

**HIGHLAND PARK
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

HODULIK & MORRISON, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS
HIGHLAND PARK, N.J.

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE(S)</u>
Independent Auditor's Report	1 - 3
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	4 - 5
<u>PART I - REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION</u>	6
Management's Discussion and Analysis	7 - 9
<u>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>	10
<u>GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS</u>	11
Exh. A Governmental Funds Balance Sheet/ Statement of Net Position - December 31, 2015	12
Exh. B Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance/ Statement of Activities - Year Ended December 31, 2015	13
<u>FIDUCIARY FUNDS</u>	14
Exh. C Statement of Fiduciary Net Position	15
Exh. D Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position	16
Notes to Financial Statements	17 - 23
<u>PART II - REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION</u>	24
Sch. 1 Supplemental Schedule of Revenues and Expenses Compared To Budget and Actual Revenues (Budgetary Basis)	25
<u>PART III - OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND SCHEDULES</u>	26
Sch. 2 Supplemental Schedule of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash and Investments - General Fund	27
Sch. 3 Roster of Officials	28
General Comments	29 - 31
Recommendations	32

HODULIK & MORRISON, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS
PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANTS
1102 RARITAN AVENUE, P.O. BOX 1450
HIGHLAND PARK, NJ 08904
(732) 393-1000
(732) 393-1196 (FAX)
(E-MAIL) admin@hm-pa.net

ANDREW G. HODULIK, CPA, RMA, PSA
ROBERT S. MORRISON, CPA, RMA, PSA

MEMBERS OF:
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPA'S
NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF CPA'S
REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS OF N.J.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Highland Park Redevelopment Agency
Highland Park, New Jersey

Report on Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, Highland Park, New Jersey (the "Agency") as of December 31, 2015, and related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Agency'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 and the audit requirements as prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of 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 risk 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 statement.

We believe that our 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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, Highland Park, New Jersey, as of December 31, 2015 and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principals generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budget comparison information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information – Part I in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about 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 do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, Highland Park, New Jersey, the basic financial statements. The information included in Part II – required supplementary information and Part III - supplemental information and schedules as listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The information included in Part II – required supplementary information are the responsibility of management and were derived directly from and related directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, Part II – required supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.


The schedules and information included in Part III - supplemental information and schedules has not been subjected to the audit procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In Accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2016, on our consideration of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency's internal control over financial reporting and 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 of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over the financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance Government Auditing Standards in considering the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



HODULIK & MORRISON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants
Registered Municipal Accountants



Andrew G. Hodulik
Registered Municipal Account
No. 406

Highland Park, New Jersey
June 30, 2016

HODULIK & MORRISON, P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS
PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANTS
1102 RARITAN AVENUE, P.O. BOX 1450
HIGHLAND PARK, NJ 08904
(732) 393-1000
(732) 393-1196 (FAX)
(E-MAIL) admin@hm-pa.net

ANDREW G. HODULIK, CPA, RMA, PSA
ROBERT S. MORRISON, CPA, RMA, PSA

MEMBERS OF:
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPA'S
NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF CPA'S
REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS OF N.J.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable Chairman and Members of the
Highland Park Redevelopment Agency
Highland Park, New Jersey

We have audited, 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 and the audit requirements as prescribed by the Division of Local Government Services, Department of Community Affairs, State of New Jersey the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the governmental activities of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, Middlesex County, New Jersey, (the "Agency") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Highland Park Redevelopment Agency basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Agency's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine 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 the Agency's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency'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 the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in the 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 the Agency's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of the laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying General Comments Section of this report.

We noted certain matters, including matters of control deficiencies, which we reported to the Agency in the General Comments section of this report.

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.

This report is intended for the information and use of the members and management of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency and the Division of Local Government Services and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



HODULIK & MORRISON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants
Registered Municipal Accountants

Highland Park, New Jersey
June 30, 2016

PART I – REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2015

(Unaudited)

The Highland Park Redevelopment Agency (the "Authority") is a component-unit of the Borough of Highland Park, Middlesex County, New Jersey (the "Borough"). The following Management's Discussion and Analysis of the activities and financial performance of the Authority provide an introduction to the financial statements of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2014. Please read it in conjunction with the Authority's financial statements and accompanying notes.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis is an element of the new reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No.34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, issued June 1999.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Cash and investments increased by \$17,285 (347.51%) to \$22,259 in 2015 from \$4,974 in 2014, other assets remained unchanged in 2015 from \$0 in 2014, and total current assets increased by \$17,285 (347.51%) to \$22,259 in 2015 from \$4,974 in 2014.

Other liabilities increased by \$5,007 (100%) to \$5,007 in 2015 from \$0 in 2014 and total current liability decreased by increased by \$5,007 (100%) to \$5,007 in 2015 from \$0 in 2014.

Operating revenues increased by \$18,300 (152.50%) to \$30,300 in 2015 from \$12,000 in 2014.

Operating expenses increased by \$8,577 (90.81%) to \$18,022 in 2015 from \$9,445 in 2014.

Net income (loss) increased by \$9,723 (380.55%) to a net gain of \$12,278 in 2015 from a net gain of \$2,555 in 2014.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This report consists of two parts: management's discussion and analysis (this section) and the basic financial statements. The Agency is a special-purpose government that engages in a single governmental activity program, and has elected to combine the government-wide and fund financial statements. The basic financial statements include the two kinds of combined statements that present different views of the Agency:

- **Government-wide financial statements** provide both short-term and long-term information about the Agency's overall financial status. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the agency's finances, in a manner similar to a private sector business.

- **Fund financial statements** that focus on individual parts of the Agency, reporting the Agency’s operations in more detail than the district-wide statements. A fund is a group of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. All of the funds of the Agency can be categorized into one category – governmental funds.

Governmental Funds – Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on current resources uses of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

The *Statement of Net Position and Governmental Funds Balance Sheet* presents the Agency’s fund financial statements adjusted to the government-wide financial statements.

The *Statement of Activities and Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance* presents the Agency’s fund financial statements adjusted to the government-wide financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements - The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements can be found as listed in the table of contents.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE AUTHORITY

Financial Position. The following table summarizes the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Position at December 31, 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Change Increase/ (Decrease)</u>	<u>Percentage of Change</u>
Current assets	<u>\$22,259</u>	<u>\$4,974</u>	\$17,285	347.51%
Total assets	22,259	4,974		
Current -liabilities	<u>5,007</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>5,007</u>	100%
Total liabilities	5,007	-0-	5,007	
Net Position	<u>17,252</u>	<u>4,974</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>246.84%</u>

Results of Operations: The following table summarizes the results of operations for 2015 and 2014:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Change Increase/ (Decrease)</u>	<u>Percentage of Change</u>
Operating -expenses	\$18,022	\$9,445	\$8,577	90.81%
Total expenditures	<u>18,022</u>	<u>9,445</u>	8,577	90.81%
General - revenues net	<u>30,300</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>18,300</u>	<u>152.50%</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	<u>12,278</u>	<u>2,555</u>	<u>9,723</u>	<u>380.55%</u>

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

The Authority has not acquired any capital assets and carries no debt as of the date of this report.

CONTACTING THE AUTHORITY'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide Highland Park Borough residents and taxpayers, and the Authority's customers, investors and creditors, with a general overview of the Authority's finances and to demonstrate the Authority's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, please contact Jennifer Santiago, Secretary, Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, New Jersey, 08904.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET/
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	General Fund	Adjustments (See Notes)	Statement of Net Assets
ASSETS			
Cash and investments	\$ <u>22,259</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>22,259</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u><u>22,259</u></u>	\$ <u><u> </u></u>	\$ <u><u>22,259</u></u>
 LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	<u>5,007</u>	_____	<u>5,007</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>5,007</u>	_____	<u>5,007</u>
 FUND BALANCE/ NET POSITION			
Fund balances:			
Unassigned	<u>17,252</u>	<u>(17,252)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total fund balance	<u>17,252</u>	<u>(17,252)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance \$	<u><u>22,259</u></u>	<u><u>(17,252)</u></u>	<u><u>5,007</u></u>
 Net Position:			
Unrestricted		<u>17,252</u>	<u>17,252</u>
Total Net Position		\$ <u><u>17,252</u></u>	\$ <u><u>17,252</u></u>

Note: See Notes to Financial Statements.

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES,
EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE/
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	General Fund	Adjustments (See Notes)	Statement of Activities
Expenditures/ expenses:			
Redevelopment - operations	\$ 18,022	\$	\$ 18,022
Total expenditures/ expenses	<u>18,022</u>	<u></u>	<u>18,022</u>
General revenues:			
Local Subsidy	30,300		30,300
Total general revenues	<u>30,300</u>	<u></u>	<u>30,300</u>
Excess/(Defecit) of revenues over expenditures	12,278	(12,278)	
Change in Net Position		12,278	12,278
Fund balance/ net position:			
Beginning of the year	<u>4,974</u>	<u></u>	<u>4,974</u>
End of the year	<u>\$ 17,252</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 17,252</u>

Note: See Notes to Financial Statements.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	HPRA Development <u>Account</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and investments	\$ <u>27,500</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u><u>27,500</u></u>
 NET POSITION	
Held in Trust for redevelopment costs and other related purposes	\$ <u>27,500</u>
 TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ <u><u>27,500</u></u>

Note: See Notes to Financial Statements.

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	HPRA Development <u>Account</u>
ADDITIONS:	
Service Charges	\$ <u>27,500</u>
DEDUCTIONS:	
Redevelopment Expenditures	<u> </u>
Change in net position	<u>27,500</u>
Net Position Beginning of the Year	<u> -</u>
Net Position End of the year	\$ <u><u>27,500</u></u>

Note: See Notes to Financial Statements.

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. General Statement

Authorizing Legislation - The Highland Park Redevelopment Agency (the Agency) is a public body corporate and politic body organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey and was created by an ordinance adopted by the governing body, effective in May 2004, of the Borough of Highland Park ("the creating municipality"), a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey located in the County of Middlesex.

The Agency was created to serve as a redevelopment entity for the economic development and redevelopment of areas designated in a redevelopment plan.

The ordinance creating the Agency provides that the Agency shall consist of seven commissioners, each of whom shall be appointed by the governing body by resolution.

New Jersey Statutes provide for the creation, dissolution and operations of separate bodies corporate and politic for the purpose of fostering the economic development of the community (Redevelopment Agency). These statutes were enacted pursuant to Chapter 79 of the Laws of New Jersey 1992, under N.J.S.A. 40A: 12A-1 through 40A: 12A-9. Additional statutory requirements relating to the financial operations of independent local authorities were established as the "Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law", which is codified as NJSA 40A: 5A-1 et seq. The provisions of the Local Authorities Fiscal Control Law established the Local Finance Board and the Division of Local Government Services, in the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), State of New Jersey, as oversight agencies for the creation, project financing, budgeting and overall financial condition of local authorities.

The Local Finance Board adopted the resolution approving the Borough's request for establishment of a redevelopment agency on November 12, 2003. The Borough adopted the enacting ordinance on May 4, 2004. The Highland Park Redevelopment Agency began operation during the calendar year 2005, accordingly, the year ended December 31, 2005 represented the first year of operation.

The Agency has no stockholders or equity holders.

As a public body under existing statute, the Agency is exempt from both Federal and State taxes.

The financial statements of the Agency have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the standard-setting body for governmental accounting and reporting. GASB pronouncements constitute GAAP for governmental units.

The DCA has recognized the statements and interpretations of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) as authoritative on application of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for local authorities.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

B. Reporting Entity

The primary criterion for including activities within the Agency's reporting entity, as set forth in Section 2100 of the GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards, is whether:

- the organization is legally separate (can sue or be sued in their own name)
- the Agency holds the corporate powers of the organization
- the Agency appoints a voting majority of the organization's board
- the Agency is able to impose its will on the organization
- the organization has the potential to impose a financial benefit/burden on the Agency
- there is a fiscal dependency by the organization on the Agency

The Agency is considered to be a "Component Unit" of the Borough of Highland Park under GAAP. This determination is based on the oversight responsibility of the Borough, which manifests itself primarily in the selection of Commissioners of the Agency, and on a financial benefit/burden relationship that exists between the Agency and the Borough.

The Borough of Highland Park does not follow GAAP for accounting and financial reporting purposes. Rather, it follows a regulatory basis, utilizing accounting principles, which differ, in some cases significantly, from GAAP. Of particular note is the exclusion from the Borough's financial statements of potential component units, based on separate legal status of these units. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Borough do not include the agency as a component unit.

Based on the aforementioned criteria, the Agency has no component units.

C. GASB STATEMENT NO. 34

GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local governmental entities, which includes a Management's Discussion and Analysis section, a Balance Sheet and a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position. It requires the classification of Net Position into three components – Invested in Capital Assets, net of related debt; Restricted for Debt Service; and Unrestricted.

The adoption of Statement 34 had little effect on the basic financial statements except for the classification of net position, the reflection of capital contributions as a change in net position, and the inclusion of Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section providing an analysis of the Agency's overall financial position and results of operations.

D. Basis of Presentation

The government-wide financial statements (i.e. the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) display information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the Agency.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

D. Basis of Presentation (Cont'd)

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational; or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements:

The Agency segregates transactions related to certain functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance.

Governmental funds are those funds through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The measurement focus of governmental funds is on the sources, uses and balance of current financial resources. The Agency reports the following governmental fund:

Governmental Funds

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Agency. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. All revenues and receipts that are not restricted by law or contractual agreement are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures that are not paid through other funds are paid from the General Fund.

Pursuant to single-program government reporting, the Agency has elected to combine the following: 1. statement of net position and balance sheet for governmental funds; 2. statement of activities and revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance for governmental funds.

Fiduciary Funds

Trust Funds are used to account for assets held by the Agency in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments and/or other funds.

E. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. 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.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting transactions are recorded in the following manner:

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

E. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting (Cont'd.)

Revenue Recognition – Revenue is recognized when it becomes measurable and available. “Measurable” means the amount of the transaction can be determined and “available” means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Other revenue is considered available if collected within one year.

Recording of Expenditures – Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred.

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include money market funds and short-term investments, which may include Certificates of Deposit, with maturity of three months or less carried at cost, which approximates market.

G. Investments

Investments consist of certificates of deposit and direct obligations of the U.S. Government, U.S. Government Agencies, repurchase agreements and investments in money market funds and are valued at cost or amortized cost, which approximates market.

H. Reconciliation of Adjustments

The following adjustments/reclassifications were required for the combining of the government-wide and fund financial statements in accordance with GASB:

Statement of Net Position and Governmental Fund Balance Sheet:

	<u>From</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>To</u>
Fund Balance			
Unreserved	\$17,252	(\$17,252)	\$0
Net Position			
Unrestricted	\$0	\$17,252	\$17,252

Statement of Activities and Governmental Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance:

	<u>From</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>To</u>
Excess/(Deficit) of Revenues over Expenditures	\$12,278	(\$12,278)	\$0
Change in Net Position	\$0	\$12,278	\$12,278

I. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)**J. Recent Accounting Standards**

GASB issued Statement No. 76, "Summary of Statement No. 76 The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments" in June 2015. The objective of this Statement is to identify—in the context of the current governmental financial reporting environment—the hierarchy of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The "GAAP hierarchy" consists of the sources of accounting principles used to prepare financial statements of state and local governmental entities in conformity with GAAP and the framework for selecting those principles. This Statement reduces the GAAP hierarchy to two categories of authoritative GAAP and addresses the use of authoritative and nonauthoritative literature in the event that the accounting treatment for a transaction or other event is not specified within a source of authoritative GAAP.

GASB issued Statement No. 77, "Summary of Statement No. 77 Tax Abatement Disclosures" in August 2015. Financial statements prepared by state and local governments in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles provide citizens and taxpayers, legislative and oversight bodies, municipal bond analysts, and others with information they need to evaluate the financial health of governments, make decisions, and assess accountability. This information is intended, among other things, to assist these users of financial statements in assessing (1) whether a government's current-year revenues were sufficient to pay for current-year services (known as interperiod equity), (2) whether a government complied with finance-related legal and contractual obligations, (3) where a government's financial resources come from and how it uses them, and (4) a government's financial position and economic condition and how they have changed over time.

GASB issued Statement No. 78, "Summary of Statement No. 78 Pensions Provided Through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans" in December 2015. The objective of this Statement is to address a practice issue regarding the scope and applicability of Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. This issue is associated with pensions provided through certain multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans and to state or local governmental employers whose employees are provided with such pensions.

GASB issued Statement No. 79 "Summary of Statement No. 79 Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants" in December 2015. This Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. Specifically, it establishes criteria for an external investment pool to qualify for making the election to measure all of its investments at amortized cost for financial reporting purposes. An external investment pool qualifies for that reporting if it meets all of the applicable criteria established in this Statement. The specific criteria address (1) how the external investment pool transacts with participants; (2) requirements for portfolio maturity, quality, diversification, and liquidity; and (3) calculation and requirements of a shadow price. Significant noncompliance prevents the external investment pool from measuring all of its investments at amortized cost for financial reporting purposes. Professional judgment is required to determine if instances of noncompliance with the criteria established by this Statement during the reporting period, individually or in the aggregate, were significant.

GASB issued Statement No. 80, "Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units" in January 2016. The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by clarifying the financial statement presentation requirements for certain component units. This Statement amends the blending requirements established in paragraph 53 of Statement No. 14, The Financial Reporting Entity, as amended

Note 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

J. Recent Accounting Standards

GASB issued Statement No. 81 “Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements” in March 2016. The objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement.

GASB issued Statement No. 82, “Pension Issues – An Amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73” in March 2016. The objective of this Statement is to address certain issues that have been raised with respect to Statements No. 67, Financial Reporting for Pension Plans, No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, and No. 73, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68. Specifically, this Statement addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements.

The Agency prepares its financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Agency is required to adopt these new standards in connection with the organization’s financial statements.

Note 2: DEPOSITS, CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits

New Jersey statutes permit the deposit of public funds in institutions located in New Jersey, which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), or by any other agencies of the United States that insure deposits, or the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

New Jersey statutes require public depositories to main collateral for deposits of public funds that exceed insurance limits as follows:

The market value of the collateral must equal 5 percent of the average daily balance of public funds; or if the public funds deposited exceed 75 percent of the capital funds of the depository, the depository must provide collateral having a market value equal to 100 percent of the amount exceeding 75 percent. All collateral must be deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board or a banking institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and has capital funds of not less than \$25,000,000.

The carrying amount of the Agency's cash and cash equivalents at year-end 2015 was \$49,759, which is all FDIC insured in a demand account.

At December 31, 2015, cash and cash equivalents and investments, by fund, are as follows:

	<u>2015</u>
General Fund	\$22,259
Fiduciary Fund	<u>27,500</u>
	- 22 -
	<u>\$49,759</u>

Note 2: DEPOSITS, CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS (Cont'd.)

Custodial Credit Risk:

Deposits – Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the entity's deposits may not be returned to it. As of December 31, 2015, based upon the insured balances as provided by FDIC and when and if applicable, NJGUDPA coverage, no amount of the Agency's bank balance of \$49,759 was exposed to custodial risk. The Agency does not have an official deposit policy for custodial credit risk, however informal custodial credit risk is based upon deposits with financial institutions utilizing FDIC and NJGUDPA coverage's.

Investments:

The Agency held no investments at December 31, 2015, and no investment activity related to purchase and redemption during the calendar year 2015.

Note 3: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The Agency did not acquire Property, Plant, and/or equipment during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Note 4: OPERATING LEASES

The Agency did not enter into any lease agreements during 2015, and accordingly no future minimum lease payments disclosed.

Note 5: LONG TERM/ SHORT TERM OBLIGATIONS

The Agency did not have any long or short-term loan obligations during the year ended December 31, 2015.

Note 6: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND PENDING LITIGATION

As at December 31, 2015 and the date of this report, management indicates there was no litigation pending which, in the event of an adverse or unfavorable outcome, would materially impair the financial position of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency.

Note 7: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:

January 7, 2016 the Agency adopted the annual budget for FY 2016 that was approved by the Division of Local Government Services on January 4, 2016, however, as of the date of this audit report the Division of Local Government Services has not adopted the final budget.

PART II – REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES COMPARED TO BUDGET
(BUDGETARY BASIS)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>
Revenues:			
Service Charges	\$	\$	\$
Operating Grants & Entitlements			
Local Subsidies & Donations	30,300	30,300	12,000
Misc Revenue			
Accounts Payable Cancelled			
TOTAL REVENUES - BUDGETARY	\$ <u>30,300</u>	\$ <u>30,300</u>	\$ <u>12,000</u>
Expenses:			
Administration			
Salaries and Wages	\$	\$	\$
Other Expenses	30,300	18,022	9,445
Cost of Providing Services			
Other Expenses			
TOTAL EXPENSES - BUDGETARY	\$ <u>30,300</u>	\$ <u>18,022</u>	\$ <u>9,445</u>
Budgetary Revenues over Expenses	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>12,278</u>	\$ <u>2,555</u>
Reconciliation of Budgetary Basis to Net Income:			
Budgetary Revenues over Expenses Brought Forward		\$ 12,278	\$ 2,555
Adjustments to Budgetary Basis:			
Less: Appropriations of Retained Earnings None		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Adjustments - Net		<u>12,278</u>	<u>2,555</u>
Net Income (Loss)		\$ <u>12,278</u>	\$ <u>2,555</u>

PART III - OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND SCHEDULES

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND
CHANGES IN CASH AND INVESTMENTS - GENERAL FUND
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>FIDUCIARY FUND</u>	<u>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</u>
Cash and Investment Balances - December 31, 2014	\$ 4,974	\$ -	\$ 4,974
Cash Receipts:			
Local Subsidy - Borough of Highland Park	<u>30,300</u>	<u>27,500</u>	<u>57,800</u>
Total Cash Receipts	<u>30,300</u>	<u>27,500</u>	<u>57,800</u>
Total Cash Receipts and Balance	<u>35,274</u>	<u>27,500</u>	<u>62,774</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Operating Expenses	<u>13,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,014</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>13,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,014</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalent Balance - December 31, 2014	<u>\$ 22,259</u>	<u>\$ 27,500</u>	<u>\$ 49,759</u>

**Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalent Balance -
December 31, 2015:**

By Account Type:			
Demand Account	<u>\$ 22,259</u>	<u>\$ 27,500</u>	<u>\$ 49,759</u>
	<u>\$ 22,259</u>	<u>\$ 27,500</u>	<u>\$ 49,759</u>

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**ROSTER OF OFFICIALS
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Roster of Officials - December 31, 2015:

<u>AGENCY COMMISSIONERS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>TERM</u>
Rosie Baruh	Chairperson	January 2, 2019
Edward Guttenplan	Vice Chairperson	July 11, 2017
Clint Andrews	Commissioner	July 11, 2018
Marcia Wagner Levinson	Commissioner	July 11, 2016
Francis McDonald	Commissioner	July 11, 2017
Jeffery Perlman	Commissioner	July 11, 2016
Randall Soloman	Commissioner	July 11, 2017
Phil George	Council Liaison	July 11, 2017

**HIGHLAND PARK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY**

**GENERAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

GENERAL COMMENTS

An audit of the financial accounts and transactions of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, for the period ended December 31, 2015, has been completed.

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the finance function of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

The audit did not and could not determine the character of services rendered for which payment had been made or for which reserves had been set up, nor could it determine the character, proper price or quantity of materials supplied for which claims had been passed. These details were necessarily covered by the internal review and control before approval of such claims by the Governing Body. Cash on hand was counted and cash and investment balances were reconciled with independent certifications obtained directly from the depositories. Revenues and receipts were established and verified as to source and amount insofar as the records permitted.

INTERNAL CONTROL MATTERS

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency, County of Middlesex, New Jersey as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Agency's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

A control deficiency 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 misstatements on a timely basis.

A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

INTERNAL CONTROL MATTERS (CONT'D.)

Control Deficiencies:

With respect to the reporting of internal control matters, standards require that only a significant deficiency and/or a material weakness need be reported in writing to management and those charged with governance.

The control deficiencies reported are not considered to be significant deficiencies nor material weaknesses. In addition, these control deficiencies are not required to be reported in writing, however, control deficiencies are presented to management and those charged with governance in this report as a means to present those matters identified in review of the Agency's internal controls and as a means to inform management and those charged with governance as to the auditing standards requirements with respect to internal controls.

As indicated below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be control deficiencies.

In addition, during our audit, we noted certain matters involving the internal control and other operational matters that are presented for your consideration. This letter does not affect our report dated December 31, 2015 on the financial statements of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency. Our comments and recommendations, which have been discussed with appropriate members of management, are intended to improve the internal control or result in other operating efficiencies.

Segregation of Duties

Conditions exist whereby the same person may collect, record, deposit, disburse, analyze and/or reconcile cash and investment activity within the Agency's finance function.

This condition is the result of multiple tasks performed by the same individual within the organization.

OTHER MATTERS

Tax Matters

Through the course of its business operations, the Agency should review its requirements for the filing of government information returns, where required.

Authority Budget

As of the date of this audit report, the Agency had not introduced and submitted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval the 2013 authority budget, as a result they are not compliant with Statute N.J.A.C. 5:31-2.3 requiring each authority to transmit two certified copies of the introduced annual budget to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services at least sixty (60) days prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

As of the date of this audit the Agency has been in contact with DLGS and has agreed to move forward with the understanding that they will remain compliant with Statute N.J.A.C. 5:31-2.3 requiring each authority to transmit two certified copies of the introduced annual budget to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services at least sixty (60) days prior to the end of the current fiscal year. The Agency has introduced the 2016 budget with the time restraints of the Statute on December 3, 2015; it

OTHER MATTERS (CONT'D.)

was been approved by the DLGS on January 4, 2016. The Agency adopted it on January 7, 2016, However, as of the audit date they are awaiting final approval from the DLGS.

It is suggested the Agency continue to monitor the budget process to ensure they remain compliant with the Statute.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

None

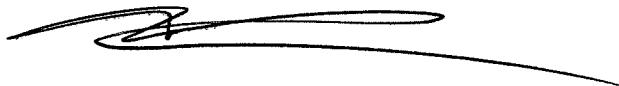
* * * * *

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

During the course of our engagement we received the complete cooperation of the various officials and employees of the Authority, and the courtesies extended to us were greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

HODULIK & MORRISON, P.A.



Andrew G. Hodulik, CPA, RMA
No. 406