

Communication with Those Charged with Governance

December 4, 2024

Executive Board
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO) for the year ended June 30, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 11, 2024. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices - Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by YMPO are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. For the year ended June 30, 2024, YMPO implemented the provisions of GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*, which did not have a material effect on YMPO. The application of existing policies was not changed during 2024. We noted no transactions entered into by YMPO during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting Estimates - Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting YMPO's financial statements is the calculation of the net pension obligation and other post-employment benefit obligation and related balances.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no sensitive financial statement disclosures. The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit - We encountered no difficulties in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements - Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no corrected or uncorrected misstatements.

Disagreements with Management - For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations - We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter which is attached to this letter as *Exhibit 1*.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants - In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to YMPO's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues - We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as YMPO's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters - We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and pension schedules, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were not engaged to report on the introductory and statistical sections which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. Such information has 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.

Items for Further Consideration - The following items are for further consideration for those charged with governance.

Timecard Signatures - While testing controls over payroll and performing compliance procedures over grant expenditures we noted that for one out of 74 timecards tested, there was neither an employee nor a supervisor's signature. We recommend that all timecards be signed by both the employee and supervisor.

Information Technology Policies and Procedures - YMPO does not have documented policies and procedures over information technology (IT) security risk or change management. We recommend that YMPO develop policies and procedures that cover IT security risk that include proper training and accountability for all users and periodic review of user access to determine appropriateness and compatibility with their job responsibilities. In addition, we recommend that YMPO develop policies and procedures that address the change management process requiring secondary approval of all changes made within significant systems and establish a post-review of changes to determine that actual changes were limited to only approved changes and systems are functioning as intended.

Restriction on Use - This information is intended solely for the information and use of the governing board and management of YMPO and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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Attachment

**Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organizations
230 West Morrison Street
Yuma, Arizona 85364**

Walker & Armstrong LLP
1850 North Central Avenue, Suite 400
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Exhibit 1

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization (YMPO), which comprise the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, and the disclosures (collectively, the “financial statements”), for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of the date below, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated June 11, 2024, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility 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.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) The methods, significant assumptions, and data used in making accounting estimates and their related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement, or disclosure that is reasonable in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

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- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 7) Adjustments or disclosures have been made for all events, including instances of noncompliance, subsequent to the date of the financial statements that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- 8) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 9) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which YMPO is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

- 10) We have provided you with:
 - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records (including information obtained from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers), documentation, and other matters and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
 - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c) Unrestricted access to persons within YMPO from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
 - d) Minutes of the meetings of YMPO or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 11) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
- 12) We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects YMPO and involves:
 - a) Management,
 - b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
 - c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

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- 14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting YMPO's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 15) We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or waste or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 16) We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation, claims, or assessments or unasserted claims or assessments that are required to be accrued or disclosed in the combined financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and we have not consulted a lawyer concerning litigation, claims, or assessments.
- 17) We have disclosed to you the names of related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions, including any side agreements.

Government—specific

- 18) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 19) We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the objectives of the audit and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 20) We have identified to you any investigations or legal proceedings that have been initiated with respect to the period under audit.
- 21) YMPO has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows or resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance or net position.
- 22) We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts; and legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 23) We have appropriately identified, recorded, and disclosed all leases in accordance with GASBS No. 87.
- 24) We have appropriately identified, recorded, and disclosed subscription-based information technology arrangements in accordance with GASBS No. 96.
- 25) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances of identified and suspected fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 26) There are no violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.

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- 27) As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to this nonaudit service, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the service by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the service performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the service. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
- 28) YMPO has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 29) YMPO has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 30) The financial statements include all component units, appropriately present majority equity interests in legally separate organizations and joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- 31) The financial statements include all fiduciary activities required by GASBS No. 84, as amended.
- 32) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities, in accordance with GASBS No. 34, as amended.
- 33) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASBS Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 34) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 35) Provisions for uncollectible receivables have been properly identified and recorded.
- 36) Expenses have been appropriately classified in, or allocated to, functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 37) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- 38) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
- 39) Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- 40) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated or amortized.

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- 41) We have appropriately disclosed YMPO's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- 42) We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- 43) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- 44) With respect to federal award programs:
 - a) We are responsible for understanding and complying with and have complied with, the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), including requirements relating to preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
 - b) We acknowledge our responsibility for preparing and presenting the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) and related disclosures in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance, and we believe the SEFA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. The methods of measurement or presentation of the SEFA have not changed from those used in the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the SEFA.
 - c) If the SEFA is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the SEFA no later than the date we issue the SEFA and the auditor's report thereon.
 - d) We have identified and disclosed to you all of our government programs and related activities subject to the Uniform Guidance compliance audit, and have included in the SEFA, expenditures made during the audit period for all awards provided by federal agencies in the form of federal awards, federal cost-reimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.

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- e) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with, the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards related to each of our federal programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that are considered to have a direct and material effect on each major program.
- f) We are responsible for establishing, designing, implementing, and maintaining, and have established, designed, implemented, and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that we are managing our federal awards in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a material effect on our federal programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended.
- g) We have made available to you all federal awards (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal agencies or pass-through entities relevant to federal programs and related activities.
- h) We have received no requests from a federal agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- i) We have complied with the direct and material compliance requirements (except for noncompliance disclosed to you), including when applicable, those set forth in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* (including its Addendum), relating to federal awards and confirm that there were no amounts questioned and no known noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements of federal awards.
- j) We have disclosed any communications from federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditor's report.
- k) We have disclosed to you the findings received and related corrective actions taken for previous audits, attestation engagements, and internal or external monitoring that directly relate to the objectives of the compliance audit, including findings received and corrective actions taken from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditor's report.
- l) Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in OMB's Uniform Guidance (2 CFR part 200, subpart E).
- m) We have disclosed to you our interpretation of compliance requirements that may have varying interpretations.
- n) We have made available to you all documentation related to compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.

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- o) We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period affecting noncompliance during the reporting period.
- p) There are no such known instances of noncompliance with direct and material compliance requirements that occurred subsequent to the period covered by the auditor's report.
- q) No changes have been made in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control over compliance, subsequent to the period covered by the auditor's report.
- r) Federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the financial statements have been prepared.
- s) The copies of federal program financial reports provided you are true copies of the reports submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
- t) We have charged costs to federal awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- u) We are responsible for and have ensured the reporting package does not contain protected personally identifiable information.
- v) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the auditee section of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance.

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

Signed by:
Crystal Figueroa
DAC5525705E148B

Crystal Figueroa, Executive Director

Signed by:
Lourdes Lopez
2197C34C188C421

Lourdes Lopez, Accountant II / Executive Assistant

12/4/2024

Date