



MetroTM

**City of Bell Gardens
Annual Financial Report of its**

**Proposition A Local Return Fund
Proposition C Local Return Fund
Measure R Local Return Fund
Measure M Local Return Fund
Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund**

**As of and for the Years Ended June 30, 2025 and 2024
with Independent Auditor's Report**



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FINANCIAL SECTION



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Independent Auditor's Report

**To the Honorable Members of the City Council of the
City of Bell Gardens, California and the
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Proposition A Local Return Fund, the Proposition C Local Return Fund, the Measure R Local Return Fund, the Measure M Local Return Fund and the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund (collectively, the Funds) of the City of Bell Gardens, California (the City) which comprise the Funds' balance sheets as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, the related statements of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the years then ended, and the related notes to the Funds financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Proposition A Local Return Fund, the Proposition C Local Return Fund, the Measure R Local Return Fund, the Measure M Local Return Fund and the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund of the City of Bell Gardens, California as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.



Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 2, the financial statements present only the Proposition A Local Return Fund, the Proposition C Local Return Fund, the Measure R Local Return Fund, the Measure M Local Return Fund and the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund of the City of Bell Gardens, California, and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 City's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.



- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on each of the Funds' financial statements as a whole. The supplementary information identified in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the Funds' basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the Funds' 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 Funds' basic financial statements or to the Funds' basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to each of the Funds' basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 31, 2025, on our consideration of the City's internal control over the Funds' 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 solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over the Funds' financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over the Funds' financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the City's internal control over the Funds' financial reporting and compliance.

**Glendale, California
December 31, 2025**

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition A Local Return Fund
Balance Sheets

		June 30	
		2025	2024
ASSETS			
Cash and investments	\$	1,130,606	\$ 785,611
Interest receivable		6,187	3,228
Total assets	\$	1,136,793	\$ 788,839
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$	68,519	\$ 47,921
Total liabilities		68,519	47,921
Fund balance			
Restricted		1,068,274	740,918
Total fund balance		1,068,274	740,918
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	1,136,793	\$ 788,839

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition A Local Return Fund
Statements of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

		Years ended June 30	
		2025	2024
Revenues			
Proposition A	\$	1,008,800	\$ 1,030,453
Proposition A Discretionary Incentive Program grant (Note 8)		81,790	75,125
Interest income		26,484	10,874
Total revenues		<u>1,117,074</u>	<u>1,116,452</u>
Expenditures			
Expenditures funded by Proposition A		<u>789,718</u>	<u>739,300</u>
Total expenditures		<u>789,718</u>	<u>739,300</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures		327,356	377,152
Fund balance at beginning of year		<u>740,918</u>	<u>363,766</u>
Fund balance at end of year	\$	<u><u>1,068,274</u></u>	\$ <u><u>740,918</u></u>

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition A Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Expenditures – Actual and Metro Approved Project Budget
Year ended June 30, 2025
(With Comparative Actuals for 2024)

Project Code	Project Name	2025		Variance	2024 Actual
		Metro Budget	Actual	Positive (Negative)	
105	Senior Bus Driver	\$ 43,500	\$ 38,364	\$ 5,136	\$ 39,771
106	Medical Taxi Service	33,430	33,458	(28)	32,476
107	DART Services	279,194	419,716 *	(140,522)	389,018
135	Bus Pass Purchases	865	941	(76)	1,442
155	Recreational Transit Services	25,000	22,969	2,031	18,599
170	Bus Shelter Maintenance	20,000	16,349	3,651	10,946
175	Vehicle Fuel	144,000	132,822	11,178	144,913
175	Vehicle Repair	3,000	2,042	958	2,632
240	Telecommunications	3,000	3,417	(417)	1,047
470	Membership Dues	-	-	-	2,561
610	Direct Administration	283,371	117,172	166,199	90,118
610	Admin Prop A - Office Furniture	-	-	-	1,048
610	Admin Prop A - Office Supplies	2,468	2,468	-	4,729
Total expenditures		\$ 837,828	\$ 789,718	\$ 48,110	\$ 739,300

* See Compliance Matrix and Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

See independent auditor's report.

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition A Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Capital Assets
Year ended June 30, 2025

<u>Date Acquired</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance July 1, 2024</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2025</u>
2020	Suite Up the Outside Bus Purchased from AQMD Funds	\$ 14,743	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,743
	Total	\$ 14,743	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,743

See independent auditor's report.

**City of Bell Gardens
Proposition C Local Return Fund
Balance Sheets**

		June 30	
		2025	2024
ASSETS			
Cash and investments	\$	1,865,335	\$ 2,691,134
Interest receivable		10,297	11,807
Due from Metro		-	67,137
Total assets	\$	<u>1,875,632</u>	<u>2,770,078</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$	161,696	\$ 115,471
Total liabilities		<u>161,696</u>	<u>115,471</u>
Fund balance			
Restricted		1,713,936	2,654,607
Total fund balance		<u>1,713,936</u>	<u>2,654,607</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	<u>1,875,632</u>	<u>2,770,078</u>

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition C Local Return Fund
Statements of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

		Years ended June 30	
		2025	2024
Revenues			
Proposition C	\$	836,774	\$ 854,737
Interest income		56,844	49,787
Project generated revenues (Note 9)		39,975	38,964
Total revenues		933,593	943,488
Expenditures			
Various projects		1,874,264	945,730
Total expenditures		1,874,264	945,730
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures		(940,671)	(2,242)
Fund balance at beginning of year		2,654,607	2,656,849
Fund balance at end of year	\$	1,713,936	\$ 2,654,607

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition C Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Expenditures – Actual and Metro Approved Project Budget
Year ended June 30, 2025
(With Comparative Actuals for 2024)

Project Code	Project Name	2025		Variance	2024 Actual
		Metro Budget	Actual	Positive (Negative)	
105	Trolley Services	\$ 620,034	\$ 567,716	\$ 52,318	\$ 578,430
302	Eastern Ave Arterial Street Improvement	960,598	952,384	8,214	5,176
620	Direct Administration	95,451	95,451	-	78,911
705	Florence Ave Pavement Repair	220,236	221,267	(1,031)	28,733
715	Complete Streets Phase 1	-	-	-	224,635
715	Citywide Complete Streets Improvements Phase 1	37,446	37,446	-	-
780	Engineering Services	-	-	-	29,845
Total expenditures		\$ 1,933,765	\$ 1,874,264	\$ 59,501	\$ 945,730

See independent auditor's report.

City of Bell Gardens
Proposition C Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Capital Assets
Year ended June 30, 2025

<u>Date Acquired</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance July 1, 2023</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2024</u>
N/A	None	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

See independent auditor's report.

**City of Bell Gardens
Measure R Local Return Fund
Balance Sheets**

		June 30	
		2025	2024
ASSETS			
Cash and investments	\$	1,753,283	\$ 1,907,131
Interest receivable		9,325	8,182
Due from Metro		-	50,500
Total assets	\$	<u>1,762,608</u>	<u>1,965,813</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$	37,228	\$ 76
Total liabilities		<u>37,228</u>	<u>76</u>
Fund balance			
Restricted		1,725,380	1,965,737
Total fund balance		<u>1,725,380</u>	<u>1,965,737</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	<u>1,762,608</u>	<u>1,965,813</u>

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Measure R Local Return Fund
Statements of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

		Years ended June 30	
		2025	2024
Revenues			
Measure R	\$	627,464	\$ 640,852
Interest income		41,994	34,437
Total revenues		669,458	675,289
Expenditures			
Expenditures funded by Measure R		909,815	642,660
Expenditures funded by General Fund		-	16,173
Total expenditures		909,815	658,833
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures		(240,357)	16,456
Other funding source			
Transfer in from General Fund		-	16,173
Total other funding source		-	16,173
Change in fund balance		(240,357)	32,629
Fund balance at beginning of year		1,965,737	1,933,108
Fund balance at end of year	\$	1,725,380	\$ 1,965,737

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Measure R Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Expenditures – Actual and Metro Approved Project Budget
Year ended June 30, 2025
(With Comparative Actuals for 2024)

Project Code	Project Name	2025		Variance Positive (Negative)	2024 Actual
		Metro Budget	Actual		
630	Fund Administration	\$ 84,693	\$ 84,693	\$ -	\$ 76,466
705	Citywide Striping	-	-	-	104,671
705	Zone 5 Residential Slurry Seal	100,000	100,000	-	-
705	Alley Rehab	-	-	-	377,459
705	Various Residential Street Improvements	144,725	144,725	-	-
715	Various Residential Street Improvements	523,304	469,769	53,535	76,562
715	Eastern Ave Arterial Street Improvement (Garfield to Clara)	8,072	8,072	-	7,502
805	Citywide Complete Streets Phase 1	100,000	102,556	(2,556)	-
Total expenditures		\$ 960,794	\$ 909,815	\$ 50,979	\$ 642,660

See independent auditor's report.

City of Bell Gardens
Measure R Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Capital Assets
Year ended June 30, 2025

<u>Date Acquired</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance July 1, 2023</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2024</u>
N/A	None	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

See independent auditor's report.

**City of Bell Gardens
Measure M Local Return Fund
Balance Sheets**

		June 30	
		2025	2024
ASSETS			
Cash and investments	\$	1,742,712	\$ 1,478,177
Interest receivable		9,153	6,358
Due from Metro		-	57,255
Total assets	\$	<u>1,751,865</u>	<u>1,541,790</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$	1,620	\$ 173,181
Total liabilities		<u>1,620</u>	<u>173,181</u>
Fund balance			
Restricted		1,750,245	1,368,609
Total fund balance		<u>1,750,245</u>	<u>1,368,609</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	<u>1,751,865</u>	<u>1,541,790</u>

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Measure M Local Return Fund
Statements of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

		Years ended June 30	
		2025	2024
Revenues			
Measure M	\$	710,896	\$ 723,659
Interest income		36,030	25,259
Total revenues		746,926	748,918
Expenditures			
Various projects		365,290	573,945
Total expenditures		365,290	573,945
Excess of revenues over expenditures		381,636	174,973
Fund balance at beginning of year		1,368,609	1,193,636
Fund balance at end of year	\$	1,750,245	\$ 1,368,609

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Measure M Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Expenditures – Actual and Metro Approved Project Budget
Year ended June 30, 2025
(With Comparative Actuals for 2024)

Project Code	Project Name	2025		Variance	2024 Actual
		Metro Budget	Actual	Positive (Negative)	
705	Slurry Seal Zone 4	\$ 9,088	\$ 9,089	\$ (1)	\$ 185,828
705	Slurry Seal Zone 5	80,997	74,015	6,982	19,003
705	Aley Rehab	-	-	-	359,110
715	Various Residential Street Improvements	175,000	175,000	-	-
715	Various Street Improvements	1,620	1,620	-	-
715	Eastern Ave Arterial Street Improvement (Garfield to Clara)	-	-	-	75
805	Citywide Bike Lane Sharrow Restriping	121,071	105,566	15,505	9,929
Total expenditures		\$ 387,776	\$ 365,290	\$ 22,486	\$ 573,945

See independent auditor's report.

City of Bell Gardens
Measure M Local Return Fund
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Capital Assets
Year ended June 30, 2025

<u>Date Acquired</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance July 1, 2023</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2024</u>
N/A	None	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

See independent auditor's report.

City of Bell Gardens
Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund
Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 99234
Balance Sheets

		June 30	
		2025	2024
ASSETS			
Cash		2,345	-
Interest Receivable		13	
Total assets	\$	2,358	\$ -
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities			
Due to General Fund	\$	-	\$ -
Vouchers payable		-	-
Total liabilities		-	-
Fund balance			
Restricted		2,358	-
Total fund balance		2,358	-
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	2,358	\$ -

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund
Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 99234
Statements of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

		Years ended June 30	
		2025	2024
Revenues			
Intergovernmental allocations:			
Article 3	\$	34,790	\$ -
Interest income		28	-
Total revenues		34,818	-
Expenditures			
Citywide Bike Sharrows Restriping		32,460	-
Total expenditures		32,460	-
Excess of revenues over expenditures		2,358	-
Fund balance at beginning of year		-	-
Fund balance at end of year	\$	2,358	\$ -

See notes to Funds financial statements.

City of Bell Gardens
Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund
Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 99234
Supplementary Information
Schedule of Transportation Development Act Allocation for Specific Projects
Year ended June 30,2025

Project Description	Program Year	Totals to Date		Unexpended Allocations	Project Status
		Allocations	Expenditures		
Local Allocations:					
Citywide Bike Sharrows Restriping	2025	\$ 34,790	\$ 32,460	\$ 2,330	
	Totals	\$ 34,790	\$ 32,460		
Interest income				28	
Fund balance at beginning of year				-	
Fund balance at end of year				\$ 2,358	*

* See Compliance Matrix and Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

See notes to Funds financial statements.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Fund Accounting

The operations of the Proposition A Local Return Fund (PALRF), the Proposition C Local Return Fund (PCLRF), the Measure R Local Return Fund (MRLRF), Measure M Local Return Fund (MMLRF) and the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund (TDAA3F) (collectively, the Funds) are accounted for in separate sets of self-balancing accounts that comprise their assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenues and expenditures.

PALRF and PCLRF represent 25% and 20%, respectively, of the ½ cent Proposition A and ½ cent Proposition C sales taxes which are distributed to the jurisdictions within Los Angeles County based on population and must be used exclusively for transportation related programs and projects.

MRLRF is derived from 15% of the county-wide ½ cent Measure R sales tax which is distributed to the jurisdictions within Los Angeles County based on a per capita basis and must be used exclusively for transportation purposes.

MMLRF is derived from 17% of the county-wide ½ cent Measure M sales tax which is distributed to the jurisdictions within Los Angeles County based on a per capita basis and must be used exclusively for transportation purposes.

TDAA3F is a Special Revenue Fund that accounts for the City's share of the Transportation Development Act Article 3 allocations which are legally restricted for specific purposes.

Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

The PALRF, PCLRF, MRLRF, MMLRF and TDAA3F are reported as Special Revenue Funds of the City and are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they become "susceptible to accrual", that is, measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred.

Special Revenue Funds are reported on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that generally, only current assets, current liabilities and deferred inflows and outflows of resources are included on their balance sheets. Statements of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for Special Revenue Funds generally present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The budgeted amounts presented in this report for comparison to the actual amounts are based on budgets approved by Metro and are presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fair Value Measurement

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, the City categorizes its fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy that is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the investment. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical investments; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. Accordingly, the City reports its investments at fair value and recognizes unrealized gain (loss) on investments.

Refer to the City's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for detailed disclosures regarding the City's investments policy and fair value measurement disclosures.

Fund Balance Reporting

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, establishes the fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds.

The PALRF, PCLRF, MRLRF, MMLRF and TDAA3F report the following fund balance classification as of June 30, 2025 and 2024:

- Restricted - Amounts that are constrained for specific purposes, which are externally imposed by providers, such as creditors, or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The use of the Funds' remaining fund balances are restricted for projects approved by Metro.

Information regarding the fund balance reporting policy adopted by the City is described in the City's ACFR.

NOTE 2 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements reflect only the financial position and results of operations of the PALRF, PCLRF, MRLRF, MMLRF and TDAA3F, and do not purport to, and do not present fairly the City's financial position as of June 30, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

NOTE 3 PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C LOCAL RETURN COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Proposition A Ordinance requires that Local Return (LR) funds be used exclusively to benefit public transit. Expenditures related to fixed route and paratransit services, Transportation Demand Management, Transportation Systems Management and fare subsidy programs that exclusively benefit transit are all eligible uses of Proposition A LR funds. Proposition A LR funds may also be traded with other Jurisdictions in exchange for general or other funds.

The Proposition C Ordinance directs that LR funds also be used to benefit public transit, as described above, but provides an expanded list of eligible project expenditures including Congestion Management Programs, bikeways and bike lanes, street improvements supporting public transit service, and Pavement Management System projects. Proposition C LR funds cannot be traded.

Proposition A and Proposition C LR funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated.

In accordance with *Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Program Guidelines*, funds received pursuant to these guidelines may only be used for Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return approved programs. See accompanying Compliance Matrix.

NOTE 4 MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Measure R Ordinance specifies that LR funds be used exclusively for transportation purposes.

Measure R LR funds must be expended within five years of the first day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received.

In accordance with *Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines*, funds received pursuant to these guidelines may only be used for Measure R Local Return approved programs. See accompanying Compliance Matrix.

NOTE 5 MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Measure M was approved by the voters of Los Angeles County on November 8, 2016 to improve transportation and ease traffic congestion consistent with the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan Ordinance approved by the Metro Board of Directors on June 23, 2016. The Measure M Ordinance specifies that LR funds be used exclusively for transportation purposes.

NOTE 5 MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS (CONTINUED)

Measure M LR funds must be expended within five years of the first day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received.

In accordance with *Measure M Local Return Program Guidelines*, funds received pursuant to these guidelines may only be used for Measure M Local Return approved programs. See accompanying Compliance Matrix.

NOTE 6 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with *Public Utilities Code Section 99234*, funds received pursuant to this Code's section may only be used for activities relating to pedestrians and bicycle facilities. See accompanying Compliance Matrix.

NOTE 7 CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The PALRF, PCLRF, MRLRF, MMLRF and TDAA3F cash balances were pooled with various other City funds for deposit and investment purposes. The share of each fund in the pooled cash account was separately maintained and interest income was apportioned to the participating funds based on the relationship of their average quarterly balances to the total of the pooled cash and investments.

Please refer to the City's ACFR for a full description of risks relating to cash and investments.

NOTE 8 PROPOSITION A DISCRETIONARY INCENTIVE PROGRAM GRANT

The Proposition A Discretionary Incentive Program grant represents additional funds received from Metro for participating in the Voluntary NTD Program. The amounts received for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 consisted of the following:

Agreement Date	Program Year	MOU Amount	Amount Received	
			2025	2024
5/1/2023	FY 2020/21	\$ 75,125	\$ -	\$ 75,125
5/1/2024	FY 2021/22	81,790	81,790	-
		\$	81,790	\$ 75,125

The Proposition A Discretionary Incentive Program grants were recorded under PALRF.

NOTE 9 PROJECT GENERATED REVENUES – PCLRF

Project generated revenues for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 consisted of the following:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
DART fares	\$ <u>4,879</u>	\$ 5,155
Trolley fares	<u>35,096</u>	33,809
	\$ <u><u>39,975</u></u>	\$ <u><u>38,964</u></u>

NOTE 10 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT ARTICLE 3 FUND REVENUE ALLOCATION

The revenue allocations for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 consisted of the following:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
FY 2022/23 allocation	\$ <u>2,560</u>	\$ -
FY 2023/24 allocation	<u>32,230</u>	-
	\$ <u><u>34,790</u></u>	\$ <u><u>-</u></u>

NOTE 11 TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT ARTICLE 3 FUNDS RESERVED

In accordance with TDA Article 3 (SB821) Guidelines, funds which will not be spent during the fiscal year have been placed on reserve in the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) account with the County Auditor-Controller to be drawn down whenever the funds become eligible for a specific project and an approved drawdown request is received by Metro. As of June 30, 2025 and 2024, the City has funds on reserve as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
FY 2022/23 allocation	\$ -	\$ 2,560
FY 2023/24 allocation	<u>13,241</u>	45,471
FY 2024/25 allocation	<u>39,486</u>	-
Total reserve	\$ <u><u>52,727</u></u>	\$ <u><u>48,031</u></u>

For FY 2024/25, any TDA Article 3 funds left on reserve for FY 2020/21 or prior, are subject to lapse if not claimed by the City by June 30, 2025. There were no funds that lapsed in FY 2024/25.

NOTE 12 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The City has evaluated events subsequent to June 30, 2025 to assess the need for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. Such events were evaluated through December 31, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Based upon this evaluation, it was determined that no subsequent events occurred that require recognition or additional disclosure in the financial statements.



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**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 Honorable Members of the City Council of the
City of Bell Gardens, California and the
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

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 Proposition A Local Return Fund, the Proposition C Local Return Fund, the Measure R Local Return Fund, the Measure M Local Return Fund and the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund (collectively, the Funds) of the City of Bell Gardens, California (the City) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the Funds financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 31, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the Funds' financial statements, we considered the City's internal control over the Funds' financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the Funds' financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control.

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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.



Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the City's Proposition A Local Return Fund, Proposition C Local Return Fund, Measure R Local Return Fund, Measure M Local Return Fund and Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund 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 statements. 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 City'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 City's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

**Glendale, California
December 31, 2025**

COMPLIANCE SECTION



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Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Guidelines

**To the Honorable Members of the City Council of the
City of Bell Gardens, California and the
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

Report on Compliance

Opinion

We have audited the City of Bell Gardens, California's (the City) compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Measure R Local Return Guidelines, Measure M Local Return Guidelines, Transportation Development Act Article 3, and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Funding and Allocation Guidelines for Transportation Development Act Article 3 Bicycle and Pedestrian Funds (collectively, the Guidelines) for the year ended June 30, 2025.

In our opinion, the City of Bell Gardens, California complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements of the Guidelines for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the Guidelines. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Guidelines are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance with the Guidelines. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.



Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance with the requirements, which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as Findings #2025-001 and #2025-002. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City's response to the noncompliance finding identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The City's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance, and accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for the City's compliance with the Guidelines and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or agreements applicable to the City's Proposition A Local Return Fund, Proposition C Local Return Fund, Measure R Local Return Fund, Measure M Local Return Fund and Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the City's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Guidelines will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the City's compliance with the requirements of the Guidelines as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Guidelines, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the City's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the City's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Guidelines, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.



We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the Guidelines on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the Guidelines will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with the Guidelines that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Guidelines. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

**Glendale, California
December 31, 2025**

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
A. Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds					
1. Uses the State Controller's Uniform System of Accounts and Records or has established a separate Proposition A and Proposition C Local Transit Assistance Account for Local Return purposes.	X				
2. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Proposition A and/or Proposition C Local Return Account.	X				
3. Funds were expended with Metro's approval and were not substituted for property tax.	X				
4. Timely use of funds.	X				
5. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.	X				
6. Expenditures that exceeded 25% of approved project budget have approved amended Project Description Form (Form A) or electronic equivalent.		X			See Finding #2025-001
7. Annual Project Update Report (Form B) or electronic equivalent was submitted on time.	X				
8. Annual Expenditure Report (Form C) or electronic equivalent was submitted on time.	X				
9. Pavement Management System (PMS) is in place and being used for Street Maintenance or Improvement Projects Expenditures.	X				
10. Local Return Account is credited for reimbursable expenditures.			X		
11. Where Proposition A funds were given, loaned or exchanged by one jurisdiction to another, the receiving jurisdiction has credited its Local Return Account with the funds received.			X		
12. Self-Certification was completed and submitted for Intelligent Transportation Systems projects and elements.			X		

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
A. Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds					
13. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds, Capital reserve was approved by Metro and current status is reported in the Annual Project Update (Form B) or electronic equivalent.			X		
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.	X				
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.			X		
16. Proposition C Local Return Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for road improvement purposes.	X				
17. All on-going and carryover projects were reported on Form B or electronic equivalent.	X				
18. Cash or cash equivalents are maintained.	X				
19. Accounting procedures, record keeping, and documentation are adequate.	X				

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
B. Measure R Local Return Fund					
1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.	X				
2. Separate Measure R Local Return Account was established.	X				
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure R Local Return Account.	X				
4. Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	X				
5. Funds were not substituted for property tax and are in compliance with the Maintenance of Effort.	X				
6. Timely use of funds.	X				
7. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.	X				
8. Expenditure Plan (Form One or electronic equivalent) was submitted timely.	X				
9. Annual Expenditure Report (Form Two or electronic equivalent) was submitted timely.	X				
10. Where funds expended were reimbursable by other grants or fund sources, the reimbursement was credited to the Local Return Account upon receipt of the reimbursement.			X		
11. Where Measure R funds were given, loaned or exchanged by one jurisdiction to another, the receiving jurisdiction has credited its Local Return Account with the funds received.			X		
12. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds and Capital reserve was approved by Metro.			X		
13. Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for transportation purposes unless there is a fund shortfall.	X				

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
B. Measure R Local Return Fund					
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.			X		
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.			X		
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping, and documentation are adequate.	X				

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
C. Measure M Local Return Fund					
1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.	X				
2. Separate Measure M Local Return Account was established.	X				
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure M Local Return Account.	X				
4. Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	X				
5. Funds were not substituted for property tax and are in compliance with the Maintenance of Effort.	X				
6. Timely use of funds.	X				
7. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.	X				
8. Expenditure Plan (Form M-One or electronic equivalent) was submitted timely.	X				
9. Expenditure Report (Form M-Two or electronic equivalent) was submitted timely.	X				
10. Where funds expended were reimbursable by other grants or fund sources, the reimbursement was credited to the Local Return Account upon receipt of the reimbursement.			X		
11. Where Measure M funds were given, loaned or exchanged by one jurisdiction to another, the receiving jurisdiction has credited its Local Return Account with the funds received.			X		
12. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds and Capital reserve was approved by Metro.			X		
13. Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for transportation purposes unless there is a fund shortfall.	X				

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
C. Measure M Local Return Fund					
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.			X		
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.			X		
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping, and documentation are adequate.	X				

**City of Bell Gardens
Compliance Matrix
Year ended June 30, 2025**

Compliance Requirements	In Compliance			Questioned Costs	If no, provide details and management response.
	Yes	No	N/A		
D. Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund					
1. Timely use of funds.		X			See Finding #2025-002
2. Expenditures were incurred for activities relating to pedestrian and bicycle facilities and amenities.	X				
3. Annual Claim Form was submitted timely.	X				

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

City of Bell Gardens
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Year ended June 30, 2025

PALRF: Finding #2025-001

Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget by more than 25 percent prior to obtaining approval through a revised Form A or a budget request via LRMS for the PALRF's Project Code 107, DART Services. The amount in excess of 25 percent of the approved budget was \$70,724. Projects with greater than 25 percent change from the approved project budget must be amended by submitting a Project Description Form (Form A) or a budget request via LRMS.
Cause	The condition was caused by staff oversight.
Effect	The City's PALRF project expenditure exceeded 25 percent of the approved project budget prior to Metro's approval, resulting in the City's noncompliance with this requirement.
Recommendation	We recommend the City submit a revised Form A or submit a budget request via LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for changes to the project budget and implement internal controls to ensure ongoing compliance with this requirement.
Management's Response	The City submitted an updated Budget Request and obtained retroactive approval for the project on December 31, 2025.
Finding Resolved During the Audit	On December 31, 2025, the Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of the said project. No additional follow-up is required.

City of Bell Gardens
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Year ended June 30, 2025

TDAA3F: Finding #2025-002

Compliance Reference	TDA Article 3 Bicycle and Pedestrian Funds Funding Allocation Guidelines, Funding, Lapsing and Accounting states that “Agencies may only draw down the funds that they can spend during the fiscal year in which they were allocated. Agencies are not allowed to have a fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. Any funds drawn down and that remain unspent after the end of the fiscal year must be returned to Metro by October 15th of the following fiscal year to be placed on reserve for the agency under the fiscal year in which they were originally allocated.”
Condition	The City had remaining unexpended and unencumbered funds totaling \$2,358 as of June 30, 2025.
Cause	The City did not have projects to utilize the allocated amount during FY 2024/25.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the TDA Article 3 Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that funds drawn during the fiscal year are fully spent and any remaining unexpended and unencumbered funds are returned to Metro at year-end in accordance with the TDA Article 3 Guidelines.
Management’s Response	On December 31, 2025, the City requested a waiver from Metro to expend all funds during Fiscal Year 2025/26.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	On December 31, 2025, Metro granted an extension for the use of the funds remaining with the City through June 30, 2026. No follow-up is required.

EXIT CONFERENCE

An exit conference was held on December 29, 2025 with the City of Bell Gardens representatives. Those in attendance were:

Vasquez and Company LLP representatives:

Brandon de Castro – BCA Watsons Rice Supervisor/Senior Auditor
Shauna King – BCA Watsons Rice Audit Staff

City of Bell Gardens representative:

Jules Tak – Accounting Manager

Matters discussed:

Results of the audit disclosed issues of noncompliance with the Guidelines.

A copy of this report was forwarded to the following City of Bell Gardens representatives for comments prior to the issuance of the final report:

Manuel Carrillo – Director of Finance and Administration Services
Jules Tak – Accounting Manager

Vasquez & Company LLP
655 North Central Avenue, Suite 1550
Glendale, CA 91203

RE: CITY OF BELL GARDENS, CALIFORNIA ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE PROPOSITION A LOCAL RETURN FUND, THE PROPOSITION C LOCAL RETURN FUND, THE MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN FUND, THE MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN FUND AND THE TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT ARTICLE 3 FUND FOR THE YEARS ENDED June 30, 2025 and 2024.

I have received the annual financial report of the Proposition A Local Return Fund, the Proposition C Local Return Fund, the Measure R Local Return Fund, the Measure M Local Return Fund and the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund, for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 for the City of Bell Gardens and agreed with the contents of the report except as indicated below:

(Attach additional pages if necessary)

Very truly yours,

Name

Title

Date



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