

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD  
AUTHORITY  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
For the Year Ended September 30, 2021**



**Prepared by:**

**Fort Bend County Auditor's Office**

**Robert Ed Sturdivant, CPA**

**County Auditor**

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
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## COUNTY AUDITOR

Fort Bend County, Texas

**Robert Ed Sturdivant**

County Auditor

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March 18, 2022

To the Board of Directors of the Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority, Members of the Commissioners Court, and Citizens of Fort Bend County, Texas:

The Fort Bend County Auditor's Office is pleased to present the basic financial statements of the Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority (the "Authority"), a component unit of Fort Bend County, Texas (the "County"), for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. This report is submitted in accordance with Section 114.025 of the Texas Local Government Code and was prepared by the staff of the County Auditor's Office.

Management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of the information contained in this report, based upon a comprehensive framework of internal control that it has established for this purpose. Because the cost of internal control should not exceed anticipated benefits, the objective is to provide reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of any material misstatements.

Whitley Penn, LLP, has issued an unmodified ("clean") opinion on the Authority's financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2021. The independent auditors' report is located at the front of the financial section of this report.

Management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") immediately follows the independent auditors' report and provides a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis of the basic financial statements. MD&A complements this letter of transmittal and should be read in conjunction with it.

### **Profile of the Authority**

In 2007, during the 80th Texas Legislature, Senate Bill 792 was signed into law giving counties the option to take over development of the Grand Parkway from the Texas Department of Transportation ("TxDOT"). In September of 2009, Fort Bend County Commissioners Court (the "Court") signed their order to assume the responsibility of financing, designing, constructing, operating and tolling Segment D of the Grand Parkway. The Authority was created by the Court as a local government corporation pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code.

The Authority, located in Sugar Land, Texas, has completed the initial improvement of Segment D of the Grand Parkway. Segment D of the Grand Parkway is the third initiative by the County to provide alternative transportation options for Fort Bend County residents and the greater Houston area in the form of a toll road.

In May of 2011, the Authority executed the "Right of Use" agreement with TxDOT allowing the Authority to use state highway right-of-way and giving the green light to begin construction of nine (9) new tolled overpasses and eight (8) miles of main-lane development for and construction of Segment D of the Grand Parkway. Construction of all overpasses was completed in April 2014.

Additional information about the Authority is available on Fort Bend County Toll Road Authority's website: <http://www.fbctra.com>.

## **Local Economy**

Fort Bend County continues to assist the residents and businesses with funds provided by the US Treasury for the Pandemic recovery effort. Even with this ongoing assistance, the Fort Bend County Toll Road System has fully recovered from the economic downturn experienced during the summer of 2020 in relation to the Pandemic. The demand for services regarding the governmental functions performed by the County continues to increase as the population grows. The Commissioners Court and the Authority use a conservative approach to the allocation of resources to serve the County's needs to ensure that Fort Bend County is prepared as the local economy responds to and recovers from the pandemic. This ongoing conservative approach will allow the County and Authority to meet the service demands of the residents in Fort Bend County. This ongoing conservative approach will not reduce the level of service provided by the Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road System to the residents.

## **Long-Term Financial Planning and Relevant Financial Policies**

### *Budget*

The Authority adopts a one-year budget through its fully coordinated financial planning process. The budget implements strategies, both financial and operational, identified through the strategic and long-range planning process to meet existing challenges and to effectively plan for future needs. The budget is a financial plan for a fiscal year of operations that matches all planned revenues and expenses with the services provided the citizens of the County based on the established budget policy. Decisions are not based solely on current conditions but on the long-term welfare of the community. The budget is developed and resources allocated based on the vision, mission, and goals of the Authority and County.

### *Long-Term Comprehensive Plan*

The Authority's long-term plan is to manage, maintain, and expand the Fort Bend Grand Parkway to enhance the County's master thoroughfare system. The future expansion of the toll road will be appropriately timed to meet the demand when financially feasible.

### *Capital Improvement Program*

The Authority maintains a multi-year Capital Projects Plan that includes toll road mobility projects. These capital initiatives involve the future expansion of the Grand Parkway Toll Road.

### *Debt Policy*

The purpose of the County's Debt Policy (which includes the Authority) is to establish guidelines for the utilization of debt instruments issued by the County and Authority whether payable from County taxes or payable from certain revenues of the County or Authority.

The County and Authority will ensure all uses of debt instruments are in compliance with all statutory requirements, and in accordance with the guidelines, outstanding ordinances, insurance covenants, and existing agreements. Further, the County and Authority will ensure that the utilization of any debt

instrument provides the most prudent and cost-effective funding possible, taking all material matters into account.

## **Major Initiatives**

Mobility remains one of the top priorities of the Authority as the County continues to grow and develop. With the major roadways already heavily congested, mobility has been, and continues to be, a primary concern. Continued residential and commercial expansion has increased the use of County roads. Right-of-way acquisitions for future roads have required more focus on future planning to prevent project delays. Completed toll road projects have proven to be effective in reducing congestion and enhancing safety within the County. The Authority issued subordinate lien revenue bonds under the County's credit in July 2021 totaling \$37.85m with the major projects including the direct connectors at Westpark and Grandparkway along with the overpass at Peek Road.

## **Acknowledgements**

The preparation of this report could not be achieved without the efficient and dedicated services of the staff of the County Auditor's Office and Whitley Penn, LLP, our independent auditor.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert E. Sturdivant, CPA  
County Auditor  
Fort Bend County, Texas

***FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY MISSION STATEMENT***  
*The Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority ("FBGPTRA") was created by the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court as a local government corporation pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code, to aid, assist, and act on behalf of the County in the performance of its essential government purposes, including toll road projects.*



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority  
Fort Bend County, Texas

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority (the "Authority"), a component unit of Fort Bend County, Texas, as of and for the year ended , and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority'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 of 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 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.

To the Board of Directors  
Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority  
Fort Bend County, Texas

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Authority, as of , and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows 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 the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 7 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 the Authority's basic financial statements. The introductory and other information sections are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The introductory and other information section 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 them.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 18, 2022, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 the 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 Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Houston, Texas  
March 18, 2022



## **FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**

### ***MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS***

As management of the Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority (the "Authority"), we offer readers of the Authority's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Authority for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in our letter of transmittal.

#### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

Management's discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Authority's basic financial statements. The Authority's basic financial statements include two components: the enterprise fund financial statements; and notes to the financial statements.

#### ***Enterprise Fund Financial Statements***

The Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority is a local government corporation and a component unit of Fort Bend County (the "County"). It is a single-purpose government with one business-type activity. Because the Authority is a single-purpose government, this report only includes the required Management Discussion and Analysis, the Enterprise Fund financial statements and the notes to the financial statements. The Enterprise Fund financial statements consist of the Statement of Net Position, Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and the Statement of Cash Flows.

The enterprise fund financial statements, which can be found on pages 10 through 12 of this report, are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Authority's finances, in a manner similar to private-sector businesses.

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

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the enterprise fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 13 through 18 of this report.

#### **Financial Analysis**

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Authority, assets exceeded liabilities by \$33,978,986 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

The following table provides a summary of the Authority's net position at September 30, 2021 and 2020:

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

*September 30, 2021 and 2020*

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 90,460,250	\$ 42,383,657
Capital assets, net	<u>151,179,268</u>	<u>152,458,874</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>241,639,518</u>	<u>194,842,531</u>
Long-term liabilities	205,954,166	169,416,411
Other liabilities	<u>1,706,366</u>	<u>2,851,431</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>207,660,532</u>	<u>172,267,842</u>
Net Position:		
Net investment in capital assets	(19,124,916)	(16,957,537)
Restricted	6,062,384	4,221,841
Unrestricted	<u>47,041,518</u>	<u>35,310,385</u>
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<u><u>\$ 33,978,986</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 22,574,689</u></u>

As of September 30, 2021, the Authority had a negative net investment in capital assets of \$19,124,916. The Authority's capital assets consist primarily of infrastructure which was constructed using related debt. The Authority uses capital assets to provide services to citizens. Consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

An additional portion of the Authority's net position, \$6,062,384, is restricted. This amount represents funds held by a trustee for debt service payments. The remaining balance of \$47,041,518 is unrestricted.

The following table provides a summary of the Authority's operations for the years ended September 30, 2021 and 2020

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION**

*For the years ended September 30, 2021 and 2020*

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Operating revenues:		
Toll revenue	\$ 27,650,789	\$ 23,756,322
Non-operating revenues:		
Earnings on investments	87,472	421,718
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>27,738,261</u>	<u>24,178,040</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Operating expenses:		
Salaries and personnel costs	76,849	86,980
Fees and supplies	7,074,593	7,206,385
Utilities	121,207	113,917
Depreciation	4,257,626	4,229,269
Non-operating expenses:		
Interest on long-term debt	7,179,950	6,627,220
Debt service fees	5,500	5,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>18,715,725</u>	<u>18,269,271</u>
<b>Net Income before Contributions</b>	9,022,536	5,908,769
Capital contributions	2,381,761	273,688
Change in Net Position	11,404,297	6,182,457
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>	22,574,689	16,392,232
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 33,978,986</u>	<u>\$ 22,574,689</u>

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Authority reported a positive balance in net position of \$33,978,986.

The Authority's revenues were sufficient to cover all expenses incurred during the year ended September 30, 2021, resulting in an increase in net position of \$11,404,297. This increase is up from last year's increase of \$6,182,457 by \$5,221,840. The key elements of this difference in the change in net position were due to the following:

- Increase in toll revenue of \$3,894,467 primarily due to increased utilization resulting from the pandemic recovery.
- Increase in interest on long-term debt of \$552,730 due to the 2021 bond issuance.
- Increase in capital contributions of \$2,108,073 due to additional participation of outside entities in construction projects.

## Capital Assets and Debt Administration

**Capital Assets** - At the end of fiscal year 2021, the Authority had invested in land, toll road construction in progress, infrastructure, land improvements, net of accumulated depreciation, as reflected in the following schedule. This represents a decrease of \$1,279,606 from the previous fiscal year.

### FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY'S CAPITAL ASSETS

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<b>Non-Depreciable Capital Assets</b>		
Land	\$ 4,845,955	\$ 4,845,955
Construction in progress	4,267,264	3,000,120
<b>Other Capital Assets, Net</b>		
Buildings, facilities and improvements	17,343	19,656
Infrastructure	142,048,706	144,593,143
<b>Totals</b>	<u>\$ 151,179,268</u>	<u>\$ 152,458,874</u>

The increase in construction in progress was primarily the result of the dedicated fiber project while the decrease in infrastructure was primarily the result of depreciation.

**Long-Term Debt** – At the end of the current fiscal year, the Authority had total bonds outstanding of \$188,245,000.

### LONG-TERM DEBT

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Revenue bonds	\$ 188,245,000	\$ 155,085,000
Premium on bonds	17,709,166	14,331,411
<b>Totals</b>	<u>\$ 205,954,166</u>	<u>\$ 169,416,411</u>

The County and the Authority received uninsured ratings of Aa1 and AA+ from Moody's and Fitch, respectively on the 2012 Toll Road bond issue and the 2021 Toll Road bond issue.

### Economic Factors

The population of the County is estimated at 867,500 in 2021 and is expected to grow to 960,690 by 2025.

The number of households has increased to 267,574 in 2021 and is expected to grow to 298,830 by 2025. Mean household income for 2021 is \$212,685 and is estimated to rise to \$244,483 by 2025. Income per capita is currently at \$67,347 and is expected to grow to \$77,376 by 2025.

Mobility improvements continue to be a demand from the residents of Fort Bend County. The Authority is proceeding with the Segment C Grand Parkway toll road project that will enhance and compliment the County's road system.

**Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Authority's finances for all of those with an interest in the Authority's finances. Questions concerning this report or requests for additional financial information should be directed to Ed Sturdivant, County Auditor, 301 Jackson, Suite 701, Richmond, TX 77469, telephone (281) 341-3760.



## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**

## **STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

*September 30, 2021*

### **Assets**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 81,735,101
Investments	6,050,755
Miscellaneous receivables	2,674,394
Capital assets, not subject to depreciation	9,113,219
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>142,066,049</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>241,639,518</u></u>

### **Liabilities**

Due to primary government	872,250
Retainage payable	120,620
Accrued interest payable	713,496
Long-term liabilities due within one year	2,460,000
Long-term liabilities due in more than one year	<u>203,494,166</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u><u>207,660,532</u></u>

### **Net Position**

Net investment in capital assets	(19,124,916)
Restricted for:	
Debt service	6,062,384
Unrestricted	<u>47,041,518</u>
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<u><u>\$ 33,978,986</u></u>

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



**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION**  
*For the Year Ended September 30, 2021*

**Operating Revenues**

Toll revenue	\$ 27,650,789
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u>27,650,789</u>

**Operating Expenses**

Salaries and personnel costs	76,849
Fees and supplies	7,074,593
Utilities	121,207
Depreciation	4,257,626
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>11,530,275</u>

<b>Operating Income</b>	16,120,514
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**Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)**

Earnings on investments	87,472
Interest on long-term debt	(7,179,950)
Debt service fees	(5,500)
<b>Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<u>(7,097,978)</u>

<b>Income (Expense) Before Contributions</b>	9,022,536
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Capital contributions	<u>2,381,761</u>
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<b>Change in Net Position</b>	11,404,297
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<b>Net Position, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>22,574,689</u>
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<b>Net Position, End of Year</b>	<u><u>\$ 33,978,986</u></u>
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*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.*

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS***For the Year Ended September 30, 2021***Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Receipts from tolls and other	\$ 28,711,408
Payments to suppliers	<u>(7,272,649)</u>
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<u>21,438,759</u>

**Cash Flows from Investing Activities**

Purchase of investments	(6,050,755)
Interest earned on investments	<u>87,472</u>
<b>Net Cash (Used) by Investing Activities</b>	<u>(5,963,283)</u>

**Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities**

Purchase of capital assets	(2,978,020)
Capital contributions	2,381,761
Increase in retention payable	54,726
Payment on loan from primary government	(1,314,937)
Principal paid on capital debt	(1,230,000)
Interest and fees paid on long-term debt	(7,656,315)
Proceeds from capital debt	<u>38,353,766</u>
<b>Net Cash Provided by Capital and Related Financing Activities</b>	<u>27,610,981</u>

**Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents** 43,086,457

**Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year** 38,648,644

**Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year** \$ 81,735,101

**Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash****Provided by Operating Activities**

Operating Income	\$ 16,120,514
Adjustments to operations:	
Depreciation	4,257,626
Change in assets and liabilities:	
Decrease in other receivables	<u>1,060,619</u>
<b>Total adjustments</b>	<u>5,318,245</u>

**Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities** \$ 21,438,759

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

# **FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **A. Reporting Entity**

The Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority (the “Authority”) is organized under the Texas Transportation Corporation Act and the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The Authority was created to assist in the planning, designing, financing and building of the Fort Bend County Grand Parkway/State Highway 99. In particular, the Authority is to assist in the building and operation of Segment D of the Grand Parkway Toll Road. This Toll Road system includes tolling locations along with overpasses at West River Park, New Territory Blvd., US90A/FM1464, West Airport, Harlem Road, Mason Road, West Belfort/Morton Road, Peek Road (design only), Bellaire Blvd., and FM1093/Westpark Tollway.

Based on criteria prescribed by generally accepted accounting principles, the Authority is considered a discretely presented component unit of Fort Bend County, Texas (the “County”). The primary criteria for the inclusion of the Authority in the County’s reporting entity is that of financial accountability. The Commissioners Court, the elected governing body of the County, appoints the Authority’s governing body. The County has financial accountability because it appoints a voting majority of the Board and the County can impose its will. As such, the County is financially accountable for the Authority and the Authority is considered a discretely presented component unit of the County.

#### **B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation**

The accompanying basic financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operations of these activities are included in the statement of net position.

#### **C. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Authority’s cash and cash equivalents consist of demand deposits and investment pools.

#### **D. Receivables**

Receivables are reported at their gross value and, where appropriate, are reduced by the estimated portion that is expected to be uncollectible.

#### **E. Capital Assets**

Capital assets consist of infrastructure, land, office furniture and equipment, and construction in progress that are used in the Authority’s operations. All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual cost was not available. Donated capital assets are valued at their acquisition value on the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are charged to operations when incurred. Expenses that materially change capacities or extend useful lives are capitalized. Upon sale or retirement of capital assets, the cost and related accumulated depreciation, if applicable, are eliminated from the respective accounts and the resulting gain or loss is included in the results of operations.

The Authority applies a half-year convention for depreciation on all capital assets. Therefore, one-half year of depreciation is charged to operations the first and last year that a capital asset is in service. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over an estimated useful life of 5 to 40 years.

## **F. Estimates**

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

## **G. Restricted/Unrestricted Net Position**

It is the Authority's policy to consider restricted - net position to have been depleted before unrestricted - net position is applied.

## **H. Date of Management's Review**

In preparing the financial statements, the Authority has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through March 18, 2022, the date that the financial statements were available to be issued.

## **NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS (CASH) AND INVESTMENTS**

### **A. Authorization for Deposits and Investments**

The Texas Public Funds Investment Act, as prescribed in Chapter 2256 of the Texas Government Code, regulates deposits and investment transactions of the Authority.

In accordance with applicable statutes, the County has a depository contract with an area bank (depository) providing for interest to be earned on deposited funds and for banking charges the Authority incurs for banking services received. The Authority may place funds with the depository in interest and non-interest bearing accounts. State law provides that collateral pledged as security for bank deposits must have a market value of not less than the amount of the deposits and must consist of: (1) obligations of the United States or its agencies and instrumentalities; (2) direct obligations of the State of Texas or its agencies; (3) other obligations, the principal and interest on which are unconditionally guaranteed or insured by the State of Texas; and/or (4) obligations of states, agencies, counties, cities, and other political subdivisions of any state having been rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm and having received a rating of not less than A or its equivalent. County policy requires the collateralization level to be at least 110% of market value of principal and accrued interest.

Commissioners Court has adopted a written investment policy regarding the investment of the Authority's funds as defined by the Public Funds Investment Act (Chapter 2256, Texas Government Code). The investments of the Authority are in compliance with this policy.

As of September 30, 2021 the Authority reported deposits in the amount of \$9,094,030. The Authority's collateral requirement, in accordance with the County's investment policy is 110%. The entire amount was covered by federal depository insurance or by collateral held by the County's agent in the Authority's name as of September 30, 2021.

## B. Concentration of Credit Risk

It is the County's policy to diversify its portfolio to eliminate the risk of loss resulting from a concentration of assets in a specific maturity (save and except zero duration funds), a specific issuer or a specific class of investments. The County manages adherence to this policy for the Authority. To achieve this diversification, the County will limit investments in specific types of securities to the following percentages of the total portfolio:

<b>Investment Type</b>	<b>Maximum Investment %</b>
Repurchase Agreements	up to 35%
Certificates of Deposit	up to 50%
U.S. Treasury Bills/Notes	up to 100%
Other U.S. Government Securities	up to 80%
Authorized Local Government Investment Pools	up to 80%
No Load Money Market Mutual Funds	up to 50%
Bankers Acceptances	up to 15%

As of September 30, 2021, 10.4% of the Authority's cash and cash equivalents were contained in demand deposit accounts.

## C. Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates may adversely affect the value of the investments. The County monitors interest rate risk for the Authority by utilizing weighted average maturity analysis. In accordance with its investment policy, the County reduces its exposure to declines in fair values by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio as a whole to no more than 3 years. At year-end, the Authority's cash and investment balances and the weighted average maturity of these investments were as follows:

	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Weighted Average Maturity</b>	<b>Percentage of Total Portfolio</b>
Demand Deposits	\$ 9,094,030	1	10.4%
Investment Pools:			
Texas CLASS	71,915,946	53	81.9%
Wells Fargo Government Money Market Fund	725,125	31	0.8%
Government Securities:			
US Treasury Note	6,050,755	147	6.9%
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 87,785,856</u>		
Portfolio weighted average maturity (days)		<u>54</u>	

Texas Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System Trust ("Texas CLASS") is a local government investment pool organized under the authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, chapter 791, Texas Government Code, and the Public Funds Investment Act, chapter 2256, Texas Government Code. Texas CLASS was established in 1996. Pursuant to the Trust Agreement, Texas CLASS is supervised by a Board of Trustees who are elected by the Participants. The Board of Trustees supervises the Trust and its affairs and acts as the liaison between the Participants, the Custodian and the Program Administrator. Cutwater Investor Services Corp. serves as Program Administrator. Cutwater Investor Services Corp. is a subsidiary of Cutwater Asset Management. It maintains a Net Asset Value of approximately \$1 per share.

Wells Fargo Government Money Market Fund seeks current income, while preserving capital and liquidity. It invests in high-quality, short-term money market instruments that consist of U.S. Government obligations and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. Government obligations. The Authority's investment in Texas Class was rated "AAAm" by Standard and Poor's. The Authority's investment in Wells Fargo Government Money Market Fund was rated "AAAm" and "Aaa-mf" by Standard and Poor's and Moody's Investments, respectively.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 79, *Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants*, the Local Government Investment Pools do not have any limitations and restrictions on withdrawals such as notice periods or maximum transaction amounts. These pools do not impose any liquidity fees or redemption gates.

### NOTE 3 – RECEIVABLES

Receivables as of September 30, 2021, consist of toll revenue due from the Harris County Toll Road Authority, Texas Tollway, and North Texas Tollway, net of applicable fees.

### NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended September 30, 2021 is as follows:

	<b>Balances 10/1/20</b>	<b>Increases</b>	<b>Decreases</b>	<b>Balances 9/30/21</b>
<b>Business-type Activities:</b>				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 4,845,955	\$	\$	\$ 4,845,955
Construction in progress	3,000,120	2,978,020	(1,710,876)	4,267,264
<b>Total capital assets not depreciated</b>	<b>7,846,075</b>	<b>2,978,020</b>	<b>(1,710,876)</b>	<b>9,113,219</b>
Other capital assets:				
Office furniture and equipment	14,951			14,951
Buildings, facilities and improvements	23,125			23,125
Infrastructure	169,357,118	1,710,876		171,067,994
<b>Total other capital assets</b>	<b>169,395,194</b>	<b>1,710,876</b>		<b>171,106,070</b>
Accumulated depreciation for:				
Office furniture and equipment	(14,951)			(14,951)
Buildings, facilities and improvements	(3,469)	(2,313)		(5,782)
Infrastructure	(24,763,975)	(4,255,313)		(29,019,288)
<b>Total accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>(24,782,395)</b>	<b>(4,257,626)</b>		<b>(29,040,021)</b>
Other capital assets, net	144,612,799	(2,546,750)		142,066,049
<b>Total capital assets</b>	<b>\$ 152,458,874</b>	<b>\$ 431,270</b>	<b>\$ (1,710,876)</b>	<b>\$ 151,179,268</b>

The increase in construction in progress was primarily the result of three new projects: dedicated fiber optic lines, Peek Road overpass and the addition of traffic surveillance cameras. The contract commitments as of September 30, 2021 are as follows:

	Construction In Progress	Commitments
Dedicated Fiber	\$ 2,894,431	\$ 173,676
Peek Road Overpass	535,678	14,079,452
West Airport South Bound Exit Ramp	140,620	
West Airport Northbound Ramps	284,782	
Harlem to Mason Aux Lane	126,570	
West Airport U-Turns	158,212	
FM 1464 to W. Airport Main Lanes	85,107	582,919
ITS System	41,864	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,267,264</b>	<b>\$ 14,836,047</b>

## NOTE 5 – LONG-TERM DEBT

The Authority issued subordinate lien revenue bonds in July 2012, for the purpose of financing the construction of the Toll Road System and paying the first thirty-six months of interest on the bonds. These subordinate lien bonds will be subsequently paid through the Authority's Debt Service Fund from toll fees collected by the Authority.

In July 2021, the Authority issued \$34,390,000 of Limited Contract Tax and Subordinate Lien Toll Road Revenue Bonds, Series 2021. The Authority used the proceeds to (i) finance the design, construction, equipment and other miscellaneous costs for additional project segments of the Fort Bend Grand Parkway, and (ii) pay the costs associated with the issuance of the bonds. The bonds mature serially on March 1 in each year 2023 through 2040, inclusive, and as term bonds on March 1 in each of the years 2046 and 2051. Interest is payable each March 1 and September 1 and March 1 thereafter until maturity or prior redemption. Interest rates range from 3% to 5%.

The following is a summary of the outstanding subordinate lien bonds as of September 30, 2021:

Original Issue	Description	Interest Rate %	Matures	Debt Outstanding
<b>Revenue Bonds</b>				
\$ 155,085,000	Limited Contract Tax and Subordinate Lien Toll Road Revenue Bonds, Series 2012	3.00 - 5.00	2046	\$ 153,855,000
34,390,000	Limited Contract Tax and Subordinate Lien Toll Road Revenue Bonds, Series 2021	3.00 - 5.00	2051	34,390,000
<b>Total Revenue Bonds</b>				<b>\$ 188,245,000</b>

A summary of the long-term liability transactions of the Authority for the year ended September 30, 2021 is as follows:

	<b>Balances</b>			<b>Balances</b>	<b>Amounts Due</b>
	<b>10/1/20</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Retirements</b>	<b>9/30/21</b>	<b>Within One</b>
					<b>Year</b>
Revenue bonds	\$ 155,085,000	\$ 34,390,000	\$ (1,230,000)	\$ 188,245,000	\$ 2,460,000
Premium on bonds	14,331,411	3,963,766	(586,011)	17,709,166	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 169,416,411</b>	<b>\$ 38,353,766</b>	<b>\$ (1,816,011)</b>	<b>\$ 205,954,166</b>	<b>\$ 2,460,000</b>

Annual debt service requirements to maturity are summarized as follows:

	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Totals</b>
2022	\$ 2,460,000	\$ 8,366,576	\$ 10,826,576
2023	4,225,000	8,065,575	12,290,575
2024	4,430,000	7,849,200	12,279,200
2025	4,645,000	7,622,325	12,267,325
2026	4,880,000	7,384,200	12,264,200
2027-2031	27,930,000	33,221,550	61,151,550
2032-2036	34,445,000	26,418,225	60,863,225
2037-2041	43,235,000	17,327,625	60,562,625
2042-2046	53,595,000	6,640,650	60,235,650
2047-2051	8,400,000	645,000	9,045,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 188,245,000</b>	<b>\$ 123,540,926</b>	<b>\$ 311,785,926</b>

In the bond resolution, the Authority has the following agreement for the benefit of the holders and beneficial owners of the bonds. The Authority is required to observe the agreement for so long as it remains obligated to advance funds to pay the bonds. Under the agreement, the Authority will be obligated to provide certain updated financial information and operational data annually, and timely notice of specified material events, and certain information to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB”). The MSRB has established the Electronic Municipal Market Access (“EMMA”) system.

## **NOTE 6 - CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS**

### **Litigation and Other Contingencies**

The Authority is contingently liable with respect to lawsuits and other claims in the ordinary course of its operations. The settlement of such contingencies under the budgetary process would not materially affect the financial position of the Authority as of September 30, 2021.

## **NOTE 7 – STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY OF ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTIONS**

The Authority entered into an agreement by resolution on October 29, 2013 to participate in the Statewide Interoperability of Electronic Toll Collections with Texas Department of Transportation, Harris County (acting through Harris County Toll Road Authority), North Texas Tollway Authority, and Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority for the collection of tolls from customers. The Fort Bend County Toll Road Authority joined the Authority in this agreement through a Joint Project Agreement with the Authority executed on February 19, 2014.



#### **NOTE 8 – SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

On December 2, 2021, the Authority issued Limited Contract Tax and Subordinate Lien Toll Road Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2021A in the amount of \$138,795,000. Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used to (i) refund a portion of the outstanding Subordinate Lien Bonds, and (ii) pay the costs associated with the issuance of the Bonds.

#### **NOTE 9 – CURRENT GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS**

The following GASB Pronouncements have been issued for the current fiscal year. Neither of these two new standards had an impact on the Authority's financial reporting.

- Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*
- Statement No. 98, *The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report*



**OTHER INFORMATION (Unaudited)**

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION (DEFICIT)**  
**LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS**  
*(Unaudited)*

	Fiscal Year			
	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Operating Revenues</b>				
Toll revenue	\$ 6,770,539	\$ 18,731,285	\$ 24,172,876	\$ 24,499,686
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u>6,770,539</u>	<u>18,731,285</u>	<u>24,172,876</u>	<u>24,499,686</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Salaries and personnel costs				136,494
Fees	2,904,328	6,611,204	7,803,111	7,227,543
Utilities	91,291	127,972	125,849	120,697
Depreciation	1,689,028	3,446,142	3,491,183	3,684,131
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<u>4,684,647</u>	<u>10,185,318</u>	<u>11,420,143</u>	<u>11,168,865</u>
<b>Operating Income</b>	2,085,892	8,545,967	12,752,733	13,330,821
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>				
Earnings on investments	81,124	67,869	113,113	218,294
Federal Reimbursements				
Interest on long-term debt	(6,627,219)	(6,627,220)	(6,627,219)	(6,627,219)
Debt service fees	(5,500)	(11,000)	(5,500)	(5,500)
<b>Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<u>(6,551,595)</u>	<u>(6,570,351)</u>	<u>(6,519,606)</u>	<u>(6,414,425)</u>
<b>Income (Expense) before Contributions</b>	(4,465,703)	1,975,616	6,233,127	6,916,396
Capital Contributions		514,034		1,362,346
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	(4,465,703)	2,489,650	6,233,127	8,278,742
<b>Total Net (Deficit), Beginning of Year</b>	<u>(11,379,994)</u>	<u>(15,845,697)</u>	<u>(13,356,047)</u>	<u>(7,122,920)</u>
<b>Total Net (Deficit), Ending of Year</b>	<u>\$ (15,845,697)</u>	<u>\$ (13,356,047)</u>	<u>\$ (7,122,920)</u>	<u>\$ 1,155,822</u>

Fiscal Year			
2018	2019	2020	2021
\$ 21,966,357	\$ 26,449,201	\$ 23,756,322	\$ 27,650,789
21,966,357	26,449,201	23,756,322	27,650,789
139,482	114,662	86,980	76,849
9,895,147	5,832,058	7,206,385	7,074,593
115,724	116,455	113,917	121,207
4,021,501	4,221,140	4,229,269	4,257,626
14,171,854	10,284,315	11,636,551	11,530,275
7,794,503	16,164,886	12,119,771	16,120,514
336,088	672,761	421,718	87,472
28,802	268,810		
(6,627,220)	(6,627,220)	(6,627,220)	(7,179,950)
(5,500)	(5,500)	(5,500)	(5,500)
(6,267,830)	(5,691,149)	(6,211,002)	(7,097,978)
1,526,673	10,473,737	5,908,769	9,022,536
3,236,000		273,688	2,381,761
4,762,673	10,473,737	6,182,457	11,404,297
1,155,822	5,918,495	16,392,232	22,574,689
\$ 5,918,495	\$ 16,392,232	\$ 22,574,689	\$ 33,978,986

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**REVENUES BY TOLL ROAD COMPONENTS/SEGMENTS**  
**LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS**  
*(Unaudited)*

<b>Components/Segments</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>			
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016*</b>	<b>2017</b>
Grand Parkway	\$ 6,689,707	\$16,983,097	\$	\$
Sienna Parkway (a)	(200,690)	(300,429)		
Bellaire - Northbound			1,856,954	2,033,362
Bellaire - Southbound			1,845,352	2,024,319
Harlem - Northbound			1,516,104	1,616,366
Harlem - Southbound			1,577,045	1,686,924
New Territory - Northbound			1,120,061	1,222,585
New Territory - Southbound			1,203,058	1,295,064
Riverpark Ramp - Northbound			1,045,250	1,137,137
Riverpark Ramp - Southbound			1,174,603	1,257,199
US 90A - Northbound			1,033,396	1,164,469
US 90A - Southbound			1,024,892	1,150,704
West Bellfort - Northbound			1,448,539	1,591,834
West Bellfort - Southbound			1,474,809	1,630,903
Westpark - Northbound			1,872,678	2,124,334
Westpark - Southbound			1,859,523	2,163,918
<b>Total Gross Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 6,489,017</b>	<b>\$16,682,668</b>	<b>\$20,052,264</b>	<b>\$22,099,118</b>
<b>Revenue not Allocated Due to Timing Differences:</b>				
Credit Tolls and Toll Replacement	(35)	(427)		
Toll Violations	281,557	2,049,044	4,120,612	2,400,568
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 6,770,539</b>	<b>\$18,731,285</b>	<b>\$24,172,876</b>	<b>\$24,499,686</b>

(a) Due to software issues Sienna Parkway revenue was included in the Grand Parkway revenue totals. The amount reported here is an allocation to Fort Bend County Toll Road.

\* Effective FY 2016 revenues by Toll Plaza are allocated based on the Traffic Count table on pages 24 and 25.

Fiscal Year			
2018	2019	2020	2021
\$	\$	\$	\$
2,009,878	2,365,191	2,105,341	2,358,163
2,004,193	2,304,011	2,066,465	2,291,846
1,557,164	1,774,259	1,495,445	1,677,899
1,613,921	1,826,075	1,536,060	1,697,744
1,074,548	1,388,327	1,293,648	1,446,491
1,293,778	1,420,009	1,263,039	1,406,320
996,512	1,279,915	1,217,866	1,386,062
1,096,430	1,334,714	1,185,018	1,298,543
1,074,359	1,330,759	1,213,206	1,377,106
1,028,604	1,275,782	1,135,087	1,267,440
1,567,537	1,854,245	1,664,051	1,899,409
1,567,088	1,832,197	1,627,792	1,817,708
1,980,690	2,224,368	1,993,334	2,198,482
1,977,334	2,213,687	1,956,145	2,152,206
<u>\$20,842,036</u>	<u>\$24,423,539</u>	<u>\$21,752,497</u>	<u>\$24,275,419</u>
1,124,321	2,025,662	2,003,825	3,375,370
<u><u>\$21,966,357</u></u>	<u><u>\$26,449,201</u></u>	<u><u>\$23,756,322</u></u>	<u><u>\$27,650,789</u></u>

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**TRAFFIC COUNT TABLE**  
**LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS**  
*(Unaudited)*

<b>Components/Segments</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>			
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016*</b>	<b>2017</b>
Grand Parkway	18,402,235	45,662,279		
Sienna Parkway (a)	(552,555)	(762,257)		
Bellaire - Northbound			5,317,818	5,664,581
Bellaire - Southbound			5,284,594	5,639,389
Harlem - Northbound			4,341,716	4,502,907
Harlem - Southbound			4,516,235	4,699,467
New Territory - Northbound			3,207,553	3,405,903
New Territory - Southbound			3,445,235	3,607,817
Riverpark Ramp - Northbound			2,993,315	3,167,861
Riverpark Ramp - Southbound			3,363,749	3,502,330
US 90A - Northbound			2,959,369	3,244,001
US 90A - Southbound			2,935,015	3,205,654
West Bellfort - Northbound			4,148,226	4,434,564
West Bellfort - Southbound			4,223,458	4,543,404
Westpark - Northbound			5,362,848	5,918,013
Westpark - Southbound			5,325,171	6,028,292
<b>Total Transactions</b>	<b>17,849,680</b>	<b>44,900,022</b>	<b>57,424,302</b>	<b>61,564,183</b>

(a) Due to software issues Sienna Parkway transactions were included in the Grand Parkway total. The amount reported here is an allocation to Fort Bend County Toll Road.

\* Effective FY 2016 a system upgrade allowed for more detailed transactional data.



Fiscal Year			
2018	2019	2020	2021
6,013,056	6,346,579	5,613,789	6,238,461
5,996,046	6,182,415	5,510,123	6,063,023
4,658,647	4,760,916	3,987,528	4,438,840
4,828,452	4,899,956	4,095,826	4,491,340
3,214,782	3,725,334	3,449,446	3,826,655
3,870,661	3,810,347	3,367,830	3,720,385
2,981,317	3,434,431	3,247,379	3,666,793
3,280,246	3,581,474	3,159,790	3,435,263
3,214,215	3,570,861	3,234,953	3,643,100
3,077,328	3,423,339	3,026,653	3,352,982
4,689,681	4,975,545	4,437,107	5,024,839
4,688,338	4,916,383	4,340,424	4,808,701
5,925,732	5,968,705	5,315,123	5,816,031
5,915,691	5,940,044	5,215,961	5,693,607
62,354,192	65,536,329	58,001,932	64,220,020

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
**HISTORICAL TOLL ROAD OPERATING RESULTS AND COVERAGES**  
**LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS**  
*(Unaudited)*

Fiscal Year Ending	Project Revenues	Other Earnings	O & M Expenses	Revenues Available for Unlimited Subordinate Lien Tax Bonds	Debt Service Bonds	Coverage Ratio on Unlimited Subordinate Lien Tax Bonds
2014	\$ 6,770,539	\$ 81,124	\$ 2,995,619	\$ 3,856,044	\$ 7,185,700	0.537
2015	18,731,285	232,144	6,903,451	12,059,978	7,191,200	1.677
2016	24,172,876	113,113	7,928,960	16,357,029	7,185,700	2.276
2017	24,499,686	218,294	7,484,734	17,233,246	7,185,700	2.398
2018	21,966,357	336,088	10,150,353	12,152,092	7,185,700	1.691
2019	26,449,201	672,761	6,063,175	21,058,787	7,185,700	2.931
2020	23,756,322	421,718	7,407,282	16,770,758	7,185,701	2.334
2021	27,650,789	87,472	7,272,649	20,465,612	7,154,950	2.860

**FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**  
***TOLL RATE SCHEDULE***  
***(Unaudited)***

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Toll Rate Schedule Effective as of January 1, 2020

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Two-Axle Vehicles

Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$ 0.39-0.54
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Three to Six Axle Vehicles

Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$ 0.78-2.12
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Toll Rate Schedule Effective as of January 1, 2021

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Two-Axle Vehicles

Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$ 0.40-0.55
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Three to Six Axle Vehicles

Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$ 0.80-2.15
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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL  
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT  
OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Board of Directors  
Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority  
Fort Bend County, Texas

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 Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority (the "Authority"), a component unit of Fort Bend County, Texas, as of and for the year ended , and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 18, 2022.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

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

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

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

To the Board of Directors  
Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority  
Fort Bend County, Texas

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority'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 financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Whitley Penn LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Houston, Texas  
March 18, 2022