

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of the State Auditor



Rebecca Otto
State Auditor

COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA,
MINNESOTA

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

Description of the Office of the State Auditor

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 160 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

Audit Practice - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

Government Information - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

Legal/Special Investigations - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

Pension - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 730 public pension funds; and

Tax Increment Financing - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA,
MINNESOTA**

Year Ended December 31, 2011



**Audit Practice Division
Office of the State Auditor
State of Minnesota**

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

ORGANIZATION
DECEMBER 31, 2011

<u>Affiliate</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Anoka County	Matt Look Robyn West	Rhonda Sivarajah
Dakota County	Paul Krause ² Nancy Schouweiler	Thomas A. Egan
Hennepin County	Peter McLaughlin ¹ Gail Dorfman	Mark Stenglein
Ramsey County	Jim McDonough ³ Rafael Ortega	Jan Parker Victoria Reinhardt
Washington County	Dennis Hegberg Lisa Weik	Gary Kriesel
Metropolitan Council	Susan Haigh	Steve Elkins

¹Chair

²Vice Chair

³Secretary/Treasurer

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REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Joint Powers Board
Counties Transit Improvement Board

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, which collectively comprise the CTIB's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the CTIB's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the Counties Transit Improvement Board as of December 31, 2011, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed in Note 1.D.6. to the financial statements, the CTIB adopted the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011. GASB Statement 54 provides clearer fund balance classifications that can be more consistently applied and clarifies existing governmental fund type definitions.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and the Required Supplementary Information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not part of the basic financial statements, is required by the GASB, 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. In accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information, 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.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

December 18, 2012

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITIAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2011
(Unaudited)**

This section presents management's analysis of the Counties Transit Improvement Board's (CTIB) financial condition and activities for the year ended December 31, 2011. This information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- At December 31, 2011, the assets of the CTIB exceeded its liabilities by \$15,573,755. Of the total net assets, \$15,332,120 was restricted for grants to member agencies, and \$241,635 was unrestricted.
- The CTIB's total net assets, as reported in the Statement of Activities, decreased by \$43,671,502 during the year ended December 31, 2011. This decrease was due to an increase in the amount of transportation grants funded by CTIB.
- The General Fund's fund balance decreased by \$43,762,342, or 25.8 percent, from the prior year.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) serves as an introduction to the financial statements. The MD&A represents management's examination and analysis of the CTIB's financial condition and performance. Summary financial statement data, key financial and operational indicators used in the CTIB's operating budget, and other management tools were used for this analysis.

The financial statements combine fund level financial statements and government-wide financial statements. The CTIB reports one governmental fund, which is reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting, while the government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION AND BUSINESS

The CTIB was established April 1, 2008, under a Joint Powers Agreement in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 297A.992. The CTIB is governed by an 11-member Board composed of two County Commissioner representatives appointed by each of the County Boards of Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington Counties, and the Chair of the Metropolitan Council. Each county also appoints an alternate member. Its purpose is to facilitate investment in transitways, to collaboratively plan and develop policies for transit investments, to advocate for state and federal funding and transportation policies supportive of transitways, and to provide for public education and information. The Board is organized with a chair and a vice chair elected each year.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net Assets

The CTIB's total net assets were \$15,573,755 on December 31, 2011. (See Table A-1.)

	2011	2010	Percent (%) Change
Assets			
Current assets	\$ 143,357,618	\$ 178,992,144	(19.9)
Liabilities			
Current liabilities	\$ 17,748,059	\$ 9,746,887	82.1
Noncurrent liabilities	110,035,804	110,000,000	0.0
Total Liabilities	\$ 127,783,863	\$ 119,746,887	6.7
Net Assets			
Restricted for			
Grants to member agencies	\$ 15,332,120	\$ 7,000,000	119.0
Transportation	-	52,245,257	(100.0)
Unrestricted	241,635	-	100.0
Total Net Assets	\$ 15,573,755	\$ 59,245,257	(73.7)

The CTIB's net assets as of December 31, 2011, as well as sales and excise taxes to be received in future years, are all ultimately designated for transitway capital and operating grants, and the administrative costs associated with the grant-making process. The CTIB's year-end net assets balance is restricted because it is to be used solely to fund transportation improvements as required by the state statutes that authorize the taxes that provide the CTIB's revenues (Minn. Stat. § 297A.992).

Changes in Net Assets

The CTIB's net assets decreased \$43,671,502 during the year ended December 31, 2011. See Table A-2 for the details of this change.

Table A-2
Change in Net Assets
Governmental Activities

	2011	2010	Percent (%) Change
Revenues			
Sales and excise taxes	\$ 98,191,899	\$ 92,343,340	6.3
Intergovernmental	105,000	105,000	0.0
Investment earnings	14,972	20,591	(27.3)
Total Revenues	\$ 98,311,871	\$ 92,468,931	6.3
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 690,064	\$ 547,607	26.0
Grants to member agencies	136,732,741	85,244,248	60.4
Interest	4,560,568	126,644	3,501.1
Total Expenses	\$ 141,983,373	\$ 85,918,499	65.3
Change in Net Assets	\$ (43,671,502)	\$ 6,550,432	(766.7)
Net Assets - January 1	59,245,257	52,694,825	12.4
Net Assets - December 31	\$ 15,573,755	\$ 59,245,257	(73.7)

Revenues

The primary source of funding for the CTIB is a one-quarter of one percent sales and use tax. This tax was imposed on July 1, 2008, by each of the member counties as a requirement for joining the CTIB. The tax is on the same goods and services as the State of Minnesota general sales tax. It does not include the sale of motor vehicles. In addition to the sales and use tax, there is a \$20 per vehicle tax on the sale of motor vehicles by entities that are in the business of selling motor vehicles. It does not apply to a sale between two private individuals. These taxes are administered and collected by the Minnesota Department of Revenue. The funds, net of collection fees, are transferred directly into the CTIB's trust account by the Department of Revenue. The taxes do not flow to the member counties. For the year ending December 31, 2011, the CTIB collected \$98,191,899 in net taxes.

Expenses

The CTIB's primary purpose is to advance transit projects within the five-county region. The CTIB is limited to funding construction and operations of transitways. The CTIB is also authorized to spend up to three-fourths of one percent of its tax revenues for administrative expenses. The CTIB does not operate or construct transitways, but provides grants to members, the Metropolitan Council, or other political subdivisions. Most of the \$136,732,741 of grant money expended in 2011 flowed through the Metropolitan Council for either operating or capital purposes. The CTIB does not have any employees and, as such, contracts out all administrative services.

Budgetary Highlights

- Actual revenues were \$9,506,871 more than budgeted.
- Actual expenditures were \$2,672,677 under the budgeted amount, due to slightly smaller than anticipated transportation grants to member agencies.
- The original adopted General Fund expenditure budget was approximately \$10 million higher than the final amended budget, due primarily to slightly reduced grants to member agencies.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

No new debt was issued by CTIB during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

In December 2010, the CTIB Board issued a \$102,810,000 Senior Sales Tax Revenue Note (Hennepin County), Series 2010A, for the purpose of funding approved capital grants expected to exceed the amount of sales taxes to be received in 2011. Hennepin County, in turn, issued its \$102,810,000 General Obligation Senior Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2010E, the proceeds of which were used to purchase the CTIB Board's Note. The proceeds of the bonds, together with the premium paid by the purchaser of the bonds (\$7,190,000), was transferred to the CTIB in a total amount of \$110,000,000 to fund capital grants approved for 2011. Additional information on the CTIB's long-term debt can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements, Note 3.B., of this report.

ECONOMIC AND OTHER FACTORS

The CTIB's tax receipts are dependent on the economic activity of the Twin Cities' region. The CTIB Board recognizes the potential variability of the tax receipts and manages its grant spending based upon the most recent sales tax receipts and a cashflow reserve to ensure it can fund its obligations.

FINANCIAL CONTACT

This financial report is designed to provide an overview for those interested in the CTIB's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or additional financial information should be directed to Mary Richardson, CTIB Administrator, 477 Selby Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102.

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BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

EXHIBIT 1

**GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
DECEMBER 31, 2011**

	General Fund	Adjustments	Governmental Activities
<u>Assets</u>			
Cash held by Hennepin County	\$ 114,985	\$ -	\$ 114,985
Cash held by trustee	134,239,948	-	134,239,948
Accrued interest receivable	1,839	-	1,839
Due from other governments	8,899,477	-	8,899,477
Prepaid expense	1,369	-	1,369
Advance to other governments	100,000	-	100,000
Total Assets	\$ 143,357,618	\$ -	\$ 143,357,618
 <u>Liabilities and Fund Balance/Net Assets</u>			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 120,626	\$ -	\$ 120,626
Due to other governments	17,627,433	-	17,627,433
Accrued interest payable	-	395,304	395,304
Noncurrent liabilities			
Due within one year	-	3,904,500	3,904,500
Due in more than one year	-	105,736,000	105,736,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 17,748,059	\$ 110,035,804	\$ 127,783,863
 Fund Balance			
Restricted for grants to member agencies	\$ 125,367,924	\$ (125,367,924)	
Committed for transportation	103,892	(103,892)	
Unassigned	137,743	(137,743)	
Total Fund Balance	\$ 125,609,559	\$ (125,609,559)	
 Net Assets			
Restricted for			
Grants to member agencies		\$ 15,332,120	\$ 15,332,120
Unrestricted		241,635	241,635
Total Net Assets		\$ 15,573,755	\$ 15,573,755
 Total Liabilities and Fund Balance/Net Assets	 \$ 143,357,618	 \$ -	 \$ 143,357,618

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

***EXHIBIT 1
(Continued)***

**GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
DECEMBER 31, 2011**

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance to Net Assets	
Fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 125,609,559
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	(109,640,500)
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, is not reported in the governmental funds.	<u>(395,304)</u>
Net Assets of Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 15,573,755</u></u>

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

EXHIBIT 2

**GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
AND STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

	General Fund	Adjustments	Governmental Activities
Revenues			
Sales and excise taxes	\$ 98,191,899	\$ -	\$ 98,191,899
Intergovernmental	105,000	-	105,000
Investment earnings	14,972	-	14,972
	\$ 98,311,871	\$ -	\$ 98,311,871
Expenditures/Expenses			
Current			
Transportation			
Administration	\$ 690,064	\$ -	\$ 690,064
Intergovernmental			
Transportation			
Grants to member agencies	136,732,741	-	136,732,741
Debt service			
Interest	4,651,408	(90,840)	4,560,568
	\$ 142,074,213	\$ (90,840)	\$ 141,983,373
Change in Fund Balance/Net Assets	\$ (43,762,342)	\$ 90,840	\$ (43,671,502)
Fund Balance/Net Assets - January 1	169,371,901	(110,126,644)	59,245,257
Fund Balance/Net Assets - December 31	\$ 125,609,559	\$ (110,035,804)	\$ 15,573,755

**Reconciliation of the General Fund Statement of Revenues,
Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement
of Activities**

Net Change in Fund Balance **\$ (43,762,342)**

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental fund.

Change in accrued interest payable	\$ (268,660)	
Amortization of premium on loan	359,500	90,840

Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities **\$ (43,671,502)**

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Counties Transit Improvement Board's (CTIB) financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued through November 30, 1989, (when applicable) that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Counties Transit Improvement Board are discussed below.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The Counties Transit Improvement Board was established April 1, 2008, under a Joint Powers Agreement in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 297A.992. The CTIB is governed by an 11-member Board composed of two County Commissioner representatives appointed by each of the County Boards of Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington Counties, and the Chair of the Metropolitan Council. Each County also appoints an alternate member.

The CTIB's purpose is to facilitate investment in transitways, to collaboratively plan and develop policies for transit investments, to advocate for state and federal funding and transportation policies supportive of transitways, and to provide for public education and information. The Board is organized with a chair and a vice chair elected each year.

The CTIB is a separate entity independent of the entities that formed it. In accordance with GAAP, the CTIB's financial statements are not included in any member's financial statements. No single member retains control over the operations or is financially accountable for the CTIB.

B. Basic Financial Statements

The financial statements combine fund level financial statements (General Fund column) and government-wide financial statements (governmental activities column). These statements include the overall financial activities of the CTIB.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

B. Basic Financial Statements (Continued)

The government-wide financial statements 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 CTIB's net assets are reported as restricted and unrestricted.

The CTIB reports one governmental fund, the General Fund, which is the primary operating fund and accounts for all the financial resources of the organization.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The governmental activities are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. The CTIB considers all revenues as available if collected within 60 days after the end of the current period. Charges for services and interest are considered susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, compensated absences, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases, if any, are reported as other financing sources.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the CTIB's policy to use restricted resources first and then unrestricted resources as needed.

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

1. Cash and Investments

The CTIB's sales and excise taxes are deposited in a trust account at Wells Fargo Bank. Under the custodial agreement, all investments are to be made in money market mutual funds that are permitted under Minn. Stat. ch. 118A.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

1. Cash and Investments (Continued)

All other cash is pooled and invested with Hennepin County, which obtains collateral to cover deposits in excess of insurance coverage. Pooled investments are reported at their fair value at December 31, 2011, based on market prices.

2. Prepaid Expenses

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid expenses in both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

3. Advance to Other Governments

An intergovernmental advance reported as “Advance to other governments” is offset by due to other governments. In 2009, an advance was made to the fiscal agent, Hennepin County, for cash flow purposes.

4. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net assets. In the fund financial statements, the face amount of the debt issued is reported as an other financing source.

5. Classification of Net Assets

Net assets in government-wide statements are classified in the following categories:

Restricted net assets - the amount of net assets for which external restrictions have been imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments and restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net assets - the amount of net assets that do not meet the definition of restricted or invested in capital assets, net of related debt.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity (Continued)

6. Classification of Fund Balances

In 2011, the CTIB implemented GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. The standard's objectives are to enhance the usefulness of fund balance information included in the financial report through clearer fund balance classifications that can be consistently applied and to clarify existing governmental fund type definitions. The statement requires retroactive restatement of fund balance for the reclassifications made to conform to this statement. Total fund balance did not change.

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the CTIB is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted - amounts in which constraints have been placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed - amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (ordinance or resolution) of the CTIB. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the CTIB removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (ordinance or resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. The action must be approved no later than the close of the reporting period and remains binding unless removed in the same manner.

Assigned - amounts for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.

Unassigned - the residual classification for the General Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other fund balance classifications.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

6. Classification of Fund Balances (Continued)

The CTIB applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first, followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

7. Reclassifications

Fund balance account balances were reclassified as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, as previously reported, due to the implementation of GASB Statement 54. Total fund balance did not change. These reclassifications were required for comparability to the financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011. Although comparative statements for 2010 are not presented here, these reclassifications must be considered when comparing the financial statements of this report with those of prior reports.

8. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Budgetary Data

The CTIB adopts estimated sales tax revenue and administrative expenditure budgets for the General Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end unless specifically carried over to the next budget year by Board action. The budget can be amended during the year by the CTIB's Board.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

2. Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Budgetary Data (Continued)

On or before July 1 of each year, the Board adopts a preliminary annual budget for administrative, lobbying, and grants to member agencies expenditures. The administrative expenditures are based on three-quarters of one percent of sales tax revenue. A final budget must be prepared and adopted no later than August 30.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in the General Fund. Encumbrances (such as purchase orders or contracts) do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be reapportioned and honored during the subsequent year.

3. Detailed Notes

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments

a. Deposits

As of December 31, 2011, the CTIB's General Fund had \$114,985 on deposit with Hennepin County. It is Hennepin County's policy to follow Minn. Stat. § 118A.03, which states that, to the extent funds deposited are in excess of available federal deposit insurance, the County must require the financial institution to furnish collateral security or a corporate surety bond. All collateral must be placed in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank, or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the CTIB's deposits may not be returned to it. The CTIB does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk outside of deposit policies developed by and adhered to by Hennepin County. At December 31, 2011, the CTIB's deposits were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

3. Detailed Notes

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

b. Investments

Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.04 and 118A.05 generally authorize the following types of investments as available to the CTIB:

- (1) securities which are direct obligations or are guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress, except mortgage-backed securities defined as "high risk" by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6;
- (2) mutual funds through shares of registered investment companies provided the mutual fund receives certain ratings depending on its investments;
- (3) general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, and in certain state agency and local obligations of Minnesota and other states provided such obligations have certain specified bond ratings by a national bond rating service;
- (4) bankers' acceptances of United States banks;
- (5) commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries that is rated in the highest quality category by two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in 270 days or less; and
- (6) with certain restrictions, in repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, joint powers investment trusts, and guaranteed investment contracts.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

3. Detailed Notes

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments

b. Investments (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party. The CTIB does not have an investment policy for custodial credit risk outside of investment policies developed by and adhered to by Hennepin County. At December 31, 2011, the CTIB's investments were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the CTIB's investment in a single issuer. At December 31, 2011, the CTIB held \$134,239,948 in the Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. At December 31, 2011, none of the CTIB's investments were subject to interest rate risk.

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. At December 31, 2011, none of the CTIB's investments were subject to credit risk.

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

3. Detailed Notes

A. Assets (Continued)

2. Receivables

Amounts due from other governments consisted mainly of sales and excise taxes that had been collected by the Minnesota Department of Revenue on behalf of the CTIB at December 31, 2011.

B. Liabilities

Payables

Payables at December 31, 2011, for the CTIB's governmental activities were as follows:

Accounts payable	\$	120,626
Due to other governments		17,627,433
Accrued interest payable		395,304
Total	\$	18,143,363

Due to other governments is composed of two transit operating grants due to the Metropolitan Council, two transit capital grants due to the Metropolitan Council, and one transit capital grant due to Anoka County.

Long-Term Debt

Hennepin County loaned the CTIB funds for the purpose of funding grant awards for various transit projects. Information on the loan follows:

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rates (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2011
Loans payable					
Hennepin County	12/01/2030	\$3,545,000 - \$7,895,000	4.00 - 5.00	\$ 102,810,000	\$ 102,810,000

**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

3. Detailed Notes

B. Liabilities

Long-Term Debt (Continued)

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2011, were as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31</u>	<u>Loans Payable</u>	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2012	\$ 3,545,000	\$ 4,743,644
2013	3,685,000	4,601,843
2014	3,835,000	4,454,444
2015	3,990,000	4,301,044
2016	4,150,000	4,141,444
2017 - 2021	24,060,000	17,381,219
2022 - 2026	30,150,000	11,294,406
2027 - 2030	29,395,000	3,764,000
Total	<u>\$ 102,810,000</u>	<u>\$ 54,682,044</u>

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2011, was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
Loans payable	\$ 102,810,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102,810,000	\$ 3,545,000
Premium on loan	7,190,000	-	359,500	6,830,500	359,500
Total	<u>\$ 110,000,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 359,500</u>	<u>\$ 109,640,500</u>	<u>\$ 3,904,500</u>

C. Risk Management

The CTIB is exposed to limited risks of loss related to theft of assets, or errors or omissions. The CTIB reduces the risks of loss by requiring contractual commitment agreements with third parties to name the CTIB as an additional insured on policies of commercial liability insurance maintained by the contracting parties.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

EXHIBIT A-1

**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Revenues				
Sales and excise taxes	\$ 88,700,000	\$ 88,700,000	\$ 98,191,899	\$ 9,491,899
Intergovernmental	105,000	105,000	105,000	-
Investment earnings	-	-	14,972	14,972
Total Revenues	\$ 88,805,000	\$ 88,805,000	\$ 98,311,871	\$ 9,506,871
Expenditures				
Current				
Transportation				
Administration				
General	\$ 311,000	\$ 311,000	\$ 363,601	\$ (52,601)
Lobbying	105,000	105,000	103,554	1,446
Communications	74,000	52,750	21,213	31,537
Financial services	220,000	220,000	137,663	82,337
Insurance	10,000	10,000	9,990	10
Legal	-	-	54,043	(54,043)
Contingencies	50,250	50,250	-	50,250
Total administration	\$ 770,250	\$ 749,000	\$ 690,064	\$ 58,936
Intergovernmental				
Transportation				
Grants to member agencies	148,958,562	138,997,890	136,732,741	2,265,149
Debt service				
Interest	5,000,000	5,000,000	4,651,408	348,592
Total Expenditures	\$ 154,728,812	\$ 144,746,890	\$ 142,074,213	\$ 2,672,677
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (65,923,812)	\$ (55,941,890)	\$ (43,762,342)	\$ 12,179,548
Fund Balance - January 1	169,371,901	169,371,901	169,371,901	-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 103,448,089	\$ 113,430,011	\$ 125,609,559	\$ 12,179,548

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for the General Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end unless specifically carried over to the next budget year by Board action.

On or before July 1 of each year, the Board adopts a preliminary annual budget for administrative and lobbying expenditures. The administrative expenditures are based on three-quarters of one percent of sales tax revenue. A final budget must be prepared and adopted no later than August 30.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in the General Fund. Encumbrances (such as purchase orders or contracts) do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be reapportioned and honored during the subsequent year.

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**COUNTIES TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AREA, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS RESOLVED

Audit Adjustments (09-1)

During our previous audit, we identified the following material audit adjustment: due to other governments and related expenditures/expenses were decreased by \$7,000,000 in the General Fund and the government-wide financial statements.

Resolution

We noted no material audit adjustments during the current audit.

Preparation of Financial Statements (09-2)

The Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) needed to broaden its participation in the preparation of its financial statements and not rely so extensively on its external auditor for financial reporting.

Resolution

The CTIB provides a general ledger, accruals, and other supporting schedules necessary for preparing fund level and government-wide financial statements. The CTIB has exhibited an appropriate understanding of, and is able to accurately prepare, the underlying accounting data used in the preparation of the financial statements.

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REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

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REPORT ON MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Joint Powers Board
Counties Transit Improvement Board

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, which collectively comprise the CTIB's basic financial statements. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65. Accordingly, the audit included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. Our study included all of the listed categories.

The results of our tests indicate that, for the items tested, the CTIB complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Joint Powers Board, management, and others within the CTIB and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

December 18, 2012