



October 14, 2021

To the Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council  
El Mirage, Arizona

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of El Mirage, Arizona (the City) for the year ended June 30, 2021. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our engagement letter to you dated January 15, 2021. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### Significant Audit Findings

##### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during fiscal year 2021.

We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the City's financial statements were:

Management's estimate of depreciation expense is based on the useful lives of the underlying assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation lives in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of accrued compensated absences is based on pay rates at year-end and the number of accrued hours for eligible employees. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the compensated absences accrual to determine that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, management's estimates have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) and the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS). The City's net pension/OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total pension/OPEB liability used to calculate the net pension/OPEB liability for ASRS was determined using update procedures to roll forward the total pension/OPEB liability from an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2019, to the measurement date of June 30, 2020 and for PSPRS was determined using an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2020. The key factors and assumptions used to develop the valuation and the accrual appear reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### *Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements.

#### *Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### *Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 14, 2021.

#### *Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### *Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

### Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the management's discussion and analysis and other required supplementary (RSI) information as listed in the table of contents that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information as listed in the table of contents, which accompanies the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the introductory section or statistical section, as listed in the table of contents, which accompanies the financial statements, but are not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide assurance on it.

### Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Mayor, City Council, and management of the City and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,



HintonBurdick, PLLC

