# LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA



FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 ISSUED DECEMBER 13, 2017

#### LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR 1600 NORTH THIRD STREET POST OFFICE BOX 94397 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9397

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November 30, 2017

#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA

New Orleans, Louisiana

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely-presented component unit, and each major fund of the Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District (the District), a component unit of the State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

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

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Louisiana Superdome Marketing and Promotional Fund, which represents the only discretely-presented component unit of the District. The financial statements of the discretely-presented component unit were audited by another auditor whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts included for the component unit, are based on the report of the other auditor. 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely-presented component unit, and each major fund of the District as of June 30, 2017, and the respective changes in the financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in note 20 to the financial statements, the fiscal year 2016 financial statements have been restated to correct a misstatement. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### **Other Matters**

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 5 through 11 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any

assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 30, 2017, on our consideration of the District'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 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 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

Daryl G. Purpera, CPA, CFE

Legislative Auditor

CJH:NM:WDG:EFS:aa

LSED 2017

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

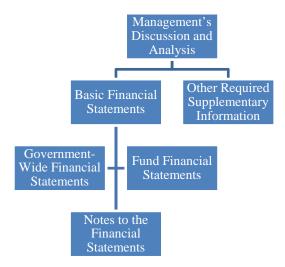
Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District's (the District) financial performance presents a narrative overview and analysis of the District's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2017. This document focuses on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently-known facts in comparison with the prior year's information. Please read this document in conjunction with the information contained in the District's financial statements, which begin on page 12.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The District's assets and deferred outflows of resources of business-type activities exceeded liabilities at the close of fiscal year 2017 by \$337,571,087. The net position of business-type activities decreased by \$14,162,993 during fiscal year 2017. The liabilities of governmental activities exceeded assets and deferred outflows of resources at the close of fiscal year 2017 by \$240,702,371. The net position of governmental activities increased by \$5,676,698 during fiscal year 2017.
- The District has received \$6,966,995 in capital contributions to its business-type activities for the year ended June 30, 2017. This represents a decrease of \$17,758,018 from the prior fiscal year. The contributions fund various capital projects for improvements to the Mercedes-Benz Superdome and Smoothie King Center.
- The District received \$50,422,765 of hotel occupancy taxes in its governmental activities for the year ended June 30, 2017. This represents an increase of \$134,907 over the prior fiscal year and is the highest annual collections ever received. The increase in the hotel tax collections has reduced the District's dependency on the state's General Fund appropriations to meet the contractual obligations of the District.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following graphic illustrates the minimum requirements for the District established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments:* 



This annual report consists of three parts: Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section), the basic financial statements and related notes, and supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the District:

- The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about the District's financial status and its component unit.
- The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the District, reporting the District's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.
- The governmental fund financial statements tell how general government services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.
- Proprietary fund statements offer short- and long-term financial information about the activities the government operates, such as businesses.

The basic financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The previous graphic shows how the required parts of this annual report are arranged and relate to one another.

#### **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The basic financial statements present information for the District as a whole, in a format designed to make the statements easier for the reader to understand. The statements in this section are as follows:

#### **Government-Wide Statements**

The government-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the District's net position and how they have changed. Net position (the difference between the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources and liabilities) is one way to measure the District's financial health or position.

The government-wide financial statements of the District are divided into three categories:

- <u>Governmental activities</u>, which include the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Capital Projects Fund
- <u>Business-type activities</u>, which include the operation of the Mercedes-Benz Superdome, Smoothie King Center, and Champions Square
- <u>Component unit</u>, which represents the operation of the Louisiana Superdome Marketing and Promotional Fund, a legally-separate nonprofit corporation

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's funds, not the District as a whole. Funds are accounting devices that the District uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes.

The District has two kinds of funds:

- Governmental funds, which focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps the reader of the financial statements determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, additional information is provided at the bottom of the governmental funds statements that explains the relationship (or differences) between them.
- Proprietary funds, like government-wide statements, provide both short- and longterm financial information. The District's enterprise funds (one type of proprietary fund) are the same as its business-type activities but provide more detailed and additional information, such as cash flows.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT

Restricted net position is not available for spending as a result of legislative requirements, donor agreements, or grant requirements. Conversely, unrestricted net position does not have any limitations on what these amounts may be used for.

#### Net Position As of June 30, 2017, and 2016 (in thousands)

2017	2016 Restated
\$119,474	\$115,811
359,863	375,967
479,337	491,778
30,157	32,806
46,455	48,066
366,171	371,163
412,626	419,229
102,464	114,140
60,782	57,689
(66,378)	(66,474)
\$96,868	\$105,355
	\$119,474 359,863 479,337 30,157 46,455 366,171 412,626 102,464 60,782 (66,378)

The District's total revenues of its governmental and business-type activities decreased by \$5,915,000 from 2016 to 2017. The total cost of all governmental and business-type activities programs and services increased by \$14,887,000. The decrease in total revenues is due primarily to a decrease in capital contributions made by the State for related improvements to the facilities.

#### Changes in Net Position For the Years Ended June 30, 2017, and 2016 (in thousands)

	2017	2016 Restated
Revenues		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$53,153	\$43,839
Grants and contributions	10,679	28,165
General revenues:		
Hotel occupancy taxes	50,423	50,288
New Orleans Sports Franchise Fund	9,333	9,255
Pari-mutuel live racing facility slots	2,752	3,069
Players' tax	4,129	2,238
Interest and other income	1,259	789
Total revenues	131,728	137,643
Program Expenses		
Interest on long-term debt	15,512	15,284
Facility operation and contract administration	123,201	108,542
Total expenses	138,713	123,826
Other revenues (expenses)	(1,501)	(3,036)
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Position	(\$8,486)	\$10,781

#### CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### **Capital Assets**

At June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2016, the District had \$359,863,290 and \$375,967,503 (restated), respectively, invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation of \$333,704,427 and \$296,101,572 (restated), respectively, including land, buildings and improvements, furniture, fixtures, equipment, and construction-in-progress.

Capital assets as of June 30 (in thousands):

	2017	2016 Restated
Land	\$17,069	\$13,944
Building and improvements	326,336	317,946
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	6,255	8,517
Construction-in-progress	10,203	35,561
Total	\$359,863	\$375,968

#### **Debt**

The District had \$329,790,000 and \$339,060,000 in revenue bonds outstanding at June 30, 2017, and June 30, 2016, respectively. In January 2013, the District issued Series 2013A, 2013B, and 2013C Revenue Refunding Bonds totaling \$361,345,000 for the purpose of refunding the District's existing debt, providing funds for the termination of the fixed-rate hedge agreement and the interest rate swap agreement, and providing for the costs of issuance of the bonds. The District's required principal payment on the Series 2013 bonds of \$9,270,000 was due and paid on July 1, 2016.

### ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The District's appointed officials considered the following factors and indicators when setting next year's budgets, rates, and fees:

- Staffing requirements and operating expenses due to the Mercedes-Benz Superdome, Smoothie King Center, and Champions Square being fully operational
- Events anticipated based on contracts and historical cost
- Hotel occupancy tax revenue based on conventions planned in New Orleans and estimates of future conventions projected to come to New Orleans
- Contractual obligations to professional sports franchises

During fiscal year 2017, the District's net position decreased \$8,486,295. During fiscal year 2016, the District's net position increased \$10,780,610. The operating loss, during fiscal year 2017, was funded by statutorily dedicated revenues, grants, and hotel occupancy taxes, which were transferred from the General Fund, and capital contributions from the state. Current projections by management of the District indicate that operating losses incurred in the business-type activities will continue and will be funded with statutorily dedicated revenues, grants, and hotel occupancy taxes, along with capital contributions from the state.

#### CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our residents, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. Questions about this report or requests for additional financial information may be addressed to M. David Weidler, Senior Director of Finance and Administration, SMG, Post Office Box 52439, New Orleans, Louisiana 70152.

# LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA

### **Statement of Net Position June 30, 2017**

	PRIMA	RY GOVERNMEN	Т	
		BUSINESS-		
	GOVERNMENTAL	TYPE		COMPONENT
	ACTIVITIES	ACTIVITIES	TOTAL	UNIT
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$48,384,387	\$20,583,765	\$68,968,152	\$1,169,246
Accounts receivable, net	1,540	1,207,523	1,209,063	225,440
Due from State of Louisiana (note 3)	11,407,133	1,170,356	12,577,489	,
Equipment lease receivable, current portion (note 7)		140,000	140,000	
Notes receivable current portion (note 4)		110,513	110,513	
Internal balances	135,906	(135,906)		
Due from component unit	,	7,133,848	7,133,848	
Inventory of materials and supplies		102,677	102,677	1,161
Prepaid expenses		275,215	275,215	4,770
Advance on construction				286,263
Restricted assets: (notes 2, 6, and 10)				,
Renewal and Replacement Reserve Account -				
cash and cash equivalents	11,089,423	2,129,680	13,219,103	
Energy savings performance trust -	,,	, .,	-, -,	
cash and cash equivalents	3,309,302		3,309,302	
Debt service reserve - cash and cash equivalents	-,,		-,,	18,348
Concessionaire Fund - receivable		1,000,386	1,000,386	,
Deposits		-,,	-,,	35,869
Notes receivable (note 4)		11,428,562	11,428,562	,
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation (note 5)	43,472,330	316,390,960	359,863,290	8,347,590
Total assets	117,800,021	361,537,579	479,337,600	10,088,687
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred charge on refunding	30,156,979		30,156,979	
Total deferred charge on refunding	30,156,979	NONE	30,156,979	NONE
Total deletted charge on retunding	30,130,777	NONE	30,130,777	NONE
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	579,077	4,358,846	4,937,923	357,878
Sports franchise obligations payable (notes 16 and 17)	2,643,633	407,196	3,050,829	
Due to primary government				7,133,848
Unearned revenue and security deposits		93,862	93,862	
Compensated absences (note 1-J)	8,886	445,285	454,171	1,936
Advance deposits on future events		16,675,040	16,675,040	491,177
Accrued bond interest payable current portion	7,123,226		7,123,226	
Advance on construction		286,263	286,263	
Notes payable current portion, net (note 9)	263,384		263,384	100,000
Bonds payable current portion, net (note 8)	12,392,789		12,392,789	
Capital lease obligations current portion (note 6)	577,852		577,852	135,906
Other Long-Term Liabilities, current portion		600,000	600,000	
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Accrued bond interest payable	5,196,858		5,196,858	
Bonds payable, net (note 8)	348,369,743		348,369,743	
Capital lease obligations (note 6)	10,466,661		10,466,661	
Notes payable (note 9)	1,037,262		1,037,262	14,206,629
Other Long-Term Liabilities		1,100,000	1,100,000	
Total liabilities	388,659,371	23,966,492	412,625,863	22,427,374

#### (Continued)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA Statement of Net Position June 30, 2017

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT			ЛТ	
		BUSINESS-		
	GOVERNMENTAL	TYPE		COMPONENT
	ACTIVITIES	ACTIVITIES	TOTAL	UNIT
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	(\$213,926,962)	\$316,390,960	\$102,463,998	
Restricted for:				
Debt service	43,254,006		43,254,006	
Renewal and replacement	11,089,423	2,129,680	13,219,103	
Concessionaire reserve		1,000,386	1,000,386	
Energy savings performance	3,309,302		3,309,302	
Unrestricted	(84,428,140)	18,050,061	(66,378,079)	(\$12,338,687)
TOTAL NET POSITION	(\$240,702,371)	\$337,571,087	\$96,868,716	(\$12,338,687)

(Concluded)

## LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA

#### Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

		PROGRAM REVENUES		
		CHARGES	OPERATING	CAPITAL
		FOR	GRANTS AND	<b>GRANTS AND</b>
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	EXPENSES	SERVICES	CONTRIBUTIONS	CONTRIBUTIONS
PRIMARY GOVERNMENT:				
Governmental activities:				
	<b>#11.150.014</b>			#10F 10F
Facility operation	\$11,152,314			\$197,185
Interest on bonds	15,511,861			
Contract administration	6,500		\$3,514,706	
Total governmental activities	26,670,675	NONE	3,514,706	197,185
Business-type activities:				
Facility operation	112,041,686	\$53,152,571	NONE	6,966,995
TOTAL PRIMARY GOVERNMENT	\$138,712,361	\$53,152,571	\$3,514,706	\$7,164,180
TOTAL PRIMARY GOVERNMENT	\$130,712,301	\$33,132,371	\$3,314,700	\$7,104,100
COMPONENT UNIT:				
Louisiana Superdome Marketing and				
Promotional Fund	\$7,302,858	\$4,750,052	NONE	NONE
TOTAL COMPONENT UNIT	\$7,302,858	\$4,750,052	NONE	NONE

General revenues:

Taxes: (note 10)

Hotel occupancy taxes

New Orleans Sports Franchise Fund

Pari-mutuel live racing facility slots

Players' tax

Vehicle license plate royalties

Miscellaneous

Investment earnings

Transfers in (out)

Payment to State of Louisiana

Special item - judgment

Total general revenues and transfers

Change in net position

NET POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR, AS RESTATED (note 20)

TOTAL NET POSITION, END OF YEAR

NET (EXPENSE) REVENUE AND
CHANGES IN NET POSITION

CHANGES IN NI	ET POSITION		
	BUSINESS-		
GOVERNMENTAL	TYPE		COMPONENT
ACTIVITIES	ACTIVITIES	TOTAL	UNIT
Hellvilled	TICTIVITIES .	TOTAL	01111
(\$10,955,129)		(\$10,955,129)	
(15,511,861)		(15,511,861)	
3,508,206		3,508,206	
(22,958,784)	NONE	(22,958,784)	
(==,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		(==,,,,,,,,,	
NONE	(\$51,922,120)	(51,922,120)	
(\$22,958,784)	(\$51,922,120)	(\$74,880,904)	
			(\$2,552,806)
			(\$2,552,806)
		•	
\$50,422,765		\$50,422,765	
9,332,578		9,332,578	
2,752,375		2,752,375	
4,128,514		4,128,514	
600,000		600,000	
403,581	\$165.402	403,581	¢1 727
90,039	\$165,403	255,442	\$1,737
(37,593,724)	37,593,724	(200,000)	
(200,000)		(200,000)	
(1,300,646)		(1,300,646)	
28,635,482	37,759,127	66,394,609	1,737
5,676,698	(14,162,993)	(8,486,295)	(2,551,069)
(\$246,379,069)	\$351,734,080	\$105,355,011	(\$9,787,618)
(\$240,702,371)	\$337,571,087	\$96,868,716	(\$12,338,687)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Balance Sheet June 30, 2017

	GENERAL	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL
	FUND	FUND	FUND	FUNDS
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$9,066,210	\$39,318,169	\$8	\$48,384,387
Accounts receivable	1,540	\$55,510,105	40	1,540
Due from State of Louisiana (note 3)	7,471,296	3,935,837		11,407,133
Due from other funds	135,906			135,906
Restricted assets: (notes 2, 6, and 10)				
Renewal and Replacement Reserve Account -				
cash and cash equivalents	11,089,423			11,089,423
Energy savings performance trust -				
cash and cash equivalents	3,309,302			3,309,302
TOTAL ASSETS	\$31,073,677	\$43,254,006	\$8	\$74,327,691
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$579,077			\$579,077
Sports franchise obligations payable				
(notes 16 and 17)	2,643,633			2,643,633
Compensated absences (note 1-J)	8,886			8,886
Total liabilities	3,231,596	NONE	NONE	3,231,596
Fund Balances:				
Restricted for - debt service		\$43,254,006		43,254,006
Restricted for - renewal and replacement	11,089,423			11,089,423
Restricted for - energy savings performance	3,309,302			3,309,302
Assigned for - capital projects			\$8	8
Unassigned	13,443,356			13,443,356
Total fund balances	27,842,081	43,254,006	8	71,096,095
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND				
FUND BALANCES	\$31,073,677	\$43,254,006	\$8	\$74,327,691

#### (Continued)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS Balance Sheet June 30, 2017

	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Total fund balances, as presented in this statement	\$71,096,095
Amounts presented for governmental activities in the	
Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Accrued bond interest is reported in the Statement of	
Net Position but is not due and payable in the current	
period and, therefore, is not reported as a liability of	
the fund balance sheet.	(12,320,084)
Deferred charges on refunding of bonds payable are not	
reported in the funds.	30,156,979
Long-term liabilities are reported in the Statement of	
Net Position but are not due and payable in the current	
period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities of	
the fund balance sheet.	(373,107,691)
Capital assets reported in the Statement of Net Position	
are not current financial resources.	43,472,330
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	(\$240,702,371)

#### (Concluded)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

# Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
REVENUES				
Hotel occupancy tax (note 10)	\$26,897,069	\$23,525,696		\$50,422,765
New Orleans Sports Franchise Fund	9,332,578			9,332,578
Pari-mutuel live racing facility slots	2,752,375			2,752,375
Players' tax	4,128,514			4,128,514
Vehicle license plate royalties	600,000			600,000
Interest earnings	42,136	47,903		90,039
Miscellaneous income	403,581			403,581
Total revenues	44,156,253	23,573,599	NONE	67,729,852
EXPENDITURES				
Salaries, wages, and benefits	522,283			522,283
Utilities	278,980			278,980
Management fee - SMG (note 14)	75,000			75,000
Professional fees	523,217			523,217
Insurance	240,901			240,901
Other Saints obligations (note 16)	2,850,061			2,850,061
Other Pelicans obligations (note 17)	3,895,722			3,895,722
Other facility obligations	905,146			905,146
Other expenditures	579,367			579,367
Capital outlay	3,125,336		\$313,791	3,439,127
Debt service:				
Principal	455,487	9,270,000		9,725,487
Interest	362,308	14,172,985		14,535,293
Total expenditures	13,813,808	23,442,985	313,791	37,570,584
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	30,342,445	130,614	(313,791)	30,159,268

#### (Continued)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in			\$116,606	\$116,606
Transfers out	(\$35,658,148)		Ψ110,000	(35,658,148)
Proceeds from capital lease	4,620,000			4,620,000
Contract administration contributions	3,514,706			3,514,706
Capital contributions	3,311,700		197,185	197,185
Payment to State of Louisiana	(200,000)		157,100	(200,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(27,723,442)	NONE	313,791	(27,409,651)
			,	
Net change in fund balances	2,619,003	\$130,614		2,749,617
Fund balances at beginning of year	\$25,223,078	\$43,123,392	\$8	\$68,346,478
Fund balances at end of year	\$27,842,081	\$43,254,006	\$8	\$71,096,095
Net change in fund balances, as presented in this statement				\$2,749,617
Amounts presented for governmental activities in the				
Statement of Activities are different because:				
Bond and capital lease proceeds provide current financial resou	rces to governmenta	l funds,		
but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the Statemen	t of Net Position.			
Repayment of bond and capital lease principal is an expenditu	re in the governmen	tal funds,		
but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statemer	nt of Net Position.			5,105,487
Governmental funds report interest expense only when the expe	nse is due			
for payment, while the Statement of Activities reports bond in	erest as it is incurre	d.		(1,222,199)
Governmental funds do not include amortization for bond prem	ium and refunding c	costs.		245,631
Governmental funds do not include transfers of previously capit	alized assets to busi	ness-type activities		(2,052,182)
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not re	quire the use of curr	ent financial		
resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in gove	ernmental funds.			(1,300,646)
Governmental funds report the acquisition of capital assets as ex	-			
the asset is acquired. In the Statement of Activities, the cost o	_			
allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expe		-		
which capital outlay (\$3,439,127) exceeded depreciation (\$1,2	88,137) in the curre	ent period.		2,150,990
Change in net position of governmental activities as				
reported on the Statement of Activities				\$5,676,698

#### (Concluded)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA PROPRIETARY FUNDS

# Statement of Net Position June 30, 2017

	ENTERPRISE FUNDS			
	MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME	SMOOTHIE KING CENTER	CHAMPIONS SQUARE	TOTAL
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$12,053,846	\$6,359,492	\$2,170,427	\$20,583,765
Accounts receivable, net	1,102,837	95,202	9,484	1,207,523
Due from State of Louisiana (note 3)	1,170,356			1,170,356
Equipment lease receivable (note 7)			140,000	140,000
Notes receivable, current portion (note 4)			110,513	110,513
Due from other funds	3,600,000		6,941	3,606,941
Due from component unit	85,867		7,047,981	7,133,848
Inventory	71,024	31,653		102,677
Prepaid expenses	273,158	2,057		275,215
Total current assets	18,357,088	6,488,404	9,485,346	34,330,838
Restricted assets: (notes 2 and 10)				
Renewal and Replacement Reserve Account -				
cash and cash equivalents		2,102,684	26,996	2,129,680
Concessionaire Fund - receivable	552,788	447,598		1,000,386
Total restricted assets	552,788	2,550,282	26,996	3,130,066
Other assets:				
Notes receivable (note 4)			11,428,562	11,428,562
Capital assets, net of accumulated				
depreciation (note 5)	222,586,856	91,023,365	2,780,739	316,390,960
Total other assets	222,586,856	91,023,365	14,209,301	327,819,522
TOTAL ASSETS	\$241,496,732	\$100,062,051	\$23,721,643	\$365,280,426

#### (Continued)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA PROPRIETARY FUNDS Statement of Net Position June 30, 2017

	ENTERPRISE FUNDS			
	MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME	SMOOTHIE KING CENTER	CHAMPIONS SQUARE	TOTAL
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$3,399,258	\$478,308	\$481,280	\$4,358,846
Sports franchise obligations payable (note 17)		407,196		407,196
Unearned revenue and security deposits	87,046	2,722	4,094	93,862
Compensated absences (note 1-J)	395,561	49,724		445,285
Funds held in escrow for future events	11,559,788	5,115,252		16,675,040
Advance on construction			286,263	286,263
Due to other funds	6,941	3,600,000	135,906	3,742,847
Other Long-term liabilities, current portion	600,000			600,000
Total current liabilities	16,048,594	9,653,202	907,543	26,609,339
Noncurrent Liabilities				
Other Long-term liabilities	1,100,000			1,100,000
Total liabilities	17,148,594	9,653,202	907,543	27,709,339
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	222,586,856	91,023,365	2,780,739	316,390,960
Restricted	552,788	2,550,282	26,996	3,130,066
Unrestricted	1,208,494	(3,164,798)	20,006,365	18,050,061
Total net position	224,348,138	90,408,849	22,814,100	337,571,087
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND				
NET POSITION	\$241,496,732	\$100,062,051	\$23,721,643	\$365,280,426

#### (Concluded)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA PROPRIETARY FUNDS

#### Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	ENTERPRISE FUNDS			
	MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME	SMOOTHIE KING CENTER	CHAMPIONS SQUARE	TOTAL
OPERATING REVENUES				
Event rental:				
Musical events and entertainment	\$1,344,002	\$2,118,676		\$3,462,678
High school and college sports	327,767	7,500		335,267
Conventions and trade shows	182,169			182,169
Other events	455,479	80,600		536,079
Reimbursement event costs	6,526,889	4,571,939		11,098,828
Total event rental	8,836,306	6,778,715	NONE	15,615,021
Concessions and souvenirs	10,684,279	5,654,381		16,338,660
Box suite rental	7,765,104	988,948		8,754,052
Parking	2,750,295	1,356,760		4,107,055
Ticket incentives	1,651,541	2,682,285		4,333,826
Lease income (note 11)	601,536	8,464	\$2,102,667	2,712,667
Advertising and broadcasting			455,477	455,477
Other	513,657	322,156		835,813
Total operating revenues	32,802,718	17,791,709	2,558,144	53,152,571
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Salaries, wages, and benefits	11,797,439	3,114,387		14,911,826
Utilities	4,600,728	1,399,362		6,000,090
Repairs and maintenance	2,088,365	621,203		2,709,568
Management fee - SMG (note 14)	1,111,228	476,241		1,587,469
Saints lease obligation payments (note 16)	14,330,033			14,330,033
Pelicans obligation payments (note 17)		3,710,752		3,710,752
Professional fees	260,369	146,828		407,197
Professional sports staffing	2,706,715	2,432,160		5,138,875
Insurance	2,639,274	620,148		3,259,422
Direct event expense	7,117,423	6,622,500		13,739,923
Advertising and public relations	65,433	75,640		141,073
Rent (note 13)			2,575,443	2,575,443
Other operating expenses	4,519,557	2,398,860	115,198	7,033,615
Total operating expenses	51,236,564	21,618,081	2,690,641	75,545,286
Operating loss before depreciation	(18,433,846)	(3,826,372)	(132,497)	(22,392,715)
Depreciation	27,316,713	8,915,261	264,426	36,496,400
Operating loss	(45,750,559)	(12,741,633)	(396,923)	(58,889,115)

(Continued)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA PROPRIETARY FUNDS Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	ENTERPRISE FUNDS			
	MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME	SMOOTHIE KING CENTER	CHAMPIONS SQUARE	TOTAL
NONOPERATING REVENUE				
Interest revenue	\$11,840	\$23,670	\$129,893	\$165,403
Total nonoperating revenue	11,840	23,670	129,893	165,403
Loss before transfers and capital contributions	(45,738,719)	(12,717,963)	(267,030)	(58,723,712)
Transfers in	30,356,988	4,667,439	2,569,297	37,593,724
Capital contributions	6,657,163	309,832		6,966,995
Change in net position	(8,724,568)	(7,740,692)	2,302,267	(14,162,993)
Net position, beginning of year, as restated (note 20)	\$233,072,706	\$98,149,541	\$20,511,833	\$351,734,080
NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	\$224,348,138	\$90,408,849	\$22,814,100	\$337,571,087

#### (Concluded)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA PROPRIETARY FUNDS

#### Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	ENTERPRISE FUNDS			
	MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME	SMOOTHIE KING CENTER	CHAMPIONS SQUARE	TOTAL
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Receipts from customers	\$31,143,217	\$17,682,191	\$2,675,699	\$51,501,107
Payments to suppliers	(39,333,929)	(18,032,791)	(4,160,836)	(61,527,556)
Payments for salaries and related expenses	(11,202,658)	(3,151,193)		(14,353,851)
Net cash (used) by operating activities	(19,393,370)	(3,501,793)	(1,485,137)	(24,380,300)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Operating grants/transfers	22,641,526	4,668,255	2,575,442	29,885,223
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Capital appropriations and contributions	5,993,282	390,604		6,383,886
Principal payments received for capital lease			128,630	128,630
Purchases of capital assets	(10,489,429)	(904,770)	(45,472)	(11,439,671)
Net cash provided (used) by capital				<u> </u>
and related financing activities	(4,496,147)	(514,166)	83,158	(4,927,155)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Interest and dividends	11,840	23,670	129,893	165,403
Net Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,236,151)	675,966	1,303,356	743,171
Cash and cash equivalents,				
beginning of year	\$13,289,997	\$7,786,210	\$894,067	\$21,970,274
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$12,053,846	\$8,462,176	\$2,197,423	\$22,713,445

#### (Continued)

#### LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA PROPRIETARY FUNDS Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	ENTERPRISE FUNDS				
	MERCEDES-BENZ SUPERDOME	SMOOTHIE KING CENTER	CHAMPIONS SQUARE	TOTAL	
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING					
LOSS TO NET CASH (USED) BY					
OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Operating loss	(\$45,750,559)	(\$12,741,633)	(\$396,923)	(\$58,889,115)	
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss					
to net cash (used) by operating activities:					
Depreciation expense	27,316,713	8,915,261	264,426	36,496,400	
Changes in assets and liabilities:					
(Increase) decrease in:					
Receivables	(71,360)	27,220	(1,006,294)	(1,050,434)	
Restricted assets	(501,677)	161,235		(340,442)	
Inventory	(29,842)	50,651		20,809	
Prepaid expenses	(229,162)	3,198		(225,964)	
(Decrease) increase in:					
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,334,402	221,022	122,961	1,678,385	
Compensated absences	11,513	(2,009)		9,504	
Deferred revenue	72,865	2,722		75,587	
Funds held in escrow	(1,546,263)	(139,460)		(1,685,723)	
Due to/from other funds			(469,307)	(469,307)	
Net cash (used) by operating activities	(\$19,393,370)	(\$3,501,793)	(\$1,485,137)	(\$24,380,300)	

#### (Concluded)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### INTRODUCTION

The Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District (the District) was created in 1966 pursuant to Article XIV, Section 47 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana (the State) of 1921, as amended and continued as a statute by Article XIV, Section 16 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974 (the "Original Act") as a body politic and corporate and political subdivision of the State, composed of all the territory in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson, Louisiana. The District was created for the purpose of planning, acquiring, financing, owning, constructing, maintaining, and operating recreational facilities, recreation centers, and other facilities to be located within the District to accommodate the holding of conventions, exhibitions, sports events, athletic contests, and other public meetings, and all facilities and properties incidental and necessary to a complex suitable for any or all types of sports and recreation, all as more specifically provided in the Original Act.

The District acquired a site and constructed thereon the Louisiana Superdome, which opened in August 1975. The Louisiana Superdome is leased by the District to the State pursuant to a Lease Agreement. The District initially managed and operated the Louisiana Superdome on behalf of the State pursuant to a management and operating agreement dated February 1, 1969. In 1976, Act No. 541 of the 1976 Regular Session of the State Legislature (Act No. 541) transferred the responsibility for the management and operation of the Louisiana Superdome to the Office of the Governor of the State and authorized the governor to delegate the management and operation of the Louisiana Superdome to a professional management organization. In 1977, the District was transferred to and placed in the Office of the Governor of the State pursuant to the Executive Reorganization Act. At the same time, Act No. 64 of the 1977 Regular Session of the State Legislature approved and authorized execution of a Management Agreement between the state and HMC Management Corporation (the predecessor in interest of SMG, the current manager of the Louisiana Superdome), which was signed by the parties under date of June 30, 1977.

In October 2011, the New Orleans Saints entered into a naming rights agreement with the Mercedes-Benz Corporation to acquire the name and title sponsorship to the Louisiana Superdome. Louisiana Revised Statute 51:293.1 authorizes the District to sell or transfer the right to designate and use an alternative name to refer to the Louisiana Superdome. With state lawmakers' final approval on October 28, 2011, the new name of the Louisiana Superdome became the Mercedes-Benz Superdome (the Superdome).

Act No. 640 of the 1993 Regular Session of the State Legislature amended Act No. 541 to provide, among other things, for the construction of the New Orleans Arena (the Arena) and that all authority for the management and operation of all properties then or thereafter owned by or under the control of the District vested in the State, through the Office of the Governor, with continuing authority to delegate that authority and responsibility to a private management company. In 1998, by a Fourth Amendment to the Management Agreement dated June 19, 1998, between the state, Facility Management of Louisiana, Inc. (formerly doing business under the

name HMC Management Corporation), and SMG, the state delegated its management authority over the Arena to SMG. The District completed construction of the Arena adjacent to the Superdome in 1999, and the Arena opened for operations in October 1999 under the management of SMG.

In February 2014, the New Orleans Pelicans entered into a naming rights agreement with Smoothie King to acquire the name and title sponsorship to the New Orleans Arena. The use agreement between the Pelicans and the District granted the Pelicans the right to market the naming rights for the New Orleans Arena. Upon approval of the District, the new name of the New Orleans Arena became the Smoothie King Center (the Arena).

In September 2009, the District negotiated an agreement to lease the former New Orleans Centre Shopping Mall and parking garage along with a co-development agreement with the property owners to redevelop the premises as a venue for entertainment (Champions Square).

Notwithstanding the transfer of management authority to the state and by the state to the manager, Act No. 541, as amended by Act No. 640, provides that for the purposes of and in connection with the undertakings authorized by the Act, including the issuance and servicing of any bonds, the District shall be acting solely in its capacity as a political subdivision of the state and further provides that the District shall provide annually to the State Legislature and the Legislative Auditor information concerning the finances of the District.

The District is governed by a board of commissioners (the Board) composed of seven members appointed by the governor of the state and confirmed by the State Senate. The commissioners serve at the pleasure of the governor of the state.

The Board has the power to plan, acquire, finance, own, construct, operate, and maintain recreational facilities, recreation centers, and other facilities to accommodate expositions, conventions, exhibitions, sports events, spectacles, and other public meetings, and all facilities and properties incidental and necessary to a complex suitable for any or all types of sports and recreation, and shall exercise them in the name and on behalf of the District. The District has no employees.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The District's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations).

#### **B.** REPORTING ENTITY

The District is a component unit of the State of Louisiana as defined by GASB Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, and amended by GASB Statement No. 39,

Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units, GASB Statement No. 61, The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus, an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34, and GASB Statement No. 80, Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14. The accompanying component unit financial statements of the District contain sub-account information of the State of Louisiana. As such, the accompanying statements present information only as to the transactions of the District and its component unit as authorized by Louisiana statutes and administrative regulations. Annually, the State of Louisiana issues financial statements which include the activity contained in the accompanying component unit financial statements.

#### **Discretely-presented Component Unit**

In 2011, the District entered into various transactions with the Louisiana Superdome Marketing and Promotional Fund (the Marketing Fund), a separate legal nonprofit corporation that reports under Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) standards, to take advantage of new market tax credits available to fund further economic development of the District. The Articles of Incorporation of the Marketing Fund were amended to include that the Board of Directors would be comprised of the chairman of the board of the District, a member appointed by the governor of the state of Louisiana, and a third member appointed by either of the other two directors.

As required by GASB Statement No. 14, as amended, a legally-separate entity is considered a component unit if at least one of the following criteria is met:

- The District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and is either able to impose its will on the organization or there is a potential financial benefit/burden to the District.
- There is a fiscal dependency by the organization on the District.
- The nature and significance of the relationship between the District and the organization is such that exclusion would cause the financial statements of the District to be misleading or incomplete.

Based on the previous criteria, the District has included the Marketing Fund as a discretely-presented component unit within the accompanying financial statements. Discretely-presented component units are presented in a separate column in the government-wide financial statements (see note below for description) to emphasize that it is legally separate from the District. The voting majority of the Marketing Fund's board is appointed by the District, and there is a financial benefit/burden to the District.

Complete financial statements for the component unit can be obtained from Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District, Post Office Box 52439, New Orleans, Louisiana 70152.

#### C. GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District's financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the District as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the District's major funds). In the government-wide Statement of Net Position, both the governmental and business-type activities of the District and the component unit columns are presented on a consolidated basis by column and are reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables, as well as long-term debt and obligations.

The net position of the District and its component unit are reported in three parts: net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted. The District first uses restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The government-wide Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the District's functions, business-type activities, and component unit. The functions are also supported by general government revenues and hotel occupancy taxes. The Statement of Activities reduces gross expenses (including depreciation) by related program revenues and operating and capital grants. Program revenues must be directly associated with functions or a business-type activity. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants while the capital grants column reflects capital-specific grants.

The net costs (by function or activity) are normally covered by general revenues (taxes, intergovernmental revenues, interest income, etc.).

The District does not allocate indirect costs.

#### D. FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial transactions of the District are reported in individual major funds in the fund financial statements. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance/net position, revenues, and expenditures/expenses, as appropriate. Resources are allocated and accounted for in the individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The District does not have any special revenue funds. The following fund types are used by the District:

#### **Governmental Funds**

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. It administers and accounts for legislative appropriations provided to fund the general administrative expenditures of the District and those expenditures, including sports franchise

annual payments, not funded through other specific legislative appropriations or revenues.

Debt service funds are established to meet requirements of bond ordinances and are used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs. The Debt Service Fund maintained by the District accounts for the transactions of certain bond issues outstanding.

Capital projects funds are used to account for financial resources received and used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of capital facilities not reported in the other governmental funds. The Capital Project Fund maintained by the District accounts for construction and improvement of the facilities of the District.

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balances are classified as follows:

- 1. <u>Non-spendable fund balance</u> amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in a non-spendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- 2. <u>Restricted fund balance</u> amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, other state and federal laws, or externally imposed conditions by grantors, creditors, or voter approved propositions.
- 3. <u>Committed fund balance</u> amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action by the District's board.
- 4. <u>Assigned fund balance</u> amounts that are constrained by the District's intent that they will be used for specific purposes.
- 5. <u>Unassigned fund balance</u> all other amounts not included elsewhere.

The District considers restricted fund balances to be spent for governmental expenditures first when both restricted and unrestricted resources are available. The District also considers committed fund balances to be spent first when other unrestricted fund balance classifications are available for use.

#### **Proprietary Funds**

Enterprise funds are used to account for activities (a) that are operated in a manner similar to private business, where the intent of the governing body is that the cost (expense, including depreciation) of providing goods and services to the

general public is financed or recovered primarily through user charges or (b) where the governing body has decided that the periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes. Operating revenues include activities that have characteristics of exchange transactions, such as event rentals and concession sales. Nonoperating revenues result from nonexchange or ancillary activities. Operating expenses generally include transactions resulting from providing goods or services, such as payments to vendors for goods or services and payments for salaries, wages, and benefits, and game day entitlements to sports franchises. Nonoperating expenses include losses resulting from the disposal of capital assets.

The District has three major enterprise funds that are used to account for the operations of the Superdome, the Arena, and Champions Square. The District has contracted with SMG to manage all three facilities. Future enterprise funds may be established as various activities of the District are placed in operation.

#### E. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Both governmental and business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary funds financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

The governmental funds financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred.

Revenues from general sources consist primarily of the hotel occupancy tax, which is recognized in the month collected by the hotel proprietors. The hotel occupancy tax is used to fund annual debt service needs and operations.

#### F. RESTRICTED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Certain assets and liabilities are segregated and classified as restricted and may not be used except in accordance with contractual terms, under certain conditions, or to fulfill the District's obligations to the State under its Lease, Management, and Operating Agreements. Assets of the Capital Projects Fund are to be used for construction purposes, and assets of the Debt Service Fund are to be used for debt service payments.

#### G. INVENTORIES

Inventories, principally repair parts and operating supplies, are stated at cost, which approximates market. Cost is determined by the first-in, first-out method.

#### H. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets acquired or constructed are recorded at cost. Donated capital assets are valued at estimated fair value on the date donated or contributed. Depreciation is charged to expense over the estimated useful lives of the assets and is determined using the straight-line method. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs which do not materially extend the useful life of the asset are charged to expense as incurred. Interest expense is capitalized during the construction period for long-term construction projects. For movable property, the District's capitalization policy includes all items with a unit cost of \$1,000 or more and an estimated useful life greater than one year. Buildings and improvements costing \$1,000 or more are capitalized.

The estimated useful lives used in computing depreciation and amortization for capital assets are as follows:

Building and improvements:

Structure:

Superdome40 yearsArena25 yearsBaseball stadium40 yearsPractice facilities40 yearsMajor components10-20 yearsFurniture, fixtures, and equipment5-10 years

The District is also party to various leases of office space. Those leases contain provisions whereby improvements were paid for by the lessee. These leasehold improvements have not been recorded by the District. Capital improvements to Champions Square are depreciated over the remaining term of the Entertainment District Master Lease Agreement as they are placed into service. The agreement extends through June 30, 2026.

#### I. REVENUE RECOGNITION

Event rentals, including advance deposits, are recognized as revenue in the period in which the event is held. Annual box suite rentals are recognized in the period earned. Unearned receipts for event rentals and box suite rentals are included in unearned revenue. Revenues from the hotel occupancy tax are recognized in the month such amounts are collected by the hotel proprietors.

#### J. COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Under the Management Agreement with SMG, all employees engaged in managing and operating the Superdome, Arena, and Champions Square are employees of SMG. SMG provides for compensated absences for its employees. SMG employees can earn 10 to 30 days per year of vacation leave, depending on their length of employment and on certain collective bargaining and union agreements. At the end of any fiscal year, all employees can carry forward no more than the number of days earned during the fiscal year. Upon termination, a non-union employee is paid for up to 192 hours of accumulated vacation, if applicable. Members of the Craft Council and Teamsters Union are paid for accumulated vacation up to what they have earned during the year. The accumulated net provision by the District for unpaid vacation benefits due employees of SMG as of June 30, 2017, was \$454,171.

Non-union, full-time SMG employees and members of the Craft Council earn six days per year of sick leave with no carryforward provision. Members of the Teamsters Union earn six days of sick leave per year which can be accumulated up to a maximum of 192 hours. Accumulated sick leave is not paid upon termination of employment; therefore, no liability has been recognized.

#### K. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, the District considers all highly-liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

#### L. INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Interfund activity is reported as loans or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate, and are subject to elimination upon consolidation if within the same fund type. Any residual balance outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as internal balances. All internal balances are eliminated in the total primary government column. Transfers between governmental or proprietary funds are netted as part of the reconciliation to the government-wide financial statements. Receivables or payables between the primary government and its component unit are reported on separate lines. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the General Fund transferred \$35,541,542 to the proprietary funds and \$116,606 to the Capital Projects Fund. Funds transferred from governmental funds are no longer restricted for debt service or capital projects and are available for allowable uses of the proprietary funds.

#### M. USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make

estimates and assumptions about amounts reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The District maintains cash on hand, cash on deposit with banks in demand deposit accounts, and cash in interest-bearing deposit accounts. The District maintains cash equivalents that consist of money market funds held in escrow by the bond trustee. Cash and cash equivalents are recorded at cost, which approximates market. Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following at June 30, 2017:

	Bank	Book
	Balance	Balance
Primary government:		
Cash on hand		\$99,375
Demand deposits	\$50,656,109	46,079,013
Money market funds	39,318,169	39,318,169
Total Primary Government	89,974,278	85,496,557
Component unit - demand deposits	1,082,856	1,187,594
Total	\$91,057,134	\$86,684,151

A reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents to the Statement of Net Position is as follows:

	Primary G	overnment		
	Governmental Business-Type		Component	
	Activities	Activities	Unit	Total
Cash and cash equivalents	\$48,384,387	\$20,583,765	\$1,169,246	\$70,137,398
Restricted assets	14,398,725	2,129,680	18,348	16,546,753
Total	\$62,783,112	\$22,713,445	\$1,187,594	\$86,684,151

The District's deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk, which is the risk that in the event of a bank failure the District's deposits might not be recovered. The District's deposit policy for custodial credit risk conforms to state law. Under state law, deposits in banks must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank.

The District is allowed to invest funds as prescribed and allowed by state law. Generally, the law provides that allowable investments are direct securities of the U.S. Treasury, certificates of

deposit of Louisiana-domiciled banks, certain guaranteed investment contracts, and other federally-insured investments (i.e., FNMA, FHLMC, FHLB, PEFCO, and Sallie Mae) and mutual or trust fund institutions registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under appropriate acts which have underlying investments consisting solely of and limited to securities in the U.S. government or its agencies.

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction the District will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of an entity's investment in a single issuer. The District's investment policy does not limit the amount of its holdings of securities by counterparties. At June 30, 2017, the District's cash and cash equivalents are invested in money market funds held by a counterparty in the name of the District. Money market investments for 2017 consisted of the Federated Government Obligations Fund (Symbol GOSXX), which is rated Aaa-mf by Moody's and AAAm by Standard and Poor's. The fund's holdings consist exclusively of short-term U.S. Treasury bills, notes and other obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury, and repurchase agreements collateralized by such obligations. The investments are not exposed to custodial credit risk or concentration of credit risk.

As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates (interest rate risk), the investment policy prescribed by Louisiana law establishes limits for investments with maturities of 30 days or longer and establishes parameters for interest rates of certain investments. As of June 30, 2017, all cash equivalents had maturities of 30 days or less; therefore, the District was not exposed to interest rate risk. The type of investments allowed by the investment policy (as detailed above) ensures that the District is not exposed to credit risk, concentration of credit risk, and foreign currency risk.

#### 3. DUE FROM STATE OF LOUISIANA

Amounts due from the State of Louisiana for hotel occupancy tax collections and appropriations totaled \$12,577,489 at June 30, 2017.

#### 4. NOTES RECEIVABLE

To generate additional construction dollars for revenue enhancing improvements to Champions Square, the District entered into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Marketing Fund to allow for participation in a new market tax credit transaction (NMTC). As part of the NMTC, on December 29, 2010, the District entered into an agreement to loan \$11,539,075 to USB LSED Investment Fund, LLC (the Investment Fund), at an annual interest rate of 1% maturing on June 30, 2026. The agreement calls for interest-only payments to begin on February 10, 2011, and continue until May 1, 2018. Beginning May 1, 2018, the District will receive 98 regular principal and interest payments in the amount of \$120,314. Collateral has been pledged by an assignment of all rights, title, and interest in the investor membership interest NCF Sub-CDS 5, LLC (NCF) and Mid-City Community CDE-Loan Fund, LLC (Mid City) and the deposit accounts of the Investment Fund. The loan can be prepaid any time prior to maturity. See note 18 for further details of the cooperative endeavor agreement and details of the NMTC.

### 5. CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets is as follows:

### **Governmental Activities**

	Balance June 30, 2016	Additions	Deletions/ Transfers	Balance June 30, 2017
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land		\$3,125,336		\$3,125,336
Construction-in-progress	\$5,475,257	313,791	(\$2,052,182)	3,736,866
Total capital assets not being				
depreciated	\$5,475,257	\$3,439,127	(\$2,052,182)	\$6,862,202
Other capital assets: Building and improvements:				
Baseball stadium	\$30,150,757			\$30,150,757
Outdoor practice facility complex	6,565,115			6,565,115
Indoor practice facility	7,659,360			7,659,360
TPC golf facility	149,346			149,346
Pelicans training facility	10,000,919			10,000,919
Less accumulated depreciation	(16,627,232)	(\$1,288,137)		(17,915,369)
Total other capital assets	\$37,898,265	(\$1,288,137)	NONE	\$36,610,128
Capital asset summary:				
Capital assets not depreciated	\$5,475,257	\$3,439,127	(\$2,052,182)	\$6,862,202
Other capital assets, at cost	54,525,497			54,525,497
Total cost of capital assets	60,000,754	3,439,127	(2,052,182)	61,387,699
Less accumulated depreciation	(16,627,232)	(1,288,137)	·	(17,915,369)
Capital assets, net	\$43,373,522	\$2,150,990	(\$2,052,182)	\$43,472,330

## **Business-Type Activities**

Balance June 30, 2017 \$13,944,160
\$13,944,160
\$13,944,160
\$13,944,160
6,465,880
\$20,410,040
\$579,886,936
3,479,850
28,403,192
(315,789,058)
\$295,980,920
\$2,750,720
\$20,410,040
611,769,978
632,180,018
(315,789,058)
\$316,390,960

#### **Component Unit**

	Balance		Deletions/	Balance
	June 30, 2016	Additions	Transfers	June 30, 2017
Capital assets not being depreciated -				
construction-in-progress	NONE			NONE
Other capital assets:				
Assets under capital lease	\$850,825			\$850,825
Leasehold improvements	12,643,926			12,643,926
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,133,045)	(\$1,014,116)		(5,147,161)
Total other capital assets	\$9,361,706	(\$1,014,116)	NONE	\$8,347,590
Capital asset summary:				
Capital assets not depreciated	NONE			NONE
Other capital assets, at cost	\$13,494,751			\$13,494,751
Total cost of capital assets	13,494,751	NONE	NONE	13,494,751
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,133,045)	(\$1,014,116)		(5,147,161)
Capital assets, net	\$9,361,706	(\$1,014,116)	NONE	\$8,347,590

A component of the 15-year extension of the New Orleans Saints lease agreement with the Superdome through 2025 was the State's approval to fund \$85,000,000 in funding for upgrades and improvements to the facility. These improvements have completely modernized the facility to include an expansion of the Plaza concourse, concession areas, restrooms and elevators; addition of two ground-level clubs; new electrical, video, and audio systems; widening the ramp to the Gate A entrance; a permanent staircase to Champions Square; expansion of the team retail store; relocation of the press box to the 700 level; an additional 16 suites; and an additional 3,100 seats.

The baseball stadium, home to the New Orleans Baby Cakes; the New Orleans Saints Practice Facilities; and the New Orleans Pelicans Training Facility are owned by the District. The District has the use of the land related to the baseball stadium and practice facilities for 60 years at no cost, expiring in April 2055.

#### 6. CAPITAL LEASE - ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS

The District has entered into an energy savings performance contract, whereby the District will lease from the vendor the necessary equipment for energy conservation measures applied to existing buildings that improve energy efficiency and are life cycle cost effective. The terms of the lease agreement expire in April 2026. A second lease agreement entered into during the year ended June 30, 2017, has a term which expires in January 2027. Each capital lease obligation at June 30, 2017, is payable in quarterly installments and has a 4.0% implicit rate of interest.

At June 30, 2017, future minimum lease payments under the capital lease obligation and the net present value of the future minimum lease payments are as follows:

Fiscal Year	
2018	\$826,236
2019	1,453,405
2020	1,462,132
2021	1,471,008
2022	1,480,031
Thereafter	6,413,693
Total future minimum lease payments	13,106,505
Less amount representing interest	(2,061,992)
Present value of future minimum lease payments	11,044,513
Less current principal obligation	(577,852)
Total long-term principal obligation	\$10,466,661

Under the terms of the contract, the vendor has guaranteed the amount of energy and cost savings to be realized by the District. In the event the annual energy cost savings plus annual maintenance cost savings, less the annual new maintenance costs achieved during a guarantee year, is less than the energy and cost savings guarantee for the year, the vendor shall pay to the District an amount equal to the difference.

#### 7. CAPITAL LEASE – MARKETING FUND

The Marketing Fund leases certain equipment in Champions Square from the District under a capital lease that expires June 30, 2018. The assets and liabilities were recorded at the lower of the present value of minimum lease payments or the fair value of the asset. The carrying value of the assets under the capital lease totaled \$110,977, net of accumulated depreciation of \$739,847 for the year ended June 30, 2017. Depreciation expense related to the assets acquired by capital lease for the year ended June 30, 2017, totaled \$110,977.

The capital lease obligation at June 30, 2017, is payable to the District in annual installments of \$140,000, with a 5.515% implicit rate of interest at inception. The equipment lease receivable was recorded as a sales-type lease at the gross investment by Champions Square equal to the total minimum lease payments to be received from the Marketing Fund. The portion representing the unearned interest income is reported within unearned revenue and will be amortized to income over the lease term using the interest method.

At June 30, 2017, future minimum lease payments under the capital lease obligation and the net present value of the future minimum lease payments are as follows:

#### Fiscal Year

2018	\$140,000
Total future minimum lease payments Less amount representing interest	140,000 (4,094)
Present value of future minimum lease payments Less current principal obligation	135,906 (135,906)
Total long-term principal obligation	\$0

#### 8. BONDS PAYABLE

The bond issues outstanding at June 30, 2017, and changes in long-term debt for the year then ended are as follows:

#### **Governmental Activities**

_	Balance June 30, 2016	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2017	Due Within One Year
Series 2013A (various interest rates; maturing fiscal year 2037)	\$270,870,000			\$270,870,000	\$500,000
Series 2013B (various interest rates; maturing fiscal year 2018)	18,190,000		(\$9,270,000)	8,920,000	8,920,000
Series 2013C (2.25% interest rates; maturing fiscal year 2040)	50,000,000			50,000,000	
Total outstanding principal	339,060,000	NONE	(\$9,270,000)	329,790,000	9,420,000
Add bond premium	33,866,879		(2,894,347)	30,972,532	2,972,789
Total bonds payable, net	\$372,926,879	NONE	(\$12,164,347)	\$360,762,532	\$12,392,789

On January 16, 2013, the District issued \$361,345,000 of Series 2013 Revenue Refunding Bonds. The purposes of the issue were to refund and defease approximately \$294,000,000 of the District's existing outstanding bonds, to provide approximately \$109,000,000 for the termination of the fixed-rate hedge agreement and interest rate swap agreement, and to provide for the costs of issuance of the bonds. The bonds are secured by a pledge of the hotel occupancy tax and excess annual revenues of the District. See note 10 for additional information on pledged revenues. The bonds are reported in the 2017 Statement of Net Position, net of unamortized premiums of \$30,972,532.

The 2013 bonds consist of Senior Revenue Refunding Bonds Tax-Exempt Series 2013-A (\$270,870,000); Revenue Refunding Bonds Tax-Exempt Series 2013B (\$40,475,000); and Subordinate Revenue Refunding Bonds Taxable Series 2013C (\$50,000,000). The State owns 100% of the Series 2013C Bonds.

The annual requirements to amortize all District bonds outstanding at June 30, 2017 (excluding support fees), are presented in the following schedule.

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2018	\$9,420,000	\$13,958,212	\$23,378,212
2019	9,700,000	13,638,650	23,338,650
2020	10,190,000	13,158,588	23,348,588
2021	10,690,000	12,642,088	23,332,088
2022	11,215,000	12,099,963	23,314,963
2023-2027	64,850,000	51,475,438	116,325,438
2028-2032	81,975,000	33,873,125	115,848,125
2033-2037	94,788,303	26,519,423	121,307,726
2038-2040	36,961,697	28,901,914	65,863,611
Total	\$329,790,000	\$206,267,401	\$536,057,401

Other significant bond features are as follows:

- 1. The Series 2013A Bonds maturing on or after July 1, 2024, are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the District.
- 2. The Series 2013B Bonds are not subject to optional redemption.
- 3. The Series 2013C Bonds were issued through a private placement with the State of Louisiana.
- 4. The Series 2013C Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the District.

The Debt Service Fund had assets available of \$43,254,006 at June 30, 2017, for payment of the bonds included in governmental activities. Each month, the hotel occupancy tax pays the debt service accounts (a) the interest amount that will be sufficient when accumulated to pay the next installment of interest on the bonds and (b) the principal amount that will be sufficient when accumulated to pay the principal of any of the bonds becoming due and payable.

#### 9. NOTES AND JUDGMENT PAYABLE

#### **Notes Payable**

On December 29, 2010, the Marketing Fund issued two promissory notes (A and B) in the amounts of \$7,389,333 and \$2,410,667, respectively, to Mid-City Community CDE-Loan Fund, LLC, at an interest rate of 1.34%. The notes mature on June 30, 2026. Interest payments are due monthly beginning February 7, 2011, on both Notes A and B and a \$100,000 principal payment on Note B is due on October 22, 2017. Regular principal and interest payments on Notes A and

B begin on August 5, 2018, and are payable in 95 equal installments of \$107,681. The notes cannot be repaid prior to October 22, 2017. The notes are collateralized by a leasehold mortgage on the property leased by the Marketing Fund.

On December 29, 2010, the Marketing Fund issued two promissory notes (A and B) in the amounts of \$3,635,000 and \$1,365,000, respectively, to NCF Sub-CDE, LLC, at an interest rate of 1.34%. The notes mature on June 30, 2026. Interest payments are due monthly beginning February 7, 2011, on both Notes A and B. Regular principal and interest payments on Notes A and B begin on August 5, 2018, and are payable in 95 equal installments of \$55,506. The notes cannot be repaid prior to October 22, 2017. The notes are collateralized by a leasehold mortgage on the property leased by the Marketing Fund.

The principal outstanding at June 30, 2017, and changes in notes payable for the year then ended are as follows:

	Balance June 30, 2016	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2017	Amounts Due Within One Year
Component Unit:					
Mid City Community CDE Note A	\$7,389,333			\$7,389,333	\$75,400
Mid City Community CDE Note B	2,410,667			2,410,667	24,600
NCF Sub CDE 5 Note A	3,635,000			3,635,000	
NCF Sub CDE 5 Note B	1,365,000			1,365,000	
Total outstanding principal	14,800,000	NONE	NONE	14,800,000	100,000
Less unamortized issuance and					
escrow costs	(548,190)	NONE	\$54,819	(493,371)	NONE
Total component unit	\$14,251,810	NONE	\$54,819	\$14,306,629	\$100,000

Annual principal and interest payments for notes payable are as follows:

	Compon		
Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2018	\$100,000	\$197,505	\$297,505
2019	1,623,280	187,961	1,811,241
2020	1,793,542	164,696	1,958,238
2021	1,818,161	140,076	1,958,237
2022	1,842,675	115,562	1,958,237
2023-2026	7,622,342	210,607	7,832,949
Total	\$14,800,000	\$1,016,407	\$15,816,407

#### **Judgment Payable**

On May 3, 2017, the Louisiana Supreme Court handed down its decision ordering the refunding of hotel occupancy taxes, for the sales tax periods October 1, 1999, through June 30, 2004, plus interest to a local entity. The District will repay \$1,300,646 over a period of five years. Beginning on July 1, 2017, monthly installments of \$21,949 will be withheld from the hotel occupancy taxes collected by the Louisiana Department of Revenue on behalf of the District. The District will repay \$263,383 for each fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021, and \$247,114 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

#### 10. REVENUE SOURCES AND REQUIRED RESTRICTED ASSETS

The District's bonds are secured by a pledge of all revenues of the District that are not previously dedicated for another use; however, the hotel occupancy tax revenues in the parishes of Orleans and Jefferson are expected to be the primary source of funding. These revenues will cover principal and interest requirements until the bonds are fully paid and discharged in 2039. Total revenue pledged for fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, was \$121,047,826. Total principal and interest remaining on the bonds was \$329,790,000 and \$206,267,401, respectively, as of June 30, 2017. For the current year, the District paid principal and interest payments of \$9,270,000 and \$14,172,985, respectively, on the Series 2013 Bonds.

In accordance with the laws of the State, funds to operate the District are derived from self-generated funds, the 4% hotel occupancy tax (which expires when all bonds are either paid or funded), the lease agreement with the State, the management and operating agreement with the State, and the State's Capital Budget and Capital Outlay Program.

As noted above, the hotel occupancy tax is pledged by the State for the payment of principal and interest on the District's bonds. Of the \$50,422,765 of hotel occupancy tax earned for the year ended June 30, 2017, \$23,442,985 was used for debt service requirements.

At the end of each fiscal year after the payment and satisfaction of all obligations of the District, and after all expenses of the operation and maintenance of the District, including depreciation, and funding of \$2,300,000 to the Renewal and Replacement Reserve Account and \$500,000 annually to the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation, the excess is then distributed, as established or as prorated based on available amounts, to Jefferson Parish for tourism promotion; the City of New Orleans for use by the New Orleans Recreation Department; Xavier University; Southern University - New Orleans for its Small Business Center; Jefferson Parish Westbank Sports and Civic Center; University of New Orleans for the School of Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Administration; and the New Orleans Visitors and Information Center. After meeting these requirements, the remaining monies shall be deposited for use as outlined in the 1994 Lease Agreement between the District and the state.

At June 30, 2017, after payment and satisfaction of all obligations of the District and after all operating expenses including depreciation, no excess monies were available for distribution.

Various acts of the State legislature and agreements impose the establishment of the Renewal and Replacement Reserve Account, which is restricted as to the use of monies deposited therein.

#### **Renewal and Replacement Reserve Account**

This account was established to accumulate monies for major maintenance, repairs, renewals, and replacements that are not annually recurring. Excess unrestricted funds at year-end are to be transferred to this account as required by various acts of the State Legislature. During the year ended June 30, 2017, no funds from operations were required to be deposited into the reserve. The total amount of deposits on reserve was \$13,219,103 as of June 30, 2017.

# 11. RENTALS FROM NONCANCELABLE OPERATING LEASES (LESSOR LEASES)

Commitments for future revenue under noncancelable operating leases as of June 30, 2017, are as follows:

	Business-type Activities			Component Unit	
	Cellular Tower	Office Space	Champions	Parking	
Year Ended June 30,	Leases	Lease	Square	Garage	Total
2018	\$565,829	\$18,900	\$3,096,895	\$947,197	\$4,628,821
2019	533,327	18,900	1,000,000	962,475	2,514,702
2020	535,486	18,900	1,000,000	977,999	2,532,385
2021	521,994	18,900	1,000,000	993,774	2,534,668
2022	375,005	18,900	1,000,000	1,009,803	2,403,708
2023-2026	58,869	18,900	4,000,000	4,204,734	8,282,503
TD 4.1	Φ2 500 510	φ112 400	Φ11 00 C 00 C	Φ0.00 <b>7</b> .00 <b>2</b>	ф <b>22</b> 207 <b>7</b> 27
Total	\$2,590,510	\$113,400	\$11,096,895	\$9,095,982	\$22,896,787

The District leases office space within the Superdome to the Sun Belt Conference under a lease agreement until June 2023. It also leases space within the Superdome and Arena to various cell service providers under agreements expiring at varying intervals until fiscal year 2023. The District subleases to the Marketing Fund, portions of its leased interest in the former New Orleans Centre Shopping Mall, currently referred to as Champions Square. The sublease allowed the District and the Marketing Fund to take advantage of available new market tax credits to fund additional construction to Champions Square. The terms of the sublease coincide with the terms of the lease agreement with the property owners as described in note 13.

The Marketing Fund entered into a sublease with SMG for the portion of its sublease attributable to the parking garage until June 30, 2026.

Many of the leases contain provisions whereby the annual rentals are to be adjusted by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index or other factors dependent on annual revenues which cannot be determined at this time. The District is also a party to other leases in which the annual rentals are based on a percentage of the lessees' annual revenues or on gate receipts and are, therefore, not included in the above totals.

Lease revenues, not including box suite revenues, for the year ended June 30, 2017, were \$2,712,667 for the District and \$930,664 for the Marketing Fund.

#### 12. PENSION AND PROFIT SHARING PLANS

On April 1, 1992, the employees of SMG, paid indirectly by the District, became members of SMG's 401(k) plan (the Plan). Employees who are eligible to participate in the 401(k) plan may contribute between 1% and 60% of their eligible compensation for non-highly compensated employees and 5% for highly compensated employees up to the limits established by federal law. SMG will match 40% of the first 5% of eligible compensation contributed by employees. In addition to the matching contribution, SMG may contribute 1% of employees' compensation to the Plan. To be eligible for this 1% contribution, employees must have worked at least 1,000 hours during the plan year, be employed by December 31 of the plan year, and be contributing to the Plan. The vesting schedule is as follows:

Years of Vesting Service	Nonforfeitable Percentage
	0.04
Less than 1	0%
1 year, but less than 2	33%
2 years, but less than 3	55%
3 years or more	100%

Total pension expense for the Plan was \$87,817 for the year ended June 30, 2017.

Contributions are also made to pension plans for members of the Teamsters Union in accordance with its collective bargaining agreement; the District does not guarantee the benefits granted by the Teamsters Union plans.

#### 13. LEASE AND RENTAL COMMITMENTS

On September 15, 2009, the District negotiated an agreement to lease the former New Orleans Centre Shopping Mall and parking garage (Entertainment District Master Lease). The District also entered into a Co-development Agreement with the property owners to redevelop the premises as a venue for entertainment. The term of the lease extends through June 30, 2026, and will automatically be extended until June 30, 2031, if the Saints Stadium Agreement, discussed in note 16, is extended.

On October 13, 2010, the lease was amended and restated to include all amendments and to allow the District to negotiate an agreement to sublease the New Orleans Centre Shopping Mall and parking garage to the Marketing Fund. The terms of the sublease extend through June 30, 2026, and the Marketing Fund has the option to extend the sublease for a term equal to the terms of the original lease.

The total payments for operating leases during fiscal year 2017 amounted to \$2,575,443 for the District and \$2,102,667 for the Marketing Fund. The annual base rental payments are as follows:

	Business-Type	Component
Fiscal Year	Activities	Unit
2018	\$2,399,101	\$2,627,627
2019	\$3,002,491	\$1,000,000
2020	\$3,138,341	\$1,000,000
2021	\$3,278,927	\$1,000,000
2022	\$3,421,306	\$1,000,000
2023-2026	\$15,166,822	\$4,000,000

The annual base rental payments include an annual 2% increase and a fixed incremental increase over the life of the leases. Payments made under this lease by the Marketing Fund are reported as lease income for Champions Square on Statement F.

#### 14. MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES AGREEMENTS

Effective July 1, 1977, the State of Louisiana (the State) entered into a management agreement with HMC Management Corporation (which later changed its name to Facility Management of Louisiana, Inc.) (the Management Agreement). Effective June 19, 1998, the Management Agreement was amended to authorize the substitution of SMG for Facility Management of Louisiana, Inc., as manager under the agreement, and to include the Arena among the properties to be managed by the manager under the Management Agreement. Effective July 1, 2003, the Management Agreement was amended and the term of the agreement was extended until June 30, 2012. By the terms of this amendment, the state was required to notify SMG by June 30, 2011, if it elected not to extend the Management Agreement for an additional five years. SMG was not notified by the state, and the Management Agreement was further extended for an additional five-year period ending June 30, 2017. On March 12, 2015, the seventh amendment to the Management Agreement extended the term of the agreement for an additional five years, ending June 30, 2022.

Pursuant to the amendment to the Management Agreement on July 1, 2003, beginning in the year ended June 30, 2007, compensation paid to SMG for its services at the Superdome and Arena will consist of a combination of base fee, incentive fee, and bonus fee. The annual "base fee" is \$700,000 for the Superdome and \$300,000 for the Arena. The "incentive fee" will consist of 10% of the adjusted net income of the Superdome and the Arena, subject to limits established in the agreement. The "bonus fee" will be computed using a percentage of the combined base fees derived from comparing the actual financial performance of the two buildings to budgeted performance. The combined fee paid to SMG (aggregate cap) for the year may not exceed \$1,500,000 as adjusted for the Consumer Price Index (CPI), outstanding manager's capital contributed by SMG, and a fee increment determined by comparing actual fees earned for fiscal years ended June 30, 2004, 2005, and 2006, to those that would have been earned for those years had the revised fee structure been in effect for those years.

Effective July 1, 2017, the base fees for the Superdome and Arena are reduced by \$210,000 and \$90,000, respectively, less than the amount of their respective base fees as of June 30, 2017, increased in proportion to increases in the CPI published for June 2017 over that published for June 2016, provided that no such CPI increase shall exceed 4%. In addition, the aggregate cap shall not exceed an amount that is \$300,000 less than the aggregate cap as of June 30, 2017, increased in proportion to increases in the CPI published for June 2017 over that published for June 2016, provided that no such CPI increase shall exceed 4%. The amendment provides that SMG will contribute up to \$5,000,000 (manager's capital) to the District upon written request from the State. The manager's capital is a non-interest bearing, non-refundable contribution provided certain terms of the agreement are met in relation to the duration of the Management Agreement. Through June 30, 2017, SMG has contributed \$3,835,890 of manager's capital.

Effective October 1, 2008, the District entered into a Support Services Agreement with SMG to provide personnel and resources necessary to perform the administrative, accounting and finance, asset management, public relations, governmental matters, and other support services for other facilities. The services with respect to the other facilities and related matters are outside the current scope of the Management Agreement. These services are performed by SMG on behalf of the District, which retains final authority over the other facilities and approval for services. The other facilities consist of Champions Square adjacent the Superdome; the Alario Center in Westwego, Louisiana; the Saints Training Facility in Jefferson, Louisiana; the TPC Louisiana Golf Course in Avondale, Louisiana; and The Shrine on Airline, home of the New Orleans Baby Cakes, in Metairie, Louisiana. For its services, SMG shall be entitled to receive an annual fee of \$150,000. On October 13, 2010, the agreement was amended to reduce the annual fee to \$75,000 to provide for the separation of services related to Champions Square. As a result of the sublease of certain portions of Champions Square to the Marketing Fund, a separate support services agreement was entered into between the Marketing Fund and SMG to provide services for an annual fee of \$75,000 and for terms consistent to the sublease.

# 15. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES, RISK MANAGEMENT, AND CLAIMS LIABILITY

Losses arising from judgments, claims, and similar contingencies are paid through the state's self-insurance fund operated by the Office of Risk Management, the agency responsible for the state's risk management program, or by the General Fund appropriation. At June 30, 2017, the District is involved in pending and threatened litigation. The District's legal counselors assess the likelihood of material adverse judgments as remote or are unable to express opinions on the probable outcomes of the proceedings.

#### 16. STADIUM AGREEMENT

The New Orleans Saints lease the Superdome under an agreement (Stadium Agreement) dated September 15, 2009, as amended, with the State, the District, SMG, and the New Orleans Louisiana Saints L.L.C. (the Club), a National Football League (NFL) football franchise. The agreement amends and restates the previous lease agreement dated September 30, 1994, as amended. The agreement provides, among other things, certain annual payments in the form of reduced rentals and the assignment of certain revenues attributable, directly or indirectly, to the

presence of the Club in the Superdome in exchange for the Club remaining in the Superdome through the end of the 2025 NFL season. The assignment of revenues resulted in payments totaling \$14,330,033 to the Club for the year ended June 30, 2017.

During the year ended June 30, 2017, the Club received other payments totaling \$2,850,061 representing amounts collected by the Louisiana Department of Revenue attributable to the income of nonresident NFL professional athletes.

Beginning with the 2012 fiscal year, should the Club's revenue fall below certain benchmark amounts, the State is required to reimburse the Club an amount to cause the Club's revenue to equal the benchmark. For the year ending June 30, 2012, the State's cap on this reimbursement shall be \$6 million, increased at a rate of 2% annually for each subsequent fiscal year.

The Club's eligible revenues, as defined in the Stadium Agreement, as amended and restated, exceeded the revenue benchmark for the year ended June 30, 2017, thus reducing the obligation to pay additional inducements to the Club. The reduction in additional payment obligations was, in part, a result of the naming rights agreement between the Club and the Mercedes-Benz Corporation. Granting the Club the ability to sell naming rights sponsorship was considered a key factor in lowering the State's economic exposure to future annual payment obligations. The naming rights revenues are included in the calculation of eligible revenue for each fiscal year under the terms of the Stadium Agreement.

#### 17. ARENA USE AGREEMENTS

On May 2, 2002, the District entered into a use agreement (Original Agreement) with the Hornets NBA Limited Partnership (the Pelicans, formerly the Hornets), a franchise of the National Basketball Association (NBA), under which the Pelicans would relocate to New Orleans and play all home basketball games in the Arena. In January 2008, the Original Agreement was amended to extend the initial terms to June 30, 2014. In June 2012, the Original Agreement was amended and restated in its entirety (Arena Use Agreement) to extend the term and provide for significant improvements to the Arena. The initial term of the Arena Use Agreement extends through June 30, 2024, with an optional five-year extension which must be elected in writing by June, 30, 2023.

The Arena Use Agreement entitles the Pelicans to all realized revenues from home games including, but not limited to, ticket sales, 40% of gross concession revenues, net revenues from merchandise sales and parking, and various advertising revenues as defined in the agreement. These annual payment obligations are recorded as operating expenses of the Arena and totaled \$3,303,556 during fiscal year 2017. In return, the Pelicans will reimburse the District for 32% of game day expenses for regular season games and 100% for playoff games. It also provides for an annual payment, beginning in 2012, equal to the greater of \$300,000 (increased by 2% annually) or one-half of the net revenues from luxury box suite ticket sales for other Arena events. The annual expense totaled \$407,196 during fiscal year 2017.

The Pelicans are also entitled to receive an amount equal to the income taxes collected by the Louisiana Department of Revenue attributable to the income of nonresident professional NBA

sports franchise personnel. For fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the Pelicans were paid \$1,252,090 from the nonresident players' tax.

Under the Original Agreement, as amended, should the Pelicans' revenue fall below certain benchmark amounts, the District was required to reimburse the Pelicans an amount to cause the Pelicans' revenue to equal the benchmark. Beginning with the 2008 fiscal year, the District's cap on this reimbursement was \$6.5 million, increased at a rate of 5% for each subsequent fiscal year. The amounts due to the Pelicans for fiscal years 2012 and 2013 for this revenue benchmark were incorporated into the renegotiation of their use agreement with a portion deferred until the Arena improvements and upgrades are substantially complete. The restated Arena Use Agreement requires the District to pay the Pelicans \$2,500,000 with a 2% increase per year, annually, due on July 31 of each year beginning 2012. This additional annual payment is in consideration of annual financial investments required of the Pelicans to host events in Champions Square, advertise and promote events at the facilities owned by the District, and others as defined in the agreement. The additional annual payment for the revenue benchmark totaled \$2,643,632 during the year ended June 30, 2017.

The Arena Use Agreement created the Arena Renewal and Replacement Fund and established quarterly funding requirements beginning in fiscal year 2013.

#### 18. COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENTS

Effective November 25, 2008, the State, The Players Club (TPC), the District, and the Division of Administration (DOA) entered into a purchase agreement and a cooperative endeavor agreement for the State to acquire the TPC's Louisiana golf course property and to transfer from the state and DOA to the District all state and DOA jurisdiction over, and authority for, the oversight and administration of the Tournament Players Club Golf Facility (the Golf Facility) as well as oversight and administration of all funds appropriated, or to be appropriated, by the state related to the supervision, operation, and management of the Golf Facility.

On October 15, 2010, the District entered into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Marketing Fund to evidence the obligations of the District with respect to a NMTC transaction pursuant to Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The agreement further defines the project as the development of Champions Square and the responsibilities of each party related to the project under the NMTC transaction. The term of the agreement will expire on the earlier of (a) the date that the community development entity (CDE) loan documents with the Marketing Fund are terminated or do not become effective, the loans are paid in full, or (b) June 30, 2026. The participation in the NMTC transaction required the District to make certain guarantees, including the CDE loans to the Marketing Fund. The District's obligations under the agreement are only payable in the event the Marketing Fund has insufficient funds to cover its operating expenses or debt service payments. The District has agreed to make a contribution to the capital of the Marketing Fund sufficient to meet its obligations, but only to the extent that resources are available after the District has met its own obligations. The contribution of capital can only be made from sources not dedicated or restricted for other purposes.

Effective November 14, 2012, the State, the District, and Jefferson Parish entered into a management agreement whereby Jefferson Parish accepts the exclusive rights to manage, operate, market, and administer the Alario Center. The agreement is for an initial five-year term with an automatic five-year extension. Jefferson Parish will fund operating and maintenance costs of the Alario Center for the duration of the agreement. The District will serve as Contract Administrator.

Effective April 20, 2017, the District and Jefferson Parish entered into a cooperative endeavor agreement whereby the District will provide development services to construct a recreational facility in Westwego, Louisiana, for the youth and citizens of Jefferson Parish. The project will be funded through capital outlay funds appropriated by the State of Louisiana to the District and specifically designated for the implementation of the project. Upon completion of the project, an act of transfer and conveyance will be executed, conveying ownership of the project site, land, improvements, and equipment located on or obtained for the project to Jefferson Parish. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the District acquired the land on which the facility will be located.

#### 19. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Effective August 12, 2015, the District and the Club entered into a project development agreement whereby the District and the Club will invest capital for improvement in and around the Superdome. The parties have agreed that the District will invest \$3,500,000 for energy efficiency improvements to the Superdome along with an additional \$6,000,000, if and when available, in capital outlay appropriations from the State of Louisiana, and the Club will invest up to \$25,000,000 for improvements focused on audio and video upgrades.

# 20. NET POSITION RESTATEMENT – GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The beginning net position as reflected on Statement A has been restated to reflect the following changes:

Primary Government			
Governmental	Business-Type		Component
Activities	Activities	Total	Unit
(\$246,379,069)	\$349,876,423	\$103,497,354	(\$9,787,618)
	2,016,280	2,016,280	
	(158,623)	(158,623)	
(\$246,379,069)	\$351,734,080	\$105,355,011	(\$9,787,618)
	Governmental Activities (\$246,379,069)	Governmental Activities Activities (\$246,379,069) \$349,876,423 2,016,280 (158,623)	Governmental Activities         Business-Type Activities         Total           (\$246,379,069)         \$349,876,423         \$103,497,354           2,016,280         2,016,280           (158,623)         (158,623)

#### 21. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

The District's discretely presented component unit, the Louisiana Superdome Marketing and Promotional Fund (Marketing Fund) qualified for the utilization of tax credits through the Internal Revenue Service New Market Tax Credit Program. The New Market Tax Credits were to be taken over a seven-year period by certain qualified investors. On October 22, 2017, the District terminated the New Market Tax Credit Transaction due to the expiration of the seven-year period. As a result, LSED's Marketing Fund associated with Champions Square will cease operations effective October 22, 2017.

# OTHER REPORT REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

### Exhibit A

The following pages contain a report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance with laws and regulations and other matters required by *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The report is based on the audit of the financial statements and includes, where appropriate, any significant deficiencies and/or material weaknesses in internal control or compliance and other matters that would be material to the presented financial statements.



November 30, 2017

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

**Independent Auditor's Report** 

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LOUISIANA STADIUM AND EXPOSITION DISTRICT STATE OF LOUISIANA

New Orleans, Louisiana

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, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely-presented component unit, and each major fund of the Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District (the District), a component unit of the State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 30, 2017. Our report was modified to include an emphasis of matter paragraph regarding financial statement comparability. Our report includes a reference to another auditor who audited the financial statements of the Louisiana Superdome Marketing and Promotional Fund, as described in our report on the District's financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditor's testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by that auditor.

#### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity'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 may exist that have not been identified.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from 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 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported 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 result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Respectfully submitted

Daryl G. Purpera, CPA, CFE

Legislative Auditor

CJH:NM:WDG:EFS:aa

LSED 2017