

GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD

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TOM L. ALLEN
Chairman

April 10, 2003

Mr. David G. Wallace, Mayor
City of Sugar Land
P.O. Box 110
Sugar Land, TX 77487-0110

Dear Mayor Wallace:

We recently received a copy of the City of Sugar Land comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002. Your city's early implementation of GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments*, is commendable and I want to recognize your efforts.

As you know, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) seeks to improve financial reporting in a number of ways. The GASB believes that implementation of Statement 34 results in improvements in reporting cost-of-services information and the overall financial position of the government to taxpayers, governing boards, and other financial statement users. Therefore, we encourage early implementation so that this information will be available to those users on a more timely basis.

We are extremely pleased, and impressed, by your city's ability to prepare the new financial statements in such a timely fashion. I was particularly impressed with the city's reporting of all of its infrastructure well in advance of the required date for reporting existing infrastructure.

Your early implementation is a tribute to your controller Dianne F. Stanford; assistant controller William Pena; accounting manager Alka Shah; and your auditors Sandersen Knox & Belt, L.L.P., for their expertise and assistance to the city.

I also want to commend you and the city's governing body for supporting the efforts to provide your citizens and other financial statement users with a more comprehensive reporting of the city's financial operations in advance of the effective date of the standard. It is my hope that these users of your financial statements will recognize your efforts. I am sending a certificate to your finance department to display in recognition of their early-implementation efforts.



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I have provided a copy of this letter and other information on Statement 34 to your local newspaper in hopes that their recognition of your efforts will encourage other governments to provide this improved financial reporting to their citizens and other financial statement users as quickly as possible.

Congratulations for a job well done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom L. Alien".

Tom L. Alien

cc: Dianne F. Stanford
William Pena
Alka Shah
Sandersen Knox & Belt, L.L.P.
Fort Bend Sun