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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of County Commissioners
Polk County, Florida
Bartow, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Polk County, Florida (the "County"), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the entity's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. We have also audited the financial statements of the North Ridge Community Redevelopment Agency, Harden/Parkway Community Redevelopment Agency, Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency, and the Eloise Community Redevelopment Agency (each CRA is a nonmajor special revenue fund) which are presented in the accompanying combining and individual fund schedules and statements section as of and for the year ended September 30, 2014, 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.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Tax Collector, Polk County, Florida, which represents 1.38% and 5.37%, respectively, of the assets and revenues of the general fund, and 0.03% and 2.88%, respectively, of assets and revenues of the governmental activities. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Tax Collector, Polk County, Florida, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. 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.

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Auditors' Responsibility (Continued)

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' 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, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, the aggregate remaining fund information and the financial statements of the North Ridge Community Redevelopment Agency, Harden/Parkway Community Redevelopment Agency, Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency, and the Eloise Community Redevelopment Agency (each CRA is a nonmajor special revenue fund) of the County as of September 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows and budgetary comparison thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis and the schedule of funding progress – other postemployment benefits on pages C-1 to C-15 and F-1 to F-2 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.

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Polk County, Florida

Other Matters (Continued)

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements and the financial statements of the North Ridge Community Redevelopment Agency, Harden/Parkway Community Redevelopment Agency, Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency, and the Eloise Community Redevelopment Agency. The combining and individual fund schedules and statements (with the exception of the North Ridge Community Redevelopment Agency, Harden/Parkway Community Redevelopment Agency, Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency, and the Eloise Community Redevelopment Agency), the Introductory section and the Statistical section are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund schedules and statements (with the exception of the North Ridge Community Redevelopment Agency, Harden/Parkway Community Redevelopment Agency, Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency, and the Eloise Community Redevelopment Agency) are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate 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 combining and individual fund schedules and statements are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The introductory and statistical sections have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 25, 2015 on our consideration of the County'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 County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Lakeland, Florida
March 25, 2015