

THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY, ILLINOIS

MANAGEMENT LETTER

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2022



December 19, 2022

Members of the Library Board
The Urbana Free Library
Urbana, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of The Urbana Free Library (the Library), Illinois, for the year ended June 30, 2022, we considered its internal control structure 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 structure.

We do not intend to imply that our audit failed to disclose commendable aspects of your system and structure. For your consideration, we herein submit our comments and suggestions which are designed to assist in effecting improvements in internal controls and procedures. Those less-significant matters, if any, which arose during the course of the audit, were reviewed with management as the audit field work progressed.

The accompanying comments and recommendations are intended solely for the information and use of the Board, Executive Director and senior management of The Urbana Free Library, Illinois.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed many of these comments and suggestions with various Library personnel. We would be pleased to discuss our comments and suggestions in further detail with you at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to review the procedures necessary to bring about desirable changes.

We commend the administration department for the well prepared audit package and we appreciate the courtesy and assistance given to us by the entire Library staff.

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP
LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP

CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **GASB STATEMENT NO. 96 SUBSCRIPTION-BASED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ARRANGEMENTS**

Comment

In May 2020, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, which provides guidance regarding the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) by governments. It establishes uniform accounting and financial reporting requirements for SBITAs, improves the comparability of financial statements among governments that have entered into SBITAs, and enhances the understandability, reliability, relevance, and consistency of information about SBITAs. GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements* is applicable to the Library's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Recommendation

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will work directly with the Library to review the new SBITA criteria in conjunction with the Library's current arrangements to determine the appropriate financial reporting for these activities under GASB Statement No. 96.

Management Response

Management acknowledges this comment and, if applicable, will work with Lauterbach and Amen, LLP to implement it by June 30, 2023, as required by GASB.

2. **CAPITAL ASSET POLICY**

Comment

During our current year-end audit procedures, we noted the Library does not have a formal capital asset policy to provide guidance on the financial aspects and stewardship of capital assets. With respect to the financial aspects, guidance should be provided on the minimum dollar amount and minimum useful life for an item to be capitalized as a capital asset. Stewardship issues include the physical custody of capital assets.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Library adopt a capital asset policy, which addresses both financial, and stewardship issues. As part of developing the capital asset policy, a review of the current capitalization amount and estimated useful life should be performed for both financial reporting and stewardship. The capital asset policy should also establish standard depreciation methods and useful lives to be applied to specific categories of assets.

Management Response

Management acknowledges this comment and will work to correct it in the coming year.

CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS - Continued

3. FUND BALANCE POLICY

Comment

During our current year-end audit procedures, we noted that the Library does not have a formal fund balance policy. A fund balance policy establishes a minimum level at which the projected end-of-year fund balance/net position should be maintained, taking into account the constraints imposed upon the resources reported by the governmental and proprietary funds. A fund balance policy assists in providing financial stability, cash flow for operations, and the assurance that the Library will be able to respond to emergencies with fiscal strength.

It is essential to maintain adequate levels of funds balance/net position to mitigate current and future risks and to ensure tax rates. Fund balance/net position levels are also crucial consideration in long-term financial planning. Credit rating agencies carefully monitor levels of fund balance/net position and unassigned fund balance in the General Fund to evaluate the Library's continued creditworthiness.

Recommendation

We recommend the Library create and adopt a fund balance policy to be in compliance with GASB Statement No. 54. The Library should address fund balance reporting categories (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned) as well as review minimum fund balance policies.

Management Response

Management acknowledges this comment and will work to correct it in the coming year.