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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Fairfax Hamilton County 5903 Hawthorne Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45227

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Fairfax, Hamilton County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Village prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the Village as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 16, 2003 on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Village of Fairfax Hamilton County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, Village Council and other officials authorized to receive this report under Section 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

July 16, 2003

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND AGENCY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Type		
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Operating Cash Receipts:						
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$140,732	\$0	\$0		\$140,732	
State Shared Taxes and Permits	1,705,338	0	0		1,705,338	
Intergovernmental Receipts	110,004	86,670	0		196,674	
Charges for Services	14,921	0	0		14,921	
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	90,005	11,688	0		101,693	
Earnings on Investments	25,411	73	2,512		27,996	
Miscellaneous	27,983	15,925	61,750		105,658	
Total Operating Cash Receipts	2,114,394	114,356	64,262		2,293,012	
Operating Cash Disbursements: Current:	-					
Security of Persons and Property	1,002,941	18,108	0		1,021,049	
Public Health Services	3,420	0	0		3,420	
Leisure Time Activities	75,837	0	0		75,837	
Community Environment	10,989	17,725	0		28,714	
Basic Utility Services	125,073	0	0		125,073	
Transportation	110,588	38,645	0		149,233	
General Government	755,326	0	0		755,326	
Capital Outlay	755,520	0	723,849		723,849	
					<u> </u>	
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	2,084,174	74,478	723,849		2,882,501	
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	30,220	39,878	(659,587)		(589,489)	
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):						
Sale of Bonds or Notes	0	0	400,000		400,000	
Transfers-In	0	0	570,000		570,000	
Transfers-Out	(570,000)	0	0		(570,000)	
Other Non-Operating Cash Receipts	0	0	0	122,254	122,254	
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	0	0	0	(119,828)	(119,828)	
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(570,000)	0	970,000	2,426	402,426	
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements						
and Other Financing Disbursements	(539,780)	39,878	310,413	2,426	(187,063)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	1,324,339	188,991	157,396	7,230	1,677,956	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$784,559	\$228,869	\$467,809	\$9,656	\$1,490,893	
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$110,484	\$1,180	\$0	\$0	\$111,664	

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

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND AGENCY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Type	Tatala
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts:					
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$131,274	\$0	\$0		\$131,274
State Shared Taxes and Permits	1,774,195	0	0		1,774,195
Intergovernmental Receipts	133,766	74,017	17,597		225,380
Charges for Services	16,137	0	0		16,137
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	66,643	14,793	0		81,436
Earnings on Investments	57,808	0	0		57,808
Miscellaneous	40,530	2,125	400		43,055
Total Operating Cash Receipts	2,220,353	90,935	17,997		2,329,285
Operating Cash Disbursements: Current:					
Security of Persons and Property	958,965	15.723	0		974,688
Public Health Services	3,440	0	0		3,440
Leisure Time Activities	62,917	0	0		62,917
Community Environment	10,012	0	0		10,012
Basic Utility Services	138,625	0	0		138,625
Transportation	119,262	53,074	165,271		337,607
General Government	627,788	0	0		627,788
Capital Outlay	0	0	63,286		63,286
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	1,921,009	68,797	228,557		2,218,363
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	299,344	22,138	(210,560)		110,922
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):					
Other Non-Operating Cash Receipts	0	0	0	91,637	91,637
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	0	0	0	(116,971)	(116,971)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	0	0	0	(25,334)	(25,334)
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing					
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements					
and Other Financing Disbursements	299,344	22,138	(210,560)	(25,334)	85,588
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	1,024,995	166,853	367,956	32,564	1,592,368
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$1,324,339	\$188,991	\$157,396	\$7,230	\$1,677,956
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$12,876	\$1,196	\$0	\$0	\$14,072

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of Fairfax, Hamilton County, Ohio (the Village), is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Village is directed by a publicly-elected six-member Council. The Village provides park operations, and police and emergency services, and road maintenance.

The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

Certificates of deposit and the repurchase agreement are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Village classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Fund

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund

This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Village streets

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Criminal Forfeiture

This fund receives monies from drug forfeitures for maintaining drug awareness in the Village.

Community Improvement

This fund receives rental fees for community improvement.

3. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Village had the following significant capital project funds:

Big Duck Creek Project Funds

These two funds receive money from the General Fund and the county to purchase properties and easements along the creek because of flooding.

Red Bank Road Widening Fund

This fund receives money from the County, City and State for easements, appraisals, construction and widening of Red Bank Road.

Motor Road Fund

This fund receives money from the County for the purpose of paying engineering fees for Red Bank Road widening.

4. Fiduciary Funds (Agency Funds)

Funds for which the Village is acting in an agency capacity are classified as agency funds. The Village had the following significant agency fund:

Mayor's Court Fund

This fund receives money form fines and forfeitures which are disbursed to the Village and to the State.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain agency funds) be budgeted annually.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Council must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2002 and 2001 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Village's basis of accounting.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Village maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 was as follows:

	2002	2001
Demand deposits	\$238,723	\$37,476
Certificates of deposit	724,347	661,782
Total deposits	963,070	699,258
Repurchase agreement	527,819	978,695
Total investments	527,819	978,695
Total deposits and investments	\$1,490,889	\$1,677,953

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool, or (3) insured by surety bonds.

Investments: Equity securities are held in book entry form by a financial institution's trust department in the Village's name.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2002 and 2001follows:

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,622,101	\$2,114,394	\$492,293
Special Revenue	366,005	114,356	(251,649)
Capital Projects	3,275,528	1,034,262	(2,241,266)
Total	\$5,263,634	\$3,263,012	(\$2,000,622)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$2,383,406	\$2,764,658	(\$381,252)
346,697	75,658	271,039
3,409,068	723,849	2,685,219
\$6,139,171	\$3,564,165	\$2,575,006
	Authority \$2,383,406 346,697 3,409,068	Authority Expenditures \$2,383,406 \$2,764,658 346,697 75,658 3,409,068 723,849

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$2,272,000	\$2,220,353	(\$51,647)
Special Revenue	90,000	90,935	935
Capital Projects	2,939,542	17,997	(2,921,545)
Total	\$5,301,542	\$2,329,285	(\$2,972,257)

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$2,398,152	\$1,933,885	\$464,267
Special Revenue	116,193	69,993	46,200
Capital Projects	3,315,322	228,557	3,086,765
Total	\$5,829,667	\$2,232,435	\$3,597,232

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in the General fund by \$381,252 for the year ended December 31, 2002. In 2001, the appropriations exceeded estimated resources for the Millenium Park by \$7,673, and the Red Bank Road Widening Improvement fund by \$165,421.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Village Council. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Village.

5. LOCAL INCOME TAX

The Village levies a municipal income tax of 1.25 percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually.

6. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2002 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
Red Bank Road Widening Construction	\$400,000	4.56%

The Village opened a \$400,000 line of credit with Provident Bank to complete the Red Bank Road Widening Project and placed these funds in an escrow account. The line of credit was collateralized by a \$500,000 certificate of deposit. This loan agreement with Provident Bank allows the Village to collect interest on the CD and pay no principal on the loan. The Village will be reimbursed by the Ohio Public Works Commission for interest paid to complete the Widening Project.

7. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's law enforcement officers belong to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Funds (OP&F). Other full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. OP&F and PERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. These plans provide retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 (Continued)

7. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Continued)

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2002 and 2001, OP&F participants contributed 10% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 19.5% of police participant wages. PERS members contributed 8.5% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2001. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2002.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Village belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the "Plan"), an unincorporated non-profit association with approximately 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverage, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages. Effective September 1, 2002, the Plan retains 5% of the premium and losses on the first \$500,000 casualty treaty (up to \$25,000 of a loss) and 5% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty (up to \$50,000 of a loss). The Plan also participates in a loss corridor in its first \$500,000 casualty reinsurance. The corridor includes losses paid between 55% and 65% or premiums earned under this treaty. (Reinsurance coverage would resume after a paid loss ratio of 65% is exceeded.) The individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

9. FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The Village is the local sponsor of the Federally sponsored Duck Creek Ohio Flood Management Project to control flooding within the Village. Currently, the Village has brought an eminent domain action to obtain property for this project. The Village placed a \$216,450 bond with the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts in relation to this action. Pursuant to its agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Village may be entitled to reimbursement in whole or in part for any verdict. This bond is not included as an asset in these financial statements.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of Fairfax Hamilton County 5903 Hawthorne Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45227

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Fairfax, Hamilton County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, and have issued our report thereon dated July 16, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2002-001.

We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated July 16, 2003.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financing reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Village's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2002-001.

Village of Fairfax
Hamilton County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on
Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe none of the reportable conditions described above are a material weakness.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management and Village Council, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

July 16, 2003

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2002-001

Noncompliance Citation/Reportable Condition

Ohio Revised Code, Section 5705.41(B), prohibits a Village from making any expenditure of money unless it has been properly appropriated. The Village's expenditures of \$2,654,174 exceeded appropriations of \$2,383,406 in the General fund at December 31, 2002 by \$270,768 and the Village's expenditures of \$332,557 exceeded appropriations of \$300,000 in the Big Duck Creek fund at December 31, 2002 by \$32,557.

The Clerk should deny payment requests exceeding appropriations. The Clerk may request Council to approve increased expenditure levels by increasing appropriations and amending estimated resources, if necessary.

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SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i> :
110111001	Ohio Rev. Code		
	5705.41(D), failure to		Partially corrected, moved to
2000-30431-001	certify funds.	No	management letter.
	Ohio Rev. Code		
	5705.41(B), expenditures		Not corrected, repeated as Finding
2000-30431-002	exceeded appropriations.	No	2002-001.
	Ohio Rev. Code 5705.39,		
	appropriations exceeded		
2000-30432-003	estimated receipts.	Yes	
	Receipt and appropriation		
	ledgers do not reconcile to	.,	
2000-30431-004	general ledger.	Yes	
	Cash journal, adjustments		
	to computer system, and		
	outstanding check lists not properly maintained or		
2000-30431-005	documented.	Yes	
2000-00401-000	documented.	163	
2000-30431-006	Mayor's Court ledgers not		Partially corrected, moved to
2000 00 10 1 000	properly maintained.	No	management letter.



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VILLAGE OF FAIRFAX

HAMILTON COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED AUGUST 21, 2003