STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of the State Auditor

Rebecca Otto
State Auditor

COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

Description of the Office of the State Auditor

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 150 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

Audit Practice - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

Government Information - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

Legal/Special Investigations - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

Pension - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 650 public pension funds; and

Tax Increment Financing - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

Year Ended December 31, 2016

Audit Practice Division
Office of the State Auditor
State of Minnesota

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COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

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Introductory Section

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COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

ORGANIZATION
DECEMBER 31, 2016

Affiliate	Member	Alternate
Anoka County	Matt Look Scott Schulte	Mike Gamache
Dakota County	Thomas A. Egan Nancy Schouweiler	Mary Liz Holberg
Hennepin County	Peter McLaughlin[1] Mike Opat	Marion Greene
Ramsey County	Jim McDonough[3] Rafael Ortega	Victoria Reinhardt
Washington County	Lisa Weik[2] Karla Bigham	
Metropolitan Council	Adam Duininck	Lona Schreiber

[1]Chair
[2]Vice Chair
[3]Secretary/Treasurer

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Financial Section

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Joint Powers Board
Counties Transit Improvement Board
Metropolitan Transportation Area, Minnesota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the CTIB's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from 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 the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the CTIB'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 CTIB's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the Counties Transit Improvement Board as of December 31, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter - Going Concern

As discussed in Note 3.C. to the financial statements, on June 21, 2017, the Counties Transit Improvement Board passed a resolution for the voluntary dissolution of the entity's joint powers agreement. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and Required Supplementary Information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not 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.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

August 31, 2017

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Unaudited)

This section presents management's analysis of the Counties Transit Improvement Board's (CTIB) financial condition and activities for the year ended December 31, 2016. This information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- At December 31, 2016, the assets of the CTIB exceeded its liabilities by $196,633,732 (net position).

- The CTIB's total net position, as reported in the Statement of Activities, increased by $46,263,443 during the year ended December 31, 2016. This increase was primarily due to smaller than anticipated disbursements of capital and operating grants, as well as slightly higher than budgeted sales tax proceeds.

- The General Fund's fund balance increased by $41,736,652, or 17.1 percent, from the prior year.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) serves as an introduction to the financial statements. The MD&A represents management's examination and analysis of the CTIB's financial condition and performance. Summary financial statement data, key financial and operational indicators used in the CTIB's operating budget, and other management tools were used for this analysis.

The financial statements combine fund level financial statements and government-wide financial statements. The CTIB reports one governmental fund, which is reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting, while the government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting.

SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION AND BUSINESS

The CTIB was established April 1, 2008, under a joint powers agreement in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 297A.992. The CTIB is governed by an 11-member Board composed of two County Commissioner representatives appointed by each of the County Boards of Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington Counties, and the Chair of the Metropolitan Council. Each county also appoints an alternate member. Its purpose is to facilitate investment in transitways, to collaboratively plan and develop policies for transit investments, to advocate for state and federal funding and transportation policies supportive of transitways, and to provide information to the public regarding its activities. The Board is organized with a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary elected each year.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net Position

The CTIB's total net position was $196,633,732 on December 31, 2016. (See Table A-1.)

Table A-1
Net Position
December 31

	2016	2015	Percent (%) Change
Assets			
Current assets	$ 287,833,593	$ 245,672,183	17.2
Liabilities			
Current liabilities	$ 2,561,861	$ 2,154,394	18.9
Noncurrent liabilities	88,638,000	93,147,500	(4.8)
Total Liabilities	$ 91,199,861	$ 95,301,894	(4.3)
Net Position			
Restricted for			
Grants to member agencies	$ 192,114,949	$ 150,029,759	28.1
Unrestricted	4,518,783	340,530	1,227.0
Total Net Position	$ 196,633,732	$ 150,370,289	30.8

The CTIB's net position as of December 31, 2016, as well as sales and excise taxes to be received in future years, are all ultimately designated for transitway capital and operating grants, as well as the administrative costs associated with the grant-making process as required by the state statutes authorizing the taxes that provide the CTIB's revenues (Minn. Stat. § 297A.992).

Changes in Net Position

The CTIB's net position increased $46,263,443 during the year ended December 31, 2016. See Table A-2 for the details of this change.

Table A-2
Change in Net Position
Governmental Activities

	2016	2015	Percent (%) Change
Revenues			
Sales and excise taxes	$ 120,136,402	$ 117,567,042	2.2
Intergovernmental	1,701,614	105,000	1,520.6
Investment earnings	2,621,941	23,488	11,062.9
Rail~Volution contributions	-	10,000	(100.0)
Total Revenues	$ 124,459,957	$ 117,705,530	5.7
Expenses			
Current			
Administration	$ 1,172,102	$ 975,307	20.2
Intergovernmental			
Grants to member agencies	73,259,759	84,397,191	(13.2)
Debt service			
Interest	3,764,653	3,928,244	(4.2)
Total Expenses	$ 78,196,514	$ 89,300,742	(12.4)
Change in Net Position	$ 46,263,443	$ 28,404,788	62.9
Net Position - January 1	150,370,289	121,965,501	23.3
Net Position - December 31	$ 196,633,732	$ 150,370,289	30.8

Revenues

The primary source of funding for the CTIB is a one-quarter of one percent sales and use tax. This tax was imposed on July 1, 2008, by each of the member counties as a requirement for joining the CTIB. The tax is on the same goods and services as the State of Minnesota general sales tax. It does not include the sale of motor vehicles. In addition to the sales and use tax, there is a $20 per vehicle tax on the sale of motor vehicles by entities that are in the business of selling motor vehicles. It does not apply to a sale between two private individuals. These taxes are administered and collected by the Minnesota Department of Revenue. The funds, net of collection fees, are transferred directly into the CTIB's trust account by the Minnesota Department of Revenue. The taxes do not flow to the member counties. For the year ending December 31, 2016, the CTIB collected $120,136,402 in net taxes.

Expenses

The CTIB's primary purpose is to advance transit projects within the five-county region. The CTIB is limited to funding engineering, construction, and operations of transitways. The CTIB is also authorized to spend up to three-fourths of one percent of its tax revenues for administrative expenses. The CTIB does not operate or construct transitways, but provides grants to members, the Metropolitan Council, or other political subdivisions. Most of the $73,259,759 of grant money expended in 2016 flowed to the Metropolitan Council for either operating or capital purposes. The CTIB does not have any employees and, as such, contracts out all administrative services.

Budgetary Highlights

- Actual revenues were $7,035,957 more than budgeted. This was primarily due to higher than budgeted sales tax receipts and investment earnings.

- Actual expenditures were $115,792,843 less than the budgeted amount due to significantly lower than anticipated disbursements of transportation grants to member agencies because projects did not advance as rapidly as their sponsors expected.

- Virtually all of the $41.7 million increase in fund balance was planned for under the CTIB's adopted Program of Projects Investment Strategy.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

No new debt was issued by the CTIB during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016.

ECONOMIC AND OTHER FACTORS

The CTIB's tax receipts are dependent on the economic activity of the Twin Cities region. The CTIB Board recognizes the potential variability of the tax receipts and manages its grant spending based upon the most recent sales tax receipts and a cash flow reserve to ensure it can fund its obligations.

DISSOLUTION OF THE CTIB

On May 31, 2017, the CTIB approved Resolution 32-2017 (the "CTIB Resolution") relating to the voluntary dissolution of the joint powers agreement. This action was driven by a number of factors including that the State of Minnesota has not been a reliable funding partner and has become a barrier to progressing new transitway projects in a timely manner, as well as the fact that the 0.25 percent transit sales tax rate is not adequate to fund the CTIB's long-range capital and operating program. The voluntary dissolution of the CTIB means that the 0.25 percent transit sales tax imposed under Minn. Stat. § 297A.992 can be terminated and the counties would then be eligible to impose a new transportation sales and use tax at a rate of up to 0.50 percent and a $20 per vehicle motor vehicle excise tax pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 297A.993 (the "Transportation Sales

Tax”). The Transportation Sales Tax may be used for a broader array of transportation purposes than the transit sales tax, such as roads and bridges. Under the CTIB Resolution, member counties must also agree to assume certain of the CTIB’s capital and operating commitments as are appropriate for each county.

On June 21, 2017, the CTIB approved Resolution 35-2017 (the “Second CTIB Resolution”), which ratified that each member county had taken the actions necessary to end the joint powers agreement and directs the CTIB staff to notify the Minnesota Department of Revenue no later than June 30, 2017, to terminate the transit sales tax effective September 30, 2017.

Hennepin County issued $102,810,000 General Obligation Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2010E (the “2010E Bonds”), on December 22, 2010, for the purpose of providing a loan to the CTIB to make grants to support transit projects in the five member counties. One of the conditions of the CTIB’s dissolution that must be satisfied is the repayment of all outstanding debt or obligations of the CTIB. The CTIB Resolution requires that the CTIB provide funds to pay off its Senior Sales Tax Revenue Note, Series 2010 (the “Note”). That Note secured Hennepin County’s 2010E Bonds, of which $83,605,000 was outstanding at the time of dissolution. On July 31, 2017, the County received and deposited into an escrow account securities and cash from the CTIB in an amount sufficient to pay principal and interest to become due on the 2010E Bonds up to and including the first optional redemption date of December 15, 2019, and then, on December 15, 2019, to pay and redeem the outstanding principal of the 2010E Bonds.

FINANCIAL CONTACT

This financial report is designed to provide an overview for those interested in the CTIB’s finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or additional financial information should be directed to Mary Richardson, CTIB Administrator, 477 Selby Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102.

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BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

EXHIBIT 1

GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2016

	General Fund	Adjustments	Governmental Activities
Assets			
Cash held by Hennepin County	$ 106,904	$ -	$ 106,904
Investments by trustee	273,206,333	-	273,206,333
Reimbursable grants receivable	1,596,614	-	1,596,614
Accrued interest receivable	8,095	-	8,095
Due from other governments	12,815,305	-	12,815,305
Prepaid expense	342	-	342
Advance to other governments	100,000	-	100,000
Total Assets	**$ 287,833,593**	**$ -**	**$ 287,833,593**
Liabilities and Fund Balance/Net Position			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	$ 134,032	$ -	$ 134,032
Due to other governments	2,100,000	-	2,100,000
Accrued interest payable	-	327,829	327,829
Noncurrent liabilities			
Due within one year	-	4,714,500	4,714,500
Due in more than one year	-	83,923,500	83,923,500
Total Liabilities	**$ 2,234,032**	**$ 88,965,829**	**$ 91,199,861**
Fund Balance			
Restricted for grants to member agencies	$ 192,114,949	$ (192,114,949)	
Restricted for debt service	88,965,829	(88,965,829)	
Committed for transportation	1,688,207	(1,688,207)	
Committed for Rail~Volution scholarships	10,415	(10,415)	
Unassigned	2,820,161	(2,820,161)	
Total Fund Balance	**$ 285,599,561**	**$ (285,599,561)**	
Net Position			
Restricted for grants to member agencies		$ 192,114,949	$ 192,114,949
Unrestricted		4,518,783	4,518,783
Total Net Position		**$ 196,633,732**	**$ 196,633,732**
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance/Net Position	**$ 287,833,593**	**$ -**	**$ 287,833,593**

COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

EXHIBIT 1
(Continued)

GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2016

Reconciliation of the General Fund Balance to Net Position		
Fund balance - General Fund	**$**	**285,599,561**
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental fund.		(88,638,000)
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, is not reported in the governmental fund.		(327,829)
Net Position of Governmental Activities	**$**	**196,633,732**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

EXHIBIT 2

GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE AND STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	General Fund	Adjustments	Governmental Activities
Revenues			
Sales and excise taxes	$ 120,136,402	$ -	$ 120,136,402
Intergovernmental	1,701,614	-	1,701,614
Investment earnings	2,621,941	-	2,621,941
Total Revenues	**$ 124,459,957**	**$ -**	**$ 124,459,957**
Expenditures/Expenses			
Current			
Transportation			
Administration	$ 1,172,102	$ -	$ 1,172,102
Intergovernmental			
Transportation			
Grants to member agencies	73,259,759	-	73,259,759
Debt service			
Principal	4,150,000	(4,150,000)	-
Interest	4,141,444	(376,791)	3,764,653
Total Expenditures/Expenses	**$ 82,723,305**	**$ (4,526,791)**	**$ 78,196,514**
Change in Fund Balance/Net Position	**$ 41,736,652**	**$ 4,526,791**	**$ 46,263,443**
Fund Balance/Net Position - January 1	**243,862,909**	**(93,492,620)**	**150,370,289**
Fund Balance/Net Position - December 31	**$ 285,599,561**	**$ (88,965,829)**	**$ 196,633,732**

Reconciliation of the General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities

Change in Fund Balance		**$ 41,736,652**
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental fund.		
Loan principal repayments	$ 4,150,000	
Change in accrued interest payable	17,291	
Amortization of premium on loan	359,500	4,526,791
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		**$ 46,263,443**

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1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Counties Transit Improvement Board's (CTIB) financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the CTIB are discussed below.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The CTIB was established April 1, 2008, under a joint powers agreement in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 297A.992. The CTIB is governed by an 11-member Board composed of two County Commissioner representatives appointed by each of the County Boards of Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington Counties, and the Chair of the Metropolitan Council. Each county also appoints an alternate member.

The CTIB's purpose is to facilitate investment in transitways, to collaboratively plan and develop policies for transit investments, to advocate for state and federal funding and transportation policies supportive of transitways, and to provide for public education and information. The Board is organized with a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary elected each year.

The CTIB is a separate entity independent of the entities that formed it. In accordance with GAAP, the CTIB's financial statements are not included in any member's financial statements. No single member retains control over the operations or is financially accountable for the CTIB.

B. Basic Financial Statements

The financial statements combine fund level financial statements (General Fund column) and government-wide financial statements (governmental activities column). These statements include the overall financial activities of the CTIB.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

B. Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

The government-wide financial statements are reported on a full accrual, economic resources basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The CTIB's net position is reported as restricted and unrestricted.

The CTIB reports one governmental fund, the General Fund, which is the primary operating fund and accounts for all the financial resources of the organization.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The governmental activities are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. The CTIB considers all revenues as available if collected within 60 days after the end of the current period. Charges for services and interest are considered susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases, if any, are reported as other financing sources.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the CTIB's policy to use restricted resources first and then unrestricted resources as needed.

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

1. Cash and Investments

The CTIB's sales and excise taxes are deposited in a trust account at Wells Fargo Bank. Under the custodial agreement, all investments are to be made in money market mutual funds that are permitted under Minn. Stat. ch. 118A.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

1. Cash and Investments (Continued)

All other cash is pooled and invested with Hennepin County, which obtains collateral to cover deposits in excess of insurance coverage. Hennepin County's cash and pooled investments are reported at their fair value at December 31, 2016, based on market prices.

2. Prepaid Expenses

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid expenses in both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

3. Advance to Other Governments

In 2009, an advance was made to the fiscal agent, Hennepin County, for cash flow purposes.

4. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expenditure/expense) until then. Currently, the CTIB has no items that qualify for reporting in this category.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Currently, the CTIB has no items that qualify for reporting in this category.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity (Continued)

5. 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. Premiums and discounts on long-term debt are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt using the straight-line method. Long-term debt payable is reported net of the applicable premium or discount.

In the fund financial statements, the General Fund recognizes premiums and discounts, as well as debt issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of the debt issued is reported as an other financing source. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources, while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

6. Classification of Net Position

Net position in government-wide statements is classified in the following categories:

Restricted net position - the amount of net position for which external restrictions have been imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments and restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position - the amount of net position that does not meet the definition of restricted.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity (Continued)

7. Classification of Fund Balances

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the CTIB is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted - amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of resources either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or by laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed - amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of the CTIB. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the CTIB removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. The action must be approved no later than the close of the reporting period and remains binding unless removed in the same manner.

Assigned - amounts for specific purposes that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.

Unassigned - the residual classification for the General Fund; it includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other fund balance classifications.

The CTIB applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first, followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

   D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity (Continued)

      8. Use of Estimates

         The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure 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 results could differ from those estimates.

2. Detailed Notes

   A. Assets

      1. Deposits and Investments

         a. Deposits

            As of December 31, 2016, the CTIB's General Fund had $106,904 on deposit with Hennepin County. It is Hennepin County's policy to follow Minn. Stat. § 118A.03, which states that, to the extent funds deposited are in excess of available federal deposit insurance, the County must require the financial institution to furnish collateral security or a corporate surety bond. All collateral must be placed in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

            Custodial Credit Risk

            Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the CTIB's deposits may not be returned to it. The CTIB does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk outside of deposit policies developed and adhered to by Hennepin County. At December 31, 2016, the CTIB's deposits were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

2. Detailed Notes

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

b. Investments

Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.04 and 118A.05 generally authorize the following types of investments as available to the CTIB:

(1) securities which are direct obligations or are guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress, except mortgage-backed securities defined as "high risk" by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6;

(2) mutual funds through shares of registered investment companies provided the mutual fund receives certain ratings depending on its investments;

(3) general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, and in certain state agency and local obligations of Minnesota and other states provided such obligations have certain specified bond ratings by a national bond rating service;

(4) bankers' acceptances of United States banks;

(5) commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries that is rated in the highest quality category by two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in 270 days or less; and

(6) with certain restrictions, in repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, joint powers investment trusts, and guaranteed investment contracts.

2. Detailed Notes

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments

b. Investments (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party. The CTIB does not have an investment policy for custodial credit risk outside of investment policies developed and adhered to by Hennepin County. At December 31, 2016, the CTIB's investments were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the CTIB's investment in a single issuer. At December 31, 2016, the CTIB held $273,206,333 in the Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. At December 31, 2016, none of the CTIB's investments were subject to interest rate risk.

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. At December 31, 2016, none of the CTIB's investments were subject to credit risk.

2. Detailed Notes

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments

b. Investments (Continued)

Fair Value

The CTIB invests its sales and excise tax receipts in the Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund, which is quoted at net asset value (NAV). The CTIB invests in this fund to enhance investment earnings. Shares are available to be redeemed with proper notice to meet liquidating requirements of the CTIB.

2. Receivables

Amounts due from other governments consisted mainly of sales and excise taxes that had been collected by the Minnesota Department of Revenue on behalf of the CTIB at December 31, 2016. No allowance for uncollectible receivables has been provided because such amounts are not expected to be matieral.

B. Liabilities

1. Payables

Payables at December 31, 2016, for the CTIB's governmental activities were as follows:

Accounts payable	$ 134,032
Due to other governments	2,100,000
Accrued interest payable	327,829
Total	$ 2,561,861

Due to other governments is composed of a capital grant due to the Metropolitan Council.

2. Detailed Notes

B. Liabilities (Continued)

2. Long-Term Debt

Hennepin County loaned the CTIB funds for the purpose of funding grant awards for various transit projects. Information on the loan follows:

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rates (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2016
Loans payable Hennepin County	12/01/2030	\$3,545,000 - \$7,895,000	4.00 - 5.00	\$ 102,810,000	\$ 83,605,000

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2016, were as follows:

Year Ending December 31	Loans Payable	
	Principal	Interest
2017	\$ 4,355,000	\$ 3,933,944
2018	4,570,000	3,716,194
2019	4,800,000	3,487,694
2020	5,040,000	3,247,694
2021	5,295,000	2,995,694
2022 - 2026	30,150,000	11,294,406
2027 - 2030	29,395,000	3,764,000
Total	\$ 83,605,000	\$ 32,439,626

3. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2016, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Loans payable	\$ 87,755,000	\$ -	\$ 4,150,000	\$ 83,605,000	\$ 4,355,000
Premium on loans	5,392,500	-	359,500	5,033,000	359,500
Total	\$ 93,147,500	\$ -	\$ 4,509,500	\$ 88,638,000	\$ 4,714,500

3. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

A. Risk Management

The CTIB is exposed to limited risks of loss related to theft of assets, or errors or omissions. The CTIB reduces the risks of loss by requiring contractual commitment agreements with third parties to name the CTIB as an additional insured on policies of commercial liability insurance maintained by the contracting parties.

B. Commitments

Due to the timing of projects and operations at the member counties, not all awarded grants for 2016 and previous years have been fully disbursed at year-end. At December 31, 2016, $33,964,123 of these grants were unpaid.

C. Subsequent Events

On June 21, 2017, the Counties Transit Improvement Board passed a resolution for the voluntary dissolution of the entity's joint powers agreement. The CTIB voted to notify the Minnesota Department of Revenue, in accordance with Minn. Stat. §§ 297A.99, subd. 12(b), and 297A.992, subd. 10(b), regarding the termination of the joint powers agreement, and that taxes imposed by Anoka County, Dakota County, Hennepin County, Ramsey County, and Washington County pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 297A.992, subd. 2, shall terminate on September 30, 2017. The CTIB will provide funding to satisfy all outstanding debt and obligations of the Board, and other administrative actions will be taken to facilitate the transition of CTIB responsibilities to the five member counties.

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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA

EXHIBIT A-1

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Revenues				
Sales and excise taxes	$ 117,300,000	$ 117,300,000	$ 120,136,402	$ 2,836,402
Intergovernmental				
Local				
Member contributions	105,000	105,000	105,000	-
Other miscellaneous grants	-	-	1,596,614	1,596,614
Investment earnings	19,000	19,000	2,621,941	2,602,941
Total Revenues	**$ 117,424,000**	**$ 117,424,000**	**$ 124,459,957**	**$ 7,035,957**
Expenditures				
Current				
Transportation				
Administration				
General	$ 620,000	$ 729,730	$ 778,289	$ (48,559)
Lobbying	110,000	110,000	110,000	-
Communications	55,000	30,000	5,000	25,000
Financial services	161,250	246,250	145,221	101,029
Legal	-	-	92,912	(92,912)
Insurance	11,600	4,071	5,378	(1,307)
Contingencies	19,400	-	-	-
Rail~Volution conference	41,925	41,925	35,302	6,623
Total transportation	**$ 1,019,175**	**$ 1,161,976**	**$ 1,172,102**	**$ (10,126)**
Intergovernmental				
Transportation				
Grants to member agencies	189,062,728	189,062,728	73,259,759	115,802,969
Debt service				
Principal	4,150,000	4,150,000	4,150,000	-
Interest	4,141,444	4,141,444	4,141,444	-
Total Expenditures	**$ 198,373,347**	**$ 198,516,148**	**$ 82,723,305**	**$ 115,792,843**
Net Change in Fund Balance	**$ (80,949,347)**	**$ (81,092,148)**	**$ 41,736,652**	**$ 122,828,800**
Fund Balance - January 1	**243,862,909**	**243,862,909**	**243,862,909**	**-**
Fund Balance - December 31	**$ 162,913,562**	**$ 162,770,761**	**$ 285,599,561**	**$ 122,828,800**

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

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NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for the General Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end, unless specifically carried over to the next budget year by Board action.

On or before July 1 of each year, the Board adopts a preliminary annual budget for administrative and lobbying expenditures. The administrative expenditures are based on three-quarters of one percent of sales tax revenue. A final budget must be prepared and adopted no later than August 30.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level.

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Management and
Compliance Section

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Joint Powers Board
Counties Transit Improvement Board
Metropolitan Transportation Area, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the CTIB's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated August 31, 2017.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Counties*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, contains seven categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and tax increment financing. Our audit considered all of the listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance with the provisions for contracting and bidding because the CTIB did not enter into any applicable contracts; public indebtedness because the CTIB issued no new debt; or tax increment financing because the CTIB administers no tax increment financing districts.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Counties Transit Improvement Board failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Counties*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the CTIB's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Joint Powers Board and management of the Counties Transit Improvement Board and the State Auditor, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

/s/Rebecca Otto — */s/Greg Hierlinger*

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

August 31, 2017