

CITY OF HOPE  
HOPE, NORTH DAKOTA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

CITY OF HOPE  
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CITY OF HOPE  
LIST OF OFFICIALS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

CITY COUNCIL

Office

Mike Harvey  
Mike Severson  
Pat Brown  
Jeff Julison

EMPLOYEES:

Charle Yanez	City Auditor
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**Harold J. Rotunda**  
Certified Public Accountant  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Governing Board  
City of Hope  
Hope, North Dakota

**Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities and each major fund of the City of Hope, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City of Hope's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, business-type activities and each major fund of the City of Hope as of December 31, 2021, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position and the cash flows, where applicable, for the year then ended, in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

**Basis for Opinions**

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of City of Hope and to meet my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinions.

**Emphasis of Matter-Basis of Accounting**

I draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. My opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

## **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the City's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, I:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 City of Hope's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.



- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation in the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about City of Hope's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that I identified during the audit.

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

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, I have also issued reports dated September 30, 2023, on my considerations of the City's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's 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 City's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Fargo, North Dakota  
September 30, 2023

CITY OF HOPE  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets:			
Cash and investments	472,248.10	724,135.25	1,196,383.35
Non-current assets:			
Capital assets (net of accumulated de	2,484,666.88	987,272.85	3,471,939.73
Total Assets	2,956,914.98	1,711,408.10	4,668,323.08
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities:			-
Non-current liabilities			
Due within one year	57,836.00	65,359.00	123,195.00
Due after one year	1,312,590.58	325,463.33	1,638,053.91
Total liabilities	1,370,426.58	390,822.33	1,761,248.91
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net investment capital assets	1,114,240.30	596,450.52	1,710,690.82
Restricted for:			-
Capital projects	13,677.07		13,677.07
Debt service	333,675.31		333,675.31
Unrestricted	124,895.72	724,135.25	849,030.97
Total net position	1,586,488.40	1,320,585.77	2,907,074.17

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

CITY OF HOPE  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

		Program Revenues			Revenue & Change: in net position
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating grants and Contributions	Capital grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
General government	111,110.36	2,310.00			(108,800.36)
Public safety	11,550.00				(11,550.00)
Highways and streets	75,765.40		35,196.65		(40,568.75)
Economic development	107,282.14				(107,282.14)
					-
Interest expense	13,745.00			69,707.34	55,962.34
					-
Total Governmental Activities	319,452.90	2,310.00	35,196.65	69,707.34	(212,238.91)
Business-type activities					
Water and sewer	114,072.31	150,091.93			36,019.62
Light & power	389,147.13	396,353.36			7,206.23
Garbage	27,099.00	29,626.09			2,527.09
Debt	14,189.72	33,586.19			19,396.47
					-
					-
Total Business-type activities	544,508.16	609,657.57	-	-	65,149.41
Total	863,961.06	611,967.57	35,196.65	69,707.34	(147,089.50)

	Governmental	Business-type	Total
Net expense	(212,238.91)	65,149.41	(147,089.50)
General Revenues			
Property taxes	70,259.31		70,259.31
Sales taxes	108,388.16		108,388.16
State aid	45,451.41		45,451.41
Interest	1,773.10	1,516.09	3,289.19
Other	13,750.53	-	13,750.53
Total General Revenues	239,622.51	1,516.09	241,138.60
Transfers in (out)	-	-	-
Change in Net Position	27,383.60	66,665.50	94,049.10
Net Position- January 1	1,559,104.80	1,253,920.28	2,813,025.08
Net Position- December 31	1,586,488.40	1,320,585.78	2,907,074.18

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



CITY OF HOPE  
BALANCE SHEET- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

	GENERAL	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	SPECIAL REVENUE	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
ASSETS					
Cash and investments	52,831.57	333,675.31	13,677.07	72,064.15	472,248.10
Total Assets	52,831.57	333,675.31	13,677.07	72,064.15	472,248.10
LIABILITIES					-
Total liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE					
Restricted for					-
Capital projects			13,677.07		13,677.07
Debt service		333,675.31			333,675.31
Assigned for General Government				72,064.15	72,064.15
Unassigned	52,831.57	-			52,831.57
Total fund balance	52,831.57	333,675.31	13,677.07	72,064.15	472,248.10
Total liabilities and fund balance	52,831.57	333,675.31	13,677.07	72,064.15	472,248.10

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

CITY OF HOPE  
 RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE  
 SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
 DECEMBER 31, 2021

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds	472,248.10
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Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in governmental funds

Cost of capital assets	3,395,557.85	
Less accumulated depreciation	910,890.97	
Net capital assets		2,484,666.88

Long-term liabilities applicable to the District's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities- both current and long-term are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at year end are:

Bonds payable	(440,000.00)
IRF note payable	(881,874.25)
Notes payable	(48,552.33)

Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	1,586,488.40
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF HOPE  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES- GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

	GENERAL	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	SPECIAL REVENUE	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Property taxes	61,128.39	-		9,130.92	70,259.31
Sales taxes			-	108,388.16	108,388.16
Special Assessments		69,707.34		-	69,707.34
Intergovernmental	60,865.00			19,783.06	80,648.06
Interest	1,773.10				1,773.10
Charges for services	5,250.00		-		5,250.00
Other	10,810.53	-	-	-	10,810.53
Total Revenues	139,827.02	69,707.34	-	137,302.14	346,836.50
Current:					
General government	107,520.83			3,589.70	111,110.53
Public safety	11,550.00				11,550.00
Highways and streets	8,776.85				8,776.85
Economic development			-	107,282.14	107,282.14
Other capital outlays			820,740.96	-	820,740.96
Debt Service					
Principal	16,517.00	40,000.00		-	56,517.00
Interest expense		13,745.00		-	13,745.00
Total Expenditures	144,364.68	53,745.00	820,740.96	110,871.84	1,129,722.48
Excess revenues (expenditures)	(4,537.66)	15,962.34	(820,740.96)	26,430.30	(782,885.98)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfers in	-	-		-	-
Transfers out	-			-	-
Debt proceeds		-	881,874.25	-	881,874.25
Total other financing sources and uses	-	-	881,874.25	-	881,874.25
Net change in fund balances	(4,537.66)	15,962.34	61,133.29	26,430.30	98,988.27
Fund Balance- January 1	57,369.23	317,712.97	(47,456.22)	45,633.85	373,259.83
Fund Balance- December 31	52,831.57	333,675.31	13,677.07	72,064.15	472,248.10

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

CITY OF HOPE  
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

Net Change in Fund Balances- Total Governmental Funds	98,988.27
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The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current year.

Current year capital outlay	820,740.96	
Current year depreciation expense	66,988.55	753,752.41

Issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. In the current period these amounts are:

Debt issued, net of related premiums and discounts	(881,874.25)
Principal retirement	56,517.17
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Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	27,383.60
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CITY OF HOPE  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Water & Sewer	Light & Power	Sanitation	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current assets:				
Cash, cash equivalents and investments	326,261.75	382,874.53	14,999.01	724,135.29
Current assets:				
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	987,272.85			987,272.85
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,313,534.60</b>	<b>382,874.53</b>	<b>14,999.01</b>	<b>1,711,408.14</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Current liabilities:				
Non-current liabilities:				
Due within one year	64,408.78			64,408.78
Due after one year	326,413.55			326,413.55
	-			-
	-			-
	-			-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>390,822.33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>390,822.33</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>				
Net Investment in capital assets	596,450.52			596,450.52
Restricted for:				
Capital projects				
Debt service				
Unrestricted	326,261.75	382,874.53	14,999.01	724,135.29
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>922,712.27</b>	<b>382,874.53</b>	<b>14,999.01</b>	<b>1,320,585.81</b>

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



CITY OF HOPE  
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Water & Sewer	Light & Power	Sanitation	Total
OPERATING REVENUE				
Charges for services	183,678.12	396,353.36	29,626.09	609,657.57
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Salaries	22,386.27	37,327.74	-	59,714.01
Employee benefits	-	-	-	-
Professional fees	178.00	-	-	178.00
Insurance	-	-	-	-
Contract services	33,660.43	329,031.09	27,099.00	389,790.52
Electricity	-	1,590.11	-	1,590.11
Supplies	20.00	-	-	20.00
Repairs and maintenance	20,396.54	12,732.37	-	33,128.91
Office expense	2,832.59	1,774.58	-	4,607.17
Depreciation	34,043.89	-	-	34,043.89
Miscellaneous	554.59	6,691.24	-	7,245.83
Total operating expenses	114,072.31	389,147.13	27,099.00	530,318.44
Operating income (loss)	69,605.81	7,206.23	2,527.09	79,339.13
NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)				
Interest income	-	1,516.09	-	1,516.09
Grant income	-	-	-	-
Interest expense	(14,189.72)	-	-	(14,189.72)
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
Total non-operating rev (exp)	(14,189.72)	1,516.09	-	(12,673.63)
Income (loss) before transfers	55,416.09	8,722.32	2,527.09	66,665.50
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Change in Net Position	55,416.09	8,722.32	2,527.09	66,665.50
Net Position- January 1	867,296.15	374,152.21	12,471.92	1,253,920.28
Net Position- December 31	922,712.24	382,874.53	14,999.01	1,320,585.78

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

CITY OF HOPE  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS- MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Water & Sewer	Light & Power	Sanitation	Total
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Receipts from customers	183,678.12	396,353.36	29,626.09	609,657.57
Payments to suppliers	(57,642.15)	(351,819.39)	(27,099.00)	(436,560.54)
Payments to employees	(22,386.27)	(37,327.74)	-	(59,714.01)
Other receipts	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) opera	103,649.70	7,206.23	2,527.09	113,383.02
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Transfers to other funds	-	-	-	-
Transfers from other funds	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) nonca	-	-	-	-
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Purchase of capital assets	-	-	-	-
Principal paid on capital debt	(64,408.78)	-	-	(64,408.78)
Interest paid on capital debt	(14,189.72)	-	-	(14,189.72)
Net cash provided by (used in) capita	(78,598.50)	-	-	(78,598.50)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Interest and dividends	-	1,516.09	-	1,516.09
Net cash provided by (used in) invest	-	1,516.09	-	1,516.09
Net increase (decrease) in cash and ca	25,051.20	8,722.32	2,527.09	36,300.61
Balance- beginning of year	301,210.55	374,152.21	12,471.92	687,834.68
Balance- end of year	326,261.75	382,874.53	14,999.01	724,135.29
<b>Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>				
Operating income (loss)	69,605.81	7,206.23	2,527.09	79,339.13
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:				
Depreciation expense	34,043.89	-	-	34,043.89
Grant income	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous receipts (expense)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by operating activ	103,649.70	7,206.23	2,527.09	113,383.02

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

CITY OF HOPE  
HOPE, NORTH DAKOTA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the City of Hope (City) have been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. The modified cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the City's accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the City. The City has considered all potential component units for which the City is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the City such that exclusion would cause the City's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the City to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the City.

Based on these criteria, there are no component units.

B. BASIS OF PRESENTATION, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Government-wide statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services.



CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the City's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements: Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenses/expenditures. Funds are organized into two major categories: governmental and proprietary. The City currently has no fiduciary funds.

The City reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City and always classified as a major fund. It is used to account for all activities except those legally or administratively required to be accounted for in other funds.

Special Revenue Fund- This fund accounts for financial resources that exist for special purposes. The major sources of revenues is property taxes, sales taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

Capital Projects Funds. Capital project funds are used to account for resources restricted for the acquisition or construction of specific capital projects or items.

Debt Service Fund. Debt funds are used to account for the accumulation of financial resources for the payment of principal and interest on the City's debt. The City annually levies special assessments restricted for the retirement of debt.

The City reports the following major enterprise funds:

Water and sewer- accounts for operating activities of the City's water and sewer utility services.

Light & power- accounts for operating activities of the City's light and power utility services.

Sanitation- accounts for operating activities of the City's sanitation services.

CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

Government-wide Financial Statements. In the government-wide Statement of Net position and the Statement of Activities, activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus, within the limitations of the modified cash basis of accounting as defined below.

In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus or the "economic resources" measurement focus, as applied to the modified cash basis of accounting, is used as appropriate.

All governmental funds utilize a "current financial resources" measurement focus. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their operating statements presents sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. These funds use fund balance as their measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.

The proprietary fund utilizes an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent, financial or nonfinancial) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net position.

In the government-wide Statement of Net position and the Statement of Activities, activities are presented using a modified cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting recognizes assets, liabilities, net position/fund equity, revenues and expenditures when they result from cash transactions with a provision for depreciation in the government-wide statements. This basis is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As a result of the use of this modified cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

If the City utilized the basis of accounting recognized as generally accepted, the fund financial statements for governmental funds would use the modified accrual basis of accounting. All government-wide financial statements would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting.



CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Operating income reported in proprietary fund financial statements includes revenues and expenses related to the primary, continuing operations of the fund. Principal operating revenues for proprietary funds are charges to customers for sales or services. Principal operating expenses are the costs of providing goods or services and include administrative expenses and depreciation of capital assets. Other revenues and expenses are classified as non-operating in the financial statements.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the City funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the City's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, and then by general revenues.

D. Budgets

Based upon available financial information and requests by the city council, the auditor prepares the City budget. The budget is prepared for the general, special revenue, and debt service funds on the modified cash basis of accounting. The budget includes the proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end.

City taxes must be levied by the governing board on or before the seventh day of October. The taxes levied must be certified to the County auditor by October 10. The governing body of the City may amend its tax levy and budget for the current fiscal year on or before the tenth day of October of each year, but the certification must be filed with the County auditor by October 10. The current budget, except for property taxes, may be amended during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared.

E. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts. Investments consist of certificates of deposits, with a maturity date in excess of 90 days, stated at cost.

CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

F. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Net estimated historical cost was used to value the majority of assets acquired prior to January 1, 2004. Prior to January 1, 2004, governmental funds infrastructure assets were not capitalized. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at 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 not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets of business-type activities is included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment of the City is depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

ASSETS	YEARS
Permanent Buildings	50
Vehicles and equipment	10

G. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long term debt and other long term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position. Bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs are recognized in the current period since the amounts are not material.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs in the current period. The face amount of the debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

H. Fund Balance

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report aggregate amounts for five classifications of fund balances based on the constraints imposed on the use of these resources. The non-spendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form - inventories; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.



CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

The spendable portion of the fund balance comprises the remaining four classifications: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

**Restricted** - This classification reflects the constraints imposed on resources either (a) externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

**Committed** - These amounts can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal resolutions or ordinances of the city council-the City's highest level of decision making authority. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the council removes the specified use by taking the same type of action imposing the commitment. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**Assigned** - This classification reflects the amounts constrained by the City's "intent" to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The council has the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Assigned fund balances include all remaining amounts (except negative balances) that are reported in governmental funds, other than the General Fund, that are not classified as non-spendable and are neither restricted nor committed.

**Unassigned** - This fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. It is also used to report negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, the City's preference is to first use restricted resources, then unrestricted resources-committed, assigned, and unassigned-in order as needed. The council has not set a General Fund minimum fund balance.

#### **Net Position**

Net Position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of the remaining undepreciated cost of the asset less the outstanding debt associated with the purchase or construction of the related asset.

Net position is reported as restricted when external creditors, grantors, or other governmental organizations impose specific restrictions on the City. External restrictions may be imposed through state or local laws, and grant or contract provisions.

CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

I. Interfund Transactions

In the governmental fund statements, transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed.

All other interfund transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers. Nonrecurring or nonroutine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers. In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

J. Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the Other comprehensive basis of accounting (OCBOA) used by the City requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures; accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The Council did not amend the City budget for 2021.

EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS

The City did not overspend the General Fund budget.

NOTE 3 DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, the City maintains deposits at the depository banks designated by the governing board. All depositories are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposit not covered by insurance or bonds.



CITY OF HOPE

Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United State government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal Land Bank bonds, notes, warrants, and certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies, instrumentalities, or by any City, city, township, school district, park district, or other political subdivision of the State of North Dakota whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by another state of the United States, or such other securities approved.

At December 31, 2021, the City's carrying amount of deposits was \$1,196,383. Of the bank balances, \$250,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

Credit Risk

State statutes authorize the City to invest in:(1) Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct obligation of, or an obligation insured or guaranteed by, the treasury of the United States, or its agencies, instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress.(2)Securities sold under agreements to repurchase written by a financial institution in which the underlying securities for the agreement to repurchase are the type listed above.(3)Certificates of Deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation or the state.(4) Obligations of the state.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The City does not have a limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

NOTE 4: PROPERTY TAXES

The County treasurer acts as and agent to collect property taxes levied in the County for all taxing authorities. Any material tax collections are distributed after the end of each month. Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1 and may be paid in two installments. The first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all the special assessments and the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount on property taxes is allowed if all taxes and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed. Most property owners choose to pay property taxes and special assessments in a single payment on or before February 15 and receive the discount on the property taxes.



CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2021:

	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31
Governmental activities				
Construction in progress	47,456	820,741		868,197
Infrastructure	2,248,641			2,248,641
Bldgs and Improvements	197,613			197,613
Vehicles & Equipment	81,107			81,107
Total Cap Assets	2,574,817	820,741		3,395,558
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	602,150	62,881		665,031
Buildings & Improve	197,613			197,613
Vehicles & Equip	44,139	4,107		48,247
Total Accumulated Dep	843,902	66,988		910,891
Total Cap Assets, Net	1,730,914			2,484,667
Business-type activities				
Infrastructure	1,361,755			1,361,755
Bldgs and Improvements	249,999			249,999
Equipment	73,425			73,425
Total Cap Assets	1,685,179			1,685,179
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	340,439	34,044		374,483
Buildings & Improve	249,999			249,999
Equipment	73,425			73,425
Total	663,863	34,044		697,907
Total Cap Assets, Net	1,021,317			987,273

Depreciation Expense was charged to functions/programs of the City as follows:

Governmental Activities:	
Highways and streets	66,988
Business-type activities	
Water and sewer	34,044

NOTE 6: LONG-TERM DEBT

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term debt:

	Payable 2020	Increases	Decreases	Payable 2021	Due Within One Year
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Bonds Payable	480,000		40,000	440,000	40,000
Notes payable	65,070		16,517	48,552	17,836
IRF Notes		881,874		881,874	
TOTAL	561,012	881,874	55,517	1,370,426	

CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

BUSINESS TYPE ACTIVITIES

Bonds Payable	134,231	7,409	126,822	7,359
SRF notes pay	321,000	57,000	264,000	58,000
TOTAL	455,231	64,409	390,822	

Bonds payable consist of the following:

	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding
Refunding imp bonds- 2016	05/01/2014	2.5-4.85%	440,000
Refunding imp bonds- 2017	05/01/2015	2.5-4.85%	126,822

There are a number of limitations and restrictions contained in the various bond indentures. The City is in compliance with all significant limitations and restrictions. Special Assessment bonds are paid directly from debt service sinking funds. Special assessments are certified annually in amounts sufficient to pay debt service requirements. Whenever all special assessments appropriated and collected for a special assessment district are insufficient to pay principal and interest then due on special assessment improvement bonds issued against such improvement district, the city is required to levy a deficiency levy upon all taxable property in the City.

SRF NOTES PAYABLE

The City obtained financing from the State of North Dakota's State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) to finance improvements to the City's utility systems. Details relative to the outstanding notes payable are shown below:

	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES			
Water Treatment-2000	09/01/2025	2.5%	199,000
Water Treatment-2004	09/01/2028	2.5%	<u>65,000</u>
			264,000

IRF NOTES PAYABLE

The City received an Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund for street project. The loan award was for \$1,000,000 and \$881,874 was advanced through December 31, 2021. The loan is for a maximum 30 years at 2%. An amortization schedule will be prepared when the loan is finalized.

	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES			
Refunding improvement-2018	05/01/2051	2.0%	881,874

CITY OF HOPE  
Notes to Financial Statements- Continued

Year Ending	Bonds Payable			
December 31	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2022	47,359	16,132	58,000	6,600
2023	42,332	15,319	59,000	5,150
2024	42,522	14,394	61,000	3,675
2025	42,717	13,148	61,000	2,150
2026	42,919	11,897	10,000	625
2027-2031	217,836	40,230	15,000	500
2032-2036	131,138	7,949		
TOTAL	566,822	119,069	264,000	18,700

The City issued a note payable from the local bank. The bank issued a note to finance the road project. The Note requires annual payments of \$16,955, including interest at 2.35% until November 2024.

2022	16,955
2023	16,955
2024	<u>16,955</u>
	50,865
Less amount representing interest	<u>2,313</u>
Principal balance remaining	48,552

NOTE 7: TRANSFERS

The City did not make any transfers.

NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

The City is exposed to various risks of loss relating to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. In 1986 state agencies and political subdivisions of the State of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The City pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability and automobile insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of one million dollars per occurrence. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the City with blanket fidelity bond coverage for its employees. The State Bonding fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage. The City has workers compensation with the Workforce, Safety and Insurance and purchases commercial insurance for personal property, building, inland marine, and boiler and machinery.

CITY OF HOPE

REPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

DECEMBER 31, 2021

City of Hope  
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# Harold J. Rotunda

Certified Public Accountant

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT 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*

## Independent Auditor's Report

Governing Board  
City of Hope  
Hope, North Dakota

I 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 governmental activities, business-type activities and each major fund of City of Hope as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated September 30, 2023.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered City of Hope'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 my opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the City'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.

My 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. I did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that I consider to be a significant deficiency (2021-001 and 2021-002).

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether City of Hope's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I 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 my audit, and accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **City's Response to Findings**

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the City's response to the finding identified in my audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The City's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on it.

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

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the result 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.

Fargo, North Dakota  
September 30, 2023

CITY OF HOPE  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

**2021-001 Segregation of Duties**

**Criteria**

An appropriate system of internal controls maintains proper segregation of duties to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are handled properly.

**Condition**

The City has one employee who is responsible for most accounting functions. The city auditor collects monies, issues checks, sends checks to vendors, records receipts and disbursements in journals, maintains the general ledger, and prepares financial reports.

**Cause**

The City is subject to size and budget constraints limiting the number of personnel within the accounting department

**Effect**

Lack of segregation of duties leads to a limited degree of internal control.

**Recommendation**

I recommend the City review its internal controls over accounting functions to determine if additional procedures can be implemented that are cost effective. The Board should constantly be aware of the this condition. Compensating controls that mitigate the related risks could be (or are) provided through appropriate oversight of the performance of these functions and review of the financial reports by individuals with knowledge of current operations and accounting principles.

**View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions**

The Council will review its current monitoring functions and determine if any additional monitoring procedures are warranted. However, due to the small size of the City, it is not cost effective for the City to hire additional accounting personnel to address this deficiency.



CITY OF HOPE  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

**2021-002 Financial Statement Preparation**

**Criteria**

An appropriate system of internal controls requires that a City make a determination that financial statements and the underlying general ledger accounts are properly stated in compliance with the modified cash basis of accounting. This requires the City's personnel to maintain a working knowledge of current modified cash basis of accounting required financial statement disclosures.

**Condition**

The City's personnel prepared periodic financial information for internal use that meets the needs of management and the Council. However, the City currently does not prepare the financial statements, including accompanying note disclosures as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The City elected to have the auditor assist in the preparation of the financial statements and notes.

**Cause**

The City elected to not allocate resources for the preparation of the financial statements.

**Effect**

There is an increased risk of material misstatement to the City's financial statements.

**Recommendation**

I recommend the City consider the additional risk of having the auditor assist in the in the preparation of financial statements and note disclosures and consider preparing them in the future. As a compensating control the City should establish an internal control policy to document the annual review of the financial statements and schedules and to review a financial statement disclosure checklist.

**View of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Actions**

The City will continue to have the auditor prepare the financial statements. It is currently not cost-effective for management to perform the preparation.