



February 12, 2020

To the Honorable Mayor and the Members of the City Council  
of the City of Pomona  
Pomona, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Pomona, California (the "City") for the year ended June 30, 2019. We have also audited the financial statements of Air Quality Improvement Special Revenue Fund and Housing Authority as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019.

Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated April 15, 2019. Professional standards also require that we communicate the following information related to our audit.

### **Significant Audit Matters**

#### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described in Note 1 to the basic financial statements. As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the City implemented the following accounting standards:

#### *New Accounting Standards*

GASB Statement No. 88, Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements (GASB 88). The primary objective of this Statement is to improve the information that is disclosed in notes to government financial statements related to debt, including direct borrowings and direct placements. It also clarifies which liabilities governments should include when disclosing information related to debt. This Statement defines debt for purposes of disclosure in notes to financial statements as a liability that arises from a contractual obligation to pay cash (or other assets that may be used in lieu of cash) in one or more payments to settle an amount that is fixed at the date the contractual obligation is established. See Note 10 of the City's basic financial statements for the City's long-term debt disclosures.

GASB Statement No. 89, Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred before the end of a Construction Period. This Statement requires that interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period be recognized as an expense in the period in which the cost is incurred for financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. As a result, interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period will not be included in the historical cost of a capital asset reported in a business-type activity or enterprise fund.

No other new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2019. We noted no transactions entered into by the City during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

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

- Management's estimate of the investment fair market value is based on institutional bond quotes or matrix pricing for the City's investment in U.S. government sponsored enterprise securities, municipal bonds, medium-term notes, negotiable certificates of deposits, commercial paper, and supranational. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the investment fair market value in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the depreciation on capital assets is based on the industry standard and past experience on actual useful life of the asset groups. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation on capital assets in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the net pension liabilities is based on the actuarial valuation on total pension liability and based on financial statements on fiduciary net position for CalPERS plans and collateral plan. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the net pension liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the net other post employment benefit ("OPEB") liability is based on the actuarial valuation on total OPEB liability. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the OPEB liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were:

- Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
- Note 2 – Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability
- Note 12 – Defined Benefits Pension Plan
- Note 13 – Other Postemployment Benefits ("OPEB")
- Note 16 – Commitments and Contingencies
- Note 17 – Net Position and Fund Balance

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

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

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

### *Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

### *Disagreements with Management*

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

### *Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated February 12, 2020.

### *Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

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

### *Other Audit Findings or Issues*

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

### **Other Matters**

We applied certain limited procedures to the Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"), Budgetary Comparison Schedules for General Fund and major special revenue funds, the Schedules of Changes of in Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios, the Schedules of Plan Contributions – Pensions, the Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, and the Schedule of Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits Plan, which are Required Supplementary Information ("RSI") that supplement the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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

We were not engaged to report on the Introductory and the Statistical Sections, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

**Restriction on Use**

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The Pw Group, LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Santa Ana, California