FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Friends of the Rouge

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Friends of the Rouge, (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2024, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Friends of the Rouge, as of December 31, 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Friends of the Rouge 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 opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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; this includes 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 Friends of the Rouge's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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 opinion. 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards, 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 Friends of the Rouge'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 Friends of the Rouge'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.

November 13, 2025

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FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2024

ASSETS Current assets Cash and cash equivalents Investments Grants receivable Other receivables Prepaid expenses	\$ 887,504 429,568 796,500 8,902 10,063
Total current assets	2,132,537
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	146,643
Operating lease right-of-use assets Grants receivable, long term Quasi-endowment fund	 147,413 675,883 127,331
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,229,807
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS LIABILITIES Current liabilities Accounts payable Accrued expenses Operating lease liability, current portion	\$ 57,922 39,490 37,115
Total current liabilities	134,527
Long-term liabilities Operating lease liability, long-term portion	110,298
TOTAL LIABILITIES	 244,825
NET ASSETS Without donor restrictions Undesignated	(21,462)
Board designated With donor restrictions	127,331 2,879,113
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,984,982
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 3,229,807

FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Without Donor Restrictions		With Donor Restrictions		Total
REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT		_			
Grants	\$	924,649	\$	509,636	\$ 1,434,285
Contributions of cash and other financial assets		203,206		-	203,206
Special events and appeals					
Cash and other financial assets		114,009		-	114,009
Nonfinancial assets		21,924		-	21,924
Income from endowment		7,557		-	7,557
Membership dues		55,454		-	55,454
Miscellaneous income		2,293		-	2,293
Product sales		40,872		-	40,872
Investment return, net		53,222		-	53,222
Net assets released from restrictions		641,994		(641,994)	-
TOTAL REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT		2,065,180		(132,358)	1,932,822
EXPENSES					
Program services		1,155,060		_	1,155,060
Management and general		516,229		-	516,229
Fundraising		260,566		-	260,566
<u> </u>		·			
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,931,855			 1,931,855
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		133,325		(132,358)	967
NET ASSETS - beginning of year		(27,456)		3,011,471	 2,984,015
NET ASSETS - end of year	\$	105,869	\$	2,879,113	\$ 2,984,982

FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Program Services						Supporting Services									
									Total						Total	
	E	ducation	Re	estoration	M	onitoring			Program	Ma	ınagement			Su	ipporting	
	F	rogram	P	rograms	F	rogram	Wa	iter Trail	Services	an	d General	Fu	ndraising		Services	Total
Salaries and wages	\$	91,485	\$	353,540	\$	146,731	\$	81,495	\$ 673,251	\$	277,834	\$	122,316	\$	400,150	\$ 1,073,401
Employee benefits and taxes		13,851		53,255		22,210		12,339	101,655		42,056		18,520		60,576	162,231
Contracted services		1,832		7,073		2,939		1,633	13,477		122,870		2,449		125,319	138,796
Phone and internet		490		1,885		783		435	3,593		1,482		653		2,135	5,728
Copier expenses		589		2,276		945		525	4,335		1,790		788		2,578	6,913
Rent		3,558		13,742		5,707		3,169	26,176		10,703		4,757		15,460	41,636
Insurance		2,364		9,131		3,792		2,106	17,393		7,181		3,161		10,342	27,735
Auto expenses		404		1,377		647		360	2,788		-		-		-	2,788
Office supplies		559		2,161		897		498	4,115		1,699		748		2,447	6,562
Database		-		-		-		-	-		-		7,386		7,386	7,386
Technology		1,419		5,480		2,276		1,264	10,439		4,310		1,897		6,207	16,646
Website services		310		1,198		497		276	2,281		942		415		1,357	3,638
Miscellaneous		216		835		347		193	1,591		657		557		1,214	2,805
Fundraising and special events		-		-		-		-	-		-		87,263		87,263	87,263
Business expenses		-		-		-		-	-		26,201		-		26,201	26,201
Depreciation		3,980		15,370		6,383		3,545	29,278		12,090		5,321		17,411	46,689
Project expenses		20,048		203,851		19,748		20,596	264,243		-		-		-	264,243
Professional development		-		-		445		-	445		1,117		1,884		3,001	3,446
Printing and postage		-							 -		5,297		2,451		7,748	 7,748
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	141,105	\$	671,174	\$	214,347	\$	128,434	\$ 1,155,060	\$	516,229	\$	260,566	\$	776,795	\$ 1,931,855

FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS Cash flows from operating activities

Change in net assets	\$ 967
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash	
and cash equivalents provided by operating activities	
Unrealized and realized (gain)/loss on investments	(60,616)
Unrealized and realized (gain)/loss on endowment	(7,557)
Depreciation	46,689
Grants receivable	530,633
Other receivables	14,124
Prepaid expenses	1,032
Operating lease right-of-use asset	37,824
Operating lease right-of-use liability	(37,824)
Accounts payable	(12,801)
Accrued payroll and related items	15,608
Total adjustments	 527,112
Net cash provided by operating activities	528,079
Cash flows from investing activities	
Purchase of property and equipment	(9,691)
Purchase of investments	(261)
Net cash used by investing activities	 (9,952)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	518,127
THE INCIDENCE IN GROUP WHO IN ENGLISHED WITH THE PROPERTY OF T	510,127
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of year	 369,377
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of year	\$ 887,504

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of Friends of the Rouge ("Organization") are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting, which recognizes income when earned and expenses when incurred.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Organization considers all highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Investments

Investments are stated at fair value. Net investment return or loss is included in the statement of activities and consists of interest and dividend income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, less investment expenses.

Accounts Receivable

Receivables consist primarily of grants and unconditional promises to give and are recorded at estimated fair value. Management considers the amounts to be fully collectible, accordingly, no allowance for credit losses has been provided. Uncollectible accounts are written off in the year they are deemed uncollectible.

Beginning and ending balances for accounts receivable is reported as follows for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Accounts receivable, beginning of year	\$ 1,350,159
Accounts receivable, end of year	\$ 805,402

Property and Equipment

The Organization capitalizes property and equipment with a useful life greater than one year in excess of \$1,000. Property and equipment is recorded at cost and are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the assets using the straight-line method. Donated assets are recorded at fair value at date of donation. Cost of maintenance and repairs are charged to expense when incurred.

Leases

The Organization determines whether an arrangement is or contains a lease at lease inception. On the commencement date, operating leases are recorded as operating lease right-of-use (ROU) asset on the statement of financial position. Lease liabilities represent the Organization's contractual obligation to make lease payments over the lease term.

The lease liability is measured as the present value of the lease payments over the lease term using either the rate implicit in the lease, if it is determinable, or a risk-free rate. Operating ROU assets are calculated as the present value of the remaining lease payments plus unamortized initial direct costs and prepayments of the lease, less any unamortized lease incentives. Lease terms may include renewal or extension options to the extent they are reasonably certain to be exercised. Lease expense is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Leases (continued)

The Organization has elected to not recognize a ROU asset and lease liability for leases with an initial term of 12 months or less but includes the expense associated with short-term leases in the statement of activities.

The Organization has elected to utilize a risk-free rate as the discount rate when determining the present value of remaining lease payments for operating leases. Additionally, the Organization has elected to not separate non-lease components from lease components and, instead, to account for each separate lease component and the related non-lease component as a single lease component.

Net Assets

Net assets, revenues, gains, and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor or grantor imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions - Net assets available for use in general operations and not subject to donor or grantor restrictions.

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions - Net assets subject to donor (or grantor) imposed restrictions. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates that resources are maintained in perpetuity. Gifts of long-lived assets and gifts of cash restricted for the acquisition of long-lived assets are recognized as revenue when the assets are placed in service. Donor restrictions are released when a restriction expires, that is, when the stipulated time has elapsed, or when the stipulated purpose has been accomplished (see Note 7).

Treatment of Contributions Received and Expended in the Same Period - In accordance with ASC 958-210, contributions received with donor restrictions that are fulfilled within the same reporting period are reported as net assets without donor restrictions. This policy reflects that the restrictions are satisfied in the same period in which the contribution is received, making the resources available for general use at year-end.

Revenue Recognition

Contractual Services Revenue

Contractual services revenue is recognized as revenue as performance obligations are satisfied, which is ratably over the contract term. As a result, deferred revenue are recorded for any amount for which the Organization has a right to invoice but for which services have not been provided.

Contribution Revenue

Contributions of cash and other assets received without donor stipulations are reported as revenue and net assets without donor restrictions. Gifts received with a donor stipulation that limits their use are reported as revenue and net assets with donor restrictions. When a donor-stipulated time restriction ends, or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Revenue Recognition (continued)

Contribution Revenue (continued)

Unconditional contributions expected to be collected within one year are reported at their net realizable value. Unconditional contributions expected to be collected in future ears are initially reported at their fair value determined using the discounted present value of estimated future cash flows technique. The resulting discount is amortized using the level-yield method and is reported as contribution revenue.

Conditional contributions depend on the occurrence of a specified future and uncertain event to bind the donor and are recognized as assets and revenue when the conditions are substantially met, and the gift becomes unconditional.

The following schedule shows the Organization's revenue disaggregated according to the timing of transfer of goods and services for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Contract revenue recognized over time	
Grants	\$ 1,434,285
Contributions	203,206
Membership dues	55,454
Special events	135,933
Miscellaneous income	2,293
Income from endowment	7,557
Investment return, net	53,222
Product sales	40,872
	_
Total revenue	\$ 1,932,822

<u>Functional Allocation of Expenses</u>

The costs of providing the various programs and activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities. The statement of functional expenses presents the natural classification of expenses that are allocated to program or supporting functions of the Organization. Allocated expenses primarily consist of payroll and related, professional fees, and general expenses based on salary and wage analysis and management's estimated use of resources.

NOTE 2 - ORGANIZATION, RISKS, AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Friends of the Rouge (the "Organization") is a Michigan non-profit corporation. Friends of the Rouge was incorporated to restore, protect, and enhance the Rouge River watershed through stewardship, education, and collaboration. The Organization's principal services include Monitoring, Education, Restoration, and Recreation. The Organization's principal revenue sources include grants as well as contributions from metropolitan Detroit companies, communities, other corporations, and individuals.

NOTE 2 - ORGANIZATION, RISKS, AND UNCERTAINTIES (continued)

The Organization is required to disclose significant concentrations of credit risk regardless of the degree of such risk. Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Organization to concentrations of credit risk, consist principally of temporary cash investments and accounts receivable. The Organization places its temporary cash investments with FDIC insured financial institutions. Although such investments and cash balances may exceed the federally insured limits at certain times during the year, they are, in the opinion of management, subject to minimal risk.

The process of preparing financial statements requires the use of estimates and assumptions regarding certain types of assets, revenues, and expenditures. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements. Accordingly, upon settlement, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

Tax positions are taken based on interpretation of federal, state, and local income tax laws. Management periodically reviews and evaluates the status of uncertain tax positions and makes estimates of amounts, including interest and penalties, ultimately due or owed. No amounts have been identified, or recorded, as uncertain tax positions. Federal, state, and local tax returns generally remain open for examination by the various taxing authorities for a period of three to four years.

The Organization evaluates events and transactions that occur after year end for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. These subsequent events have been considered through November 13, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 3 - LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

The Organization regularly monitors the availability of resources required to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments, while also striving to maximize the investment of its available funds. For purposes of analyzing resources available to meet general expenditures over a 12-month period, the Organization considers all expenditures related to its ongoing program service activities as well as the conduct of services undertaken to support those activities to be general expenditures.

The following reflects the Organization's financial assets as of December 31, 2024, which are deemed available for general expenditures within one year of the date of the statement of financial position. Amounts not available include donor restricted net assets.

Cash and cash equivalents Investments	\$ 887,504 429,568
Other receivables	8,902
Grants receivable	1,472,383
Total financial assets available at year-end	2,798,357
Contractual or donor-imposed restrictions Less net assets with donor restrictions	(2,879,113)
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	\$ (80,756)

NOTE 3 - LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY (continued)

In addition to financial assets available to meet general expenditures over the next 12 months, the Organization operates with a balanced budget and anticipates collecting sufficient revenue to cover general expenditures. The Organization has received significant exchange-based grants that provide liquidity resources. These grants will not be recognized as income until the related performance obligations are satisfied and work is completed in accordance with the grant terms.

NOTE 4 - INVESTMENTS/FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Accounting standards provide the framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques giving the highest priority to readily available unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements) when market prices are not readily available or reliable. The 3 levels of the fair value hierarchy are described as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.
- Level 2: Prices determined using other significant observable inputs. Observable inputs are inputs that other market participants may use in pricing a security. These may include quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk and others.
- Level 3: Prices determined using significant unobservable inputs. In situations where quoted prices or observable inputs are unavailable or deemed less relevant (for example, when there is little or no market activity for an investment at the end of the period), unobservable inputs may be used. Unobservable inputs reflect the Organization's own assumptions about the factors market participants would use in pricing an investment, and would be based on the best information available.

From time to time, changes in valuation techniques may result in reclassification of an investment's assigned level within the hierarchy.

The asset's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used to determine how an asset is measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024.

Equities: Valued at the price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

Annuities: Reported at contract value with income recorded through investment yields and adjustments.

Real Estate Investment Trust: Recorded at fair value based on quoted market prices in active markets as of the reporting date.

NOTE 4 - INVESTMENTS/FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Organization believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following is a market value summary of the Organization's investments carried at fair value at December 31, 2024:

	 Level 1	 Level 2	Total
Equities Real estate investment trust Annuities	\$ 135,424 5,410	\$ - - 269,011	\$ 135,424 5,410 269,011
Total investments at fair value	\$ 140,834	\$ 269,011	409,845
Money market funds recorded at cost			19,723
Total investments			\$ 429,568

Investment return, net at December 31, 2024 consists of the following:

Interest and dividends, net	\$ 4,517
Net unrealized gain	48,705
Total investment return, net	\$ 53,222

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consist of the following at December 31:

	Useful Lives in Years	 2024
Building improvements Furniture and equipment	10 3 - 10	\$ 48,317 332,230
		380,547
Less accumulated depreciation		(233,904)
		\$ 146,643

NOTE 6 - OPERATING LEASES

The Organization leases office space under one operating lease requiring monthly payments. The operating lease is set to expire in 2028.

Supplemental cash flow information to leases is as follows for December 31, 2024:

Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities	
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$ 41,740
Weighted-average remaining lease term in years for operating leases	3.7
Weighted-average discount rate for operating leases	4.58%

Future minimum lease payments and reconciliations to the statement of financial position at December 31, 2024 are as follows:

Year Ending		
December 31,		
2025		\$ 42,988
2026		44,267
2027		45,608
2028	_	31,008
Total undiscounted cash flows		163,871
Less: present value discount	_	(16,458)
Total lease liability	- -	\$ 147,413

NOTE 7 - NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes at December 31, 2024:

Subject to expenditure for specified purpose	
Gateway trail	\$ 2,234,132
Fort street bridge	162,895
Inkster park	48,771
Stormwater infrastructure	373,315
General operating	60,000
Total net assets with donor restrictions	\$ 2,879,113

NOTE 7 - NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS (continued)

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes or by the occurrence of the passage of time or other events specified by the donors as follows for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	
Gateway trail	\$ 277,089
Fort street bridge	37,105
General operating	160,000
Inkster park	1,229
Stormwater infrastructure	26,321
Other programs and projects	112,250
Restoration	 28,000
Total net assets released from restrictions	\$ 641,994

In July 2017, the Board of Directors elected to designate a portion of the Organization's net assets without donor restrictions into an endowment fund held with the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan (Foundation). The Foundation has been granted variance power by the Organization. Endowment funds changed during the year ended December 31, 2024, as follows:

Endowment fund net assets at beginning of year	\$ 119,774
Contributions	20
Unrealized gains	 7,537
Endowment fund net assets at end of year	\$ 127,331

NOTE 8 - RETIREMENT PLAN

A 401k plan is available to all eligible employees. Under the plan, the Organization contributes 2% of each eligible employee's compensation to the plan. Employees may elect to contribute any amount up to the maximum amount allowed by law. The expense incurred by the Organization for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$13,957.

NOTE 9 - CONCENTRATIONS

Concentrations of revenue include grants from three sources, which made up approximately 66% of the total grant revenue for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Concentrations of grants receivable include grants and promises to give from two sources, which made up approximately 89% of grants receivable at December 31, 2024.

NOTE 10 - CONTRIBUTED NONFINANCIAL ASSETS

For the year ended December 31, 2024, contributed nonfinancial assets recognized in the statement of activities included the following:

Auction items	\$ 16,473
Restoration	3,930
Other	 1,521
	 _
Total contributions	
Total contributions	

Contributed Nonfinancial Asset Valuation Techniques

Contributed goods or services are valued and are reported at the estimated fair value in the financial statements based on current rates for similar goods or services. The Organization received the contribution of nonfinancial assets from various donors that related to donated items for sale at the annual Heart of the Rouge Auction and various supplies for the program.

Donor Restrictions and Contributed Nonfinancial Asset Use

The Organization recognized contributed nonfinancial assets within revenue. Unless otherwise noted, contributed nonfinancial assets did not have donor-imposed restrictions.