



WESTMINSTER

COLORADO

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM

- C. 2024 Annual Financial Audit Engagement Letter and Auditor Communication on Matters Related to the Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit



Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item – 6.C.

City Council Meeting
May 12, 2025



Strategic Priority 6: Organizational Vitality

Develop and sustain an environment where employees and the organization are equipped and supported to deliver outstanding service to everyone in Westminster

Subject: 2024 Annual Financial Audit Engagement Letter and Auditor Communication on Matters Related to the Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

Prepared By: Cherie Sanchez, Accounting Manager

Recommended City Council Action:

This report is for information only and requires no formal action by the City Council.

Summary Statement:

The City's independent audit firm, Forvis Mazars, LLP (Forvis Mazars), has provided an audit engagement letter and audit message for City Council's review regarding the City's 2024 annual financial audit.

The engagement letter defines the terms and conditions of the audit relative to the legal relationship between the City and Forvis Mazars.

The audit message defines Forvis Mazars and City responsibilities in relation to the financial statement audit and provides an overview of the scope and timing of the audit.

Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) Auditing Unit (AU) Section 380, The Auditor's Communication with Those Charged with Governance, requires these formal communications to apprise an organization's governing board about the audit and its outcome.

Fiscal Impact:

\$0 in expenditures

Source of Funds:

Not applicable

Policy Issue(s):

None identified

Alternative(s):

None identified

Background Information:

Chapter IX, Section 9.10 of the City Charter requires that an independent audit be conducted at least annually for all funds reported in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). This audit must be performed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as they pertain to governments, and conducted by Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) with experience in municipal accounting. The 2024 audit is being performed by Forvis Mazars, Certified Public Accountants.

Forvis Mazars was formed following a merger between BKD, LLP and Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP in June 2022, which created Forvis, LLP, and subsequently the absorption of Mazars, LLP US team and name change in 2024. The City originally contracted with BKD, LLP in 2020 to provide independent professional auditing services, with an option to renew for up to four additional one-year terms, subject to annual appropriation. The 2024 audit represents the fourth and final one-year renewal under this contract.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) SAS AU 380, *The Auditor's Communication with Those Charged with Governance*, requires auditors to communicate with those responsible for overseeing the strategic direction of an entity and its accountability obligations.

For the City's 2024 annual financial audit, Forvis Mazars has provided an audit engagement letter (Attachment 1) and pre-audit message (Attachment 2) for City Council's review. The engagement letter is subordinate to the prevailing contract with terms and conditions specific to the 2024 audit. The pre-audit message reviews Forvis Mazars and City responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards as well as the scope and timing of the audit.

The 2024 annual financial audit commenced with interim work in December 2024 and Forvis Mazars began audit field work on Monday, April 14, 2025. The results and findings of the City's financial audit are scheduled to be communicated to City Council in a written report and Study Session presentation later this year.

This audit process supports the City's Strategic Plan goal of Organizational Vitality by ensuring transparency and communication with the City Council regarding the annual financial audit and the roles and responsibilities of both Forvis Mazars and the City.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Andrews', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jody L. Andrews
City Manager

Attachments:

Attachment 1: 2024 Financial Audit Engagement Letter

Attachment 2: 2024 Financial Audit Message

Forvis Mazars, LLP
1801 California Street, Suite 2900
Denver, CO 80202
P 303.861.4545 | F 303.832.5705
forvismazars.us



October 7, 2024

City Council
Larry Dorr, Deputy City Manager & Chief
Financial Officer & Finance Director
City of Westminster, Colorado
4800 West 92nd Avenue
Westminster, Colorado 80031

We appreciate your selection of **Forvis Mazars, LLP** as your service provider and are pleased to confirm the arrangements of our engagement in this contract. Within the requirements of our professional standards and any duties owed to the public, regulatory, or other authorities, our goal is to provide you an **Unmatched Client Experience**.

In addition to the terms set forth in this contract, including the detailed **Scope of Services**, our engagement is governed by the following, incorporated fully by this reference:

- Terms and Conditions Addendum

Summary Scope of Services

As described in the attached **Scope of Services**, our services will include the following:

- City of Westminster, Colorado
- Audit Services for the year ended December 31, 2024

You agree to assume full responsibility for the substantive outcomes of the contracted services and for any other services we may provide, including any findings that may result.

You also acknowledge these services are adequate for your purposes, and you will establish and monitor the performance of these services to ensure they meet management's objectives. All decisions involving management responsibilities related to these services will be made by you, and you accept full responsibility for such decisions.

We understand you have designated a management-level individual(s) to be responsible and accountable for overseeing the performance of nonattest services, and you have determined this individual is qualified to conduct such oversight.

This engagement letter supplements the Agreement in place between the parties. If any portion of this engagement letter conflicts with the Agreement, the Agreement shall control.

Engagement Fees

The fees for our services as outlined in Appendix C of the Agreement will be \$100,000. This fee includes the testing of one major single audit program. Any additional programs will be billed at \$9,000 per program. Our estimate of time assumes no substantial problems with obtaining information necessary to complete the audit.

Our pricing for this engagement and our fee structure are based upon the expectation that our invoices will be paid promptly. Payment of our invoices is due upon receipt. Payments for the engagement are due as follows:

January 30, 2025	\$25,000
March 31, 2025	\$30,000
April 30, 2025	\$20,000
May 31, 2025	\$20,000
June 30, 2025	\$ 5,000

Our timely completion of services and the fees thereon depends on the assistance you provide us in accumulating information and responding to our inquiries. Inaccuracies or delays in providing this information or the responses may result in additional billings, untimely filings, or inability to meet other deadlines. Our fees do not contemplate the following transactions or activities during the period of this engagement:

- Mergers or acquisitions
- Change in accounting principles other than GASB Statement 101
- Substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- Violation of covenants in debt arrangements
- Indications of fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets
- Derivatives accounted for under hedge accounting
- Quantitative impairment analysis of long-lived assets
- More than one major federal awards program

Assistance with New Standards

Assistance and additional time as a result of the adoption of the following new standards are not included within our standard engagement fees. These fees will be based on time expended and will vary based on the level of assistance and procedures required.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023. Early application is encouraged.

Statement No. 101 unifies and updates recognition, measurement, and disclosure guidance for compensated absences. Under this Statement, a government is required to record a liability for leave if that leave has been earned, accumulates, and is more likely than not to be used, paid, or otherwise settled. We can assist you with the adoption of this standard by providing services which may include, but are not limited to:

- Assessing your readiness by assisting with the evaluation of your:
 - Current controls and policies
 - Current internal resources and system capabilities
- Assisting with changes required to adopt Statement No. 101, including:
 - Assisting with information gathering by reviewing current leave programs and policies
 - Discussing potential calculation methods
 - Recommending enhancements to existing controls and policies or suggesting new controls and policies to address Statement No. 101
 - Documenting any changes from previous compensated absence calculations methodologies
 - Drafting the required disclosures

City of Westminster, Colorado

October 7, 2024

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The time it will take to perform the above assistance and our additional audit procedures relating to the adoption of the Statement, and any time to assist you with the adoption, may be minimized to the extent your personnel will be available to provide timely and accurate documentation and information as requested by us.

Contract Agreement

Please sign and return this contract to indicate your acknowledgment of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our services including our respective responsibilities.

Forvis Mazars, LLP

Acknowledged and agreed to as it relates to the entire contract, including the **Scope of Services** and **Terms and Conditions Addendum**, on behalf of City of Westminster, Colorado.

Signed by:
BY 
433868D9C01541D...
Larry Dorr, CFO/Deputy City Manager
ldorr@cityofwestminster.us

DATE 10/12/2024

Scope of Services – Audit Services

We will audit the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information and related disclosures, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements for the following entity(ies):

City of Westminster, Colorado as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023

The audit has the following broad objectives:

- Obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- Expressing an opinion on the financial statements
- Issuing a report on your internal control over financial reporting and compliance and other matters based on the audit of your financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*
- Expressing an opinion on your compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect to each of your major federal award programs in accordance with 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)
- Issuing a report on your internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance
- Issuing a report on your schedule of expenditures of federal awards

We will also express an opinion on whether the combining and individual fund statements and schedules and other supplementary information listed in the table of contents ("supplementary information") is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

We will complete the auditee portion of the Form SF-SAC (Data Collection Form) through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. We will not make the submission on your behalf. You will review a draft(s) of the submission prior to transmission and agree that you are solely responsible for approving the final draft for transmission as well as for the auditee submission and certification.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities and to oversee the nonattest services we will provide by designating an individual possessing suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience. You acknowledge that nonattest services are not covered under *Government Auditing Standards*. You are responsible for:

- Making all management decisions and performing all management functions
- Evaluating the adequacy and results of the services performed
- Accepting responsibility for the results of such services
- Designing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities

Kamryn Jeffries, Director, is responsible for supervising the engagement team and authorizing the signing of reports.

We will issue a written report(s) upon completion of our audit(s), addressed to the following parties:

Entity Name	Party Name
City of Westminster, Colorado	Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council

You are responsible to distribute our reports to other officials who have legal oversight authority or those responsible for acting on audit findings and recommendations, and to others authorized to receive such reports.

The following apply for the audit services described above:

**Our
Responsibilities**

We will conduct our audit 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 and the Uniform Guidance. Those standards require that we plan and perform:

- The audit of the financial statements to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error
- The audit of compliance to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the entity(ies) complied with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal award program

We will exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We will obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

We will 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, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We will also conclude, based on audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We will 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 the entity's compliance with compliance requirements subject to audit and performing such other procedures as the auditor considers necessary in the circumstances.

We will obtain an understanding of the entity'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 the entity'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 the auditor identified during the audit.

**Limitations &
Fraud**

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit that is planned and conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement or material noncompliance with federal award programs when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and 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. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement or material noncompliance 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. Noncompliance with compliance requirements 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 the entity's compliance with the requirements of the federal programs as a whole.

Our understanding of internal control is not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of your internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we identify during the audit.

We are available to perform additional procedures with regard to fraud detection and prevention at your request, subject to completion of our normal engagement acceptance procedures. The actual terms and fees of such an engagement would be documented in a separate contract to be signed by you and Forvis Mazars.

Opinion

Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinion, add an emphasis-of-matter paragraph or other-matter paragraph(s) to our auditor's report, or if necessary, decline to express an opinion or withdraw from the engagement.

If we discover conditions that may prohibit us from issuing a standard report, we will notify you. In such circumstances, further arrangements may be necessary to continue our engagement.

**Your
Responsibilities**

Management and, if applicable, those charged with governance acknowledge and understand their responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of all information provided and for the following:

- **Audit Support** – to provide us with:
 - Unrestricted access to persons within the entity or within components of the entity (including management, those charged with governance, and component auditors) from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence
 - Information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, including access to information relevant to disclosures

- Information about events occurring or facts discovered subsequent to the date of the financial statements, of which management may become aware, that may affect the financial statements
 - Information about any known or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving management, employees with significant role in internal control, and others where fraud could have a material effect on the financials
 - Identification and provision of report copies of previous audits, attestation engagements, or other studies that directly relate to the objectives of the audit, including whether related recommendations have been implemented
 - Additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit
- **Internal Control and Compliance** – for the:
 - Design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to compliance with laws and regulations and the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
 - Alignment of internal control to ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported; and that compliance with and identification of the laws, regulations, contracts, grants, or agreements (including any federal award programs) applicable to the entity's activities is achieved
 - Remedy, through timely and appropriate steps, of fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or other agreements reported by the auditor
 - Establishment and maintenance of processes to track the status and address findings and recommendations of auditors
 - **Accounting and Reporting** – for the:
 - Maintenance of adequate records, selection and application of accounting principles, and the safeguard of assets
 - Adjustment of the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirmation to us in the representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole
 - Preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (or other basis if indicated in the contract)
 - Inclusion of the auditors' report in any document containing financial statements that indicates that such financial statements have been audited by us
 - Distribution of audit reports to any necessary parties

The results of our tests of compliance and internal control over financial reporting performed in connection with our audit of the financial statements may not fully meet the reasonable needs of report users. Management is responsible for obtaining audits, examinations, agreed-upon procedures, or other engagements that satisfy relevant legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements or fully meet other reasonable user needs.

**Required
Supplementary
Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information ("RSI") to accompany the basic financial statements. We understand the following RSI will accompany the basic financial statements:

1. Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A")
2. Budgetary comparison
3. Pension and Other Postemployment Benefit information

Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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.

Management is responsible for the fair presentation of the RSI. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the RSI in GAAS. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding 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 will 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.

**Supplementary
Information**

With regard to any supplementary information that we are engaged to report on:

- Management is responsible for its preparation in accordance with applicable criteria
- Management will provide certain written representations regarding the supplementary information at the conclusion of our engagement
- Management will include our report on this supplementary information in any document that contains this supplementary information and indicates we have reported on the supplementary information
- Management will make the supplementary information readily available to intended users if it is not presented with the audited financial statements

Such information is:

- Presented for the purpose of additional analysis of the financial statements
- Not a required part of the financial statements
- The responsibility of management
- 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 accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS

**Written
Confirmations
Required**

As part of our audit process, we will request from management and, if applicable, those charged with governance written confirmation acknowledging certain responsibilities outlined in this contract and confirming:

- The availability of this information
- Certain representations made during the audit for all periods presented
- The effects of any uncorrected misstatements, if any, resulting from errors or fraud aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole

**Peer Review
Report**

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract, upon request. If you would like a copy, please request from your engagement executive.

Forvis Mazars, LLP Terms and Conditions Addendum

GENERAL

1. **Overview.** This addendum describes **Forvis Mazars, LLP's** standard terms and conditions ("Terms and Conditions") applicable to Our provision of services to the Client ("You"). The Terms and Conditions are a part of the contract between You and Forvis Mazars, LLP. For the purposes of the Terms and Conditions, any reference to "Firm," "We," "Us," or "Our" is a reference to Forvis Mazars, LLP ("Forvis Mazars"), and any reference to "You" or "Your" is a reference to the party or parties that have engaged Us to provide services and the party or parties ultimately responsible for payment of Our fees and costs.

BILLING, PAYMENT, & TERMINATION

2. **Billing and Payment Terms.** We will bill You for Our professional fees and costs as outlined in Our contract. Unless otherwise provided in Our contract, payment is due upon receipt of Our billing statement. Interest will be charged on any unpaid balance after 30 days at the rate of 10 percent per annum, or as allowed by law at the earliest date thereafter, and highest applicable rate if less than 10 percent. All fees, charges, and other amounts payable to Forvis Mazars hereunder do not include any sales, use, excise, value-added, or other applicable taxes, tariffs, or duties, payment of which shall be Your sole responsibility, and do not include any applicable taxes based on Forvis Mazars' net income or taxes arising from the employment or independent contractor relationship between Forvis Mazars and Forvis Mazars' personnel.

We reserve the right to suspend or terminate Our work for this engagement or any other engagement for nonpayment of fees. If Our work is suspended or terminated, You agree that We will not be responsible for Your failure to meet governmental and other deadlines, for any penalties or interest that may be assessed against You resulting from Your failure to meet such deadlines, and for any other damages (including but not limited to consequential, indirect, lost profits, or punitive damages) incurred as a result of the suspension or termination of Our services.

Our fees may increase if Our duties or responsibilities are increased by rulemaking of any regulatory body or any additional new accounting or auditing standards. Our engagement fees do not include any time for post-engagement consultation with Your personnel or third parties, consent letters and related procedures for the use of Our reports in offering documents, inquiries from regulators, or testimony or deposition regarding any subpoena. Charges for such services will be billed separately.

3. **Billing Records.** If these services are determined to be within the scope and authority of Section 1861(v)(1)(I) of the Social Security Act, We agree to make available to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or to the U.S. Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, such of Our books, documents, and records that are necessary to certify the nature and extent of Our services, until the expiration of four (4) years after the furnishing of these services. This contract allows access to contracts of a similar nature between subcontractors and related organizations of the subcontractor, and to their books, documents, and records.

4. **Termination.** Either party may terminate these services in good faith at any time for any reason, including Your failure to comply with the terms of Our contract or as We determine professional standards require. Both parties must agree, in writing, to any future modifications or extensions. If services are terminated, You agree to pay Forvis Mazars for time expended to date. In addition, You will be billed costs and fees for services from other professionals, if any, as well as an administrative fee of five (5) percent to cover certain technology and administrative costs associated with Our services. Unless terminated sooner in accordance with its terms, this engagement shall terminate upon the completion of Forvis Mazars' services hereunder.

DISPUTES & DISCLAIMERS

5. **Mediation.** Any dispute arising out of or related to this engagement will, prior to resorting to litigation, be submitted for nonbinding mediation upon written request by either party. Both parties agree to try in good faith to settle the dispute in mediation. The mediator will be selected by agreement of the parties. The mediation proceeding shall be confidential. Each party will bear its own costs in the mediation, but the fees and expenses of the mediator will be shared equally.
6. **Indemnification.** Unless disallowed by law or applicable professional standards, You agree to hold Forvis Mazars harmless from any and all claims which arise from knowing misrepresentations to Forvis Mazars, or the intentional withholding or concealment of information from Forvis Mazars by Your management or any partner, principal, shareholder, officer, director, member, employee, agent, or assign of Yours. You also agree to indemnify Forvis Mazars for any claims made against Forvis Mazars by third parties, which arise from any wrongful actions of Your management or any partner, principal, shareholder, officer, director, member, employee, agent, or assign of Yours. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply regardless of the nature of the claim.
7. **Statute of Limitations.** You agree that any claim or legal action arising out of or related to this contract and the services provided hereunder shall be commenced no more than one (1) year from the date of delivery of the work product to You or the termination of the services described herein (whichever is earlier), regardless of any statute of limitations prescribing a longer period of time for commencing such a claim under law. This time limitation shall apply regardless of whether Forvis Mazars performs other or subsequent services for You. A claim is understood to be a demand for money or services, demand for mediation, or the service of suit based on a breach of this contract or the acts or omissions of Forvis Mazars in performing the services provided herein. This provision shall not apply if enforcement is disallowed by applicable law or professional standards.
8. **Limitation of Liability.** You agree that Forvis Mazars' liability, if any, arising out of or related to this contract and the services provided hereunder, shall be limited to the amount of the fees paid by You for services rendered under this contract. This limitation shall not apply to the extent it is finally, judicially determined that the liability resulted from the intentional or willful misconduct of Forvis Mazars or if enforcement of this

provision is disallowed by applicable law or professional standards.

9. **Waiver of Certain Damages.** In no event shall Forvis Mazars be liable to You or a third party for any indirect, special, consequential, punitive, or exemplary damages, including but not limited to lost profits, loss of revenue, interruption, loss of use, damage to goodwill or reputation, regardless of whether You were advised of the possibility of such damages, regardless of whether such damages were reasonably foreseeable, and regardless of whether such damages arise under a theory of contract, tort, strict liability, or otherwise.
10. **Choice of Law.** You acknowledge and agree that any dispute arising out of or related to this contract shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas, without regard to its conflict of laws principles.
11. **WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL. THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREE NOT TO ELECT A TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY ISSUE TRIABLE OF RIGHT BY JURY, AND WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY FULLY TO THE EXTENT THAT ANY SUCH RIGHT SHALL NOW OR HEREFTER EXIST WITH REGARD TO THIS AGREEMENT, OR ANY CLAIM, COUNTERCLAIM, OR OTHER ACTION ARISING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. THIS WAIVER OF RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IS GIVEN KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY BY THE PARTIES, AND IS INTENDED TO ENCOMPASS INDIVIDUALLY EACH INSTANCE AND EACH ISSUE AS TO WHICH THE RIGHT TO A TRIAL BY JURY WOULD OTHERWISE ACCRUE.**
12. **Severability.** In the event that any term or provision of this agreement shall be held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then the remainder of this agreement shall not be affected, and each such term and provision of this agreement shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.
13. **Assignment.** You acknowledge and agree that the terms and conditions of this contract shall be binding upon and inure to the parties' successors and assigns, subject to applicable laws and regulations.
14. **Disclaimer of Legal or Investment Advice.** Our services do not constitute legal or investment advice. You should seek the advice of legal counsel in such matters. Regulatory authorities may interpret circumstances differently than We do. In addition, the applicable laws, regulations, and regulators' enforcement activities may change over time.

RECORDS, WORKPAPERS, DELIVERABLES, & PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

15. **Maintenance of Records.** You agree to assume full responsibility for maintaining Your original data and records and that Forvis Mazars has no responsibility to maintain this information. You agree You will not rely on Forvis Mazars to provide hosting, electronic security, or backup services, e.g., business continuity or disaster recovery services, to You unless separately engaged to do so. You understand that Your access to data, records, and information from Forvis Mazars' servers, i.e., Forvis Mazars portals used to exchange information, can be terminated at any time and You will not rely on using this to host Your data and records.

16. **Forvis Mazars Workpapers.** Our workpapers and documentation retained in any form of media for this engagement are the property of Forvis Mazars. We can be compelled to provide information under legal process. In addition, We may be requested by regulatory or enforcement bodies (including any State Board) to make certain workpapers available to them pursuant to authority granted by law or regulation. Unless We are prohibited from doing so by law or regulation, Forvis Mazars will inform You of any such legal process or request. You agree We have no legal responsibility to You in the event We determine We are obligated to provide such documents or information.
17. **Subpoenas or Other Legal Process.** In the event Forvis Mazars is required to respond to any such subpoena, court order, or any government regulatory inquiry or other legal process relating to You or Your management for the production of documents and/or testimony relative to information We obtained or prepared incident to this or any other engagement in a matter in which Forvis Mazars is not a party, You shall compensate Forvis Mazars for all time We expend in connection with such response at normal and customary hourly rates and to reimburse Us for all out-of-pocket expenses incurred in regard to such response.
18. **Use of Deliverables and Drafts.** You agree You will not modify any deliverables or drafts prepared by Us for internal use or for distribution to third parties. You also understand that We may on occasion send You documents marked as draft and understand that those are for Your review purpose only, should not be distributed in any way, and should be destroyed as soon as possible.

Our report on any financial statements must be associated only with the financial statements that were the subject of Our engagement. You may make copies of Our report, but only if the entire financial statements (exactly as attached to Our report, including related footnotes) and any supplementary information, as appropriate, are reproduced and distributed with Our report. You agree not to reproduce or associate Our report with any other financial statements, or portions thereof, that are not the subject of Our engagement.

19. **Proprietary Information.** You acknowledge that proprietary information, documents, materials, management techniques, and other intellectual property are a material source of the services We perform and were developed prior to Our association with You. Any new forms, software, documents, or intellectual property We develop during this engagement for Your use shall belong to Us, and You shall have the limited right to use them solely within Your business. All reports, templates, manuals, forms, checklists, questionnaires, letters, agreements, and other documents which We make available to You are confidential and proprietary to Us. Neither You, nor any of Your agents, will copy, electronically store, reproduce, or make any such documents available to anyone other than Your personnel. This provision will apply to all materials whether in digital, "hard copy" format, or other medium.

REGULATORY

20. **U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and other Regulatory Bodies.** Where We are providing services either for (a) an entity that is registered with the SEC, (b) an affiliate of such registrant, or (c) an entity or affiliate that is

subject to rules, regulations, or standards beyond those of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA"), any term of this contract that would be prohibited by or impair Our independence under applicable law or regulation shall not apply to the extent necessary only to avoid such prohibition or impairment.

21. **Offering Document.** You may wish to include Our report(s) on financial statements in an exempt offering document. You agree that any report, including any auditor's report, or reference to Our firm, will not be included in any such offering document without notifying Us. Any agreement to perform work in connection with an exempt offering document, including providing agreement for the use of the auditor's report in the exempt offering document, will be a separate engagement.

Any exempt offering document issued by You with which We are not involved will clearly indicate that We are not involved by including a disclosure such as, "Forvis Mazars, LLP, our independent auditor, has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. Forvis Mazars, LLP also has not performed any procedures relating to this offering document."

22. **Forvis Mazars Not a Municipal Advisor.** Forvis Mazars is not acting as Your municipal advisor under Section 15B of the *Securities Exchange Act of 1934*, as amended. As such, Forvis Mazars is not recommending any action to You and does not owe You a fiduciary duty with respect to any information or communications regarding municipal financial products or the issuance of municipal securities. You should discuss such matters with internal or external advisors and experts You deem appropriate before acting on any such information or material provided by Forvis Mazars.
23. **Forvis Mazars Not a Fiduciary.** In providing Our attest services, We are required by law and our professional standards to maintain our independence from You. We take this mandate very seriously and thus guard against impermissible relationships which may impair the very independence which You and the users of Our report require. As such, You should not place upon Us special confidence that in the performance of Our attest services We will act solely in Your interest. Therefore, You acknowledge and agree We are not in a fiduciary relationship with You and We have no fiduciary responsibilities to You in the performance of Our services described herein.

TECHNOLOGY

24. **Electronic Sites.** You agree to notify Us if You desire to place Our report(s), including any reports on Your financial statements, along with other information, such as a report by management or those charged with governance on operations, financial summaries or highlights, financial ratios, etc., on an electronic site. You recognize that We have no responsibility to review information contained in electronic sites.
25. **Electronic Signatures and Counterparts.** This contract and other documents to be delivered pursuant to this contract may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original copy and all of which, when taken together, will be deemed to constitute one and the same

agreement or document, and will be effective when counterparts have been signed by each of the parties and delivered to the other parties. Each party agrees that the electronic signatures, whether digital or encrypted, of the parties included in this contract are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as manual signatures. Delivery of a copy of this contract or any other document contemplated hereby, bearing an original manual or electronic signature by facsimile transmission (including a facsimile delivered via the internet), by electronic mail in "portable document format" (".pdf") or similar format intended to preserve the original graphic and pictorial appearance of a document, or through the use of electronic signature software, will have the same effect as physical delivery of the paper document bearing an original signature.

26. **Electronic Data Communication and Storage.** In the interest of facilitating Our services to You, We may send data over the internet, temporarily store electronic data via computer software applications hosted remotely on the internet, or utilize cloud-based storage. Your confidential electronic data may be transmitted or stored using these methods. In using these data communication and storage methods, We employ measures designed to maintain data security. We use reasonable efforts to keep such communications and electronic data secure in accordance with Our obligations under applicable laws, regulations, and professional standards.

You recognize and accept that We have no control over the unauthorized interception or breach of any communications or electronic data once it has been transmitted or if it has been subject to unauthorized access while stored, notwithstanding all reasonable security measures employed by Us. You consent to Our use of these electronic devices and applications during this engagement.

OTHER MATTERS

27. **Cooperation.** You agree to cooperate with Forvis Mazars in the performance of Forvis Mazars' services to You, including the provision to Forvis Mazars of reasonable facilities and timely access to Your data, information, and personnel. You shall be responsible for the performance of Your employees and agents.
28. **Third-Party Service Providers.** Forvis Mazars may from time to time utilize third-party service providers, including but not limited to domestic software processors or legal counsel, or disclose confidential information about You to third-party service providers in serving Your account. Forvis Mazars maintains, however, internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality and security of Your information. In addition, Forvis Mazars will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of Your information. If We are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, You will be asked to consent prior to Forvis Mazars sharing Your confidential information with the third-party service provider.
29. **Independent Contractor.** When providing services to You, We will be functioning as an independent contractor; and in no event will We or any of Our employees be an officer of You, nor will Our relationship be that of joint venturers, partners, employer and employee, principal and agent, or any similar

relationship giving rise to a fiduciary duty to You. Decisions regarding management of Your business remain the responsibility of Your personnel at all times. Neither You nor Forvis Mazars shall act or represent itself, directly or by implication, as an agent of the other or in any manner assume or create any obligation on behalf of, or in the name of, the other.

30. **Hiring of Forvis Mazars Personnel.** We ask that You respect the employment relationship that Our personnel have with Our firm and to refrain from any employment offers to Forvis Mazars personnel. However, if You find it necessary to make an offer of employment and if it is accepted, during the term of this engagement and for a period of 18 months after Forvis Mazars stops providing services, You agree that We will be paid a one-time employment fee equal to 100 percent of the employee's highest annual salary. This fee will be payable prior to Our personnel commencing employment with You. Provided, however, You shall not be in violation of the nonsolicitation covenant set forth herein with respect to any position You advertise in the form of a general solicitation not delivered to or focused upon any single individual.
31. **Use of Forvis Mazars Name.** Any time You intend to reference Forvis Mazars' firm name in any manner in any published materials, including on an electronic site, You agree to provide Us with draft materials for review and approval before publishing or posting such information.
32. **Network.** Forvis Mazars, LLP is a Delaware limited liability partnership and an independent member of Forvis Mazars Global Ltd., a leading global professional services network. Forvis Mazars Global Ltd. is a United Kingdom company limited by guarantee and does not provide any services to clients.
33. **Entire Agreement.** The contract, including this Terms and Conditions Addendum and any other attachments or addenda, encompasses the entire agreement between You and Forvis Mazars and supersedes all previous understandings and agreements between the parties, whether oral or written. Any modification to the terms of this contract must be made in writing and signed by both You and Forvis Mazars.
34. **Force Majeure.** We shall not be held responsible for any failure to fulfill Our obligations if such failure was caused by circumstances beyond Our control, including, without limitation, fire or other casualty, act of God, act of terrorism, strike or labor dispute, war or other violence, explosion, flood or other natural catastrophe, epidemic or pandemic, or any law, order, or requirement of any governmental agency or authority affecting either party, including without limitation orders incident to any such epidemic or pandemic, lockdown orders, stay-at-home orders, and curfews.



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Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

November 30, 2023

To the Partners of FORVIS, LLP
and the National Peer Review Committee

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of FORVIS, LLP (the firm) applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection, in effect for the year ended May 31, 2023. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Standards).

A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a system review as described in the Standards may be found at www.aicpa.org/prsummary. The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported on in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

Firm's Responsibility

The firm is responsible for designing and complying with a system of quality control to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with the requirements of applicable professional standards in all material respects. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported on in conformity with the requirements of applicable professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of and compliance with the firm's system of quality control based on our review.

Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including compliance audits under the Single Audit Act; audits of employee benefit plans; audits performed under FDICIA; and examinations of service organizations (SOC 1 and SOC 2 engagements).

As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

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Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of FORVIS, LLP applicable to engagements not subject to PCAOB permanent inspection, in effect for the year ended May 31, 2023, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. FORVIS, LLP has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

EisnerAmper LLP

EISNERAMPER LLP
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

EISNERAMPER
LLP



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From time to time, Forvis Mazars, LLP (we, us or Company) may be required by law to provide to you certain written notices or disclosures. Described below are the terms and conditions for providing to you such notices and disclosures electronically through the DocuSign system. Please read the information below carefully and thoroughly, and if you can access this information electronically to your satisfaction and agree to this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure (ERSD), please confirm your agreement by selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures' before clicking 'CONTINUE' within the DocuSign system.

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Withdrawing your consent

If you decide to receive notices and disclosures from us electronically, you may at any time change your mind and tell us that thereafter you want to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format. How you must inform us of your decision to receive future notices and disclosure in paper format and withdraw your consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically is described below.

Consequences of changing your mind

If you elect to receive required notices and disclosures only in paper format, it will slow the speed at which we can complete certain steps in transactions with you and delivering services to you because we will need first to send the required notices or disclosures to you in paper format, and then wait until we receive back from you your acknowledgment of your receipt of such paper notices or disclosures. Further, you will no longer be able to use the DocuSign system to receive required notices and consents electronically from us or to sign electronically documents from us.

All notices and disclosures will be sent to you electronically

Unless you tell us otherwise in accordance with the procedures described herein, we will provide electronically to you through the DocuSign system all required notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you during the course of our relationship with you. To reduce the chance of you inadvertently not receiving any notice or disclosure, we prefer to provide all of the required notices and disclosures to you by the same method and to the same address that you have given us. Thus, you can receive all the disclosures and notices electronically or in paper format through the paper mail delivery system. If you do not agree with this process, please let us know as described below. Please also see the paragraph immediately above that describes the consequences of your electing not to receive delivery of the notices and disclosures electronically from us.

How to contact Forvis Mazars, LLP:

You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

To contact us by email send messages to: nearadminservices@us.forvismazars.com

To advise Forvis Mazars, LLP of your new email address

To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at nearadminservices@us.forvismazars.com and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

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To request paper copies from Forvis Mazars, LLP

To request delivery from us of paper copies of the notices and disclosures previously provided by us to you electronically, you must send us an email to nearadminservices@us.forvismazars.com and in the body of such request you must state your email address, full name, mailing address, and telephone number. We will bill you for any fees at that time, if any.

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To inform us that you no longer wish to receive future notices and disclosures in electronic format you may:

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By selecting the check-box next to 'I agree to use electronic records and signatures', you confirm that:

- You can access and read this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure; and
- You can print on paper this Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure, or save or send this Electronic Record and Disclosure to a location where you can print it, for future reference and access; and
- Until or unless you notify Forvis Mazars, LLP as described above, you consent to receive exclusively through electronic means all notices, disclosures, authorizations, acknowledgements, and other documents that are required to be provided or made available to you by Forvis Mazars, LLP during the course of your relationship with Forvis Mazars, LLP.

Forvis Mazars Planning Communication to the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council

City of Westminster

December 31, 2024

Thank You for Selecting Forvis Mazars

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the City of Westminster and gain insight into your operations. This communication provides useful information relevant to your role as those charged with governance of the City, including summarized information required by professional standards, such as the planned scope and timing of the audit.

Our goal is to establish a foundation for effective two-way communication throughout the audit. We are available at your convenience to discuss this information and answer questions as we begin our audit.

Contacts During the Engagement

We understand the appropriate person in the governance structure with whom to communicate is:

- Nancy McNally, Mayor

Your audit leader for any questions or communications is:

- Karmyn Jeffries | karmyn.jeffries@us.forvismazars.com | 303.831.4545 office

Overview & Responsibilities

Matter	Description of Audit Area
Scope of Our Audit	<p>We have been engaged to audit the financial statements and compliance with Federal awards of City of Westminster for the year ended December 31, 2024.</p> <p>Please refer to our contract dated October 7, 2024 for additional information and the terms of our engagement.</p>
Expected Opinion Modifications	<p>An emphasis-of-matter paragraph will be included for the implementation of GASB Statements 100 and 101.</p>

Matter	Description of Audit Area
Audit Standards & Materiality	<p>We will conduct our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), the standards applicable to financial statement audits contained in <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> (GAGAS) issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and Title 2 U.S. <i>Code of Federal Regulations</i> (CFR) Part 200, <i>Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards</i> (Uniform Guidance).</p> <p>Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit of the financial statements to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud; and the audit of compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, <i>Compliance Supplement</i> that are applicable to each major federal award program to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether noncompliance having a direct and material effect on a major federal award program occurred.</p> <p>References to items that are material refer to misstatements, including omissions, that could, in our professional judgment, reasonably be expected.</p>
Our Responsibilities	<p>We are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management, with your oversight, are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.</p>
Your Responsibilities	<p>Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.</p>
Distribution Restriction	<p>This communication is intended solely for the information and use of those charged with governance, the Honorable Mayor, and Members of City Council and, if appropriate, management of the City and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.</p>

Other Information Accompanying the Audited Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual comprehensive financial report.

The other information comprises the information included in the annual comprehensive financial report but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

We will not subject such information to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it. Our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements or whether there is an indication that the other information appears to be materially misstated or misleading. We will respond appropriately when we identify material inconsistencies or when we otherwise become aware that information appears to be materially misstated.

In the event we issue a disclaimer of opinion on the financial statements, our auditor's report will not make any reference to the annual comprehensive financial report or to any procedures that may have been performed.

Drafts of the annual comprehensive financial report should be provided to us by April 21, 2025, in order to provide us with adequate time to read the documents for the purposes described above.

Planned Timing of the Engagement

We succeed in our engagements by collaborating with management through frequent communication. We require the assistance of management and staff to prepare supporting documents, schedules and analysis and depend on those items to be ready no later than the dates that we mutually agree will meet your deadlines.



We began our interim procedures December 9, 2024 and expect to begin our final audit procedures on approximately April 14, 2025. We anticipate that our team will be performing activities, both on site and remotely during these dates. We anticipate being on site the weeks of April 14th through May 9th.

Draft financial statements are expected to be ready April 21, 2025, and we will issue our report on approximately May 29, 2025.

Planned Audit Scope

We welcome any input you may have regarding the information discussed below. We also welcome any insight you have related to any other risk areas or other significant risk areas you believe warrant particular attention.

Extent of Testing

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Establishing Our Understanding

An audit also includes obtaining an understanding of the City and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion.

Communicating Deficiencies or Significant Matters

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. However, during the audit, we will communicate internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards.

We will also communicate significant matters arising during the audit of the financial statements that are relevant to you in overseeing the financial reporting process as required by professional standards.

Significant Risks of Material Misstatement

We have preliminarily identified the following areas of significant risks of material misstatement due to error or fraud and of material noncompliance and propose to address these areas as described:

Risk Area(s)	Audit Approach
Management override of controls	Review accounting estimates for bias, review journal entries and evaluate business rationale for unusual transactions.
Revenue recognition	Test grant, property and sales tax revenues and review for proper cut-off and compliance with requirements and determining recognition.

Other Procedures to Be Performed

We may also request written representations from the City's attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill the City for responding to this inquiry.

At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from management about the financial statements and related matters.

We may identify additional significant risks as we complete our procedures.

Use of Resources

We plan to use the following in our audit:

- The following specialists or experts in our audit:
 - Harvest Investments will be used to test the valuation of the investments held by the City

Adoption of New Accounting Standards

The City must adopt GASB 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62 as of January 1, 2024. GASB 100 updates accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to address current diversity in practice by amending GASB Statement No. 62. For each type of accounting change and error correction, GASB 100 addresses accounting and reporting requirements, display, including display in the financial statements, note disclosures, and impact on required supplementary information (RSI) and supplementary information (SI).

The City must adopt GASB 101, Compensated Absences, as of January 1, 2024. Implementation of this standard includes selection of a transition method for the City, election of certain practical expedients, and adoption of new policies. In addition, implementation of this standard may affect internal controls over financial reporting. We encourage you to communicate with management regularly regarding the policy elections made, recognition of new financial statement amounts, and disclosures upon transition.

Consideration of Error or Fraud

One of the most common questions we receive from audit committees OR governing bodies is, "How do you address fraud in a financial statement audit?" Our responsibility, as it relates to fraud, in an audit of financial statements is addressed in auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audit approach includes such procedures as:

- Engagement team brainstorming
- Inquiries of management and others
- Reviewing accounting estimates for bias