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# **TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**

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State Single Audit

For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

# TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT

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For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

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**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

To the Board of Finance  
Town of Ashford, Connecticut

We have audited, 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 the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Ashford, Connecticut (the "Town"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2020.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Town's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town'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 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.

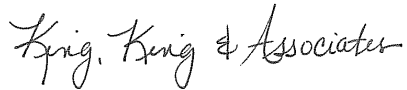
Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not 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 Town'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 financial statements. 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 Town'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 Town's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



King, King & Associates, CPAs  
Winsted, CT  
November 21, 2020

**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR STATE PROGRAM; REPORT  
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON THE  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
REQUIRED BY THE STATE SINGLE AUDIT ACT**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Finance  
Town of Ashford, Connecticut

**Report on Compliance for Each Major State Program**

We have audited the Town of Ashford, Connecticut's (the "Town") compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the Office of Policy and Management's *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Town's major state programs for the year ended June 30, 2020. The Town's major state programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

**Management's Responsibility**

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to its state programs.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Town's major state programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the State Single Audit Act (C.G.S. Sections 4-230 to 4-236). Those standards and the State Single Audit Act require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major state program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Town's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major state program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Town's compliance.

## **Opinion on Each Major State Program**

In our opinion, the Town, complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major state programs for the year ended June 30, 2020.

## **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

Management of the Town is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Town's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major state program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for each major state program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the State Single Audit Act, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the State Single Audit Act. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

## **Report on Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance Required by the State Single Audit Act**

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. We have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2020, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the State Single Audit Act, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

*King, King & Associates*

King, King & Associates, CPAs  
Winsted, CT  
November 21, 2020

**TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

State Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	State Grant Program Core-CT Number	Expenditures
<b>Connecticut State Library</b>		
Connecticard Payments	11000-CSL66051-17010	\$ 180
Historic Document Preservation Grant	12060-CSL66094-35150	5,500
CT Education Network	12052-CSL66011-43649	29,050
<b>Department of Transportation</b>		
Town Aid Road Grants - Municipal	12052-DOT57131-43455	146,768
Town Aid Road Grants - STO	13033-DOT57131-43459	146,768
<b>Department of Economic and Community Development</b>		
Brownfield Remediation Program - Squaw Hollow Road/Boston Turnpike	12060-ECD46260-35533	30,154
Arts Commission	11000-ECD46820-16258	1,375
<b>Office of Early Childhood</b>		
School Readiness in Competitive Grant Municipalities	11000-OEC64845-16274-83013	113,400
Child Care Quality Enhancement	11000-OEC64845-16158	3,881
<b>Department of Justice</b>		
Judicial Fines and Fees	34001-JUD95162-40001	2,365
Passed Through the Friends of Babcock Library: Youth Services Prevention	11000-JUD96114-12559-087	25,000
<b>Department of Children and Families</b>		
Youth Service Bureau Grant	11000-DCF91147-17052	14,000
Youth Service Bureau Enhancement Grant	11000-DCF91141-17107	5,713
<b>Department of Education</b>		
Healthy Foods Initiative Grant	11000-SDE64370-16212	3,124
School Breakfast Grant	11000-SDE64370-17046	2,867
Child Nutrition State Matching Grant	11000-SDE64370-16211	1,640
<b>Office of Policy and Management</b>		
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) on State- Owned Property	11000-OPM20600-17004	2,817
Reimbursement of Property Taxes - Disability Exemption	11000-OPM20600-17011	1,078
Local Capital Improvement Program	12050-OPM20600-40254	50,263
Municipal Grants-in-aid	12052-OPM20600-43587	3,582
Property Tax Relief for Veterans	11000-OPM20600-17024	1,679
<b>Total State Financial Assistance Before Exempt Programs</b>		<b>\$ 591,204</b>

See notes to schedule.



**TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

State Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	State Grant Program Core-CT Number	Expenditures
<b>EXEMPT PROGRAMS</b>		
<b>Office of Policy and Management</b>		
Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund	12009-OPM20600-17005	\$ 12,010
Municipal Stabilization Grant	11000-OPM20600-17104	<u>44,498</u>
Total Office of Policy and Management		<u>56,508</u>
<b>Department of Education</b>		
Educational Cost Sharing	11000-SDE64370-17041-82010	3,538,514
Excess Cost Student Based and Equity	11000-SDE64370-17047	<u>81,573</u>
Total Department of Education		<u>3,620,087</u>
	<b>Total Exempt Programs</b>	<b><u>3,676,595</u></b>
	<b>Total State Financial Assistance</b>	<b><u>\$ 4,267,799</u></b>

See notes to schedule.

**TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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The accompanying schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance includes state grant activity of the Town of Ashford, Connecticut under programs of the State of Connecticut for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. Various departments and agencies of the State of Connecticut have provided financial assistance through grants and other authorizations in accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut. These financial assistance programs fund several programs of the Town.

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounting policies of the Town of Ashford, Connecticut conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to Governments.

The information in the Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance is presented based upon regulations established by the State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management.

***Basis of Accounting***

The fund financial statements contained in the Town of Ashford, Connecticut's annual report are prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available while expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the fund liability is incurred.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred.

The expenditures reported on the Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. In accordance with Section 4-236-22 of the Regulations to the State Single Audit Act, certain grants are not dependent on expenditure activity, and accordingly, are considered to be expended in the fiscal year of receipt. These grant program receipts are reflected in the expenditures column of the Schedule of Expenditure of State Financial Assistance.

**TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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**I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

*Financial Statements*

We audited the financial statements of the Town of Ashford, Connecticut as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020 and issued our unmodified report thereon dated November 21, 2020.

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  None Reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

*State Financial Assistance*

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  None Reported

We have issued an unmodified opinion relating to compliance for major State programs.

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 4-236-24 of the Regulations to the State Single Audit Act? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

The following schedule reflects the major programs included in the audit:

<b>State Grantor and Program</b>	<b>State Core - CT Number</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
<b>Department of Transportation</b>		
Town Aid Road Grants - Municipal	12052-DOT57131-43455	\$ 146,768
Town Aid Road - STO	13033-DOT57131-43459	\$ 146,768

Note - While these grants have different State Core CT Numbers, they are considered one major program for testing purposes.

**Office of Early Childhood**

School Readiness and Child Care in Competitive Grant Municipalities	11000-OEC64845-16274-83013	\$ 113,400
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**Department of Justice**

Passed Through the Friends of Babcock Library: Youth Services Prevention	11000-JUD96114-12559-087	\$ 25,000
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Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs \$ 100,000

**TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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**II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

- We issued reports, dated November 21, 2020, on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on our audit of financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Our report on compliance indicated no reportable instances of noncompliance.
- Our report on internal control over financial reporting indicated no matters were reported.

**III. STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

- No findings or questioned costs are reported relating to State Financial Assistance Programs.

**TOWN OF ASHFORD, CONNECTICUT**  
**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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**Prior Year Material Weaknesses**

**Finding 2019-01 – Material Weakness in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

This finding has been corrected.