

March 28, 2024

Kristie M. Beach

CPAs, PLLC

To the Board of Directors Steuben Area Economic Development Corporation

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Steuben Area Economic Development Corporation as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Organization's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization'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 Organization's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

During our audit, we also noted certain operational matters that are presented for your consideration, and have been identified as "other comments and recommendations" in the following pages. These other comments and recommendations, all of which have been discussed with the appropriate members of management, are intended to improve the internal control or result in other operating efficiencies. This letter does not affect our report dated March 28, 2024 on the financial statements of Steuben Area Economic Development Corporation. We will review the status of these comments during our next engagement.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, Board of Directors, and others within the organization, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Kustu M. Beach, CPAS, PLLC

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<u>Other Comment</u> - Information Technology (IT) Policies and Procedures: During our audit we noted there are not documented IT policies and procedures.

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend IT policies and procedures be documented and approved by the Board of Directors.

Management's Response: The Organization is currently undergoing a transition with their IT infrastructure. The Organization will continue to operate under the current model until the hardware/software upgrades take place with the goal of having formal IT policies and procedures in place by the time the transition is finalized.