# FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended September 30, 2020



Prepared by:

Fort Bend County Auditor's Office

Robert Ed Sturdivant, CPA

**County Auditor** 

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#### **COUNTY AUDITOR**

Fort Bend County, Texas

Robert Ed Sturdivant
County Auditor

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March 17, 2021

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, 2020. 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, 2020. 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 experience a thriving real estate market however the fiscal impact of the Pandemic to the business community for fiscal year 2020 is still being assessed. 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 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.

#### 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.







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#### 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 September 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's 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 opinion 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 opinion.



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 September 30, 2020, 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 opinion 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 10, 2021, 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 10, 2021

Whitley tenn LLP

# 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, 2020. 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 \$22,574,689 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

The following table provides a summary of the Authority's net position at September 30, 2020 and 2019:

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

September 30, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
Current and other assets Capital assets, net Total Assets	\$ 42,383,657 152,458,874 194,842,531	\$ 34,441,856 153,785,569 188,227,425
Long-term liabilities Other liabilities Total Liabilities	169,416,411 2,851,431 172,267,842	169,969,392 1,865,801 171,835,193
Net Position: Net investment in capital assets Restricted	(16,957,537) 4,221,841	(12,556,157)
Unrestricted <b>Total Net Position</b>	35,310,385 \$ 22,574,689	28,948,389 \$ 16,392,232

As of September 30, 2020, the Authority had a negative net investment in capital assets of \$16,957,537. 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. The remaining balance of \$35,310,385 is unrestricted.

The following table provides a summary of the Authority's operations for the years ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

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

For the years ended September 30, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
Revenues		
Operating revenues: Toll revenue	\$ 23,756,322	\$ 26,449,201
Non-operating revenues: Earnings on investments Miscellaneous income	421,718	672,761 268,810
Total Revenues	24,178,040	27,390,772
Expenses		
Operating expenses:		
Salaries and personnel costs	86,980	114,662
Fees and supplies	7,206,385	5,832,058
Utilities	113,917	116,455
Depreciation	4,229,269	4,221,140
Non-operating expenses:		
Interest on long-term debt	6,627,220	6,627,220
Debt service fees	5,500	5,500
Total Expenses	18,269,271	16,917,035
Net Income before Contributions	5,908,769	10,473,737
Capital contributions	273,688	
Change in Net Position	6,182,457	10,473,737
Net Position, Beginning	16,392,232	5,918,495
Net Position, Ending	\$ 22,574,689	\$ 16,392,232

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Authority reported a positive balance in net position of \$22,574,689.

The Authority's revenues were sufficient to cover all expenses incurred during the year ended September 30, 2020, resulting in an increase in net position of \$6,182,457. This increase is down from last year's increase of \$10,473,737 by \$4,291,280. The key elements of this difference in the change in net position were due to the following:

- Decrease in toll revenue of \$2,692,879 primarily due to decreased utilization resulting from the pandemic.
- Increase in fees and supplies of \$1,374,327 due to an increase in non-capital construction costs.

#### **Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

Capital Assets - At the end of fiscal year 2020, the Authority had invested in land, toll road construction in progress, infrastructure, and office furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation, as reflected in the following schedule. This represents a decrease of \$1,326,695 from the previous fiscal year.

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

	2020			2019
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets				
Land	\$	4,845,955	9	4,845,955
Construction in progress		3,000,120		774,916
Other Capital Assets, Net				
Office furniture and equipment				1,496
Buildings, facilities and improvements		19,656		21,969
Infrastructure		144,593,143		148,141,233
Totals	\$	152,458,874	\$	5 153,785,569

The decrease in construction in progress and increase in infrastructure was primarily the result of the completion of the Traffic Surveillance Cameras project.

**Long-Term Debt** – At the end of the current fiscal year, the Authority had total bonds outstanding of \$155,085,000.

#### LONG-TERM DEBT

	2020	2019
Revenue bonds	\$ 155,085,000	\$ 155,085,000
Premium on bonds	14,331,411	14,884,392
Totals	\$ 169,416,411	\$ 169,969,392

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.

#### **Economic Factors**

The population of the County is estimated at 831,870 in 2020 and is expected to grow to 960,690 by 2025.

The number of households has increased to 256,710 in 2020 and is expected to grow to 292,200 by 2025. Mean household income for 2020 is \$209,706 and is estimated to rise to \$251,996 by 2025. Income per capita is currently at \$68,959 and is expected to grow to \$82,644 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** 

# STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

September 30, 2020

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 38,648,644
Miscellaneous receivables	3,735,013
Capital assets, not subject to depreciation	7,846,075
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	144,612,799
Total Assets	194,842,531
	-
Liabilities	
Due to primary government	2,187,187
Retainage payable	65,894
Accrued interest payable	598,350
Long-term liabilities due within one year	1,230,000
Long-term liabilities due in more than one year	168,186,411
Total Liabilities	172,267,842
Net Position	
Net investment in capital assets	(16,957,537)
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	
Debt service	4,221,841
Unrestricted	35,310,385
<b>Total Net Position</b>	\$ 22,574,689

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

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSTION For the Year Ended September 30, 2020

Operating Revenues				
Toll revenue	\$	23,756,322		
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	23,756,3			
Operating Expenses				
Salaries and personnel costs		86,980		
Fees and supplies		7,206,385		
Utilities		113,917		
Depreciation		4,229,269		
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>		11,636,551		
Operating Income		12,119,771		
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)				
Earnings on investments		421,718		
Interest on long-term debt		(6,627,220)		
Debt service fees		(5,500)		
<b>Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>		(6,211,002)		
Income (Expense) Before Contributions		5,908,769		
Capital contributions		273,688		
Change in Net Position		6,182,457		
Net Position, Beginning of Year		16,392,232		
Net Position, End of Year	\$	22,574,689		

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

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended September 30, 2020

Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Receipts from tolls and other	\$ 24,476,305
Payments to suppliers	(7,407,282)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	17,069,023
Cash Flows from Investing Activities	
Interest earned on investments	421,718
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	421,718
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities	
Purchase of capital assets	(2,902,574)
Capital contributions	273,688
Increase in retention payable	65,894
Loan from primary government	919,736
Interest and fees paid on long-term debt	(7,185,701)
Net Cash (Used) by Capital and Related Financing Activities	(8,828,957)
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	8,661,784
Net increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	0,001,704
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year	29,986,860
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year	29,986,860
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	29,986,860
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year  Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash	29,986,860
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year  Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash  Provided by Operating Activities	29,986,860 \$ 38,648,644
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year  Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities  Operating Income	29,986,860 \$ 38,648,644
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year  Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities  Operating Income Adjustments to operations:	29,986,860 \$ 38,648,644 \$ 12,119,771
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year  Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities  Operating Income Adjustments to operations: Depreciation	29,986,860 \$ 38,648,644 \$ 12,119,771
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year  Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year  Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities  Operating Income Adjustments to operations: Depreciation Change in assets and liabilities:	29,986,860 \$ 38,648,644 \$ 12,119,771 4,229,269

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 17, 2021, 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, 2020 the Authority reported deposits in the amount of \$8,943,205. 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, 2020.

#### **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:

	Maximum
Investment Type	<b>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, 2020 23.1% 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:

	I	Fair Value	Weighted Average Maturity	Percentage of Total Portfolio
Demand Deposits	\$	8,943,205	1	23.1%
Investment Pools:				
Texas CLASS		24,885,248	56	64.4%
Wells Fargo Government Money Market Fund		4,820,191	37	12.5%
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	38,648,644		
Portfolio weighted average maturity (days)			41	

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, 2020, 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, 2020 is as follows:

	Balances			<b>Balances</b>
	10/1/19	Increases	Decreases	9/30/20
<b>Business-type Activities:</b>				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 4,845,955	\$	\$	\$ 4,845,955
Construction in progress	774,916	2,902,574	(677,370)	3,000,120
Total capital assets not depreciated	5,620,871	2,902,574	(677,370)	7,846,075
Other capital assets:				
Office furniture and equipment	14,951			14,951
Buildings, facilities and improvements	23,125			23,125
Infrastructure	168,679,748	677,370		169,357,118
Total other capital assets	168,717,824	677,370		169,395,194
Accumulated depreciation for:				
Office furniture and equipment	(13,455)	(1,496)		(14,951)
Buildings, facilities and improvements	(1,156)	(2,313)		(3,469)
Infrastructure	(20,538,515)	(4,225,460)		(24,763,975)
Total accumulated depreciation	(20,553,126)	(4,229,269)		(24,782,395)
Other capital assets, net	148,164,698	(3,551,899)		144,612,799
Total capital assets	\$ 153,785,569	\$ (649,325)	\$ (677,370)	\$ 152,458,874

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, 2020 are as follows:

	Construction			
	In Progress		Cor	mmitments
Dedicated Fiber	\$	390,324	\$	25,000
Peek Road Overpass		304,434		32,869
West Airport South Bound Exit Ramp		140,620		
ITS System		41,865		
Harlem to Mason Aux Lane		124,831		1,738
3rd Lane on Frontage Road		1,561,137		179,546
West Airport Northbound Ramps		280,870		3,912
West Airport U-Turns		156,039		2,173
Total	\$ 3,000,120 \$ 245,2			245,238

#### **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. The following is a summary of the outstanding subordinate lien bonds as of September 30, 2020:

Original Issue	<b>Description</b>	Interest Rate %	Matures	Debt Outs tanding
Revenue Bonds				
\$ 155,085,000	Limited Contract Tax and Subordinate Lien Toll Road Revenue Bonds, Series 2012	3.00 - 5.00	2046	\$ 155,085,000
	Total Revenue Bonds			\$ 155,085,000

A summary of the long-term liability transactions of the Authority for the year ended September 30, 2020 is as follows:

	Balances			Balances	Amounts Due Within One
	10/1/19	Additions	Retirements	9/30/20	Year
Revenue bonds	\$ 155,085,000	\$	\$	\$ 155,085,000	\$ 1,230,000
Premium on bonds	14,884,392		(552,981)	14,331,411	
Totals	\$ 169,969,392	\$	\$ (552,981)	\$ 169,416,411	\$ 1,230,000

Annual debt service requirements to maturity are summarized as follows:

<u>-</u>	Principal		<u>Interest</u>		 Totals
2021	\$ 1,230,000		\$	7,149,450	\$ 8,379,450
2022	2,460,000			7,057,200	9,517,200
2023	3,575,000			6,906,325	10,481,325
2024	3,750,000			6,723,200	10,473,200
2025	3,930,000			6,531,200	10,461,200
2026-2030	22,585,000			29,578,675	52,163,675
2031-2035	27,785,000			24,101,075	51,886,075
2036-2040	35,270,000			16,312,500	51,582,500
2041-2045	44,490,000			6,768,375	51,258,375
2046	10,010,000			200,200	 10,210,200
Totals	\$ 155,085,000		\$	111,328,200	\$ 266,413,200

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, 2020.

#### 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.

**OTHER INFORMATION (Unaudited)** 

FORT BEND GRAND PARKWAY

 $STATEMENT\ OF\ REVENUES, EXPENSES\ AND\ CHANGES\ IN\ NET\ POSITION\ (DEFICIT)$   $LAST\ SEVEN\ FISCAL\ YEARS$ 

(Unaudited)

	Fiscal Year			
	2014	2015	2016	2017
Operating Revenues				
Toll revenue	\$ 6,770,539	\$ 18,731,285	\$ 24,172,876	\$ 24,499,686
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	6,770,539	18,731,285	24,172,876	24,499,686
Operating Expenses				
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
Total Operating Expenses	4,684,647	10,185,318	11,420,143	11,168,865
Operating Income	2,085,892	8,545,967	12,752,733	13,330,821
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)				
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>	(6,551,595)	(6,570,351)	(6,519,606)	(6,414,425)
Income (Expense) before Contributions	(4,465,703)	1,975,616	6,233,127	6,916,396
Capital Contributions		514,034		1,362,346
Change in Net Position	(4,465,703)	2,489,650	6,233,127	8,278,742
Total Net (Deficit), Beginning of Year	(11,379,994)	(15,845,697)	(13,356,047)	(7,122,920)
Total Net (Deficit), Ending of Year	\$ (15,845,697)	\$ (13,356,047)	\$ (7,122,920)	\$ 1,155,822

	Fiscal Year	
2018	2019	2020
\$ 21,966,357	\$ 26,449,201	\$ 23,756,322
21,966,357	26,449,201	23,756,322
139,482	114,662	86,980
9,895,147	5,832,058	7,206,385
115,724	116,455	113,917
4,021,501	4,221,140	4,229,269
14,171,854	10,284,315	11,636,551
7,794,503	16,164,886	12,119,771
336,088	672,761	421,718
28,802	268,810	
(6,627,220)	(6,627,220)	(6,627,220)
(5,500)	(5,500)	(5,500)
(6,267,830)	(5,691,149)	(6,211,002)
1,526,673	10,473,737	5,908,769
3,236,000		273,688
4,762,673	10,473,737	6,182,457
1,155,822	5,918,495	16,392,232
\$ 5,918,495	\$ 16,392,232	\$ 22,574,689

REVENUES BY TOLL ROAD COMPONENTS/SEGMENTS

LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

(Unaudited)

	Fiscal Year				
Components/Segments	2014	2015	2016*	2017	
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	
Total Gross Revenues	\$ 6,489,017	\$16,682,668	\$20,052,264	\$22,099,118	
Revenue not Allocated Due to Timing Differences:					
Credit Tolls and Toll Replacement	(35)	(427)			
Toll Violations	281,557	2,049,044	4,120,612	2,400,568	
Total Revenue	\$ 6,770,539	\$18,731,285	\$24,172,876	\$24,499,686	

<sup>(</sup>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.

<sup>\*</sup> Effective FY2016 revenues by Toll Plaza are allocated based on the Traffic Count table on pages 24 and 25.

	Fiscal Year	
2018	2019	2020
\$	\$	\$
2,009,878	2,365,191	2,105,341
2,004,193	2,304,011	2,066,465
1,557,164	1,774,259	1,495,445
1,613,921	1,826,075	1,536,060
1,074,548	1,388,327	1,293,648
1,293,778	1,420,009	1,263,039
996,512	1,279,915	1,217,866
1,096,430	1,334,714	1,185,018
1,074,359	1,330,759	1,213,206
1,028,604	1,275,782	1,135,087
1,567,537	1,854,245	1,664,051
1,567,088	1,832,197	1,627,792
1,980,690	2,224,368	1,993,334
1,977,334	2,213,687	1,956,145
\$20,842,036	\$24,423,539	\$21,752,497
1,124,321	2,025,662	2,003,825
\$21,966,357	\$26,449,201	\$23,756,322

TRAFFIC COUNT TABLE LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS (Unaudited)

	Fiscal Year			
Components/Segments	2014	2015	2016*	2017
				_
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
•				
Total Transactions	17,849,680	44,900,022	57,424,302	61,564,183

<sup>(</sup>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.

<sup>\*</sup> Effective FY2016 a system upgrade allowed for more detailed transactional data.

Fiscal Year					
2018	2019	2020			
6,013,056	6,346,579	5,613,789			
5,996,046	6,182,415	5,510,123			
4,658,647	4,760,916	3,987,528			
4,828,452	4,899,956	4,095,826			
3,214,782	3,725,334	3,449,446			
3,870,661	3,810,347	3,367,830			
2,981,317	3,434,431	3,247,379			
3,280,246	3,581,474	3,159,790			
3,214,215	3,570,861	3,234,953			
3,077,328	3,423,339	3,026,653			
4,689,681	4,975,545	4,437,107			
4,688,338	4,916,383	4,340,424			
5,925,732	5,968,705	5,315,123			
5,915,691	5,940,044	5,215,961			
62,354,192	65,536,329	58,001,932			

HISTORICAL TOLL ROAD OPERATING RESULTS AND COVERAGES LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

(Unaudited)

				Revenues		Coverage
				Available for		Ratio on
Fiscal				Unlimited	Debt	Unlimited
Year	Project	Other	O & M	Subordinate	Service	Subordinate
Ending	Revenues	Earnings	Expenses	Lien Tax Bonds	Bonds	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

# TOLL RATE SCHEDULE

(Unaudited)

Toll Rate Schedule Effective as of January 1,	2019	
Two-Axle Vehicles Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$	0.39-0.54
Three to Six Axle Vehicles	Φ.	0.50.040
Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$	0.78-2.10
Toll Rate Schedule Effective as of January 1,	2020	
Two-Axle Vehicles Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$	0.39-0.54
Three to Six Axle Vehicles Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road	\$	0.78-2.12



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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 the Fort Bend Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority (the "Authority"), a component unit of Fort Bend County, Texas, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2020, 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 10, 2021.

#### **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) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Purpose of this Report**

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

Whitley Tenn LLP Houston, Texas March 10, 2021