

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**

**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
TOGETHER WITH REPORTS OF  
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

**YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

Board of Commissioners  
Estero Fire Rescue District  
Estero, Florida

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the general fund and the remaining fund information of the Estero Fire Rescue District, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

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

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

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

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

***Auditor's Responsibility (continued)***

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

***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, the general fund and the remaining fund information of the District as of September 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Other Matters - Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, schedule of changes in net pension liability and related ratios, schedules of pension contributions, and schedules of other post employment benefit funding progress 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 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 assurance.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated April 27, 2017, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Punta Gorda, FL  
April 27, 2017

*Ashley Brown & Co.*

## **Management's Discussion and Analysis**

(unaudited)

This discussion and analysis of the Estero Fire Rescue District's (the "District") financial statements is designed to introduce the basic financial statements and provide an analytical overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. The basic financial statements are comprised of the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements, and notes. We hope this will assist readers in identifying significant financial issues and changes in the District's financial position.

### **Estero Fire Rescue Highlights**

- At close of fiscal year 2016 the District's assets and deferred outflow of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflow of resources, resulting in a net position of \$24,195,507 on a government wide basis.
- Total net position increased \$1,719,478, or 7.7 percent, in comparison to the prior year.
- The increase to net position is due primarily to an increase in the deferred outflows on pensions this year compared to last as well as lower liabilities this year compared to last. The unrestricted balance of \$14,416,293 can be used to meet ongoing obligations of the District and fund amounts assigned by the Board.
- General and program revenues increased \$1,006,237, or 7.9 percent, in comparison to the prior year primarily due to an increase in property values which led to an increase in ad valorem revenue.
- Total program expenses reported an increase of \$1,318,006, or 12.2 percent, in comparison to the prior year. This is primarily due to salaries and pension expense.

### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

Government-wide financial statements (Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities found on pages 10 and 11) are intended to allow a reader to assess a government's operational accountability. Operational accountability is defined as the extent to which the government has met its operation objectives efficiently and effectively, using all resources available for that purpose, and whether it can continue to meet its objectives for the foreseeable future. Government-wide financial statements concentrate on the District as a whole and do not emphasize fund types.

The Statement of Net Position (page 10) presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. The District's capital assets (land, property, and equipment) are included in this statement and reported net of their accumulated depreciation, when applicable.

The Statement of Activities (page 11) presents revenue and expense information showing how the District's net position changed during the fiscal year. Both statements are measured and reported using the economic resource measurement focus (revenues and expenses) and the accrual basis of accounting (revenue recognized when earned and expenses recognized when a liability is incurred).

### **Fund Financial Statements**

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of governmental funds; a fund is considered a separate accounting entity. The operation of funds are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. Government resources may be allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The District is reporting all financial activity in the General Fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. The activity for restricted amounts is administered separately; however, for reporting purposes there is no need or requirement to report the restricted activity in separate funds.

Governmental fund financial statements (found on pages 12 and 14) are prepared on the modified accrual basis using the current financial resources measurement focus. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Grant revenue, however, is recognized when the grant related expense is incurred.

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in the preceding statements and begin on page 20. These notes are essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

### **Government-Wide Financial Analysis**

The government-wide financial statements were designed so the user could determine if the District is in a better or worse financial condition from the prior year.

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The following is a condensed summary of net position for the primary government for fiscal years 2016 and 2015:

Current assets represent 54.9 percent of total assets. Current assets are comprised of unrestricted cash and a Certificate of Deposit of \$11,727,478, restricted cash of \$1,153,011, and other assets of \$237,306. The unrestricted cash represents amounts that are available for spending at the District's discretion. Restricted cash includes impact fees restricted for debt repayment and the debt reserve required by the notes.

The investment in capital assets is comprised of land and improvements, buildings, vehicles, and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and the outstanding related debt used to acquire the assets. The Restricted Net Position is comprised of \$1,164,168 for repayment of debt.

#### Summary of Net Position

	2016	2015
Assets:		
Current Assets	\$ 13,117,795	\$ 16,686,558
Capital Assets	10,795,859	10,436,205
Total Assets	23,913,654	27,122,763
Deferred Outflow of Resources:		
Accumulated Decreases in Fair Value Hedge	233,848	259,348
Deferred Amount on Pension	6,819,653	2,333,675
Total Deferred Outflow of Resources	7,053,501	2,593,023
Total Assets and Deferred Outflow of Resources	\$ 30,967,155	\$ 29,715,786
Liabilities:		
Current Liabilities	\$ 930,151	\$ 896,238
Non-current Liabilities	4,196,924	4,667,765
Total Liabilities	5,127,075	5,564,003
Deferred Inflow of Resources:		
Deferred Amount on Pension	\$ 1,644,573	\$ 1,675,754
Total Deferred Inflow of Resources	\$ 1,644,573	\$ 1,675,754
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflow of Resources	6,771,648	7,239,757
Net Position:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	8,615,046	7,817,306
Restricted	1,164,168	1,049,086
Unrestricted	14,416,293	13,609,637
Total Net Position	24,195,507	22,476,029
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflow of Resources, and Net Position	\$ 30,967,155	\$ 29,715,786

The following schedule reports the revenues, expenses, and changes in net position for the District for the current fiscal years 2016 and 2015:

**Summary of Activities**

	2016	2015
Revenues:		
General Revenues		
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 12,793,998	\$ 11,809,694
Insurance Premium Tax for Firefighters' Pension	325,479	345,330
Interest	81,018	40,850
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Capital Assets	(14)	60,375
Other Revenues	207,888	138,502
Program Revenues		
Federal, State, and Local Grants	9,930	15,000
State Shared	21,110	21,340
Charges for Services	197,769	109,083
Impact Fees	181,933	272,700
Total Revenues	13,819,111	12,812,874
Expenses:		
Public Safety - Fire and Rescue Services	12,099,633	10,781,627
Increase in Net Position	1,719,478	2,031,247
Net Position - Beginning of the Year	22,476,029	20,444,782
Net Position - End of the Year	\$ 24,195,507	\$ 22,476,029

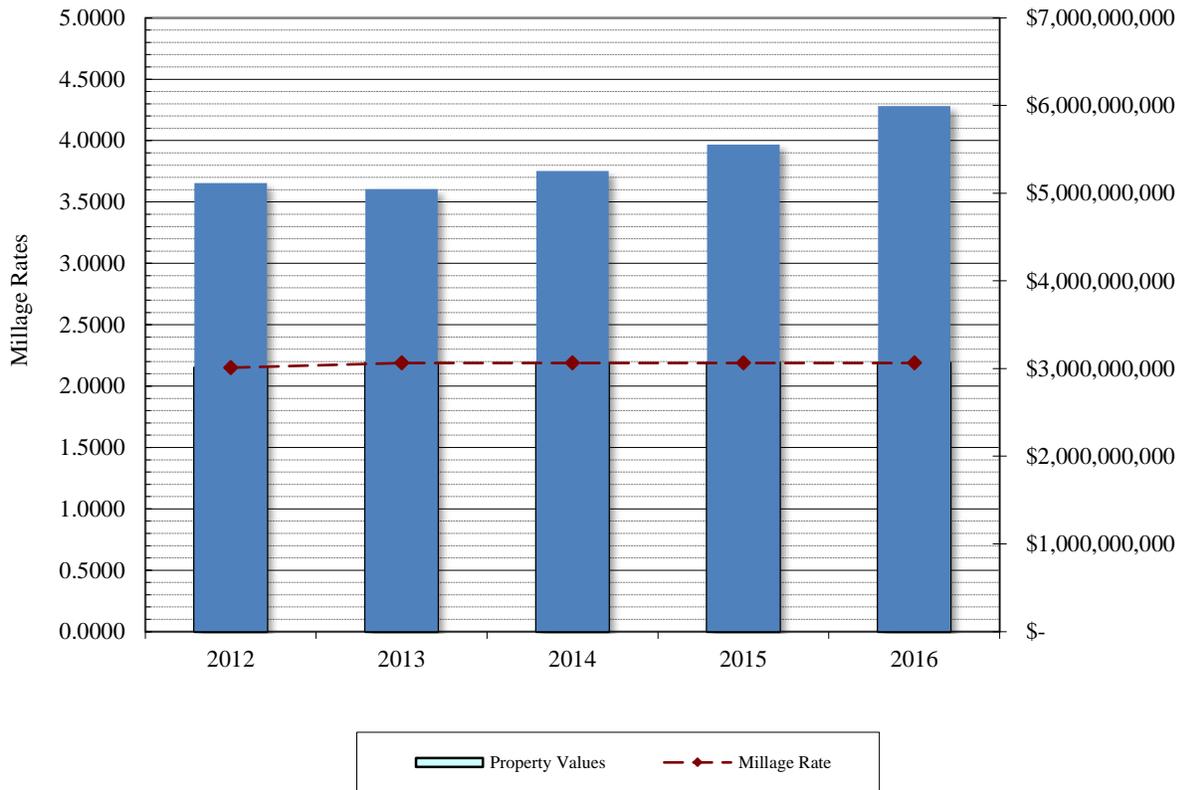
Total revenues increased \$1,006,237, or 7.9 percent, in comparison to prior year. Total expenditures increased by \$1,318,006, or 12.2 percent, in comparison to prior year. This is primarily the result of increases in salaries and pension expense.

**Additional Financial Overview**

Property values have increased by approximately \$879,167,546 or 17.2 percent, in the past five years. The taxable property value has started increasing again in the last 3 years and the area noticed an increase of 7.9 percent between fiscal years 2015 and 2016. The District adopted a millage rate of 2.1881 for fiscal year 2016. The millage rate did not change from the 2.1881 adopted in 2015. Ad Valorem tax revenues increased by \$984,304, or 8.3 percent, in comparison to the prior year. Estero Fire Rescue's millage rate continues to be one of the lowest fire district millage rates in the region.

The following schedule compares the change in property value and growth in millage rates for the past five years:

**Property Values and Millage Assessed**



Impact fee receipts decreased \$90,767, or 33.3 percent, in comparison to the prior year; however, overall impact fees have experienced an average increase of 119.8 percent for the last five years. Impact fees had a dramatic increase from fiscal year 2014 to fiscal year 2015. In 2016, they decreased slightly and leveled out to be what we believe a normal trending growth should be. The five year trend of impact fee receipts compounded with the increase in property values is a positive indicator the economy is stabilizing. The District will continue to anticipate conservative growth for budget purposes and long term planning.

**Budgetary Highlights**

Estero Fire Rescue adopts an annual budget for its General Fund as required by Florida Statute. Budget versus actual comparisons are reported on pages 16 and 17. Budget transfers are made from time to time in the General Fund to manage unanticipated costs as they relate to originally estimated amounts. The General Fund difference between the final budgeted expenditures and actual expenditures represents a favorable variance of \$925,318, or 6.7 percent.

## Debt Administration

At September 30, 2016, the District had \$1,946,964 of outstanding debt for notes payable. Total long-term liabilities of \$4,196,924, which includes notes payable, derivative instrument, an implicit subsidy for OPEB, compensated absences, and deferred compensation, decreased \$470,841, or 10.1 percent, in comparison to the prior year. The decrease is significantly due to the reduction of debt. The following is a schedule of the District's outstanding notes payable as of September 30, 2016 and 2015:

<b>Outstanding Debt</b>		
	2016	2015
Renewal C (2002A)	\$ 314,332	\$ 837,845
Series 2007 A	1,632,632	1,781,052
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,946,964</b>	<b>\$ 2,618,897</b>

The General Fund is currently responsible for payment of the debt. Impact Fees designated for debt will be used for debt as they become available. The District's debt was collateralized by future impact fee revenue. As such, general dollars currently paying debt will be reimbursed by future impact fee revenue. Additional information on the repayment process can be found in Note L on page 49-50.

Additional information on the District's long-term debt can be found in Note E on pages 32-33.

## Capital Assets

Non-depreciable capital assets include land and depreciable assets include buildings and improvements, vehicles, and equipment.

The following is a schedule of the District's capital assets as of September 30, 2016 and 2015:

<b>Capital Assets</b>		
	2016	2015
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS</b>		
Land	\$ 2,021,890	\$ 1,941,090
Construction in Progress	801,902	
Total Capital Assets Not Depreciated	<u>2,823,792</u>	<u>1,941,090</u>
Buildings and Improvements	9,315,439	9,320,372
Vehicles	5,472,020	5,574,424
Equipment	781,890	727,962
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	<u>15,569,349</u>	<u>15,622,758</u>
<b>ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION</b>		
Buildings and Improvements	(3,244,448)	(2,653,765)
Vehicles	(3,811,869)	(3,431,041)
Equipment	(540,966)	(493,143)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(7,597,283)</u>	<u>(6,577,949)</u>
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	<u>7,972,066</u>	<u>9,044,809</u>
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS, NET</b>	<u><u>\$ 10,795,859</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 10,985,899</u></u>

Noteworthy capital asset activity that took place in fiscal year 2016 is as follows:

- The District purchased three new vehicles to replace aging vehicles. These included a Tahoe to replace the Division Chief of Special Operation's vehicle, a Suburban to replace an emergency rescue unit, and a Honda Utility vehicle to improve service delivery in areas inaccessible to larger apparatus. The capital outlay was approximately \$138,404.
- The District purchased a 75' Aerial Ladder Truck. Including equipment, the capital outlay to date is \$801,902. Additional rigging to bring it to service was purchased in the subsequent year. This apparatus replaces a truck that was purchased in 2005 and will be sold in the subsequent year.
- The District purchased new equipment including radios to install in replacement vehicles, an AED, gas detector, computers and a server to replace expiring and outdated equipment, a Garmin GPS to provide navigation assistance to the marine unit, and rockets to install in replacement vehicles and add to existing vehicles. The total capital outlay was approximately \$74,700.
- The District purchased an unmanned air system to increase visual capability and safety for wild-land fire incidents. The total capital outlay was approximately \$2,974.

### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget Rates**

The following were factors considered when next year's budget (2016-2017) was prepared:

- Property values within the District increased approximately \$472,077,144 or 7.9 percent, to \$6,484,976,153. When property values increase, the rolled-back millage rate decreases so tax revenue may remain unchanged. Although the District adopted a lower millage rate of 2.15 in FY 2017, the tax levy increased by \$785,875. When the millage rate adopted exceeds the calculated rolled-back rate, the government is levying a tax increase, regardless of the change in the millage rate. The rolled-back rate formula essentially provides a rate relative to the current property values, which creates a tax levy equal to the amount in the previous year. The property values used in the rolled-back rate formula excludes, among other things, amounts for new construction and improvements, essentially rolling back a government's operating revenue to that of the prior year.
- The District budgeted for several new capital items to include a new vehicle, radios, extrication equipment, thermal imaging cameras, exhaust extraction systems for each station, laryngoscopes, AEDs, a patient transport kit, a chemical detox sauna, some computer replacements, and a network server.
- With the anticipated increase to revenue and expenditures, the District is anticipating a net increase to fund balance in an amount of \$151,029.

### **Request for Information**

The financial report is designed to provide the reader an overview of Estero Fire Rescue District. Questions regarding any information provided in this report should be directed to:

*Estero Fire Rescue District, 21500 Three Oaks Pkwy, Estero, Florida 33928, or by calling (239) 390-8000.*

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
**September 30, 2016**

	Governmental Activities
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash	\$ 11,727,478
Prepaid Items	107,019
Accounts Receivable	5,953
Due from Other Governments	100,613
Restricted Assets:	
Cash	1,153,011
Due from Other Governments	11,157
Pension Asset	12,564
Capital Assets:	
Land	2,021,890
Construction in Progress	801,902
Depreciable Buildings, Equipment, and Vehicles, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>7,972,066</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>23,913,654</b>
 <b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Accumulated Decreases in Fair Value of Hedging Derivative	233,848
Deferred Amount on Pensions	<u>6,819,653</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b><u>\$ 30,967,155</u></b>
 <b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 879,151
Unearned Revenue	51,000
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due within one year	463,726
Due in more than one year	<u>3,733,198</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>5,127,075</b>
 <b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	
Deferred Amount on Pensions	<u>1,644,573</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<b><u>6,771,648</u></b>
 <b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	8,615,046
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	1,164,168
Unrestricted	<u>14,416,293</u>
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<b><u>24,195,507</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</b>	<b><u>\$ 30,967,155</u></b>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
Year Ended September 30, 2016**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>	
Public Safety - Fire and Rescue Services	
Personal Services	\$ 9,547,932
Operating	1,714,947
Depreciation	742,186
Interest and Fiscal Charges	<u>94,568</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	<u>12,099,633</u>
<b>PROGRAM REVENUES</b>	
Insurance Premium Tax for Firefighters' Pension	325,479
Federal, State, and Local Grants	9,930
State Shared	21,110
Charges for Services	197,769
Impact Fees	<u>181,933</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM REVENUES	<u>736,221</u>
NET PROGRAM EXPENSES	<u>11,363,412</u>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES</b>	
Ad Valorem Taxes	12,793,998
Interest	81,018
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Capital Assets	(14)
Other Revenues	<u>207,888</u>
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES	<u>13,082,890</u>
INCREASE IN NET POSITION	1,719,478
<b>NET POSITION - Beginning of the Year</b>	<u>22,476,029</u>
<b>NET POSITION - End of the Year</b>	<u>\$ 24,195,507</u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET – GENERAL FUND  
September 30, 2016**

**ASSETS**

*Unrestricted*

Cash	\$ 11,727,478
Prepaid Items	107,019
Accounts Receivable	5,953
Due from Other Governments	<u>100,613</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	11,941,063

*Restricted*

Cash	1,153,011
Due from Other Governments	<u>11,157</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED	1,164,168

TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 13,105,231</u></u>
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**LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE**

**LIABILITIES**

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expense	\$ 879,151
Unearned Revenue	<u>51,000</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	930,151

**FUND BALANCE**

*Restricted*

Debt	443,315
Impact Fees	720,853

*Committed*

Capital Improvement Program	4,211,319
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*Assigned*

Community Safety Program	15,916
Mobile Radio Fund	51,000

*Unassigned*

TOTAL FUND BALANCE	<u>6,732,677</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u>12,175,080</u>
	<u><u>\$ 13,105,231</u></u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET –  
GENERAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
September 30, 2016**

	<u>Amounts</u>
Total Fund Balance for General Fund	\$ 12,175,080
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Pension assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the general fund.	12,564
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the general fund.	
Capital assets not being depreciated:	
Land & Improvements	\$ 2,021,890
Construction in Progress	<u>801,902</u>
	2,823,792
Capital assets being depreciated:	
Building, Equipment, and Vehicles	15,569,349
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(7,597,283)</u>
	7,972,066
Deferred outflows of resources are not recognized in the general fund; however, they are recorded in the statement of net position under full accrual accounting.	
Pension earnings and experience	6,819,653
Derivative Instruments	233,848
Deferred inflows of resources are not recognized in the general fund; however, they are recorded in the statement of net position under full accrual accounting.	
Pension assumptions	(1,644,573)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore, are not reported in the funds.	
Series 2002A Promissory Note Payable	(314,332)
Series 2007A Promissory Note Payable	(1,632,632)
Termination Benefit	(47,457)
Compensated Absences	(950,655)
Derivative Instruments	(233,848)
Implicit Subsidy (OPEB)	<u>(1,018,000)</u>
	<u>(4,196,924)</u>
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 24,195,507</u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND  
 CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 Year Ended September 30, 2016**

**Revenues**

Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 12,793,998
Insurance Premium Tax for Firefighters' Pension	325,479
Intergovernmental:	
State Shared	21,110
Local Grant	9,930
Charges for Services	197,769
Miscellaneous:	
Impact Fees	181,933
Community Safety Program Donations	5,796
Interest	81,018
Other	92,156
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>13,709,189</u>

**EXPENDITURES**

Current	
Public Safety	
Personnel Services	9,480,488
Operating Expenditures	1,714,947
Capital Outlay	991,920
Debt Service	
Principal Reduction	671,933
Interest and Fiscal Charges	94,568
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>12,953,856</u>

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES 755,333

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE 755,333

FUND BALANCE - Beginning of the Year 11,419,747

FUND BALANCE - End of the Year \$ 12,175,080

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES,  
EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES –  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
Year Ended September 30, 2016**

	<u>Amounts</u>
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Net change in fund balance - general fund	\$ 755,333
General fund reports capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.	249,735
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins, and donations) is to increase net position.	109,920
Repayment of principal is an expenditure in the general fund but reduces the liability in the statement of net position.	
Repayments:	
Notes payable	671,933
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do (do not) require the use of current financial resources and therefore, are (are not) reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.	
Increase in compensated absences	\$ (30,678)
Increase in termination benefits	(4,916)
Increase in implicit subsidy (OPEB)	<u>(191,000)</u>
Pension expense	(226,594)
The reduction of pension expense does not affect the use of financial resources and is not reflected as a reduction of expenditures in the governmental funds.	<u>159,150</u>
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 1,719,477</u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND**  
**Year Ended September 30, 2016**

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes				
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 12,630,551	\$ 12,630,551	\$ 12,793,998	\$ 163,447
Insurance Premium Tax for Pension	340,000	340,000	325,479	\$ (14,521)
Subtotal - Taxes	<u>12,970,551</u>	<u>12,970,551</u>	<u>13,119,477</u>	<u>\$ 148,926</u>
Intergovernmental:				
Federal Grant	-	-	-	
State Shared (Degree Incentive)	21,720	21,720	21,110	\$ (610)
State and local grants	-	-	9,930	\$ 9,930
Subtotal - Intergovernmental	<u>21,720</u>	<u>21,720</u>	<u>31,040</u>	<u>\$ 9,320</u>
Charges for services				
EMS Standby	36,000	36,000	34,875	\$ (1,125)
Public Safety Classes	18,000	18,000	16,448	\$ (1,552)
False Alarm Fees	3,000	3,000	2,750	\$ (250)
Permit Fees	8,000	8,000	4,500	\$ (3,500)
Plan Review Fees	33,000	33,000	19,954	\$ (13,046)
Training Classes	-	-	-	\$ -
Inspection Fees	55,000	55,000	119,242	\$ 64,242
Subtotal - Charges for Services	<u>153,000</u>	<u>153,000</u>	<u>197,769</u>	<u>\$ 44,769</u>
Miscellaneous:				
Impact Fees	75,000	75,000	181,933	\$ 106,933
Community Safety Program	1,500	1,500	5,796	\$ 4,296
Interest				
Operating Interest	25,000	25,000	50,206	\$ 25,206
Other Interest	-	-	28,618	\$ 28,618
Impact Fees Interest - Restricted	-	-	2,194	\$ 2,194
Other				
Ambulance Bay Rent	14,361	14,361	14,361	\$ -
Village of Estero Facility & Receptionist Usage	16,404	16,404	18,022	\$ 1,618
Miscellaneous	-	-	59,773	\$ 59,773
Subtotal - Miscellaneous	<u>132,265</u>	<u>132,265</u>	<u>360,903</u>	<u>228,639</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u>13,277,536</u>	<u>13,277,536</u>	<u>13,709,189</u>	<u>431,653</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current				
Public Safety				
Personal Services:				
Regular Salaries/Wages/Unemployment	5,827,776	5,812,492	5,613,801	198,691
Other Salaries and Wages	53,656	58,102	51,232	6,870
Overtime	189,000	199,838	194,775	5,063
Special Pay	754,120	754,120	689,530	64,590
FICA Taxes	522,078	522,078	481,844	40,234

(continued on next page)

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCE – BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND**  
**Year Ended September 30, 2016**

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Retirement Contributions	1,290,341	1,290,341	1,127,620	162,721
Life, Health Insurance	1,251,489	1,251,489	1,099,291	152,198
Workers' Compensation Insurance	260,480	260,480	222,395	38,085
Subtotal - Personnel Services	<u>10,148,940</u>	<u>10,148,940</u>	<u>9,480,488</u>	<u>668,453</u>
Operating Expenditures:				
Property Appraiser Fees	101,440	101,440	84,528	16,912
Tax Collector Fees	264,031	264,031	255,186	8,845
Professional Services	97,790	95,705	86,499	9,206
Accounting and Auditing	67,500	48,612	40,000	8,612
Travel	78,436	79,722	52,385	27,337
Communications and Freight Services	122,900	124,985	124,985	-
Utility Services	61,807	61,807	61,173	634
Rentals and leases	-	2,268	2,268	-
Insurance	151,620	151,620	146,031	5,589
Repair and Maintenance Services	534,100	531,832	503,607	28,225
Printing and Binding	2,145	2,145	334	1,811
Promotional Activities	16,550	16,550	10,378	6,172
Other Current Charges and Obligations	30,270	30,270	28,330	1,940
Office Supplies	15,500	15,500	10,541	4,959
Operating Supplies	233,570	232,284	224,231	8,053
Training, Subscriptions, Memberships	151,618	151,618	84,471	67,147
Subtotal - Operating Expenditures	<u>1,929,277</u>	<u>1,910,389</u>	<u>1,714,947</u>	<u>195,442</u>
Capital Outlay:				
Vehicles	989,500	989,500	940,306	49,194
Equipment	45,800	29,975	17,788	12,186
Information Technology	18,000	33,825	33,826	(0)
Subtotal - Capital Outlay	<u>1,053,300</u>	<u>1,053,300</u>	<u>991,920</u>	<u>61,380</u>
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement - Unrestricted	653,423	671,934	671,934	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges - Unrestricted	94,192	94,570	94,568	2
Subtotal - Debt Service	<u>747,615</u>	<u>766,503</u>	<u>766,501</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	13,879,132	13,879,132	12,953,856	925,276
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(601,596)	(601,596)	755,333	(493,623)
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>				
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	100,000	100,000	-	(100,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	<u>(501,596)</u>	<u>(501,596)</u>	<u>755,333</u>	<u>1,256,929</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	11,121,616	11,419,747	11,419,747	-
TOTAL FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	<u>11,121,616</u>	<u>11,419,747</u>	<u>11,419,747</u>	<u>-</u>
Ending Fund Balance	10,620,020	10,918,151	12,175,080	1,256,929
TOTAL FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ 10,620,020</u>	<u>\$ 10,918,151</u>	<u>\$ 12,175,080</u>	<u>\$ 1,256,929</u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION – FIDUCIARY FUND  
September 30, 2016**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<u>Firefighters' Trust</u>
Cash	\$ 160,765
Contributions Receivable	2,871
Investments, at fair value:	
Pooled/common/comingled funds:	
Fixed Income Funds	\$ 7,917,689
Equity Funds	10,047,828
International Funds	<u>1,969,374</u>
Total investments at fair value	<u>19,934,891</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 20,098,527
 <b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Prepaid Contributions	<u>587,444</u>
 <b>PLAN NET POSITION</b>	
<b>RESTRICTED FOR PENSIONS</b>	<u><u>\$ 19,511,083</u></u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION –  
FIDUCIARY FUND  
Year Ended September 30, 2016**

	<u>Firefighters' Trust</u>
<b>ADDITIONS</b>	
Contributions	
Employer	\$ 825,110
Plan Members	148,229
State Contributions	<u>325,479</u>
Total Contributions	1,298,818
Investment Income (Expense)	
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	1,479,029
Less: Investment Expenses	<u>(29,674)</u>
Total Investment Income	<u>1,449,355</u>
TOTAL ADDITIONS	<u>2,748,173</u>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>	
Benefits Paid	179,261
Administrative Expenses	<u>36,659</u>
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	<u>215,920</u>
NET INCREASE IN PLAN NET POSITION	2,532,253
<b>PLAN NET POSITION - Beginning of Year</b>	<u>16,978,830</u>
<b>PLAN NET POSITION - End of Year</b>	<u><u>\$ 19,511,083</u></u>

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Organization and nature of activities**

Estero Fire Rescue District (the "District") is an independent special taxing district located in southern Lee County, Florida. The District was established on June 25, 1976 by Laws of Florida, Chapter 76-408. The District's governing legislation was recreated, reenacted and codified by the Laws of Florida, Chapter 2000-437 on July 5, 2000. The District is governed by a five-member (5) elected Board of Commissioners. Commissioners serve on a staggered four (4) year term basis.

The District provides fire control and rescue services, fire safety inspections, fire prevention education, and EMS services. In providing these services, the District operates and maintains four (4) station houses, an administrative building and the related equipment, and employs 67 professional firefighters and administrative and support personnel.

**Summary of significant accounting policies**

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these basic financial statements.

**Reporting entity**

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 14, "Financial Reporting Entity" (GASB 14), as amended, requires the financial statements of the District (the primary government) to include its component units, if any. A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. Based on the criteria established in GASB 14, as amended, there are no component units included and/or required to be included in the District's financial statements.

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the activities of the District and do not emphasize fund types. These governmental activities comprise the primary government. General governmental and intergovernmental revenues support the governmental activities. The purpose of the government-wide financial statements is to allow the user to be able to determine if the District is in a better or worse financial position than the prior year .

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)**

Government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the pension fund financial statements. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement Number 33, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions" (GASB 33).

Amounts paid to acquire capital assets are capitalized as assets in the government-wide financial statements, rather than reported as expenditures. Proceeds of long-term debt are recorded as liabilities in the government-wide financial statements, rather than as other financing sources. Amounts paid to reduce long-term indebtedness of the reporting government are reported as a reduction of the related liability in the government-wide financial statements, rather than as expenditures.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit for goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function, such as inspection fees, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital improvements of a particular function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of funds; a fund is considered a separate accounting entity. The operation of funds are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources may be allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

Fund financial statements for the District's governmental and fiduciary funds are presented after the government-wide financial statements. The fiduciary statement includes financial information for the firefighters' pension fund. The fiduciary fund represents assets held by the District in a trustee capacity for the benefit of other individuals.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Governmental Funds**

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collected within the current period or soon thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

The District's only major fund, the General Fund, is presented in the governmental fund financial statements. The definition of a major fund is one that meets certain criteria set forth in GASB Statement Number 34, "Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for State and Local Governments" (GASB 34).

**Fiduciary Fund**

A Fiduciary Fund accounts for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity or as an agent on behalf of others. Specifically, a trust fund accounts for assets held by the government under the terms of a formal trust agreement. The District has one fiduciary fund: a pension trust fund—the Retirement Plan and Trust for the Firefighters of Estero Fire Rescue District.

The Fiduciary Fund is excluded from the government-wide financial statements because the resources of that fund are not available to support the District's programs.

**Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures, or expenses, are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

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. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources management focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period and soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers tax revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty days of the end of the current fiscal period.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)**

Revenues susceptible to accrual are property taxes, interest on investments, charges for services and intergovernmental revenues. Property taxes are recorded as revenues in the fiscal year in which they are levied, provided they are collected in the current period or within sixty days thereafter. Interest on invested funds is recognized when earned.

Intergovernmental revenues that are reimbursements for specific purposes or projects are recognized when all eligibility requirements are met.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. Exceptions to this general rule include: (1) principal and interest on long-term debt, if any, which is recognized when due, and (2) expenditures are generally not divided between years by the recording of prepaid expenditures.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

**Major Funds**

The District reports the following major governmental fund:

The General Fund is the District's only major governmental and operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the District. Restricted funds are accounted for separately within the General Fund. Restricted activities include those activities related to impact fees and projects funded by loan proceeds. The community safety program is also accounted for in the District's General Fund and those funds are assigned to activities relating to promoting safety through education, for supporting the Estero Fire Rescue Explorer Program, and providing smoke alarms and emergency relief.

**Investments**

The District adheres to the requirements of GASB Statement Number 31, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools", as well as GASB Statement Number 25, "Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension Plans", in which all investments are reported at fair value.

Investments consist of the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Investments (Continued)**

The District's Firefighters' Retirement Plan is part of a collectively managed single-employer plan, and therefore reports all income (loss) from investments as allocated investment income as it is not feasible to allocate specific components of income to a specific plan.

**Capital Assets**

Capital assets, which include land, buildings and improvements, equipment, and vehicles, are reported in the government-wide financial statements in the Statement of Net Position.

The District follows a capitalization policy which calls for capitalization of all capital assets that have a cost or donated value of \$1,000 or more and have a useful life in excess of three years.

All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date donated. No debt-related interest expense is capitalized as part of general capital assets in accordance with GASB 34.

The acquisition of land and construction projects utilizing resources received from federal and state agencies are capitalized when the related expenditure is incurred.

Maintenance, repairs, and minor renovations are not capitalized. Expenditures that materially increase values, change capacities or extend useful lives are capitalized. Upon sale or retirement, the cost and related accumulated depreciation is eliminated from the respective accounts.

Depreciable capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Asset</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings and improvements	3-35
Equipment	3-7
Vehicles	4-15

**Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. The District reports deferred outflows for interest rate swaps, as well as for changes in actuarial assumptions on pension plan investments. A deferred outflow on interest rate swaps results from the difference in the interest rates paid and received. This amount is deferred and fair value is adjusted over the term of the interest rate swap agreement. The amounts relating to the pension plan will be recognized as increases in pension expense in future years.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources (Continued)**

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The deferred inflows of resources reported in the District's statement of net position represent changes in actuarial assumptions. These amounts will be recognized as reductions in pension expense in future years.

**Pensions**

For purposes of measuring the net pension (asset)/liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Plan) and additions to/deductions from the Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

**Budgets and Budgetary Accounting**

The District adopted an annual budget for the General Fund which included budgeted appropriated expenditures equal to budgeted revenue and beginning fund balance.

The District follows these procedures in establishing budgetary data for the General Fund:

1. During the summer of each year, the District's Fire Chief submits to the Board of Commissioners a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing on the upcoming October 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. The budget is adopted by approval of the Board of Commissioners.
4. Budget amounts, as shown in these financial statements, are as originally adopted and as amended by the Fire Chief and Board of Commissioners.
5. The budget was adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. From time to time there may be activity that differs from a basis consistent with GAAP. For the year ended September 30, 2015, no differences were noted.
6. The level of control for appropriations is exercised at the account level.
7. Appropriations for expenditures lapse at year-end.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Budgets and Budgetary Accounting (Continued)**

The Board of Commissioners approved one (1) separate request to reconcile budget amounts at the program level and/or the account level during the year ended September 30, 2016. The Fire Chief has the authority to reclassify budgeted amounts at the account level up to \$10,000, and such reclassifications are performed as needed. During the year ended September 30, 2016, the Fire Chief approved no separate requests to transfer budgeted amounts at the account level. These transfers are reclassification transactions necessary to appropriately manage the budget. Overall expenditure amounts would not change as a result of these types of transfers.

**Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)**

The District adheres to the requirements of GASB Statement Number 45, "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension". GASB 45 provides (1) requiring systematic, accrual-basis measurement and recognition of OPEB cost (expense) over a period that approximates employees' years of service and (2) providing information about actuarial accrued liabilities associated with OPEB and whether and to what extent progress is being made in funding the plan. The actuarial value of the OPEB cost and liability for benefits is recorded in the government-wide financial statements.

**Compensated Absences**

The District's employees accumulate annual personal leave, based on the number of years of continuous service and the bargaining unit contract. Upon termination of employment, employees can receive payment of accumulated annual leave, if certain criteria are met. Annually, the District will purchase banked hours in excess of 200 hours for administrative employees; 500 hours for 40 hour chief officers, executive staff, and bargaining unit employees; and 600 hours for 56 hour chief officers and bargaining unit employees. The cost of personal leave benefits (compensated absences) are expended in the General Fund when payments are made to employees. However, the liability for all accrued personal leave benefits is recorded in the government-wide financial statements—Statement of Net Position.

**Accounts Receivable**

No allowance for losses on uncollectible accounts has been recorded since the District considers all amounts to be fully collectible.

**Management Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Fund Balance**

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

The components of Fund Balance are:

**Nonspendable**

The portion of net resources or fund balance that cannot be spent because of their form. These amounts will never convert to cash or not convert soon enough to affect the current period (e.g., long-term receivables or prepaid items).

**Restricted**

The restricted fund balance is the portion that reflects resources that are subject to externally enforceable legal restrictions such as debt covenants or county ordinances.

Since the Board has no authority to expend restricted fund balances, the restricted component is typically excluded from discussions in which the Board and management at their discretion may approve to expend, commit or assign. All other components may be generally referred to as “unrestricted” even though constraints imposed by the District may exist.

**Committed**

The portion of fund balance that represents resources whose use is constrained by a formal action (resolution) of the District’s Board of Fire Commissioners, the District’s highest level of decision making authority. Constraints made by the Board remain binding unless removed in the same manner. The Board has committed fund balance for the capital improvement program.

**Assigned**

The portion of fund balance that reflects the District’s intended use of resources. Such intent can be established by the Board or delegated to the Fire Chief for unforeseen expenses below \$10,000 that were not budgeted for and advance Board approval is deemed unnecessary in order to maintain the normal operation of the District. The Board has assigned the activities of the Community Safety Program to the Fire Chief. Additionally, any amounts appropriated for projected deficits in the subsequent year will be assigned. Assigned funds also include funds donated to purchase mobile repeaters for radio enhancements. These funds were donated in fiscal year 2016 but will not be recognized until fiscal year 2017 when the radios can be purchased.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2016**

**NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Unassigned**

The portion of fund balance representing net resources in excess of what can properly be classified in one of the three categories described above and whose use is constrained by limitations set by the Board. Only the Board may, from time to time, as deemed necessary increase or decrease fund balance commitments and assignments. Annually, the Board will evaluate, or assign or commit estimated net resources that are in excess of those amounts already committed and assigned.

**Fund Balance (Continued)**

The District expends restricted amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available unless there are legal documents that prohibit doing this. Additionally, the District would first use committed fund balance, followed by assigned fund balance, and then unassigned fund balance, when expenditures are incurred for purposes in which amounts are available from any of these unrestricted fund balance classifications.

**Derivatives**

The District adheres to the requirements of GASB Statement Number 53, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments". GASB 53 requires governments to measure derivative instruments, with the exception of synthetic guaranteed investment contracts (SGIC) that are fully benefit-responsive, at fair value in their economic resources measurement focus financial statements. This should allow users of the financial statements to more fully understand a government's resources available to provide services. The application of inter-period equity means that changes in fair value are recognized in the reporting period to which they relate. The changes in fair value of hedging derivative instruments do not affect investment revenue but are reported as deferrals. On the other hand, the changes in fair value of investment derivative instruments (which include ineffective hedging derivative instruments) are reported as part of investment revenue in the current reporting period. The disclosures provide a summary of the government's derivative instrument activity (hedging) and the information necessary to assess the government's objectives for derivative instruments, their significant terms, and the risks associated with the derivative instruments. The fair market value of the Districts hedging derivative instruments is reported as deferrals in the Statement of Net Position.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE B CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

As of September 30, 2016, the District's cash was as follows:

General Fund		
Cash on Hand	\$	400
Demand Deposits		<u>12,880,089</u>
Total General Fund		12,880,489
Pension Trust		
Cash with Fiscal Agent		<u>160,765</u>
	\$	<u>13,041,254</u>

**Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. In accordance with its policy, all District depositories are banks designated by the Florida Chief Financial Officer as qualified public depositories. Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act" provides procedures for public depositories to ensure public monies in banks and saving and loans are collateralized with the Florida Chief Financial Officer as agent for the public entities. Chapter 280 defines deposits as the demand deposit accounts, time deposit accounts, and nonnegotiable certificates of deposit.

Financial institutions qualifying as public depositories shall deposit with the Florida Chief Financial Officer, eligible collateral at the pledging level required pursuant to Chapter 280. The Florida Security for Public Deposits Act has procedures for the payment of losses in the event of a default or insolvency. When public deposits are made in accordance with Chapter 280, no public depositor shall be liable for any loss thereof, and therefore, the District is not exposed to custodial credit risk for its deposits.

The Pension Trust Fund cash was held by a financial and investment institution and insured up to certain limits specific to the Trustee/Custodian institution and Retirement Trust Funds.

**NOTE C INVESTMENTS**

As of September 30, 2016, the District's investments had the following credit risk structure:

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Maturities</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Rating - Rating Agency</u>
Pension Trust			
External Investment Pool	N/A		
Fixed Income Funds		\$ 7,917,689	AA/V4 - Fitch Ratings
International Funds		1,969,374	Not Rated
Equity Funds		<u>10,047,828</u>	Not Rated
Total Pension Trust		\$ 19,934,891	

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE C INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Custodial Credit Risk**

By Florida Statutes 218.415 the District is authorized to invest in the Florida Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund, Florida Local Government Investment Trust, Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds, interest-bearing savings accounts, certificates of deposit, federal agencies and instrumentalities, and direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury.

The Pension Trust Funds' investment policy pursuant to Section 112.661(10), Florida Statutes, states that securities should be held with a third party custodian; and all securities purchased by, and all collateral obtained by the Pension Fund, should be properly designated as an asset of the Pension Fund.

As of September 30, 2016, the Firefighters' Retirement Pension Trust Fund investments were held with a third-party custodian as required by Florida Statutes. Its investments in the external pool are not exposed to custodial credit risk because their existence is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical book entry form.

**Credit Risk**

The Firefighters' Retirement Pension Trust investment with the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund Investment Pool (the "Pool") totaled \$19,934,891 at September 30, 2016, and is controlled by the Firefighters' Retirement Plan Board of Trustees' policy. This policy provides for investments in Florida Municipal Investment Trust (FMIvT) Portfolios, Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds, certificates of deposit, direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury, Federal agencies and instrumentalities, repurchase agreements, collateralized mortgage obligations, prime commercial paper of a United States corporation, finance company or banking institution, regulated bond mutual funds, corporate bonds or other corporate debt securities, investment grade obligations of state and local governments and public authorities, and equity securities.

The Pool's investment guidelines establish a minimum bond fund credit rating of A. As of September 30, 2016, the Pool's fixed income fund was rated AA/VA by Fitch Ratings.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Investments shall be invested to provide sufficient liquidity to pay obligations as they come due per F.S. 218.415(17). As a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from volatile interest rates, the District limits the duration of its investments to five years. The Firefighters' Pension Trust's investment policy does not limit the duration. Instead its primary objective is to seek long-term growth of capital income consistent with the conservation of capital. Emphasis is placed on achieving consistent returns and avoiding extreme volatility in market value.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE D CAPITAL ASSETS**

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended September 30, 2016:

	Balance September 30, 2015	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2016
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,941,090	\$ 80,800	\$ -	\$ 2,021,890
Construction in Progress	-	801,902	-	801,902
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	1,941,090	882,702	-	2,823,792
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Improvements	9,321,480	-	(6,041)	9,315,439
Vehicles	5,369,755	138,404	(36,139)	5,472,020
Equipment	750,038	80,746	(48,894)	781,890
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	15,441,273	219,150	(91,074)	15,569,349
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Buildings and Improvements	(2,951,317)	(299,172)	6,041	(3,244,448)
Vehicles	(3,470,008)	(377,986)	36,125	(3,811,869)
Equipment	(524,833)	(65,027)	48,894	(540,966)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(6,946,158)	(742,185)	91,060	(7,597,283)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	8,495,115	(523,035)	(14)	7,972,066
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 10,436,205	\$ 359,667	\$ (14)	\$ 10,795,859

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE E LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

**Summary of Long-Term Obligations**

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016:

	<u>Amount</u>
<p>\$4,440,086 Renewal Note C, dated September 11, 2007, payable to a financial institution. This note amends the original Promissory Note 2002A for \$6,100,000. The amendment increased the amortization schedule from 7 years to 15 years and revised the variable interest rate of 65% of LIBOR plus 0.80%. Additionally, the original fixed rate via an ISDA Master Agreement (Swap) was reduced from 3.72% to 3.62%. The note proceeds (held in the Capital Project Account) are to be used for financing and refinancing the improvement of fire department facilities. The note is collateralized by a pledge of impact fees and other non-ad valorem revenue with the final principal and interest due April 24, 2017.</p>	\$ 314,332
<p>\$4,000,000 Promissory Note, Series 2007A dated September 11, 2007, payable to a financial institution. The District only borrowed \$2,820,000. The note is payable over 20 years in monthly principal payments of \$12,368 plus interest. The variable interest rate of 63.7% of LIBOR plus 0.80% has changed to a fixed rate of 4.16% commencing on October 24, 2008 via the amendment to the original ISDA Master Agreement (Swap) dated September 11, 2007. The fixed rate applies to \$2,820,000. The District is obligated to pay principal and interest on the \$2,820,000 fixed Swap arrangement beginning in October 2008. The note proceeds have been used for financing the construction of fire department facilities. The note is collateralized by a pledge of impact fees and other non-ad valorem revenue with the final installment due September 24, 2027.</p>	\$ 1,632,632
<p>Outside of the bargaining unit, the Fire Chief is the only contracted employee of the District. The employment contract includes a deferred compensation benefit equal to one week of salary for every year of service, from November 2, 1998.</p>	\$ 47,457
<p>Fair market value of the District's hedging derivative instruments (Swaps).</p>	\$ 233,848
<p>Implicit subsidy - actuarial annualized funding estimates in the event the District chooses to fund its future obligation to provide optional post-employment healthcare, dental, vision, and life insurance coverage to eligible individuals.</p>	\$ 1,018,000
<p>Non-current portion of compensated absences. Employees of the District are entitled to annual personal leave time, based on length of service and job classification.</p>	\$ 950,655
	\$ 4,196,924

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE E LONG-TERM LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)**

**Summary of Long-Term Obligations (Continued)**

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016:

	Balance October 1, 2015	Additions	Retirements	Balance September 30, 2016	Amounts Due Within One Year
Renewal C (2002A)	\$ 837,846	\$ -	\$ (523,514)	314,332	\$ 314,332
Series 2007A	1,781,053	-	(148,421)	1,632,632	148,421
Deferred Compensation	42,541	4,916	-	47,457	-
Derivative Instruments	259,348	-	(25,500)	233,848	-
Implicit Subsidy (OPEB)	827,000	191,000	-	1,018,000	-
Compensated Absences	919,977	842,753	(812,075)	950,655	973
	<u>\$ 4,667,765</u>	<u>\$ 1,038,669</u>	<u>\$ (1,509,510)</u>	<u>\$ 4,196,924</u>	<u>\$ 463,726</u>

The annual debt service requirements are as follows at September 30:

	Renewal C (2002A)		Series 2007A		Totals	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2017	\$ 314,333	\$ 3,752	\$ 148,421	\$ 65,984	\$ 462,753	\$ 69,736
2018	-	-	148,421	59,724	148,421	59,724
2019	-	-	148,421	53,464	148,421	53,464
2020	-	-	148,421	47,334	148,421	47,334
2021	-	-	148,421	40,943	148,421	40,943
2022	-	-	148,421	34,683	148,421	34,683
2023-2027	-	-	742,106	79,577	742,106	79,577
	<u>\$ 314,333</u>	<u>\$ 3,752</u>	<u>\$ 1,632,632</u>	<u>\$ 381,709</u>	<u>\$ 1,946,964</u>	<u>\$ 385,461</u>

Deferred Compensation Benefit	47,457	-
Derivative Instruments	233,848	-
Implicit Subsidy (OPEB)	1,018,000	-
Accrued Compensated Absences	950,655	-
Total Long-Term Debt	<u>\$ 4,196,924</u>	<u>\$ 385,461</u>

The District was required by the lender to establish a reserve account of \$435,000 which, as of September 30, 2016, was funded by the loan proceeds.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE F INTEREST RATE SWAP**

In order to protect against the potential of rising interest rates, the District entered into interest rate swap agreements in fiscal 2003. On September 11, 2007, the District amended its swap agreements by reducing the two existing fixed rates and including a fixed rate for the new debt acquired in 2007. The existing fixed rates were decreased from 3.72% to 3.62%. The new debt swapped to a fixed rate of 4.16% on October 24, 2008. The intention of the swaps is to effectively change the District's variable interest rate on the associated loans to fixed rates.

The terms, including the fair values and credit ratings of the outstanding swaps as of September 30, 2016, are listed in the following table. The notional value of the swaps declines as the associated loan balance declines.

<u>Notional Amounts</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Fixed Rate Paid</u>	<u>Variable Rate Received</u>	<u>Fair Values at September 30, 2016</u>	<u>Swap Termination</u>	<u>Counterparty Credit Rating</u>
\$ 314,332	6/24/2003	3.62%	65.0% of LIBOR + 0.80%	\$ (2,301)	4/24/2017	Aaa/AA+/AA
1,632,632	9/24/2008	4.16%	63.7% of LIBOR + 0.80%	(231,547)	9/24/2027	Aaa/AA+/AA
<u>\$ 1,946,964</u>				<u>\$ (233,848)</u>		

The swaps are associated with the promissory notes reported in Note E. The fair value of swaps at September 30, 2016 is included in long-term liabilities due in more than one year on the Statement of Net Position. The combined fair value of the two remaining swap agreements decreased by \$25,500 during the year ending September 30, 2016.

Because the variable interest rates have decreased below the fixed rates, the swaps have a negative fair value as of September 30, 2016. The negative fair value may be countered by increases in total interest payments required under the variable rate loans, creating higher synthetic interest rates. Because the coupons on the District's variable-rate bonds adjust to changing interest rates, the loans do not have corresponding fair value increases. The fair value is estimated using a proprietary pricing service and is provided to the District by the counterparty financial institution known to be high volume participants in this market.

As of September 30, 2016, the District was exposed to credit risk because the swaps had a negative fair value. The District or the counterparty may terminate the swap if the other party fails to perform under the terms of the contract. If at the time of termination the swaps have a negative fair value, the District would be liable to the counterparty for a payment equal to the swaps' fair value.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE F INTEREST RATE SWAP (CONTINUED)**

As of September 30, 2016, debt service requirements of the variable-rate debt and net swap payments, assuming current interest rates remain the same, for their term were as follows. As rates vary, variable-rate debt interest payments and net swap payments will vary.

Fiscal Year Ending September 30	<u>Variable Rate Debt</u>		Interest Rate	Total
	Principal	Interest	Sw ap, Net	
2017	\$ 462,753	\$ 22,333	\$ 47,403	\$ 532,489
2018	148,421	19,126	40,598	208,145
2019	148,421	17,122	36,342	201,885
2020	148,421	15,158	32,176	195,755
2021	148,421	13,112	27,831	189,364
2022	148,421	11,107	23,576	183,104
2023-2027	742,106	25,484	54,093	821,683
	<u>\$ 1,946,964</u>	<u>\$ 123,442</u>	<u>\$ 262,020</u>	<u>\$ 2,332,425</u>

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS**

The District has funded retirement costs in two ways:

1. Plan 1 – Florida Municipal Pension Trust – Certified firefighters as qualified under the Plan (F.S. 175) – Retirement Plan and Trust for the Firefighters of the Estero Fire Rescue District.
2. Plan 2 – 401(a) Defined Contribution Retirement Plan – Employees not within Plan 1.

Except for those provisions that are mandated in Note H, the District does not currently provide benefits to its retired employees other than the benefits indicated below:

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan**

**Plan Description** - On December 1, 2000, the District resolved to establish a retirement plan for its full-time firefighters. All full-time certified firefighters of the District are eligible to participate in the Chapter 175 Municipal Firefighters Pension Trust Fund of Estero Fire Rescue (the "Plan"). The Plan is a defined benefit plan and became effective December 1, 2000. Firefighters become participants in the Plan immediately upon hire. For the year ended September 30, 2016, the District was required to contribute 22.12% of covered payroll (excludes regular overtime, bonuses, and lump sum payments for accrued annual leave, and sick time) of the qualified and participating employees. Participating employees are required to make regular contributions to the Plan in the amount of 3% of their covered payroll. Employees vest immediately in their own contributions.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

**Contributions** – Contributions to the Plan are derived from three sources: employees, 3% of compensation paid by the employee; state funds, (insurance premium tax per Florida Statute Chapter 175); and the employer, remaining amount necessary to meet the actuarial funding requirement. The state contribution is based on property fire insurance premiums collected within the District and may be applied up to an approved "frozen" limit. The District (employer) is required to fund the difference each year between the total contributions from all other sources for the year and the total funding cost for the year pursuant to the most recent actuarial valuation of the Plan. The total cost for any year equals total normal cost plus the additional amounts sufficient to amortize the unfunded past service liability over a 30 year period commencing on the valuation date.

The District contributed 100% of its required contributions. As such, the District made employer contributions of \$1,092,921, \$836,946, and \$873,776 for the years ended September 30, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Covered payroll for the years ended September 30, 2016, 2015 and 2014 was \$4,972,896, \$4,883,330, and \$4,457,302, respectively.

The employees contributed 100% of their respective required contributions to the Plan during the year ended September 30, 2016. Employee contributions for the years ended September 30, 2016, 2015, and 2014 were \$145,358, \$146,502, and \$134,012, respectively.

**Pension benefits** – Employees with 10 or more years of service are entitled to annual pension benefits, beginning at the earlier of age 55 with 10 years of credited service or 25 years credited service and attainment of age 52. The benefit is equal to 2.00% of Average Final Compensation (AFC) multiplied by Credited Service earned prior to December 1, 2000, plus 3.70% of AFC multiplied by Credited Service earned during the period December 1, 2000 through September 30, 2010, plus 3.00% of AFC multiplied by Credited Service earned after September 30, 2010. The average final monthly compensation (AFC) is the average of the five highest years within the last 10 years of service or career average, whichever is higher. Maximum benefit is 100% of AFC, paid during the retiree's lifetime with a minimum of 120 monthly benefit payments. Monthly payments can be modified to provide a social security level income payment or several other actuarially equivalent payment options are available. A lump sum payment is required if the single sum value of the participant's benefit is less than or equal to \$1,000.

In fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, the District adopted what is known as a Stop Start Plan. This essentially simultaneously stopped the Plan and restarted the Plan at its original benefit rates. The benefit multiplier was then increased for a 10 year period of credited service. A supplemental benefit now provided to participants is a Share Account that is to be funded solely and entirely by Chapter 175 premium tax revenues in excess of the frozen amount. Each participant's "share" of this supplemental benefit will be based on credited years of service. The assets in the Share Account at September 30, 2016 totaled \$707,221.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

**Employees Covered by Benefit Terms** – At September 30, 2016, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive Employees or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	6
Inactive Employees Entitled to but not yet Receiving Benefits	5
Active Employees	<u>60</u>
Total	<u><u>71</u></u>

**Early Retirement** - The Plan permits early retirement with 10 years of credited service. Applicable benefits are reduced by 3% for each year before normal retirement. If employees terminate before rendering 10 years of credited service, they forfeit the right to receive their portion of the accumulated Plan benefits, except for the employee contributed portion. Employees may purchase credit years of service up to a maximum of five years for prior military or fire service when specific criteria are met. Additionally, employees eligible for normal retirement can elect to participate in a Deferred Retirement Option Plan in lieu of terminating employment as a firefighter.

**Death and disability benefits** – Upon the death of any vested member, whether or not still in active employment, a survivor benefit is payable to a beneficiary or joint pensioner starting when the member would have reached early or normal retirement age. The benefit is equal to the vested pension benefit and is payable for 10 years. The beneficiary may also elect to receive an immediate benefit payable for 10 years which is actuarially reduced to reflect the commencement of benefits prior to retirement date.

Active employees who become totally and permanently disabled directly from the performance of their duty as a firefighter shall receive a Normal Retirement Benefit with the minimum benefit equal to 42% of AFC. Any member with 10 years or more of credited service who becomes totally and permanently disabled in which disability is not directly caused by the performance of his duties as a firefighter shall also receive a Normal Retirement Benefit, with no minimum limit.

**Income recognition** – Allocated investment income is recorded on the accrual basis. Investments are reported at market value. Short-term investments are reported at cost, which approximates market value. Since the Plan is collectively managed with other government's plans, investment income is allocated to each plan as a net amount, as it is not feasible to specifically allocate income (loss) by individual component of income (loss).

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

**Actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits** – Accumulated Plan benefits are those future periodic payments that are attributable under the Plan's provisions to the service employees have rendered. Accumulated Plan benefits include benefits expected to be paid to (a) retired or terminated employees or their beneficiaries, (b) beneficiaries of employees who have died, and (c) present employees or their beneficiaries. Under the aggregate actuarial cost funding method, the present value of benefits, less all assets, are equated to the present value of future employer contributions, and of future employee contributions, if any. The required contribution is then expressed as a percentage of current payroll. Benefits payable under all circumstances; retirement, death, disability, and termination of employment, are included, to the extent they are deemed attributable to employee service rendered to the valuation date.

The actuarial present value of accumulated Plan benefits is determined by an actuary and is the amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to adjust the accumulated Plan benefits to reflect the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as for death, disability, withdrawal, or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment. The significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuations as of September 30, 2016 were (a) life expectancy of participants (the RP-2000 Annuity Mortality Table was used), (b) retirement age assumptions (the assumed average retirement age was 55), and (c) investment return. The October 1, 2016 actuary valuation reflected assumed average rates of return of 7.0%. The foregoing actuarial assumptions are based on the presumption that the Plan will continue. If the Plan terminated, different actuarial assumptions and other factors might be applicable in determining the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits.

**Payments of benefits** – Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution. A summary of certain Plan details and trend information is included below.

The Plan is a single-employer defined benefit retirement plan and trust. The Plan is totally administered by the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund/Florida League of Cities, Inc. The Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund acts as the trustee of the Plan.

A copy of the Plan's annual report for September 30, 2016 and a complete detail of the Plan can be obtained by writing the Florida League of Cities, Inc., P.O. Box 1757, Tallahassee, Florida, 32302-1757 or by calling (850) 222-9684.

In addition, the Plan issued a stand-alone report that includes audited financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained from the Plan Board of Trustees.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

The following is a summary of the Single Employer-Defined Benefit Plan, including funding policies, contribution methods, benefit provisions, and trend information:

	Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund for Certified Firefighters <u>within the Bargaining Unit (F.S. 175)-Plan 1</u>
Year established and governing authority	District Resolution (Effective 12/1/00)
Governing authority	District Board of Commissioners
Administration authority	Board of Trustees of Plan
Determination of contribution requirements:	Actuarially determined
Employer (District)	Based upon age of employees. Contributions are required in addition to State Revenue received under Chapter 175 (insurance premium tax refunds).
Plan members	3% of Covered payroll
Funding of administrative costs	Employer
Period required to vest	10 years
Post retirement benefit increase	Cost of living increase of 0% each year
Eligibility for distribution (Normal retirement)	Earlier of age 55 with 10 years of credited service or age 52 and 25 years credited service
Provisions for:	
Disability benefits	Yes
Death benefits	Yes
Early retirement	Yes
Deferred Retirement Option Plan	Yes
Credited Service Buy Back	Yes
Share Plan	Yes
Normal form of benefit	Ten year certain and life

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Net Pension Liability**

The District's net pension asset was measured as of September 30, 2016, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of October 1, 2015 updated to September 30, 2016.

*Actuarial assumptions.* The total pension liability in the October 1, 2015 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.59 Percent
Salary Increases	4.50 Percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 Percent, Net of Pension Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Mortality rates were based on the sex-distinct rates set forth in the RP-2000 Mortality Table for annuitants, projected to 2015 by Scale AA, as published by the Internal Revenue Service for purposes of IRC Section 430.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Core Bonds	16.00%	0.58% per annum
Multi-sector	24.00%	1.08% per annum
U.S. Large Cap Equity	39.00%	6.08% per annum
U.S. Small Cap Equity	11.00%	6.83% per annum
Non-U.S. Equity	10.00%	6.83% per annum
Total or weighted arithmetic average	100.00%	4.08% per annum

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that District contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the employee rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

**Changes in the Net Pension Asset**

	Total Pension Liability	Increase (Decrease) Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Asset
Balance - September 30, 2015	\$ 12,649,826	\$(17,020,399)	\$ (4,370,573)
Changes for the Year			
Service Cost	462,980	-	462,980
Expected Interest Growth	911,490	(204,592)	706,898
Unexpected Investment	-	-	-
Income			
Demographic Experience	727,005		727,005
Contributions - Employer	-	(1,022,258)	(1,022,258)
Contributions – Employee	-	(148,229)	(148,229)
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds of Employee Contributions	(163,056)	(1,060,800)	(1,223,856)
Administrative Expenses	-	64,972	64,972
Assumption Changes	4,790,497	-	4,790,497
Net Changes	<u>6,728,916</u>	<u>(2,370,907)</u>	<u>4,358,009</u>
Balance - September 30, 2016	<u>\$ 19,378,742</u>	<u>\$(19,391,306)</u>	<u>\$ (12,564)</u>

*Sensitivity of the net pension asset to changes in the discount rate.* The following table presents the net pension asset of the District, calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the District's net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate:

	1 % Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's Net Pension Asset	\$3,102,932	\$(12,564)	\$(2,555,799)

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

**Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions**

For the year ended September 30, 2016, the District recognized a reduction of pension expense of \$159,150. At September 30, 2016, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Description	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Amortization Payments	\$(1,031,524)	\$ (235,773)
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	1,205,445	-
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	1,650,643	-
Changes of Assumptions	4,790,497	1,675,754
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,615,061</b>	<b>\$ 1,439,981</b>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended September 30,	
2017	\$ 795,751
2018	795,753
2019	793,019
2020	485,532
2021	526,452
Thereafter	1,778,573

**Funding**

The State of Florida makes contributions from taxes on casualty insurance premiums to the Firefighters' Retirement Plan – Plan 1. The state contributions of \$325,479 for the year ended September 30, 2016, are recognized by the District as on behalf payments and are reported as revenues and expenditures in the general fund statements.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 1 – Plan Description and Provisions – Firefighters' Retirement Plan (Continued)**

The District funds the Plan based on a funding method recommended by the Florida Department of Revenue. A contribution surplus reserve in the amount of \$587,444 is available at September 30, 2016. The contribution surplus reserve is restricted to funding the Plan and it will be utilized in future years.

The Plan assets are legally reserved for the payment of the respective Plan member benefits within the Plan. There are no assets legally restricted for Plan benefits other than those assets within the Plan. The Firefighters' Pension Trust Fund held certain investments at year-end. There are no long-term contracts for contributions.

The share account is essentially a defined contribution benefit, and the assets are not included in the actuarial value of assets available to fund accumulated Plan benefits. The following is a summary of the Plan's net position:

	Firefighters' Retirement	Share Account	Total Firefighters' Trust
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 155,107	\$ 5,658	\$ 160,765
Contributions Receivable	2,871	-	2,871
Investments	19,233,328	701,563	19,934,891
Prepaid Contributions	(587,444)	-	(587,444)
<b>Total Net Position Held in Trust for Pension Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 18,803,862</b>	<b>\$ 707,221</b>	<b>\$ 19,511,083</b>

**Plan 2 – Defined Contributions Retirement Plan – Employees Not Within the Bargaining Unit**

The District established a Governmental Money Purchase Plan (401(a)), a defined contribution plan, on October 5, 2001, for the District's full time general employees who are not participants in the firefighters' pension trust. Participants are eligible to participate upon their hire date. The Plan is completely administered by the Plan custodian, the Florida Municipal Pension Trust Fund. Employees are immediately vested 100% in their own contributions. Participants vest in the employer's Plan contributions 100% after completion of five years of credited service. Vesting begins at 40% after completion of two years of credited service and increases at 20% per year. Normal retirement age is 52 years of age.

The Plan requires the District to make contributions equal to 10% of the qualified employee's compensation, excluding bonuses and lump sum payments. The Plan also allows the employee participants to make contributions. Employee contributions are deposited into the respective employee's deferred compensation plan (Section 457 Plan) account. Therefore, the employee's contributions are maintained separately from those of the employer (District) contributions. The Plan also requires the employer to match the employee's voluntary contributions dollar for dollar up to 5% of the employee's eligible compensation. Total District contributions to the Plan, including the employer 10% contributions, and the employer match amount, for the years ended September 30, 2016, 2015, and 2014 were \$47,695, \$84,735 and \$96,116 respectively. The District utilized \$31,053 in forfeitures in fiscal year 2015-2016 to meet the required employer contribution amount of \$78,748.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE G RETIREMENT PLANS (CONTINUED)**

**Plan 2 – Defined Contributions Retirement Plan – Employees Not Within the Bargaining Unit (Continued)**

The District contributed 100% of its required contributions for the year ended September 30, 2016. Employee contributions to the Plan were \$243,789, \$238,012 and \$242,255 for the years ended September 30, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The employee contributions are deposited to a Section 457 account which is a deferred compensation plan that is available to all employees of the District, as such, employee contribution amounts provided are made by participants of both District provided retirement plans.

**NOTE H OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**Description and provisions**

As mandated by F.S. 112.0801, the District provides optional post-employment healthcare, dental, vision, and life insurance coverage to eligible individuals.

Eligible individuals include all regular employees of the District who retire from active service and are eligible for retirement or disability benefits under one of the two retirement plans sponsored by the District. Under certain conditions, eligible individuals for healthcare coverage also include spouses and dependent children.

Retirees must pay a monthly premium as determined by the insurance carrier that is equal to the actual premiums paid by the District. The premium varies depending on whether the retiree elects single, couple, single plus children, or family coverage.

Membership of the Plan consisted of the following at September 30, 2016:

	<u>OPEB Plan</u>
1. Number of participants included:	
Current retirees:	
Under age 65	1
Over age 65	0
Total current retirees	<u>1</u>
Active employees:	
Active employees fully eligible for benefits	10
Active employees not yet fully eligible for benefits	59
Total active employees	<u>69</u>
Total number of participants	<u><u>70</u></u>
2. Average age of active employees	41.4 years

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
September 30, 2016**

**NOTE H OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)**

**Funding and Financial Planning**

There is an implied subsidy in the healthcare insurance premium for retirees because the premium charged for these retirees is the same as the premium charged for active employees, who are younger than retirees on average.

In order for the District to anticipate its future obligation with respect to the post-employment healthcare coverage provided to retirees and their dependents, the District has projected the OPEB liability for a 20-year period beginning October 1, 2016.

The value of the future liability is recorded in the government-wide statements as required by GASB 45; however, the District is not currently funding this future liability and instead, uses the estimates and assumptions for financial planning only. The information provided below provides the District with annualized funding estimates in the event the District chooses to fund the estimated future obligation. The contributions noted are not actual amounts contributed by the District, but instead represent an allowable credit to substitute the premium portion that would be paid by the retiree.

The District's annual OPEB cost (expense) is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer (ARC). The District has elected to calculate the ARC and related information using the alternative measurement method for employers in plans with fewer than one hundred total plan members. The ARC represents a level of funding that, "if" paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and to amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities over a period not to exceed fifteen years.

The following table shows the components of the District's annual OPEB cost for the year, the amount contributed to the Plan, and changes in the District's net OPEB obligation:

<b>Net OPEB Obligation</b>	
Annual required contribution	\$ 234,000
Interest on net OPEB obligation	33,000
Adjustment to annual required contribution	<u>(72,000)</u>
Annual OPEB cost	195,000
Contributions made	
Estimated Implicit Subsidy	<u>4,000</u>
Change in net OPEB obligation	191,000
Net OPEB obligation, beginning of year	<u>827,000</u>
Net OPEB obligation, end of year	<u><u>\$ 1,018,000</u></u>

<sup>a</sup> The implicit subsidy or implicit rate subsidy is the difference between the actual and apparent cost of OPEB coverage. The actual cost for early retirees is higher than the average per-person premium for the active/retiree group. Plans in which retirees pay the average active/retiree rate (the apparent cost) give rise to an implicit rate subsidy; the employer pays the difference between the actual and apparent cost.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE H OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) (CONTINUED)**

**Funding and Financial Planning (Continued)**

A schedule of employer contributions is presented in the table below:

<u>Year Ended September 30,</u>	<u>Annual OPEB Cost</u>	<u>Percentage Contributed</u>	<u>Net OPEB Obligation</u>
2016	\$ 195,000	2%	\$ 1,018,000
2015	143,000	1%	827,000
2014	138,000	1%	686,000

A schedule of funding progress is included as required supplementary information to the financial statements.

**Additional Information**

The following is a summary of the OPEB plan valuation methods and assumptions:

	<u>OPEB</u>
Valuation Date	4/1/2016
Actuarial cost method	Projected unit credit
Amortization method	15-year open period; level-dollar payment
Investment return	4.00% per annum (includes inflation at 2.75 % per annum)
Healthcare cost trend rate(s):	
	<u>Insurance Premiums</u>
Select rates	8.00% for 2016/17 graded to 5.50% for 2021/22
Ultimate rate	5.00% per annum

**NOTE I PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied after formal adoption of the District's budget and become due and payable on November 1 of each year and are delinquent on April 1 of the following year. Discounts on property taxes are allowed for payments made prior to the April 1 delinquent date. Tax certificates are sold to the public for the full amount of any unpaid taxes and must be sold not later than June 1 of each year. The billing, collection, and related recordkeeping of all property taxes are performed for the District by the Lee County Tax Collector. No accrual for the property tax levy becoming due in November 2016 is included in the accompanying financial statements, since such taxes are collected to finance expenditures of the subsequent period.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 September 30, 2016**

**NOTE I PROPERTY TAXES (CONTINUED)**

Procedures for collecting delinquent taxes, including applicable tax certificate sales and tax deed sales, are provided for by Florida Statutes. The enforceable lien date is approximately two years after taxes become delinquent and occurs only upon request of a holder of a delinquent tax certificate.

Important dates in the property tax cycle are as follows:

Assessment roll certified	July 1
Millage resolution approved	No later than 93 days following certification of assessment roll
Taxes due and payable (levy date)	November/with various discount provisions through March 31
Property taxes payable-maximum discount (4 percent)	30 days after levy date
Beginning of fiscal year for which taxes have been levied	October 1
Due date	March 31
Taxes become delinquent (lien date)	April 1
Tax certificates are sold by the Lee County Tax Collector	Prior to June 1

The Board of Commissioners of the District levied ad valorem taxes at a millage rate of \$2.19 per \$1,000 (2.1881 mils) of the 2015 net taxable value of real property located within the District.

**NOTE J COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

The District is involved from time to time in certain routine litigation, the substance of which either as liabilities or recoveries would not materially affect the financial position of the District. Although the final outcome of the lawsuits, assertions and claims or the exact amount of costs and/or potential recovery is not presently determinable, in the opinion of the District's legal counsel, the resolution of these matters will not have a materially adverse effect on the financial condition of the District. As a general policy, the District plans to contest any such matters.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2016**

**NOTE J COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (CONTINUED)**

On April 8, 2003, the District entered into an agreement with Lee County in which the County paid the District \$118,836 for the right to use space at the Three Oaks Fire Station for Lee County owned emergency vehicles and assigned Lee County personnel. This agreement is for a term of 25 years and can be terminated by either party upon giving the other party a written 365 day notice. Should the right to use be terminated by the District, the sums paid to the District by the County shall be repaid to the County on a pro-rata basis for the years that the space was made available over the term of this agreement. At September 30, 2016, the amortized balance of the liability owed by the District if the agreement was terminated is approximately \$57,041. Currently, there has been no interest by either party to terminate the agreement.

The District entered into a Traffic Signal Agreement in 2007 with a local developer or its assigns to share the cost of the construction of an emergency flashing traffic signal. Under this agreement, the financial obligation to the District for this improvement is 50% of the total design/permit/construction costs up to \$150,000. At September 30, 2016, the District had contributed \$106,581. Upon the emergency flashing traffic signal converting to a fully operational traffic signal, the District is entitled to a reimbursement of their contributed cost share less their pro rata share of the total cost of the fully operating traffic signal based on the District's traffic impact to the signal. Currently there is no anticipated date as to when or if the emergency flashing signal will convert to a fully operational traffic signal.

The District also entered a Reciprocal Easement and Access Agreement in 2006 with a Developer Trust or its assigns for the construction of a Joint Entry Drive (east of the fire station) at Coconut Point. Contingent upon the property (Tract 1D-3) directly east to the fire station being sold, the District is entitled to a reimbursement of approximately \$22,000 from the purchaser for their share of the construction cost of the joint driveway incurred by the District. There is no scheduled sale of this property at this time.

The District's Fire Chief is the only employee with an employment contract, outside of the bargaining unit. The contract contains various commitments associated with the potential termination of the Fire Chief, including, but not limited to, deferred compensation benefit. The estimated liability for the deferred compensation benefit at September 30, 2016 was \$47,457. This liability is considered a long-term liability and is recorded in the Statement of Net Position as deferred compensation benefits expected to be paid after one year. There is currently no expected termination of the Fire Chief.

**NOTE K RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2016**

**NOTE K RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)**

Insurance for workers' compensation, general/management liability, automobile, and property is provided by a commercial insurance carrier. Workers' compensation risk of loss is transferred to the insurance carrier with limits of liability of \$1,000,000 per accident or disease. The District retains the risk of loss up to a deductible amount (ranging from \$500 to \$2,500) with the risk of loss in excess of this amount transferred to the insurance carrier with limits of liability amounts (ranging from \$2,000 to \$1,000,000 per occurrence) for general/management liability, automobile and property; except for those essential assets that have a guaranteed replacement value. An umbrella policy minimizes the District's exposure with an additional amount of coverage (up to \$5,000,000 per occurrence) for general/management claims. The District pays annual premiums for this insurance coverage. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage as compared to the prior year. Settled claims have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

The District's dental insurance program is self-funded and is administered by a third party administrator. At September 30, 2016, the District's dental plan had liabilities equal to the amounts reflected as reserved and unasserted claims. These amounts were calculated by the third-party self-insurance program's underwriters and actuaries, based on industry standards. These liabilities are subject to adjustments in future years, which would be recorded as claim expenses when they are estimated. However, the amounts are insignificant to the financial statements as a whole and do not exceed more than the average monthly dental claims, and therefore are not reported.

**NOTE L FUTURE FIRE IMPACT FEES**

In 2002, the District pledged future fire impact fee revenues to secure two bank loans. The loan proceeds were used for financing the construction of fire department facilities and related equipment that was necessary due to population growth in the District.

Impact fee revenue has not been sufficient to pay the District's debt since FY 2008. As such, the District's general ad valorem dollars have been paying the debt service on the loans. It is permissible to pay the debt service with the general ad valorem dollars, but the District is not permitted to secure the long term debt with the ad valorem dollars. Ad valorem revenue is intended for the operation of the District and the impact fee revenue is intended to finance costs associated with growth, such as additional stations and additional equipment. The District has received Lee County's consent to devise a plan and policy to support the reimbursement of its general ad valorem dollars with future impact fees as they become available.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2016**

**NOTE L FUTURE FIRE IMPACT FEES (CONTINUED)**

The following is a summary of the use and repayment of ad valorem dollars paying the debt service that is secured with impact fees:

Financial Statement Fiscal Year	Pricipal retirement-unrestricted	Interest/fiscal charges-unrestricted	Impact Fee Reimbursement*	Accumulated Outstanding Balance
2016	\$ 671,934	\$ 94,568	\$ 73,769	\$ 7,020,303
2015	653,423	118,759	-	6,327,570
2014	635,487	142,957	-	5,555,388
2013	463,644	118,062	-	4,776,944
2012	749,645	190,890	-	4,195,238
2011	918,212	225,945	-	3,254,703
2010	892,102	257,451	-	2,110,546
2009	721,967	239,026	-	960,993

\*In the year of reimbursement, impact fee revenue will be reported as "Unrestricted", and the cash will be moved into the District's operating account.

**REQUIRED  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT**  
**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS**  
**FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT PLAN**  
**September 30, 2016**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>Total Pension Liability:</b>			
Service Cost	\$ 462,980	\$ 236,813	\$ 296,869
Interest	911,490	1,116,502	915,736
Difference between expected and actual experience	727,005	1,222,925	-
Changes of assumptions	4,790,497	(1,870,609)	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	<u>(163,056)</u>	<u>(225,627)</u>	<u>(183,085)</u>
Net change in Total Pension Liability	6,728,916	480,004	1,029,520
Total Pension Liability - Beginning of Year	<u>12,649,826</u>	<u>12,169,822</u>	<u>11,140,302</u>
Total Pension Liability - End of Year (a)	<u>\$ 19,378,742</u>	<u>\$ 12,649,826</u>	<u>\$ 12,169,822</u>
<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position</b>			
Contributions - employer	\$ 1,022,258	\$ 1,139,300	\$ 981,425
Contributions - state	-	-	393,429
Contributions - employee	148,229	146,502	134,012
Net investment income	1,428,448	(40,658)	1,125,520
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(163,056)	(93,875)	(102,421)
Administrative expenses	(64,972)	(62,772)	(52,454)
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	2,370,907	1,088,497	2,479,511
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>17,020,399</u>	<u>15,931,902</u>	<u>13,452,391</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - End of Year (b)	<u>\$ 19,391,306</u>	<u>\$ 17,020,399</u>	<u>\$ 15,931,902</u>
Net Pension Asset - End of Year (a) - (b)	\$ (12,564)	\$ (4,370,573)	\$ (3,762,080)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	100.06%	134.55%	130.91%
Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 4,718,212	\$ 4,288,910	\$ 4,234,095
Net Position Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	NA	NA	NA

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT PLAN  
September 30, 2016**

**Schedule of District Contributions**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Actuarially determined contributions	\$ 1,092,921	\$ 1,012,328	\$ 1,113,639
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contributions	<u>1,022,258</u>	<u>1,139,300</u>	<u>1,374,854</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ 70,663</u>	<u>\$ (126,972)</u>	<u>\$ (261,215)</u>
 Covered Employee Payroll	 \$ 4,718,212	 \$ 4,288,910	 \$ 4,234,095
 Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	 21.67%	 26.56%	 32.47%

Notes to Schedule

Valuation date	10/1/2015	10/1/2014	10/1/2013
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Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of October 1, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

**ESTERO FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS  
OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS  
September 30, 2016**

**SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS**

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) - Projected Unit Credit (b)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b-a)	Funded Ratio (a / b)	Covered Payroll (c)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b - a) / c)
4/1/2016	\$ -	\$1,359,000	\$1,359,000	0.0%	\$ 5,649,000	24.1%
10/1/2014	-	932,000	932,000	0.0%	5,454,000	17.1%
10/1/2012	-	701,000	701,000	0.0%	5,051,000	13.9%

**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***

Board of Commissioners  
Estero Fire Rescue District  
Estero, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of the Estero Fire Rescue District, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 27, 2017.

***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District'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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 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.

***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, continued:***

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

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

***Purpose of this Report***

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

Punta Gorda, Florida  
April 27, 2017

*Ashley, Brown & Co.*

## **MANAGEMENT LETTER**

Board of Commissioners  
Estero Fire Rescue District  
Estero, Florida

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of the Estero Fire Rescue District, Florida, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, and have issued our report thereon dated April 27, 2017.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

### **Other Reports and Schedule**

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and Independent Accountant's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with AICPA Professional Standards, Section 601, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated April 27, 2017, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

### **Prior Audit Findings**

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. The status of significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial report are listed in Appendix A.

### **Official Title and Legal Authority**

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The District discloses this information in the notes to the financial statements. The District had no component units as of September 30, 2016.

## **Financial Condition**

Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require that we apply appropriate procedures and report the results of our determination as to whether or not the District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.c. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures. It is management's responsibility to monitor the District's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

## **Annual Financial Report**

Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require that we apply appropriate procedures and report the results of our determination as to whether the annual financial report for the District for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, filed with the Florida Department of Financial Services pursuant to Section 218.32(1)(a), Florida Statutes, is in agreement with the annual financial audit report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. In connection with our audit, we determined that these two reports were in agreement.

## **Other Matters**

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

## **Purpose of this Letter**

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, the Estero Fire Rescue District and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

April 27, 2017

*Ashley, Brown & Co.*

Estero Fire Rescue District  
Appendix A - Status of Prior Year Findings and Recommendation  
September 30, 2016

Prior Year Findings		Current Year Status		
		Cleared	Partially Cleared	Not Cleared
2013-008 System Password Resets	Management Letter Comment	X		
2013-009 Conflict of Interest Statements	Management Letter Comment	X		
2015-001 Reconciling Accounts at Period End	Management Letter Comment	X		



**Estero Fire Rescue**  
21500 Three Oaks Parkway  
Estero, Florida 33928  
(239) 390.8000  
(239) 390.8020 (Fax)  
[www.esterofire.org](http://www.esterofire.org)

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## RESPONSE TO MANAGEMENT LETTER

April 27, 2017

Ashley, Brown & Company  
366 East Olympia Avenue  
Punta Gorda, Fl 33950

We are writing in response to your Management Letter for our audited financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2016.

We have received the Auditor's Management Letter as required by Auditor General Rule 10.554(1)(h). We acknowledge that the Auditor found that there were no current year comments or recommendations.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Vanderbrook  
Fire Chief

## Independent Accountant's Examination Report

Board of Commissioners  
Estero Fire Rescue District  
Estero, Florida

We have examined the Estero Fire Rescue District's (the "District") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, Local Government Investment Policies, for the year ended September 30, 2016. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we consider necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Estero Fire Rescue District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2016.

Punta Gorda, Florida  
April 27, 2017

*Ashley, Brown & Co.*