

**FIRETHORN  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Supervisors  
Firethorn Community Development District  
Manatee County, Florida

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund, of Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida ("District") as of and for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the District as of September 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

The District's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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 Information Included in the Financial Report***

Management is responsible for the other information included in the financial report. The other information comprises the information for compliance with FL Statute 218.39 (3) (c) but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 12, 2025, 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, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 effectiveness of the District's 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.

*Grau & Associates*

December 12, 2025

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Our discussion and analysis of Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida ("District") provides a narrative overview of the District's financial activities for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025. Please read it in conjunction with the District's Independent Auditor's Report, basic financial statements, accompanying notes and supplementary information to the basic financial statements.

This information is being presented to provide additional information regarding the activities of the District and to meet the disclosure requirements of Government Accounting Standards Board Statement ("GASB") No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* issued June 1999. Comparative information between the current year and the prior year is required to be presented in the Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"). However, because this is the first year of operations of the District, comparative information is excluded in this report. Subsequent reports will include the comparative information.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The assets of the District exceeded its liabilities at the close of the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025 resulting in a net position balance of \$328,300.
- The change in the District's total net position was \$328,300, an increase. The key components of the District's net position and change in net position are reflected in the table in the government-wide financial analysis section.
- At September 30, 2025, the District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$0.

### OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as the introduction to the District's financial statements. The District's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all the District's assets, deferred outflows and liabilities and deferred inflows with the residual amount being reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

The government-wide financial statements include all governmental activities that are principally supported by Developer contributions. The District does not have any business-type activities. The governmental activities of the District include the general government (management) function.

## OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

### Government-Wide Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District has one fund category: governmental funds.

#### Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a District's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the District's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains two governmental funds for external reporting. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the general fund and capital projects fund, both of which are considered major funds.

The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of an entity's financial position. In the case of the District, assets exceeded liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

Key components of the District's net position are reflected in the following table:

NET POSITION	
SEPTEMBER 30,	
	2025
Current and other assets	\$ 364,472
Capital assets, net of depreciation	328,300
Total assets	692,772
Current liabilities	364,472
Total liabilities	364,472
Net Position	
Net investment in capital assets	328,300
Total net position	\$ 328,300

## GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (Continued)

The District's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, land improvements, and infrastructure) less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These assets are used to provide services to residents; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

The District's net position increased during the most recent fiscal year. The majority of the increase represents the extent to which ongoing program revenues exceeded the cost of operations.

Key elements of the change in net position are reflected in the following table:

CHANGES IN NET POSITION	
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO	
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025	
Revenues:	
Program revenues	
Operating grants and contributions	\$ 71,378
Capital grants and contributions	328,300
Total revenues	<u>399,678</u>
Expenses:	
General government	<u>71,378</u>
Total expenses	<u>71,378</u>
Change in net position	<u>328,300</u>
Net position - beginning	-
Net position - ending	<u>\$ 328,300</u>

As noted above and in the statement of activities, the cost of all governmental activities during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, was \$71,378. The costs of the District's activities were funded by program revenues. Program revenues are primarily comprised of Developer contributions.

## GENERAL BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS

An operating budget was adopted and maintained by the governing board for the District pursuant to the requirements of Florida Statutes. The budget is adopted using the same basis of accounting that is used in preparation of the fund financial statements. The legal level of budgetary control, the level at which expenditures may not exceed budget, is in the aggregate. Any budget amendments that increase the aggregate budgeted appropriations must be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Actual general fund expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

## CAPITAL ASSETS

### Capital Assets

At September 30, 2025, the District had \$328,300 invested in capital assets for its governmental activities. More detailed information about the District's capital assets is presented in the notes of the financial statements.

## ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND OTHER EVENTS

Subsequent to fiscal year end, the District issued \$17,430,000 of Series 2025 Bonds, consisting of multiple term bonds with due dates ranging from May 1, 2030 – May 1, 2055 and fixed interest rates ranging from 4.1% to 5.6%. The Bonds were issued to finance the acquisition and construction of certain improvements for the benefit of the District.

## CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, landowners, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the financial resources it manages and the stewardship of the facilities it maintains. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Firethorn Community Development District at the office of the District Manager, James P. Ward at 2301 Northeast 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308.

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

	Governmental Activities
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 36,172
Due from developer	328,300
Capital assets:	
Depreciable, net	328,300
Total assets	692,772
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable	328,675
Due to Developer	35,797
Total liabilities	364,472
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	328,300
Total net position	\$ 328,300

See notes to the financial statements

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

<u>Functions/Programs</u>	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
Primary government:				
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 71,378	\$ 71,378	\$ 328,300	\$ 328,300
Total governmental activities	71,378	71,378	328,300	328,300
				328,300
				-
				\$ 328,300

See notes to the financial statements

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

	Major Funds		Total Governmental Funds
	General	Capital Projects	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 36,172	\$ -	\$ 36,172
Due from developer	-	328,300	328,300
Total assets	\$ 36,172	\$ 328,300	\$ 364,472
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 375	\$ 328,300	\$ 328,675
Due to Developer	35,797	-	35,797
Total liabilities	36,172	328,300	364,472
Fund balances:			
Total fund balances	-	-	-
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 36,172	\$ 328,300	\$ 364,472

See notes to the financial statements

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

Fund balance - governmental funds \$ -

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

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in the governmental funds. The statement of net position includes those capital assets, net of any accumulated depreciation, in the net position of the government as a whole.

Cost of capital assets	328,300	
Accumulated depreciation	-	328,300
Net position of governmental activities	\$	328,300

See notes to the financial statements

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

	Major Funds		Total
	General	Capital Projects	Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Developer contributions	\$ 71,378	\$ 328,300	\$ 399,678
Total revenues	71,378	328,300	399,678
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current:			
General government	71,378	-	71,378
Capital outlay	-	328,300	328,300
Total expenditures	71,378	328,300	399,678
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	-	-	-
Fund balances - beginning	-	-	-
Fund balances - ending	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

See notes to the financial statements

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$	-
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; however, the cost of capital assets is eliminated in the statement of activities and capitalized in the statement of net position.		<u>328,300</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$	<u><u>328,300</u></u>

See notes to the financial statements

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1 - NATURE OF ORGANIZATION AND REPORTING ENTITY**

Firethorn Community Development District ("District") was created on December 13, 2024, by Ordinance No. 24-78 of Manatee County, Florida, pursuant to the Uniform Community Development District Act of 1980, otherwise known as Chapter 190, Florida Statutes. The Act provides among other things, the power to manage basic services for community development, power to borrow money and issue bonds, and to levy and assess non-ad valorem assessments for the financing and delivery of capital infrastructure.

The District was established for the purposes of financing and managing the acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation of a portion of the infrastructure necessary for community development within the District.

The District is governed by the Board of Supervisors ("Board"), which is composed of five members. The Supervisors are elected by the owners of the property within the District. The Board of Supervisors of the District exercise all powers granted to the District pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes. At September 30, 2025, all of the board members are affiliated with Taylor Morrison of Florida, Inc. ("Developer").

The Board has the responsibility for:

1. Assessing and levying assessments.
2. Approving budgets.
3. Approving the hiring and firing of key personnel.
4. Financing improvements.

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statements. Under the provisions of those standards, the financial reporting entity consists of the primary government, organizations for which the District is considered to be financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the District are such that, if excluded, the financial statements of the District would be considered incomplete or misleading. There are no entities considered to be component units of the District; therefore, the financial statements include only the operations of the District.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* include 1) charges to customers who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or segment. Operating-type special assessments for maintenance and debt service are treated as charges for services; and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other items not included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

## NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### **Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation**

The government-wide financial statements 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. Assessments are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are to be recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

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. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

### **Assessments**

The District's Assessments are included on the property tax bill that all landowner's receive. The Florida Statutes provide that special assessments may be collected by using the Uniform Method. Under the Uniform Method, the District's Assessments will be collected together with County and other taxes. These Assessments will appear on a single tax bill issued to each landowner subject to such. The statutes relating to enforcement of County taxes provide that County taxes become due and payable on November 1 of the year when assessed or soon thereafter as the certified tax roll is received by the Tax Collector and constitute a lien upon the land from January 1 of such year until paid or barred by operation of law. Such taxes (together with any assessments, being collected by the Uniform Method) are to be billed, and landowners in the District are required to pay all such taxes and assessments, without preference in payment of any particular increment of the tax bill, such as the increment owing for the District's Assessments. Upon any receipt of moneys by the Tax Collector from the Assessments, such moneys will be delivered to the District.

All city, county, school and special district ad valorem taxes, non-ad valorem special assessments and voter-approved ad valorem taxes levied to pay principal of and interest on bonds, including the District Assessments, that are collected by the Uniform Method are payable at one time. If a taxpayer does not make complete payment of the total amount, he or she cannot designate specific line items on his or her tax bill as deemed paid in full and such partial payment is not to be accepted and is to be returned to the taxpayer, provided, however that a taxpayer may contest a tax assessment pursuant to certain conditions in Florida Statutes and other applicable law.

Under the Uniform Method, if the Assessments are paid during November when due or at any time within thirty (30) days after the mailing of the original tax notice or during the following three months, the taxpayer is granted a variable discount equal to 4% in November and decreasing one percentage point per month to 1% in February. March payments are without discount. Pursuant to Section 197.222, Florida Statutes, taxpayers may elect to pay estimated taxes, which may include non-ad valorem special assessments such as the District's Assessments in quarterly installments with a variable discount equal to 6% on June 30 decreasing to 3% on December 31, with no discount on March 31. All unpaid taxes and assessments become delinquent on April 1 of the year following assessment, and the Tax Collector is required to collect taxes prior to April 1 and after that date to institute statutory procedures upon delinquency to collect assessed taxes. Delay in the mailing of tax notices to taxpayers may result in a delay throughout this process.

Certain taxpayers that are entitled to claim homestead tax exemption under Section 196.031(1), Florida Statutes may defer payment of a portion of the taxes and non-ad valorem assessments and interest accumulated on a tax certificate, which may include non-ad valorem special assessments. Deferred taxes and assessments bear interest at a variable rate not to exceed 7%. The amount that may be deferred varies based on whether the applicant is younger than age 65 or is 65 years old or older; provided that applicants with a household income for the previous calendar year of less than \$10,000 or applicants with less than the designated amount for the additional homestead exemption under Section 196.075, Florida Statutes that are 65 years old or older may defer taxes and assessments in their entirety.

## **NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

### **Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (Continued)**

#### Assessments (Continued)

Collection of Delinquent Assessments under the Uniform Method is, in essence, based upon the sale by the Tax Collector of "tax certificates" and remittance of the proceeds of such sale to the District for payment of the Assessments due.

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

#### General Fund

The general fund is the general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### Capital Projects Fund

This fund accounts for the financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major infrastructure within the District.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

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

### **Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity**

#### Restricted Assets

These assets represent cash and investments set aside pursuant to Bond covenants or other contractual restrictions.

#### Deposits and Investments

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand and demand deposits (interest and non-interest bearing).

The District has elected to proceed under the Alternative Investment Guidelines as set forth in Section 218.415 (17) Florida Statutes. The District may invest any surplus public funds in the following:

- a) The Local Government Surplus Trust Funds, or any intergovernmental investment pool authorized pursuant to the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act;
- b) Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency;
- c) Interest bearing time deposits or savings accounts in qualified public depositories;
- d) Direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury.

Securities listed in paragraph c and d shall be invested to provide sufficient liquidity to pay obligations as they come due.

The District records all interest revenue related to investment activities in the respective funds. Investments are measured at amortized cost or reported at fair value as required by generally accepted accounting principles.

## NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity (Continued)

#### Prepaid Items

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

#### Capital Assets

Capital assets which include property, plant and equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, sidewalks and similar items) are reported in the government activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Property, plant and equipment of the District are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Road and street facilities	20

In the governmental fund financial statements, amounts incurred for the acquisition of capital assets are reported as fund expenditures. Depreciation expense is not reported in the governmental fund financial statements.

#### Unearned Revenue

Governmental funds report unearned revenue in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned.

#### Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized ratably over the life of the Bonds. Bonds payable are reported net of applicable premiums or discounts. Bond issuance costs are expensed when incurred.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

## **NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

### **Assets, Liabilities and Net Position or Equity (Continued)**

#### Fund Equity/Net Position

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report non spendable and restricted fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Assignments of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

The District can establish limitations on the use of fund balance as follows:

Committed fund balance – Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action (resolution) of the Board of Supervisors. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the Board of Supervisors taking the same formal action (resolution) that imposed the constraint originally. Resources accumulated pursuant to stabilization arrangements sometimes are reported in this category.

Assigned fund balance – Includes spendable fund balance amounts established by the Board of Supervisors that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted nor committed. The Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover differences in estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Assignments are generally temporary and normally the same formal action need not be taken to remove the assignment.

The District first uses committed fund balance, followed by assigned fund balance and then unassigned fund balance when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Net position is the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources less liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position in the government-wide financial statements are categorized as net investment in capital assets, restricted or unrestricted. Net investment in capital assets represents net position related to infrastructure and property, plant and equipment. Restricted net position represents the assets restricted by the District's Bond covenants or other contractual restrictions. Unrestricted net position consists of the net position not meeting the definition of either of the other two components.

### **Other Disclosures**

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles 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 expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## **NOTE 3 - BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

The District is required to establish a budgetary system and an approved Annual Budget. 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.

The District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements.

- a) Each year the District Manager submits to the District Board a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following October 1.
- b) A public hearing is conducted to obtain public comments.
- c) Prior to October 1, the budget is legally adopted by the District Board.
- d) All budget changes must be approved by the District Board, and in certain instances the District Manager.
- e) The budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.
- f) Unused appropriations for annually budgeted funds lapse at the end of the year.

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS**

The District’s cash balances were entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by a collateral pool pledged to the State Treasurer. Florida Statutes Chapter 280, "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act", requires all qualified depositories to deposit with the Treasurer or another banking institution eligible collateral equal to various percentages of the average daily balance for each month of all public deposits in excess of any applicable deposit insurance held. The percentage of eligible collateral (generally, U.S. Governmental and agency securities, state or local government debt, or corporate bonds) to public deposits is dependent upon the depository’s financial history and its compliance with Chapter 280. In the event of a failure of a qualified public depository, the remaining public depositories would be responsible for covering any resulting losses.

**NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance
<u>Governmental activities</u>				
Capital assets, being depreciated				
Road & street facilities	\$ -	\$ 328,300	\$ -	\$ 328,300
Total capital assets, being depreciated	-	328,300	-	328,300
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Road & street facilities	-	-	-	-
Total accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	-	328,300	-	328,300
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ -	\$ 328,300	\$ -	\$ 328,300

The infrastructure intended to serve the District has been estimated at a total cost of approximately \$117 million and will be constructed in phases. A portion of the project costs is expected to be financed with the proceeds from the issuance of Bonds with the remainder to be funded by the Developer and conveyed to the District. Upon completion, certain improvements are to be conveyed to others for ownership and maintenance responsibilities.

Developer contributions to the capital projects fund for the current fiscal year were \$328,300, all of which was classified as a receivable as of September 30, 2025.

**NOTE 6 – DEVELOPER TRANSACTIONS & CONCENTRATION**

The Developer has agreed to fund the general operations of the District. In connection with that agreement, Developer contributions to the general fund were \$71,378. The Developer has provided a surplus of funding to the general fund in the amount of \$35,797 which is recorded as Due to Developer as of September 30, 2025.

The District’s activity is dependent upon the continued involvement of the Developer, the loss of which could have a material adverse effect on the District’s operations.

**NOTE 7 – MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

The District has contracted with a management company to perform management services, which include financial and accounting services. Certain employees of the management company also serve as officers (Board appointed non-voting positions) of the District. Under the agreement, the District compensates the management company for management, accounting, financial reporting, and other administrative costs.

**NOTE 8 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. The District has obtained commercial insurance from independent third parties to mitigate the costs of these risks; coverage may not extend to all situations. There were no settled claims since inception of the District.

**NOTE 9 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Subsequent to fiscal year end, the District issued \$17,430,000 of Series 2025 Bonds, consisting of multiple term bonds with due dates ranging from May 1, 2030 – May 1, 2055 and fixed interest rates ranging from 4.1% to 5.6%. The Bonds were issued to finance the acquisition and construction of certain improvements for the benefit of the District.

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

	Budgeted Amounts Original & Final	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Developer contributions	\$ 107,175	\$ 71,378	\$ (35,797)
Total revenues	107,175	71,378	(35,797)
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Current:			
General government	107,175	71,378	35,797
Total expenditures	107,175	71,378	35,797
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	\$ -	-	\$ -
Fund balances - beginning		-	
Fund balance - ending		\$ -	

See notes to required supplementary information

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

The District is required to establish a budgetary system and an approved Annual Budget for the general fund. The District's budgeting process is based on estimates of cash receipts and cash expenditures which are approved by the Board. The budget approximates a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (generally accepted accounting principles).

The legal level of budgetary control, the level at which expenditures may not exceed budget, is in the aggregate. Any budget amendments that increase the aggregate budgeted appropriations must be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Actual general fund expenditures did not exceed appropriations for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

**FIRETHORN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
OTHER INFORMATION – DATA ELEMENTS  
REQUIRED BY FL STATUTE 218.39(3)(C)  
FOR THE PERIOD FROM INCEPTION DECEMBER 13, 2024 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2025  
UNAUDITED**

<u>Element</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Number of District employees compensated in the last pay period of the District's fiscal year being reported.	0
Number of independent contractors compensated to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the District's fiscal year being reported.	11
Employee compensation	\$0
Independent contractor compensation	\$71,203
Construction projects to begin on or after October 1; (\$65K)	None
Budget variance report	See the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund
Ad Valorem taxes;	Not applicable
Non ad valorem special assessments;	
Special assessment rate	Operations and maintenance - \$0
	Debt service - \$0
Special assessments collected	\$0
Outstanding Bonds:	Not applicable



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S 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**

To the Board of Supervisors  
Firethorn Community Development District  
Manatee County, Florida

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 and each major fund of Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida ("District") as of and for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our opinion thereon dated December 12, 2025.

**Report on 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 a 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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

**Report on 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 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 results 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.

*Grau & Associates*

December 12, 2025



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 218.415, FLORIDA STATUTES, REQUIRED BY  
RULE 10.556(10) OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

To the Board of Supervisors  
Firethorn Community Development District  
Manatee County, Florida

We have examined Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida's ("District") compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, in accordance with Rule 10.556(10) of the Auditor General of the State of Florida during the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025. Management is responsible for District's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on District's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced in Section 218.415, Florida Statutes. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with specified requirements.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the examination engagement.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, management, and the Board of Supervisors of Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Grau & Associates*

December 12, 2025



**MANAGEMENT LETTER PURSUANT TO THE RULES OF  
THE AUDITOR GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

To the Board of Supervisors  
Firethorn Community Development District  
Manatee County, Florida

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida ("District") as of and for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated December 12, 2025.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

We conducted our audit 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 Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Florida Auditor General.

**Other Reporting Requirements**

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; and Independent Auditor's Report on an examination conducted in accordance with *AICPA Professional Standards*, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated December 12, 2025, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

**Purpose of this Letter**

The purpose of this letter is to comment on those matters required by Chapter 10.550 of the Rules of the Auditor General for the State of Florida. Accordingly, in connection with our audit of the financial statements of the District, as described in the first paragraph, we report the following:

- I. Current year findings and recommendations.**
- II. Status of prior year findings and recommendations.**
- III. Compliance with the Provisions of the Auditor General of the State of Florida.**

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, as applicable, management, and the Board of Supervisors of Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to thank Firethorn Community Development District, Manatee County, Florida, and the personnel associated with it, for the opportunity to be of service to them in this endeavor as well as future engagements, and the courtesies extended to us.

*Grau & Associates*

December 12, 2025

## REPORT TO MANAGEMENT

### I. CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None

### II. PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable. First year audit.

### III. COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Unless otherwise required to be reported in the auditor's report on compliance and internal controls, the management letter shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. A statement as to whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.

Not applicable. First year audit.

2. Any recommendations to improve the local governmental entity's financial management.

There were no such matters discovered by, or that came to the attention of, the auditor, to be reported for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

3. Noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance.

There were no such matters discovered by, or that came to the attention of, the auditor, to be reported, for the period from inception December 13, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

4. The name or official title and legal authority of the District are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
5. The District has not met one or more of the financial emergency conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.
6. We applied financial condition assessment procedures and no deteriorating financial conditions were noted as of September 30, 2025. It is management's responsibility to monitor financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.
7. Management has provided the specific information required by Section 218.39(3)(c) in the Other Information section of the financial statements on page 22.