CITY OF MANTECA

MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 This Page Left Intentionally Blank

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

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MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

To the City Council of the City of Manteca, California

In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the City of Manteca as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the City's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City'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. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and other deficiencies that we consider to be 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 City's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies in internal control included on the Schedule of Material Weaknesses to be material weaknesses.

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 deficiencies in internal control included on the Schedule of Significant Deficiencies to be significant deficiencies.

Included in the Schedule of Other Matters are recommendations not meeting the above definitions that we believe are opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency.

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Material Weaknesses, Schedule of Significant Deficiencies and Schedule of Other Matters. The City's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, City Council, others within the organization, and agencies and pass-through entities requiring compliance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Mane & Associates

Pleasant Hill, California October 14, 2024

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close</u>

As we noted in prior year comments 2022-001, 2021-001, 2020-001 and 2019-001, the year-end financial closing and preparation of the general ledger data should be completed timely and accurately. In addition, well-managed organizations should develop a plan to ensure that adequate resources will remain available in the event of employee departures. Part of that is ensuring there are resources available to be utilized on short notice to fill gaps in key positions, especially in the Finance Department. These resources need to be in place throughout the fiscal year to ensure accounting processes and procedures continue and allow time for analysis of account balances and activities.

Due to the staff turnover prior to and during the year, there continued to be a significant strain on the City's ability to maintain a good internal control environment and to produce accurate and timely financial data. As a result, the year-end audit was adversely affected.

The City provided an original general ledger for audit and as the audit progressed, discovered that a large number of closing entries had been omitted or required correction and provided over 100 post-closing entries. During the audit, we also noted a number of closing and post-closing entries that required correction or entries that had been omitted, some of which were material, as well as areas in which closing records were incomplete. The material or significant items include:

- Refundable deposits and associated cash balance adjustments of \$4.2 million had not been recorded.
- The current portion of long-term debt of \$2.1 million had not been recorded.
- Accounts payable corrections between funds of \$2.4 million were needed.
- The beginning fund balance of two general ledger funds did not agree to the prior year ending balances due to entries that were posted to the funds in error.
- Multiple current year additions and disposals of capital assets were recorded in the wrong general ledger accounts and some current year disposals were not recorded.
- Certain capital asset journal entries affected cash incorrectly due to the auto-balance feature of journal entries that uses the cash account for entries that do not balance within each fund.
- A December 2022 land sale from the Successor Agency to the City was not recorded in the general ledger until June 2024.
- A budget journal entry included an account number that did not exist in the general ledger.
- One budget adjustment posted to the general ledger prior to the start of the audit was not reflected in the trial balance provided for audit due to a system error. Although City staff corrected the error, it should have been noticed prior to the year-end close, as it was a significant amount for the funds involved (\$1.8 million adjustment was in the Gas Tax Fund, rather than the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Fund).
- Nine corrections to the June 30, 2023 budget balances, including those above, were not proposed until May and August 2024.
- During our disbursements testing, we noted two Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) that were not included in the City's inventory listing of SBITAs.
- One reclassification journal entry we selected for testing during our regular journal entry testing was reversed after we questioned the purpose of the entry. City staff determined that the reclassification was not needed, but that should have been noted during the original review of the entry.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close (Continued)</u>

- Although the City had implemented procedures in the prior year to track and record retentions payable, \$950 thousand of retentions were not recorded in the general ledger provided for audit.
- The City received interest on a condemnation deposit in the amount of \$13,800 during fiscal year 2023. In our review of the activity surrounding the deposit, we noted that the cash receipt was recorded in the General Fund, however the Public Facilities Implementation Plan Capital Projects Fund made the deposit and therefore that fund should have received the interest.
- The schedule of construction commitments provided for audit had a balance of \$16.74 million, but we noted it included the retentions payable that had not been recorded above and the commitments still included \$106 thousand of retentions that had been paid during the fiscal year. After the adjustments, the final construction commitments schedule for the footnote disclosure totaled \$15.58 million.

The above conditions delayed the completion of the year-end closing process, which increases the risk that errors or misstatements may go undetected by staff and corrections may not be made in a timely manner. Audit effort was substantially increased in response to these increased risks.

Many of the post-closing entries noted above involved transactions that occurred during the fiscal year, but were not recorded timely or correctly. The City should analyze staff resources to determine what plans can or should be made to ensure that the financial data is processed properly and timely during staffing transitions. In addition, the City must develop procedures to ensure that accounts are analyzed throughout the fiscal year and after the year end close to ensure that additional closing entries are not required prior to providing the general ledger for audit.

Management's Response:

Staff continues to evaluate processes and procedures to ensure a more timely and accurate close. Staff turnover has made this difficult; however, critical positions that were vacant within the department have been filled, which has helped alleviate some of these issues. Current staff ultimately understands the critical need for an annual year-end close schedule to ensure that closing entries are done in a timely manner. Staff has compiled a comprehensive and detailed year-end close schedule that assigns roles/responsibilities and timeframes for closing entries, annual filings, information gathering, etc. Further plans include a variance analysis and budget-to-actual comparisons to further identify needed areas of attention. The annual year-end close schedule is being actively used during the FY 24 year-end close process.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-002 Filing Timely Grant Reimbursement Requests

As noted in prior year comment 2020-013, grant reimbursement requests should be filed shortly after the associated grant expenditures are incurred.

During the audit, we noted that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Special Revenue Fund and the Special Apportionment Streets Capital Improvement Fund, had fund balance deficits of \$139 thousand and \$6.6 million, respectively, as a result of expenditures incurred in excess of revenues. Both funds are primarily funded by reimbursable federal grants, but grant reimbursement requests filed during the fiscal year did not include all of the costs incurred.

For the CDBG Fund, we understand in prior years City staff incorrectly thought that if they did not bill for the grant funds, they lost that year's funding and could not go back to request reimbursement. We also understand the City is in the process of getting the CDBG billing caught up, which should eliminate the fund balance deficit. As for the Special Apportionment Streets Fund, although the City spent over \$6.4 million for a project with invoice dates ranging from October 2022 to June 2023, the City did not file for reimbursement under the grant until May 2024.

City staff indicated that due to the turnover of employees in the Finance Department during the prior fiscal years, the City did not complete the reimbursement requests.

Late grant draws could jeopardize grant funding if the costs are not claimed during the period of performance specified in the grant agreement. In addition, the deficit balances in the funds could put a strain on the General Fund, which is required to cover the deficit cash balances in those funds until reimbursement is received, which totaled \$6.58 million as of June 30, 2023.

The City should develop procedures to ensure that grant reimbursement requests are filed on a monthly or at least quarterly basis for all applicable funds/programs, to ensure that grant funding is not jeopardized and to improve cash flow.

Management's Response:

Staff recognizes grant reimbursement requests have not been timely. In the past, staff turnover in key positions have left grant management without proper attention. Staff is implementing grant management policies and procedures to ensure reimbursement requests occur timely and are documented thoroughly.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-003 Payroll Errors and Benefits Documentation

Employee regular and overtime pay should be accurately calculated and pay-related benefits should be based on memoranda of understanding (MOU) with bargaining units or formal City policies.

We selected forty employees for testing of gross pay for the payroll period ended April 15, 2023 and noted the following:

- One employee's overtime hourly rate was calculated incorrectly, because the health stipend rate from the prior MOU was used in the calculation. The error in the rate continued to affect the employee's pay after the pay period we tested and resulted in a cumulative underpayment of \$5.83 through June 30, 2023. Manual calculations should be reviewed and approved in detail to ensure they do not include errors.
- One employee received a 2.5% pay incentive for all overtime hours from October 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as his overtime rate was never adjusted to remove the Field Training Officer incentive when his assignment ended on October 1, 2022. Between October 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, the employee worked 347.25 overtime hours, resulting in an over payment in the amount of \$1,030. The City must develop a procedure to ensure changes in incentives are reflected in the pay rates and the City should determine whether the employee needs to return the overpayment.
- One employee received a step increase that was delayed and required retroactive pay once it was completed. The payment of the retroactive pay totaled \$14,369, but it appears the correct retroactive pay should have been \$2,689, and we noted the employee returned the overpayment to the City. City staff was not able to provide supporting documentation of how the original retroactive pay amount was calculated.

As a result of this error, we requested a report of all retroactive pays that were issued by the City during fiscal year 2023 and noted total retroactive pay of \$445,786. We selected three employee retroactive pays to recalculate the pay and trace it to applicable supporting documentation, but the City was unable to provide documentation supporting the amounts paid.

The City must develop policies and procedures related to retroactive pays, including a detailed review and approval of any calculations and retention of supporting documentation for the correction.

• One employee's Technical and Support Services Association (TSS) educational incentive was overpaid in the amount of \$3.93 due to the inclusion of overtime pay in the calculation of the incentive.

After discussion with City staff, we understand additional employees were affected by the calculation error and it was not corrected by City staff until March 2024. We requested a report of all TSS educational incentives paid during fiscal year 2023 and noted they totaled \$5,177, which we estimate to be an overpayment of approximately \$291 to the employees. City staff should determine the actual amounts overpaid and whether the amounts need to be returned by the employees.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-003 Payroll Errors and Benefits Documentation (Continued)

- One employee was eligible for two different educational incentives of 2.5%, but the payroll register only showed one pay code of a 2.5% educational incentive. Although the employee was correctly paid educational incentives totaling 5%, we understand the payroll system combines the duplicate use of the same code even though it is entered as a separate payment. The payroll register code descriptions should show the separate 2.5% educational incentives or the code description should indicate the 5% incentive.
- The payroll register for one employee included a description for longevity pay of more than 10 years, but the employee was only eligible and was correctly paid for the longevity pay benefit of 5-10 years. The description in the payroll register did not agree with the actual longevity payment. The pay code in the payroll register should reflect the actual amounts paid to reduce confusion.
- The payroll register for one employee indicated he received an educational incentive of 2.5%, but he was correctly paid an educational incentive of 5%. We understand the payroll personnel did not establish a 5% educational incentive code, so the 2.5% description was used to pay the 5% incentive. The pay code in the payroll register should reflect the actual amounts paid to reduce confusion.
- Two employees' Holiday Flat pay was underpaid \$24.07 and \$28.38, respectively, due to the exclusion of one of their 2.5% incentive pays from the calculation. We understand the City cannot determine which certification incentive pay was left out of the calculation. We also understand these miscalculations were later discovered by a separate project in the Human Resources Department and payment was made to the employees. However, we again stress the need for the City to review hourly pay calculations to ensure they are correct.
- During our testing, we noted the Payroll Technician was able to adjust her own pay for the health stipend rate that is included in the calculation of her overtime. City staff stated that there was no review of her adjustments to her payroll to confirm the changes in the pay batches. While we did not note any errors in her pay for the pay period tested, the Payroll Technician should not be able to adjust her own pay and if it is not possible to restrict the access, there should be a review of the employee's pay for accuracy each pay period.

Due to the errors related to the other employees noted above and the Payroll Technician's access, we requested a report of the Payroll Technician's payroll totals for the full fiscal year to calculate the hourly pay rate for the pays based on the Personnel Action Forms and noted that her overtime pay for January 2023 was only based on the overtime rate and did not include the health stipend as required by FLSA. This resulted in an underpayment in the amount of \$60. We again stress the need for the City to review hourly pay calculations to ensure they are correct and payroll employees should not calculate their own pay rates.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-003 Payroll Errors and Benefits Documentation (Continued)

• The City provides cell phone allowances or stipends to certain employees and has a Cell Phone Policy document. The amount of the stipend varies based on "Tiers" related to the required accessibility of the employee. The Policy includes an "Acknowledgement Form and Approval Form for Cell Phone Stipend."

During our payroll testing, we noted the following:

- One employee received a cell phone allowance of \$17.50, but that allowance does not match any of the approved amounts in the Policy. We understand two employees were paid this incorrect amount for cell phone allowance and the error was corrected in April 2024. The two employees should have received a cell phone allowance of \$45 per month or \$22.50 per pay period.
- Two employees received a cell phone allowance of \$60 and \$37.50, respectively, per pay period, but the City could not provide supporting documentation showing what Tier they were authorized to receive.
- Two employees received a cell phone allowance of \$60 and \$44.50, respectively, per pay period. Although these employees' personnel action forms did indicate they were approved to receive a cell phone allowance, the forms did not include the Tier or amount of the allowance they should have received and City staff could not locate any additional documentation.
- The City paid cell phone allowances totaling \$131,555 during fiscal year 2023 and with the errors noted above, we could not determine whether it was overstated or understated.

The City should review all cell phone allowances and stipends paid to ensure that they are authorized and paid in the correct amount. In addition, the City should formally and consistently document if an employee should be receiving a cell phone stipend or allowance and how much that allowance or stipend should be, using the personnel action form or the Acknowledgement Form and Approval Form for Cell Phone Stipend.

When descriptions in the payroll register do not agree to the actual amounts paid or there is no supporting documentation for benefits received or retroactive payments made, it could lead to confusion as to what is being paid and whether it is correct.

The City must develop procedures to ensure that all manual calculations for hourly employee regular or overtime pay rates, benefit payments and retroactive payments are reviewed in detail and approved each pay period. The review and approval should be formally documented in some manner and the supporting documentation must be retained. The City should also update documentation for the cell phone allowances as noted above.

The City should also review the above errors to ensure that other employees are not affected.

Management's Response:

The Payroll staff is located within the Human Resources Department, not the Finance Department. Hence, it's difficult for Finance staff to have oversight over Payroll staff. However, Finance staff will have regular check-ins with HR regarding Payroll issues. Finance staff will recommend review, approval, and documentation procedures for each pay period for all manual calculations for hourly employee regular or overtime pay rates and retroactive payments.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2023-004 Prior Year Material Weaknesses Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Material Weaknesses identified on the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2023. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Material Weaknesses. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses.

- 2022-001 Timely and Accurate Year End Close
- 2021-001 Timely and Accurate Year End Close
- 2021-002 Accurately Adopting and Amending the Annual Budget
- 2020-001 Timely and Accurate Year End Close
- 2020-002 Timely Preparation of Bank Reconciliations
- 2020-004 Redevelopment Bonds Projects Fund
- 2019-001 Timely and Accurate Year-End Close

Management's Response:

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses.

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CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2023-005 Retaining Supporting Documentation and Timely Payment of Disbursements

All disbursements made by the City should be supported by documentation such as invoices, bidding documents, contracts and purchase orders, along with proper authorization documentation. In addition, payments to vendors should be made timely, usually within thirty to forty-five days of receiving the related invoice from the vendor.

During the audit we selected 40 disbursements to test for compliance with the City's Purchasing Policy, accuracy of supporting documentation and timeliness of the payments and we also selected additional disbursements for testing during the course of the audit. During our testing, we noted the following:

- City staff could not initially provide any documentation supporting one disbursement for services in the amount of \$45,423. City staff had to communicate with the vendor to obtain a copy of the invoice, but when the invoice was provided, it did not include a purchase order, terms, project number, address of where the work was completed or an address for where the invoice was sent to at the City. City staff was later able to locate the contract for the services, but since it was a professional services contract for \$50,000, the City should have received written quotes from at least three different vendors prior to entering into the contract, however it appears the City did not complete the process.
- City staff could not provide the invoice for one disbursement for supplies in the amount of \$4,226 and had to contact the vendor to obtain a duplicate copy of the invoice.
- One payment on April 13, 2023 for monthly cleaning services in the amount of \$2,250 was supported by a contract for the period July 1, 2021 to June 3, 2022. We understand the City did not have a contract in place with the vendor for fiscal year 2023 and the City's current contract with the vendor was effective August 16, 2023. City staff was unsure as to why there is a gap between the contract periods.
- During our testing of pension contributions for the CalPERS pension plan, we noted that the City's contributions included interest on late payments of \$4,749 for fiscal year 2023. We also noted the City paid fees of \$5,800 related to eight late payments during fiscal year 2023.
- One payment for master plan and rate study services in the amount of \$10,168 was paid more than five months after the City received the invoice.
- One payment for services for July 12, 2022 through July 11, 2023 was invoiced on July 25, 2022, but not paid until March 22, 2023. We reviewed email correspondence between the City and the vendor related to the invoice, but it stopped on August 15, 2022 and there was no explanation for the additional delay in payment to March 2023.
- Two payments for services invoiced on February 23, 2023 were not paid until May 17 and 18, 2023. We noted May 12, 2023 correspondence between the City and the vendor related to the delinquent invoices that indicated City staff was unsure why the invoices had not been paid timely.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2023-005 <u>Retaining Supporting Documentation and Timely Payment of Disbursements</u> (Continued)

• The City has two development agreements that involve tax sharing payments that are due throughout the fiscal year. The first requires that the applicable Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenue generated by the developer each quarter is to be paid to the City no later than thirty days after the end of each quarter and the City is to pay the developer its share of the TOT revenue within ten days of that payment. The second requires the City pay the developer its share of sales taxes semi-annually within sixty days after the end of the second and fourth quarters each fiscal year.

We understand that due to staff turnover, the City did not pay the TOT taxes to the developer within the required time frame for the March 2023 and June 2023 quarters, as they were not paid until October 2023. The City did not pay the sales taxes to the developer that were due in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 until fiscal year 2024.

When supporting documentation is not retained and easily located, it could lead to improper payments being made. In addition, when invoices are not paid timely, it increases the likelihood of late fees from the vendor and increases the risk that errors or misstatements surrounding the invoice may occur.

City staff indicated that the Finance Department misplaced the backup associated with these transactions due to staff turnover, which also caused some of the late payments. We understand the other late payments are due to problems with new vendors and/or the general ledger online approval system, as well as staff turnover.

The City should develop procedures to ensure that supporting documentation is in place and retained for all disbursements and to ensure that all invoices are paid timely, usually within thirty to forty-five days after being received by the Finance Department or in compliance with contract requirements.

Management's Response:

Given past issues with Finance Department staff and other Department staff complying with the City's Purchasing Policy, there has been a renewed emphasis on following the policy at all levels of the City. In September of 2023, the pages of the Purchasing Policy regarding thresholds for bidding/solicitation, purchase orders and agreements/contracts were updated via Council Approval. Staff is engaging an outside consulting firm to perform a comprehensive review of the whole policy during Fiscal Year 2026. In the interim, with the appointment of a new Accounting Manager during Fiscal Year 2025, overseeing the accounting and purchasing functions, there has been an emphasis on educating Departments on the importance of complying with the Purchasing Policy. In addition, the City has transitioned to fully electronic Purchase Order and AP invoice batch processing. Electronic processing allows for thorough cataloging, and lower risk of losing back-up documentation.

For the tax sharing agreements, staff turnover had resulted in a loss of institutional knowledge regarding the Tax sharing agreements. However, with newer staffing in the Finance Department, payments to Developers, as associated with Tax Sharing agreements, have been as timely as possible since FY 24. No legal or punitive actions have been taken by any developers due to late payments. The City maintains good relationships with these respective developers.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2023-006 Investment Reporting and Compliance with Investment Policy

The City's annual investment policy and the California Government Code include various reporting and compliance requirements.

We reviewed the City's April 2022 Investment Policy and the June 30, 2023 Treasurer's Report and noted the following:

• Section III, Scope, of the City's Investment Policy indicates it applies to "all financial assets of the City," other than certain retirement funds or proceeds of bond issues, and Section XX, Reporting, indicates the quarterly report should include "all securities."

The June 30, 2023 Treasurer's Report did not include the Local Agency Investment Fund and California Asset Management Program pooled investments with a carrying value of \$115.3 million at that date.

• Section XXIV, Statement of Investment Policy, of the City's Investment Policy requires "The investment policy shall be reviewed at least annually..." and "The Treasurer shall also submit the investment policy annually to the City Council. Any amendments to the investment policy must be approved by City Council resolution."

The City's Investment Policy was reviewed by the City Council in March 2022, but was not reviewed during fiscal year 2023.

• Section XX, Reporting, of the City's Investment Policy and California Government Code Section 53646 requires that the quarterly Treasurer's Report include "a statement denoting the ability of the local agency to meet its pool's expenditure requirements for the next six months." The Government Code also indicates "or provide an explanation as to why sufficient money shall, or may, not be available."

The statement was not included in the June 30, 2023 Treasurer's Report or the accompanying staff report to the City Council.

We understand the omission of the information was due to staff turnover.

The City is not in compliance with the requirements of its Investment Policy and the California Government Code.

We did note that the pooled investments and the statement denoting the ability of the City to meet its pool's expenditure requirements for the next six months were added back to the Treasurer's Report in June 2024. However, the City should develop procedures to ensure that requirements of the Investment Policy and the California Government Code are incorporated into the quarterly reporting.

Management's Response:

The quarterly Treasury/Investment report has been more in compliance with the City's Investment Policy during FY 25. Also, the City's Investment Policy was updated during summer of 2024 to align with California Government Code.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2023-007 <u>Retention of Retiree Personnel Files to Support Pension and Other Post-</u> Employment Benefits (OPEB) Census Data Files

The City must maintain personnel records to ensure the accuracy of pension and OPEB census data files. Census data should be reviewed for accuracy prior to being submitted to the actuary and census data in the actuarial reports should be reconciled to the City's payroll records to ensure accuracy.

We selected thirty-nine active and retiree personnel for the City's OPEB plan for testing of eligibility to receive benefits and inclusion in the June 30, 2022 census data files based on various criteria, including newly eligible employees during the period to the census data, active employees and retirees in the census data and active employees in the payroll register to trace to census data. During our testing, we noted the following:

- Two retiree personnel action forms could not be located and both retirees' beneficiaries were included in the census data file, but the City did not have documentation of the beneficiaries.
- One retiree's beneficiary information was not retained in the City's records.
- One retiree's date of birth was not included on their personnel action form.
- One retiree's marital status was not retained in the City's records.
- One newly hired male employee's gender in the payroll system was listed as female. The census data file did properly report his gender as male.
- One newly hired employee's birth date on the personnel action form was listed as June 30, 2022 in error. The employee was properly excluded from the census data file, because they were a part-time employee.

We understand that employees that retired before the switch to the current NewWorld general ledger and human resources system in 2012 may not have complete database records. In addition, payroll staff indicated that clerical errors led to the misstatement of certain employee information, although the proper information exists within CalPERS' database that was used to generate the census data file.

Although the City was able to provide documentation for the missing files to show the employees had retired from the City, without proper review of the census data transmitted to the actuary, there is a risk of incorrect data being submitted which may affect the City's actuarial data results.

The City must develop record keeping, review and reconciliation procedures to ensure the pension and OPEB census data is supported, up to date and accurate. In the event the City records retention policy does not provide for retention of personnel files for retirees still receiving benefits, at a minimum, the policy should be revised to require the retention of personnel data to support the documentation of eligibility to receive the benefits.

Management's Response:

The Payroll staff is located within the Human Resources Department, not the Finance Department. Hence, it's difficult for Finance staff to have oversight over Payroll staff. However, Finance staff will have regular check-ins with HR regarding Payroll issues, including Retiree Record keeping. Finance staff will recommend record keeping and documentation procedures for retiree data and OPEB.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2023-008 Prior Year Significant Deficiencies Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Significant Deficiencies identified on the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2023. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Significant Deficiencies. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

- 2022-003 Accurate Calculation of Compensatory Time Hourly Pay Rate in Payroll System
- 2022-005 Documentation of Review of Changes to Customer and Employee Databases
- 2022-006 Capitalize Purchases Approved by City Council
- 2021-004 Purchasing Policy Compliance
- 2021-005 Using Capital Projects Identifiers for All Projects
- 2019-004 Finance Personnel Super-User Rights
- 2017-002 Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital Implemented in 2023
- 2015-002 Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries
- 2015-004 Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports
- 2014-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations

Current Status:

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

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CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

2023-009 Timely Updating of Bank and Investment Account Signature Cards

Signature cards for the bank and investment accounts should be updated timely when there are changes in authorized signers.

During our review of authorized signers in July 2023 for the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account, we noted that the previous Finance Director was still listed as an authorized signer on the account even though he had departed the City in December 2022. We noted that the authorized signers for the account were not updated until January 2024.

We understand certain changes were not made timely due to the City experiencing turnover in the upper management positions during the fiscal year.

Keeping terminated employees as authorized signers on the City's bank and investment accounts exposes the City to the risk of misappropriation of assets.

The City should remove former employees from the authorized signer lists of all bank and investment accounts shortly after their departure. In the future, a step should be added to the employee departure checklist or process to ensure that outside parties (such as banks and investment advisors) are informed that the departed employee no longer represents the City.

Management's Response:

Staff agrees with removing former employees from authorized signer lists of all bank and investment accounts. Procedures are in place to ensure prompt removal and additions of authorized signers on all bank and investment accounts. Staff had made a comprehensive effort during Fiscal Year 2024 to update authorized signers for Wells Fargo Bank, LAIF, U.S. Bank, PFM and CAMP. Since each entity has their own procedures and steps to change authorized signers, the timing of the process varies by entity. Currently, to the best of staff's knowledge, authorized signers are updated for all the above-mentioned entities.

2023-010 Documentation of Accounts Payable Review and Approval

Review and approval of accounts payable payment batches is an important internal control to demonstrate proper segregation of duties and procedures. The review and approval, including the date it took place, should be documented in some formal manner.

We selected five accounts payable payment batch listings for testing of preparation and review and noted one batch listing could not be located, and although the other four included documentation of the review/approval, three did not include the date of the review. Therefore, we were unable to determine if the four batches were reviewed/approved within a reasonable amount of time.

We understand that due to employee turnover and changes in processes and procedures over the last year, City staff did not realize that documentation of review processes needed to be made/retained, and the one batch was misplaced.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

2023-010 Documentation of Accounts Payable Review and Approval (Continued)

If review processes are not formally documented, the City cannot demonstrate that the review took place in accordance with City policy, and if documentation of the review is not retained, it may be unclear whether disbursements have been approved.

The City should update the various review and approval processes and procedures to ensure that documentation of the review is made in some formal manner and all supporting documentation should be retained.

Management's Response:

City agrees with the finding. The City is working to establish a new approval process and documenting the approval process. This will be implemented during FY 25.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

NEW GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS OR PRONOUNCEMENTS NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The following comment represents new pronouncements taking affect in the next few years. We cite them here to keep you informed of developments:

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2023/24:

GASB 100 – Accounting for Changes and Error Corrections

The primary objective of this Statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability.

This Statement defines *accounting changes* as changes in accounting principles, changes in accounting estimates, and changes to or within the financial reporting entity and describes the transactions or other events that constitute those changes. As part of those descriptions, for (1) certain changes in accounting principles and (2) certain changes in accounting estimates that result from a change in measurement methodology, a new principle or methodology should be justified on the basis that it is preferable to the principle or methodology used before the change. That preferability should be based on the qualitative characteristics of financial reporting—understandability, reliability, relevance, timeliness, consistency, and comparability. This Statement also addresses corrections of errors in previously issued financial statements.

This Statement prescribes the accounting and financial reporting for (1) each type of accounting change and (2) error corrections. This Statement requires that (a) changes in accounting principles and error corrections be reported retroactively by restating prior periods, (b) changes to or within the financial reporting entity be reported by adjusting beginning balances of the current period, and (c) changes in accounting estimates be reported prospectively by recognizing the change in the current period. The requirements of this Statement for changes in accounting principles apply to the implementation of a new pronouncement in absence of specific transition provisions in the new pronouncement. This Statement also requires that the aggregate amount of adjustments to and restatements of beginning net position, fund balance, or fund net position, as applicable, be displayed by reporting unit in the financial statements.

This Statement requires disclosure in notes to financial statements of descriptive information about accounting changes and error corrections, such as their nature. In addition, information about the quantitative effects on beginning balances of each accounting change and error correction should be disclosed by reporting unit in a tabular format to reconcile beginning balances as previously reported to beginning balances as restated.

Furthermore, this Statement addresses how information that is affected by a change in accounting principle or error correction should be presented in required supplementary information (RSI) and supplementary information (SI). For periods that are earlier than those included in the basic financial statements, information presented in RSI or SI should be restated for error corrections, if practicable, but not for changes in accounting principles.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2024/25:

GASB 101 – *Compensated Absences*

The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures.

Recognition And Measurement

This Statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. Leave is attributable to services already rendered when an employee has performed the services required to earn the leave. Leave that accumulates is carried forward from the reporting period in which it is earned to a future reporting period during which it may be used for time off or otherwise paid or settled, a government should consider relevant factors such as employment policies related to compensated absences and historical information about the use or payment of compensated absences. However, leave that is more likely than not to be settled through conversion to defined benefit postemployment benefits should not be included in a liability for compensated absences.

This Statement requires that a liability for certain types of compensated absences—including parental leave, military leave, and jury duty leave—not be recognized until the leave commences. This Statement also requires that a liability for specific types of compensated absences not be recognized until the leave is used.

This Statement also establishes guidance for measuring a liability for leave that has not been used, generally using an employee's pay rate as of the date of the financial statements. A liability for leave that has been used but not yet paid or settled should be measured at the amount of the cash payment or noncash settlement to be made. Certain salary-related payments that are directly and incrementally associated with payments for leave also should be included in the measurement of the liabilities.

With respect to financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus, this Statement requires that expenditures be recognized for the amount that normally would be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

Notes To Financial Statements

This Statement amends the existing requirement to disclose the gross increases and decreases in a liability for compensated absences to allow governments to disclose only the net change in the liability (as long as they identify it as a net change). In addition, governments are no longer required to disclose which governmental funds typically have been used to liquidate the liability for compensated absences.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 101 – <u>Compensated Absences (Continued)</u>

How the Changes in this Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The unified recognition and measurement model in this Statement will result in a liability for compensated absences that more appropriately reflects when a government incurs an obligation. In addition, the model can be applied consistently to any type of compensated absence and will eliminate potential comparability issues between governments that offer different types of leave.

The model also will result in a more robust estimate of the amount of compensated absences that a government will pay or settle, which will enhance the relevance and reliability of information about the liability for compensated absences.

GASB 102 – <u>Certain Risk Disclosures</u>

State and local governments face a variety of risks that could negatively affect the level of service they provide or their ability to meet obligations as they come due. Although governments are required to disclose information about their exposure to some of those risks, essential information about other risks that are prevalent among state and local governments is not routinely disclosed because it is not explicitly required. The objective of this Statement is to provide users of government financial statements with essential information about risks related to a government's vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations or constraints.

This Statement defines a concentration as a lack of diversity related to an aspect of a significant inflow of resources or outflow of resources. A constraint is a limitation imposed on a government by an external party or by formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority. Concentrations and constraints may limit a government's ability to acquire resources or control spending.

This Statement requires a government to assess whether a concentration or constraint makes the primary government reporting unit or other reporting units that report a liability for revenue debt vulnerable to the risk of a substantial impact. Additionally, this Statement requires a government to assess whether an event or events associated with a concentration or constraint that could cause the substantial impact have occurred, have begun to occur, or are more likely than not to begin to occur within 12 months of the date the financial statements are issued.

If a government determines that those criteria for disclosure have been met for a concentration or constraint, it should disclose information in notes to financial statements in sufficient detail to enable users of financial statements to understand the nature of the circumstances disclosed and the government's vulnerability to the risk of a substantial impact. The disclosure should include descriptions of the following:

- The concentration or constraint.
- Each event associated with the concentration or constraint that could cause a substantial impact if the event had occurred or had begun to occur prior to the issuance of the financial statements.
- Actions taken by the government prior to the issuance of the financial statements to mitigate the risk.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 102 – <u>Certain Risk Disclosures (Continued)</u>

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will improve financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information that currently is not often provided. The disclosures will provide users with timely information regarding certain concentrations or constraints and related events that have occurred or have begun to occur that make a government vulnerable to a substantial impact. As a result, users will have better information with which to understand and anticipate certain risks to a government's financial condition.

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2025/26:

GASB 103 – *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*

The objective of this Statement is to improve key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability. This Statement also addresses certain application issues.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

This Statement continues the requirement that the basic financial statements be preceded by management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), which is presented as required supplementary information (RSI). MD&A provides an objective and easily readable analysis of the government's financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions and presents comparisons between the current year and the prior year. This Statement requires that the information presented in MD&A be limited to the related topics discussed in five sections: (1) Overview of the Financial Statements, (2) Financial Summary, (3) Detailed Analyses, (4) Significant Capital Asset and Long-Term Financing Activity, and (5) Currently Known Facts, Decisions, or Conditions. Furthermore, this Statement stresses that the detailed analyses should explain why balances and results of operations changed rather than simply presenting the amounts or percentages by which they changed. This Statement emphasizes that may be relevant to multiple sections and that "boilerplate" discussions should be avoided by presenting only the most relevant information, focused on the primary government. In addition, this Statement continues the requirement that information included in MD&A distinguish between that of the primary government and its discretely presented component units.

Unusual or Infrequent Items

This Statement describes unusual or infrequent items as transactions and other events that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Furthermore, governments are required to display the inflows and outflows related to each unusual or infrequent item separately as the last presented flow(s) of resources prior to the net change in resource flows in the government-wide, governmental fund, and proprietary fund statements of resource flows.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

GASB 103 – Financial Reporting Model Improvements (Continued)

Presentation of the Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position

This Statement requires that the proprietary fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position continue to distinguish between operating and nonoperating revenues and expenses. Operating revenues and expenses are defined as revenues and expenses other than nonoperating revenues and expenses. Nonoperating revenues and expenses are defined as (1) subsidies received and provided, (2) contributions to permanent and term endowments, (3) revenues and expenses related to financing, (4) resources from the disposal of capital assets and inventory, and (5) investment income and expenses.

In addition to the subtotals currently required in a proprietary fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position, this Statement requires that a subtotal for operating income (loss) and noncapital subsidies be presented before reporting other nonoperating revenues and expenses. Subsidies are defined as (1) resources received from another party or fund (a) for which the proprietary fund does not provide goods and services to the other party or fund and (b) that directly or indirectly keep the proprietary fund's current or future fees and charges lower than they would be otherwise, (2) resources provided to another party or fund (a) for which the other party or fund does not provide goods and services to the proprietary fund and (b) that are recoverable through the proprietary fund's current or future frees.

Budgetary Comparison Information

This Statement requires governments to present budgetary comparison information using a single method of communication—RSI. Governments also are required to present (1) variances between original and final budget amounts and (2) variances between final budget and actual amounts. An explanation of significant variances is required to be presented in notes to RSI.

How the Changes in this Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements for MD&A will improve the quality of the analysis of changes from the prior year, which will enhance the relevance of that information. They also will provide clarity regarding what information should be presented in MD&A.

The requirements for the separate presentation of unusual or infrequent items will provide clarity regarding which items should be reported separately from other inflows and outflows of resources.

The definitions of operating revenues and expenses and of nonoperating revenues and expenses will replace accounting policies that vary from government to government, thereby improving comparability. The addition of a subtotal for operating income (loss) and noncapital subsidies will improve the relevance of information provided in the proprietary fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position.

The requirement that budgetary comparison information be presented as RSI will improve comparability, and the inclusion of the specified variances and the explanations of significant variances will provide more useful information for making decisions and assessing accountability.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

SCHEDULE OF OTHER MATTERS

EFFECTIVE FISCAL YEAR 2026/27:

GASB 104 - Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets

State and local governments are required to provide detailed information about capital assets in notes to financial statements. GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments*, requires certain information regarding capital assets to be presented by major class. The objective of this Statement is to provide users of government financial statements with essential information about certain types of capital assets.

This Statement requires certain types of capital assets to be disclosed separately in the capital assets note disclosures required by Statement 34. Lease assets recognized in accordance with GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, and intangible right-to-use assets recognized in accordance with GASB Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*, should be disclosed separately by major class of underlying asset in the capital assets note disclosures. Subscription assets recognized in accordance with GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, also should be separately disclosed. In addition, this Statement requires intangible assets other than those three types to be disclosed separately by major class.

This Statement also requires additional disclosures for capital assets held for sale. A capital asset is a capital asset held for sale if (a) the government has decided to pursue the sale of the capital asset and (b) it is probable that the sale will be finalized within one year of the financial statement date. Governments should consider relevant factors to evaluate the likelihood of the capital asset being sold within the established time frame. This Statement requires that capital assets held for sale be evaluated each reporting period. Governments should disclose (1) the ending balance of capital assets held for sale, with separate disclosure for historical cost and accumulated depreciation by major class of asset, and (2) the carrying amount of debt for which the capital assets held for sale are pledged as collateral for each major class of asset.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will improve financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information about certain types of capital assets in order to make informed decisions and assess accountability. Additionally, the disclosure requirements will improve consistency and comparability between governments.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2022-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close</u>

As we noted in prior year comments 2021-001, 2020-001 and 2019-001, the year-end financial closing and preparation of the general ledger data should be completed timely and accurately. In addition, well-managed organizations should develop a plan to ensure that adequate resources will remain available in the event of employee departures. Part of that is ensuring there are resources available to be utilized on short notice to fill gaps in key positions, especially in the Finance Department. These resources need to be in place throughout the fiscal year to ensure accounting processes and procedures continue and allow time for analysis of account balances and activities.

Due to the staff turnover prior to and during the year, there continued to be a significant strain on the City's ability to maintain a good internal control environment and to produce accurate and timely financial data. As a result, the year-end audit was adversely affected. The City provided an original general ledger for audit and then discovered that a number of closing entries had been omitted and provided a second general ledger for audit after those entries had been posted. However, during the audit, we discovered and/or City staff proposed twenty-one additional post-closing journal entries, including a number of material post-closing adjustment entries. City staff had difficulty completing material closing entries prior to providing the second general ledger for audit for areas including recording the fiscal year 2022 closing entries for interfund balances, accounts and grants receivable, capital assets, accounts payable, unearned and unavailable revenue, net pension liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows of resources. These areas affected the year-end closing process and many of the City's funds.

The above condition delayed the completion of the year-end closing process, which increases the risk that errors or misstatements may go undetected by staff and corrections may not be made in a timely manner. Audit effort was substantially increased in response to these increased risks.

The City should analyze staff resources to determine what plans can or should be made to ensure that the financial data is processed properly and timely during staffing transitions. In addition, the City must develop procedures to ensure that accounts are analyzed throughout the fiscal year and after the year end close to ensure that additional closing entries are not required prior to providing the general ledger for audit.

Current Status:

See current year comment 2023-001.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2022-002 Prior Year Material Weaknesses Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Material Weaknesses identified on the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2022. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Material Weaknesses. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses.

- 2021-002 Accurately Adopting and Amending the Annual Budget
- 2020-001 Timely and Accurate Year End Close
- 2020-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations
- 2020-004 Redevelopment Bonds Projects Fund
- 2019-001 Timely and Accurate Year-End Close

Current Status:

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed below.

2021-001 Timely and Accurate Year-End Close

As we noted in prior year comments 2020-001 and 2019-001, the year-end financial closing and preparation of the general ledger data should be completed timely and accurately. In addition, well-managed organizations should develop a plan to ensure that adequate resources will remain available in the event of employee departures. Part of that is ensuring there are resources available to be utilized on short notice to fill gaps in key positions, especially in the Finance Department. These resources need to be in place throughout the fiscal year to ensure accounting processes and procedures continue and allow time for analysis of account balances and activities.

Due to the staff turnover prior to and during the year, there is a significant strain on the City's ability to maintain a good internal control environment and to produce accurate and timely financial data. As a result, the year-end audit was adversely affected. The City provided an original general ledger for audit and then discovered that a number of closing entries had been omitted and provided a second general ledger for audit after those entries had been posted. However, during the audit, we discovered and/or City staff proposed thirty-two additional post-closing journal entries, including a number of material post-closing adjustment entries. City staff had difficulty completing material closing entries prior to providing the second general ledger for audit for areas including recording the fiscal year 2021 closing entries for interfund activities, accounts and grants receivable, accounts payable, unavailable revenue, capital expenditures and special assessment revenue. These areas affected the year-end closing process and many of the City's funds.

The above condition delayed the completion of the year-end closing process, which increases the risk that errors or misstatements may go undetected by staff and corrections may not be made in a timely manner. Audit effort was substantially increased in response to these increased risks.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2021-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close (Continued)</u>

The City should analyze staff resources to determine what plans can or should be made to ensure that the financial data is processed properly and timely during staffing transitions. In addition, the City must develop procedures to ensure that accounts are analyzed throughout the fiscal year and after the year end close to ensure that additional closing entries are not required prior to providing the general ledger for audit.

Current Status:

See current year comment 2023-001.

2021-002 Accurately Adopting and Amending the Annual Budget

The annually adopted budget should be developed using historical activities, combined with projections of expected activity each fiscal year. In addition, recurring activities should be included in the annual budget and variances between the prior year budgeted amounts and the current year budget should be reviewed to ensure recurring activities were not omitted in error.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City adopted a provisional budget for fiscal year 2021 in June 2020 and completed a Mid-Year Budget Update and Amendment in February 2021.

During the year end audit, we noted a number of significant budget variances that were determined to be errors that went unnoticed during the budget process:

- General Fund
 - Sales tax budget was reduced \$2 million during the Mid-Year Budget Update due to the misinterpretation of a consultant's revenue report, which resulted in actual sales tax revenues exceeding the budget by \$3 million.
 - Other taxes budget was decreased \$1.5 million during the Mid-Year Budget Update due to the proper removal of revenue that was not expected to occur until fiscal year 2023, but the actual revenues at that time exceeded budget and we understand budget staff did not compare actual revenue before preparing the mid-year budget adjustments.
 - Public works building maintenance expenditures exceeded the budget by \$1.4 million due to the reorganization of the department without moving the associated budget amounts between the new divisions/expenditure categories.
 - Capital outlay expenditures were \$2.9 million less than budget, after the budget was increased \$1.9 million during the Mid-Year Budget Update, but we understand that variance was due to a number of incorrect budget figures and/or duplicated budget amounts that overstated the final budget.
 - Transfers out budget was increased \$2 million during the Mid-Year Budget Update in error due to the inclusion of the cost allocation costs that are not recorded as transfers.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2021-002 Accurately Adopting and Amending the Annual Budget (Continued)

- Low and Moderate Income Housing Assets Special Revenue Fund was not included in the budget, although it did have some activity in both fiscal years 2020 and 2021.
- Public Facilities Implementation Plan Capital Projects Fund capital outlay expenditures were \$26 million less than budget, but we understand that variance was primarily due to a number of incorrect budget figures and/or duplicated budget amounts that overstated the final budget.
- RDA Bonds Project Fund capital outlay expenditures of \$2.6 million were not budgeted, although the costs were related to the ongoing McKinley/120 and Union/120 projects. We understand the original (provisional) budget of \$4.4 million was removed during the Mid-Year Budget Update due to a misunderstanding of the fund's purpose.

We understand the budget errors and oversights were primarily due to untrained or inexperienced budget staff, as well as multiple staff turnovers and the use of outside consultants.

The overstatement or understatement of annual appropriations could unintentionally lead to expenditures exceeding appropriations and it unnecessarily complicates analyzing activities to determine the final results and whether they are complete.

Prior to the adoption of the original budget, a review should be completed to ensure that all recurring expenditures have been incorporated into the budget on an annual basis and that the amounts budgeted reflect activity expected for the fiscal year. In addition, during the mid-year review process, the actual activities to date should be reviewed to ensure they are related to the original budget and not a different source, prior to amending the final budget.

Update for June 30, 2022:

During the year end audit, we noted a number of significant budget variances that were determined to be errors that went unnoticed during the budget process:

- General Fund
 - Property tax budget was increased \$2.4 million during the Mid-Year Budget Update due to a forecasting error, which resulted in actual property tax revenues to be \$3.1 million less than the budget.
 - The recurring transfer of 50% of the excise tax collected to the Sewer Enterprise Fund was not budgeted.
- Major Equipment Purchase Fee Special Revenue Fund
 - Debt service of \$59 thousand was budgeted in error, because the debt was paid off in fiscal year 2021.
- Development Services Special Revenue Fund
 - Debt service of \$157 thousand was not budgeted.
- Public Safety Sales Tax Special Revenue Fund
 - Public safety expenditures were \$925 thousand more than budget due to an error in calculating the unfunded actuarial liability.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2021-002 Accurately Adopting and Amending the Annual Budget (Continued)

In addition, City staff had to record budget corrections for fiscal year 2022 in January 2024 to:

- Increase the Community Development Block Grant Special Revenue Fund expenditure budget by \$107 thousand.
- Decrease the Redevelopment Bonds Projects Capital Project Fund project carryover expenditure budget by \$6.4 million.
- Decrease the Development Services Special Revenue Fund project carryover expenditure budget by \$12 thousand.

Update for June 30, 2023:

During the year end audit, we noted a number of significant budget variances that were determined to be errors that went unnoticed during the budget process:

- General Fund:
 - The building maintenance expenditures budget was overstated by \$1 million due to a change in the allocation of personnel costs that was not reflected in the budget.
 - The park facility maintenance expenditures of \$218 thousand were not budgeted due to a change in the allocation of personnel that was not reflected in the budget.
- Community Facilities Districts Special Revenue Fund revenue budgets have been understated, while expenditure budgets have been consistently overstated due to changes in the associated funds, according to City staff.

In addition, City staff had to record budget corrections for fiscal year 2023 in June 2024 to:

- Increase the Gas Tax Special Revenue Fund revenue budget by \$1.8 million.
- Increase the Parks Special Revenue Fund revenue budget by \$3.3 million.

Prior to the adoption of the original budget, a review should be completed to ensure that all recurring expenditures have been incorporated into the budget on an annual basis and that the amounts budgeted reflect activity expected for the fiscal year. In addition, during the mid-year review process, the actual activities to date should be reviewed to ensure that variances between budget and actual are related to the activity and not the result of errors in the budget process prior to amending the final budget.

Current Status:

During FY 21, all finance management and department heads had turnover. In addition, multiple consultants, department reorganizations, and turnover created an unstable environment where the understanding of what was done for budget and what was needed was not always transferred to the next person. For FY 22, the budget was prepared before June 30, but was subsequently corrected three times, as well as a mid-year budget update after the new Finance Director was hired.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2021-002 Accurately Adopting and Amending the Annual Budget (Continued)

For the FY 23 budget with new management in place, the budget was more stable; however, lacked some basic components such as a comprehensive cost allocation plan, policy updates, long-term financial forecasts, comprehensive fund-level budget schedules, comprehensive information on major revenue sources and spending areas of the General Fund, and information on reserves and fund balances. In addition, there was management changes (including the departure of the Finance Director), other turnover, and a lack of Budget staff leading toward the preparation of the FY 24 budget. This was adopted prior to June 30; however, it was noted that the attributes listed above were missing in the FY 24 Budget as well due to the lack of Budget staff and leadership. As of March of 2025, the Finance Department is fully staffed with the Budget division in particular being fully staffed. The current Finance Director's decision to classify and appoint a Budget Manager, along with his own expertise and experience in Municipal Budgeting resulted in a successful and timely adoption of the FY 25 Annual Budget. The FY 25 Annual Budget received an array of positive feedback from the City Council and City Executive team members. The Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Budget is a vast improvement over the prior two Fiscal Years, and includes all of the attributes mentioned above except for the comprehensive cost allocation plan. Staff is currently reviewing the draft general cost allocation plan with a consulting firm and preparing for implementation.

2021-003 Prior Year Material Weaknesses Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Material Weaknesses identified on the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2021. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Material Weaknesses. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses.

- 2020-001 Timely and Accurate Year End Close
- 2020-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations
- 2020-004 Redevelopment Bonds Projects Fund
- 2020-005 Accurate Preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Current Status:

- 2020-001 See current year comment 2023-001
- 2020-002 See current status in comment 2020-002
- 2020-004 See current status in comment 2020-004
- 2020-005 Implemented in fiscal year 2022

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Material Weaknesses.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2020-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close</u>

As we noted in prior year comment 2019-001, the year-end financial closing and preparation of the general ledger data should be completed timely and accurately. In addition, well-managed organizations should develop a plan to ensure that adequate resources will remain available in the event of employee departures. Part of that is ensuring there are resources available to be utilized on short notice to fill gaps in key positions, especially in the Finance Department. These resources need to be in place throughout the fiscal year to ensure accounting processes and procedures continue and allow time for analysis of account balances and activities.

Due to the staff turnover during the year, there is a significant strain on the City's ability to maintain a good internal control environment and to produce accurate and timely financial data. As a result, the year-end audit was adversely affected. During the audit, we discovered and/or City staff proposed ninety post-closing journal entries, including a number of material post-closing adjustment entries. City staff had difficulty completing material closing entries prior to providing the general ledger for audit for areas including recording the fiscal year 2020 closing entries for cash and investments, debt service transactions and the issuance of new bonds, interfund activities, accounts and grants receivable, capital assets, the sale of Successor Agency land, contracts payable, compensated absences, unearned revenue, pension liabilities and related deferred outflows/inflows of resources and OPEB liabilities and related deferred outflows/inflows of fund balance in the General Fund had not been adjusted to reflect the fiscal year 2020 activity. These areas affected the year-end closing process and most of the City's funds.

The above condition delayed the completion of the year-end closing process, which increases the risk that errors or misstatements may go undetected by staff and corrections may not be made in a timely manner. Audit effort was substantially increased in response to these increased risks.

The City should analyze staff resources to determine what plans can or should be made to ensure that the financial data is processed properly and timely during staffing transitions. In addition, the City must develop procedures to ensure that accounts are analyzed throughout the fiscal year and after the year end close to ensure that additional closing entries are not required prior to providing the general ledger for audit.

Current Status:

See current year comment 2023-001.

2020-002 <u>Timely Preparation of Bank Reconciliations</u>

Bank reconciliations are one of the most important internal controls a city can have, and the bank reconciliation cannot be considered complete until it has been reviewed and approved. To be an effective control, bank reconciliations and the associated review should be completed in their entirety as soon as reasonably possible after each month-end, usually within thirty to forty-five days of bank statement month end.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2020-002 <u>Timely Preparation of Bank Reconciliations (Continued)</u>

We reviewed the City's February 2020 bank reconciliations for the General Checking and Payroll Checking Accounts and noted they were not prepared until August 3, 2020 and were not reviewed until August 13, 2020. The Payroll Section 125, Successor Agency Checking, and Worker's Compensation Checking Accounts were prepared on March 3, 2020, however, they were not reviewed until August 13, 2020.

We reviewed the City's June 2020 bank reconciliation for the General Checking Account and noted it was not prepared until March 23, 2021 and it was reviewed on March 24, 2021. The bank reconciliations for the Payroll Checking, Payroll Section 125, and Worker's Compensation Checking Accounts were not prepared until August 5, 2020 and then were not reviewed until October 20, 2020. The Successor Agency Checking Account reconciliation was not prepared until August 4, 2020 and was not reviewed until October 20, 2020.

In addition, the June 2020 Payroll Checking Account bank reconciliation included an unreconciled variance of \$168. Subsequently, we were provided with an updated bank reconciliation for the account that was prepared and reviewed on July 19, 2021 that identified and corrected the variance.

We understand the delays in preparing and reviewing the bank reconciliations were due to the high volume of staffing changes that occurred in the Finance Department during the fiscal year.

Update for June 30, 2021:

We noted the November 2020 bank reconciliations for the Worker's Compensation Checking, Successor Agency Checking and General Checking Accounts were not prepared and reviewed until March 16, 2021, April 27, 2021 and April 29, 2021, respectively. The Payroll Checking Account was not prepared until May 11, 2021 and reviewed on May 12, 2021, and the Payroll Section 125 Account was not prepared until May 10, 2021 and reviewed on May 12, 2021.

We reviewed the City's March 2021 bank reconciliations and noted that they were prepared and reviewed within 30-45 days of month end.

We noted the June 2021 bank reconciliation for the Payroll Section 125 Account was not prepared until August 18, 2021 and it was reviewed on August 23, 2021. The bank reconciliation for the Payroll Checking Account was not prepared until April 6, 2022 and it was reviewed on April 12, 2022.

We understand the delays in preparing and reviewing the bank reconciliations were again due to the high volume of staffing changes that occurred in the Finance Department during the fiscal year.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2020-002 <u>Timely Preparation of Bank Reconciliations (Continued)</u>

Update for June 30, 2022:

We selected the months of September 2021 and November 2021 bank reconciliations for testing of timely preparation and review and noted the following:

- The general checking account reconciliations for September 2021 and November 2021 were both prepared on March 7, 2022, and although they were reviewed, the date of the review was not documented.
- The September 2021 and November 2021 payroll and Successor Agency bank reconciliations were prepared and reviewed in April 2022.
- The November 2021 worker's compensation account reconciliation was reviewed in December 2021, but the preparation date was not documented.
- The November 2021 payroll section 125 bank reconciliation was prepared and reviewed in December 2021.

We reviewed the City's June 2021 bank reconciliations and noted that they were prepared and reviewed within 30-45 days of month end.

We understand the delays in preparing and reviewing the bank reconciliations were again due to the high volume of staffing changes that occurred in the Finance Department during the fiscal year.

Update for June 30, 2023:

We selected the months of October 2022 and June 2023 bank reconciliations for testing of timely preparation and review and noted the following:

- The general checking and payroll account reconciliations for June 2023 were prepared and reviewed in March 2024.
- The June 2023 worker's compensation bank reconciliation was prepared on August 31, 2023, but not reviewed until October 2023.
- The June 2023 payroll section 125 bank reconciliation was prepared on August 31, 2023, but not reviewed until December 2023.

We did note that the June 2023 Successor Agency bank reconciliation and all of the October 2022 bank reconciliations were prepared and reviewed within three weeks of the month end.

We understand the delays in preparing and reviewing the June bank reconciliations were again due to the high volume of staffing changes that occurred in the Finance Department during the fiscal year.

By not completing and reviewing the bank reconciliations timely, accounting errors, misstatements and/or unauthorized activities may not be identified or corrected in a timely manner.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2020-002 <u>Timely Preparation of Bank Reconciliations (Continued)</u>

The City must implement procedures to ensure the timely preparation and review of bank reconciliations throughout the fiscal year, and the completion should be documented/dated in some formal manner. In addition, as unreconciled differences appear, they should be fully researched to identify the cause and ensure they are resolved timely.

Current Status:

During FY 21 through FY 25 staff turnover and lack of cross training caused the Finance Department to be behind. The City has engaged with an outside consultant to help catch-up on Bank Reconciliations. The City has been rapidly catching up on monthly Bank Reconciliations and is on track to process Bank Reconciliations in a timely manner during Fiscal Year 2026.

2020-004 Redevelopment Bonds Projects Fund

Fiscal agent cash from a bond issuance that is being used to fund the costs of a capital project should be drawn down to reimburse the City for costs incurred as soon as it has been determined that the costs are eligible for reimbursement. This process of drawing down the eligible funds should help manage the cash flow demands of the City to complete the project.

The Redevelopment Bond Projects Capital Projects Fund incurred costs in the current and prior years related to projects that were eligible to be reimbursed with funds drawn from fiscal agent accounts in the amount of \$31.1 million and the Low and Moderating Income Housing Special Revenue Fund incurred costs in the current and prior year related to fiscal agent cash eligible projects in the amount of \$2.8 million. As of June 30, 2020, the City had not drawn down any of the eligible funds from the fiscal agent accounts to reimburse the City for the costs that had been paid.

When funds are not drawn down on a regular basis to reimburse the City for eligible costs that have been paid, it increases the pressure on the City's ability to meet its overall cash flow demands for its normal operations.

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit:

The City incurred additional project costs of \$2.6 million during fiscal year 2021, but still had not drawn down on any of the eligible funds from the fiscal agent accounts as of June 30, 2021.

We understand the funds were not drawn down due to staffing turnover at the City.

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

The City incurred additional project costs of \$103 thousand during fiscal year 2022, but still had not drawn down on any of the eligible funds from the fiscal agent accounts as of June 30, 2022.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2020-004 <u>Redevelopment Bonds Projects Fund (Continued)</u>

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

The City incurred additional project costs of \$103 thousand in the Redevelopment Bond Projects Capital Projects Fund during fiscal year 2023, bringing the total costs incurred in the current and prior years related to projects that were eligible to be reimbursed with funds drawn from fiscal agent accounts in the amount of \$31.99 million and the Low and Moderating Income Housing Special Revenue Fund incurred costs in prior years related to eligible projects in the amount of \$2.12 million. The City still had not drawn down on any of the eligible funds from the fiscal agent accounts as of June 30, 2023.

The City should develop processes to ensure that when projects that are funded with bond proceeds have expenditures, that those expenditures are reviewed for eligibility and the cash is drawn down from the fiscal agent accounts on a timely basis to help manage the City's cash flow demands.

Current Status:

Agree. Staff recognizes the need to make timely drawdowns of project funds to match eligible expenses. Due to staff turnover this was not completed in the past. In addition, cross training on projects and reconciliation of projects was completed during FY 24. A "catch-up" of drawdowns occurred in FY 24 as well.

2019-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close</u>

The year-end financial closing and preparation of the general ledger data should be completed timely and accurately. In addition, well-managed organizations should develop a plan to ensure that adequate resources will remain available in the event of employee departures. Part of that is ensuring there are resources available to be utilized on short notice to fill gaps in key positions, especially in the Finance Department. These resources need to be in place throughout the fiscal year to ensure accounting processes and procedures continue and allow time for analysis of account balances and activities.

Due to the staff turnover during the year, there is a significant strain on the City's ability to maintain a good internal control environment and to produce accurate and timely financial data. As a result, the year-end audit was adversely affected. During the audit, we discovered and/or City staff proposed fifty-four post-closing journal entries, including a number of material post-closing adjustment entries. City staff had difficulty completing material closing entries prior to providing the general ledger for audit for areas including recording the fiscal year 2018 closing entries related to the total OPEB liability and related deferred outflows/inflows of resources and claims payable and the fiscal year 2019 closing entries for debt service transactions, interfund activities, fair value of the swap derivative, accounts receivable, capital assets, contracts payable, pension liabilities and related deferred outflows/inflows of resources. In addition, the components of fund balance in the General Fund had not been adjusted to reflect the revised fund balance policy adopted during the fiscal year. These areas affected the year-end closing process and most of the City's funds.

The above condition delayed the completion of the year-end closing process, which increases the risk that errors or misstatements may go undetected by staff and corrections may not be made in a timely manner. Audit effort was substantially increased in response to these increased risks.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

2019-001 <u>Timely and Accurate Year-End Close (Continued)</u>

The City should analyze staff resources to determine what plans can or should be made to ensure that the financial data is processed properly and timely during staffing transitions. In addition, the City must develop procedures to ensure that accounts are analyzed throughout the fiscal year and after the year end close to ensure that additional closing entries are not required prior to providing the general ledger for audit.

Current Status:

See current year comment 2023-001.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2022-003 Accurate Calculation of Compensatory Time Hourly Pay Rate in Payroll System

The hourly rate for employee compensatory time should be accurately calculated by the payroll system. Employees are compensated for all overtime worked in either cash or compensatory time off. For employees under the Manteca Technical and Support Services Association (MTSSA) memorandum of understanding, compensatory time accrues at the rate of one and one-half times the hours worked, and the employee must make the choice of being compensated in cash or compensatory time at the time it is earned. Any unused compensatory balance at the end of one fiscal year in excess of 50 hours is paid off on the July 7 payroll each fiscal year at the employee's regular hourly rate.

We selected twenty-five employees for testing of the gross pay calculations and noted one employee that received pay for compensatory time for which we were not able to recalculate the pay using the employee's regular hourly rate of \$41.011. City staff was unable to provide documentation supporting the source of the hourly rate of \$44.376.

City staff initially thought the difference was due to the inclusion of other employee incentive pay in the hourly rate calculation, but the employee tested did not receive any incentive pay during the pay period tested. City staff then provided a report of the employee's total amount of compensatory pay for fiscal year 2022 and we determined that the hourly rate of \$44.376 was used throughout the fiscal year for the total of the 519.375 hours. City staff could not determine how the payroll system was calculating the employee's hourly rate for compensatory time. The difference in pay for the fiscal year using the two hourly rates was \$1,748.

We selected three other employees for testing of the compensatory pay rate and noted that only one of the three had the compensatory time paid out at the regular hourly rate. The difference in pay between the two hourly rates for these employees for the full fiscal year totaled \$57. We did not determine if these three employees had other incentive pay during the fiscal year that might impact the hourly rate used.

If City staff cannot determine the basis for hourly rates used for certain payroll components, errors of over- or underpayments to employees could go undetected and not corrected timely.

The City must determine how the payroll system is calculating the hourly pay rate used for the compensatory time cash payments to ensure the compensatory time pay rate agrees to the basis in the memoranda of understanding. Any differences or errors should be corrected immediately.

Current Status:

Staff will perform a comprehensive analysis of how compensatory time off is calculated in the payroll system. With regards to the one employee that received pay for compensatory time for which staff was not able to recalculate, staff engaged with an outside consulting firm to perform a third-party investigation of the former employee's compensation. The results of the investigation have been provided to the City's external financial auditor.

See also current year comment 2023-003.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2022-004 <u>Timely Filing of Form 941</u>

The quarterly tax returns (form 941) are due 30 days after the end of each quarter and the IRS imposes a penalty of five percent per month or partial month for late filings, up to a maximum of 25 percent.

During our testing of journal entries, we noted one journal entry was to record penalties of \$902 paid in April 2022 for the late filing of the June 30, 2021 form 941.

We understand the late filing was due to the City being short staffed during the time the tax filing was due.

If the City files tax returns late, it could incur significant penalties and be out of compliance with tax filing requirements.

Although the City determined that no other IRS penalties were paid during fiscal year 2022 and through February 2024, the City should develop procedures to ensure that all tax filings are made timely throughout the fiscal year.

Current Status: Implemented.

2022-005 Documentation of Review of Changes to Customer and Employee Databases

During our review of the City's internal controls for proper segregation of duties and procedures, we noted areas in which controls need to be improved and employee's access and/or duties revised, or documentation of processes in place needs to be formalized. Good internal controls require that employees with access to the City's assets not have access to the City's accounting records for the same assets.

a. Documenting Review of Changes to Customer Database

We understand that Customer Service Representatives (CSR's) can only change customer information including the name, address, and phone number, and they cannot change billing information. The only employees that can make changes to billing information are one of the Accounting Technicians and the Utility Coordinator/Senior Customer Service Representative. We understand the Utility Coordinator/Senior Customer Service Representative reviews the billing changes made by the Accounting Technician, which are then reviewed by other accountants, but there is no formal documentation of the review taking place.

b. Documenting Review of Changes to Employee Database

The Human Resources Department is responsible for adding employees and changing pay rates in the system. We understand that a change in pay rate is only authorized when there is a change in the salary matrix approved by city Council or through a personnel action form (PAF) update processed by the Human Resources department. These changes are recorded on an Audit report that the New World general ledger system generates, and this report is periodically reviewed by the Payroll Technician. However, we understand there is no formal documentation that the review takes place.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2022-005 <u>Documentation of Review of Changes to Customer and Employee Databases</u> (Continued)

We understand that due to employee turnover and changes in processes and procedures over the last year, City staff did not realize that documentation of review processes needed to be made/retained.

If review processes are not formally documented, the City cannot demonstrate that the review took place in accordance with City policy.

The City should update the various review and approval processes and procedures to ensure that documentation of the review is made in some formal manner.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit: We did not note any changes to the processes or procedures noted above.

Current Status:

City staff will discuss potential review and approval processes and procedures, specifically for changes to customer billing information and changing employee pay rates, to ensure that documentation of the review is made in some formal manner. Finance staff have engaged with an outside consulting firm to assist with drafting new Cash Handling Procedures that will include daily procedures for cash handling, cash deposits, revenue collections, account changes, receipting, recording and reconciliations. Staff is confident that the new procedures document will provide adequate documentation of the City's procedures and processes.

2022-006 Capitalize Purchases Approved by City Council

Capital asset purchase authorizations by the City Council should be reviewed by Finance staff to ensure the transactions are recorded in the capital assets records when the purchase is complete.

During our review of the City Council minutes for transactions that could affect the financial statements, we noted three land purchase authorizations that were not reflected in the City's capital assets records. The purchases did take place during fiscal year 2022, but the cost totaling \$930 thousand was not added to the capital assets balance. Finance staff determined that the capital purchases were overlooked during the year end capitalization process.

If capital purchases are not recorded as capital assets in the general ledger, the balance of capital assets could be understated.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2022-006 Capitalize Purchases Approved by City Council (Continued)

Finance staff should develop procedures to review City Council authorizations during the fiscal year to ensure that activities are recorded in the proper period.

Current Status:

Shortly after the completion of the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit, Finance staff discussed approaches to track capital asset authorizations by the City Council. Subsequently, Finance staff have started a new process for tracking capital/fixed asset decisions approved by the City Council. As the Finance Director is responsible for reviewing all City Council agenda items that have a fiscal impact, the Finance Director informs the Accounting Division whenever they review an agenda item involving a decision on capital assets. In addition, the Finance Department's Administrative Assistant reviews every City Council meeting agenda for any items that involve a decision on capital assets. This two-fold approach should ensure capturing Council level capital asset changes in the capital assets records. Also, a new year-end close process and procedures document, specifically for Capital Assets, is now being utilized during the FY 24 year-end close process. This new procedures document should help ensure Capital Asset information is updated in the General Ledger in a timely manner.

See also 2023-001.

2022-007 Prior Year Significant Deficiencies Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Significant Deficiencies identified on the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2022. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Significant Deficiencies. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

- 2021-004 Purchasing Policy Compliance
- 2021-005 Using Capital Projects Identifiers for All Projects
- 2019-004 Finance Personnel Super-User Rights
- 2017-002 Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital
- 2015-002 Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries
- 2015-004 Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports
- 2014-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations

Current Status:

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2021-004 <u>Purchasing Policy Compliance</u>

The City's Purchasing Policy contains various thresholds, including those for which City staff is required to obtain informal or formal quotes, contracts, and sole source documentation. Therefore, all applicable disbursements should be supported by documentation such as contracts or bidding documents.

We selected 40 transactions for testing to supporting documentation and compliance with the City's Purchasing Policy and noted the following:

- The supporting bidding/quote documentation and contract could not be located for one payment for \$1,090 for technology maintenance services. City staff indicated they were unable to locate an agreement for the payment, however they are working to obtain an updated agreement for fiscal year 2023.
- The supporting bidding/quote documentation could not be located for one payment for \$8,999 for professional services related to a fire station project. City staff indicated the transaction was handled by City staff that is no longer with the City, so the records could not be found.
- For one payment of \$68,925 for construction management services related to a sewer project that totaled \$661 thousand, the City did not go through a bidding process to select a vendor prior to the City Council approving the contract. In addition, we understand City staff did not complete a sole source purchase justification worksheet for the selection of the vendor, because they "had worked with the chosen vendor before and had received cost-effective services for numerous construction projects in the past, they only needed a proposal from that vendor and did not determine it was necessary to follow the City's formal bid process," but that decision was not documented in the staff report to Council or in the procurement records.
- One payment in the amount of \$2,811 for medical testing for employees exposed to asbestos was not accompanied by the sole source purchase justification worksheet to show why the required bidding/quote processes were not completed. We understand that there was only one qualified firm to complete the required medical testing, but City staff overlooked completing the sole source purchase form to comply with the City's purchasing policy.
- The supporting bidding/quote documentation or the sole source purchase justification worksheet could not be located for one payment in the amount of \$23,588 for wastewater disposal services. And, the vendor's contract was not approved by the City Council even though payments made to the vendor exceed the \$75,000 threshold. We understand that the contract was not brought to the City Council, because the estimated cost of the contract was based on a per-ton amount, rather than estimating the total expected tonnage that would be needed.
- The supporting bidding/quote documentation for one payment of \$2,584 for temporary accountant services could not be located.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2021-004 Purchasing Policy Compliance (Continued)

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

We selected 40 transactions for testing to supporting documentation and compliance with the City's Purchasing Policy and noted that the contract could not be located for one disbursement for the purchase of a dump truck in the amount of \$183.2 thousand. We did note that the City Council had approved the purchase of the vehicle as part of the Update and Corrections to the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget approved on August 17, 2021, but the purchasing policy does require the use of a contract.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

We selected 40 transactions for testing to supporting documentation and compliance with the City's Purchasing Policy and noted:

- One disbursement for the purchase of various industrial tools/supplies in the amount of \$4 thousand did not have a contract although it appears one is required by the Policy, since the vendor is used throughout the fiscal year.
- One disbursement for software system services in the amount of \$20,754 was not supported by bidding documentation and a contract could not be located.
- One disbursement for various construction/industrial supplies in the amount of \$16 thousand that included more than 25 different invoices. Most of the invoices were under the \$1 thousand threshold requiring a contract, but one invoice exceeded the threshold and should have been subjected to the contract requirements of the Purchasing Policy. In addition, total invoices paid to the vendor for the fiscal year amount to more than \$72 thousand, which exceeded the \$50 thousand purchasing threshold for the accumulation of multiple invoices. If multiple purchases from one vendor are expected to exceed \$50 thousand, formal bids are required.

Without supporting written documentation in compliance with the requirements of the Purchasing Policy, the likelihood of error, improper accounting treatment, and unauthorized transactions increases.

The City must develop procedures to ensure that the procurement files contain documentation to demonstrate compliance with the bidding/quote, contract and sole source requirements. The records should be readily available at all times, including after employees leave the City.

Current Status:

Agree. Given past issues with Finance Department staff and other Department staff complying with the City's Purchasing Policy, there has been a renewed emphasis on following the policy at all levels of the City. In September of 2023, the pages of the Purchasing Policy regarding thresholds for bidding/solicitation, purchase orders and agreements/contracts were updated via Council Approval. Staff is engaging an outside consulting firm to perform a comprehensive review of the whole policy during Fiscal Year 2026. In the interim, with the appointment of a new Accounting Manager during Fiscal Year 2025, overseeing the accounting and purchasing functions, there has been an emphasis on educating Departments on the importance of complying with the Purchasing Policy. In addition, the City has transitioned to fully electronic Purchase Order and AP invoice batch processing. Electronic processing allows for thorough cataloging, and lower risk of losing back-up documentation.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2021-005 Using Capital Projects Identifiers for All Projects

Capital projects activity is normally tracked by the use of a project number, which facilitates the analysis of project activities and the eventual capitalization of completed projects.

The City undertook a renovation project during the end of fiscal year 2020 that was completed during fiscal year 2021 and used City staff for the construction/improvements. The total project costs incurred were approximately \$283 thousand, but City staff could not provide the exact cost of the project, because projects constructed by City staff are not assigned a capital projects number. In this case, the project costs were tracked in a spreadsheet and the City labor costs included in the spreadsheet were an estimate.

When reviewing the spreadsheet of project costs, we also noted that the account coding for certain costs was inconsistent. Most of the services and supplies were charged to the "Supplies Special Department" account, but carpet, furniture and blinds totaling \$61 thousand were charged to the Self Insurance Internal Service Fund's claims and insurance damage account.

We understand that internal projects have never been tracked by capital project number.

If projects are not tracked by project number, not only does that mean the project could incur overruns that go unnoticed, but a project that meets the City's capitalization threshold may be overlooked.

The City should develop procedures to ensure that all capital projects activities are tracked consistently and assigned a project number, regardless of whether they are internally or externally constructed projects, and expenditure account coding should be critically reviewed to ensure it is appropriate for the cost incurred.

Current Status:

Implemented in FY 24. The City has done a review of the CIP policy (contained within the Budget and Fiscal Policy of the FY 25 Annual Budget) and updated it for FY 25 to include internally constructed items, definitions and thresholds. The Budget Team examined all active projects during FY 24 to ensure correct project numbers were assigned. All construction projects above the City's Policy thresholds now have a project number assigned.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2021-006 Prior Year Significant Deficiencies Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Significant Deficiencies identified on the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2021. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Significant Deficiencies. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

- 2019-004 Finance Personnel Super-User Rights
- 2017-002 Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital
- 2015-002 Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries
- 2015-003(a) Timely Preparation and Approval of Treasurer's Reports Implemented in 2022
- 2015-003(b)iii Investment Reporting and Compliance Implemented in 2022
- 2015-004 Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports
- 2014-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations
- 2012-02(a) Internal Controls Segregation of Duties Super-User Status in the General Ledger System

Current Status:

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

2020-006 Prior Year Significant Deficiencies Not Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Significant Deficiencies identified on the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2020. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Significant Deficiencies. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

- 2019-004 Finance Personnel Super-User Rights
- 2019-007 Determine Disposition of Lease Proceeds Implemented in 2021
- 2017-002 Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital
- 2015-002 Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries
- 2015-003(a) Timely Preparation and Approval of Treasurer's Reports Implemented in 2022
- 2015-003(b)iii Investment Reporting and Compliance Implemented in 2022
- 2015-004 Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports
- 2014-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations

Current Status:

See Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2020-008 <u>Timely Preparation and Approval of Treasurer's Reports</u>

This comment is an update of matters repeated in prior years as discussed in Other Matters 2015-003a, and 2014-007 and 2012-07, the latter two of which are not repeated in this report since they are substantially redundant with our comments below.

To be an effective control, Treasurer's Reports and the associated review should be completed in their entirety as soon as reasonably possible after each month or quarter-end, typically within thirty to forty-five days of the bank statement month end. In addition, Section XX, Reporting, of the City's Investment Policy requires that the City Treasurer review and make available the monthly investment reports to the City Manager and City Council.

During the audit, we noted that Treasurer's Reports had not been prepared and reviewed since January 2020 and therefore were not made available on a monthly basis to the City Manager and the City Council. We did note that City staff prepared a Summary of Investments for the quarters ended March 31, 2020 and June 30, 2020; however, the summary reports were not signed by a preparer or a reviewer.

With such delays, any errors, misstatements and/or unauthorized activities may not be identified or corrected in a timely manner.

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit:

We did note that the City amended its Investment Policy to require the submission of a quarterly Treasurer's Report to the City Manager and City Council, however the March 31, 2021 and June 30, 2021 reports were not submitted until September 21, 2021.

We understand the delay in preparing the Treasurer's Reports was due to the turnover in staffing in the Finance Department.

The City should implement procedures to ensure the timely preparation of the monthly Treasurer's Reports and ensure that preparation and review are documented in a formal manner, including the date on which each takes place.

Current Status: Implemented

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2019-003 <u>Prior Year Recommendations Not Yet Implemented</u>

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Significant Deficiencies identified on the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2019. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Significant Deficiencies. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

- 2017-002 Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital
- 2015-002 Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries
- 2015-003(b)iii Investment Reporting and Compliance Implemented in 2022
- 2015-004 Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports
- 2012-02(a) Internal Controls Segregation of Duties Super-User Status in the General Ledger System

Current Status:

See comment 2021-006 and Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies below.

2019-004 Finance Personnel Super-User Rights

As noted in prior year comment 2012-02, good internal controls are based a segregation of duties, and no one finance employee should have access to an asset and the controlling documentation that supports that asset. Ideally, one employee should retain authorization to use an asset and another employee should maintain the records over that asset. Super-user rights give an individual the potential to obtain both of these functions. Due to the reasons mentioned above, Finance staff should not normally be allowed to have super-user rights in the City's general ledger system.

We noted that three City employees (the Finance Director, the Accounting Manager, and the Deputy Director of Finance) continue to have super-user rights to the New World general ledger. When accounting staff have super-user rights, there is a potential risk of restricting or allowing access to other user's abilities to access the different modules in the accounting system (i.e., unauthorized adjustments could be made to the general ledger). In addition, unauthorized transactions could be processed without proper review and approval.

While we understand the City has a limited number of staff available to provide system administration functions, the City should consider restricting super user rights to as few employees as possible. Until that is possible, the City should implement mitigating controls such as a review and approval of changes made to the system by the above employees.

Update for June 30, 2020 and 2021 Audits:

For the year ended June 30, 2020 and 2021, we noted that three City employees (the Finance Director, the Accounting Manager, and the Budget Manager) continue to have super-user rights to the New World general ledger.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2019-004 <u>Finance Personnel Super-User Rights (Continued)</u>

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

For the year ended June 30, 2022, we noted that five Finance Department employees (the Deputy Finance Director, the Senior Payroll Technician and three Senior Budget Analysts) have super-user rights to the New World general ledger.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

For the year ended June 30, 2023, we noted that seven Finance Department employees (Finance Director, Deputy Finance Director, Accounting Manager, Senior Payroll Technician, Senior Budget Analyst, Accountant, and Accountant II) and one Finance consultant have super-user rights to the New World general ledger.

Current Status:

Staff understands that super user rights should be limited to a select few and are actively discussing which positions during Fiscal Year 2025. In the interim, regarding granting ERP system permissions and end-user rights, Finance and IT staff have a new process where Finance Staff approve the changes to the end-user rights and permissions and IT staff implement the changes.

2018-001 Prior Year Recommendations Not Yet Implemented

During the current year audit, we followed up on the status of Significant Deficiencies identified on the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies. We found that the following deficiencies had either been partially or not mitigated at June 30, 2018. Therefore, they are deemed to be current year Significant Deficiencies. Details of these deficiencies and associated management's responses are listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies.

- 2017-002 Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital
- 2015-002 Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries
- 2015-003 Investment Reporting and Compliance Implemented in 2022
- 2015-004 Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports
- 2014-002 Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliation
- 2012-02 Internal Controls Segregation of Duties

Current Status:

See comment 2021-006 and Management's Response to the Current Year Status for each of the above deficiencies as listed in the Status of Prior Year Significant Deficiencies below.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2017-002 <u>Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital</u>

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends that local governments adopt a target amount of working capital which indicates the level of funding needed to meet the obligations of the fund. Working capital is defined as the difference between current assets and current liabilities of the fund. In addition, the City's policy for enterprise funds is that the target for working capital is that a baseline of 90 days of working capital or 25% of operating expenses is maintained.

As of June 30, 2017, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could only cover 19 days or 3% of the Fund's operating expenses. In addition, the fund has incurred an operating loss for the past two fiscal years.

The City is not in compliance with the terms of its working capital policy.

The Golf Fund revenue as well as the annual play has declined over the past 10 years combined with the increase in expenditures for capital improvements necessary to keep the course in operating condition.

The City should develop a plan to analyze the operations of the Golf Enterprise Fund and develop a plan to fund the operations in a manner that would bring the fund into compliance with the City's working capital policy.

Update for June 30, 2018 Audit: As of June 30, 2018, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could only cover 23 days or 6% of the Fund's operating expenses.

Update for June 30, 2019 Audit: For the year ended June 30, 2019, the Golf Enterprise Fund incurred an operating loss of \$152,029 and as of June 30, 2019, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could only cover 20 days or 5.5% of the Fund's operating expenses.

Update for June 30, 2020 Audit: For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Golf Enterprise Fund incurred an operating loss of \$254,975 and as of June 30, 2020, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could only cover 37 days or 10.2% of the Fund's operating expenses.

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit: For the year ended June 30, 2021, the Golf Enterprise Fund results improved and the Fund had operating income of \$76,448 and as of June 30, 2021, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could cover 75 days or 20% of the Fund's operating expenses.

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit: For the year ended June 30, 2022, the Golf Enterprise Fund results improved slightly although it had an operating loss of \$85,050. As of June 30, 2022, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could cover 88 days or 24% of the Fund's operating expenses and the unrestricted fund deficit was \$1.2 million, which is primarily due to the pension and OPEB liabilities and related balances.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2017-002 <u>Golf Enterprise Fund Working Capital (Continued)</u>

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit: For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Golf Enterprise Fund results improved slightly although it had an operating loss of \$70,317. As of June 30, 2023, the Golf Enterprise Fund had working capital that could cover 106 days or 29% of the Fund's operating expenses, which appears to meet the City's target policy. Although the unrestricted fund deficit was \$1.1 million, it is primarily due to the pension and OPEB liabilities and related balances, which are not current liabilities.

Current Status:

Implemented.

2015-002 <u>Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries</u>

This comment is an update of matters repeated in prior years as discussed in Significant Deficiency 2014-003, which is not repeated in this report since it is substantially redundant with our comments below.

Journal entries should be prepared and reviewed in a timely manner for the period in which the entry is to be posted, in order to keep accounts up to date with the current information. In addition, to have a complete audit trail of the journal entry process, the dates of preparation and review should be documented for all journal entries.

We selected forty journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation and noted thirteen of the journal entries were reviewed more than a month after the periods the entries were intended to adjust. The journal entries were reviewed from two to nine months after the date of preparation or the period in which they were being posted.

Two of the 40 journal entries tested did not have evidence of the date prepared and the date reviewed, which is typically indicated by date stamps used by the Finance Department. One of the two journal entries without a date stamp did have a date printed on the bottom of the page that reflected when the journal voucher may have been prepared, however, no date of review was noted.

During our testing of investments, we also noted December 2014 and March 2015 journal entries to record investments and interest, indicate they were prepared on April 23, 2015 and reviewed and posted on April 22, 2015 which is prior to when the Treasurer's Reports themselves were prepared and reviewed.

Finally, we also noted that 5 of the 40 journal entries tested included the date stamp in accordance with City policy, but the date on the review stamp was prior to the date the document was prepared.

Without the timely preparation, review and approval of journal entries, there is an increased risk of unauthorized entries or an error going undetected, and interim financial reporting may be inaccurate.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2015-002 <u>Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries (Continued)</u>

We understand the delay in the review process was due to the shortage of staff in the Finance Department, and the date stamp differences were due to staff oversight.

The City should develop procedures to ensure that all journal entries are prepared, reviewed, approved and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner (within 30-45 days of the date of activity). And, the date stamps should be included in that review process to ensure the process is accurately documented.

Update for June 30, 2016 Audit:

We selected forty journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. We noted eleven of the entries were reviewed from two to six months after the date of preparation or the period to which they were being posted.

One of the forty journal entries tested did not have evidence of the date prepared, which is typically indicated by date stamps used by the Finance Department.

Update for June 30, 2017 Audit:

We selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. We noted four of the forty entries were reviewed and posted more than 45 days after the date they were prepared.

Additionally, it was noted that three of the forty journal entries tested were posted to the general ledger more than 2 to 5 months after the transactions occurred.

Update for June 30, 2018 Audit:

We again selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. We noted that the journal entries were prepared, reviewed, approved and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner. However, we noted two journal entries that had review dates stamped on them that were prior to the preparation date of the entries.

Update for June 30, 2019 Audit:

During this year's audit, we again selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. We noted that the thirty-nine of the journal entries were prepared, reviewed, approved and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner. However, we noted one of the journal entries was prepared and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner, but the review indication included what appears to be the reviewers date stamp, but not the sign-off of approval by the reviewer.

Update for June 30, 2020 Audit:

During this year's audit, we again selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. We noted that thirty-seven of the journal entries were prepared, reviewed, approved and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner. However, we noted three of the journal entries were prepared and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner, but the review of the journal entries did not take place until two to four months later. In addition, one of the journal entries was posted to February 2020 instead of September 2019, when the transaction occurred.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2015-002 <u>Timely Review and Approval of Journal Entries (Continued)</u>

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit:

During this year's audit, we again selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. We noted that eighteen of the journal entries were prepared, reviewed, approved and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner. However, we noted twelve of the journal entries were prepared, reviewed and posted to the general ledger from two to nine months later.

We understand the delay in the review process continues to be due to the shortage of staff and staff turnover in the Finance Department.

The City should develop procedures to ensure that all journal entries are prepared, reviewed, approved and posted to the general ledger in a timely manner (generally within 30-45 days of the date of activity). And, the date stamps should be included in that review process to ensure the process is accurately documented.

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

During this year's audit, we again selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. Although we noted a number of journal entries were posted to the general ledger from three to eighteen months after the date of the activity being recorded, we did note that a significant number of those entries were late due to the delay in the prior fiscal year closing as discussed in Comment 2021-001.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

During this year's audit, we again selected 40 journal entries for testing of controls over the journal entry process and supporting documentation. Although we noted a number of journal entries were posted to the general ledger from two to eighteen months after the date of the activity being recorded, we did note that a significant number of those entries were late due to the delay in the prior fiscal year closing as discussed in Comment 2022-001.

Current Status:

The City has procedures in place for all journal entries to be reviewed before they are posted to the general ledger, and these entries are initialed by the reviewer. Due to staff turnover, the entries were not entered timely. This is also related to the 2023-001 finding with the timely close. As the close management system is being refined, procedures for close will be done on a more regular basis. During FY 24, additional controls have taken place with the closing of each period and using system controls to lock down prior period transactions.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2015-004 <u>Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports</u>

The covenants of the City's 2012 Water Refunding Bonds and 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds require them to prepare an Annual Report no later than seven months after the end of the City's fiscal year. The Report should be filed with the Municipal Securities Rule-making Board (MSRB) by either the City or the bond trustee.

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure, we noted that as of October 21, 2015, the City had not filed any Annual Reports to date for the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds or the 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds.

The City is not in compliance with the annual reporting requirements of the Bond covenants.

Although the City does make annual filings for other bond issues, we understand the failure to report was due to City staff not being aware of the disclosure requirements for these debt issues.

The City should ensure that the delinquent Annual Reports are filed with MSRB and future Reports are filed timely. If the Trustee is responsible for the filing, the City should make sure that the filing is completed by the deadline.

Update for June 30, 2018 Audit:

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure reports, we noted that the City did not file the annual reports for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 until May 2, 2018 for the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds and the 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds.

Update for June 30, 2019 Audit:

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure reports due on December 31, 2018 for the year ended June 30, 2018, we noted that the City did not file the June 30, 2018 annual reports for the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds and the 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds until July 26, 2019.

Update for June 30, 2020 Audit:

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure reports due on December 31, 2019 for the year ended June 30, 2019, we noted that the City did not file the June 30, 2019 notice stating that the annual reports for the 2009 and 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds would be filed once the fiscal year 2019 financial statements were issued until May 10, 2021, and the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds until May 3, 2021.

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit:

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure reports due on December 31, 2020 for the year ended June 30, 2020, we noted that the City did not file the reports for the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds and the 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds until May 3, 2021 and May 10, 2021, respectively. We did note the City filed the fiscal year 2020 financial statements for both Bonds on March 24, 2022, which was shortly after the financial statements were issued on March 11, 2022.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2015-004 <u>Timely Filing of Continuing Disclosure Reports (Continued)</u>

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure reports due on December 31, 2021 for the year ended June 30, 2021, we noted that the City did not file the reports for the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds and the 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds until January 31, 2022. We also noted the City filed the fiscal year 2021 financial statements for both Bonds on August 21, 2023, which was shortly after the financial statements were issued on August 8, 2023.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

During our review of the filing of continuing disclosure reports due on December 31, 2022 for the year ended June 30, 2022, we noted that the City did not file the reports for the 2012 Water Refunding Bonds and the 2012 Sewer Refunding Bonds to date, because we understand they were waiting to file 2022 and 2023 at the same time. We did note the City filed the fiscal year 2022 financial statements for both Bonds on March 30, 2024, which was just over a month after the financial statements were issued on February 12, 2024.

We also noted that the City filed Failure to File Annual Report and/or Failure to File Financial Statements Notices on January 31, 2023 and July 13, 2023.

The City is not in compliance with the annual reporting requirements of the Bond covenants.

We understand the failure to report was due to staff turnover.

The City should develop procedures to ensure the Annual Reports and Annual Financial Statements are filed timely with MSRB.

Current Status:

The City has contracted out all continuing disclosure reporting. We anticipate this to be a reoccurring issue until such time that the Financial Statements are filed timely, and the required information is available for disclosure.

2014-002 <u>Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations</u>

Bank reconciliations are one of the most important internal controls a city can have, and the bank reconciliation cannot be considered complete until it has been reviewed and approved. To be an effective control, bank reconciliations and the associated review should be completed in their entirety as soon as reasonably possible after each month-end, usually within thirty to forty-five days of bank statement month end.

We reviewed the City's December 2013 bank reconciliations and noted they were not completed until late February 2014 as follows: Payroll Account - February 27, Section 125 (Aflac) Account - February 24, Police Account - February 24 and Workers Compensation Account - February 20. We were unable to determine the completion or review date of the General Account, as there was no date noted, however it appears to have been mid-February due to the print date on the paper backup.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2014-002 <u>Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations (Continued)</u>

We reviewed the City's January 2014 bank reconciliations for the same accounts, and it is also unclear as to when they were completed as the preparer and reviewer sign-offs are not dated, however it appears they were completed in mid-March due to the print dates on the paper backup.

Finally, we noted that the April 2014 bank reconciliations for the accounts were not completed as of June 10, 2014. With such a delay, any errors, misstatements and/or unauthorized activities may not be identified in a timely manner or corrected accordingly.

We understand the delay in preparing the bank reconciliations was due to the implementation of the utility billing module of the New World System on January 1, 2014 impacting all Finance staff. In addition, we understand there was a turnover in staff during the month of February 2014 and the transition period impacted the timely preparation of the bank reconciliations.

The City should implement procedures to ensure the timely preparation of the bank reconciliations and ensure that preparation dates and signatures are visible on the reconciliations.

Update at June 30, 2015: We reviewed the City's December 2014 bank reconciliations for the following accounts and noted there was no indication of the date they were prepared, and they were not reviewed until March 2015 as follows: Section 125 (Aflac) Account – March 21, Police Account – March 13 and Workers Compensation Account – March 21. The December 2014 General Account and Payroll Account reconciliations were not prepared or reviewed until May 6 and April 16, respectively.

We also reviewed the City's January 2015 bank reconciliations for the following accounts and noted there was no indication of the date they were prepared, and they were not reviewed until March 2015 as follows: Section 125 (Aflac) Account – March 21, Police Account – March 21 and Workers Compensation Account – March 31. The January 2015 General Account and Payroll Account were not prepared or reviewed until May 12 and May 6, respectively. And, during our review of the General Checking account June 2015 reconciliation, we noted it was not prepared and reviewed until September 10, 2015 and September 15, 2015, respectively.

We understand the delay in preparing the bank reconciliations was due to the Finance Department being short staffed from July 2014 through March 2015 and that an employee was hired in March 2015 and is in training to assume the bank reconciliation duties.

Update for June 30, 2016 Audit:

In June 2016, we reviewed the City's December 2015 bank reconciliations and noted they were not prepared and reviewed until late February or early March 2016 as follows: General Checking Account - February 29, Section 125 (Aflac) Account – March 1 and Workers Compensation Account - February 29.

We understand the delay in preparing the bank reconciliations was due to the turnover of staff and new employees being trained to complete the process which impacted the timely preparation and review of the bank reconciliations.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2014-002 <u>Timely Preparation and Approval of Bank Reconciliations (Continued)</u>

In October 2016, we reviewed the City's June 2016 bank reconciliations for the same accounts. We found that the reconciliation for the General Checking account was prepared and reviewed on a timely basis. As for the Section 125 and Worker's Compensation Accounts bank reconciliations, they were prepared timely and reviewed by October 2016. However, we could not determine when the preparation or review took place as the preparers and reviewers did not indicate such on the reconciliations.

Update for June 30, 2017 Audit:

We again selected bank reconciliations for testing for timely preparation and proper approval and noted following:

- The City's November 2016 bank reconciliation for the General Checking Account was not prepared until March 7, 2017 and were not reviewed until March 15, 2017. Additionally, the Payroll Section 125 Reimbursement Account was signed off as prepared and reviewed, although there is no indication of the date it was prepared and reviewed.
- The City's March 2017 bank reconciliations for the General Checking, Payroll Checking, Section 125 Payroll Reimbursement Account, and Workers Compensation Account were not prepared and reviewed until June 2, 2017 and June 5, 2017, respectively.
- During our testing of the City's June 2017 bank reconciliations, it was noted that the City's reconciliation of the general checking account was not prepared and reviewed until October 1, 2017. Additionally, it was noted that there was no indication of who prepared or reviewed the June 2017 Successor Agency bank reconciliation, or the date that it was prepared or reviewed.

Update for June 30, 2018 Audit:

We again selected bank reconciliations for testing for timely preparation and proper approval and noted following:

The City's December 2017 bank reconciliations for the General Checking, Payroll Checking, Successor Agency Check, and Workers' Compensation Checking Accounts were not prepared or reviewed until March 5, 2018. Additionally, the Payroll Section 125 Reimbursement Account December 2017 bank reconciliation was not prepared and reviewed until March 9, 2018.

Furthermore, the City's February 2018 bank reconciliation for the General Checking Account was not prepared and reviewed until May 14 and 15, 2018, respectively.

According to City staff, the reason for the delay was due to staff changes in the Finance Department during the current year.

Update for June 30, 2019 Audit:

We again selected four months for testing of timely preparation and review and noted the bank reconciliations for August 2018, November 2018, March 2019 and June 2019 were prepared and reviewed within thirty to forty-five days of bank statement month end.

Current Status: See 2020-002.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2012-02 Internal Controls – Segregation of Duties

This comment is an update of matters repeated in prior years as discussed in Significant Deficiency 2010-03, which is not repeated in this report, since it is substantially redundant with our comments below.

During our review of the City's internal controls for proper segregation of duties and procedures, we noted areas in which controls need to be improved and employee's access and/or duties revised. Good internal controls require that employees with access to the City's assets not have access to the City's accounting records for the same assets.

a. Super-User Status in the General Ledger System

Accounting staff should not normally be allowed to have Super-User rights in the City's general ledger system. We noted that three City employees (the Finance Director, the Accounting Manager, and the Deputy Director of Finance) have super-user rights to the HTE SunGard System. When accounting staff have super-user rights, there is a potential risk of restricting or allowing access to other user's abilities to access the different modules in the accounting system (i.e., unauthorized adjustments could be made to the general ledger). In addition, unauthorized transactions could be processed without proper review and approval. While we understand the City has a limited number of staff available to provide system administration functions, the City should consider restricting super user rights to as few employees as possible. Until that is possible, the City should implement mitigating controls such as a review and approval of changes made to the system by the above employees.

b. Reviewing Changes to Vendor Database

The Accounts Payable Senior Accounting Technician processes accounts payable, mails the checks, and has access to the vendor database. Although the check registers are reviewed, there is no review of the vendor database for additions or modifications. An employee other than the Senior Accounting Technician should review the vendor database periodically and approve all additions and modifications.

c. Reviewing Changes to Employee Database

The Payroll Clerk processes payroll, and although she cannot add new employees to the employee database, she can modify data within the database. Although the payroll registers are reviewed, there is no review of the employee database for modifications. An employee other than the Payroll Clerk should review the employee database periodically and ensure all modifications have been approved.

Update for 2013, 2014 and 2015 Audits –We again noted the lack of segregation of duties associated with super users and reviewing changes to the vendor and employee databases.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2012-02 Internal Controls – Segregation of Duties (Continued)

With such access to the databases, there is a risk of unapproved changes being made to the vendor or employee databases. Ideally, the access to the various databases should be removed from the employees involved with processing the above transactions. In the event that is not possible, another appropriate employee should review the applicable databases periodically to ensure all additions, deletions and modifications have been approved.

We understand the New World System accounting software does not currently have the capability of producing reports of changes made to the various databases. Again, if the access to the databases cannot be removed from the employees noted, when these database changes reports are available, they should be generated during the review process for each applicable area and reviewed in detail to ensure all modifications were accurate and approved.

Update for June 30, 2018 Audit:

a. Super-User Status in the General Ledger System

Not implemented. We noted that same three City staff positions still have super-user rights to the New World System.

b. Reviewing Changes to Vendor Database

Implemented.

c. Reviewing Changes to Employee Database

Although the payroll registers are now reviewed, if changes to the employee database are completed without backup being provided, the change may go unnoticed. The City should develop a process to ensure that the Accounting Manager is alerted to any changes that are made to the employee database.

Update for June 30, 2019 Audit:

a. Super-User Status in the General Ledger System

Not implemented. We noted that same three City staff positions still have super-user rights to the New World System.

b. Reviewing Changes to Vendor Database

Implemented.

c. Reviewing Changes to Employee Database

Implemented.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

2012-02 Internal Controls – Segregation of Duties (Continued)

Update for June 30, 2020 and 2021 Audits:

a. Super-User Status in the General Ledger System

Not implemented. We noted that three City staff positions still have super-user rights to the New World System.

b. Reviewing Changes to Vendor Database

Implemented.

c. Reviewing Changes to Employee Database

Implemented.

Current Status:

- **a.** See 2019-004
- **b.** Implemented.
- c. Implemented

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2022-008 <u>Timely Processing of Terminated Employees</u>

The City should process terminated employees in a timely manner. This includes terminating the employee from both the payroll and general ledger systems upon issuance of their last check, or shortly thereafter.

We selected sixteen terminated employees for testing of proper and timely cutoff in the City's computer system and termination and noted two were not terminated from the payroll system from three months to over a year after their last check date, as follows:

| Termination | Last Check |
|-------------|------------|
| Date | Date |
| 7/13/2021 | 5/7/2020 |
| 8/5/2021 | 5/6/2021 |

Employees that are not terminated from the payroll and accounting systems in a timely manner continue to have an "active" status which could lead to unauthorized payroll payments or unintended access to the City's accounting system.

We understand the employees were part-time seasonal employees and the department did not determine they would be separated from employment until fiscal year 2022, and turnover in the Finance Department may have delayed processing of terminations.

The City should develop procedures to remove temporary or seasonal employees from the payroll system after their employment ends with the City. If the employees are expected to return, the City should determine if the employee could be deactivated, but not fully removed and only reactivated when the return is confirmed.

Current Status: Implemented.

2021-007 Capital Assets Inventory

The City should complete a physical inventory of their capital assets once a year to ensure that capital assets records are complete and physical assets are safeguarded. In the event a full inventory is not feasible, the City should cycle through asset categories or departments on an annual basis to ensure that all assets are periodically inventoried.

We understand the City has not completed a physical inventory in at least the last two fiscal years.

We understand the City's staffing shortage and staff turnover made it difficult to complete a physical inventory of the capital assets.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2021-007 <u>Capital Assets Inventory (Continued)</u>

The City should develop procedures to perform a capital assets inventory once a year, or on a rotational basis, to ensure that capital assets record is accurate.

Current Status:

Agree. During FY 26, the City will work on development of an inventory and capital asset policy which will include a physical inventory, procedures for disposal of obsolete assets, a search for additional assets, and compliance with grant/federal requirements.

2021-008 Accounting for Outstanding Checks

The City's policy for handling outstanding checks is that the City follows up with the payee on a monthly basis after checks have been outstanding for more than 6 months to see if the check needs to be reissued. If there is no resolution with the payee regarding the outstanding check, the City will void the check and the funds will be returned to the City's general account using the State's escheatment procedures.

We reviewed the Open Payment Report that includes the outstanding checks for the March 2021 Bank Reconciliation for the General Account and noted numerous checks that date back to April 2016.

We understand that due to staff turnover and being behind on daily tasks, City staff has not been following up on outstanding checks, which is not in compliance with the City's policy.

Detailed outstanding checks listings should be periodically reviewed for checks outstanding for more 180 days and City staff should determine whether those checks should be reissued or written off in accordance with the City's policy.

Update for June 30, 2023: We noted that the outstanding checks date to April 2016 for the general account, April 2021 for the payroll account and June 2020 for the worker's compensation account. Although we understand there are different rules related to payroll and worker's compensation outstanding checks, the City has not completed the escheatment process for the general account checks that date back to April 2016.

We understand that due to staff turnover and being behind on daily tasks, City staff has been reviewing outstanding checks, but did not complete the reissue or write-off procedures, which is not in compliance with the City's policy.

Detailed outstanding checks listings should be periodically reviewed for checks outstanding for more than 180 days and City staff should determine whether those checks should be reissued or written off in accordance with the City's policy.

Current Status:

An overall review of outstanding checks has been completed by the Accountants. It was noted that some of the checks still listed were paid from the prior banking institution and as such the escheatment process was followed to clear those from the register and return the funds. Since FY 24, staff has been reviewing outstanding checks, following up with recipients, and processing reissued checks accordingly.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2020-009 <u>Timely Updating of Bank Account Signature Cards</u>

Signature cards for the bank and investment accounts should be updated timely when there are changes in authorized signers.

During our review of authorized signers in June 2020 for the Union Bank and Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) accounts, we noted that the previous Finance Director and Deputy Finance Director were still listed as authorized signers on the accounts even though they had departed the City in November 2019 and May 2019, respectively. We noted that the authorized signers for those accounts were not updated until August 2020. In addition, the Wells Fargo Bank account included the same signers, and the authorized signers were not updated until April 2020.

We understand certain changes were not made timely due to the City experiencing turnover in the upper management positions during the fiscal year.

Keeping terminated employees as authorized signers on the City's bank and investment accounts exposes the City to the risk of misappropriation of assets.

The City must immediately remove the former employees from the authorized signer lists of all bank and investment accounts. In the future, a step should be added to the employee departure checklist or process to ensure that outside parties (such as banks and investment advisors) are informed that the departed employee no longer represents the City.

Update for June 30, 2021 and 2022 Audits:

The Local Agency Investment Fund authorized users were updated, but the Union Bank account (now U.S. Bank) was not updated as of August 2022.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

The Union Bank account (now U.S. Bank) was not updated until January 2024.

Current Status:

Staff agrees with removing former employees from authorized signer lists of all bank and investment accounts. Procedures are in place to ensure prompt removal and additions of authorized signers on all bank and investment accounts. Staff had made a comprehensive effort during Fiscal Year 2024 to update authorized signers for Wells Fargo Bank, LAIF, U.S. Bank, PFM and CAMP. Since each entity have their own procedures and steps to change authorized signers, the timing of the process varies by entity. Currently, to the best of staff's knowledge, authorized signers are updated for all the above-mentioned entities.

See also comment 2023-009.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2020-011 Consistency of Public Facilities Improvement Program Accounting

The City has developed a Public Facilities Implementation Plan (PFIP) to ensure that public facilities are adequate and constructed in accordance with the adopted master plans for water, sewer, storm drainage and traffic as the City grows and develops in accordance with its General Plan. Development Impact Fees are collected at or near the time of development and are used wherever practical to finance the expansion of infrastructure necessary to accommodate the demand for new capacity. In certain cases, developers may construct public improvements that are in the PFIP and enter into reimbursement agreements with the City. Developers are then granted credit against the fees owed or are reimbursed any remaining amounts owed to the developer by the City when sufficient funds are available from future development impact fees paid by subsequent development that benefit from the available improvements.

As of June 30, 2020, the City had outstanding reimbursement commitments totaling \$25,619,197, that are reported as contracts payable in the City's financial statements. Related to those contracts payable, interfund advances between the Public Facilities Improvement Plan, General Fund, Water, and Sewer Funds are recorded in the general ledger that are expected to be repaid out of future developer fees.

The City tracks the activity related to the developer commitments in a spreadsheet, but the spreadsheet does not connect that activity with the balances of the interfund loans and some of the contracts payable are recorded as fund liabilities, while others are considered long-term liabilities.

We understand that due to the staff turnover, the City has not documented when balances should be recorded as a fund liability versus a long-term liability and when the interfund advances should be repaid.

The City should develop policies and procedures around the accounting for the PFIP activities, to ensure that all transactions and balances are recorded consistently and documented for future reference.

Current Status:

Implemented for FY 24. A retired annuitant was hired to assist in reconciling the PFIP programs to ensure accuracy of all balances and timing of payments. With this retired annuitant's help, staff has successfully updated the Master PFIP tracking sheet to reconcile and evaluate all outstanding liabilities to developers through the June 30th, 2023 period. This effort was completed in early Fiscal Year 2025. Staff will now focus on refunding developers based on available funding amongst the PFIP funds. In consideration of paying developers, staff will also evaluate the ability of paying down interfund loan balances.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2020-013 Filing Timely Grant Reimbursement Requests

Grant reimbursement requests should be filed shortly after the associated grant expenditures are incurred.

During the audit, we noted that the Fire Grants Special Revenue Fund had actual expenditures of \$88 thousand and no revenue.

We understand that the City had incurred expenditures under the Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant, but no drawdowns were completed during fiscal year 2020 or subsequent. We also understand the grant reimbursement requests were not anticipated to be filed until fiscal year 2022.

City staff indicated that due to the turnover of employees in the Finance Department during the fiscal year, the City did not complete the reimbursement requests.

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit:

The grant reimbursements for the SAFER program were not completed during the year ended June 30, 2021. In addition, the filing of reimbursement requests for the federal transit authority program were not completed in fiscal year 2021.

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

The grant reimbursements for the SAFER program were not completed during the year ended June 30, 2022. In addition, the filing of all reimbursement requests for the federal transit authority program fiscal year 2022 activity was not completed in fiscal year 2022.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

The grant reimbursement requests for the SAFER program costs incurred in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 were not filed until November 2022 and October 2023. In addition, due to the late drawdowns and late reporting for the grant, the grant expired and the City was not able to make the final drawdown on the grant for costs incurred of approximately \$71 thousand.

City staff indicated that due to the turnover of employees in the Finance Department during the prior fiscal years, the City did not complete the reimbursement requests.

Late grant draws could jeopardize grant funding if the costs are not claimed during the period of performance specified in the grant agreement.

The City should develop procedures to ensure that grant reimbursement requests are filed on a monthly or at least quarterly basis, to ensure that grant funding is not jeopardized and to improve cash flow.

Current Status:

Staff recognizes grant reimbursement requests have not been timely. Staff turnover in key positions have left grant management without proper attention. Staff is working on implementing grant management policies and procedures to ensure reimbursement requests occur timely and documented thoroughly.

See also current year comment 2023-002.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2020-015 Monitoring Loans Receivable for Collectability

The City should have a process in place to monitor the collectability of the City's loans receivable to ensure payments are collected and recorded timely.

In our conversations with City staff during the audit, we noted that the City does not have procedures in place to monitor outstanding loans receivable balances for collectability, to make sure payments are collected and recorded timely or to monitor compliance with the terms of loan covenants.

Without procedures in place to monitor the activity and compliance of the loans receivable balances, loan activity may not be accurately recorded in the general ledger, loan payments may not be collected timely, and loans may be out of compliance with required covenants.

City staff stated that with the high amount of employee turnover in the Finance Department, the City had not been able to monitor the loans receivable balances.

Update for June 30, 2023:

We noted that the City has not yet developed procedures to monitor outstanding loans receivable balances for collectability, to make sure payments are collected and recorded timely or to monitor compliance with the terms of loan covenants.

We also noted that the City's Residential Rehabilitation Matching Grant Program that was established by the former Redevelopment Agency during fiscal year 2003, under which loans were made to real property owners in the Redevelopment Area for the purpose of making property improvements. The loans are to be forgiven after ten years based on program provisions.

As of June 30, 2023, loans receivable under the Residential Rehabilitation Matching Grant Program had a balance of \$73,458, which were offset by an allowance for forgiveness of \$66,436. However, eight of the ten loans outstanding had reached the ten-year mark for forgiveness prior to or as of June 30, 2023, but we understand the City has not yet removed the liens from the properties. In addition, the remaining two loans have been outstanding for more than ten years, but went into default in fiscal year 2013 and are not offset with the forgiveness allowance.

City staff stated that with the high amount of employee turnover in the Finance Department, the City has not been able to monitor the loans receivable balances. In addition, we understand City staff is still looking into how to remove liens from the properties, but has so far been unsuccessful in receiving direction on what action is needed to complete the reconveyance to remove the liens. As a result, the properties may show a lien that is no longer valid.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2020-015 Monitoring Loans Receivable for Collectability (Continued)

The City should develop procedures to monitor the balances, activity and covenants associated with outstanding loans receivable balances, including those that are to be forgiven. The procedures should be communicated to City staff and a process should be put in place for the monitoring to occur. The City should work with the City Attorney's office to determine the process needed to remove the liens from the applicable Residential Rehabilitation Matching Grant Program loans.

Current Status:

Staff agrees with the need to develop procedures to monitor balances, activities, and covenants associated with outstanding loans receivable balances. Staff will research best practices, establish a policy, and monitor activity. In addition, Finance is working with the City Attorney in regard to collectability on some of the former Redevelopment Agency loans. Finance will also work to establish procedures for the recording of all loan activity.

Due to staff turnover in Finance and the delayed completion of multiple audits, staff was unable to evaluate removal of the liens for the properties. Finance will work on removing liens in FY2025. Finance will also work to establish procedures for the recording of all loan activity.

2016-003 Information Technology Best Practices Recommendations

We conducted an Information Systems Review with our audit which encompassed the City's financial information system and the network environment that houses it. Our work goes beyond simply looking at financial information systems as a result of greater risks of unauthorized access caused by overall industry growth of web-based commerce and internet based financial systems. Internal controls that are present in the overall network environment have become more important and relevant to understanding the internal controls over the financial system. We believe Information System controls must be continuously improved and enhanced to stay ahead of the ever-increasing sophistication of hackers and criminals.

Currently, there are no Information Technology standards to which local governments are required to conform. Indeed, there are a wide variety of informal guidelines and suggested controls from many different organizations which local governments can use to implement appropriate controls to ensure adequate security over information technology. Our Information Technology staff have reviewed these informal guidelines and concluded that the certification and accreditation framework developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) are the most appropriate for local government¹. NIST and FISMA represent the minimum security requirements for federal government agencies information systems. NIST recommends these for state and local governments. Our procedures included performing an external network scan based on NIST criteria and in determining that internal control provides for:

- > Internet access defenses including hacker prevention, detection and deterrent systems
- Security of data from physical or network access
- Adequately protecting data from unauthorized internal access
- Reasonable measures to ensure continuation of service

¹ "State, local, and tribal governments, as well as private sector organizations are encouraged to consider using these guidelines, as appropriate." NIST SP 800-37 Rev 1 pg 11

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2016-003 Information Technology Best Practices Recommendations (Continued)

While the results of our work did not indicate material weaknesses, we noted a few areas which could be improved. A summary of these recommendations which we believe are "best practices" are as follows:

Payment Card Industry Compliance

The City is not in compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS). Any organization that processes credit cards is required to comply with PCI-DSS, even if the processing is outsourced. Failure to meet compliance requirements results in higher transaction fees and liability if a security breach is found. Because the City accepts credit cards as a form of payment, the City must be compliant with the applicable controls.

Update for June 30, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 Audits:

We again noted that City is still not in compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard.

Current Status:

The City was PCI compliant for part of FY 22, but a subsequent scan revealed additional vulnerabilities. As of June 30, 2023, the City was in the process of addressing vulnerabilities identified in a prior scan. Finance and IT worked together to mitigate these vulnerabilities while also transitioning to a new PCI-compliant payment processor. As of June 30, 2024, the City had fully transitioned to a new merchant payment processor that is PCI-DSS compliant. As of Today (March 18, 2025), regular scans and compliance measures are in place to ensure ongoing adherence to PCI-DSS requirements.

2015-008 <u>Compliance with Health and Safety Code Reporting Requirements for the Housing</u> <u>Successor</u>

This comment is an update of matters repeated in prior years as discussed in Other Matter 2014-008, which is not repeated in this report, since it is substantially redundant with our comments below.

Senate Bill No. 341 (SB341) was approved on October 13, 2013 and amended and added to the Health and Safety Code (HSC) effective January 1, 2014 to change provisions relating to the functions performed by a Housing Successor. Part of SB341 added HSC Section 34176.1 that imposes annual reporting requirements related to the housing assets of the former Redevelopment Agency held by the Housing Successor.

The City serves as Housing Successor for the housing activities of the former Manteca Redevelopment Agency and the activities of the Housing Successor are reported in the Low and Moderate-Income Housing Assets Special Revenue Fund.

Under the reporting requirements, the Housing Successor is required to include eleven points of information for the previous fiscal year in the City's annual report of the General Plan Administration due each April 1 (Government Code Section 65400) and post the same eleven points of information on the City's website. In addition, certain information included in Section 34176.1(a)(3) is to be included in the report every five years.

CITY OF MANTECA MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR OTHER MATTERS

2015-008 <u>Compliance with Health and Safety Code Reporting Requirements for the Housing</u> <u>Successor (Continued)</u>

The reporting information began with fiscal year 2014 reporting that was due to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and to be posted to the City's website by April 1, 2015. However, the City did not prepare the required report for submission to HCD or posting to the City's website.

The City, as Housing Successor, should file the fiscal year 2014 report as soon as possible and develop procedures to ensure ongoing compliance with the annual reporting requirements of HSC Section 34176.1

Update for June 30, 2016, 2017 and 2018 Audits:

During the audits, we followed up on the status of the above condition. We noted that the deficiency had not been mitigated.

Update for June 30, 2019 Audit:

We noted that the City filed the required report for the year ended June 30, 2018 in April 2019, but we understand the other delinquent reports were not filed.

Update for June 30, 2021 Audit:

It appears that the City did not file the required report for the year ended June 30, 2020 and the report was not posted to the City's website.

Update for June 30, 2022 Audit:

It appears that the City did not file the required report for the year ended June 30, 2021 and the report was not posted to the City's website.

Update for June 30, 2023 Audit:

It appears that the City did not file the required report for the year ended June 30, 2022 and the report was not posted to the City's website.

The City should file the required report and the City should work with HCD to determine if the 2022 report and the other delinquent reports are required to be prepared and filed.

Current Status:

Due to staff turnover, current staff was unaware of this requirement and will make an inquiry of HCD and work with the City's Housing Manager as to the next steps.

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