



**JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION**

TOPEKA, KANSAS

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DECEMBER 31, 2020

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REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Governance Letter

Signed Management Representation Letter



August 31, 2021

To the Board of Directors
Joint Economic Development Organization
Shawnee County, Kansas

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO) for the year ended December 31, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and, *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated February 2, 2021. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you 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 JEDO are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2020. We noted no transactions entered into by JEDO 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. There were no sensitive estimates affecting JEDO's financial statements.

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

The disclosure of the Economic Development Program in Note 4 to the financial statements with discussion of the agreement with GO Topeka.

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. We assisted with the adjustments necessary in converting from the modified accrual basis

of accounting used in the fund financial statements to the accrual basis of accounting used in the government-wide financial statements.

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 August 31, 2021.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to JEDO'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 JEDO's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Restriction on Use

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

Very truly yours,

SSC CPAs, P.A.

SSC CPAs, P.A.

August 31, 2021

SSC CPAs, P.A.
5825 SW 29th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Joint Economic Development Organization, which comprise the respective financial position of the governmental activities and major fund as of December 31, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of August 31, 2021, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated February 2, 2021, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 7) Adjustments or disclosures have been made for all events, including instances of noncompliance, subsequent to the date of the financial statements that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.
- 8) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 9) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Organization is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

- 10) We have provided you with:

- a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, and other matters.
 - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c) Unrestricted access to persons within the Organization from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - d) Minutes of the meetings of Board or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 11) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
 - 12) We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
 - 13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Organization and involves—
 - Management,
 - Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
 - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
 - 14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Organization's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
 - 15) We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or waste or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
 - 16) We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation, claims, or assessments or unasserted claims or assessments that are required to be accrued or disclosed in the financial statements, and we have not consulted a lawyer concerning litigation, claims, or assessments.
 - 17) We have disclosed to you the names of the Organization's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Government-specific

- 18) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 19) We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the objectives of the audit and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 20) The Organization has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance or net position.
- 21) We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts, and legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 22) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances of identified and suspected fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 23) There are no violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations, provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.
- 24) As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and disclosures. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to those nonaudit services, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of

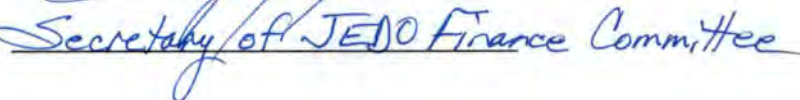
the services performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and related notes.

- 25) The Organization has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 26) The Organization has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 27) The financial statements include all component units, appropriately present majority equity interests in legally separate organizations and joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- 28) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities in accordance with GASBS No. 34 , as amended.
- 29) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASBS Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 30) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 31) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 32) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- 33) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
- 34) We understand that the name of your firm changed from Summers, Spencer & Company, P.A. to SSC CPAs, P.A. effective May 20, 2021. We agree that all reference to and agreements relative to the audit signed with Summers, Spencer & Company, P.A. prior to that date remain in effect with SSC CPAs, P.A.

Signature:



Title:





**JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION**

TOPEKA, KANSAS

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TOGETHER
WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2020

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Joint Economic Development Organization
Shawnee County, Kansas

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Joint Economic Development Organization as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Organization's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and major fund of the Joint Economic Development Organization, as of December 31, 2020, and the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters*Required Supplementary Information*

Management has omitted management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 31, 2021 on our consideration of the Joint Economic Development Organization's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing on internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Joint Economic Development Organization's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

SSC CPAs, P.A.

SSC CPAs, P.A.
Topeka, Kansas

August 31, 2021

JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
Governmental Fund Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2020

	General Fund	Adjustments	Statement of Net Position
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 732,528	\$ -	\$ 732,528
Receivables			
City of Topeka	2,525,025	-	2,525,025
Shawnee County	1,442,961	-	1,442,961
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,700,514	-	4,700,514
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable			
City of Topeka	\$ 1,655,652	-	1,655,652
Shawnee County	1,793,623	-	1,793,623
Total liabilities	3,449,275	-	3,449,275
Fund balance			
Restricted	1,251,239	-	-
Total fund balance	1,251,239	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 4,700,514		
Net position			
Restricted		-	1,251,239
TOTAL NET POSITION		\$ -	\$ 1,251,239

JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance and
Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	General Fund	Adjustments	Statement of Activities
Revenue			
Sales tax			
City of Topeka	\$ 9,547,390	\$ -	\$ 9,547,390
Shawnee County	8,218,737	-	8,218,737
Interest income	46,040	-	46,040
Total revenue	17,812,167	-	17,812,167
Expenses			
Economic development			
Go Topeka	5,000,000	-	5,000,000
City of Topeka	6,124,620	-	6,124,620
Shawnee County	6,635,006	-	6,635,006
Professional services and other	63,250	-	63,250
Total expenses	17,822,876	-	17,822,876
Change in fund balance/net position	(10,709)	-	(10,709)
Fund balance/net position, beginning of year	1,261,948	-	1,261,948
Fund balance/net position, end of year	\$ 1,251,239	\$ -	\$ 1,251,239

JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

Note 1- Reporting Entity and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

The Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO) is a separate legal entity created by an interlocal agreement, as amended and revised (the agreement) between the City of Topeka, Kansas (the City) and Shawnee County, Kansas (the County). JEDO Board of Directors consists of thirteen (13) members. Voting members include the three (3) County Commissioners, the City Mayor, Deputy Mayor and two City Council members. Nonvoting members include the remaining six (6) City Council members.

On August 3, 2004, County voters passed a countywide one-half percent sales tax to finance economic development and countywide infrastructure development. The State of Kansas collects the sales tax and remits the respective taxes to the City and County who in turn remit the sales tax to JEDO.

On November 4, 2014, County voters renewed the countywide one-half percent sales tax for an additional 15 years commencing January 1, 2017 and expiring December 31, 2031.

Beginning January 1, 2017 and continuing each year through December 31, 2031, JEDO shall dedicate \$5,000,000 annually for the purpose of supporting economic development priorities established by the JEDO Board. JEDO shall ensure that not less than 10% of the \$5,000,000 will be targeted to support economic development for socially and economically disadvantaged individuals and/or business enterprises. The remaining funds shall then be distributed to the City (48%) and to the County (52%) for purposes of completing the infrastructure improvements and quality of life projects as set forth in the November 4, 2014 ballot language. In the event the sales tax proceeds are not sufficient to fund all of the improvements and projects, JEDO may alter the distribution formula, or reduce the amount of funds allocated for any particular improvement or project.

Under the agreement, upon the later of the expiration or termination of the sales tax and the completion of and payment for the economic development priorities and the infrastructure improvements and quality of life projects, JEDO shall inform the City and County of any excess funds remaining. Any excess funds will be distributed to the City and County in the proportional rates as provided by KSA 12-192(a).

JEDO is a stand-alone government and is not legally required to adopt a budget for the General Fund. There are no component units related to JEDO that should be accounted for in JEDO's basic financial statements in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements.

Note 2 - Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of JEDO conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental entities.

Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e. the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the governmental activities of JEDO.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Due to the nature of the funding sources, there are no program revenues and grants and contributions. Sales taxes contributed and unrestricted investment earnings not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

**JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

December 31, 2020

Fund Financial Statements

The accounting system is organized and operated on a fund basis. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts, which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions or limitations.

JEDO has one fund for financial statement presentation purposes, the General Fund.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. JEDO considers retail sales taxes available and susceptible to accrual if they are received within 90 days after year-end.

Countywide Sales Taxes

The one-half percent county-wide sales tax took effect January 1, 2005 and was set to expire on December 31, 2016. The sales tax was extended an additional 15 years commencing January 1, 2017 and is set to expire on December 31, 2031.

Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Fund Balance

Cash and Cash Equivalents – cash in demand accounts at financial institutions and short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible in known amounts of cash. Interest bearing deposit accounts are reported at cost plus accrued interest.

Accounts Receivable - Retail sales tax collected by the City and County to be remitted to JEDO that have been received within 90 days after year-end.

Net Position/Fund Balance Classifications

Net Position – In the government-wide financial statements, equity is classified as restricted – net position that consists of assets restricted for the sole use of JEDO in accordance with the November 4, 2014 ballot language.

Fund Balance – As prescribed by GASB Statement No. 54, governmental funds report fund balance in classifications based primarily on the extent to which JEDO is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds can be spent. As of December 31, 2020, the fund balance of the general fund is restricted.

JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

Note 3 - Deposits and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consisted of the following at December 31, 2020:

Demand deposits	\$ 1,000
Repurchase agreements	731,528
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 732,528

K.S.A. 9-1401 establishes the depositories which may be used by JEDO. In addition, K.S.A. 9-1402 requires the banks to pledge securities for deposits in excess of FDIC coverage. JEDO has no other policies that would further limit interest rate risk.

K.S.A. 12-1675 limits JEDO's investment of idle funds to time deposits, open accounts, and certificates of deposit with allowable financial institutions; U.S. government securities; temporary notes; no-fund warrants; repurchase agreements; and the Kansas Municipal Investment Pool (KMIP). JEDO has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Concentration of credit risk. State statutes place no limit on the amount JEDO may invest in any one issuer as long as the investments are adequately secured under K.S.A. 9-1402 and 9-1405.

Custodial credit risk – deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, JEDO's deposits may not be returned to it. State statutes require JEDO's deposits in financial institutions to be entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by collateral held under a joint custody receipt issued by a bank within the State of Kansas, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, or the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka. All deposits were legally secured at December 31, 2020 by a repo sweet account.

Note 4 - Economic Development Program

JEDO has entered into an agreement with the Growth Organization of Topeka/Shawnee County, Inc., (GO Topeka), a non-profit Kansas Corporation to provide services in support of JEDO economic development program (the program) designed to expand employment, strengthen the tax base and diversify and strengthen the City and County economy. Under the agreement, JEDO will annually provide Go Topeka \$5,000,000 to carry out the program. Upon written notification, either party may terminate the agreement. Should the agreement be terminated, any cash or real property under the program shall revert back to JEDO. On May 10, 2017, the agreement was amended to extend the terms through December 31, 2020. The agreement was again amended on December 19, 2019, which extended the term of the agreement for three years, to renew automatically for a new three-year term each year, unless terminated by 180 day notice.

Note 5 – New Markets Tax Credits

In June 2018, JEDO participated in a New Markets Tax Credits (NMTC) financing for the benefit of East Topeka Learning Center, (ETLC). JEDO conveyed the Menninger Army Reserve property to ETLC, which is a non-profit affiliate of GO Topeka specifically created to own and cause the operation of the facility in support of GO Topeka's mission for the property. JEDO also agreed to serve as leverage lender for the NMTC financing.

The NMTC program permits investors in qualified projects in certain low-income communities to claim federal tax credits for making Qualified Equity Investments (QEI) in a designated Community Development Entity (CDE). The CDE must use substantially all of the proceeds to make Qualified Low-Income Community Investments (QLICs). The tax credits are claimed over a seven-year period and equate to 39% of the QEI.

JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

GO Topeka created the GO Topeka ETLC Support Corporation, a Kansas nonprofit corporation, (the Corporation), as a supporting organization to own and operate ETLC. The Corporation then entered into a ten-year contract for services with Washburn to provide educational programming at ETLC in exchange for \$1.5 million in operating subsidy payments to be paid over the first two years of ETLC's operations.

As described in Note 4, JEDO has contracted with GO Topeka to provide services in support of JEDO's economic development program. GO Topeka returned approximately \$4.5 million to JEDO to provide financing of the ETLC project and is classified as a return of funds in the financial statements. Using these funds, JEDO made the leverage loan to ETLC Investment Fund, a Delaware limited liability company, (the Fund) in the approximate amount of \$4.5 million with interest at 1% annually and scheduled to mature in 2053. The leverage loan is classified as an expense for economic development on the financial statements and the loan proceeds will be collected and accounted for by the Partnerships of Hope XXI, LLC, as noted below.

PNC New Markets Investment Partners, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (PNC), made a capital contribution in the Fund in exchange for one hundred percent (100%) of Fund's membership equity interests.

Using PNC's capital contribution and JEDO's leverage loan, the Fund made the QEI, in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code), in an amount equal to \$6.5 million to Partnerships of Hope XXI, LLC, a Missouri limited liability company (Partnerships) an affiliated Community Development Entity (CDE) of Raza Development Fund, Inc., a District of Columbia nonprofit corporation, which is eligible for NMTC in accordance with the Code.

Partnerships made certain loans to the Corporation in the aggregate original principal amount of \$6.5 million (collectively, the "QLICI Loans"), each of which is intended to constitute a Qualified Low Income Community Investment, as such term is used in Section 450 of the Code. Proceeds of the QLICI Loans will be used to fund ETLC and the payment to Washburn.

Note 6 – Risks and Uncertainties

As a result of significant disruption in the U.S. economy due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus in 2020, uncertainties have arisen which are likely to negatively impact future operating results. The duration and extent to which COVID-19 may impact financial performance is unknown at this time.

Note 7 - Subsequent Events

JEDO has evaluated subsequent events through August 31, 2021, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. None were identified that required adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.



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

To the Board of Directors
Joint Economic Development Organization
Shawnee County, Kansas

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise JEDO's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 31, 2021.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered JEDO's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing the 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 JEDO's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of JEDO's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether JEDO's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statement. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

SSC CPAs, P.A.

SSC CPAs, P.A.

Topeka, Kansas

August 31, 2021