



October 25, 2019

To the Honorable Mayor, Members of Council,  
and Management  
Town of Bridgewater, Virginia  
Bridgewater, Virginia

In connection with our audit of the financial statements of the Town of Bridgewater, Virginia (Town) for the year ended June 30, 2019, we have the following comment for your consideration.

***New GASB Pronouncements***

At June 30, 2019, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) had issued several statements not yet implemented by the Town. The statements which might impact the Town are as follows:

**GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities***

The objective of this Statement is to improve guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. The focus of the criteria generally is on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists.

An activity meeting the criteria should be reported in a fiduciary fund in the basic financial statements. Governments with activities meeting the criteria should present a statement of fiduciary net position and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position. An exception to that requirement is provided for a business-type activity that normally expects to hold custodial assets for three months or less.

The requirements of this Statement will enhance consistency and comparability by (1) establishing specific criteria for identifying activities that should be reported as fiduciary activities and (2) clarifying whether and how business-type activities should report their fiduciary activities. Greater consistency and comparability enhances the value provided by the information reported in financial statements for assessing government accountability and stewardship.

The requirements of Statement No. 84 are effective for financial statements for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018.

### **Statement No. 87, *Leases***

The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. This Statement increases the usefulness of governments' financial statements by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. A lease is defined as a contract that conveys control of the right to use another entity's nonfinancial asset as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Examples of nonfinancial assets include buildings, land, vehicles, and equipment. Any contract that meets this definition should be accounted for under the leases guidance, unless specifically excluded in this Statement.

The requirements of Statement No. 87 are effective for financial statements for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019.

### **Statement No. 89, *Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred Before the End of a Construction Period***

The objectives of this Statement are to enhance the relevance and comparability of information about capital assets and the cost of borrowing for a reporting period and to simplify accounting for interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period.

This Statement requires interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period be recognized as an expense in the period which the cost is incurred for financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. As a result, interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period will not be included in the historical cost of a capital asset reported in a business-type activity.

The requirements of Statement No. 89 are effective for financial statements for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019.

### **Statement No. 91, *Conduit Debt Obligations***

The primary objectives of this Statement are to provide a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures. This Statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosures.

The requirements of Statement No. 91 are effective for financial statements for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020.

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

If you have any questions concerning any of these items or if we can be of further assistance, please contact us. We thank you for the opportunity to conduct your audit for the year ended June 30, 2019 and express our appreciation to everyone for their cooperation during this engagement.

*PBMares, LLP*

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