



# **OHIO EXPOSITIONS COMMISSION FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

***REGULAR AUDIT***

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**



**Rea & associates**

[www.reacpa.com](http://www.reacpa.com)





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Board of Commissioners  
Ohio Expositions Commission  
717 East 17th Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Ohio Expositions Commission is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

January 25, 2025

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**OHIO EXPOSITIONS COMMISSION**  
**Franklin County, Ohio**  
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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners  
Ohio Expositions Commission  
717 East 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### *Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, Ohio (the Commission), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Commission and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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 Commission'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***

Our 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 our opinion. 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 GAAS 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, misrepresentations, 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 judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we

- exercise professional judgment 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 the Commission'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 of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are 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 we identified during the audit.

***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis and Pension and other Post-Employment Benefit Schedules, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 19, 2024 on our consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on our 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 our 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 Commission'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 Commission's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Rea & Associates, Inc.*

Rea & Associates, Inc.  
Dublin, Ohio  
December 19, 2024

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**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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The discussion and analysis of the Ohio Expositions Commission (the Commission) financial performance provides an overall review of the financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Commission's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the auditor's opinion page, notes to the basic financial statements, and the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Commission's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments, issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current and prior year is required to be presented, and is presented in the MD&A.

### ***Financial Highlights***

Key financial highlights for 2024 are as follows:

- Total net position increased \$212,618,122 from 2023.
- Overall liabilities increased \$16,089,496 and overall assets increased \$232,126,480.
- Fair revenues increased by \$592,201 in Fiscal Year 2024 (2023 Ohio State Fair).
- Operating expenses increased \$1,996,949 during the fiscal year. Payroll and fringe benefits was the largest increase.

### ***Using this Financial Report***

This annual report consists of two parts, the required supplementary information and the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include a statement of net position, statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and a statement of cash flows. Since the Commission only uses one fund for its operations, the entity wide and the fund presentations information is the same.

### ***Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position***

This statement includes all assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term, using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resources focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid. While the Statement of Net Position provides information about the financial status of the Commission at year end, the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents the results of the business activities over the course of the fiscal year and information as to how the Net Position changed during the year. This change, combined with the prior year net position total reconciles to the total Net Position at the end of the fiscal year.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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Table 1 provides a summary of the Commission's net position at June 30, 2024 and 2023.

**Table 1**

	2024	2023	Change
<b>Assets</b>			
Current and Other Assets	\$ 188,738,643	\$ 8,272,583	\$ 180,466,060
Non-Current Leases Receivable	8,281,724	6,968,068	1,313,656
Net Pension/OPEB Asset	286,347	25,509	260,838
Capital Assets	<u>126,733,132</u>	<u>76,647,206</u>	<u>50,085,926</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>324,039,846</u>	<u>91,913,366</u>	<u>232,126,480</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Pension and OPEB	2,619,899	4,756,548	(2,136,649)
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current and Other Liabilities	24,818,750	7,576,557	17,242,193
Non-Current Liabilities	909,136	1,097,331	(188,195)
Net Pension & OPEB Liability	<u>7,470,580</u>	<u>8,435,082</u>	<u>(964,502)</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>33,198,466</u>	<u>17,108,970</u>	<u>16,089,496</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Pension and OPEB	163,058	238,740	(75,682)
Leases	<u>8,189,352</u>	<u>6,831,457</u>	<u>1,357,895</u>
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>8,352,410</u>	<u>7,070,197</u>	<u>1,282,213</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	107,114,515	74,167,974	32,946,541
Restricted for:			
Harness Racing Participants	73,475	297,195	(223,720)
Pension and OPEB	286,347	-	286,347
Unrestricted	<u>177,634,532</u>	<u>(1,974,422)</u>	<u>179,608,954</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 285,108,869</u>	<u>\$ 72,490,747</u>	<u>\$ 212,618,122</u>

For fiscal year 2024, total assets, current liabilities and net position increased significantly. The Commission is currently involved in a major construction project, Expo 2050. This project includes several different phases spanning over multiple years. This ongoing project has significantly increased cash and cash equivalents, state and federal grants receivable, state capital contributions receivable, non-depreciable capital assets, contracts payable, and retainage payable, as well as net investment in capital assets and unrestricted net position. The Commission received significant state capital contributions as well as state and local fiscal recovery funds funding during the year. A large portion of the state capital contribution is being held in cash and will be spent down over the life of the project. Construction invoices are typically paid a month after work has occurred. For construction related payables that are being paid with funding not yet received, receivables have been recorded.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
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*(Unaudited)*

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For the changes reflected in net pension liability, net OPEB liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources relating to pension and OPEB are based on estimates at the plan level. For additional details on GASB 68 and 75, see discussion below.

The net pension liability (NPL) is the second largest liability reported by the Commission at June 30, 2024, and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27. In a prior period, the Commission also adopted GASB Statement 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the Commission's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB and the net pension and net OPEB assets.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's net pension/OPEB liability. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension asset/liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the Commission's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension/OPEB benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service.
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits.

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the Commission is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these assets/liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan as against the public employer. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability reported by the retirement boards. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability is satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the Commission's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's change in net pension asset/liability and net OPEB asset, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

Table 2 shows a summary of the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position for the Years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

**Table 2**

	2024	2023	Change
<b>Operating Revenues</b>			
Fair Sources	\$ 10,453,439	\$ 9,861,238	\$ 592,201
Non-Fair Sources	6,883,197	7,173,364	(290,167)
<i>Total Operating Revenues</i>	<u>17,336,636</u>	<u>17,034,602</u>	<u>302,034</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Payroll and Fringe Benefits	7,661,093	6,284,685	1,376,408
Purchased Services	3,931,508	3,288,052	643,456
Depreciation	6,356,538	6,561,624	(205,086)
Utilities	2,750,299	2,987,199	(236,900)
Maintenance and Repair	3,174,437	2,638,294	536,143
Other Operating Expenses	3,679,628	3,796,700	(117,072)
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<u>27,553,503</u>	<u>25,556,554</u>	<u>1,996,949</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>(10,216,867)</u>	<u>(8,521,952)</u>	<u>(1,694,915)</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>			
State Assistance	368,959	362,650	6,309
State and Federal Grants	23,114,914	2,193,446	20,921,468
Lease Revenue	279,385	251,051	28,334
Interest Revenue	105,147	92,037	13,110
Loss on Disposal of Capital Asset	(393,660)	(73,065)	(320,595)
<i>Total Net Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</i>	<u>23,474,745</u>	<u>2,826,119</u>	<u>20,648,626</u>
<i>Income (Loss) Before Capital Contributions</i>	<u>13,257,878</u>	<u>(5,695,833)</u>	<u>18,953,711</u>
State Capital Contributions	<u>199,360,244</u>	<u>3,669,601</u>	<u>195,690,643</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	<u>212,618,122</u>	<u>(2,026,232)</u>	<u>214,644,354</u>
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>72,490,747</u>	<u>74,516,979</u>	<u>(2,026,232)</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 285,108,869</u>	<u>\$ 72,490,747</u>	<u>\$ 212,618,122</u>

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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Total operating expenses increased slightly during the year. The main increase was payroll and fringe benefits relating to the rising costs of employee salaries and benefits. State capital contributions and state and federal grants increased during fiscal year 2024, which is mainly a result of the ongoing Expo 2050 project, previously discussed.

***Capital Assets***

At fiscal year-end, the Commission had 126.7 million (net of accumulated depreciation) invested in land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings and improvements, equipment, furniture and fixtures, and vehicles, an increase in comparison with the prior fiscal year. This increase is a result of significant additions to construction in progress for the Commissions ongoing construction project, Expo 2050, previously discussed. See Note 4 to the basic financial statements for additional information on Capital Assets.

***Contacting the Ohio Expositions Commission***

This financial report is designed to provide the citizens, taxpayers, and customers of the Ohio Expositions Commission with a general overview of the Commission's finances and to show the Commission's accountability for the monies it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact Stephen Roberts, the Commission's Finance Director, 717 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211, (614) 644-4025 or e-mail to: [S.Roberts@expo.ohio.gov](mailto:S.Roberts@expo.ohio.gov).

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
**Franklin County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Net Position*  
*June 30, 2024*

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**Assets**

*Current Assets:*

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 173,965,840
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	73,475
Prepaid Fair Expenses	49,841
Other Prepaid Expenses	145,562
Accounts Receivable	8,978
State and Federal Grants Receivable	13,643,322
State Capital Contributions Receivable	392,259
Leases Receivable	349,478
Interest Receivable	109,888
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	<u>188,738,643</u>

*Non-Current Assets:*

Leases Receivable	8,281,724
Net Pension Asset	35,337
Net OPEB Asset	251,010
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets	65,203,792
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	61,529,340
<i>Total Non-Current Assets</i>	<u>135,301,203</u>

*Total Assets*

324,039,846

**Deferred Outflows of Resources**

Pension	2,401,856
OPEB	<u>218,043</u>

*Total Deferred Outflows of Resources*

2,619,899

**Liabilities**

*Current Liabilities:*

Accounts Payable	1,197,260
Contracts Payable	18,810,668
Retainage Payable	807,949
Accrued Liabilities	307,029
Compensated Absences	61,319
Unearned Income	3,532,431
Due to Others	73,475
Workers' Compensation Liability	28,619
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	<u>24,818,750</u>

*Non-Current Liabilities:*

Compensated Absences	767,321
Net Pension Liability	7,470,580
Workers' Compensation Liability	141,815
<i>Total Non-Current Liabilities</i>	<u>8,379,716</u>

*Total Liabilities*

33,198,466

**Deferred Inflows of Resources**

Pension	13,295
OPEB	149,763
Leases	<u>8,189,352</u>

*Total Deferred Inflows of Resources*

8,352,410

**Net Position**

Net Investment in Capital Assets	107,114,515
Restricted for:	
Harness Racing Participants	73,475
Pension and OPEB	286,347
Unrestricted	<u>177,634,532</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 285,108,869</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
**Franklin County, Ohio**

*Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**Operating Revenues**

Fair Sources	\$ 10,453,439
Non-Fair Sources	<u>6,883,197</u>
<i>Total Operating Revenues</i>	<u>17,336,636</u>

**Operating Expenses**

Payroll and Fringe Benefits	7,661,093
Purchased Services	3,931,508
Depreciation	6,356,538
Utilities	2,750,299
Maintenance and Repair	3,174,437
Premiums and Other	492,273
Supplies and Materials	1,324,632
Printing and Advertising	990,469
Rentals	369,824
Meals	21,910
Communication and Postage	227,694
Motor Vehicle	113,810
Travel	34,307
Refunds	31,234
Harness Racing	<u>73,475</u>
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<u>27,553,503</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>(10,216,867)</u>

**Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)**

State Assistance	368,959
State and Federal Grants	23,114,914
Lease Revenue	279,385
Interest Revenue	105,147
Loss on Disposal of Capital Asset	<u>(393,660)</u>
<i>Total Net Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</i>	<u>23,474,745</u>
<i>Income (Loss) Before Capital Contributions</i>	13,257,878
State Capital Contributions	<u>199,360,244</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	212,618,122
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>72,490,747</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 285,108,869</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
**Franklin County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Cash Flows*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Cash Received from Fair Sources	\$ 10,548,142
Cash Received from Non-Fair Sources	6,718,484
Cash Received from Harness Racing Funds	73,475
Cash Payments for Payroll and Fringe Benefits	(6,963,148)
Cash Payments for Utilities, Maintenance and Repair	(5,698,761)
Cash Payments for Other Services and Charges	(7,362,047)
Cash Payments for Harness Racing Funds	(297,195)
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities</i>	<u><u>(2,981,050)</u></u>

**Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities**

State Assistance	368,959
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**Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities**

State Capital Contributions	198,967,985
State and Federal Grants	9,471,592
Acquisition of Capital Assets	(39,696,739)
Leases	122,818
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Capital and Related Financing Activities</i>	<u><u>168,865,656</u></u>

*Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents* 166,253,565

*Cash and Cash Equivalents Beginning of Year* 7,785,750

*Cash and Cash Equivalents End of Year* \$ 174,039,315

**Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities**

Operating Income (Loss) \$ (10,216,867)

Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash from Operating Activities  
 Depreciation 6,356,538

(Increase) Decrease in Assets and Deferred Outflows:

Accounts Receivable	50,467
Prepaid Expenses	78,572
Net Pension Asset	(9,828)
Net OPEB Asset	(251,010)
Deferred Outflows - Pension	1,846,343
Deferred Outflows - OPEB	290,306

Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities and Deferred Inflows:

Accounts Payable	364,008
Accrued Liabilities	8,498
Unearned Income	(47,002)
Due to Others	(223,720)
Workers' Compensation Liability	(162,005)
Compensated Absences	(25,166)
Net Pension Liability	(795,315)
Net OPEB Liability	(169,187)
Deferred Inflows - Pension	(146,436)
Deferred Inflows - OPEB	70,754

*Net Cash Provided by (Used For) Operating Activities* \$ (2,981,050)

**Noncash Capital Financing Activities:**

The Commission purchased \$19,618,617 and \$2,479,232 of capital assets on account in fiscal year 2024 and 2023, respectively.

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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## **NOTE 1 – ORGANIZATION AND REPORTING ENTITY**

The Ohio Expositions Commission (the Commission), which is part of the primary government of the State of Ohio, is a state governed body of the State of Ohio (the State). The Commission was created in 1961, pursuant to Sections 991.01 to 991.07 of the Ohio Revised Code (the Code) for the purpose of producing an annual agricultural exposition or fair and to maintain and manage the state-owned Expositions Center facilities for the purpose of conducting expositions, fairs and exhibits.

The Commission is governed by a 13-member Board of Commissioners. Nine of the members are appointed by the Governor of Ohio with the advice and consent of the Ohio Senate. The Director of Development, Director of Agriculture, and the chairs of the Ohio House and Senate Agriculture Committees fill the remaining positions on the Commission.

The Commission is not subject to federal or state income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and, accordingly, no provision for income taxes is required.

## **NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

A summary of significant accounting policies consistently applied by management in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

**Basis of Accounting** – The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are recognized in the period earned or incurred. All transactions are accounted for in a single enterprise fund.

**Reporting Entity** – Within the State of Ohio’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, the Commission is included as part of the primary Government. The Commission’s management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Commission is financially responsible. The accompanying financial statements include all accounts, activities, and functions of the Commission and are not intended to present the net position, results of operations, or cash flows of the State taken as a whole. The financial information presented herein for the Commission will be incorporated within the State’s financial statements.

**Non-exchange transactions**, in which the Commission receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include state appropriations and state and federal grants. On an accrual basis, state appropriations and state and federal grants are recognized in the period in which all eligibility requirements are met. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Commission on a reimbursement basis.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents** – The Treasurer of the State of Ohio (Treasurer) acts, as the custodian of the funds for the State. Cash and cash equivalents of the Commission are pooled and invested by the Treasurer. Account integrity is maintained through a series of checks and balances with the Auditor, Treasurer, and the Office of Budget and Management.

The cash and cash equivalents with the Treasurer has the general characteristics of a demand deposit account whereby additional cash can be deposited at any time and can also be effectively withdrawn at any time, within certain budgetary limitations, without prior notice or penalty.

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*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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Allowance for Doubtful Accounts – Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Management provides for probably uncollectable accounts through a provision for bad debt expense and an adjustment to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual receivables. There was no allowance for doubtful accounts deemed necessary as of June 30, 2024.

Capital and Building Improvement Assistance – The State provides financial assistance for the acquisition of property and equipment. This assistance is recorded as capital contributions as the Commission incurs the cost of the project.

For specific State funds, assistance for the acquisition of property and equipment is credited to capital contributions or state and federal grants as the related qualified expenditures are incurred. For funds reporting exclusively Commission activity, state capital contributions are credited when cash is received. Depreciation on capital assets resulting from capital assistance is allocated to net position using the straight-line method over the same lives as described for the related property and equipment as noted below.

Capital assets include property and equipment, which are stated at historical cost or estimated historical cost and include expenditures of \$5,000 or more which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value as of the date received. Routine maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.

Property and equipment consisting of certain improvements owned by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) other than buildings (including roads, curbs and gutters, and sidewalks) have not been capitalized by the Commission and are not recorded as assets on the Commission's books.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets, as follows:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Years</b>
Land Improvements	20
Buildings and Improvements	20-45
Equipment and Vehicles	3-10
Furniture and Fixtures	5-15

Assets acquired with capital grants are included in capital assets and depreciation on those assets is included in the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position.

Prepaid Fair Expenses – The Ohio State Fair's (Fair) prepaid expenses are recorded for cash disbursed prior to services being performed. These items include cash disbursed for the Fair in the fiscal year prior to the Fair taking place.

Unearned Income - Unearned income is recorded for cash received prior to services being performed. These items include deposits on rental contracts and cash received for the Fair in the fiscal year prior to the Fair taking place.

Compensated Balances – The Commission accounts for compensated absences in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*. Vacation, compensatory time and personal leave benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributed to services already rendered and

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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it is probable that the Commission will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means, such as a termination or retirement payment.

Leave time that has been earned, but is unavailable for use as paid time off or as some other form of compensation because an employee has not met a minimum service time requirement is accrued to the extent it is considered to be probable that the conditions for compensation will be met in the future. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability is recorded on the basis of leave accumulated by employees who are eligible to receive termination payments, as of the balance sheet date, and on leave balances accumulated by other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such cash payments. Included in the compensated absences liability is an amount accrued for salary-related payments directly and incrementally associated with the payment of compensated absences upon termination.

Net Position is displayed in three components as follows:

- **Net Investment in Capital Assets** – This consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- **Restricted** – This consists of net position that is legally restricted by law through Ohio Legislature. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, generally it is the Commission's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources when they are needed.
- **Unrestricted** – This consists of net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

Classification of Revenues – The Commission has classified its revenues as either operating or non-operating. Operating Revenues include activities that have the characteristics of exchange transactions including fair revenues and non-fair revenues. Non-operating revenue includes activities that have the characteristics of non-exchange transactions, such as state assistance, state and federal grants, lease revenue, and interest revenue. State and federal grants are grant revenue passed through the State of Ohio.

Uses of Estimates and Uncertainties of Financial Results – The accounting and reporting policies of the Commission conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP 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.

Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability(asset), deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plans. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

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*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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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. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. For the Commission, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 6 and 7.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the Commission, deferred inflows of resources include pension, OPEB and leases. The deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are explained in Notes 6 and 7. The deferred inflows related to leases are explained in Note 5.

The Commission's annual financial results are dependent upon the success of that year's Fair. The financial results of the Fair are uncertain and vary depending on uncertainties such as weather conditions. In addition, the Commission is dependent upon the State for funding significant capital acquisitions and for operating assistance.

### **NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

The deposit of the Commission monies is governed by the provisions of the Code. In accordance with these statutes, only financial institutions located in Ohio are eligible to hold public deposits. All investing transactions are conducted by the Treasurer of State. The statutes permit the Treasurer of State to invest the Commission's monies in certificates of deposit, savings accounts, money market accounts, the State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio), and obligations of the United States government or certain agencies thereof.

Public depositories must provide security for all public funds on deposit. These institutions may either specifically collateralize individual accounts in addition to amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or may pledge a pool of government securities valued at least 105% of the total value of public monies on deposit at the institution. Repurchase agreements must be secured by specific government securities. These securities must be obligations of or guaranteed by the United States and mature or be redeemable within five years of the date of the related repurchase agreement. State law does not require security for public deposits and investments maintained in the Commission's name.

During 2024, the Commission complied with the provisions of these statutes.

- a) Deposits - The majority of the Commission's cash is in the State Rotary Fund which are commingled state funds invested by the Treasurer of State. At June 30, 2024 the carrying amount and bank balance of the Commission's deposits with the Treasurer of State was \$173,961,795. In addition, the Commission had \$4,045 of cash on hand at June 30, 2024.
- b) Restricted Cash - At June 30, 2024, \$73,475 was collected from harness racing participants registering for the 2024 Fair. These monies are held in the State Rotary Fund and will be remitted to others who manage the Fair harness racing event. At June 30, 2024, \$0 was held in State Fair Reserve Fund to be accessed by legislative approval in case of poor weather fairs.
- c) Credit Risk – All risk disclosures required by GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures*, are expected to be found in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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**NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Deductions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
<b>Non-Depreciable Capital Assets</b>				
Land	\$ 2,930,999	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,930,999
Construction in Progress	6,232,971	56,115,082	(75,260)	62,272,793
<b>Total Non-Depreciable Capital Assets</b>	<b>9,163,970</b>	<b>56,115,082</b>	<b>(75,260)</b>	<b>65,203,792</b>
 <b>Depreciable Capital Assets</b>				
Land Improvements	23,642,135	-	-	23,642,135
Buildings and Improvements	149,389,968	-	(1,836,542)	147,553,426
Equipment, Furniture and Fixtures	5,959,101	796,302	(22,485)	6,732,918
Vehicles	44,404	-	-	44,404
<b>Total Depreciable Capital Assets</b>	<b>179,035,608</b>	<b>796,302</b>	<b>(1,859,027)</b>	<b>177,972,883</b>
 <b>Less Accumulated Depreciation</b>				
Land Improvements	(17,330,221)	(968,551)	-	(18,298,772)
Buildings and Improvements	(89,734,566)	(5,130,468)	1,442,882	(93,422,152)
Equipment, Furniture and Fixtures	(4,443,181)	(257,519)	22,485	(4,678,215)
Vehicles	(44,404)	-	-	(44,404)
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>(111,552,372)</b>	<b>(6,356,538)</b>	<b>1,465,367</b>	<b>(116,443,543)</b>
 <b>Depreciable Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>67,483,236</b>	<b>(5,560,236)</b>	<b>(393,660)</b>	<b>61,529,340</b>
 <b>Total Capital Assets, Net</b>	<b>\$ 76,647,206</b>	<b>\$ 50,554,846</b>	<b>\$ (468,920)</b>	<b>\$ 126,733,132</b>

**NOTE 5 – LEASES RECEIVABLE**

The Commission leases several parcels of land to various tenants including Troy Motel Associates, Inc., McDonald's Corporation, Confluence Community Authority, Verizon Wireless and AT&T Wireless. The lease with Troy Motel Associates, Inc. commenced in 2003, has an initial term of 30 years and contains 2, 15 year extension terms. The lease with McDonald's Corporation commenced in 1996, has an initial term of 20 years and contains 4, 5 year extension terms. The lease with Confluence Community Authority commenced in 2021, has an initial term of 40 years and contains 7, 5 year extension terms. In fiscal year 2024 Confluence Community Authority amended their agreement to expand the premises leased. The lease with Verizon Wireless commenced in 2018, has an initial term of 5 years and contains 2, 5 year extension terms. The lease with AT&T Wireless commenced in 2000, has an initial term of 5 years and contains 5, 5 year extension terms. The Commission is reporting a lease receivable of \$8,631,202 at June 30, 2024. This amount represents the discounted future monthly lease payments. This discount is being amortized using the straight-line method. For 2024, the Commission reported lease revenue of \$279,385 and interest revenue of \$105,147.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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A summary of future payments to be received is as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ 349,478	\$ 211,808	\$ 561,286
2026	268,058	127,288	395,346
2027	285,480	123,396	408,876
2028	292,277	119,304	411,581
2029	291,306	115,169	406,475
2030-2034	1,350,917	514,772	1,865,689
2035-2039	1,041,894	426,246	1,468,140
2040-2044	992,595	350,225	1,342,820
2045-2049	1,073,639	269,181	1,342,820
2050-2054	1,162,209	180,611	1,342,820
2055-2059	1,259,106	83,714	1,342,820
2060	264,243	4,320	268,563
	<hr/> <u>\$ 8,631,202</u>	<hr/> <u>\$ 2,526,034</u>	<hr/> <u>\$ 11,157,236</u>

#### **NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

The employees of the Commission are covered by the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. The State of Ohio accounts for the activities of the retirement systems and the amounts of these funds are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

##### ***Net Pension Liability (Asset)***

The net pension liability (asset) reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. Pensions are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial (asset) period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability (asset) represents the Commission's proportionate share of each pension plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the Commission's obligation for this liability (asset) to annually required payments. The Commission cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed;

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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however, the Commission does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation including pension.

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term net pension liability on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year would be included in accrued liabilities on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting. The Commission had no such liability at fiscal year-end.

***Plan Description – Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)***

Plan Description - Commission employees participate in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with defined contribution features.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits, and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional plan. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about OPERS' fiduciary net position that may be obtained by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml>, by writing to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling 800-222-7377. Senate Bill (SB) 343 was enacted into law with an effective date of January 7, 2013. In the legislation, members were categorized into three groups with varying provisions of the law applicable to each group.

The following table provides age and service requirements for retirement and the retirement formula applied to final average salary (FAS) for the three member groups under the traditional plan as per the reduced benefits adopted by SB 343 (see OPERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report referenced above for additional information including requirements for reduced and unreduced benefits):

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<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>
Eligible to retire prior to January 7, 2013 or five years after January 7, 2013	20 years of service credit prior to January 7, 2013 or eligible to retire ten years after January 7, 2013	Members not in other Groups and members hired on or after January 7, 2013
<b>State and Local</b>	<b>State and Local</b>	<b>State and Local</b>
<b>Age and Service Requirements:</b> Age 60 with 5 years of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	<b>Age and Service Requirements:</b> Age 60 with 5 years of service credit or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	<b>Age and Service Requirements:</b> Age 57 with 25 years of service credit or Age 62 with 5 years of service credit
<b>Formula:</b> 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	<b>Formula:</b> 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 30 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 30	<b>Formula:</b> 2.2% of FAS multiplied by years of service for the first 35 years and 2.5% for service years in excess of 35

Final average salary (FAS) represents the average of the three highest years of earnings over a member's career for Groups A and B. Group C is based on the average of the five highest years of earnings over a member's career.

Members who retire before meeting the age and years of service credit requirement for unreduced benefits receive a percentage reduction in the benefit amount.

When a benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a 3 percent. For those retiring subsequent to January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at 3 percent. A death benefit of \$500 to \$2,500 determined by the number of years of service credit of the retiree, is paid to the beneficiary of a deceased retiree or disability benefit recipient.

**Funding Policy** - The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions as follows:

**2024 Statutory Maximum Contribution Rates**

Employer	14.0	%
Employee	10.0	%

**2024 Actual Contribution Rates**

<b>Employer</b>		
Pension	14.0	%
Post-employment Health Care Benefits	0.0	%
Total Employer	<u>14.0</u>	<u>%</u>
Employee	<u>10.0</u>	<u>%</u>

Employer contribution rates are actuarially determined and are expressed as a percentage of covered payroll. The Commission's contractually required pension contribution was \$713,432 for 2024. The entire amount was used to fund pension benefits.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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**Pension Assets, Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions**

The net pension asset and net pension liability for OPERS was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total pension asset and liability used to calculate the net pension asset and net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Commission's proportion of the net pension asset and net pension liability was based on the Commission's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	OPERS Traditional Plan	OPERS Combined Plan	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ 7,470,580	\$ (35,337)	
2023 Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	0.028535%	0.011496%	
2022 Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	<u>0.027982%</u>	<u>0.010823%</u>	
2023 Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.000553%</u>	<u>0.000673%</u>	
 Pension Expense	 \$ 1,183,216	 \$ (2,977)	 \$ 1,180,239

At June 30, 2024, the Commission reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	OPERS Traditional Plan	OPERS Combined Plan	Total
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 122,101	\$ 1,438	\$ 123,539
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	1,507,870	5,747	1,513,617
Changes of assumptions	-	1,316	1,316
Changes in proportionate share	464,365	13,544	477,909
Commission contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>285,475</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>285,475</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>2,379,811</u>	<u>22,045</u>	<u>2,401,856</u>
 <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	3,495	3,495
Changes in proportionate share	-	9,800	9,800
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 13,295</u>	<u>\$ 13,295</u>

Commission contributions subsequent to the measurement date of \$285,475 are reported as deferred outflows of resources. The contributions will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	OPERS Traditional Plan	OPERS Combined Plan	Total
2025	\$ 821,541	\$ 1,700	\$ 823,241
2026	525,267	2,400	527,667
2027	962,244	4,448	966,692
2028	(214,716)	286	(214,430)
2029	-	1,213	1,213
Thereafter	-	(1,297)	(1,297)
Total	<u>\$ 2,094,336</u>	<u>\$ 8,750</u>	<u>\$ 2,103,086</u>

***Actuarial Assumptions - OPERS***

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the values of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and cost trends. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review or modification as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation. The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions and methods applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Wage Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected Salary Increases	2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation at 2.75 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	Pre-1/7/13 Retirees: 3% Simple; Post 1/7/13 Retirees: 2.30% Simple through 2024, then 2.05% Simple
Investment Rate of Return	6.90 percent
Actuarial Cost Method	Individual entry age normal

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions and methods applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Wage Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected Salary Increases	2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation at 2.75 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	Pre-1/7/13 Retirees: 3% Simple; Post 1/7/13 Retirees: 3% Simple through 2023, then 2.05% Simple
Investment Rate of Return	6.90 percent
Actuarial Cost Method	Individual entry age normal

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The most recent experience study was for the 5-year period ended December 31, 2020.

For 2024 and 2023, pre-retirement mortality rates are based on 130 percent of the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality tables for males and females. Post-retirement mortality rates are based on 115 percent of the Pub-2010 Retiree Mortality Tables for males and females. Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality Tables for males and females. For all of the previously described tables, the base year is 2010 and mortality rates for a particular calendar year are determined by applying the MP-2020 mortality improvement scales for males and females to these tables.

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability (asset) was 6.9 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members and those of the contributing employers are made at the statutorily required rates. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefits payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

The allocation of investment assets with the Defined Benefit portfolio is approved by the OPERS Board of Trustees as outlined in the annual investment plan. Plan assets are managed on a total return basis with a long-term objective of achieving and maintaining a fully funded status for the benefits provided through the defined benefit pension plans. The long-term expected rate of return on defined benefit investment assets was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adjusted for inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return were provided by the Board's investment consultant. For each major asset class that is included in the Defined Benefit portfolio's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2023, these best estimates are summaries in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Weighted Average Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (Geometric)
Fixed Income	24.00 %	2.85 %
Domestic Equities	21.00	4.27
Real Estate	13.00	4.46
Private Equity	15.00	7.52
International Equities	20.00	5.16
Risk Parity	2.00	4.38
Other investments	5.00	3.46
Total	100.00 %	

***Sensitivity of the Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate***

The following table presents the Commission's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 6.9 percent, as well as what the Commission's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
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discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (5.9 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (7.9 percent) than the current rate:

	Discount		
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Commission's Proportionate Share of the			
Net Pension Liability (Asset)			
Traditional Plan	\$ 1,176,070	\$ 7,470,580	\$ 3,902,447
Combined Plan	(21,383)	(35,337)	(46,329)

#### **NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLAN**

The employees of the Commission are covered by the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. The State of Ohio accounts for the activities of the retirement systems and the amounts of these funds are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

##### ***Net OPEB Liability (Asset)***

The net OPEB liability (asset) reported on the statement of net position represents an asset for employees for other post-employment benefits (OPEB). OPEB is a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net OPEB liability (asset) represents the Commission’s proportionate share of the OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the Commission’s obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Commission cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which OPEB are financed; however, the Commission does receive the benefit of employees’ services in exchange for compensation including OPEB.

GASB 75 assumes the asset is solely the right of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio revised Code permits but does not require the retirement system to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement system may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
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The proportionate share of the plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a net OPEB liability on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year would be included in accrued liabilities on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting. The Commission had no such liability at fiscal year-end.

***Plan Description – Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)***

Health Care Plan Description - The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate plans. The traditional pension plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan and the combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan with defined contribution features.

OPERS maintains one health care trust, the 115 Health Care Trust (115 Trust), which was established in 2014.

The OPERS health care plans are reported as other post-employment benefit plans (OPEB) based on the criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Periodically, OPERS modifies the health care program design to improve the ongoing solvency of the plans. Eligibility requirements for access to the OPERS health care options have changed over the history of the program for Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan members. Prior to January 1, 2015, 10 or more years of service were required to qualify for health care coverage. Beginning January 1, 2015, generally, members must be at least age 60 with 20 years of qualifying service credit to qualify for health care coverage or 30 years of qualifying service at any age. Effective January 1, 2022, retirees must generally be at least age 65 with a minimum of 20 years of qualifying service credit, or a minimum of 30 years of qualifying service credit at any age, to qualify for health care benefits.

Beginning 2016 for Medicare retirees enrolled in Medicare A and B, and beginning 2022 for non-Medicare retirees, eligible retirees were able to participate in the OPERS Connector (Connector) in lieu of comprehensive health care coverage. The Connector, a vendor selected by OPERS, assists eligible retirees in the evaluation, selection and purchase of a health care plan on the open market. Eligible retirees may receive a monthly allowance in their health care reimbursement arrangement (HRA) account that can be used to reimburse eligible health care expenses.

The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, OPERS to provide OPEB benefits to its eligible benefit recipients. Authority to establish and amend health care coverage is provided in Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report. Interested parties may obtain a copy by visiting <https://www.opers.org/financial/reports.shtml#CAFR>, by writing OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4642, or by calling (614) 222-5601 or 1-800-222-7377.

Funding Policy - The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund health care through their contributions to OPERS. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside to fund OPERS health care plans.

Employer contribution rates are expressed as a percentage of the earnable salary of active members. In fiscal year 2024, the Commission contributed at a rate of 14 percent of earnable salary. The Ohio Revised

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Code currently limits the employer contribution rate not to exceed 14 percent of covered payroll. A portion of each employer contribution may be set aside for the funding of post-employment health care coverage. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care was zero for 2024.

***OPEB Liability (Asset), OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

The net OPEB asset for OPERS was measured as of December 31, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Commission's proportion of the net OPEB asset was based on the Commission's share of contributions to the retirement system relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	OPERS Health Care Plan
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset	\$ 251,010
2023 Proportion of the Net OPEB Asset	0.027812%
2022 Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	<u>0.026833%</u>
2023 Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.000979%</u>
 OPEB Expense	 \$ (59,137)

At June 30, 2024, the Commission reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	OPERS Health Care Plan
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	\$ 150,747
Changes of assumptions	64,622
Changes in proportionate share	<u>2,674</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>218,043</u>
 <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	
Differences between expected and actual experience	35,726
Changes of assumptions	107,902
Changes in proportionate share	<u>6,135</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 149,763</u>

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Amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending	OPERS
June 30:	Health Care
2025	\$ (7,643)
2026	9,482
2027	117,341
2028	(50,900)
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 68,280</u></b>

***Actuarial Assumptions - OPERS***

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the values of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and cost trends. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review or modification as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of health care costs for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of coverage provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of costs between the System and plan members. The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022, rolled forward to the measurement date of December 31, 2023.

The actuarial valuation used the following key actuarial assumptions and methods applied to all periods included in the measurement:

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Wage Inflation	2.75 percent	2.75 percent
Projected Salary Increases,	2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation at 2.75 percent	2.75 to 10.75 percent including wage inflation at 2.75 percent
Single Discount Rate	5.70 percent	5.22 percent
Investment Rate of Return	6.00 percent	6.00 percent
Municipal Bond Rate	3.77 percent	4.05 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	5.50 percent, initial 3.50 percent, ultimate in 2038	5.50 percent, initial 3.50 percent, ultimate in 2036
Actuarial Cost Method	Individual Entry Age Normal	Individual Entry Age Normal

For 2024 and 2023, pre-retirement mortality rates are based on 130 percent of the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality tables for males and females. Post-retirement mortality rates are based on 115 percent of PubG-2010 Retiree Mortality Tables for males and females. Post-retirement mortality rates for disabled retirees are based on the PubNS-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality Tables for males and females. For all of

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the previously described tables, the base year is 2010 and mortality rates for a particular calendar year are determined by applying MP-2020 mortality improvement scales for males and females to all of these tables.

**Discount Rate** A single discount rate of 5.70 percent was used to measure the total OPEB liability on the measurement date of December 31, 2023. Projected benefit payments are required to be discounted to their actuarial present value using a single discount rate that reflects (1) a long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments (to the extent that the health care fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits), and (2) tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate are not met). The single discount rate was based on the actuarial assumed rate of return on the health care investment portfolio of 6.00 percent and a municipal bond rate of 3.77 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rate. Based on these assumptions, the health care fiduciary net position and future contributions were sufficient to finance health care costs through the year 2070. As a result, the actuarial assumed long-term expected rate of return on health care investments was applied to projected costs through the year 2070, the duration of the projected period through which projected health care payments are fully funded.

The allocation of investment assets within the OPERS Health Care portfolio is approved by the Board as outlined in the annual investment plan. Assets are managed on a total return basis with a long-term objective of continuing to offer a sustainable health care program for current and future retirees. The System's primary goal is to achieve and maintain a fully funded status for benefits provided through the defined pension plans. Health care is a discretionary benefit. The long-term expected rate of return on health care investment assets was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected real rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adjusted for inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return were provided by the Board's investment consultant.

For each major asset class that is included in the Health Care portfolio's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2023, these best estimates are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Weighted Average Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (Geometric)
Fixed Income	37.00 %	2.82 %
Domestic Equities	25.00	4.27
REITs	5.00	4.68
International Equities	25.00	5.16
Risk Parity	3.00	4.38
Other investments	5.00	2.43
Total	100.00 %	

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***Sensitivity of the Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate***

The following table presents the Commission's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset) calculated using the single discount rate of 5.70 percent, and the expected net OPEB (asset) if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1.0 percent lower or 1.0 percent higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 137,948	\$ (251,010)	\$ (573,205)

Changes in the health care cost trend rate may also have a significant impact on the net OPEB asset. The following table presents the net OPEB asset calculated using the assumed trend rates, and the expected net OPEB asset if it were calculated using a health care cost trend rate that is 1.0 percent lower or 1.0 percent higher than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Health Care Cost Trend Rate Assumption	1% Increase
Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset	\$ (261,433)	\$ (251,010)	\$ (239,183)

Retiree health care valuations use a health care cost-trend assumption with changes over several years built into that assumption. The near-term rates reflect increases in the current cost of health care; the trend starting in 2024 is 5.50 percent. If this trend continues for future years, the projection indicates that years from now virtually all expenditures will be for health care. A more reasonable alternative is the health care cost trend will decrease at a level at, or near, wage inflation. On this basis, the actuaries project premium rate increases will continue to exceed wage inflation for approximately the next decade, but by less each year, until leveling off at an ultimate rate, assumed to be 3.50 percent in the most recent valuation.

**NOTE 8 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

Employees of the Commission can earn vacation, sick, and personal leave at various rates as specified by Ohio law. Employees accrue vacation leave at a rate of 3.1 hours every two weeks for the first four years of employment, up to a maximum of 9.2 hours every two weeks after twenty-four years of service. Employees may accrue up to a maximum of three years vacation leave credit, not to exceed the max accrual hours.

An employee who separates from state service with less than 12 months of state service is not entitled to compensation for unused accrued vacation leave. Employees exceeding 12 months of service are paid at their full rate of pay for 100 percent of unused vacation. Employees who have a balance of 200 hours of accrued vacation leave, as of the last day of the first pay period in November, may convert up to 80 hours of vacation at 100 percent of the hourly base rate during the December conversions.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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Sick leave for all employees is accumulated at a rate of 3.1 hours every two weeks. Part-time employees earn a percentage of this accrual rate based on the number of hours worked. Upon retirement, an employee may be reimbursed for 55 percent of unused sick leave; upon separation, an employee may be reimbursed for 50 percent of unused sick leave. Bargaining unit employees must be vested before receiving sick leave compensation. An employee who separates from state service with less than 12 months of state service is not entitled to compensation for unused accrued sick leave. Employees have the option of having unused sick leave earned paid out at a percentage of their current pay rate, based on the number of hours selected, during the December conversions.

Beginning with the pay period including December 1, full-time permanent exempt employees who are in an active pay status will be credited with 32 hours personal leave to be used during the calendar year and to be paid at 100 percent of the hourly base rate. An employee's Personal Leave balance cannot exceed 40 hours within the year. Any unused personal leave from the previous calendar year up to 40 hours is paid to the employee at 100 percent of their current pay rate in a process called the December conversions. Exempt employees who begin employment after December are granted personal leave prorated at 1.23 hours per pay period. Non-overtime exempt employees may also be paid 100 percent of any unused compensatory time.

To lessen the impact of termination leave payouts, an accrued leave funding program was instituted by law in 1982. Agencies contributed 2.5 percent of gross payroll to the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS), for each pay period from July thru June. These funds are deposited into Fund 8060, Accrued Leave Liability, which provides funding for compensated absences upon termination, and for the annual December conversions. If the cost of compensated absences paid for terminations or the December conversions during a pay period exceeds the amount of the assessment charged for that pay period, then the amount of the difference is charged to Fund 8060 and used to help pay those costs.

Changes in compensated absences for the years ended June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Beginning Balance	\$ 853,806
Additions	590,345
Deductions	<u>(615,511)</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 828,640</u>
Current Amount	<u><u>\$ 61,319</u></u>

#### **NOTE 9 – CONTINGENCIES**

From time to time the Commission has been named in various public liability and property damage claims and suits arising in the ordinary course of business. While ultimate liability, if any from these proceedings is presently indeterminable, in the opinion of management, these matters should not have a material adverse effect on the Commission's financial statements.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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#### **NOTE 10 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During fiscal year 2024, the Commission had, and expects to have in the future, transactions with other state agencies. The Commission recognized approximately \$27,072 in rental fee revenues from other agencies of the State during fiscal year 2024. State agencies are charged essentially the same rental fees as those charged to third parties.

In addition, the Commission paid other state agencies for processing of payroll, general ledger, and fixed asset ledger. The Commission expensed approximately \$278,798 during fiscal year 2024 for these services at rates comparable to those charged to other agencies of the State for these services.

The Commission maintains special agreements with the following three separate agencies of the State in which these state agencies rent certain buildings and space on the Commission grounds in exchange for services provided:

The Ohio Department of Transportation provides maintenance and renovation work on the roadways, curbs and parking lots of the Commission.

The State Highway Patrol operates a full-time post on the Commission's property and provides law enforcement on this property. In addition, the State Highway Patrol provides traffic control and law enforcement during the Fair. Both of these services are required by State law.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) leases and maintains a large and extensive exhibit at the Fair. In addition, ODNR maintains a Civilian Conservation Corps district office on the Commission's grounds.

The basic financial statements do not give effect to these activities in as much as there is no reliable basis for determining their financial impact.

#### **NOTE 11 – STATE FAIR RESERVE**

The Ohio Legislature passed a House Bill (Am. Sub. H.B. No. 283, Section 49) which established a State Fair Reserve of \$700,000. The reserve may be used if admission revenues for the Ohio State Fair are less than ninety percent of the projected admission revenues. The Commission must declare a state of fiscal emergency and request a release of funds by the Director of Budget and Management. The Director of Budget and Management then must approve the release of funds, and may make changes or stipulations before release of the funds. The outstanding balance of available funds was \$0 at June 30, 2024.

#### **NOTE 12 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The State retains the risk associated with claims arising from vehicle liability, property loss and tort liability. The State also maintains a public employee's blanket bond through a private carrier. However, the Commission is responsible for the replacement of equipment that may be lost or damaged as a result of the operations of the Commission. In addition, employees of the Commission have the option of participating in the Ohio Med Health Plan, a self-insured health benefit plan of the State. The Commission pays a premium each month to the State based on the number of employees opting for plan participation and the types of coverage selected by its employees. At the end of the year, the State allocates the incurred but not reported (IBNR) health benefits claim liability (actuarial determined) or refund to its departments based

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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upon the department's percent of total monthly premiums. Additional disclosures are expected to be found in the State's ACFR.

There were no changes to the above policies during the current fiscal year. Claims experience over the past three years indicates that there were no instances of losses exceeding insurance coverage.

All other risk disclosures are expected to be found in the State's ACFR for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

**NOTE 13 – WORKERS’ COMPENSATION**

The Commission participates in a plan that pays workers’ compensation benefits to beneficiaries who have been injured on the job with any of certain state agencies and state universities. The Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation (Bureau) calculates the estimated amount of cash needed in the subsequent fiscal year to pay the claims for these workers and sets rates to collect this estimated amount from these participating state agencies and universities in that subsequent one-year period. As these already-injured workers’ claims will be paid out over a period of time, the Bureau also actuarially calculates estimated amounts that will be paid in future periods.

Workers’ compensation liabilities at year ended June 30, 2024 was \$28,619, current and \$141,815, noncurrent.

**NOTE 14 – IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Commission has implemented certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99, *Omnibus 2022* and GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*.

GASB Statement No. 99 enhances comparability in accounting and financial reporting and improves the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99 that relate to financial guarantees and the classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement 53 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Commission.

GASB Statement No. 100 enhances accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide a more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessment accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Commission.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability*  
*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

*Last Ten Fiscal Years*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Proportion of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability										
Traditional Plan	0.02853500%	0.02798200%	0.01625800%	0.02038800%	0.03345000%	0.03174500%	0.03241900%	0.03211850%	0.03297400%	0.03270700%
Combined Plan	0.01149600%	0.01082300%	0.00817800%	0.01514300%	0.01970000%	0.01859900%	0.01812100%	0.01005400%	0.00987000%	0.01027100%
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability										
Traditional Plan	\$ 7,470,580	\$ 8,265,895	\$ 1,414,512	\$ 3,019,019	\$ 6,611,619	\$ 8,694,312	\$ 5,085,912	\$ 7,308,666	\$ 5,711,512	\$ 3,944,829
Combined Plan	\$ (35,337)	\$ (25,509)	\$ (32,222)	\$ (43,712)	\$ (41,079)	\$ (20,798)	\$ (24,669)	\$ (5,596)	\$ (4,803)	\$ (3,955)
Covered Payroll	\$ 4,909,864	\$ 4,465,964	\$ 2,459,836	\$ 2,991,886	\$ 4,856,870	\$ 4,435,002	\$ 4,411,369	\$ 4,247,093	\$ 4,176,307	\$ 4,050,921
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset)/Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	151.43%	184.52%	56.19%	99.45%	135.28%	195.57%	114.73%	171.95%	136.64%	97.28%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension (Asset)/Liability										
Traditional Plan	79.01%	75.74%	92.62%	86.88%	82.17%	74.70%	84.66%	77.25%	81.08%	86.45%
Combined Plan	144.55%	137.14%	169.88%	157.67%	145.28%	126.64%	137.28%	116.55%	116.90%	114.83%

Amounts presented as of the Commission's measurement date, which is December 31.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of Commission's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability*  
*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

*Last Eight Fiscal Years (1)*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Proportion of the Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability								
Health Care Plan	0.02781200%	0.02683300%	0.01577400%	0.01978300%	0.03214800%	0.03057600%	0.03114000%	0.03073200%
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)/ Liability								
Health Care Plan	\$ (251,010)	\$ 169,187	\$ (494,066)	\$ (352,450)	\$ 4,440,474	\$ 3,986,389	\$ 3,381,575	\$ 3,104,073
Covered Payroll	\$ 4,909,864	\$ 4,465,964	\$ 2,459,836	\$ 2,991,886	\$ 4,856,870	\$ 4,435,002	\$ 4,411,369	\$ 4,247,093
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)/ Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	-5.11%	3.79%	-20.09%	-11.78%	91.43%	89.88%	76.66%	73.09%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB (Asset)/Liability								
Health Care Plan	107.76%	94.79%	128.23%	115.57%	47.80%	46.33%	54.14%	68.52%

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

Amounts presented as of the Commission's measurement date, which is December 31.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of Commissions Contributions*  
*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

*Last Ten Fiscal Years*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Contractually Required Contribution										
Pension	\$ 713,432	\$ 643,901	\$ 440,168	\$ 158,708	\$ 687,780	\$ 644,276	\$ 606,643	\$ 542,807	\$ 506,960	\$ 497,643
OPEB	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	22,468	65,137	84,493	82,940
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(713,432)</u>	<u>(643,901)</u>	<u>(440,168)</u>	<u>(158,708)</u>	<u>(687,780)</u>	<u>(644,276)</u>	<u>(629,111)</u>	<u>(607,944)</u>	<u>(591,453)</u>	<u>(580,583)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ - -</u>									
Covered payroll	\$ 5,095,943	\$ 4,599,293	\$ 3,144,057	\$ 1,133,628	\$ 4,912,714	\$ 4,601,971	\$ 4,493,650	\$ 4,342,457	\$ 4,224,664	\$ 4,147,021
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll										
Pension	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	13.50%	12.50%	12.00%	12.00%
OPEB	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.50%	1.50%	2.00%	2.00%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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## **NOTE 1 - NET PENSION LIABILITY**

### ***Changes in Assumptions – OPERS***

Amounts reported beginning in 2022 incorporate changes in assumptions used by OPERS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These new assumptions compared with those used in prior years are presented below:

	2022	2019	2018 and 2017	2016 and prior
Wage Inflation	2.75%	3.25%	2.75%	2.75%
Future Salary Increases, including wage inflation	2.75% to 10.75%	3.25% to 10.75%	3.25% to 10.75%	4.25% to 10.05%
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA				
Pre-January 7, 2013 Retirees	3.00%, simple see below	3.00%, simple see below	3.00%, simple see below	3.00%, simple see below
Post-January 7, 2013 Retirees	6.90%	7.20%	7.50%	8.00%
Investment Rate of Return				
Actuarial Cost Method	Individual Entry Age	Individual Entry Age	Individual Entry Age	Individual Entry Age

The assumptions related to COLA or Ad Hoc COLA for Post-January 7, 2013, retirees are as follows:

2023	2.30%, simple through 2024, then 2.05%, simple
2022	3.00%, simple through 2022, then 2.05%, simple
2021	0.50%, simple through 2021, then 2.15%, simple
2020	1.40%, simple through 2020, then 2.15%, simple
2017-2019	3.00%, simple through 2018, then 2.15%, simple
2016 and prior	3.00%, simple through 2018, then 2.80%, simple 5.50% to 5.00%

### ***Changes in Benefit Terms – OPERS***

There were no significant changes in benefit terms.

**Ohio Expositions Commission**  
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**NOTE 2 - NET OPEB LIABILITY (ASSET)**

***Changes in Assumptions - OPERS***

Amounts reported incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented as follows:

<b><u>Assumption</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>
Wage Inflation	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	3.25%	3.25%	3.25%	3.25%
Discount Rate	5.70%	5.22%	6.00%	6.00%	3.16%	3.96%	3.85%
Municipal Bond Rate	3.77%	4.05%	1.84%	2.00%	2.75%	3.71%	3.31%
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	8.50%	10.50%	10.00%	7.50%

For calendar year 2019, the investment rate of return decreased from 6.50 percent to 6.00 percent.

***Changes in Benefit Terms - OPERS***

On January 15, 2020, the Board approved several changes to the health care plan offered to Medicare and non-Medicare retirees in efforts to decrease costs and increase the solvency of the health care plan. These changes are effective January 1, 2022, and include changes to base allowances and eligibility for Medicare retirees, as well as replacing OPERS-sponsored medical plans for non-Medicare retirees with monthly allowances, similar to the program for Medicare retirees. These changes are reflected in 2021.

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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***

To the Board of Commissioners:

Ohio Expositions Commission  
717 East 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the Ohio Expositions Commission, Franklin County, Ohio (the Commission), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 19, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Commission's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission'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 Commission's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Ohio Expositions Commission

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*

Page 2 of 2

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

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission'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 Commission's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Rea & Associates, Inc.*

Rea & Associates, Inc.

Dublin, Ohio

December 19, 2024

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



OHIO EXPOSITIONS COMMISSION

FRANKLIN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 2/6/2025

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)