are met.

Management's Response

Management agrees with the recommendation and management will strengthen the review process for the SEFA. There are multiple departments that provide input to the SEFA but going forward the responsibility for developing the SEFA will be centralized within the Accounting Department. The Accounting Department will coordinate with all other OCTA departments to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the SEFA and will implement an appropriate level of review. In addition, the Accounting Department will add a secondary review of grant revenue accruals provided by the Revenue Department to ensure timeliness and accuracy of the accrual information.

(Continued)

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
Year ended June 30, 2022

SECTION III – FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

None.