



Board of Directors
West Cook County Solid Waste Agency
River Grove, Illinois

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency (the Agency) for the year ended April 30, 2018. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our engagement letter to you dated January 22, 2018. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of the Council's Significant Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Agency are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2018. We noted no transactions entered into by the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

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

The actuarial estimates of net pension obligation and deferred outflows of resources. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop this estimate and have determined it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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

The disclosure of cash deposits.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has agreed to correct all such misstatements. The corrected misstatements were primarily related to the new pension standard and some reclassifications.

Disagreements with Management

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

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated August 16, 2018.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

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

Other Audit Findings or Issues

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

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the board of directors and management of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

M. Elmer, Inserra & Co., P.C.

August 16, 2018

**WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID
WASTE AGENCY**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2018 AND 2017



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors
West Cook County Solid Waste Agency
River Grove, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the West Cook County Solid Waste Agency as of and for the years ended April 30, 2018 and 2017 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Agency's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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

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

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency as of April 30, 2018 and 2017, and the changes in financial position and cash flows for the years 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 and other required supplementary information on pages 3 through 5 and 16 and 17 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 any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise West Cook County Solid Waste Agency's basic financial statements. The accompanying financial information listed as Additional Information in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The Additional Information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

M. Elise, Inserra & Co., P.C.

August 16, 2018

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

APRIL 30, 2018 AND 2017

As management of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency, this narrative overview and analysis is provided of the Agency's financial activities for the years ending April 30, 2018 and 2017. It is recommended that readers consider this information in conjunction with the financial statements as a whole.

Overview of the Financial Statements

Management's discussion and analysis serves as an introduction to the Agency's financial statements. The statements presented include a statement of net position, statement of activities, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements.

Financial Highlights

The Agency's total net position as of April 30, 2018 and 2017 were \$292,271 and \$557,157, respectively. For the years ended April 30, 2018 and 2017, net position decreased by \$264,886 and \$158,106, respectively, as expenses exceeded revenues. Of the 2018 decrease, \$33,263 relates to accrued IMRF pension expense. The term "net position" represents the difference between total assets and deferred outflows of resources and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources.

Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Agency are intended to provide the reader with an understanding of the financial position of the Agency as of the close of the fiscal years, the results of activities and cash flows for the years then ended.

The statement of net position provides information on the Agency's assets/deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities/deferred inflows of resources. The difference between assets/deferred outflows of resources and liabilities/deferred inflows of resources represents the net position for the Agency. The statement of activities reflects the results of the Agency's revenues, expenses and activities during the year and the corresponding effect on the net position. This statement shows the source of Agency revenues and how those revenues were used to provide services.

Notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the information provided in the basic financial statements. Required Supplementary Information consists of more information on the pension liability and on employer contributions.

Financial Analysis

Net position may serve, over time, as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The Agency's assets and deferred outflows exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$292,271 and \$557,157 as of the close of the years 2018 and 2017, respectively. The entire net position balance is unrestricted.

Condensed Statement of Net Position

	April 30,	
	2018	2017
Current Assets	\$ 1,023,940	\$ 1,211,449
Total Assets	1,023,940	1,211,449
Deferred Outflows Related to Pension (IMRF)	264,413	332,379
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 1,288,353	\$ 1,543,828
Current Liabilities	\$ 281,929	\$ 237,815
Noncurrent Liabilities	633,402	748,856
Total Liabilities	915,331	986,671
Deferred Inflows Related to Pension (IMRF)	80,751	-
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	996,082	986,671
Net Position		
Unrestricted	292,271	557,157
Total Net Position	\$ 292,271	\$ 557,157

Condensed Statement of Changes in Net Position

	For Years Ended April 30,	
	2018	2017
Revenues		
Regional Disposal Project Contracts	\$ 3,764,144	\$ 3,771,843
Membership Dues	51,025	66,725
Other Income	34,603	17,941
Keep West Cook Beautiful Grant	-	6,000
Interest Income	491	-
Total Revenues	3,850,263	3,862,509
Expenses		
Regional Disposal Project Contractor	3,532,813	3,544,826
Payroll and Payroll Taxes	185,757	175,334
Pension Expense	149,056	138,584
Consultants	105,090	53,825
Employee Benefits	47,158	43,951
Professional Fees	50,935	27,828
Supplies and Equipment	11,898	10,177
Bad Debts	11,775	-
Insurance	4,296	6,108
Keep West Cook Beautiful	-	6,000
Telephone	6,039	5,522
Meetings and Conferences	2,691	2,507
Professional Dues	1,796	2,289
Postage	1,807	2,150
Travel	3,340	1,428
Publication / PR	300	86
Printing and Copying	398	-
Total Expenses	4,115,149	4,020,615
Change in Net Position	(264,886)	(158,106)
Net Position,		
Beginning of Year	557,157	715,263
End of Year	\$ 292,271	\$ 557,157

Economic Factors

Currently, management is not aware of any changes in conditions that could have a significant effect on the financial position or results of activities of the Agency in the near future.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Agency's finances for all those with an interest in its finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Executive Director, West Cook County Solid Waste Agency, 2000 Fifth Avenue, Building N, River Grove, Illinois 60171.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

APRIL 30

ASSETS	2018	2017
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 604,883	\$ 562,380
Receivables	413,304	645,509
Prepaid Insurance	<u>5,753</u>	<u>3,560</u>
Total Current Assets	1,023,940	1,211,449
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred Outflows Related to Pension (IMRF)	<u>264,413</u>	<u>332,379</u>
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u><u>\$ 1,288,353</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,543,828</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable to Waste Contractor	\$ 200,116	\$ 203,310
Due to Affiliated Agency	76,828	24,283
Other Payables and Accruals	<u>4,985</u>	<u>10,222</u>
Total Current Liabilities	281,929	237,815
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES		
Net Pension Obligation	<u>633,402</u>	<u>748,856</u>
Total Liabilities	915,331	986,671
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred Inflows Related to Pension (IMRF)	<u>80,751</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>996,082</u>	<u>986,671</u>
NET POSITION		
Unrestricted	<u>292,271</u>	<u>557,157</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 292,271</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 557,157</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

YEARS ENDED APRIL 30

	2018	2017
REVENUES		
Regional Disposal Project Contracts	\$ 3,764,144	\$ 3,771,843
Membership Dues	51,025	66,725
Other Income	34,603	17,941
Keep West Cook Beautiful Grant	-	6,000
Interest Income	491	-
Total Revenues	<u>3,850,263</u>	<u>3,862,509</u>
EXPENDITURES / EXPENSES		
Regional Disposal Project Contractor	3,532,813	3,544,826
Payroll and Payroll Taxes	185,757	175,334
Pension Expense	149,056	138,584
Consultants	105,090	53,825
Professional Fees	50,935	27,828
Employee Benefits	47,158	43,951
Supplies and Equipment	11,898	10,177
Bad Debts	11,775	-
Telephone	6,039	5,522
Insurance	4,296	6,108
Travel	3,340	1,428
Meetings and Conferences	2,691	2,507
Postage	1,807	2,150
Professional Dues	1,796	2,289
Printing and Copying	398	-
Publication / PR	300	86
Keep West Cook Beautiful	-	6,000
Total Expenses	<u>4,115,149</u>	<u>4,020,615</u>
Change in Net Position	(264,886)	(158,106)
NET POSITION		
Beginning of Year	<u>557,157</u>	<u>715,263</u>
End of Year	<u>\$ 292,271</u>	<u>\$ 557,157</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

YEARS ENDED APRIL 30

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash Received from Customers and Users	\$ 4,047,865	\$ 3,816,861
Interagency Pension Reimbursement	34,603	17,941
Grants Received	-	6,000
Cash Paid to Employees	168,662	159,568
Cash Paid to Suppliers	<u>(4,208,627)</u>	<u>(4,427,093)</u>
Net Cash Provided By (Used) in Operating Activities	<u>42,503</u>	<u>(426,723)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CHANGE INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	42,503	(426,723)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>562,380</u>	<u>989,103</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 604,883</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 562,380</u></u>
 CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (264,886)	\$ (158,106)
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities		
(Increase) Decrease in Receivables	232,205	(3,766)
(Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	(2,193)	78
(Increase) Decrease in Deferred Outflows	67,966	(12,254)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable to Waste Contractor	(3,194)	(314,531)
Increase (Decrease) in Due to Affiliated Agency	52,545	(22,349)
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Expenses	(5,237)	(680)
Increase (Decrease) in Net Pension Obligation	(115,454)	84,885
Increase (Decrease) in Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>80,751</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	<u><u>\$ 42,503</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (426,723)</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

APRIL 30, 2018 AND 2017

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

West Cook County Solid Waste Agency (the Agency) is duly organized and exists under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois, and is operating under the provisions of the State of Illinois, approved in 1988, and all laws amendatory thereto.

The financial statements of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Agency's accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The Agency includes all entities for which the Agency exercised oversight responsibility as defined by GASB.

The Agency has developed criteria to determine whether outside agencies should be included within its financial reporting entity. The criteria include, but are not limited to, whether the Agency (1) selects the governing authority or management, (2) has the ability to significantly influence operations, or (3) has accountability for fiscal matters (e.g., final budget approval, responsibility for funding deficits, management of assets, etc.). Using these criteria, the Agency has not included in its financial statements the activities of any other entity.

B. Basis of Presentation

The Agency reports its finances as one proprietary fund. A subset of this fund is the Regional Disposal Project which tracks the revenues and expenses of solid waste removed for participating governmental units.

C. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents represent amounts in a demand deposit account.

E. Receivables

Receivables represent amounts due to the Agency related to the Regional Disposal Project and membership dues of non-RDP organizations who are members. The Agency anticipates collecting 100% of the 2018 amounts due. \$11,775 of 2017 receivables were written off in 2018. No allowance for doubtful accounts has been recorded.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Compensated Absences

Vacation pay can be accrued up to 105 hours at the end of each calendar year. Any earned, but unused vacation is paid upon termination or retirement of the employee. Vacation pay was not recorded at year end as it is considered immaterial to the financial statements.

G. Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension expense represent amounts which report the difference between expected and actual experience, changes in assumptions and the net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments. The post-measurement date IMRF pension payments are recorded as deferred outflows. See Note 5 for additional information on the deferred outflows and inflows.

H. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

I. Defined Benefit Pension Plan (IMRF)

For purposes of measuring the net pension obligation and deferred outflows of resources related to pensions and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) and additions to/deductions from IMRF fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by IMRF. 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.

NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS

At April 30, 2018 and 2017, the carrying amounts of the Agency's deposits were \$604,883 and \$562,380, respectively, and the bank balances were \$918,973 and \$917,123, respectively. Of the bank balance \$450,555 and \$250,000 were covered by federal depository insurance and \$468,418 and \$667,123 were uninsured and uncollateralized for 2018 and 2017, respectively.

NOTE 3 – SECTION 457 PLAN

The Agency has a Section 457 pension plan fund through ICMA. All employees are eligible to participate by contributing a portion of their salary on a tax-deferred basis. In addition, the Agency can make contributions to the employee deferred accounts. Currently, two employees are participating. The Agency contribution was \$3,928 for 2018 and \$3,559 for 2017.

NOTE 4 – DUE TO AFFILIATED AGENCY

The Agency shares offices and expenses with another entity, including two employees for which the affiliated entity reimburses the Agency for 50% of their payroll and benefit costs. These payroll and related costs are shown at net of reimbursement on the Agency's financial statements, except the pension cost, which is reported at gross. The offsetting amount for pensions is shown as Other Income.

NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

IMRF Plan Description. The Agency's defined benefit pension plan for regular employees provides retirement and disability benefits, post-retirement increases, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The Agency's plan is managed by the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF), the administrator of a multi-employer public pension fund. A summary of IMRF's pension benefits is provided in the "Benefits Provided" section of this document. Details of all benefits are available from IMRF. Benefit provisions are established by statute and may only be changed by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois. IMRF issues a publicly available Comprehensive Annual Financial Report that includes financial statements, detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position, and required supplementary information. The report is available for download at www.imrf.org.

Benefits Provided. IMRF has three benefit plans. The Agency participates in the Regular Plan (RP). All three IMRF benefit plans have two tiers. Employees hired before January 1, 2011, are eligible for Tier 1 benefits. Tier 1 employees are vested for pension benefits when they have at least eight years of qualifying service credit. Tier 1 employees who retire at age 55 (at reduced benefits) or after age 60 (at full benefits) with eight years of service are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, in an amount equal to 1-2/3% of the final rate of earnings for the first 15 years of service credit, plus 2% for each year of service credit after 15 years to a maximum of 75% of their final rate of earnings. Final rate of earnings is the highest total earnings during any consecutive 48 months within the last 10 years of service, divided by 48. Under Tier 1, the pension is increased by 3% of the original amount on January 1 every year after retirement.

Employees hired on or after January 1, 2011, are eligible for Tier 2 benefits. For Tier 2 employees, pension benefits vest after ten years of service. Participating employees who retire at age 62 (at reduced benefits) or after age 67 (at full benefits) with ten years of service are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, in an amount equal to 1-2/3% of the final rate of earnings for the first 15 years of service credit, plus 2% for each year of service credit after 15 years to a maximum of 75% of their final rate of earnings. Final rate of earnings is the highest total earnings during any 96 consecutive months within the last 10 years of service, divided by 96. Under Tier 2, the pension is increased on January 1 every year after retirement, upon reaching age 67, by the lesser of:

- 3% of the original pension amount, or
- 1/2 of the increase in the Consumer Price Index of the original pension amount.

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms. As of April 30, 2018 and 2017, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

	IMRF
Retirees and Beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	1
Inactive Plan Members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	1
Active Plan Members	3
Total	5

Contributions. As set by statute, the Agency's Regular Plan Members are required to contribute 4.50% of their annual covered salary. The statute requires employers to contribute the amount necessary, in addition to member contributions, to finance the retirement coverage of its own employees. The Agency's annual contribution rate for calendar year 2018 and 2017 was 41.39% and 44.89%, respectively. For the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018 and 2017, the Agency

NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

contributed \$111,864 and \$63,131 to the plan, respectively. The Agency also contributes for disability benefits, death benefits, and supplemental retirement benefits, all of which are pooled at the IMRF level. Contribution rates for disability and death benefits are set by IMRF's Board of Trustees, while the supplemental retirement benefits rate is set by statute.

Net Pension Obligation. The Agency's net pension obligation was measured as of December 31, 2017 and 2016. The pension liability amounts used to calculate the net pension obligations were determined by actuarial valuations as of those dates.

Actuarial Assumptions. The following are the methods and assumptions used to determine total pension liability at December 31, 2017 and 2016:

- The *Actuarial Cost Method* used was Entry Age Normal.
- The *Asset Valuation Method* used was Market Value of Assets.
- The *Inflation Rate* was assumed to be 2.75% for 2016 and 2.50% for 2017.
- *Salary Increases* were expected to be 3.75% to 14.50%, including inflation for 2016 and 3.39% to 14.25% for 2017.
- The *Investment Rate of Return* was assumed to be 7.49%.
- *Projected Retirement Age* was from the Experience-based Table of Rates, specific to the type of eligibility condition, last updated for the 2014 valuation according to an experience study from years 2011 to 2013. 2017 used a 2014-2016 Experiences Study.
- The IMRF-specific rates for Mortality (for non-disabled retirees) were developed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar Health Annuitant Mortality Table with adjustments to match current IMRF experience.
- For *Disabled Retirees*, an IMRF-specific mortality table was used with fully generational projection scale MP-2014 (base year 2012). The IMRF-specific rates were developed from the RP-2014 Disabled Retirees Mortality Table, applying the same adjustments that were applied for non-disabled lives. For 2017 MP-2017 (base year 2015) used.
- For *Active Members*, an IMRF-specific mortality table was used with fully generational projection scale MP-2014 (base year 2012). The IMRF-specific rates were developed from the RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table with adjustments to match current IMRF experience. For 2017 MP-2017 (base year 2015) used.
- 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 to the target asset allocation percentage and adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

Asset Class	Portfolio Target Percentage 2017	Portfolio Target Percentage 2016	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return 2017 and 2016
Domestic Equity	37%	38%	6.85%
International Equity	18	17	6.75%
Fixed Income	27	27	3.00%
Real Estate	8	8	5.75%
Alternative Investments	9	9	2.65-7.35%
Cash Equivalents	1	1	2.25%
Total	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	

Single Discount Rate. A Single Discount Rate of 7.49% was used to measure the total pension liability. The projection of cash flow used to determine this Single Discount Rate assumed that the plan members' contributions will be made at the current contribution rate, and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. The Single Discount Rate reflects:

1. The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments (during the period in which the fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits), and
2. The tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating (which is published by the Federal Reserve) as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate of return are not met).

For the purpose of the most recent valuation, the expected rate of return on plan investments is 7.50%, the municipal bond rate is 3.31%, and the resulting single discount rate is 7.49%.

Changes in the Net Pension Asset for 2017

	Total Pension Liability (A)	Plan Net Position (B)	Net Pension Liability (B)-(A)
Balances at December 31, 2016	\$ 1,458,032	\$ 709,176	\$ 748,856
Changes for the year:			
Service Cost	28,391	-	28,391
Interest on the Total Pension Liability	108,430	-	108,430
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience of the Total Pension Liability	10,090	-	10,090
Changes of Assumptions	(42,137)	-	(42,137)
Contributions - Employer	-	111,865	(111,865)
Contributions - Employees	-	111,214	(11,214)
Net Investment Income	-	114,028	(114,028)
Benefit Payments, including Refunds of Employee Contributions	(49,134)	(49,134)	-
Other (Net Transfer)	-	(16,879)	16,879
Net Changes	<u>55,640</u>	<u>171,094</u>	<u>(115,454)</u>
Balances at December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 1,513,672</u>	<u>\$ 880,270</u>	<u>\$ 633,402</u>

NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

Changes in the Net Pension Asset for 2016

	Total Pension Liability (A)	Plan Net Position (B)	Net Pension Liability (B)-(A)
Balances at December 31, 2015	\$ 1,315,088	\$ 651,117	\$ 663,971
Changes for the year:			
Service Cost	25,210	-	25,210
Interest on the Total Pension Liability	97,652	-	97,652
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience of the Total Pension Liability	67,929	-	67,929
Changes of Assumptions	-	-	-
Contributions - Employer	-	46,046	(46,046)
Contributions - Employees	-	10,719	(10,719)
Net Investment Income	-	45,991	(45,991)
Benefit Payments, including Refunds of Employee Contributions	(47,847)	(47,847)	-
Other (Net Transfer)	-	3,150	(3,150)
Net Changes	142,944	58,059	84,885
Balances at December 31, 2016	\$ 1,458,032	\$ 709,176	\$ 748,856

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the plan's net pension asset, calculated using a Single Discount Rate of 7.49%, as well as what the plan's net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a Single Discount Rate that is 1% lower or 1% higher:

	1% Decrease (6.49%)	Current (7.49%)	1% Increase (8.49%)
2017 Net Pension Liability	\$ 829,186	\$ 633,402	\$ 470,092
2016 Net Pension Liability	\$ 947,965	\$ 748,856	\$ 584,125

Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions. For the year ended April 30, 2018 and 2017 the Agency recognized IMRF pension expense of \$145,128 and \$135,025, respectively. At April 30, 2018 the Agency reported deferred outflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

<u>Deferred Amounts Related to Pensions</u>	Deferred Outflows of Resources 2017	Deferred Inflows of Resources 2017	Deferred Outflows of Resources 2016
Deferred Amounts to be Recognized in Pension Expense in Future Periods			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 212,219	\$ -	\$ 270,340
Changes of assumptions	836	33,791	1,115
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	19,785	46,960	29,349
Total Deferred Amounts to be recognized in pension expense in future periods	232,840	80,751	300,804
Pension Contributions made subsequent to the Measurement Date	31,573	-	31,575
Total Deferred Amounts Related to Pensions	\$ 264,413	\$ 80,751	\$ 332,379

NOTE 5 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN (Continued)

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

Year Ending December 31	Net Deferred Outflows of Resources
2018	\$ 57,968
2019	57,966
2020	48,991
2021	(12,529)
2022	(307)
Thereafter	-
Total	<u>\$ 152,089</u>

NOTE 6 – OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Agency is required to offer employees, who are IMRF vested, continued health insurance coverage upon retirement. The retiree pays the entire health insurance premium, so there is no explicit subsidy by the Agency. However, GASB statements numbers 43 and 45 related to Postemployment Benefit Plans Other than Pensions require consideration of the potential implicit subsidy due to the likely demographic differences of the retired population.

No amounts have been computed or recorded related to this potential liability/expense. The Agency believes all such amounts, if any, are immaterial.

NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The Agency is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. As such, the Agency carries commercial insurance for all risks of loss. Settled claims resulting from these risks have historically not exceeded insurance coverage in the past three years and there have been no significant reductions in coverage.

NOTE 8 – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR OFFICE SPACE

On September 26, 2006, Triton College entered into an intergovernmental agreement to provide office space for the Agency and its affiliate for the opportunity to collaborate in the development and delivery of training programs to meet the needs of the affiliate's members. This agreement has been extended through December 31, 2018.

NOTE 9 – COMMITMENT

In January 2009, the Organization entered into a long-term contract, through December of 2018, for waste hauling services. The contract contains certain minimums, and penalties for not reaching them. To date, the Organization has met all minimums and anticipates no penalties. West Cook County Solid Waste Agency has entered into a new contract for these services with a ten-year term, beginning January 2019.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

MULTIYEAR SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS

CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Total Pension Liability			
Service Cost	\$ 28,391	\$ 25,210	\$ 43,031
Interest on the Total Pension Liability	108,430	97,652	69,220
Benefit Changes	-	-	-
Difference between Expected and Actual Experience	10,090	67,929	322,363
Assumption Changes	(42,137)	-	1,673
Benefit Payments and Refunds	<u>(49,134)</u>	<u>(47,847)</u>	<u>(45,240)</u>
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	55,640	142,944	391,047
Total Pension Liability - Beginning	<u>1,458,032</u>	<u>1,315,088</u>	<u>924,041</u>
Total Pension Liability - Ending (a)	<u><u>\$ 1,513,672</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,458,032</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,315,088</u></u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Employer Contributions	\$ 111,865	\$ 46,046	\$ 36,723
Employee Contributions	11,214	10,719	10,083
Pension Plan Net Investment Income	114,028	45,991	3,116
Benefit Payments and Refunds	(49,134)	(47,847)	(45,240)
Other	<u>(16,879)</u>	<u>3,150</u>	<u>24,059</u>
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	171,094	58,059	28,741
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	<u>709,176</u>	<u>651,117</u>	<u>622,376</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	<u><u>\$ 880,270</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 709,176</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 651,117</u></u>
Net Pension Liability/(Asset) - Ending (a) - (b)	<u><u>\$ 633,402</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 748,856</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 663,971</u></u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability	58.15%	48.64%	49.51%
Covered Valuation Payroll	\$ 249,201	\$ 238,208	\$ 224,064
Net Pension (Asset) Liability as a Percentage of Covered Valuation Payroll	254.17%	314.37%	296.33%

This is presented to illustrate the requirements to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Calendar Year Ended December 31,	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered Valuation Payroll	Actual Contribution as a Percentage of Covered Valuation Payroll
2017	\$ 111,866	\$ 111,865	\$ 1	\$ 249,201	44.89%
2016	46,046	46,046	-	238,208	19.33%
2015	36,724	36,724	-	224,064	16.39%

*Summary of Actuarial Methods and Assumptions Used in the Calculation of the 2017 Contribution Rate**

Valuation Date: Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of December 31 each year, which are 12 months prior to the beginning of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine 2017 Contribution Rates:

Actuarial Cost Method:	Aggregate entry age normal
Amortization Method:	Level percentage of payroll, closed
Remaining Amortization Period:	10 year rolling period
Asset Valuation Method:	5-year smoothed market; 20% corridor
Wage Growth:	3.50%
Price Inflation:	2.75%, approximate; No explicit price inflation assumption is used in this valuation.
Salary Increases:	3.75% to 14.50%, including inflation
Investment Rate of Return:	7.50%
Retirement Age:	Experience-based table of rates that are specific to the type of eligibility condition; last updated for the 2014 valuation pursuant to an experience study of the period 2011 to 2013.
Mortality:	RP-2014 Blue Collar Health Annuitant Mortality Table and RP-2014 (base year 2012) Disabled Mortality Table with adjustments to match current IMRF experience.

Other Information:

Notes: There were no benefit changes during the year.

* Based on Valuation Assumptions used in the December 31, 2015 and 2014, actuarial valuations; note two year lag between valuation and rate setting.

This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for those years for which information is available.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WEST COOK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AGENCY

SCHEDULE OF REGIONAL DISPOSAL PROJECT REVENUES AND EXPENSES

YEARS ENDED APRIL 30

	2018	2017
REVENUES		
Regional Disposal Project Contracts	\$ 3,764,144	\$ 3,771,843
Interest Income	491	-
Total Revenues	<u>3,764,635</u>	<u>3,771,843</u>
EXPENSES		
Regional Disposal Project Contractor	3,532,813	3,544,826
Consultants	105,090	53,825
Payroll and Payroll Taxes	74,188	70,404
Professional Fees	45,639	21,842
Pension	34,710	20,139
Benefits	18,863	18,003
Supplies and Equipment	5,200	4,364
Telephone	2,745	2,520
Insurance	2,046	2,947
Meetings and Conferences	1,158	1,317
Travel	832	14
Postage	792	914
Professional Dues	273	572
Printing and Copying	207	-
Publication / PR	-	43
Total Expenses	<u>3,824,556</u>	<u>3,741,730</u>
Change in Net Position Related to RDP	<u>\$ (59,921)</u>	<u>\$ 30,113</u>

REGIONAL DISPOSAL PROJECT DEFINED:

The Regional Disposal Project (RDP) is a program designed to provide cost-effective and environmentally sound long-term transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste for West Cook County Solid Waste Agency participating communities and other governmental and private sector entities, utilizing contractual relationships with privately owned and operated transfer and disposal facilities.



Board of Directors and Management
West Cook County Solid Waste Agency
River Grove, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency (the Agency) for the year ended April 30, 2018, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Agency's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Agency's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we identified deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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. We consider the following deficiencies in the Agency's internal control to be material weaknesses:

Segregation of Duties – An effective system of internal accounting control is reliant upon the proper segregation of duties associated with operating, recording and custodial functions. Currently, the Deputy Treasurer does the billing, makes and records deposits, prepares checks and reconciles the bank accounts among other duties. As is the case with many organizations your size, there is a lack of proper segregation of duties due to personnel limitations. Errors and irregularities may go undetected when there is a lack of segregation of duties.

Financial Statement Reporting – A fully developed internal control system consists not only of the ability to properly record transactions, but to make all significant journal entries and prepare full disclosure financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as they apply to local governments. This includes recent pronouncements from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board such as GASB 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. Since the Agency does not have this specialized skill internally, auditing standards make it clear this is a recognized part of the organization's internal control system and should be highlighted as a material weakness. The effect of this weakness is the inability to prepare financial statements in accordance with U. S. GAAP as applied to governments.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the board of directors, management and others within West Cook County Solid Waste Agency and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

McClure, Inserra & Co., Chartered

August 16, 2018