



JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF OHIO

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

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STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District
Franklin County
1069 West Main Street
Westerville, Ohio 43081-1181

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audits 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 of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the District prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the District as of December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 25, 2002 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management, Board of Park Commissioners and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a cursive "Petro".

JIM PETRO
Auditor of State

May 25, 2002

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	Governmental Fund Type		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Capital Projects	
Cash Receipts:			
General Property Tax - Real Estate	\$ -	\$ 10,338,439	\$ 10,338,439
Tangible Personal Property Tax	-	2,383,457	2,383,457
Grants	43,000	35,000	78,000
Investment Income	141,407	251,175	392,582
Gifts and Donations	3,095	216,443	219,538
Fees/Fines	217,858	-	217,858
Intergovernmental	5,306,040	-	5,306,040
Other Receipts	224,780	47,173	271,953
Total Cash Receipts	5,936,180	13,271,687	19,207,867
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Salaries - Employees	4,960,011	-	4,960,011
Materials	505,113	-	505,113
Equipment	459,082	-	459,082
Contracts - Repair	54,222	-	54,222
Contracts - Services	1,147,984	215,341	1,363,325
Contracts- Projects	-	562,316	562,316
Rentals	24,108	-	24,108
Advertising and Printing	181,843	-	181,843
Travel	14,286	-	14,286
Public Employees Retirement	688,678	-	688,678
Unemployment Compensation	2,951	-	2,951
Land Purchase and Improvements	-	7,278,692	7,278,692
Debt:			
Payment of Interest	46,667	-	46,667
Other	664,479	300	664,779
Total Cash Disbursements	8,749,424	8,056,649	16,806,073
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(2,813,244)	5,215,038	2,401,794
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):			
Workers Compensation Refunds	5,091	385,000	390,091
Reimbursements	21,611	-	21,611
Sale of Fixed Assets	11,036	-	11,036
Other Sources	8,307	160,390	168,697
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	46,045	545,390	591,435
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(2,767,199)	5,760,428	2,993,229
Fund Cash Balances, January 1,	3,843,330	2,031,281	5,874,611
Fund Cash Balances, December 31,	\$ 1,076,131	\$ 7,791,709	\$ 8,867,840
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31,	\$ 372,997	\$ 1,907,418	\$ 2,280,415

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	<u>Proprietary Fund Type</u>	<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Nonexpendable Trust</u>	
Operating Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$ 1,119,442	\$ -	\$ 1,119,442
Investment Income	-	26,685	26,685
Miscellaneous	72,377	-	72,377
	<hr/>		
Total Operating Cash Receipts	1,191,819	26,685	1,218,504
	<hr/>		
Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	554,116	-	554,116
Contractual Services	76,602	-	76,602
Supplies and Materials	143,352	-	143,352
Capital Outlay	86,076	-	86,076
	<hr/>		
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	860,146	-	860,146
	<hr/>		
Excess of Operating Receipts Over/(Under)	331,673	26,685	358,358
	<hr/>		
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:			
Sales Taxes	18,501	-	18,501
Other Non-Operating Revenues	1,227	-	1,227
	<hr/>		
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	19,728	-	19,728
	<hr/>		
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Sales Taxes	18,123	-	18,123
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	1,827	-	1,827
	<hr/>		
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	19,950	-	19,950
	<hr/>		
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	331,451	26,685	358,136
	<hr/>		
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	331,451	26,685	358,136
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Fund Cash Balances, January 1,	678,244	1,097,629	1,775,873
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Fund Cash Balances, December 31,	\$ 1,009,695	\$ 1,124,314	\$ 2,134,009
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Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31,	\$ 46,531	\$ -	\$ 46,531
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000**

	<u>Governmental Fund Type</u>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
General Property Tax - Real Estate	\$ -	\$ 10,470,436	\$ 10,470,436
Tangible Personal Property Tax	-	1,649,347	1,649,347
Grants	4,270	-	4,270
Investment Income	41,566	551,894	593,460
Gifts and Donations	3,460	94,477	97,937
Fees/Fines	184,868	-	184,868
Intergovernmental	5,074,648	-	5,074,648
Other Receipts	219,462	2,197	221,659
	<hr/>		
Total Cash Receipts	5,528,274	12,768,351	18,296,625
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Salaries - Employees	4,619,478	-	4,619,478
Materials	498,102	-	498,102
Equipment	299,377	-	299,377
Contracts - Repair	57,373	-	57,373
Contracts - Services	1,088,001	209,146	1,297,147
Contracts- Projects	-	300,366	300,366
Rentals	15,147	-	15,147
Advertising and Printing	99,710	-	99,710
Travel	16,317	-	16,317
Public Employees Retirement	539,567	-	539,567
Workers' Compensation	8,998	-	8,998
Land Purchase and Improvements	600,000	12,466,426	13,066,426
Other	711,314	-	711,314
	<hr/>		
Total Cash Disbursements	8,553,384	12,975,938	21,529,322
	<hr/>		
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(3,025,110)	(207,587)	(3,232,697)
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):			
Proceeds from Sale of Public Debt:			
Sale of Bonds	600,000	-	600,000
Workers Compensation Refunds	45,525	448,560	494,085
Reimbursements	47,110	-	47,110
Sale of Fixed Assets	147,684	-	147,684
Transfers-In	2,500,000	100,000	2,600,000
Transfers-Out	-	(2,500,000)	(2,500,000)
Other Sources	5,382	-	5,382
	<hr/>		
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	3,345,701	(1,951,440)	1,394,261
	<hr/>		
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	320,591	(2,159,027)	(1,838,436)
	<hr/>		
Fund Cash Balances, January 1 (restated)	3,522,739	4,190,308	7,713,047
	<hr/>		
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 3,843,330	\$ 2,031,281	\$ 5,874,611
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Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$ 309,755	\$ 897,363	\$ 1,207,118
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000**

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	Enterprise	Nonexpendable Trust	
Operating Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$ 1,135,608	\$ -	\$ 1,135,608
Investment Income	-	43,364	43,364
Miscellaneous	76,065	-	76,065
Total Operating Cash Receipts	1,211,673	43,364	1,255,037
Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	494,319	-	494,319
Contractual Services	78,252	-	78,252
Supplies and Materials	139,670	-	139,670
Capital Outlay	104,166	-	104,166
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	816,407	-	816,407
Excess of Operating Receipts Over/(Under) Operating Disbursements	395,266	43,364	438,630
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:			
Sales Taxes	19,431	-	19,431
Other Non-Operating Revenues	1,605	-	1,605
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	21,036	-	21,036
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Sales Taxes	19,440	-	19,440
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	2,730	-	2,730
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	22,170	-	22,170
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	394,132	43,364	437,496
Transfers-In	-	-	-
Transfers-Out	-	(100,000)	(100,000)
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	394,132	(56,636)	337,496
Fund Cash Balances, January 1, (restated)	284,112	1,154,265	1,438,377
Fund Cash Balances, December 31,	\$ 678,244	\$ 1,097,629	\$ 1,775,873
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31,	\$ 19,548	\$ -	\$ 19,548

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND DECEMBER 31, 2000**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District, Franklin County, (the District) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is directed by a three-member Board of Commissioners appointed by the probate judge of Franklin County. The District acquires lands for conversion into forest reserves and for the conservation of the natural resources, including streams, lakes, submerged lands and swamp lands. The Board may also create parks, parkways, and other reservations and may afforest, develop, improve and protect and promote the use of same as the Board deems conducive to the general welfare.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

Investments are included in fund cash balances. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements, and the investments held by the Columbus Foundation (Inniswood fund) are valued at cost. Money Market mutual funds (including the STAR Ohio) are recorded at share values reported by the mutual fund.

D. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The District classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Capital Project Fund

This fund is used to account for receipts for general operating, acquisition or construction of major capital projects and acquisition of land (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The District Capital Project Fund is funded through a property tax levy.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

3. Enterprise Fund

This fund accounts for operations that are similar to private business enterprises where management intends that the significant costs of providing certain goods or services will be recovered through user charges. This fund is used to account for charges for services occurring from the operation of the Blacklick Park Golf Course.

4. Fiduciary Funds (Trust Funds)

Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement requires the District to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as nonexpendable trust fund.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. Appropriation Authority includes current year appropriations plus encumbrances carried over from the prior year (if any). The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the District to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be re-appropriated.

A summary of 2001 and 2000 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the basis of accounting the District uses.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The District maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds except the non-expendable trust fund. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	2001	2000
Demand deposits	(\$77,847)	(\$64,347)
Certificates of deposit	1,010,000	1,000,000
Total deposits	932,153	935,653
Columbus Foundation (Inniswood Fund)	457,518	457,518
STAR Ohio	6,097,178	4,816,313
Repurchase agreement	3,515,000	1,441,000
Total investments	10,069,696	6,714,831
Total deposits and investments	\$11,001,849	\$7,650,484

Deposits: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

The District's agent holds security collateralizing repurchase agreements. The securities are not in the District's name.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000 follows:

Fund Type	2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts		
	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$6,612,669	\$5,982,225	(\$630,444)
Capital Projects	13,087,332	13,817,077	729,745
Enterprise	1,300,000	1,211,547	(88,453)
Non- Expendable Trust	73,000	26,685	(46,315)
Total	\$21,073,001	\$21,037,534	(\$35,467)

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 9,592,429	\$9,122,421	\$470,008
Capital Projects	12,897,364	9,964,067	2,933,297
Enterprise	929,874	926,627	3,247
Total	\$23,419,667	\$20,013,115	\$3,406,552

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$8,913,000	\$8,873,975	(\$39,025)
Capital Projects	14,779,392	13316911.00	(1,462,481)
Enterprise	1300000.00	1232709.00	(67,291)
Non-Expendable Trust	44000.00	123094.00	79,094
Total	\$25,036,392	\$23,546,689	(\$1,489,703)

Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$9,242,371.00	\$8,863,139	\$379,232
Capital Projects	19,906,511	16,373,301	3,533,210
Enterprise	915,932	858,125	57,807
Total	\$30,064,814	\$26,094,565	\$3,970,249

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the District.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001
(Continued)**

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2001:

	Principal	Interest Rate
General Obligation Bonds	600,000	8.00%
Total	\$600,000	

The District issued a Land Acquisition Tax Anticipation Bonds on October 1, 2000 in the amount of \$600,000 at 8% for a term of four years to acquire additional park land. Interest is due annually to the Bond holders. The principal (\$600,000) is due on the maturity date, October 1, 2004. These Bonds are collateralized by the taxing authority of the District.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

	General Obligation Bonds
Year ending December 31:	
2002	\$48,000
2003	48,000
2004	648,000
Total	\$744,000

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The District's full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2001 and 2000, members of PERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The District contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries through June 30, 2000. PERS temporarily reduced employer contributions to 8.13% effective July 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2001.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.

The District provides health insurance, dental, and vision coverage to full-time employees through a private carrier.

**COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND DECEMBER 31, 2001
(Continued)**

8. FUND BALANCE RESTATEMENT

The District previously reported the replacement fund as a non-expendable trust fund. The amounts reflected below correct the previously reported fund balances.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Trust Fund</u>
Fund Balance 12/31/99	\$2,856,636	\$1,820,368
Adjustment	666,103	(666,103)
Restated Fund Balances 1/1/2000	<u>\$3,522,739</u>	<u>\$1,154,265</u>



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

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**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District
Franklin County
1069 West Main Street
Westerville, Ohio 43081-1181

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated May 25, 2002. 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.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, 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 that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated May 25, 2002.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated May 25, 2002.

Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District
Franklin County
Report on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
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This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and the Board of Park Commissioners, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

JIM PETRO
Auditor of State

May 25, 2002



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

88 East Broad Street
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COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
AUGUST 27, 2002**