

Briefing on the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Fiscal Year 2023

City of Baltimore, Maryland

June 26, 2024



Agenda

- Scope of Services
- Audit Approach
- Overview of Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
 - Summary of Preliminary Results
 - Internal Controls Assessment
- Uniform Grant Guidance Audit
- Required Communications

Executive Summary

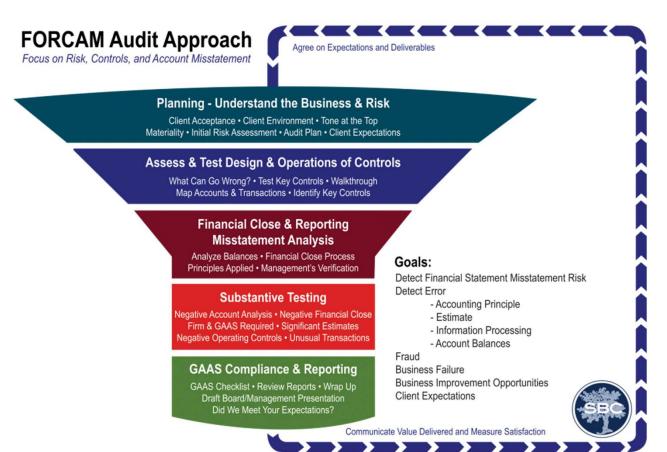
. Scope of Services

- Audit of the following June 30, 2023 financial statements
 - City of Baltimore
 - Water Utility Fund
 - Waste Water Utility Fund
 - Storm Water Utility Fund
 - Parking Facilities Fund
- Uniform Grant Guidance Audit
- Data collection form submission assistance
- Report on internal controls over financial reporting
- Observations and recommendations
- We did not audit and relied on the opinions of other auditors for:
 - Pension Trust Funds
 - Employees' Retirement System
 - Elected Officials Retirement System
 - Fire and Police Retirement System
 - Baltimore City Public School System
 - The City adjusted certain amounts related to pension and OPEB liabilities which SBC took responsibility.
 - Baltimore Hotel Corporation

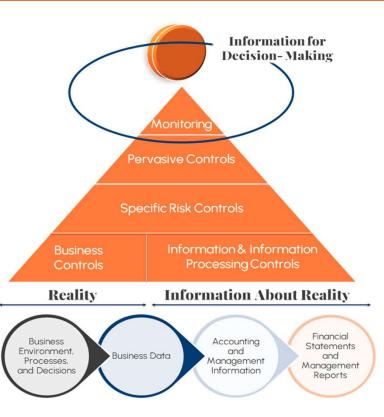
Audit Approach

SBC Audit Approach

"Focus on Risk, Controls, and Account Misstatement"



Evaluate and Test Various Levels of Process Controls



Assessment of Control Environment

Control Environment	Risk Assessment	Control Activities	Information and Communication	Monitoring Activities
 Key executive integrity, ethics, and behavior Control consciousness and operating style Commitment to competence Board's participation in governance and oversight Organizational structure, responsibility, and authority HR policies and procedures 	 Mechanisms to anticipate, identify, and react to significant events Processes and procedures to identify changes in GAAP, business practices, and internal control 	 Existence of necessary policies and procedures Clear financial objectives with active monitoring Logical segregation of duties Periodic comparisons of book-to-actual and physical count-to-books Adequate safeguards of documents, records, and assets Assess controls in place 	 Adequate performance reports produced from information system Information systems are connected with business strategy Commitment of HR and Finance to develop, test, and monitor IT systems and programs Business continuity/disaster plan for IT Established communication channels for employees to fulfill responsibilities Adequate communication across the organization 	 Periodic evaluations of internal controls (annual audit) Implementation of improvement recommendations Perform monitoring activities Remediate deficiencies Internal audit function Internal compliance review function

Significant Risk Areas

Treasury	Estimation	Financial Reporting	Expenditures	Payroll	Revenue
 Cash Management and Accounting Investment Management and Accounting Investment Monitoring Investment Valuation Investment Policy Debt Management and Accounting Debt Compliance Reconciliation 	 Methodology Information Calculation 	 Accounting Principles and Disclosure Closing the Books Report Preparation Estimation (Pension/OPEB) General Ledger and Journal Entry Processing Verification and Review of Results 	 Purchasing Procurement Purchase Card Receiving Authorization Budget Accounts Payable and Cash Disbursement 	 Attendance Reporting Time Reporting Payroll Accounting and Processing Budget Payroll Disbursements Change Management Hiring/Terminations 	 Calculation and Billing Cash Receipts Revenue and Recognition Cutoff

The principal areas of audit emphasis included key industry, business and technical issues as identified during our audit planning and the accounts with greater risk of misstatement due to their inherent risk of error or fraud.

Significant Risk Areas (cont.)

Fixed Assets	Compliance	Grants Management	Information Technology
 Physical Custody Asset and Construction in Process Accounting Depreciation 	 Assess Internal and External Risk Regulatory Compliance Monitor Compliance Grant Compliance 	 Acceptance Grant Oversight Compliance Reporting Monitoring Accounting Billing and Collection Grant Close Out 	 Policy Framework Physical and Environmental Controls Security Plan and Operations Logical Access to Data and Applications System Development and Deployment Change and Incident Management System Operations Data Backup and Recovery Encryption Segregation of Duties Cyber Security Preparedness Application Controls (General Ledger, Payroll, Taxes, Billing) System Maintenance and Version Updates Third-Party Processors

Overview of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

Section of the ACFR	Auditor Responsibility	
Introductory Section:	None	
 Financial Section: Independent Public Accountants' Report Management's Discussion and Analysis Basic Financial Statements Government Wide Statements Component Unit Information Fund Statements Governmental Proprietary Fiduciary Notes to the Financial Statements Required Supplementary Information Combining and Individual Fund Statements and Schedule 	Our Opinion Review for Consistency Opine Review of Financial Statements Opine Opine/Review of Financial Statements Opine Review for Consistency In Relation To	
Statistical Section:	Review for Consistency	

Summary of Results

- Issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements
- Discovered no instances of material fraud
- Received full cooperation from management
- Material weaknesses and significant deficiencies in internal controls were identified
- Recommendations for improvement to internal controls and procedures

Internal Controls Assessment

- A deficiency in internal controls over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements and/or noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program on a timely basis.
- A significant deficiency in internal controls over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal controls over compliance that is less severe than a material weakness in internal controls over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.
- A material weakness in internal controls over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal controls over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material misstatements and/or noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a Federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Internal Controls Assessment (cont.)

The following material weaknesses were identified:

Area	Summary
Financial Reporting Function	The City had significant post year-end adjustments to its fiscal year 2023 financial statements. Such adjustments relate to errors (both material and immaterial) undiscovered throughout the fiscal year. For example, there were cash accounts that were not reconciled for the majority of the fiscal year, which resulted in approximately \$50 million of uninvestigated reconciling items. Additionally, upon review of the trust accounts, an account for \$92 million was identified, but had not been recorded as of year end.
Grant Accounting	Due to lack of formal procedures and accountability at various departments, the City is not able to establish accurate balances of grant accounts receivable and grant deferred revenue accounts.
Water and Waste Water Billing	There was a significant number of accounts that have not been billed since the system has been implemented and a significant number of accounts have been billed inconsistently. The City's water and wastewater utilities system is not able to establish accurate water and wastewater utilities revenue and accounts receivable balances without manually calculated adjustments and this is a greater risk of error due to manual adjustments. There were also approximately \$13 million capitalizable costs that were erroneously recorded as operational expenses that needed to be adjusted post-close.
Fixed Asset Accounting	There were significant post-close adjustments recorded to fixed assets to correct the year-end reporting for capitalized assets. Additionally, errors were detected in the depreciation calculation that resulted in additional adjustments.

Internal Controls Assessment (cont.)

Area	Summary
Information Technology Security	While progress has been made in addressing and remediating the legacy vulnerabilities, including adding additional personnel to the task, a number of "severe/critical/high risk" vulnerabilities remain to be remediated. The absence of timely remediation increases the risk that vulnerabilities may be exploited leading to disruption of the City's operations and/or theft/loss of data.
Schedule of Federal Awards (SEFA)	Finance is responsible for preparing the schedule of expenditures of Federal awards based upon grant information obtained from the financial accounting records and other information provided by each department or agency. In many instances, the detail expenditure information in the accounting software differed from the expenditures reported by various City departments. Additionally, expenditures related to sub-recipients, subcontractors, and beneficiaries are not separately tracked in the general ledger. Without adequate controls over financial reporting, the City cannot provide reasonable assurance that the SEFA is fairly presented. There were also significant delays in the preparation of the Schedule of Federal awards, which prevented the City from meeting the March 31, 2024 deadline with the Federal clearinghouse.

Uniform Grant Guidance Results

Goals of the Uniform Guidance

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued OMB Guidance for Grants and Agreements, now known as the OMB Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance. All non-Federal government agencies and nonprofit organizations that expend \$750,000 or more in Federal awards in a given fiscal year are required to obtain a Single Audit.

- Streamline for Federal awards to ease administrative burden
- Strengthen oversight over Federal funds to reduce risk of waste, fraud and abuse
- Focus grant policies on areas that emphasize the achievement of better grant outcomes (performance) at a lower cost

Goals of the Uniform Guidance

<u>Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200)</u>: 2 C.F.R Part 200 establishes uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for Federal awards to non-Federal entities.

Area	Summary
Allowable Costs/Activities/Period of Availability & Performance	The non-Federal entity should ensure that Federal and state financial assistance is expended only for allowable activities and that the costs of goods and services charged to Federal and state awards are allowable and in accordance with applicable cost principles, and used only during the authorized period of availability.
Cash Management	Advances and reimbursements should comply with Federal and state laws and interest income should be correctly recorded and returned to the state agency or applied against the contract or grant agreement unless a waiver is obtained from the Chief Financial Officer.
Matching	The non-Federal entity is responsible for ensuring that matching requirements are met using only allowable funds or in- kind contributions that are properly calculated and valued.
Reporting	The non-Federal entity should ensure that reports of Federal and state financial assistance submitted to the awarding agency include all activity of the reporting period, are supported by underlying accounting or performance records, and are fairly presented in accordance with project requirements.
Subrecipient Monitoring	The non-Federal entity is responsible for ensuring that Federal and state financial assistance information and compliance requirements are identified to subrecipients, subrecipient activities are monitored, subrecipient audit findings are resolved, and the impact of any subrecipient noncompliance on the project is evaluated.
	Also, the non-Federal entity should perform procedures to provide reasonable assurance that the subrecipient obtained required audits and takes appropriate corrective action on audit findings.

Summary of Independent Public Accountants' Review

	FY 2023	FY 2022
Financial Statements Type of independent public accountants' report issued	Unmodified	Unmodified
Internal controls over financial reporting:		
Material weakness(es) identified?	Yes	Yes
Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses?	Yes	Yes
Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted?	No	No
Federal Awards		
Type of independent public accountants' report issued	To be determined	Qualified and Unmodified
Internal controls over major programs:		
Material weakness(es) identified?	To be determined	Yes
Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses?	To be determined	Yes
Type of independent public accountants report issued on compliance for major programs		
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	To be determined	Qualified
Coronavirus Relief Fund Children's Health Insurance Program	To be determined To be determined	Qualified Qualified
Medical Assistance Program	To be determined	Qualified
HIV Emergency Relief Project Grants	To be determined	Qualified
HIV Prevention Activities	To be determined	Qualified
All others	To be determined	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to		
be reported in accordance with Uniform Guidance?	To be determined	Yes

Summary of Major Programs (FY 2023)*

Name of Federal Major Programs	Assistance Listing Number
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	
Total Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS	14.241
U.S. Department of Treasury	
Emergency Rental Assistance Program	21.023
Total American Rescue Plan Act	21.027
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	
Aging Cluster	93.044/93.045/93.053
Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America	93.686
Total Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	93.767
Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid Cluster)	93.778
Total HIV Emergeny Relief Project Grants	93.914
HIV Prevention Activities	93.940

* We will meet on the results of the FY 2023 Uniform Guidance Grant Audit upon completion.

Summary of Major Programs (FY 2022)

	Assistance Listing	Federal
Name of Federal Major Programs	Number	Expenditures
US Department of Housing and Urban Development	44.040	A A A A A A A A A A
Community Services Block Grant - Entitlement Grants Cluster	14.218	\$ 16,833,114
Total Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS	14.241	8,658,859
US Department of Treasury		
Coronavirus Relief Fund	21.019	34,756,398
Emergency Rental Assistance Program	21.023	15,390,776
Total American Rescue Plan Act	21.027	44,977,278
US Department of Labor		
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Cluster	17.258	
	17.259	
	17.278	7,244,904
	17.270	
	17.277	
US Department of Health and Human Services		
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	3,880,720
Community Services Block Grant	93.569	3,345,513
Total Low-Income Home Energy Assistance	93.568	3,278,264
Total Children's Health Insurance Program	93.767	4,634,965
Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid Cluster)	93.778	7,179,927
Total HIV Emergeny Relief Project Grants	93.914	16,062,649
HIV Prevention Activities	93.940	6,728,157
Totally Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Prevention and Control Grants	93.977	4,394,339
Total Major Programs		\$ 177,365,863
Total Federal Awards		\$ 283,861,698
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:		\$ 3,000,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk Auditee?		No
Required Coverage Percentage Actual Coverage Percentage		40% 62%

Overall Recommendations for Improvement

- We recommend that finance establish policies and procedures to ensure that the Federal funds are properly identified and reported accurately in the schedule of Federal awards in accordance with Uniform Guidance requirements.
- We also recommend that individuals responsible for administering Federal assistance programs with the City of Baltimore receive training in grant administration, including the specific Uniform Guidance requirements (eligibility, reporting, cash management, subrecipient monitoring, etc.) for each grant administered.

Internal controls over financial reporting should be designed to prevent, detect or correct errors in a timely manner. Without adequate controls, the City of Baltimore cannot provide reasonable assurance that the schedule of Federal awards is fairly presented and that grants are operated in accordance with Uniform Grant Guidance.

Required Communications

Required Communications

1. Auditor's Responsibilities Under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)

The financial statements are the responsibility of management. Our audit was designed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards, and provide for reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application.

The significant accounting policies used by management are described in the notes to the financial statements.

3. Auditor's Judgments About the Quality of Accounting Principle

We discuss our judgments about the quality, not just the acceptability, of accounting principles selected by management, the consistency of their application, and the clarity and completeness of the financial statements, which include related disclosures.

We have reviewed the significant accounting policies adopted by the City and have determined that these policies are acceptable accounting policies.

4. Audit Adjustments

We are required to inform the City's oversight body about adjustments arising from the audit (whether recorded or not) that could in our judgement either individually or in the aggregate have a significant effect on the entity's financial reporting process. We also are required to inform the City's oversight body about unadjusted audit differences that were determined by management to be, individually and in the aggregate, immaterial.

There were no past adjustments identified during the audit process. All adjustments proposed by SB & Company, LLC were accepted by management and included in the audited financial statements.

Our procedures identified no instances of fraud or illegal acts.

5. Fraud and Illegal Acts

We are required to report to the City's oversight body any fraud and illegal acts involving senior management and fraud and illegal acts (whether caused by senior management or other employees) that cause a material misstatement of the financial statements.

Our procedures identified no instances of fraud or illegal acts.

6. Material Weaknesses in Internal Control

We are required to communicate all significant deficiencies in the City's systems of internal controls, whether or not they are also material weaknesses.

We noted material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting, as previously discussed.

7. Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements *None*.

8. Disagreements with Management on Financial Accounting and Reporting Matters *None.*

9. Serious Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

Difficulties related to systems limitations, material weaknesses discussed, and certain manual processes.

10. Major Issues Discussed with Management Prior to Acceptance

None.

11. Management Representations

We received certain written representations from management as part of the completion of the audit.

12. Consultation with Other Accountants

To our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants since our appointment as the City's independent public accountants.

13. Independence

As part of our client acceptance process, we go through a process to ensure we are independent of the City.

14. Non-attest Services

We perform non-attest service for the City. They include financial statement compilation, assistance with the Single Audit report and submission of the Data Collection form.

Management has designated an individual who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience to oversee these services and has taken responsibility for the services performed. We remain independent of the City.

15. Assistance from City Auditors

The City auditors assisted in the completion of certain audit areas.

Our Responsibility Related to Fraud

- Plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that there is no material misstatement caused by error or fraud;
- Comply with GAAS AU-C 240, "Consideration of Fraud in a Financial Statement Audit";
- Approach all audits with an understanding that fraud could occur in any entity, at any time, by anyone; and
- Perform mandatory procedures required by GAAS and our firm policies.

Examples of Procedures Performed

- Discuss thoughts and ideas in areas where the financial statements might be susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud;
- Understand pressures on the financial statement results;
- Understand the tone and culture of the organization;
- · Look for unusual or unexpected transactions, relationships, or procedures;
- · Discussions with individuals outside of finance;
- · Evaluate key processes and controls; and
- Consider information gathered throughout the audit.



Questions & Answers

Meet the Team Leadership



William Seymour, CPA, CGMA Engagement Partner

- Over 25 years of experience in public accounting
 - Graduate of Towson University

William (Bill) is a Partner at SBC and has more than 25 years of experience in public accounting. Before he joined SBC, he spent time at the global firm Arthur Andersen, LLP, where he was a part of its Mid-Atlantic State and Local Government Practice. Bill leads SBC's public sector practice and has served many state and local government entities throughout his career. Bill is a GFOA Certificate reviewer and is active in the industry, attending many GFOA, GFOA-PA, AICPA, and AGA events. He has testified on proposed government accounting standards to GGASB. Additionally, Bill has taught and spoken at several MDGFOA events. He is a past member of the Executive Committee of the AICPA, Government Quality Center.



Graylin Smith, CPA, CGMA, CGFM, CFSA, CRMA Advisory Partner

- Over 40 years of experience in public accounting
 - Graduate of Hampton University

Graylin (Gray) is the managing partner at SBC. Gray's clients have ranged from small start up entities to large billion-dollar entities, including publicly traded companies. Gray was the leader of the Arthur Andersen Mid-Atlantic State and Local Government Practice. After Arthur Andersen, Gray spent time as a partner at Ernst & Young, LLP in the Mid-Atlantic region. Gray served on the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board and is a former member of the AICPA Governing Council, former Chair of the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants ("MACPA") Board, and former member of MACPA's Peer Review and Ethics Committees.

Meet the Team Leadership (cont.)



Tiana Wynn, CPA, MBA Audit Partner

• Over 18 years of experience in public accounting

Graduate of University of Maryland & Loyola University of Maryland, Sellinger School of Business & Finance

Tiana is a partner at SBC, and she has eighteen years of public accounting experience. Prior to SBC, Tiana worked in Ernst & Young, LLP's audit department. At SBC, she performs a variety of audit services, including financial statement audits, risk consulting, and other operational reviews. She serves as one of the AICPA's Enhanced Oversight Peer Reviewers. Tiana received her Bachelor of Science in Finance at University of Maryland and Master of Business Administration at Loyola University of Maryland, Sellinger School of Business & Finance. Tiana teaches at local and national conferences. During engagements, she leads the planning and reviewing the work papers and deliverables in sufficient detail to ensure the audit plan is accurately executed and documented and that issues are properly addressed and resolved.



Monique Booker, CPA Advisory Partner

Over 30 years of experience in public accounting

Graduate of Hampton University

Monique is a partner at SBC who leads our Grant Audit practice. She has more than thirty years of experience in public accounting and is a former senior manager with Arthur Andersen, LLP's Mid-Atlantic Practice before helping to found SBC in 2005. Monique makes recommendations to improve processes and controls and assists clients in the implementation of corrective action plans. She is also in charge of SBC's Quality Assurance, overseeing our quality protocols. Monique recently finished her term on the AICPA Auditing Standards Board (ASB), the AICPA's senior committee for auditing, attestation, and quality control applicable to the performance and issuance of audit and attestation reports. Monique currently sits on the AICPA's Government Audit Quality Executive Committee.

Meet the Team Leadership (cont.)



Julie Paris, CISA IT Audit Risk Specialist Over years 30 years of experience in IT Risk

Graduate of University of Baltimore

Julie is a valuable addition to our IT Audit Team with over 30 years of IT risk experience. As an IT risk manager, she brings a unique wealth of experience understanding technology in a technical and comprehensive way that many IT auditors do not. She understands the entire life cycle since she supported various companies in determining their system and database needs and assisted with the development and implementation of enterprise application financial software needs and modifications for several clients. With experience conducting IT audits, Julie manages large, complex engagements maximizing our team's ability to communicate effectively with IT and lends her strong intuition and technical knowledge to assess IT risks and controls.



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