

PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED JULY 8, 2026

**NEW ISSUE
FULL BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY**

**RATING: Moody's Investors Service, Inc.: "Aa2"
(See "Rating" herein)**

In the opinion of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Bond Counsel, assuming continuing compliance by the District with certain covenants, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under existing statutes, regulations and judicial decisions. Interest on the Bonds is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code) for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations. See "CERTAIN LEGAL MATTERS- Federal Income Tax Generally" for a brief description of certain federal income tax consequences to certain recipients of interest on the Bonds. The Bonds and the interest thereon will also be exempt from all State, county, municipal and school district and other taxes or assessments imposed within the State of South Carolina, except estate, transfer and certain franchise taxes.

**OFFICIAL STATEMENT
Relating to the Issuance of
\$40,000,000
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026,
OF RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA**

The General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026 (the "Bonds") will be general obligation bonds of the Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the "District") and as such the full faith, credit, resources and taxing power of the District will be irrevocably pledged for the payment thereof.

The Bonds are issuable in fully registered form and when issued will be registered to Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), to which principal and interest payments on the Bonds will be made. Individual purchases of beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds will be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amounts of \$1,000 or any whole multiple thereof. So long as Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, is the registered owner of the Bonds, references herein to the holders of the Bonds or registered owners of the Bonds shall mean Cede & Co. and shall not mean the beneficial owners of the Bonds. So long as Cede & Co. is the registered owner of the Bonds, the principal and interest on the Bonds are payable to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to the DTC Participants (as defined herein) for subsequent disbursement to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. **See "THE BONDS - Book-Entry-Only System."** U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, will serve as Registrar/Paying Agent for the Bonds.

It is expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be available for delivery on July 29, 2026. The Bonds will mature on March 1 in each of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest from their date at the rates per annum shown on the inside front cover hereof. Interest on the Bonds is first payable on March 1, 2027, and semiannually thereafter on each March 1 and September 1 until the Bonds are paid in full.

The Bonds maturing on and after March 1, 2035, are subject to optional redemption at par in whole or in part at any time on and after March 1, 2034.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and subject to the approving opinion as to legality of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Columbia, South Carolina. First Tryon Advisors, LLC, Charlotte, North Carolina, is acting as Municipal Advisor to the District in connection with the sale and issuance of the Bonds.

This cover page contains certain information for quick reference only. It is not a summary of the issue. Investors should read the entire Official Statement to obtain information essential to the making of an informed investment decision. This Preliminary Official Statement has been deemed final by the District for purposes of paragraph (b)(1) of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule"), but is subject to revision, amendment and completion in a final Official Statements provided in the Rule.

This Official Statement is dated July _____, 2026.

DAC Bond

This Preliminary Official Statement and the information contained herein are subject to completion or amendment. Except pursuant to the Official Notice of Sale contained herein, these securities may not be sold, nor may an offer to buy be accepted, prior to the time the Official Statement is delivered in final form. Under no circumstances shall this Preliminary Official Statement constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of these securities, in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

MATURITY SCHEDULE
\$40,000,000
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026
OF RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

<u>Due</u> <u>March 1</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount*</u>	<u>Interest</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Reoffering</u> <u>Price</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>
2027	\$2,820,000			
2028	1,225,000			
2029	1,285,000			
2030	1,350,000			
2031	1,420,000			
2032	1,495,000			
2033	1,570,000			
2034	1,650,000			
2035	1,735,000			
2036	1,825,000			
2037	1,915,000			
2038	2,015,000			
2039	2,120,000			
2040	2,215,000			
2041	2,305,000			
2042	2,400,000			
2043	2,500,000			
2044	2,605,000			
2045	2,715,000			
2046	2,835,000			

*All maturities are subject to adjustment as provided in the Official Notice of Sale.

This Official Statement speaks only as of its date, and the information contained herein is subject to change. This Official Statement does not constitute an offering of any security other than the original offering of the Bonds identified on the cover. No dealer, broker, salesman or other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this Official Statement and, if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the District. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, and there shall not be any sale of the Bonds by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

The Bonds will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any state securities law, and will not be listed on any stock or other securities exchange. Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other federal, state or other governmental entity or agency will have passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Official Statement or approved the Bonds for sale.

Certain information contained in this Official Statement may have been obtained from sources other than records of the District and, while believed to be reliable, is not guaranteed as to completeness or accuracy. This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the District and the purchasers or owners of any of the Bonds. The information and expressions of opinion in this Official Statement are subject to change, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made under such document shall create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the District since the date hereof.

The Municipal Advisor has reviewed the information in this Official Statement but does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

References herein to laws, rules, regulations, resolutions, agreements, reports, and other documents do not purport to be comprehensive or definitive. All references to such documents are qualified in their entirety by reference to the particular document, the full text of which may contain qualifications of and exceptions to statements made herein. Where full texts have not been included as appendices to this Official Statement, they will be furnished on request.

References to web site addresses presented herein are for informational purposes only and may be in the form of a hyperlink solely for the reader's convenience. Unless specified otherwise, such web sites and the information or links contained therein are not incorporated into, and are not part of, this Official Statement for purposes of, and as that term is defined in, Rule 15c2-12.

Certain of the financial and reporting information contained herein is unaudited. Unaudited financial and reporting information provided herein are subject to change and no assurance is given that the information, as provided, is correct. Furthermore, certain financial information is based on best estimates of management. These estimates, which are based on the reasonable expectations of management, are subject to change and there can be no assurance that they will prove to be correct.

The Underwriter has reviewed the information in this Official Statement in accordance with, and as part of, their responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Underwriter does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, as Registrar/Paying Agent, has not provided, or undertaken to determine, the accuracy of, any of the information contained in this Official Statement and makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to (i) the accuracy or completeness of such information, (ii) the validity of the Bonds; or (iii) the tax exempt status of the interest on the Bonds.

**RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT,
SOUTH CAROLINA**

COMMISSIONERS

Clifford Bourke, Jr, Chairman
Jeffrey T. Reeves, Vice Chairman
Robert G. Davidson, Secretary
Michael Phemister Velasco, Treasurer
Chip Huggins
Liz Portee
Alana Williams

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Tommy Stringfellow, President and CEO
Lochlan Wooten, Chief Strategy Officer
Christie Vondrak, Chief Administrative Officer
Ashley Harris, Vice President of Finance

BOND COUNSEL

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.
Columbia, South Carolina

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

First Tryon Advisors, LLC
Charlotte, North Carolina

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OFFICIAL NOTICE OF SALE
\$40,000,000
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026, OF
RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

SEALED PROPOSALS, addressed to the undersigned, will be received by the Riverbanks Parks Commission (the “Commission”), the governing body of the Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District (the “District”), until 11 o’clock a.m. (local time) on Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at which time said proposals will be publicly opened in the offices of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., 1201 Main Street, 22nd Floor, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, for the purchase of Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026 (the “Bonds”). The Bonds will be initially issued under the DTC Book-Entry-Only System. All payments of principal and interest with respect to the Bonds shall be made through the facilities of DTC.

In the event that the District does not receive bids from at least three Underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds, the District shall so advise the winning bidder. The District may determine to treat (i) the first price at which 10% of the Bonds (the “10% test”) is sold to the Public as the issue price of the Bonds and/or (ii) the initial offering price to the Public as of the sale date of the Bonds as the issue price (the “hold-the-offering-price rule”). The winning bidder shall advise the District if the Bonds satisfy the 10% test as of the date and time of the award of the Bonds. The District shall promptly advise the winning bidder, at or before the time of award of the Bonds, whether the Bonds shall be subject to the 10% test or shall be subject to the hold-the-offering-price rule. Bids will not be subject to cancellation in the event that the District determines to apply the hold-the-offering-price rule to the Bonds. Bidders should prepare their bids on the assumption that the Bonds will be subject to the hold-the-offering-price rule in order to establish the issue price of the Bonds.

Subject to adjustment as described below, the Bonds will mature as to principal as follows:

<u>Due</u> <u>March 1</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount*</u>	<u>Due</u> <u>March 1</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount*</u>
2027	\$2,820,000	2037	1,915,000
2028	1,225,000	2038	2,015,000
2029	1,285,000	2039	2,120,000
2030	1,350,000	2040	2,215,000
2031	1,420,000	2041	2,305,000
2032	1,495,000	2042	2,400,000
2033	1,570,000	2043	2,500,000
2034	1,650,000	2044	2,605,000
2035	1,735,000	2045	2,715,000
2036	1,825,000	2046	2,835,000

The aggregate principal amount of the Bonds will be equal to \$40,000,000. The District reserves the right to increase or decrease by up to 30% the principal amount of Bonds maturing in each year. Such adjustments will only be made, however, to the extent necessary to produce level debt service.

The District further reserves the right to adjust the principal amount of Bonds maturing on March 1, 2027, without limit for the purpose set forth in this paragraph. South Carolina law applicable to the Bonds requires that any premium paid by the purchaser of the Bonds must be deposited into the debt service fund established for the Bonds and applied to the first maturing principal thereof. Adjustment of the March 1, 2027, maturity of the Bonds pursuant to this paragraph will be made in order to allow for application of all such premium to payment of principal thereon on March 1, 2027.

In order to calculate the yield on the Bonds for federal tax law purposes and as a condition precedent to the award of the Bonds, bidders must disclose to the District in connection with their bids the price (or yield to maturity) at which each maturity of Bonds will be reoffered to the public. In the event of any adjustment of the maturity schedule for Bonds as described herein, no rebidding or recalculation of the proposals submitted will be required or permitted. The Bonds of each maturity, as adjusted, will bear interest at the same rate and must have the same reoffering yield as are specified by the successful bidder for the Bonds of that maturity. Nevertheless, the award of the Bonds will be made to the bidder whose proposal produces the lowest true interest cost solely on the basis of Bonds offered, without taking into account any adjustment in the amount of the Bonds pursuant to this paragraph.

The Bonds will bear interest from the dated date thereof, which will be on or about July 29, 2026, and shall be payable on March 1 and September 1 of each year, commencing March 1, 2027, until the Bonds are paid in full. Interest will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each.

Both principal and interest will be payable in any coin or currency of the United States of America, which at the time of payment, is legal tender for the payment of public and private debts at U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, Columbia, South Carolina, the Registrar and Paying Agent for the Bonds.

Redemption: The Bonds maturing on and after March 1, 2035, are subject to redemption at par in whole or in part at any time on and after March 1, 2034, at the option of and in such order of maturities as determined by the District.

Term Bonds: Bidders may combine two or more consecutive maturities of Bonds to create not more than two term maturities, each of which will be subject to annual mandatory sinking fund redemption at par plus accrued interest to the redemption date (to the extent not previously redeemed) in the principal amounts for the years shown above on March 1 of such year. To the extent Bonds subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption in a given year have been purchased by the District or redeemed by the District pursuant to the optional redemption provisions set forth above, the amount of mandatory sinking fund redemption in such year shall be reduced in such manner as the District shall direct, or, absent such direction, on a pro rata basis.

Bid Requirements: Bidders shall specify the rate or rates of interest per annum which the Bonds are to bear, to be expressed in multiples of 1/20th or 1/8th of 1% with no greater difference than 3% between the highest and lowest rates of interest named by a bidder. Bidders are not limited as to the number of rates of interest named, but the rate of interest on each separate maturity must be the same single rate for the Bonds of that maturity from their date to such maturity date. A bid for less than all the Bonds or a bid at a price less than par will not be considered. Any premium offered must be paid in cash as a part of the purchase price for the Bonds.

Bid Submission: Proposals for the purchase of the Bonds must be submitted to the District through the BiDCOMP/Parity Electronic Bid Submission System (“PARITY”), and no other form of bid or provider of electronic bidding services will be accepted. Such bids are to be publicly opened and read at such time and place on said day. The time as maintained by PARITY shall constitute the official time with respect to

all bids submitted. Bids must be received by the District, before the time stated above, and the District shall not be responsible for any delay, failure, misdirection or error in the means of transmission selected by any bidder. The District is not liable for any costs incurred in the preparation, delivery, acceptance or rejection of any bid.

Award of Bonds: The Bonds will be awarded to the bidder or bidders offering to purchase the Bonds at the lowest true interest cost (TIC) to the District from the date of delivery of the Bonds. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive irregularities in any bid. Bids will be accepted or rejected no later than 3:00 p.m., South Carolina time, on the date of the sale. Bids submitted may not be withdrawn prior to the award. In the event two or more bidders offer to purchase the Bonds at the same lowest TIC, the District will award the Bonds to one of such bidders based upon which bid was received first, as determined by reference to the time stamp displayed on PARITY.

If any provisions of this Official Notice of Sale conflict with information provided by PARITY as the approved provider of electronic bidding services, this Official Notice of Sale shall control. Further information about PARITY may be obtained from IPREO, Municipal Services, telephone (212) 849-5023, or munis@ipreo.com.

Purpose: The Bonds are issued for the purposes of defraying the costs of capital improvements to facilities of the District and paying costs of issuance of the Bonds.

Security: The Bonds shall constitute binding general obligations of the District and the full faith, credit, and taxing power of the District are irrevocably pledged for the payment of the Bonds. There shall be levied and collected annually in the same manner as county taxes are levied and collected, a tax, without limit, on all taxable property in the District sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as they respectively mature and to create such sinking fund as may be necessary therefor.

Official Statement: The Preliminary Official Statement dated July 8, 2026 has been deemed final by the District for purposes of paragraph (b)(1) of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Rule”) but is subject to revision, amendment and completion in a final Official Statement as provided in the Rule. The District will furnish the successful bidder with a sufficient number of copies of the final Official Statement in order to allow the bidder to comply with the Rule, without charge, within seven working days of the acceptance of a bid for the Bonds.

Continuing Disclosure: In order to assist bidders in complying with SEC Rule 15c2-12, the District will undertake, pursuant to the bond resolution authorizing the issuance of the Bonds and a Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement between it and Digital Assurance Certification, LLC, to annually file with Electronic Municipal Market Access system certain financial information and operating data, and to provide notice of certain material events. A description of this undertaking is set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement and will also be set forth in the final Official Statement.

Certificate as to Issue Price: The District expects and intends that the bid for the Bonds will satisfy the competitive sale requirements under provisions of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining “competitive sale” for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Bonds), including, among other things, receipt of bids for the Bonds from at least three underwriters, who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds (a “Qualified Competitive Bid”). The District will advise the Purchaser of the Bonds as promptly as possible after the bids are opened whether the bid constitutes a Qualified Competitive Bid, or, in the alternative, a bid that fails to satisfy such requirements (a “Nonqualified Competitive Bid”). It is noted that procedures for a Nonqualified Competitive Bid may require the winning bidder of the Bonds and, if applicable, other underwriters of the Bonds, to hold the initial offering prices for certain maturities of the Bonds for up to five business days after the sale date, as further specified in the form of such certification.

The Purchaser of the Bonds must deliver to the District at closing an “issue price” or similar certificate setting forth the reasonably expected initial reoffering price to the public of the Bonds, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, if the bid constitutes a Qualified Competitive Bid, or as Exhibit B, if the bid constitutes a Nonqualified Competitive Bid, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgement of the Purchaser, the District, and Bond Counsel.

Legal Opinion: The District shall furnish upon delivery of the Bonds the final approving opinion of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Bond Counsel, Columbia, South Carolina, together with the usual closing documents, including a certificate that no litigation is pending affecting the Bonds.

Delivery: The Bonds will be delivered on or about July 29, 2026, through the facilities of DTC at the expense of the District, or at such other place as may be agreed upon with the purchasers at the expense of the purchaser. The purchase price then due must be paid in Federal funds or other immediately available funds. The cost of preparing the Bonds will be borne by the District.

CUSIP Numbers: It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on the Bonds, but neither the failure to print such numbers on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for failure or refusal by the purchaser thereof to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds in accordance with the terms hereof. The District’s Municipal Advisor will timely apply for CUSIP numbers with respect to the Bonds as required by MSRB Rule G-34. All expenses related to the CUSIP identification numbers shall be paid by the purchaser of the Bonds.

Additional Information: Persons seeking additional information should communicate with (i) Lochlan Wooten, Chief Strategy Officer, Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, 400 Rivermont Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210, telephone (803) 602-0837; (ii) Theodore B. DuBose, Esq., Bond Counsel, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Post Office Box 11889, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, telephone (803) 540-7830; or (iii) the District’s Municipal Advisor, Robert Hobson, First Tryon Advisors, LLC, 6101 Carnegie Blvd., Suite 210, Charlotte NC 28209, telephone (704) 926-2982.

This Notice is given to evidence the District’s intent to receive bids for and award the Bonds on the date stated above. Such sale may be postponed prior to the time bids are to be received and as published on an electronic information service. If canceled, the sale may be thereafter rescheduled within 60 days of the date of the publication of this Official Notice of Sale, and notice of such rescheduled date of sale will be posted at least 48 hours prior to the time for receipt of bids on an electronic information service.

President & CEO
Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District,
South Carolina

EXHIBIT A

**FORM OF ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE
FOR QUALIFIED COMPETITIVE BID**

\$40,000,000

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026

The undersigned, a duly authorized officer of _____, as the purchaser (the “Purchaser”) of the above-captioned obligations (the “Bonds”) issued by Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the “District”), represents and certifies, to establish the “issue price” of the Bonds within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and certain other matters, that:

1. Reasonably Expected Initial Offering Price.

(a) As of the Sale Date, the reasonably expected initial offering prices of the Bonds to the Public by the Purchaser are the prices listed in Schedule A (the “Expected Offering Prices”). The Expected Offering Prices are the prices for the Maturities of the Bonds used by the Purchaser in formulating its bid to purchase the Bonds. Attached as Schedule B is a true and correct copy of the bid provided by the Purchaser to purchase the Bonds.

(b) The Purchaser was not given the opportunity to review other bids prior to submitting its bid.

(c) The bid submitted by the Purchaser constituted a firm offer to purchase the Bonds.

(d) The Purchaser has an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds.

2. Defined Terms.

(a) *Maturity* means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities.

(b) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term “related party” for purposes of this certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50% common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(c) *Sale Date* means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Bonds. The Sale Date of the Bonds is _____, 2026.

(d) *Underwriter* as used herein means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the District (or with the lead Underwriter to form a syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

The representations set forth in this certificate are limited to factual matters only. Nothing in this certificate represents the Purchaser's interpretation of any laws, including specifically Sections 103 and 148 of the Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder. The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the District with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Tax and Arbitrage Certificate and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Bonds, and by Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Bond Counsel to the District, in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice that it may give to the District from time to time relating to the Bonds.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2026.

[PURCHASER]

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

Schedule A

Expected Offering Prices

Schedule B

Copy of Winning Bid

EXHIBIT B

**FORM OF ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE
FOR NONQUALIFIED COMPETITIVE BID**

\$40,000,000

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026

The undersigned, a duly authorized officer of _____, as the purchaser (the “Purchaser”) of the above-captioned obligations (the “Bonds”), issued by Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the “District”) represents and certifies, to establish the “issue price” of the Bonds within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and certain other matters, that:

1. Sale of the General Rule Maturities.

As of the date of this Certificate, for each Maturity of the General Rule Maturities, the first price at which 10% of such Maturity was sold by the Purchaser to the Public is the respective price listed in Schedule A.

2. Initial Offering Price of the Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturities.

(a) The Purchaser offered the Hold-the-Offering Price Maturities to the Public for purchase at the respective initial offering prices listed in Schedule A (the “Initial Offering Prices”) on or before the Sale Date. A copy of the pricing wire or equivalent communication for the Bonds is attached to this Certificate as Schedule B.

(b) As set forth in the Official Notice of Sale, the Purchaser has agreed in writing that, (i) for each Maturity of the Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturities, it would neither offer nor sell any of the Bonds of such Maturity to any person at a price that is higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Maturity during the Holding Period for such Maturity (the “hold-the-offering-price rule”), and (ii) any selling group agreement shall contain the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and any retail distribution agreement shall contain the agreement of each broker-dealer who is a party to the retail distribution agreement, to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule. Pursuant to the foregoing, no Underwriter has offered or sold any Maturity of the Hold-the-Offering Price Maturities at a price that is higher than the respective Initial Offering Price for that Maturity of the Bonds during the Holding Period.

3. Defined Terms.

(a) General Rule Maturities means those Maturities of the Bonds shown in Schedule A hereto as the “General Rule Maturities.”

(b) Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturities means those Maturities of the Bonds listed in Schedule A hereto as the “Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturities.”

(c) Holding Period means, with respect to a Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturity, the period starting on the Sale Date and ending on the earlier of (i) the close of the fifth business day after the Sale Date, or (ii) the date on which the Purchaser has sold at least 10% of such Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturity to the Public at prices that are no higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturity.

(d) Issuer means Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina.

(e) Maturity means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities.

(f) Public means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than a Purchaser or a related party to the Purchaser. The term “related party” for purposes of this Certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(g) Sale Date means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Bonds. The Sale Date of the Bonds is _____, 2026.

(h) Underwriter means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

The representations set forth in this certificate are limited to factual matters only. Nothing in this certificate represents the Purchaser’s interpretation of any laws, including specifically Sections 103 and 148 of the Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder. The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the District with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Tax and Arbitrage Certificate and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Bonds, and by Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Bond Counsel to the District in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice that it may give to the District from time to time relating to the Bonds.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 2026.

[PURCHASER]

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

Schedule A

Sale Prices of the General Rule Maturities

Initial Offering Prices of the Hold-the-Offering-Price Maturities

Schedule B

Pricing Wire or Equivalent Communication

I.

INTRODUCTION

This Introduction briefly describes the contents of this Official Statement and is expressly qualified by reference to the entire contents hereof, including appendices, as well as of the documents summarized or described herein.

The Issuer

The \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026 (the “Bonds”) are being issued by Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the “District”), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina.

Security

For the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, the full faith, credit, resources and taxing power of the District are irrevocably pledged. See “THE BONDS - Security” herein.

Purpose of the Bonds

The Bonds are being issued by the District for the purposes of defraying the costs of capital improvements to facilities of the District known as Riverbanks Zoo and Garden (the “Improvements”), and paying certain costs of issuance of the Bonds.

Details of the Bonds

The Bonds will be general obligation bonds of the District; will be issuable in fully registered form and, when issued, will be registered to Cede & Co. as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (“DTC”). Information on limitations on transfer of ownership is set forth in “THE BONDS - Book-Entry-Only System” and “THE BONDS - Discontinuance of Book-Entry-Only System.”

The Bonds will be dated the date of delivery thereof, which is expected to be on or about July 29, 2026; and will bear interest from their date at the rates shown on the inside cover hereof payable initially on March 1, 2027 and semiannually thereafter on March 1 and September 1 of each year until they mature. The Bonds will mature serially in successive annual installments on March 1 in each of the years and in the principal amounts set forth on the inside front cover hereof. For details regarding redemption provisions of the Bonds, see “THE BONDS – Redemption Provisions” herein.

Tax Status of Interest on the Bonds

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, subject to the conditions and limitations stated therein, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under existing statutes, regulations and judicial decisions. Interest on the Bonds is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code) for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations.

Under the present laws of the State of South Carolina, the Bonds and the interest thereon will also be exempt from all State, county, municipal and school district and other taxes or assessments imposed within the State of South Carolina, except estate, transfer and certain franchise taxes. See “CERTAIN LEGAL MATTERS – Federal Income Tax Generally” herein.

Professionals Involved in the Offering

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Columbia, South Carolina, is acting as Bond Counsel in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. First Tryon Advisors, LLC, Charlotte, North Carolina is serving as Municipal Advisor to the District for the purpose of this matter. U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, Columbia, South Carolina, is serving as Registrar and Paying Agent (the “Registrar/Paying Agent”) for the Bonds.

Independent Auditors

Scott and Company LLC, Certified Public Accountants, Columbia, South Carolina, audited the financial statements of the District for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2021, through June 30, 2025, inclusive. A copy of the basic financial statements of the District for the year ended June 30, 2025, is attached to this Official Statement as Appendix A.

Copies of the complete audited financial statements of the District for fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and prior years are available for inspection at the District office or on the District’s website at <https://www.riverbanks.org/about/park-commission>.

Authorization

The Bonds are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina, and a resolution duly adopted by the Riverbanks Parks Commission (the “Commission”) on January 18, 2024.

General

This Official Statement speaks only as of its date, and the information contained herein is subject to change. Copies of the Preliminary Official Statement and the Final Official Statement will be filed with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, through its Electronic Municipal Market Access (“EMMA”) system. Copies of the Preliminary Official Statement, the Official Statement, the resolution of the Commission authorizing the issuance of the Bonds and related documents and information are available by contacting (i) Mr. Tommy Stringfellow, President and CEO, Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, 500 Wildlife Parkway, Columbia, South Carolina 29210, telephone (803) 779-8717, ext. 1101; (ii) the District’s Municipal Advisor, Robert Hobson, First Tryon Advisors, LLC, 6101 Carnegie Blvd., Suite 210, Charlotte, North Carolina 28209, telephone (704) 926-2982; or (iii) the District’s Bond Counsel, Theodore B. DuBose, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., 1201 Main Street, Suite 2200, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, telephone (803) 779-3080.

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II.

THE BONDS

Description of the Bonds

The Bonds here offered constitute an issue of \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026, of Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the “District”). The Bonds are dated July 29, 2026, bear interest from their date at the rates shown on the inside front cover hereof, payable initially on March 1, 2027 and semiannually thereafter on March 1 and September 1 of each year until they respectively mature.

The Bonds will be issued in fully registered book-entry-only form and shall be issued under the DTC Book-Entry-Only System in the denominations of \$1,000 or integral multiples thereof, registered in the name of Cede & Co. as the registered owner and nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, which will act as securities depository for the Bonds. U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, Columbia, South Carolina shall serve as Registrar and Paying Agent (“Registrar/Paying Agent”) for the Bonds for so long as the same are held under a Book-Entry-Only System.

Book-Entry-Only System

Beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds will be available only in book-entry form. Beneficial Owners (as defined below) will not receive physical certificates representing their interests in the Bonds purchased. So long as DTC (hereinafter defined) or its nominee is the registered owner of the Bonds, references in this Official Statement to the Owners of the Bonds shall mean DTC or its nominee and shall not mean the Beneficial Owners. The Bond Resolution contains provisions applicable to periods when DTC or its nominee is not the registered owner.

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF DTC, OF PROCEDURES AND RECORD KEEPING ON BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INTERESTS IN THE BONDS, PAYMENT OF INTEREST AND OTHER PAYMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE BONDS TO DTC PARTICIPANTS OR TO BENEFICIAL OWNERS, CONFIRMATION AND TRANSFER OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INTERESTS IN THE BONDS AND OF OTHER TRANSACTIONS BY AND BETWEEN DTC, DTC PARTICIPANTS AND BENEFICIAL OWNERS IS BASED ON INFORMATION FURNISHED BY DTC.

The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the Bonds (the “Bonds”). The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered bonds registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC’s partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond certificate will be issued for the Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of such issue, as set forth on the inside front cover of this Official Statement, and will be deposited with DTC.

SO LONG AS CEDE & CO. IS THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE BONDS, AS DTC’S PARTNERSHIP NOMINEE, REFERENCE HEREIN TO THE HOLDERS OR REGISTERED OWNERS OF THE BONDS SHALL MEAN CEDE & CO. AND SHALL NOT MEAN THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THE BONDS.

DTC, the world’s largest depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over

100 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of the Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participants through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners of the Bonds will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults and proposed amendments to the security documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the Registrar/Paying Agent and request that copies of the notices be provided directly to them.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor such other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Issuer as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co. or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the District or Registrar/Paying Agent on each payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, the Registrar/Paying Agent or the District, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the District and the Registrar/Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of the Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as security depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the District or Registrar/Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor securities depository is not obtained, bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The District may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, bond certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the District believes to be reliable, but the District takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

The District has no responsibility or obligation to the Participants or the Beneficial Owners with respect to (1) the accuracy of any records maintained by DTC or any Participant, or the maintenance of any records; (2) the payment by DTC or any Participant of any amount due to any Beneficial Owner in respect of the Bonds, or the sending of any transaction statements; (3) the delivery or timeliness of delivery by DTC or any Participant of any notice to any Beneficial Owner which is required or permitted under the Bond Resolution to be given to Owners; (4) the selection of the Beneficial Owners to receive payments upon any partial redemption of the Bonds; or (5) any consent given or other action taken by DTC or its nominee as the registered owner of the Bonds, including any action taken pursuant to an omnibus proxy.

BECAUSE DTC IS TREATED AS THE OWNER OF THE BONDS FOR SUBSTANTIALLY ALL PURPOSES UNDER THE BOND RESOLUTION, BENEFICIAL OWNERS MAY HAVE A RESTRICTED ABILITY TO INFLUENCE IN A TIMELY FASHION REMEDIAL ACTION OR THE GIVING OR WITHHOLDING OF REQUESTED CONSENTS OR OTHER DIRECTIONS. IN ADDITION, BECAUSE THE IDENTITY OF BENEFICIAL OWNERS IS UNKNOWN TO THE DISTRICT, TO DTC OR TO THE REGISTRAR/PAYING AGENT, IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO TRANSMIT INFORMATION OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO BENEFICIAL OWNERS IN AN EFFECTIVE AND TIMELY MANNER.

Discontinuance of Book-Entry-Only System

In the event that the Bonds are no longer in book-entry-only form, the certificates held by DTC or a successor securities depository will be canceled and the District will execute and deliver the Bonds in fully registered form to the beneficial owners of the Bonds as shown on the records of the DTC Participants or the nominee of a successor securities depository. If no other securities depository is named, interest on the Bonds will be paid by check or draft of the Registrar/Paying Agent, mailed to the person in whose name the bond is registered as of the close of business on the fifteenth day of each month immediately preceding such payment, and principal shall be payable to the Registered Owner at maturity upon presentation and surrender thereof to the Registrar/Paying Agent at its principal corporate trust office. In such event, the District will maintain through the Registrar/Paying Agent books of registry for the purpose of registering ownership and transfer of the Bonds. The Bonds would be transferable by the registered owner in person or by his duly authorized attorney upon surrender of the Bond to be transferred together with a written instrument of transfer duly executed by the registered owner or his duly authorized attorney. The Registrar/Paying Agent will, upon receipt thereof, authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds in like principal amount as the Bond so presented. The District and the Registrar/Paying Agent will deem and treat the person in whose name each Bond is registered as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes.

Exchange and Transfer of Bonds

Each Bond shall be transferable only upon the books of the District, which shall be kept for such purpose at the office of the Registrar and which shall be maintained for such purpose by the Registrar, upon presentation and surrender thereof by the Holder of such Bond in person or by his attorney duly authorized in writing, together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the Registrar duly executed by the registered Holder or his duly authorized attorney. Upon surrender for transfer of any such Bond, the District shall execute and the Registrar shall authenticate and deliver, in the name of the Person who is the transferee, one or more new Bonds of the same aggregate principal amount, maturity and rate of interest as the surrendered Bond.

All Bonds surrendered in any exchanges or transfers shall be cancelled by the Registrar. For each such exchange or transfer of Bonds, the District or the Registrar may make a charge sufficient to reimburse it or them for any tax, fee or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer, which sum or sums shall be paid by the Holder requesting such exchange or transfer as a condition precedent to the exercise of the privilege of making such exchange or transfer. The District shall not be obligated to (i) issue, exchange or transfer any Bond during the 15 days next preceding any Bond Payment Date, (ii) issue, exchange or transfer any Bond during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days next preceding any selection of Bonds to be redeemed and ending at the close of business on the date of the mailing of notice of such redemption, or (iii) transfer or exchange any Bonds called or being called for redemption in whole or in part.

Defeasance

If all of the Bonds and all interest thereon shall have been paid and discharged, then the obligations of the District under the Bond Resolution and all other rights granted hereby shall cease and determine. The Bonds shall be deemed to have been paid and discharged under each of the following circumstances, viz.:

(1) The Registrar/Paying Agent shall hold, at the stated maturities of the Bonds, in trust and irrevocably appropriated thereto, sufficient moneys for the payment of the Principal Installment and interest thereof; or

(2) If default in the payment of the principal of the Bonds or the interest thereon shall have occurred on any Bond Payment Date, and thereafter tender of such payment shall have been made, and at such time as the Registrar/Paying Agent shall hold in trust and irrevocably appropriated thereto, sufficient moneys for the payment thereof to the date of the tender of such payment; or

(3) If the District shall elect to provide for the payment of the Bonds prior to their stated maturities and shall have deposited with the Registrar/Paying Agent in an irrevocable trust moneys which shall be sufficient, or Government Obligations (as defined below), the principal of and interest on which when due will provide moneys, which together with moneys, if any, deposited with said Registrar/Paying Agent at the same time, shall be sufficient to pay when due the Principal Installment, Redemption Premium, if any, and interest due and to become due on the Bonds on and prior to their maturity dates or redemption dates, as the case may be.

“Government Obligations” means, with respect to the foregoing, direct general obligations of the United States of America or agencies thereof or obligations, the payment of principal or interest on which is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America.

Optional Redemption

The Bonds maturing on and after March 1, 2035, are subject to optional redemption by the District in whole or in part (and if in part, in such order of maturity as determined by the District) at a redemption price of par, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption, at any time on and after March 1, 2034.

[Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption]

The Bonds maturing on March 1, 20__ shall be subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption commencing March 1, 20__ and will be redeemed (to the extent not previously redeemed), at one hundred percent (100%) of the principal amount, plus interest accrued to the redemption date, on March 1 of each of the following years in the respective principal amounts for each year specified below:

Series 2026 Bond
Maturing March 1, 20__

Year Amount

Authorization for the Bonds

The County Councils of Richland County and Lexington County (collectively, the “County Councils”), as the governing bodies of Richland County, South Carolina, and Lexington County, South Carolina, respectively, are empowered by Act No. 1189, enacted at the 1974 Session of the South Carolina General Assembly, as amended, and codified as Sections 6-11-810 to 6-11-1040, of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 (hereinafter called the “Enabling Act”), to authorize the governing body of any special purpose district created prior to March 7, 1973, such as the District, to issue general obligation bonds of such district to provide funds to be used in the furtherance of any power or function committed to such special purpose district and in effect on March 7, 1973.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Enabling Act, the Commission requested the County Councils to approve the issuance and delivery of \$80,000,000 of general obligation bonds to defray the cost of the Improvements and costs of issuance. Such approval was given by way of ordinances enacted on December 6, 2023 by Lexington County Council, and on December 12, 2023, by Richland County Council. Thereafter, the Commission on January 18, 2024, adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of not exceeding \$80,000,000 general obligation bonds in one or more series to defray the cost of the Improvements (the “Bond Resolution”). The District issued \$40,000,000 of general obligation bonds pursuant to Bond Resolution in 2024 (the “Series 2024 Bonds”). The Bonds represent the second series of bonds issued pursuant to the Bond Resolution, and upon issuance, will exhaust this authorization.

Debt Limit

Section 14 of Article X of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina (the “State”) provides that subsequent to November 30, 1977, the special purpose districts of the State may issue bonded indebtedness in an amount not exceeding 8% of the assessed value of all taxable property therein, and provides further that no bonded indebtedness incurred on or prior to November 30, 1977 shall be charged against such 8% debt limitation. The assessed value of all taxable property located within the District for tax year 2024, which is the last completed assessment thereof, exclusive of properties subject to a fee in lieu of tax, is not less than \$3,819,373,666, and thus the 8% debt limit of the District is not less than \$305,549,893. The District presently has outstanding bonded indebtedness in the amount of \$53,463,000 chargeable against this limit. Thus, the Commission may issue not exceeding \$252,086,893 of additional general obligation debt within its 8% debt limit at the present time.

Security

The Bonds are general obligations of the District and the full faith, credit and taxing power of the District are irrevocably pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest thereof. Pursuant to Article X, Section 14 of the Constitution of South Carolina, the Bonds are payable from an ad valorem tax to be levied upon all taxable property in the District without limitation as to rate or amount. The Bond Resolution has directed the levy and collection of such tax. The Enabling Act provides that there shall be levied and collected annually a tax without limit on all taxable property located within the District sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as they respectively mature and to create such sinking fund as may be necessary therefor. The obligation to levy and collect ad valorem taxes is an essential obligation of the contract between the District and its bondholders and, if necessary, could be enforced by mandamus or other equitable remedies.

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III.

THE RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT

Description of the District, Riverbanks Zoo and Garden

The District is a special purpose district created pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 1207 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina of 1970, as amended (“Act 1207”). The District is comprised of the entire area of Richland County and Lexington County. Pursuant to Section 3 of Act 1207, the Commission is empowered generally to construct, develop and operate public recreational and zoo facilities within the territory in the counties of Richland and Lexington contiguous to the Saluda River and the Congaree River from Highway I-126 on the north to the Granby Locks on the south. The Commission governs and operates Riverbanks Zoo and Garden (“Riverbanks”), which is located on approximately 170 acres on both sides of the lower Saluda River.

History

The District opened its original facility, a zoological park, in 1974 on the east bank of the Saluda River approximately one mile from the center of Columbia, South Carolina (the “Zoo”). In the subsequent 52 years, the District has undertaken four major facility expansions, including an aquarium-reptile complex in 1989, a botanical garden on the west bank of the Saluda River, connected by a pedestrian bridge from the Zoo in 1995, birdhouse, gorilla, elephant, and koala exhibits in 2002, and an expanded entry plaza and ticketing facility, a children’s garden, grizzly bear and otter habitats, and a sea lion exhibit in 2015-2016. The fifth major expansion, referred to as “Bridge to the Wild”, is a multi-phased undertaking partly funded with proceeds of the Bonds. Riverbanks has already secured \$37 million in private funding for Phase One of Bridge to the Wild, which includes an all-new rhinoceros habitat that opened in August 2020; an aquarium & reptile conservation center which opened in March 2023; a Komodo dragon breeding facility that opened in 2024; a new education facility opening in 2026; and significant investments in the Zoo’s aging infrastructure.

A portion of the proceeds of the Series 2024 Bonds have been applied to defray a portion of the costs associated with Phase Two of Bridge to the Wild, including an electric-powered, aerial gondola system spanning the Saluda River to provide additional connection between the east and west campuses of Riverbanks that opened in August 2025. Remaining proceeds of the Series 2024 Bonds and proceeds of the Bonds will be applied to development of animal exhibits on Riverbanks’ west campus, including endangered and trafficked primates, red pandas and tigers, as well as various visitor amenities. Phase Two projects are slated for completion in 2028.

The District serves the general public and special groups within the community through a variety of programs. The Commission has designated all Fridays in January and February of each year as free admission days for Richland and Lexington County residents, and provides free admission year-round to any school group from Richland and Lexington Counties. Through a partnership with the S.C. Department of Education, the District offers free admission to school groups visiting from public schools across the State of South Carolina. All other organized school groups receive a discounted admission rate. The District also provides complimentary admission tickets to local charities and nonprofit organizations upon request.

Riverbanks Society

The opening of the Zoo by the District in 1974 was the result of a grassroots community campaign to establish a zoo in the Midlands of South Carolina. Community support for the District continues and is now exemplified by its partnership with Riverbanks Society (the “Society”), a 501(c)(3) non-profit support organization supporting the needs of Riverbanks. The Society was formed in October 1976 by a group of interested citizens. Beginning with a base membership of 200, the Society now has a membership base in excess of 40,000 households representing over 180,000 individuals, making the Society one of the largest nonprofit zoo societies per capita in the United States.

The Society is governed by a 21-member Board of Directors who are elected to three-year terms through a formal nominating process. It is the sole responsibility of Riverbanks Society to promote the membership program and serve as the fundraising arm of Riverbanks.

Throughout the year, the District conducts special events and programs which reflect its primary purposes--education, conservation and recreation. Signature events, in partnership with the Society, include Wine Tasting at the Botanical Garden, Riverbanks Run, Brew at the Zoo, Riverbanks ZOOafari, Boo at the Zoo during October and Wild Lights from November to January. Riverbanks’ most popular education programs include Nature Preschool, summer camps, and standards-aligned classes designed to support K-12 classroom learning.

Operations of the District

The Commission is composed of seven members appointed for six-year terms. Two members are appointed by the Richland County Council, two are appointed by the Lexington County Council, two are appointed by the City of Columbia, and one is selected on a rotating basis by one of the three entities.

The Commissioners currently in office are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Service Commenced</u>	<u>Current Term Expires</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
Clifford Bourke, Jr.	2021	2027	Vice President of Legal Services, Southeastern Freight Lines, Inc.
Robert G. Davidson	2016	2028	Retired Banker
Chip Huggins	2024	2030	Senior Director of Development & Economic Engagement, University of South Carolina
Liz Portee	2026	2032	State Farm Insurance Agent
Jeffrey T. Reeves	2021	2027	Banker, Wells Fargo Advisors
Michael Phemister Velasco	2017	2029	Managing Director, UBS Wealth Management
Alana Odom Williams	2014	2026	Attorney, Director of Strategic Initiatives, State Fiscal Accountability Authority

Tommy Stringfellow is the President & Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of the Riverbanks Parks District and is responsible for the management and operation of all of the District’s facilities. Mr. Stringfellow is only the third executive to oversee the Zoo in its 50-year history. He began his career at Riverbanks in 2002 as Director of Marketing, was promoted to Chief Operating Officer in 2011, and named President and CEO in August of 2017. During his inaugural year as President, Riverbanks was named Best South Carolina Attraction by readers of USA Today. Mr. Stringfellow is an active member of the community as well as an active member of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums and the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions.

Mr. Stringfellow received a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing from Winthrop University. A 35-year veteran to the attractions industry, Mr. Stringfellow served in numerous sales, marketing and operations management positions in major theme parks along the East Coast prior to joining the District.

Mr. Stringfellow's duties include the execution of the policies adopted by the Commission, developing and implementing long-and short-range plans, recommending annual budgets to the Commission and the day-to-day supervision of the District, which has approximately 450 employees. Mr. Stringfellow is also responsible for fundraising, and is the official spokesman of the District's goals and philosophy to the public through speaking engagements, appearances on radio and television and in meetings with elected and appointed officials from all levels of government.

Lochlan Wooten has served as the District's Chief Operating Officer since April 2020 until her appointment in April 2026 to Chief Strategy Officer, and is responsible for the District's marketing, development, government affairs, horticulture, facilities, and construction departments. She served as the District's Chief Marketing Officer from October 2017 to April 2020, and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Washington & Lee University.

Christie Vondrak has served as the District's Chief Administrative Officer since April 2020 and is responsible for human resources, IT, and finance departments. From October 2017 to April 2020, she served as the District's Chief Human Resources Officer. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations, Advertising and Applied Communications from the University of South Carolina.

Ashley Harris has served as the Vice President of Finance for the District since July 2022 and is responsible for accounting and procurement. She has 18 years of accounting experience, with a focus in governmental accounting. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting from Lander University.

Budgetary Process

The District's General Fund and Capital Project Fund operate under and are controlled by annual budgets. The budget process begins in February when all divisions receive their budget form. Department heads submit their requested budgets to their division heads in March. The division heads then review the requested budgets with the executive team in March and April. The division heads include the Vice President of Animal Care, the Vice President of Animal Health, the Vice President of Finance, the Vice President of Advancement, the Vice President of Mission Engagement, the Vice President of Facilities and Campus Planning, the Vice President of Guest Services, the Director of Maintenance, the Director of Horticulture, the Director of Marketing & Communications, the Director of Development, the Director of Safety and Security, the Director of Human Resources and the Director of Information Technology. Departmental budgets are combined and reviewed by the executive team in May. The CEO then recommends a budget to the Commission for approval during the June meeting.

Each department head has online access to the status of budget accounts through the accounting system software. Daily and monthly reports are available to department and division heads. Monthly reports are prepared and submitted to the Commissioners and other relevant governing agencies as requested. The accounting system requires that there be available funds in a line item before a purchase order can be prepared.

The CEO is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between line items; however, any revisions that alter the total expenditures must be approved by the Commission. Generally, if revisions are needed to the original budget, they are prepared around mid-year and submitted to the Commission for approval at the next monthly meeting. The updates are made to the accounting system upon approval.

District administration policy is to maintain an operating reserve equal to three (3) months of essential operating expenses. For Fiscal Year 2027, the administration intends to maintain this reserve in the amount of \$4,000,000.

The Commission follows generally accepted accounting principles and practices as required by the AICPA’s Committee on State and Local Governmental Accounting and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. All accounting operations are electronic to provide timely and abundant management information with a minimum of staff effort.

The Commission requires an annual certified audit of all funds. The Board of Directors of the Society also requires an annual audit of its funds. The Society is reported as a component unit of the District in the District’s audited financial statements.

Budget Summaries for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and 2026-27

Below is a summary of the District’s budgets for the Fiscal Years 2025-26 and 2026-27:

	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
<u>Revenues</u>		
<u>Operations:</u>		
Admission Revenue	\$8,050,000	\$8,125,000
Parking Fees	290,000	426,752
Concession & Retail Commission	2,788,700	3,083,700
Riverbanks Society - Operating Support	4,788,400	4,562,805
Classes and Program Fees	675,300	711,600
Fees – Rides, Shows & Promotions	2,435,150	2,425,150
Events	1,171,150	1,241,750
Other Income - Donations, Grants, Misc.	767,800	822,300
<u>Governmental Support:</u>		
Local	4,019,600	4,024,112
State	750,000	1,750,000
Accommodation & Hospitality Taxes	<u>165,000</u>	<u>126,000</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$25,901,100</u>	<u>\$27,299,169</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>		
Animal Care	\$6,453,060	\$6,709,088
Administrative	3,842,066	4,059,842
Botanical	1,357,974	1,381,836
Facilities Management	3,793,035	4,032,501
Utilities	1,862,892	1,961,600
Guest Services	4,050,040	4,027,442
Marketing and Public Relations	957,421	1,189,040
Education	571,444	649,853
Rides, Shows & Promotions Expenditures	557,614	600,735
Classes & Programs Expenditures	534,933	577,146
Debt Service	188,400	62,805
Capital Outlay	1,250,000	1,500,000
Events	<u>482,221</u>	<u>547,281</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$25,901,100</u>	<u>\$27,299,169</u>

Description of Revenues

Revenues of the District are derived from two major areas - operations and government support.

Admissions revenue. The largest source of operating revenue for the District is admissions revenue. The adult and child admission charges are in the moderate range of prices by national standards. There have been, however, moderate increases over the years to keep pace with inflation. Reduced rates and, in some cases, free admission, are offered on certain days along with discounted rates at all times for members of the military and senior citizens.

	<u>Current Admission Rates</u>
Adults (ages 13-61)	\$30.99 + tax
Children (ages 2-12 years)	\$27.99 + tax
Children (younger than 2)	Free
Military	\$28.99 + tax
Senior Citizens (ages 62 and up)	\$28.99 + tax

Members of the Riverbanks Society receive free admission to the District. Attendance shown in the following table includes paid attendance, attendance by Riverbanks Society members, as well as attendance pursuant to other free and discounted rate programs. Other free programs include children under two, kindergarten through twelfth grade school field trips from Lexington and Richland Counties and South Carolina public schools, and Free Friday admission in January and February for residents of Richland and Lexington Counties.

Attendance History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>	<u>Paid Attendance</u>	<u>Member Attendance</u>	<u>Other Free Attendance</u>
2025-26 ⁽¹⁾	1,131,252	483,703	554,766	92,783
2024-25	1,077,487	478,306	510,729	88,452
2023-24	1,181,859	455,350	641,219	85,290
2022-23	1,172,108	451,465	643,093	77,550
2021-22	1,154,660	421,144	678,167	55,349
2020-21	940,940	399,465	512,562	28,913
2019-20	880,289	321,839	506,690	51,760
2018-19	1,300,681	501,977	709,032	89,672

⁽¹⁾ Unaudited. Through June 30, 2026.

Riverbanks Society. The second largest source of operating income is derived from the Society. The Riverbanks Society offers memberships which entitle members to free admission to the Zoo and Garden. The membership fees, less expenses, are contributed to the District’s General Fund. In addition to this contribution to the General Fund, The Society has conducted fundraising drives that have generated over \$15,000,000 for capital purposes during the last ten years.

Food and Merchandise Sales. Concession Fees from food and merchandise sales represent the third largest category of operating revenue. Gross sales from these operations have grown steadily, principally due to increased attendance, increased food and beverage offerings, improved quality of products, and a more targeted and efficient operation.

Other sources of operating revenue include fees for various educational programs, net income from rides, attractions events and promotions, and miscellaneous donations and interest income.

Revenue from Governmental Sources

There are three areas of governmental support received by the District.

Appropriations from County Councils. Following approval by the Commission, the budget is presented to Richland and Lexington County Councils with a request for funding from both Richland County and Lexington County at the levels indicated in the budget. Annual appropriations by the County Councils for operations and maintenance of the District are purely discretionary and are not required by law. The County Councils do not have approval authority over line items but are requested to approve the requested discretionary level of funding from their respective jurisdictions. For many years, the County Councils each designated a certain number of mills, as opposed to defined dollar amounts, for District maintenance and operations. Recent years have seen changes in this practice.

Beginning with its budget for Fiscal Year 2020, the Lexington County Council voted to fund Riverbanks as a line item in its operating budget with a defined dollar amount in each year and has since been consistent in that process. Richland County, in its budget for Fiscal Year 2025, reduced the designated millage allocation for the District from 1.4 mills in Fiscal Year 2024 to 0.6 mills (yielding \$1,517,888), but also appropriated \$1,501,712 in Hospitality Tax revenues to the District, for a total projected appropriation of \$3,019,600. Richland County kept the designated millage allocation for the District at 0.6 mills in its budget for Fiscal Year 2026 (expected to yield \$1,522,400) and appropriated \$1,501,712 in Hospitality Tax revenues to the District.

The following table provides the amounts received from the two Counties and the millage levied for operating support in Richland County during the past five years and the current fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	Millage Levied ⁽³⁾	<u>Richland County</u>		<u>Lexington County</u>
		Property Taxes Received	Hospitality Taxes Appropriated	Amount Appropriated
2026-27 ⁽¹⁾	0.6	\$1,408,000	\$1,616,112	\$1,000,000
2025-26 ⁽²⁾	0.6	1,522,400	1,501,712	1,000,000
2024-25 ⁽³⁾	0.6	1,517,888	1,501,712	1,000,000
2023-24	1.4	2,706,000	n/a	1,000,000
2022-23	1.4	2,605,000	n/a	1,000,000
2021-22	1.4	2,825,000	n/a	1,000,000
2020-21	1.4	2,222,100	n/a	900,000

⁽¹⁾ Budgeted.

⁽²⁾ Unaudited.

⁽³⁾ Reduction in millage levied by Richland County from prior years' levies offset by appropriation of Hospitality Taxes, a practice which has been continued in subsequent fiscal years.

State Appropriations. After several years of operation, the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina recognized that the District was a State-wide attraction which provides an economic benefit to the State as a whole. Based on this recognition, the District began receiving annual appropriations from the State beginning in fiscal year 1976-77. However, during fiscal year 2004-05, the State eliminated this “pass through” funding, and the State appropriations to the District ceased until Fiscal Year 2020-21 when the District received \$1,500,000 in COVID relief funding.

Since that time, the District received non-recurring State appropriations in the amount of \$2,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2022-23, and \$5,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2023-24, earmarked for various deferred maintenance projects required to meet the standards set forth by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The District received \$1,750,000 in non-recurring funds from the State in Fiscal Year 2024-25, of which \$1,000,000 was earmarked for various deferred maintenance projects and \$750,000 was allocated to establish a new partnership with the SC Department of Education to offer free field trips for all SC public school children. The District received an additional \$750,000 in recurring State appropriations in Fiscal Year 2024-25 and will receive \$750,000 in recurring State appropriations in State Fiscal Year 2025-26 to support the partnership with the SC Department of Education. No non-recurring funding will be received from the State in Fiscal Year 2025-26, based on the adopted State budget for the fiscal year. The District expects to receive \$750,000 in recurring State appropriations in State Fiscal Year 2026-27 to support the partnership with the SC Department of Education, and \$1,000,000 in non-recurring State appropriations, earmarked for various deferred maintenance projects.

Accommodations and Hospitality Taxes. The District has in recent years received appropriations of statutory Accommodations and Hospitality taxes from Lexington County, Richland County, the City of Columbia, and the City of West Columbia. These appropriations are used to promote Riverbanks to tourists, vary in amount from year to year, and may be discontinued from year to year, as determined by the contributing entity. This funding has allowed the District to continue to expand its guest reach in South Carolina and promote tourism from surrounding states.

The following table shows amounts contributed by Lexington County, Richland County, the City of Columbia, and the City of West Columbia to the District for promotional activities.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Lexington County</u>	<u>Richland County</u>	<u>City of Columbia</u>	<u>City of West Columbia</u>
2025-26 ⁽¹⁾	\$15,000	\$36,017	\$60,000	\$20,000
2024-25	0	10,000	55,000	15,000
2023-24	25,000	47,500	45,000	15,000
2022-23	15,000	30,000	50,000	15,000
2021-22	10,000	15,000	45,000	7,500
2020-21	24,000	30,000	33,413	22,500

⁽¹⁾ Budgeted.

Cybersecurity

The District has a number of industry-standard security systems and processes in place to help protect it from cybersecurity threats. Each user’s computer and all servers are password-protected and are loaded with anti-virus software. Cybersecurity training is required for all new employees and is refreshed anytime a user’s account is compromised or a user fails a phishing test (District-issued emails that mimic phishing emails) or any other incident that reflects a lack of understanding or retention of the information covered in the training. The District also requires employees to retake the training on a rolling three-year basis.

Additionally, the District procures the services of an external vendor to monitor and identify any potential cybersecurity threats. This service routinely identifies occurrences such as suspicious logins and administrator-level changes.

The District recently upgraded its firewall and its policies that control traffic flowing into and out of the District's system. A third party was consulted regarding the configuration of the firewall to ensure the District is adhering to best practices related to its setup.

The District maintains backups of major systems and files offsite in the cloud in order to restore any locked or deleted information in the event of a cybersecurity incident; each business unit of the District has manual procedures in place to allow it to continue to operate in the event of a cybersecurity incident. The District's primary system utilized for ticketing and retail/food sales is managed by a third party, which also has security protocols in place to protect that system.

The District's IT Director is responsible for ensuring the IT team has training and tools to protect the District from security breaches. The IT Director also is provided funding through an annual budget that allows the IT team to hire cybersecurity consultants as necessary. The IT Department staff presently consists of four members with a combined 40 years of industry experience. The team also reviews all products and services related to cybersecurity each year to determine if the existing services are sufficient to reduce risks related to cybersecurity or if additional features/services are needed.

Should the IT Director become aware of a practice that puts the organization at risk, it is their responsibility to notify the proper member(s) of the Executive team of the risk. The IT Director will then work with the member(s) of the Executive team to address the risk if deemed appropriate.

To date, the District has not had an organizational level cybersecurity incident. The District has identified instances in which individual user accounts were compromised, and each of those incidents were addressed by disabling the account until the account owner could change their password and retake security training. No material compromises to the District's financial or data were identified. The District does not presently maintain cybersecurity insurance.

Climate Change

Planning for climate change in the State and its impact on operations of local government is a significant challenge. The State's climate is exceedingly variable and projections of future conditions range significantly. While projections in the State indicate rising average temperatures, precipitation projections are much less clear and often contradictory.

To date, the District has not experienced any material impacts from climate change, but has identified threats potentially arising from climate change:

- Damage to physical plant from weather events;
- Adverse changes in animal behavior, reproduction and overall health;
- Increased operational costs, particularly additional energy costs for cooling animal habitats;
- Fluctuations in attendance impacting ticket sales, concessions, and other visitor-related revenue;
- Costs of compliance with new regulations arising from climate change policy; and
- Supply chain disruptions affecting food, medical supplies, and other essential resources.

The District has developed the following policies and procedures to mitigate against these potential threats:

- In addition to regular severe weather drills to protect people and animals, the District has a network of generators to support critical infrastructure and a robust operational reserve to ensure funds are available to continue operations and complete needed repairs in the event of severe weather impacts.
- Animals are continually monitored and research is being done around the globe in order to incorporate any new veterinary care needs, adaptation measures, or changes in exhibit designs to accommodate these shifts.
- The District is incorporating green building practices for all new facilities and retrofitting current facilities with energy management systems, LED lighting and green-rated appliances, and developing annual budgets assuming a rise in utility costs even if no increase in consumption is projected.
- The District employs several strategies to encourage guests to visit on off-peak or less desirable weather days, including admission discounts, and retail, food and beverage specials. Additionally, The District is investing in more indoor facilities and a diversification of experiences to appeal to a broader audience in more varied conditions.
- The District maintains close relationships with the United States Department of Agriculture, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as state and local officials to stay abreast of any regulatory changes and to advocate for regulatory changes that will elevate the standard of care and protections for animals at the District, in other facilities, and in the wild.
- The District works with multiple suppliers for critical materials and services to reduce dependence on a single source. The District selects these suppliers based on their reliability, financial stability, geographic locations and builds strong relationships to ensure communication and collaboration. Additionally, the District has several large warehouses and greenhouses to ensure a plentiful onsite supply of all critical food and medical supplies.

Insurance

Subject to specific immunity set forth in the South Carolina Torts Claims Act (the “Tort Claims Act”), local governments including the District are liable for damages not to exceed \$300,000 per person and \$600,000 per occurrence. No punitive or exemplary damages are permitted under the Tort Claims Act. The District currently maintains liability insurance coverage with the South Carolina State Fiscal Accountability Authority, through the Insurance Reserve Fund. In the opinion of the President, the amount of liability coverage maintained by the District is sufficient to provide protection against any loss arising under the Tort Claims Act. In the opinion of the District’ general counsel, there is no litigation pending or threatened against the District which is not adequately insured by such coverage. The District also maintains property/casualty insurance with the South Carolina State Fiscal Accountability Authority, through the State Insurance Reserve Fund, acting as the insurance broker. The current property/casualty insurance carrier is American Southern Insurance Company.

Retirement Plan

Employees of the District are covered by a retirement plan provided either through the South Carolina Retirement System (“SCRS”) or the Police Officers Retirement System (PORS)⁽¹⁾, cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit retirement plans administered by the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (“PEBA”). SCRS and PORS offer retirement and disability benefits, costs of living adjustments on an ad-hoc basis, life insurance benefits and survivor benefits. Both employees and employers are required to contribute to SCRS or PORS, as applicable, per the authority of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended. Required employee and employer contribution rates for the year ended June 30, 2024, to SCRS were 9.00% and 18.56%, respectively, and were 9.75% and 21.04%, respectively, to PORS. Required employee and employer contribution rates for the year ended June 30, 2025 to SCRS were 9.00% and 18.56%, respectively, and were 9.75% and 21.04%, respectively, to PORS.

⁽¹⁾ The District has no employees whose duties at Riverbanks would qualify them for participation in PORS, but it does employ individuals who previously participated in PORS-eligible employment and by law continue to participate in that plan. The District also employs certain individuals on a part-time basis who presently participate in PORS through full time employment in law enforcement or other PORS-eligible positions.

Total employer retirement contributions to SCRS and PORS paid on behalf of the District are shown in the following table:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Employer Contribution</u>	<u>Group Life Insurance</u>	<u>Retiree Health Insurance</u>	<u>Total \$ Contribution⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>Total % Payroll</u>
2025	\$1,745,127	\$6,149	\$100,647	\$1,851,923	20.75%
2024	1,577,098	5,860	84,072	1,667,030	20.71
2023	1,385,621	5,466	74,620	1,465,819	19.61
2022	1,114,228	5,189	69,385	1,188,803	18.57
2021	895,573	4,977	59,149	959,699	17.34

⁽¹⁾ Totals may not add due to rounding.

Act No. 13 of the 2017 Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina addresses funding of SCRS. Significant features of this law include:

- Employer rates, including group life insurance, were set to continue to increase annually by 1% through July 1, 2022, which would result in the employer rate totaling 18.56% for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and thereafter. Due to COVID-19, the SC General Assembly delayed the 1% increase for FY 2020-21 and will extend to 2023.
- Increases and caps the employee contribution rate to 9% as of July 1, 2017.
- After June 30, 2027, authorizes the decrease in employer and employee contribution rates in equal amounts if the ratio between the actuarial value of SCRS assets and the actuarial value of SCRS liabilities is equal to or greater than 85%.
- Effective July 1, 2017, lowers the assumed annual rate of return from 7.5% to 7.25% and provides for a reset of the assumed rate of return every four years. The assumed rate of return was reset for four years effective July 1, 2021, to 7.0%.
- Reduces the funding period (or amortization period) of unfunded liabilities, beginning in Fiscal Years 2017-18, from 30 years to 20 years for Fiscal Year 2027-28 and thereafter.

In addition to providing pension benefits, the District provides certain optional health care-related benefits to full-time employees through the South Carolina State Health Plan (the “Health Plan”), including medical, prescription drug, dental, vision, long-term disability, and life insurance. Subject to certain service requirements, the District’s retired employees are also eligible to participate in the Health Plan, except for long-term disability, and life insurance. The District’s share of retiree health care-related benefits is based upon time in service at the District. As of June 30, 2025, there were 162 active employees and 21 retirees participating in the Health Plan.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 75 (“GASB 75”) which establishes accounting and financial reporting requirements for governmental employers who sponsor or participate in Other Postemployment Benefits (“OPEB”) plans, such as the Health Plan. GASB 75 is designed to help plan sponsors adequately and systematically account for plan costs, facilitate comparisons of plan sponsor financial information by standardizing certain aspects of postretirement benefit plan asset and liability measurement, and improve the utility of financial statement information by requiring that plan sponsors provide certain information about their OPEB plans.

Additional information regarding Other Post-Employment Benefits is presented in Note 8 in the District’s audited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2025 attached to this Official Statement as Appendix A.

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Five Year General Fund Summary

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Five-Year Operating Summary - General Fund – Fiscal Year Ending June 30

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026⁽²⁾</u>
Revenues:					
Property Taxes ⁽¹⁾	\$3,825,000	\$3,605,000	\$3,706,000	\$2,517,888	\$2,350,040
Accommodations & Hospitality Taxes	84,927	127,800	150,018	1,601,178	1,151,285
General Admission Fees	7,993,695	8,249,904	8,433,588	8,021,270	7,300,706
Concessions and retail commissions	2,370,538	2,482,423	2,684,598	2,544,120	2,412,573
Riverbanks Society support	1,788,415	2,588,415	3,188,415	3,188,415	3,472,714
Rides and Attractions	2,016,734	2,068,861	2,067,762	1,905,601	2,013,951
Classes and Program Fees	532,694	637,960	650,308	764,575	531,233
Events	1,198,977	1,059,003	982,617	1,236,504	1,232,769
Facility Rental & Group Admission Fees	477,298	443,074	522,376	417,764	436,054
Sponsorships	192,312	76,467	67,667	128,458	138,500
Non-Federal Grants and Contributions ⁽³⁾	17,437	2,046,796	5,036,150	2,512,489	745,478
Federal Grants ⁽⁴⁾	6,571,318	--	--	--	--
Interest Revenue	45,504	588,524	925,956	966,499	816,216
Expired Gift Cards	147,803	188,425	294,366	477,272	--
Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>93,569</u>	<u>147,361</u>	<u>102,937</u>	<u>148,989</u>	<u>411,249</u>
Total Revenues	\$27,356,221	\$24,310,013	\$28,812,758	\$26,431,022	\$23,012,768
Expenditures:					
Administrative	\$3,006,815	\$3,093,549	\$3,577,488	\$3,599,649	\$3,667,565
Animal Care	4,742,541	5,221,852	5,683,244	5,956,868	5,905,011
Botanical, Zoo and Garden	1,003,751	1,111,061	1,234,826	1,345,525	1,172,775
Education	278,658	399,023	501,127	615,841	555,503
Facility Management	2,650,241	2,682,731	3,130,512	3,318,271	3,613,438
Guest Services	2,727,120	2,938,714	3,312,421	3,436,305	3,303,312
Marketing and Public Relations	817,812	859,100	818,516	901,604	938,372
Utilities	1,601,035	1,745,592	1,710,533	1,774,986	1,517,558
Rides and Attractions	426,877	498,980	495,228	459,295	427,056
Classes and Programs	369,902	482,697	590,186	596,963	422,977
Events	350,056	452,615	440,477	518,873	482,029
Facility Rental and Group Admissions	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	178,750
Debt Service:					
Principal	168,288	172,234	176,272	180,406	169,086
Interest	20,127	16,181	12,142	8,009	3,628
Capital Outlay:					
Land, Building, Equipment & Improvements	<u>180,767</u>	<u>389,792</u>	<u>403,638</u>	<u>476,115</u>	<u>--</u>
Total Expenditures	\$18,538,990	\$20,259,121	\$22,281,610	\$23,383,710	\$22,357,060
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	8,817,231	\$4,050,892	\$6,531,148	\$3,047,312	\$655,708
Other Financing Sources(Uses):					
Transfers In ⁽⁵⁾	--	--	--	8,387,554	--
Transfers Out ⁽⁶⁾	<u>--</u>	<u>(3,782,127)</u>	<u>(1,793,652)</u>	<u>(5,852,645)</u>	<u>(3,706,506)</u>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	--	(3,782,127)	(1,793,652)	2,534,909	(3,706,506)
Net Change in Fund Balance	8,817,231	268,765	4,737,496	5,582,221	(3,050,798)
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	<u>\$7,828,760</u>	<u>\$16,645,991</u>	<u>\$16,914,756</u>	<u>\$21,652,252</u>	<u>\$27,234,473</u>
Fund Balance, End of Year	<u>\$16,645,991</u>	<u>\$16,914,756</u>	<u>\$21,652,252</u>	<u>\$27,234,473</u>	<u>\$24,183,675</u>

(1) Property tax revenues received from Richland and Lexington Counties. See "Revenues from Governmental Sources—County Council Appropriations" under this topic.

(2) Unaudited; through May 31, 2026.

(3) Includes \$2,000,000 received in Fiscal Year 2023 from the State for deferred maintenance projects.

(4) Federal grant received in Fiscal Year 2022 as reimbursement for lost revenues and costs incurred as a consequence of COVID-19 pandemic.

(5) Transfers In in Fiscal Year 2025 represents funds accumulated over a number of years by the Riverbanks Society. Beginning with Fiscal Year 2026, Riverbanks Society funds will be transferred annually to the District. Future transfers will thus reflect funds raised in a single year and are not expected to be of the magnitude transferred in Fiscal Year 2025.

(6) Transfers out are to a separate Capital Projects Fund as reimbursement for expenditures made for capital improvements.

The District's General Fund Balance as of June 30, 2026 is projected to be \$24,183,675 and classified as follows: Assigned: \$22,622,745; Nonspendable: \$809,084; and Unassigned: \$751,846.

Source: District and audited financial statements of the District.

III.

CERTAIN FISCAL MATTERS

Assessment of Property in Lexington County and Richland County

Article X of the South Carolina Constitution mandates that the assessment of all property, both real and personal, shall be equal and uniform and that the following ratios shall apply in the appropriate classifications of property:

- (1) Real and Personal Property of Manufacturers and Utilities -- 10.5% of fair market value;
- (2) Transportation Companies for Hire (railroads and pipelines) -- 9.5% of fair market value;
- (3) Legal Residence and not more than five contiguous acres -- 4% of fair market value (if the property owner makes property application and qualifies);
- (4) Agricultural property used for such purposes owned by individuals and certain small corporations -- 4% of use value (if the property owner makes application and qualifies);
- (5) Agricultural and timberlands belonging to large corporations (more than 10 shareholders) -- 6% of use value (if the property owner makes proper application and qualifies);
- (6) All other real property -- 6% of fair market value;
- (7) Business inventories - 6% of fair market value (as of 1988, there is available an exemption from taxation of property in this category, hence this item is no longer significant, except that the assessed value of business inventory as of tax year 1987 is taken into account in determining total assessed value for purposes of the bonded debt limit);
- (8) Motor Vehicles -- 6.0%; and
- (9) All other personal property -- 10.5% of fair market value.

The County Assessors appraise and assess each year all real property and mobile homes located within Lexington County and Richland County and certify the results to the County Auditors (with the exception of Manufacturer's Real Property which is certified by the South Carolina Department of Revenue ("DOR")). The County Auditors appraise and assess all motor vehicles (except for large trucks, which are appraised and assessed by the DOR), marine equipment, business personal property and airplanes. The DOR furnishes guides for use by the Counties in the assessment of automobiles, automotive equipment, and certain other classes of property and directly assesses the real and personal property of public utilities, manufacturers and business equipment.

In each year, upon completion of its work, the DOR certifies its assessments to the County Auditors. During August and September of each year the County Auditors prepare assessment summaries from the respective certifications, determine the appropriate millage levies, prepare the tax rolls and then in September charge the County Treasurer with the collection. With the exception of motor vehicles, the South Carolina Tax Control date is December 31st for the ensuing tax year. South Carolina has no state-wide property tax.

The DOR has been charged with the responsibility of taking steps necessary to ensure equalization of assessments statewide in order that all property is assessed uniformly and equitably throughout the State, and may require reassessment of any part or all of the property within a County. Under law enacted by the South Carolina General Assembly in 1995, every fourth year the County and the State are required by law to effect an appraisal of all property within the County and to implement that appraisal as a new assessment in the following year. Regulations of DOR effectively require that a reappraisal program must be instituted by a county if the median appraisal for all property in such county (as a whole or for any class of property) is higher than 105% or lower than 80% of fair market value. Lexington County last completed and implemented its reassessment program for the 2025 tax year (corresponding to the District's 2025-26 Fiscal

Year), and it is expected that the next reassessment will be implemented in the 2030 tax year. Richland County last completed and implemented its reassessment program for the 2024 tax year (corresponding to the District’s 2024-25 Fiscal Year), and it is expected that the next reassessment will be implemented in the 2029 tax year.

In addition to limits on growth in operating millage rates, Act No. 388 (“Act 388”) provides that the growth in valuation of real property attributable to reassessment may not exceed 15% for each five-year reassessment cycle. Growth in valuation resulting from improvements to real property are exempt from this restriction. Moreover, upon the sale of any parcel of real property or other “assessable transfer of interest,” including long-term leases, conveyances out of trusts, and other defined events, but excluding transfers between spouses, such parcel will be reassessed to its then-current market value.

Legislation adopted in the 2011 session of the General Assembly further limits the reassessment of property assessed at six percent (6%) of market value, e.g., commercial property and non-owner occupied homes. Upon an assessable transfer of interest of such property, the new assessed value for tax purposes is the greater of (a) 75% of the fair market value of the property at the time of sale or (b) 100% of the fair market value of the property according to the most recently completed county-wide reassessment.

The foregoing limitation on increases in assessed value may materially affect the growth in the District’s assessed value, and, thus, debt limit, over time.

Act No. 388: Millage Levy Authority

Pursuant to Act No. 388 of the 2006 Acts, the annual millage rate for operations of municipalities, counties, school districts and those special purpose districts which are vested with authority to impose property taxes for operations may increase only at a rate equal to the sum of (a) the increase in the consumer price index, plus (b) the rate of population growth of the political subdivision or school district. This limitation may be overridden by a vote of two-thirds of the governing body of the political subdivision or school district, but only for the following purposes and only in a year in which such condition exists:

- (1) a deficiency of the preceding year;
- (2) any catastrophic event outside the control of the governing body such as a natural disaster, severe weather event, act of God, or act of terrorism, fire, war, or riot;
- (3) compliance with a court order or decree;
- (4) taxpayer closure due to circumstances outside the control of the governing body that decreases by ten percent or more the amount of revenue payable to the taxing jurisdiction in the preceding year; or
- (5) compliance with a regulation promulgated or statute enacted by the federal or state government after the ratification date of this section for which an appropriation or a method for obtaining an appropriation is not provided by the federal or state government.

Legislation amending Act 388, adopted in 2011, allows a local government to apply in any year millage rate increases which were permitted under Act 388, but not implemented, in any of the three most recent prior fiscal years under the inflation and population growth limitations imposed by Act 388. For example, if a local government was allowed a two mill increase in 2021 and a three mill increase in 2022 but implemented neither, it could implement a five mill increase in 2023 (along with any increase arising that year) under Act 388, as amended.

The District does not have the authority to levy property taxes for operations. The limitations imposed by Act 388, however, may have an adverse impact on the District, since Richland County Council and Lexington County Council, both of which voluntarily provide operating funds to the District, are subject to Act 388.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

South Carolina has adopted an array of property tax inducements and incentives to promote investment in the State. Qualifying investments of \$5 million (\$1 million in some counties and for certain “brownfield” sites) or more may be negotiated for payments in lieu of taxes for a period of 20 years based on assessment ratios of as little as 6% and using millage rates that are either fixed for 20 years or adjusted every fifth year. In some cases, owners of projects may also design a payment schedule so long as the present value of the payments under the schedule are equal to the present value of the payments that would have been made without the schedule. The State also provides a more generous inducement for projects creating at least 200 new jobs and providing new invested capital of not less than \$200 million and a total investment of not less than \$400 million. For these projects, payments may be negotiated based on assessment ratios of as low as 4% and for a term of 30 years.

The State provides alternative provisions respecting the distribution of payments in lieu of taxes to entities having taxing jurisdiction at the location of the investment: (i) revenues received in respect of property that is not included in a multicounty industrial park (“MCIP”) are allocated annually in proportion to the amounts that would have been received by the taxing entities if the payments were taxes, based on the relative millage rates of overlapping taxing entities in a given year; (ii) revenues received from property that is in an MCIP, however, is distributed in accordance with the agreement creating the park; the amount of the distribution to each taxing entity is, for all practical purposes, controlled by the County. Property may be included in an MCIP under terms of agreements between two or more counties with individual sites being determined primarily by the county in which they are located. Payments in lieu of taxes may be diverted from taxing entities to fund projects which support economic development activities, including projects that are used solely by a single enterprise, either directly or through the issuance of special source revenue bonds secured by payments in lieu of taxes. A county government may also divert payments in lieu of taxes derived from an MCIP to its own corporate purposes or those of other taxing entities in that county.

Several of the largest taxpayers in Richland County and in Lexington County pay a “fee-in-lieu” of taxes with respect to new manufacturing projects, and each year new fee-in-lieu arrangements are made with other new manufacturing investments.

Projects on which these payments in lieu of taxes are made are considered taxable property at the level of the negotiated payment for purposes of calculating bonded indebtedness limits and for purposes of computing the index of taxpaying ability pursuant to the South Carolina Education Financing Act. If the property is situated in an MCIP, the calculation of assessed value for debt limit purposes is based upon the relative share of payments received by all taxing entities which overlap the MCIP. Accordingly, a recipient of payments from an MCIP is able to include only a fraction of the assessed value of property therein in calculating its debt limit.

If a county, municipality or special purpose district pledges to the repayment of special source revenue bonds any portion of the revenues received by it from a payment in lieu of taxes, it may not include in the calculation of its general obligation debt limit the value of the property that is the basis of the pledged portion of revenues. If such political subdivision, prior to pledging revenues to secure a special source revenue bond, has included an amount representing the value of a parcel or item of property that is the subject of a payment in lieu of taxes in the assessed value of taxable property located in the political subdivision and has issued general obligation debt within a debt limit calculated on the basis of such assessed value, then it may not pledge revenues based on the item or parcel of property, to the extent that the amount representing its value is necessary to permit the outstanding general obligation debt to not exceed the debt limit of the political subdivision.

As an alternative to the issuance of special source revenue bonds, the owners of qualifying projects may receive a credit against payments in lieu of taxes due from the project to pay certain project costs. If a county, municipality or special purpose district agrees to allow a credit against the payments in lieu of taxes it would otherwise receive, it is subject to the limitations on calculation of its debt limit as described in the preceding paragraph.

Method by Which Tax Levy is Made

In South Carolina, local taxes for municipalities, counties, schools and special purpose districts are levied as a single tax bill which each taxpayer must pay in full. Taxes are levied by the Auditors of the various counties. In each County, current and delinquent tax collections are made through the office of the Treasurer of that County.

Tax bills are mailed from the Treasurer’s office on September 30 or as soon thereafter as is practicable. Taxes are payable without penalty until January 15. A penalty of 3% is added on January 16th, an additional penalty of 7% is added on February 2nd and an additional penalty of 5% is added on March 17th, at which time the office of the Treasurer issues orders of execution on all unpaid accounts.

Assessed Values of Richland County

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Real Property</u>	<u>Personal Property</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024 ⁽¹⁾	\$1,642,635,130	\$501,156,445	\$2,143,791,575
2023	1,453,205,160	471,434,035	1,924,639,195
2022	1,387,131,060	456,873,550	1,844,004,610
2021	1,329,375,250	450,783,392	1,780,158,642
2020	1,301,523,250	447,593,507	1,749,116,757

⁽¹⁾ Reassessment year.

Excludes Merchant’s Inventory of \$21,626,538, motor carrier reimbursement, reimbursements of manufacturer’s depreciation, property in multicounty industrial parks and property otherwise subject to fee in lieu of taxes.

Source: Richland County Auditor.

Assessed Values of Lexington County

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Real Property</u>	<u>Personal Property</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$1,188,974,941	\$456,083,482	\$1,645,058,423
2023	1,147,271,860	415,921,465	1,563,193,325
2022	1,092,236,420	395,124,412	1,487,360,832
2021	1,035,743,820	384,147,301	1,419,891,121
2020 ⁽¹⁾	1,000,165,240	369,228,440	1,369,393,680

⁽¹⁾ Reassessment year.

Excludes Merchant’s Inventory of \$8,897,130, motor carrier reimbursement, reimbursements of manufacturer’s depreciation, property in multicounty industrial parks and property otherwise subject to fee in lieu of taxes.

Source: Lexington County Auditor.

Tax Year 2024 Lexington County Market Value/Assessment Summary of the District

<u>Class of Property</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>	<u>Assessment Ratio</u>	<u>Market Value ⁽¹⁾</u>
1. Real Property and Mobile Homes	\$1,188,974,941	4.0% & 6.0%	n/a
2. Motor Vehicles (personal and non-personal)	210,272,542	6.0% / 10.5%	n/a
3. Public Utilities	140,613,590	10.5%	1,339,177,048
4. Manufacturing Property (Real and Personal)	31,348,660	10.5%	298,558,667
5. Watercraft and Boats	21,839,285	10.5%	207,993,190
6. Aircraft	5,507,435	10.5%	52,451,762
7. Business Personal Property (DOR)	<u>46,501,970</u>	10.5%	<u>442,875,905</u>
TOTAL	\$1,645,058,423		n/a

⁽¹⁾ Advised by Lexington County Auditor that real property market values are not presently available. Figures above do not include Merchant's Inventory of \$8,897,130, motor carrier reimbursements of \$4,868,649, manufacturer's depreciation of \$8,601,150, manufacturer's reimbursement of real and personal property of \$20,531,380, or property in multicounty industrial parks and property otherwise subject to non-negotiated or negotiated fee-in-lieu of taxes of \$94,482,390. Source: Lexington County Auditor.

Tax Year 2024 Richland County Market Value/Assessment Summary of the District

<u>Class of Property</u>	<u>Assessed Value</u>	<u>Assessment Ratio</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
1. Real Property and Mobile Homes	\$1,642,635,130	4.0% & 6.0%	\$34,624,129,947
2. Motor Vehicles (personal and non-personal)	228,036,580	6.0 & 10.0	3,505,991,420
3. Public Utilities	152,431,520	10.5%	1,455,641,961
4. Railroads	4,285,460	10.5%	45,110,092
5. Manufacturing Property (Real and Personal)	36,779,610	10.5%	379,040,886
6. Watercraft/Boats/Aircraft	10,013,745	10.5%	96,224,782
7. Business Personal Property - County	18,547,400	10.5%	174,424,202
8. Business Personal (DOR)	<u>51,062,130</u>	10.5%	<u>477,787,039</u>
TOTAL	\$2,143,791,575		\$40,758,350,329

Excludes motor carrier reimbursements of \$5,380,661 pursuant to §12-37-2810 et seq. of the South Carolina Code, reimbursements of manufacturer's depreciation of \$10,178,396 pursuant to §12-37-935(b) of the South Carolina Code or property in multicounty industrial parks and property otherwise subject to non-negotiated or negotiated fee in lieu of taxes of \$26,087,008. Also excludes Merchant's Inventory of \$23,629,636. Source: Richland County Auditor.

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Tax Collection Record of Lexington County

The following table shows the record of collections by the Treasurer of Lexington County of all ad valorem taxes in the following years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Taxes Levied</u>	<u>Current Collections</u>	<u>Current % Collected</u>	<u>Delinquent Collections</u>	<u>Total Collections</u>	<u>% of Total Collections</u>
2024-25	\$853,759,803	\$831,759,515	97.42%	\$9,757,030 ⁽¹⁾	\$841,516,545	98.56%
2023-24	823,844,553	786,057,428	95.41	8,702,721	794,760,149	96.47
2022-23	748,600,611	723,475,155	96.64	16,438,900	739,914,055	98.84
2021-22	707,694,885	683,343,203	96.56	14,908,781	698,251,984	98.67
2020-21	688,478,599	665,765,789	96.70	10,834,009	676,599,798	98.27

⁽¹⁾ Includes collections after June 30, 2025 on all property types for any previous tax year except collections for vehicles and boats.
Source: Lexington County Treasurer.

Tax Collection Record of Richland County

The following table shows the record of collections by the Treasurer of Richland County of all ad valorem taxes in the following years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Taxes Levied</u>	<u>Current Collections</u>	<u>Current % Collected</u>	<u>Delinquent Collections</u>	<u>Total Collections</u>	<u>% of Total Collections</u>
2024-25	\$968,840,149	\$923,291,376	93.00%	\$22,839,715	\$946,131,091	97.66%
2023-24	925,010,148	868,161,324	93.85	22,931,803	891,093,127	96.33
2022-23	882,776,751	832,655,589	94.32	24,799,933	857,455,522	97.13
2021-22	848,916,307	792,118,113	93.31	26,801,957	818,920,070	96.47
2020-21	844,874,769	788,493,348	93.33	26,432,639	814,925,987	96.46

Source: Richland County Treasurer.

Largest Taxpayers in Lexington County

The ten largest taxpayers in Lexington County, the 2024 assessed value of their taxable property, and the total amount of 2024-25 County taxes paid by each taxpayer are shown below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>2024 Assessed Value</u>	<u>2024-25 Taxes Paid</u>
1. Dominion Energy South Carolina*	\$98,524,221	\$44,574,024
2. Michelin North America Inc*	20,296,146	10,608,729
3. Mid-Carolina Electric Coop.	15,144,630	7,251,998
4. Shaw Industries Group Inc.*	8,339,895	3,661,798
5. SCANA Services Inc.*	6,685,349	2,439,782
6. Columbiana Centre, LLC	4,060,190	2,122,735
7. Blue Granite Water Company	4,115,460	1,900,293
8. Owen Electric Steel Co of SC*	4,645,750	1,820,640
9. Amazon.com Services Inc.*	4,578,596	1,709,328
10. Stag Industrial Holdings LLC*	3,979,540	1,601,544

*Includes fee-in-lieu of taxes.
Source: Lexington County Treasurer.

Largest Taxpayers in Richland County

The ten largest taxpayers in Richland County, the 2024 assessed value of their taxable property, and the total amount of 2024-25 County (and other taxing entities) taxes paid by each taxpayer are shown below.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>2024 Assessed Value</u>	<u>County Taxes Paid⁽¹⁾</u>
1.	Dominion Energy of South Carolina	\$95,660,830	\$46,216,926
2.	Sylvamo Corporation	18,921,040	8,163,296
3.	South Carolina Telecommunications	8,998,280	4,654,826
4.	Cellco Partnership*	8,515,330	4,133,983
5.	Spectrum Southeast, LLC	7,322,310	3,514,480
6.	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of SC	7,222,110	3,021,698
7.	Trane US Inc.*	5,865,740	3,315,730
8.	China Jushi USA Corporation*	11,173,220	2,546,334
9.	Mark Anthony Brewing Inc	16,452,980	2,356,890
10.	Mid Carolina Electric Cooperative	4,635,590	2,204,368

⁽¹⁾ Includes other taxing entities.

*Includes fee-in-lieu of taxes.

Source: Richland County Treasurer.

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IV.

DEBT STRUCTURE

Outstanding Debt

The District may issue bonded indebtedness in an amount not exceeding 8% of the assessed value of all taxable property within its jurisdiction. The outstanding general obligation bonded indebtedness of the District, all of which is chargeable against the District's debt limit, consists of the following issues of Bonds:

(i) the presently outstanding \$18,488,000 of an original issue of \$31,285,000 General Obligation Advanced Refunding Bond, Series 2020 (Taxable Series), of Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina; and

(ii) the presently outstanding \$34,975,000 of an original issue of \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024, of Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina.

Debt Limit

The District's debt limit, based on the most recently completed assessment, is as follows:

2024 Assessed Value	\$3,788,849,998
Plus Merchant's Inventory	<u>30,523,668</u>
Total	\$3,819,373,666
	<u>x</u> 8%
Constitutional Debt Limit	\$305,549,893
Presently Outstanding Debt Subject to Limit	<u>53,463,000</u>
General Obligation Debt Available Without Referendum	\$252,086,893

Lease Obligation

The District also has outstanding a real estate financing lease entered into to acquire property for its facilities, the principal of and interest on which are repaid from revenues of the District and funds of the Society, rather than from ad valorem taxes. This lease is detailed in Note 6 to the basic financial statements of the District for the year ended June 30, 2025, appearing at Exhibit A to this Official Statement.

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Composite Debt Service

The following table shows the annual debt service requirements (principal and interest) on the District’s outstanding general obligation bonds and the Bonds:

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Series 2020 Bonds</u>	<u>Series 2024 Bonds</u>	<u>Series 2026 Bonds</u>	<u>Total⁽¹⁾</u>
2026	\$2,674,884	\$2,871,975		\$5,546,859
2027	2,703,278	2,871,725		5,575,003
2028	2,723,501	2,868,475		5,591,976
2029	2,750,545	2,867,100		5,617,645
2030	2,833,829	2,867,350		5,701,179
2031	2,857,353	2,868,975		5,726,328
2032	2,888,548	2,871,725		5,760,273
2033	<u>2,911,397</u>	2,870,475		5,781,872
2034		2,870,100		2,870,100
2035		2,870,350		2,870,350
2036		2,870,975		2,870,975
2037		2,871,725		2,871,725
2038		2,867,475		2,867,475
2039		2,867,975		2,867,975
2040		2,867,850		2,867,850
2041		2,871,725		2,871,725
2042		2,867,700		2,867,700
2043		2,871,700		2,871,700
2044		<u>2,871,300</u>		<u>2,871,300</u>
2045				
2046				
TOTALS⁽¹⁾	\$22,343,334	\$54,526,675		\$76,870,009

⁽¹⁾Totals may not add due to rounding.

Anticipated Capital Needs

The District received authorization to issue \$80,000,000 in general obligation debt by the County Councils of Richland County and Lexington County in 2023. On August 14, 2024, the District issued \$40,000,000 of general obligation debt pursuant to such authorization. Upon the issuance of the Bonds, such authorization will be exhausted, and the District will have no authority to issue further general obligation indebtedness without approvals by the County Councils. The District presently has no plans to secure authorization for additional general obligation indebtedness.

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Overlapping Debt

The following table provides the general obligation indebtedness outstanding as of June 30, 2025 and the Tax Year 2024 assessed value for each of the political units coterminous with or located within the District. Obligations subject to annual appropriation or secured solely from revenues other than property taxes are not included.

<u>Political Subdivision:</u>	2024 <u>Assessed Value</u>	General Obligation <u>Indebtedness⁽¹⁾</u>
<u>Counties:</u>		
Lexington County	\$1,645,058,423	\$6,185,000
Richland County ⁽²⁾	2,143,791,575	201,495,000
<u>Municipalities:</u>		
Cayce	99,256,800	-0-
Columbia ⁽³⁾	710,684,650	\$18,315,000
<u>Special Purpose Districts:</u>		
East Richland County Public Service District	266,020,608	\$6,115,419
Irmo-Chapin Recreation District	400,490,325	10,525,000
Lexington County Recreation District	1,286,110,920	15,200,000
Richland County Recreation District	1,286,841,996	20,132,000
Richland-Lexington Airport District ⁽⁴⁾	3,788,849,998	545,000
<u>School Districts:</u>		
School District No. 1 of Lexington County	789,787,460	\$539,665,000
School District No. 2 of Lexington County	388,281,130	187,125,000
School District No. 3 of Lexington County ⁽⁵⁾	62,038,052	60,375,000
School District No. 4 of Lexington County	52,502,810	38,380,000
School District No. 5 of Richland and Lexington Counties ⁽⁶⁾	664,022,547	182,228,700
School District No. 1 of Richland County	1,012,652,513	205,575,000
School District No. 2 of Richland County	693,644,951	543,770,000

⁽¹⁾ Outstanding debt figures from audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2025, for the applicable political subdivision or County in which located, unless indicated otherwise.

⁽²⁾ Includes \$64,670,000 intended to be paid from various non-property tax sources, including, but not limited to, special sales taxes and sewer system revenues.

⁽³⁾ Includes 2024 assessed value of Richland County in the amount of \$682,987,690 and Lexington County in the amount of \$27,696,960.

⁽⁴⁾ Total includes 2024 assessed value of Richland County in the amount of \$2,143,791,575 and the 2024 assessed value of Lexington County in the amount of \$1,645,058,423. Richland-Lexington Airport District is a political subdivision and has taxing powers of its own. Since 1977, the Richland-Lexington Airport District has relied on its own operating revenues and no taxes have been levied on its behalf to repay its outstanding general obligation indebtedness.

⁽⁵⁾ Includes 2024 assessed value of Saluda County in the amount of \$6,291,532 and Lexington County in the amount of \$55,746,520.

⁽⁶⁾ Includes 2024 assessed value of Richland County in the amount of \$263,532,222 and Lexington County in the amount of \$400,490,325.

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ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS AND DATA

Description of Lexington County and Richland County, South Carolina

Lexington County and Richland County are located in the Columbia Metropolitan Statistical Area (the “Columbia MSA”) which consists of Richland, Lexington, Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw and Saluda Counties. The Columbia MSA is one of 384 metropolitan statistical areas in the U.S., and its 2024 population of 870,193 ranked 70th in the nation.

Governmental entities are among the largest employers in the Counties which include State and local governments, Fort Jackson (United States Army), other federal government entities and local school districts. Several significant retail, industrial and manufacturing enterprises are located within the Columbia MSA, including the State headquarters of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of South Carolina, as well as major facilities of Dominion Energy, Amazon.com, Nephron Pharmaceuticals, Eagle Aviation, Inc., UPS, IBM, Trane, Westinghouse Electric Company and Aflac to name a few. A number of international companies have operations in the Columbia MSA, including Devro Inc. of the United Kingdom; Prysmian Cables & Systems of Italy; REI Automation and Thyssenkrupp Elevator both of Germany; Boral Building Products of Australia; Jushi of China; FN America of Belgium; Schneider Electric/Square D Co. of France; Suominen of Finland; and Spirax Sarco of the United Kingdom.

Commerce and Industry

Lexington County. The following are recent announcements for expansion or new investment of industrial activity within Lexington County:

Southern Glazer’s Wine & Spirits of South Carolina, a distributor of alcoholic beverages with operations in 47 states, the District of Columbia and Canada, opened in February 2026 its new, state-of-the-art distribution facility in West Columbia. The 412,500 square foot warehouse and office campus strengthens the company’s supply chain network and enhances service capabilities for customers and suppliers across the state and incorporates advanced material handling systems, increased storage capacity and scalable infrastructure to support further market needs. Situated on an 85-acre campus, the facility was designed to support the company’s long-term growth in South Carolina, with an expansion capacity of more than 300,000 additional square feet.

Hoffman & Hoffman, a leader in heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) solutions, announced in December 2025 plans to expand its operations in the County to allow the company to consolidate its existing County offices and grow its operations in South Carolina. The company’s \$8.5 million investment will create 60 new jobs.

In November 2025, WiJo Pouches North America, Inc., a manufacturer of modern oral pouches, announced the selection of the County to establish the company’s first North American manufacturing operation. The company will lease a 55,000 square foot facility to provide contract manufacturing for nicotine, caffeine and functional pouches. The \$13.5 million investment is expected to create 170 new jobs.

In April 2025, Techo-Bloc, a landscaping products supplier for residential and commercial outdoor spaces, announced the establishment of its first South Carolina operation in the County. Techo-Bloc will construct a new facility to manufacture hardscape products including pavers, slabs and retaining walls. The company has more than 850 employees and distributes products to over 900 stores across the United States and Canada. The \$45 million investment will create 46 new jobs with an expected opening in Fall 2026.

ALLTAPE Adhesive Manufacturing announced in March 2025 the establishment of its first South Carolina operation in the County. The new facility, located in the Saxe Gotha Industrial Park, will include 125,000 square feet of production and office space. The company specializes in developing and manufacturing sustainable and solvent-free adhesive products that are used in a variety of industry segments such as automotive, transportation, foam and plastics. The \$70 million investment is expected to create 130 new jobs.

Cardiff Products Corporation, a beverage manufacturer, announced in January 2025 its selection of the County to establish its first South Carolina operation. Founded in Canada in 2019, the company is a family-owned business that produces plant-based, shelf-stable beverages for the U.S. and Canadian markets. The new facility will be located in West Columbia. The \$99 million investment is expected to create 94 new jobs.

Cooperative Electric Energy Utility Supply, Inc. (CEEUS) has purchased a building in West Columbia to expand operations in the County. The new 247,000 square-foot facility accommodates its corporate headquarters, a tool repair shop and a test lab. CEEUS, along with its wholly owned subsidiary Line Equipment Sales, Inc., serves electric cooperatives, municipalities, investor-owned utilities and electrical contractors across the State by supplying electrical supplies and materials as well as personal protective equipment testing and a tool repair service. The company's \$52 million investment is expected to create 61 new jobs.

An international, family-owned décor printing company, Schattdecor, completed expansion in 2023 of its operations in Lexington County to include the addition of a new production line and mixing plant to accommodate more capacity due to increased demand. Headquartered in Germany, the company provides customers with printed surfaces for use in flooring, furniture, countertops, doors and interior design products. The company's \$21 million investment is expected to create 23 new jobs.

Richland County. The following are recent announcements for expansion or new investment of industrial activity within Richland County:

In March 2026, AMAORK, LLC, a perimeter security solutions provider, announced plans to expand its operations in Richland County by constructing a new 125,000 square-foot headquarters facility. The company's \$69 million investment is expected to create 296 new jobs.

In December 2025, AVANTech, LLC announced expansion of its operations in Richland County by adding 45,000 square feet to its existing facility and by leasing a new 12,000 square foot facility to support enhanced fabrication, testing and assembly capabilities. AVANTech, LLC provides design, engineering and manufacturing of customer process systems for the nuclear, energy, environmental and industrial markets. The \$3.7million investment will create 65 new jobs.

Eastover Chips, Inc., a subsidiary of The Price Companies, announced in December 2025 that it will establish operations in Richland County by constructing a new wood chipping facility in Eastover, S.C. to serve the Sylvamo paper mill. The company's investment will create 27 new jobs.

Scout Motors, a subsidiary of Volkswagen AG, is constructing a plant for the assembly of electric vehicles on the site of its production facility in Blythewood, SC. Operations are expected to commence in 2027 and customer deliveries in 2028. The projected \$2 billion investment has the potential to create up to 4,000 jobs and produce more than 200,000 Scout vehicles annually at full capacity.

U.S. Brick, a closely held manufacturer and direct supplier of residential and commercial brick, announced in August 2024 expansion of its Richland County operations. Expansions includes a second kiln and manufacturing line. The company's \$5.5 million investment will create 33 new jobs.

Schneider Electric, has expanded its engineer-to-order facility in Hopkins, S.C. in Richland County which will create 150 new jobs. This facility manufactures NW breakers, low-voltage switchgear and switchboards.

In March 2024, McEntire Produce, a full-service fresh produce supplier, announced that it will upfit its existing facility in Richland County with automation advancements to improve production capacity. The company is a family-owned fresh produce processor, repacker and wholesaler. The \$26.2 million investment is expected to create 40 new jobs.

Xerxes, a subsidiary of Shawcor Ltd., established its first South Carolina operations in Richland County by leasing a new production facility to expand the company’s capability to manufacture underground fuel and water storage tanks. The facility is expected to create approximately 80 new jobs.

Major Industrial/Manufacturing Employers

The following table shows ten of the largest industrial and manufacturing employers within the Columbia MSA, their type of business and their approximate number of employees.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number of Employees</u>
Amazon.com Fulfillment Center	Distribution Center for Internet Retailers	2,684
Nephron Pharmaceuticals	Generic respiratory medications/Global HQ	2,014
TRANE	Commercial air conditioning coils	1,529
Michelin North America Inc.	Passenger tire manufacturing	1,470
United Parcel Service	Distribution	1,329
Westinghouse Electric	Manufacturing: Nuclear fuel assemblies	1,093
Hire Right	Employee background checks	700
Sylvamo	Cut-size copy and print paper	666
Harsco Track Technologies	Railway maintenance equipment	567
FN America	Gun manufacturing	546

Source: Central SC Alliance

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Major Non-Industrial Employers

The following table shows ten of the largest non-industrial employers (other than the governmental entities described under “Government Employers” below) located within the Columbia MSA, their type of business and their approximate number of employees.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number of Employees</u>
Prisma Health Midlands	Health Care and Hospital	15,000
BlueCross BlueShield of S.C.	Insurance	10,998
Lexington Medical Center	Health Care	6,557
Dominion Energy	Electric and Gas Utility	3,066
AT&T South Carolina	Telecommunication	2,100
MUSC Health	Hospital and Health Care	1,625
Dorn VA Medical Center	VA Hospital	1,457
Palmetto GBA	Medicare Insurance	1,300
Allied Universal Security	Security Services	1,200
AgFirst Farm Credit Bank	Banking	1,151

Source: Central SC Alliance

Government Employers

Governmental entities in the Columbia MSA include State government, local governments, federal governmental entities and local school districts. The table below lists ten of the largest governmental employers within the Columbia MSA and their approximate number of employees.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Approximate Number of Employees</u>
State of South Carolina	32,085
University of South Carolina	6,456
S.C. Department of Corrections	4,478
S.C. Department of Social Services	4,272
Richland County School District No. 1	4,265
S.C. Department of Mental Health	4,069
S.C. Department of Transportation	4,004
Lexington County School District No. 1	3,750
Richland County School District No. 2	3,654
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control	3,023

Source: Central SC Alliance

Retail Sales

Lexington County ranked 3rd and Richland County ranked 6th in retail sales in 2025 out of the 46 counties in the State. The following table shows retail sales of businesses located in Lexington County and Richland County:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Lexington County</u>	<u>Richland County</u>
2025	\$20,130,639,813	\$15,389,080,200
2024	19,334,788,479	14,970,570,552
2023	19,103,912,998	14,773,107,773
2022	19,150,957,998	14,247,829,992
2021	17,728,634,278	13,390,381,901

Source: South Carolina Department of Revenue, Administration Division.

Population

The population of Lexington County, Richland County and the Columbia MSA for the preceding five decades and the estimated 2025 population is set forth in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Lexington County</u>	<u>Richland County</u>	<u>Columbia MSA</u>
2025 ⁽¹⁾	317,588	434,956	879,9918
2020	295,033	415,645	830,082
2010	263,166	385,690	769,294
2000	216,873	321,981	649,567
1990	168,907	287,491	551,633
1980	141,159	270,522	499,796

⁽¹⁾ July 1 Population estimate.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, March 2026.

Per Capita Personal Income

The following table shows the per capita personal income in Lexington County, Richland County, the State and the United States, residence adjusted, for the years in which data is available:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Lexington County</u>	<u>Richland County</u>	<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>United States</u>
2024	\$64,070	\$60,580	\$60,776	\$73,204
2023	60,641	57,147	57,766	70,002
2022	57,381	53,941	54,561	66,298
2021	56,277	53,804	53,390	64,692
2020	52,036	49,099	48,760	59,151

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, February 2026. Revised statistics.

Unemployment

Unemployment rates for May 2026 were 3.3% for Lexington County and 4.1% for Richland County. The annual unemployment rates for Lexington County, Richland County, the State and the United States for the last five years are shown below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Lexington County</u>	<u>Richland County</u>	<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>United States</u>
2025 ⁽¹⁾	3.8%	4.6%	4.5%	4.3%
2024	3.6	4.3	4.1	4.0
2023	2.6	3.0	3.0	3.6
2022	2.7	3.3	3.2	3.6
2021	3.1	4.0	3.9	5.3

⁽¹⁾ Annual estimates for 2025 are 11-month averages that exclude October 2025 as data was not collected due to federal government shutdown.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor Force and Employment (Lexington County)

County Labor Force Estimate ⁽¹⁾

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Civilian Labor Force	144,803	147,973	152,551	156,731	159,091
Employment	140,289	143,949	148,676	151,212	152,989
Unemployment	4,541	4,024	3,875	5,519	6,102
Percent of Labor Force	3.1%	2.7%	2.5%	3.5%	3.8%

⁽¹⁾ Workers involved in labor disputes are included among the employed. Total employment also includes agricultural workers, proprietors, self-employed persons, workers in private households and unpaid family workers.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2026.

Labor Force and Employment (Richland County)

County Labor Force Estimate ⁽¹⁾

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Civilian Labor Force	196,951	199,513	204,129	210,235	231,538
Employment	189,002	193,042	197,954	201,269	203,770
Unemployment	7,949	6,471	6,175	8,966	9,768
Percent of Labor Force	4.0%	3.2%	3.0%	4.3%	4.6%

Workers involved in labor disputes are included among the employed. Total employment also includes agricultural workers, proprietors, self-employed persons, workers in private households and unpaid family workers.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2026.

Facilities Serving the District and Columbia MSA

Transportation. -- The Columbia MSA is served by interstate highways I-26, I-20 (both of which traverse the County), I-77, I-95 accessible approximately 42 miles SE, and numerous major federal and state highways. Rail freight service is provided by CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Corporation. Rail passenger service is available through Amtrak. Nationwide motor freight service is available through approximately 50 motor freight lines regularly serving the area.

The Columbia Metropolitan Airport (the “Airport”) located in the unincorporated area of the County, and approximately six miles southwest of the City of Columbia’s central business district, is comprised of two runways, associated taxiways, an air traffic control tower, aviation fuel storage facilities, aircraft parking aprons, a passenger terminal building, air cargo buildings, general aviation hangars and terminals, support facilities for the U. S. Army Reserve, the aeronautical facilities of the State’s Department of Commerce, Division of Aeronautics, all of which are located on approximately 2,600 acres. Air operations are conducted on an 8,600-foot x 150-foot runway and an 8,000-foot x 150-foot runway. A multi-level parking structure and surface parking lots together provide 3,505 public parking spaces. A 108-acre parcel of the Airport property has been designated as Foreign Trade Zone 127 by U.S. Customs. The U.S. Customs Services offices, Port of Columbia, are located in this facility along with several Custom House Brokers. Two fixed base operators provide general aviation services, maintenance facilities, and other related facilities and equipment to support public airway travel.

In 2025, the Airport served 1,371,977 passengers exceeding the 1,362,374 passengers served in 2024 and setting a new passenger record. To further accommodate and enhance travelers’ experience, the Airport, in partnership with its concessionaries, has undertaken to provide updated food, beverage and retail spaces. Additionally, the Airport is undertaking a multi-year comprehensive plan project to analyze current facilities, amenities and overall capacity to determine how it can best meet the needs of travelers for the next 20 years.

The passenger airlines currently serving the Airport are American Airlines, Allegiant, Delta Air Lines, and United Airlines, which presently provide daily nonstop flights to major airports, including Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, and Washington DC, as well as to major Florida airports on a seasonal or limited basis. Federal Express and UPS also serve the Columbia MSA through the Airport.

The Airport is a major economic driver for the Midlands region. Over forty businesses operate on the Airport’s campus and create a combined total of over 1,871 full-time jobs with a direct payroll of nearly \$80 million. The Airport is the site of the southeastern region Air/Ground Hub and Sortation Station of United Parcel Service (UPS) which UPS uses for both its Next Day Air and Second Day Air package delivery services. UPS operates a package sortation building encompassing approximately 352,000 square feet on a 50-acre site near the Airport, which it purchased from the Airport. UPS is also leasing from the Airport a 35,000 square foot office building on a nine-acre site in CAE Park which houses the 200-person staff that reconciles and administers UPS’ system-wide COD delivery services. This UPS hub sorts approximately 41,000 packages per hour, averages ten UPS flights daily and has 14 aircraft parking positions.

Military. -- Fort Jackson, located within the city limits of Columbia, was established in 1917 and designated as a permanent post of the United States Army in 1940. Fort Jackson, which covers 82 square miles within the City of Columbia, serves as the U.S. Army’s main center for Basic Combat Training, training in excess of 48,000 basic training and 12,000 advanced training soldiers every year. There are more than 3,500 active duty soldiers and their 12,000 family members who are assigned to the installation. Fort Jackson employs almost 3,500 civilians and provides services for more than 46,000 retirees and their family members. An additional 10,000 students annually attend courses at the Soldier Support Institute, Armed Forces Chaplaincy Center, National Center for Credibility Assessment and Drill Sergeant School. Several of the facilities at the Fort include a Basic Combat Training star base, dual dining facility, Family Life and Resiliency Center and the 81st Regional Reserve Command. Fort Jackson is the largest and most active Initial Entry Training Center in the U.S. Army, training 50% of all soldiers and 60% of the women entering the army each year.

Medical Facilities. -- The Columbia MSA is home to Prisma Health, the largest health care organization in the State, and one of the State’s largest employers. Prisma Health offers care through approximately 29,910 team members, its eighteen acute hospitals and six specialty hospitals (consisting of two children’s hospitals, two psychiatric hospitals, one rehabilitation hospital and one heart hospital), 2,827 licensed beds, 433 practice sites, 2 200 employed physicians and approximately 5,424 total doctors and independent clinicians across its clinically integrated inVio Health Network. Prisma Health serves more than 1.5 million patients annually in its 21-county market area that covers nearly 50% of South Carolina. In addition, Prisma Health is an academic health center, training 717 physicians throughout its 54 residency and fellowship programs affiliated with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and actively supporting medical research and innovation.

Lexington Medical Center (LMC) is a 607-bed medical complex with six community medical and urgent care centers; an occupational health center; the largest skilled nursing facility in the Carolinas; an Alzheimer’s Care Center; and cardiovascular and oncology care affiliated with Duke Health. With more than 80 physician practices and a staff of over 9,000 health care professionals, LMC is the largest employer in Lexington County. LMC completed the largest hospital expansion in the State’s history by creating a new 10-story, 545,000 square-foot patient tower that has more than 200 inpatient beds and six floors to accommodate medical, critical care and surgical patients. Other features of the tower include an educational space for staff and community members, enhanced dining options, expanded Labor/Delivery and Mother/Baby units, a Level 2, 20-bed Special Care nursery, eight additional operating rooms, an expanded surgical recovery area and a 951-space new parking garage. LMC Cancer Center is an accredited Cancer Center of Excellence and has a clinical research and education affiliation with MUSC Hollings Cancer Center in Charleston, SC, which provides LMC patients access to MUSC’s National Cancer Institute-designated clinical trials and comprehensive cancer service.

In August 2024, LMC and the University of South Carolina opened a new 52,000 square-foot state-of-the-art nursing simulation center and teaching campus, which provides advanced clinical training for the University’s growing nursing student population. On average, the University awards 900 nursing degrees annually systemwide. Within five years after opening, the new facility will help train and graduate a projected 400 nurses per year in the Midlands. LMC built the new nursing facility and provides clinical instructors while the University funds equipment for the simulation center as well as equipment and furnishings for classroom spaces.

Higher Education -- Below are the main institutions of higher education in the MSA, the largest being the main campus of the University of South Carolina. The table below lists these institutions and their Fall 2024 enrollment, the latest enrollment figures available.

<u>College/University</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
University of South Carolina (Columbia Campus)	38,503
Midlands Technical College	9,226
Columbia International University	2,914
Benedict College	1,692
Columbia College	1,567
Allen University	610
South University	505

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

Midlands Technical College (“MTC”) is a comprehensive, multi-campus, two-year public college serving the primary region of Richland, Lexington and Fairfield counties. MTC employs approximately 540 permanent faculty and staff and offers approximately 100 associate degrees, diploma and certificate programs of study in: Advanced Manufacturing and Skilled Trades; Business; Education and Public Service, including Criminal Justice; English and Humanities; Health Care, including Nursing, EMT and Dental; Interdisciplinary Studies; Science, Information Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM); Social and Behavioral Sciences; and a Paralegal Program. MTC is comprised of seven campuses – Airport, Batesburg-Leesville, Beltline, Fairfield, Harbison, Lexington North Lake Center and the 100-acre Northeast Campus which contains MTC’s Enterprise Campus and Center of Excellence for Technology. MTC also has a teaching location at Fort Jackson that serves enlisted personnel and civilian, Personal Enrichment courses and a Corporate and Continuing Education Program which provides continuing education opportunities. MTC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is part of the South Carolina Technical College System.

The River Alliance -- The River Alliance is a non-profit public sector/private sector partnership, incorporated in 1995, representing five local governments of the County of Lexington, County of Richland, City of Cayce, City of Columbia, City of West Columbia, along with numerous partners including, among others, the Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden, Central Midlands Council of Governments, Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce, Lexington County Recreation Commission, Dominion Energy, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the University of South Carolina. The main goals of the River Alliance include improving recreational opportunities both on and off the rivers; preserving and conserving the natural environment and the health of the watershed; promoting smart development of the downtown riverfront areas; enhancing and creating economic development opportunities focused on the rivers; and increasing awareness of the area’s heritage and culture.

Recreation -- The Columbia MSA offers many opportunities for recreation and leisure activities. The Columbia Museum of Art maintains collections of European and American fine and decorative art that span centuries. The South Carolina State Museum, the largest museum in the State and located in America’s first electric-powered textile mill, is a comprehensive, hands-on museum with extensive exhibits of art, science and technology, and natural history. The Town Theatre is the oldest, continuously operating community theatre in the U.S. The theatre provides live community theatre performances throughout the year with an emphasis on musicals, comedies and youth productions. The 92,000 square-foot EdVenture Children’s Museum is a hands-on learning center that features galleries and exhibits, an innovative mix of high-tech and high-touch opportunities, a 200-seat theater and a 12,000 square-foot riverfront terrace overlooking the Congaree River. The University of South Carolina and other area universities and colleges offer a wide range of sports activities for both spectators and participants.

Lake Murray, a 50,000-acre man-made lake with more than 650 miles of shoreline, provides opportunities for fishing, camping, boating, sailing and skiing as well as residential sites for single-family and multi-family development. Dreher Island State Park consists of three islands, 348 acres and provides access to twelve miles of shoreline on Lake Murray. Open year round, the Park has 112 camping sites, sheltered picnic areas, hiking and mountain biking trails, boat ramps, rental slips and vacation villas. Dreher Island is a popular location and launching spot for major, national fishing tournaments.

Congaree National Park (“CNP”), located 18 miles southeast of Columbia, is the only national park in South Carolina. CNP encompasses both riverine swamp and high ground and preserves the largest old-growth bottomland hardwood forest in the United States. 20,000 of CNP’s 26,692 acres are designated as federal wilderness areas. The latest data available shows that there were approximately 250,000 visitors to CNP in calendar year 2023.

VI.

CERTAIN LEGAL MATTERS

Litigation

There is no litigation presently pending or, to the knowledge of the President of the District, threatened challenging the validity of any general obligation indebtedness, including the Bonds, issued or proposed to be issued by the District. Further, there is no litigation pending, or, to the knowledge of the President of the District, threatened in which a result adverse to the District would have a material adverse impact on the District, its financial status, or its operations.

Legal Opinion

The form of the opinion of Bond Counsel, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Columbia, South Carolina, prepared in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, is attached to this Official Statement as Appendix B. A certificate to the effect that there is no litigation threatened or pending to restrain the issuance and sale of the Bonds will be delivered at closing.

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. has assisted the District by compiling certain information supplied by the District and others and included in this Official Statement, but has not undertaken to verify the accuracy of such information. The opinion of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. will be limited solely to the legality and enforceability of the Bonds, and no opinion will be given with respect to this Official Statement.

The legal opinion to be delivered concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds express the professional judgment of the attorneys rendering the opinion as to the legal issues explicitly addressed therein. By rendering a legal opinion, the opinion giver does not become an insurer or guarantor of that expression of professional judgment, of the transaction opined upon, or of the future performance of parties to such transaction. Nor does the rendering of an opinion guarantee the outcome of any legal dispute that may arise out of the transaction.

United States Bankruptcy Code

The undertakings of the District should be considered with reference to Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. Section 901, *et. seq.*, as amended, and other laws affecting creditors' rights and municipalities generally. Chapter 9 permits a municipality, political subdivision, public agency, or other instrumentality of a State that is insolvent or unable to meet its debts as such debts mature to file a petition in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the purpose of effecting a plan to adjust its debts; directs such a petitioner to file with the court a list of its creditors; provides that the filing of the petition under that Chapter operates as a stay of the commencement or continuation of any judicial or other proceeding against the petitioner; directs a petitioner to file a plan for the adjustment of its debts; permits the petitioner in its plan to modify the rights to payment of its creditors; and provides that the plan must be accepted in writing by or on behalf of creditors of each impaired class of claims holding at least two-thirds in amount and more than one-half in number of the creditors which have accepted or rejected the plan. The plan may be confirmed notwithstanding the negative vote of one or more classes of claims if the court finds that the plan is in the best interest of creditors, is feasible, and is fair and equitable with respect to the dissenting classes of creditors. A petitioner has the right to reinstate indebtedness under its plan according to the original maturity schedule of such indebtedness or alter the payment terms, maturity schedule and other provisions governing the indebtedness notwithstanding any provision in the documents under which the indebtedness arose relating to the insolvency or financial condition of the debtor before the confirmation of the plan, the commencement of a case under the Bankruptcy Code, or the appointment of or taking possession by a trustee in a case under the Bankruptcy Code or by a receiver or other custodian prior to the commencement of a case under the Bankruptcy Code.

Modification of District Boundaries

Pursuant to Sections 6-11-410 to 6-11-650 of the S.C. Code, the boundaries of a special purpose district (such as the District) may be modified by action of the governing body of the county (a county council) in which the special purpose district is located. Prior to such action by a county council, a public hearing must be held and notice of such hearing must be given once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. Such action may be taken by a county council on its own motion or upon the petition of the governing body of the special purpose district affected. Subsequent to such action being taken by a county council to diminish or enlarge the boundaries of a special purpose district, notice of such action must be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for two successive weeks. Any person affected by the action of the county council may, by action de novo instituted in the court of common pleas for such county within 20 days following the last publication of this notice, challenge the action of the county council. If a challenge is not instituted within this 20-day period, it is thereafter barred. In the case of the District, the procedures outlined above would have to be undertaken by the County Councils of both Richland County and Lexington County to effectuate a change in the District's boundaries.

Under the holding in the case of *Kleckley v. Pulliam*, 265 S.C. 175, 217 S.E.2d 217 (1975), it is likely that a change in the boundaries of the District could also be effectuated by legislation enacted by the South Carolina General Assembly. Since 1974, courts in the State have held that the General Assembly lost the authority to enact laws relating to special purpose districts upon the adoption of South Carolina Constitution Art. VIII, §7 in 1974, but in *Kleckley v. Pulliam*, the Supreme Court of South Carolina refused to strike down a law regarding the Columbia Metropolitan Airport, a special purpose district, which, like the District, consists of the entirety of Richland and Lexington Counties and has a purpose and impact of regional significance.

In the case of *Berry v. Weeks*, 279 S.C. 543, 309 S.E.2d 744 (1983), the Supreme Court of South Carolina held that any action taken by a county council pursuant to Sections 6-11-410 to 6-11-650 of the S.C. Code must follow precisely the procedure provided for therein. The court in *Berry v. Weeks* further found that a county may not abolish a special purpose district by diminishing the boundaries of a special purpose district to the point that it may no longer operate.

The ability of the District to generate tax revenues to pay debt service on the Bonds could be negatively affected by annexation or alteration of its boundaries. State law provides that such actions must not impair the contract between a special purpose district and its bondholders to the extent that a default in payment on bonds results. It is not entirely clear, however, whether an actual default would be required in order for relief to become available, although that conclusion is suggested by the opinion of the South Carolina Supreme Court in *St. Andrews Public Service District v. Moseley*, 323 S.C. 389; 475 S.E.2d 750 (1996).

Federal Income Tax Generally

On the date of issuance of the Bonds, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Columbia, South Carolina ("Bond Counsel"), will render an opinion that, assuming continuing compliance by the District with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (the "Regulations") and further subject to certain considerations described in "Collateral Federal Tax Considerations" below, under existing statutes, regulations and judicial decisions, interest on the Bonds is excludable from the gross income of the registered owners thereof for federal income tax purposes. Interest on the Bonds will not be treated as an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of

the Code) for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations. The Code contains other provisions that could result in tax consequences, upon which no opinion will be rendered by Bond Counsel, as a result of (i) ownership of the Bonds or (ii) the inclusion in certain computations of interest that is excluded from gross income.

The opinion of Bond Counsel will be limited to matters relating to the authorization and validity of the Bonds and the tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds as described herein. Bond Counsel makes no statement regarding the accuracy and completeness of this Official Statement.

The opinion of Bond Counsel is based on current legal authority, covers certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities, and represents Bond Counsel's judgment as to the proper treatment of the Bonds for federal income tax purposes. Bond Counsel's opinions are based upon existing law, which is subject to change. Such opinions are further based on factual representations made to Bond Counsel as of the date thereof. Bond Counsel assumes no duty to update or supplement its opinions to reflect any facts or circumstances that may thereafter come to Bond Counsel's attention or to reflect any changes in law that may thereafter occur or become effective. Moreover, Bond Counsel's opinions are not a guarantee of a particular result, and are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") or the courts; rather, such opinions represent Bond Counsel's professional judgment based on its review of existing law, and in reliance on the representations and covenants that it deems relevant to such opinions.

The opinion of Bond Counsel described above is subject to the condition that the Issuer complies with all requirements of the Code and the Regulations, including, without limitation, certain restrictions on the use, expenditure and investment of the gross proceeds of the Bonds and the obligation to rebate certain earnings on investments of such gross proceeds to the United States Government, that must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds in order that interest thereon be, or continue to be, excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Issuer has covenanted to comply with each such requirement. Failure to comply with certain of such requirements may cause the inclusion of interest on the Bonds in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The opinion of Bond Counsel delivered on the date of issuance of the Bonds is conditioned on compliance by the Issuer with such requirements and Bond Counsel has not been retained to monitor compliance with the requirements subsequent to the issuance of such Bonds.

State Tax Exemption

Bond Counsel is of the further opinion that the Bonds and the interest thereon are exempt from all taxation by the State of South Carolina, its counties, municipalities and school districts except estate, transfer or certain franchise taxes. Interest paid on the Bonds is currently subject to the tax imposed on banks by Section 12-11-20, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, which is enforced by the South Carolina Department of Revenue as a franchise tax. The opinion of Bond Counsel is limited to the laws of the State of South Carolina and federal tax laws. No opinion is rendered by Bond Counsel concerning the taxation of the Bonds or the interest thereon under the laws of any other jurisdiction.

Collateral Federal Tax Considerations

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware that ownership of tax-exempt obligations may result in collateral federal income tax consequences to certain taxpayers, including, without limitation, financial institutions, property and casualty insurance companies, life insurance companies, certain foreign corporations, certain S corporations, individual recipients of Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits and taxpayers who may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion concerning such collateral income tax consequences and prospective purchasers of Bonds should consult their tax advisors as to the applicability thereof.

Future legislation, if enacted into law, or clarification of the Code may cause interest on the Bonds to be subject, directly or indirectly, to federal income taxation, or otherwise prevent owners from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. The introduction or enactment of any such future legislation or clarification of the Code may also affect the market price for, or marketability of, the Bonds. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisers regarding any pending or proposed federal tax legislation, as to which Bond Counsel expresses no opinion.

The IRS has established an ongoing program to audit tax-exempt obligations to determine whether interest on such obligations is includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes. Bond Counsel cannot predict whether the IRS will commence an audit of the Bonds. Bond Counsel's engagement with respect to the Bonds ends with the issuance of the Bonds, and, unless separately engaged, Bond Counsel is not obligated to defend the Issuer or the Owners regarding the tax-exempt status of the Bonds in the event of an audit examination by the IRS. Under current procedures, parties other than the Issuer and their appointed counsel, including the Owners, would have little, if any, right to participate in the audit examination process. Moreover, because achieving judicial review in connection with an audit examination of tax-exempt bonds is difficult, obtaining an independent review of IRS positions with which the Issuer legitimately disagrees may not be practicable. Any action of the IRS, including, but not limited to, selection of the Bonds for audit, or the course or result of such audit, or an audit of bonds presenting similar tax issues may affect the market price for, or the marketability of, the Bonds, and may cause the Issuer or the Owners to incur significant expense, regardless of the ultimate outcome. Under certain circumstances, the Issuer may be obligated to disclose the commencement of an audit under the Continuing Disclosure Agreement. See "CERTAIN LEGAL MATTERS - Continuing Disclosure", herein.

[Original Issue Discount]

[The Bonds maturing in the years _____ through _____, inclusive, have been sold at initial public offering prices which are less than the amount payable at maturity (the "Discount Bonds"). The difference between the initial public offering prices to the public (excluding bond houses and brokers) at which price a substantial amount of each maturity of the Discount Bonds is sold and the amount payable at maturity constitutes original issue discount, which will be treated as interest on such Discount Bonds and to the extent properly allocable to particular owners who acquire such Discount Bonds at the initial offering thereof, will be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as other interest on the Bonds. As discount is accrued, the purchaser's basis in such Discount Bond is increased by a corresponding amount, resulting in a decrease in the gain (or an increase in the loss) to be recognized for federal income tax purposes upon a sale or disposition of such Discount Bond prior to its maturity.

The Code contains certain provisions relating to the accrual of original issue discount in the case of subsequent purchasers of obligations such as the Discount Bonds. Owners who do not purchase Discount Bonds in the initial offering at the initial offering price at which a substantial amount of such Discount Bonds were sold should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of the ownership of the Discount Bonds.

Owners who may acquire Bonds that are Discount Bonds should consult their tax advisors with respect to the determination for federal income tax purposes of the amount of original issue discount or interest properly accruable with respect to such Bonds, other tax consequences of owning Discount Bonds and the state and local tax consequences of owning Discount Bonds.]

[Original Issue Premium]

[The Bonds maturing in the years _____ through _____, inclusive, have been sold at initial public offering prices which are greater than the amount payable at maturity (the “Premium Bonds”). An amount equal to the excess of the purchase price of the Premium Bonds over their stated redemption prices at maturity constitutes premium on such Bonds. A purchaser of a Premium Bond must amortize any premium over such Bond’s term using constant yield principles, based on the purchaser’s yield to maturity. As premium is amortized, the purchaser’s basis in such Premium Bond is reduced by a corresponding amount, resulting in an increase in the gain (or decrease in the loss) to be recognized for federal income tax purposes upon a sale or disposition of such Premium Bond prior to its maturity. Even though the purchaser’s basis is reduced, no federal income tax deduction is allowed. Purchasers of any Bonds at a premium, whether at the time of initial issuance or subsequent thereto, should consult with their own tax advisors with respect to the determination and treatment of premium for federal income tax purposes and with respect to state and local tax consequences of owning such Bonds.]

Continuing Disclosure

In accordance with Act No. 442 of the Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina for the year 1994, the District has covenanted in the Bond Resolution to file with a central repository for availability in the secondary bond market when requested (1) an annual independent audit, within thirty days of the District’s receipt of the audit; and (2) event specific information, within thirty days of an event adversely affecting more than five percent of the District’s revenue or tax base. The only remedy for failure by the District to comply with this covenant shall be an action for specific performance. Moreover, the Commission has specifically reserved the right to amend the covenant to reflect any change in Act 442 without the consent of any bondholder.

In accordance with the Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) (the “Rule”), the District has covenanted and will covenant in a Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement dated the Delivery Date (the “Disclosure Agreement”) between the District and Digital Assurance Certification, LLC (“DAC”) for the benefit of the beneficial owners of the Bonds, to provide certain financial information and operating data relating to the District (the “Annual Report”) for posting on the Electronic Municipal Market Access website (“EMMA”) by not later than February 1 of each year, and to provide notices of the occurrence of certain enumerated events. The specific nature of the information to be contained in the Annual Report or the notices of enumerated events is set forth in the Disclosure Agreement attached as Appendix C hereto. These covenants have been made in order to assist the Underwriters in complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5).

Filings of the District’s Annual Report for a fiscal year are due on the next following February 1. The District timely filed operating data required by the Disclosure Agreement and unaudited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2024, along with notice thereof, in January 2025. Audited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2024 were filed on March 17, 2025. The District filed operating data required by the Disclosure Agreement and unaudited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2025, along with notice thereof, on February 2, 2026. Audited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2025 were filed on March 2, 2026.

Municipal Advisor

First Tryon Advisors, LLC, Charlotte, North Carolina has served as Municipal Advisor to the District with respect to the sale of the Bonds. The Municipal Advisor’s fee for services rendered with respect to the sale of the Bonds is contingent on the issuance and delivery of the Bonds. The Municipal Advisor is not obligated to undertake, and has not undertaken, either to make an independent verification of or to assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or fairness of the information contained in this Official Statement and the appendices thereto.

Closing Certifications

The District will furnish, without cost to the successful bidder, certifications by appropriate officials that the Official Statement relating to the Bonds as of its date and as of the date of delivery of the Bonds, does not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact which should be included therein for the purpose for which the Official Statement is intended to be used or which is necessary to make the statements contained therein, in the light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading.

Conclusion

Further inquiries should be addressed to Lochlan Wooten, Chief Strategy Officer, Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, 500 Wildlife Parkway, Columbia, South Carolina 29210, telephone (803) 602-0837. Requests for additional copies of this Official Statement may be addressed to Theodore B. DuBose, Bond Counsel, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., Post Office Box 11889, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, telephone (803) 540-7830.

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VII.

RATING

Moody's Ratings ("Moody's") has assigned its municipal bond rating of "Aa2" to the Bonds. Such rating reflects only the views of Moody's and an explanation of the significance of such rating may be obtained from Moody's. The District has furnished to Moody's certain information and materials respecting the District and the Bonds. Generally, Moody's bases its ratings on such information and materials and on investigations, studies and assumptions furnished to and obtained and made by it. There is no assurance that such rating will remain unchanged for any period of time or that it may not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by Moody's, if in its judgment circumstances so warrant. Any such downward revision or withdrawal of the rating may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds.

VIII.

UNDERWRITING

The Bonds have been purchased at a competitive sale from the District for resale by _____ (the "Purchaser"). The Purchaser has agreed, subject to certain conditions, to purchase the Bonds at _____% of par. The initial public offering prices of the Bonds are as shown on the inside front cover page of this Official Statement and may be changed from time to time by the Purchaser. The Purchaser may also allow a concession from the public offering prices to certain dealers. The initial public offering prices average approximately \$_____ per \$1,000 face amount of the Bonds in excess of the purchase price paid to the District by the Purchaser. The Purchaser has received no fee from the District for underwriting the Bonds.

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IX.

CERTIFICATION

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of laws of the State herein do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the official compilations thereof. All references to the Bonds and the determinations of the Commissioners of the District relating thereto are qualified in their entirety by reference to the definitive forms of the Bonds and the authorizing resolution and to such determinations. All such summaries, explanations and references are further qualified in their entirety by reference to the exercise of sovereign police powers of the State and the constitutional powers of the United States of America, and to valid bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other laws for the relief of debtors.

Certain of the information set forth in this Official Statement and in the appendices hereto has been obtained from sources other than the District that are believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness by the District. The information and expressions of opinion in this Official Statement are subject to change, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made under such document shall create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the District.

This Official Statement has been duly executed and delivered by the District as of the date shown on the cover page.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS
DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: _____
President/CEO, Richland-Lexington Riverbanks
Parks District, South Carolina

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

**REPORT ON AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025**





INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Commissioners
Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Park District
Columbia, South Carolina

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component unit, and each major fund of the Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Park District (the "District") as of and for the year ended June 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, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended 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 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

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 generally accepted auditing standards and *Government 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 and *Government 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 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.

Emphasis of Matter

As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial statements of the District are intended to present the financial position and changes in financial position of only that portion of governmental activities and each major fund of the State of South Carolina that is attributable to the transactions of the District. They do not purport to and do not present fairly the financial position of the State of South Carolina as of June 30, 2025, and changes in its financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, schedule of total other postemployment benefits liability, schedule of funding progress, other postemployment benefits, schedule of proportionate share of the net pension liability, schedule of pension contributions, and budgetary comparison schedule for general fund on pages 5-13 and 42-46 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

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the supplemental schedule of capital assets and the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden overview but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic 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 basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic 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 February 27, 2026, 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, and 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.

Scott and Company LLC

Columbia, South Carolina
February 27, 2026

**RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

As management of the Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Park District (the District), we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the District for the year ended June 30, 2025. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the District's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

Financial Highlights

The following information, though not intended to be all-inclusive, provides a snapshot of the most significant changes in the District's financial position over the year ended June 30, 2025:

- The District's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at June 30, 2025, by \$59,161,450 (total net position). Of this amount (\$27,900,375) (unrestricted net position) is a deficit due to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, which required the District to recognize as a long term liability, its proportionate share of the net pension liability of the South Carolina Retirement System and the Police Officer Retirement System and Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 75, from which the objective is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for postemployment benefits other than pensions. Restricted funds of \$26,583,984 are mostly for repayment of long-term debt and capital projects.
- The District's total net position increased by \$10,955,650 for the year ended June 30, 2025. This increase is explained on the following pages due to revenues exceeding expenses.
- As of the close of the fiscal year, the District's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$52,347,369, an increase of \$32,577,183 from the prior year. Of the total, \$2,734,147 or 5.22% is available for spending at the government's discretion and \$4,000,000 or 7.64% is Board designated for operational expenses in case of shortfalls in revenues (both shown as unassigned fund balance in the general fund). Non-spendable fund balances total \$499,987 or 0.96% in the general fund. Restricted funds include \$5,426,492 or 10.37% in the debt service fund, \$21,134,987 or 40.37% in the bond fund and \$22,505 or 0.04% as library acquisitions in the general fund. Committed balances total \$18,529,251 or 35.40% for capital projects in the general fund.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The discussion and analysis section is intended to serve as an explanation of the District's basic financial statements, which are comprised of three groups: 1) Government-wide Financial Statements, 2) Fund Financial Statements, and 3) Notes to the Financial Statements. This report also contains supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

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 like a private-sector business. There are two government-wide statements, the statement of net position and the statement of activities, which are described in the following sections.

The statement of net position presents information on all the District's assets, liabilities and deferred inflows and outflows of resources and liabilities, with the difference 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 on how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. Changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying events giving rise to the change occur, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g. earned but unused vacation leave and accrued interest on bonded debt).

Typically, the government-wide financial statements distinguish between functions that are principally supported by taxes and those that are principally supported by user fees and charges. A large portion of the District's revenues are from user fees. User fees, generally classified as earned revenue in zoos and aquariums, are comprised of admission fees, rides, attractions and events, facility rentals, concession and retail commissions and other associated revenues. Although self-generated revenue makes up a substantial portion of the District's total revenue, the operating support received from Richland and Lexington Counties are necessary to support the operations of the zoo and garden.

The District is required to include the financial reports of the Riverbanks Society (the Society), which is considered a component unit of the District. The Society is a private, non-profit corporation whose exclusive purpose is to provide both operating and capital support to the District. The Society's financial reports appear in separate columns on the government-wide statements.

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 governmental entities, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District maintains only governmental fund types.

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 government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, comparing the two presentations provides a more complete picture of the District's financial condition. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities. These reconciliations are part of the basic financial statements.

The District maintains four individual governmental funds: 1) the General Fund, 2) the Debt Service Fund, 3) the Capital Projects Fund, and 4) the Bond Fund. Financial information for each of these funds is presented in the governmental fund financial statements. The separate funds are used as noted on the following page:

- The general fund is used to account for transactions that represent most of the day-to-day operating activities of the District. This fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.
- In addition to operating activities, the general fund can include certain relatively small-scale capital expenditures. Some debt service activity is also included in the general fund, where resources of the general fund are budgeted for the debt service.
- The debt service fund reports on transactions associated with the long-term debt of the District. This includes long-term loans where assets of the District have been pledged as collateral, as well as general obligation bond debt of the District.
- The capital projects fund is used to account for major capital improvement projects that are funded from non-operating sources such as general obligation bond issues, as well as from operations, unrestricted fund balance and the Society. The District also uses this fund to account for expenditures considered capital under the District's capitalization policy. The purpose of doing so is to eliminate distortions in year-to-year comparisons of operating activities in the general fund.
- The Bond Fund accounts for bond costs and related bond proceeds. The District issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024 in the amount of \$40,000,000 on August 28, 2024.

The District adopts an annual balanced budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to reflect budget variances and is included as required supplementary information. The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to obtaining a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, changes in net position may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At the end of June 30, 2025 assets and deferred outflows of resources exceed liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$59,239,995. The following provides a comparison of the government-wide net position of the District.

	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024	Change	% Change
Current assets	\$ 56,178,698	\$ 22,192,352	\$ 33,986,346	153.1%
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	90,379,221	73,179,149	17,200,072	23.5%
Total assets	146,557,919	95,371,501	51,186,418	53.7%
Deferred outflows of resources	5,363,638	5,953,143	(589,505)	-9.9%
Current liabilities	8,729,217	5,203,651	3,525,566	67.8%
Long-term liabilities	78,275,979	42,141,554	36,134,425	85.7%
Total liabilities	87,005,196	47,345,205	39,659,991	83.8%
Deferred inflows of resources	5,754,911	5,773,639	(18,728)	-0.3%
Net position				
Net investment in capital assets	60,477,841	53,687,103	6,790,738	12.6%
Restricted	26,583,984	4,125,592	22,458,392	544.4%
Unrestricted	(27,900,375)	(9,606,895)	(18,293,480)	190.4%
Total net position	\$ 59,161,450	\$ 48,205,800	\$ 10,955,650	22.7%

The increase in current assets of \$33,986,346 is mostly due to the net change in cash and cash equivalents and Cash held by fiscal agent for debt service. Cash and cash equivalents increased by \$7,330,221 mostly due to a cash transfer of \$8,387,554 that came over from Riverbanks Society, the component unit to the District, designated for District's capital projects. Cash held by fiscal agent for debt service increased by \$27,094,218 due to the issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024.

The capital assets, net of depreciation increased due to additions exceeding depreciation expense. The notes to the basic financial statements provide a detailed reconciliation of additions, disposals and transfers, accumulated depreciation and depreciation expense.

Total liabilities increased by \$39,659,991 mostly due to the issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024, increasing general obligations bonds payable, including unamortized premium, in the amount of \$39,945,958. Accounts payable and accrued payroll increased by \$1,622,155 mostly due to the accounts payable balance on bond projects in the amount of \$1,678,239. Accrued interest payable increased by \$552,038 also related to the issued bonds. An arbitrage rebate liability was recorded at June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$500,525 to account for the estimated amount by which earnings on the Series 2024 bonds will exceed interest expense. The District will potentially be required to pay the rebate amount to the IRS in 2029. Accrued compensated absences increased by \$232,832, primarily due to the additional accrual for sick leave required by the adoption of GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, in FY25. Net OPEB liability also increased by \$55,124. These increases were partially offset by decreases in the net pension liability of \$593,243, unearned revenue of \$212,991 and finance leases payable of \$180,406. Timing of payables due fluctuate year to year, as does the number of days of accrued payroll each year.

Deferred outflows of resources represent the difference between expected and actual retirement plan experience, the difference between projected and actual investment earnings and contributions to the retirement plan after the measurement date.

Deferred inflows of resources represent the difference between projected and actual investment earnings for the retirement plan and the change in the proportionate share of net pension and net other post-employment benefit liabilities for the District. This information is provided by South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority for the retirement plan and Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC for the post-employment benefit plan.

The District's net position of net investment in capital assets is composed of its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, building, improvements and equipment), less any outstanding debt used to acquire these assets. Although the District's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt are provided mostly from other sources.

The total increase in net position of \$10,955,650 represents a 22.7% increase in net position mostly as a result of revenues exceeding expenditures. This change will be discussed in detail in the following section.

The following provides a comparison of changes in government-wide activities of the District.

	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024	Change	% Change
Program Revenues				
Charges for services	\$ 15,018,292	\$ 15,408,916	\$ (390,624)	-2.5%
Operating grants and contributions	2,845,209	6,925,873	(4,080,664)	-58.9%
General Revenues				
Property taxes	7,173,649	6,678,957	494,692	7.4%
Accommodations and hospitality taxes	1,601,178	150,018	1,451,160	967.3%
Riverbanks Society contribution	4,188,415	4,188,415	-	0.0%
Other revenues	1,758,264	1,757,262	1,002	0.1%
Total revenues	32,585,007	35,109,441	(2,524,434)	-7.2%
Program Expenses				
Unallocated depreciation expense	3,835,335	3,672,454	162,881	4.4%
Administrative	3,632,648	3,620,294	12,354	0.3%
Animal care	5,970,187	5,956,641	13,546	0.2%
Botanical	1,348,809	1,264,910	83,899	6.6%
Education	1,214,628	1,103,161	111,467	10.1%
Facility management and utilities	5,109,418	4,883,693	225,725	4.6%
Guest services	5,526,871	4,467,900	1,058,971	23.7%
Marketing and public relations	903,793	841,685	62,108	7.4%
Interest and other fiscal charges	2,475,222	512,946	1,962,276	382.6%
Total expenses	30,016,911	26,323,684	3,693,227	14.0%
Transfers	8,387,554	-	8,387,554	100.0%
Increase in net position	10,955,650	8,785,757	2,169,893	24.7%
Net position - beginning	48,205,800	39,420,043	8,785,757	22.3%
Net position - ending	\$ 59,161,450	\$ 48,205,800	\$ 10,955,650	22.7%

The District's charges for services include admission fees and other user fees, along with commissions earned from the contracted vendor that operates the food, beverage and retail operations for the District.

Program revenues, along with Society contributions for operations and capital projects and other revenues (collectively earned revenues) are 54.7% of total revenues, for a total of \$17,863,501, a 20.0% decrease from the prior fiscal year.

The decrease is mostly due to a decrease in State funding. In FY24, the District received \$5,000,000 in non-recurring State funding, and in FY25, received \$1,750,000 in non-recurring State funding and \$750,000 in recurring State funding. Of the \$1,750,000 in non-recurring State funding, \$1,000,000 was for deferred maintenance and \$750,000 was for a partnership with the SC Department of Education offering free field trips to the Zoo for SC Public school children. The \$750,000 in recurring State funding was also for the partnership with the SC Department of Education aforementioned. The decrease was also driven by a 4.9% decrease in general admission fees due to a decrease in attendance. The total attendance for the year ended June 30, 2025 was 1,077,487, a decrease of 104,372 visits or 9% from the prior year. The decrease in attendance is consistent with trends seen across the country in zoos.

Tax revenues, which totaled \$7,173,649 or 22.0% of total revenues in 2025, include property, accommodations and hospitality taxes. Tax revenues increased by 7.4% from the prior fiscal year, due to an increase in taxes charged and collected by Richland and Lexington Counties for the District to use for payment of outstanding general obligation bonds. The total Richland County appropriation increased by \$313,600. The dedicated millage levy reduced from 1.4 mills to 0.7 mills in FY25, but the difference was made up from proceeds of local Hospitality Tax. Of the \$3,019,600 received from Richland County, \$1,517,888 was funded through the millage levy and \$1,501,712 was proceeds of local Hospitality Tax. Total program expenses increased by \$3,693,227 from the prior fiscal year, primarily due to the increases in interest expense, the arbitrage rebate, and accrued compensated absences described above. In addition, capital assets of \$946,118 were disposed of in FY25, partly due to a fire occurring in FY25. The disposals were primarily related to guest services, which caused the increase of \$1,058,971 increase in guest services expense above.

Financial Analysis of Governmental Funds

As noted earlier, the District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The fund financial statements provide information on short-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Undesignated fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the government's net resources that are available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

In many cases, the governmental funds analysis will be the same or similar to the government-wide financial analysis; however, amounts will be different due to the different focus of the two reporting methods. The reconciliation of governmental funds balance sheet with the government-wide statement of net position and the reconciliation of governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances with the government-wide statement of activities explains the differences between the reporting methods. Where explanations are generally the same, these governmental funds analysis has been abbreviated to avoid repetition.

As of June 30, 2025, the District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$52,347,369, an increase of \$32,577,183 from the prior year and is made up of the following:

- The general fund balance represents \$27,234,473, a \$5,582,221 increase from the prior year. The unassigned balances are \$4,182,730 or 15.4% for current operations, and \$4,000,000 board designated, or 14.7%. The board designated for operations serves as an operating cushion to provide working capital in case of a drop-in revenue or an unexpected expenditure.

It is set by the District's Board and was increased by \$1,000,000 in FY25. The remaining 69.9% of the general fund balance is non-spendable, restricted or committed and is set aside for a specific purpose.

- The debt service fund balance is \$5,426,492, 10.4% of the combined total and a \$1,323,405 increase from the prior year due to the issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024. All debt service fund balance is restricted for payments on the District's long-term debt and is held by Richland County.
- The capital projects fund balance is (\$1,448,583). The District will cover this deficit with available unassigned reserve in the general fund. These funds are classified as committed for capital projects as defined by the District.
- The bond fund's fund balance is \$21,134,987, 40.4% of the combined total and a \$25,671,557 increase from the prior year due to the issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The District is required to adopt a balanced budget for the general fund. The budget is maintained on a modified accrual basis. Throughout the year, management may make reclassifications within the original budget. Expenditures are recorded when they are incurred, and revenues are recognized when they are earned and available. At the end of the fiscal year any outstanding encumbrances are cancelled and budgeted in the following year. The budgetary comparison schedule for general fund reports the original and final approved budgets, actual results and the variances between the final budget and actual results.

Total actual revenues of the general fund were greater than budget by \$2,574,572. Earned revenues were \$646,118 over budget and unearned revenues (taxes, grants and contributions, and interest) were \$1,928,454 over budget. General admission fees were \$48,730 under budget and reflect decreased attendance. Non-federal grants and contributions were \$2,512,489, of which \$1,000,000 were budgeted for. Expenditures were under budget by \$472,740, made up of small variances across departments. A cash transfer of \$8,387,554 from Riverbanks Society, the component unit to the District, and a transfer to the capital projects fund were not included in the budget. The District ended the last fiscal year with a favorable variance of \$5,582,221. The District ended last fiscal year with an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$5,582,221.

Capital Assets

The District's investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation at June 30, 2025, amounted to \$90,379,221, an increase of \$17,200,072 from June 30, 2024. Current year additions exceeded depreciation expense and disposals. The largest additions included the Saluda Skyride gondola system, a Tram set including trailers, several HVAC system replacements, initial costs related to the Bridge to the Wild project, and renovations to the 400 Rivermont administration building.

Debt Administration

The District's long-term debt consists of general obligation bonds and other loans. The bond issues are backed by the full faith and credit of the taxpayers of the District, which comprises both Richland and Lexington Counties. Richland and Lexington County auditors and treasurers handle the tax billings and collections related to the bond debt. The Richland County Treasurer is the fiscal agent for the District's bond debt. At year-end there were two outstanding general obligation bonds, the 2020 issue and the 2024 issue.

The 2020 issue is a refinance of the 2013 issue for renovations and additions known as Destination Riverbanks, which included a new entryway, grizzly bear/otter exhibit, sea lion exhibit and children's garden in the Botanical Garden. The 2024 issue is mainly for phase two of the Bridge to the Wild expansion, which includes a primate forest and red panda exhibit along the banks of the Saluda River, a new lion exhibit, and an aerial tram system.

The loan for the Rivermont acquisition is a finance lease with a financial institution. The original loan was for purchasing 350 and 400 Rivermont Drive, which are adjacent to the District’s property. The 350 building was demolished, along with a portion of the 400 building to provide additional parking for guests. The additional parking is now connected to the Zoo by the pedestrian bridge and used on busy days for overflow parking. In a prior year, the original loan was refinanced into a lease with fixed monthly payments allowing repayment in full over ten years with a \$1 buy-out provision at the end.

The District adopted GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, during the year ended June 30, 2025. Adoption of the statement required the District to record a liability for accrued sick leave as part of accrued compensated absences. Compensated absences represent the liability for accrued annual leave that has been earned and accrued sick leave that has been earned and is expected to be used in future years. Employees earn time based on their years of employment and can accumulate up to forty-five days of annual leave in a calendar year to carry over to the next year. Any earned and unused annual leave can be paid upon termination of employment. The accrued balance at June 30th may represent more than the 45 days of vacation for some employees as the allowed carry over balance is determined at the end of each calendar year. Sick leave is earned time based on the employee’s years of employment. The employee can accumulate up to 90 days in a calendar year to carry over to the next calendar year. Any earned and unused sick leave is not paid at termination of employment. See Note 1 to the financial statements for further information.

The District’s debt including the arbitrage liability and compensated absences, exclusive of the other post-employment benefit obligation and net pension liability at June 30, 2025, was \$62,263,703. This is a net increase of \$38,236,909 from the prior fiscal year. The net increase is due to the issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024. The notes to the financial statements provide additional information on the District’s debt. The table below is a listing of debt, and other long-term liabilities at each fiscal year-end and reflects the change.

	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024	Change
General obligation bond issues	\$ 60,762,958	\$ 23,079,000	\$ 37,683,958
Finance lease - Rivermont	247,139	427,545	(180,406)
Arbitrage liability	500,525	-	500,525
Compensated absences	753,081	520,249	232,832
Subtotal	<u>62,263,703</u>	<u>24,026,794</u>	<u>38,236,909</u>
Net OPEB obligation	5,750,483	5,695,359	55,124
Net pension liability	<u>14,471,419</u>	<u>15,064,662</u>	<u>(593,243)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 82,485,605</u>	<u>\$ 44,786,815</u>	<u>\$ 37,698,790</u>

Economic Factors and Next Year’s Budget and Rates

As noted, the District’s earned revenues represent a large portion of the total revenue. The percentage is even higher when only considering the general fund revenue, the main operating fund for the District. Operating property taxes, accommodations and hospitality taxes comprise 15.6% of general fund revenues, State non-recurring funding for deferred maintenance made up 3.8%, State funding for their partnership with the SC Department of Education made up 5.7% with 74.9% representing earned revenues. Attendance at Riverbanks Zoo & Garden generates revenue from admission fees, rides and attractions, events, classes and programs, and concession and retail commissions.

These are the prime components of earned revenue and significant in the District’s economic wellbeing. The reader should review the other information included with this report that shows a ten-year history of attendance.

The Society revenues from memberships, donations and fund-raising activities provides substantial support to the operations and is also significant in the District's economic wellbeing. Annual memberships in the Society totaled 41,300 as of June 30, 2025. This is a 6.6% decrease from the June 30, 2024 membership total of 44,228. The Society offers 12 membership categories. Total membership revenue decreased by \$422,745 or 5.7% from the prior fiscal year.

Membership levels tend to increase and peak with the opening of new attractions and then decline during the period that follows when there are no new attractions. The same pattern also occurs with attendance levels; however, attendance is subject to more variables and tends to be more dynamic.

The District takes a historical, as well as forward thought process in preparing its annual budgets. Budgets are set after much discussion and reviewed by various levels of management. Revenues are defined separately from expenditures; however, the budget must be in balance and adjustments are made as needed. The Chief Executive Officer/President presents the proposed version to the Board for their approval prior to the start of the fiscal year. Key components of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 budget from the June 30, 2025 budget are noted below:

- Annual attendance is 1.2 million with a projected 44.25%/55.75% split for paid admission vs. Society member and other free visits determined by reviewing trends from the previous fiscal year actual attendance and anticipated trends for the upcoming fiscal year. The projected attendance was brought down by 50,000 from FY25, as attendance has been trending down across the industry.
- General admission revenue is 3.9% more than the prior year, considering a \$3 increase on paid admission tickets to go into effect in September of 2025 with the opening of the Saluda Skyride. Offsetting that increase is a decrease in admission revenues due to the new partnership with the SC Department of Education offering free field trips to the Zoo for SC Public school children.
- Rides and Attractions revenues increased by 15.3% as the price per guest increased by \$1 for the majority of the attractions offered.
- Events have increases in revenues as the seasonal Wild Lights winter event generated revenues well over budget in FY25. Additionally, the Boo at the Zoo Halloween event will run more nights in FY26.
- Society Operating support increased by \$600,000 in FY26 tied to an increase in membership dues that will go into effect to support costs associated with operating the Saluda Skyride.
- The District will not receive Non-recurring State funding for deferred maintenance in FY26, therefore that budget item was removed. The District did budget to received \$750,000 in recurring State funding for the partnership with the SC Department of Education.
- Budgeted Animal expenditures increased as the Zoo has added a veterinarian and is now offering paid internships.
- Both the maintenance and the guest services expenditures increased due to additional costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the Saluda Skyride.
- There was a 2% across the board wage increase for all staff, which proportionately increased all Departmental expenditures depending on staff and salary levels.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances. Questions concerning any information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to the VP of Finance, Riverbanks Zoo & Garden, 400 Rivermont Drive, Columbia, SC 29210.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

ASSETS	Governmental Activities	Component Unit - Riverbanks Society
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 23,436,643	\$ 7,507,197
Cash held by fiscal agent for debt service	31,108,717	-
Receivables	1,133,351	240,213
Unconditional promises to give - restricted	-	-
Prepaid expenses	452,812	98,322
Inventory	47,175	-
Total current assets	56,178,698	7,845,732
Noncurrent assets		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	90,379,221	-
Total noncurrent assets	90,379,221	-
Total assets	146,557,919	7,845,732
Deferred outflows of resources related to net pension & OPEB liabilities	5,363,638	-
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	151,921,557	7,845,732
 LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued payroll	3,079,237	79,049
Accrued compensated absences	321,203	-
Accrued interest payable	688,262	-
Unearned revenue	752,092	60,944
Finance leases payable	184,636	-
Current long term debt including unamortized premium	3,703,787	-
Total current liabilities	8,729,217	139,993
Noncurrent liabilities		
Accrued compensated absences	431,878	-
Finance leases payable	62,503	-
Net pension liability	14,471,419	-
Net OPEB liability	5,750,483	-
Arbitrage rebate liability	500,525	-
General obligation bonds payable including unamortized premium	57,059,171	-
Total noncurrent liabilities	78,275,979	-
Total liabilities	87,005,196	139,993
Deferred inflows of resources related to net pension & OPEB liabilities	5,754,911	-
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	92,760,107	139,993
 NET POSITION		
Net Investment in capital assets	60,477,841	-
Restricted	26,583,984	-
Restricted with donor restrictions	-	5,154,470
Unrestricted	(27,900,375)	2,551,269
Total net position	\$ 59,161,450	\$ 7,705,739

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Primary	Component Unit
				Governmental Activities	Riverbanks Society
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Unallocated depreciation expense	\$ 3,835,335	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,835,335)	\$ -
Administrative	3,632,648	-	-	(3,632,648)	-
Animal care	5,970,187	-	595,209	(5,374,978)	-
Botanical	1,348,809	-	-	(1,348,809)	-
Education	1,214,628	764,575	1,500,000	1,049,947	-
Facility management and utilities	5,109,418	-	750,000	(4,359,418)	-
Guest services	5,526,871	11,581,139	-	6,054,268	-
Marketing and public relations	903,793	128,458	-	(775,335)	-
Concession and retail commissions	-	2,544,120	-	2,544,120	-
Interest and other fiscal charges	2,475,222	-	-	(2,475,222)	-
Total governmental activities	<u>30,016,911</u>	<u>15,018,292</u>	<u>2,845,209</u>	<u>(12,153,410)</u>	<u>-</u>
COMPONENT UNIT					
Riverbanks Society	7,972,468	6,968,658	828,795	-	(175,015)
Total component unit	<u>7,972,468</u>	<u>6,968,658</u>	<u>828,795</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(175,015)</u>
GENERAL REVENUES					
Property taxes				7,173,649	-
Accommodations and hospitality taxes				1,601,178	-
Riverbanks Society contribution				4,188,415	-
Investment earnings				1,132,003	381,600
Expired gift cards				477,272	-
Miscellaneous revenues				148,989	35
Total general revenues				<u>14,721,506</u>	<u>381,635</u>
Transfers				8,387,554	(8,387,554)
Total general revenues and transfers				<u>23,109,060</u>	<u>(8,005,919)</u>
Change in net position				10,955,650	(8,180,934)
Net position, beginning of year				48,205,800	15,886,673
Net position, end of year				<u>\$ 59,161,450</u>	<u>\$ 7,705,739</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2025

	Major Funds				Total Governmental Funds
	General Fund	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Bond	
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 23,436,643	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,436,643
Cash held by fiscal agent for debt service	-	5,426,492	-	25,682,225	31,108,717
Receivables	1,133,351	-	-	-	1,133,351
Prepaid expenses	452,812	-	-	-	452,812
Inventory	47,175	-	-	-	47,175
Due from other funds	4,146,468	-	-	-	4,146,468
Total assets	29,216,449	5,426,492	-	25,682,225	60,325,166
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued salaries	1,229,884	-	171,114	1,678,239	3,079,237
Unearned revenue	752,092	-	-	-	752,092
Due to other funds	-	-	1,277,469	2,868,999	4,146,468
Total liabilities	1,981,976	-	1,448,583	4,547,238	7,977,797
FUND BALANCES					
Nonspendable					
Inventory	47,175	-	-	-	47,175
Prepaid expenses	452,812	-	-	-	452,812
Restricted					
Debt service	-	5,426,492	-	-	5,426,492
Capital projects	-	-	-	21,134,987	21,134,987
Botanical library acquisitions	22,505	-	-	-	22,505
Committed					
Capital projects	18,529,251	-	-	-	18,529,251
Unassigned					
Board designated for operations	4,000,000	-	-	-	4,000,000
Undesignated	4,182,730	-	(1,448,583)	-	2,734,147
Total fund balances	27,234,473	5,426,492	(1,448,583)	21,134,987	52,347,369
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 29,216,449	\$ 5,426,492	\$ -	\$ 25,682,225	\$ 60,325,166

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET WITH THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

Total fund balances - governmental funds	\$	52,347,369
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position is different because of the following:</p>		
<p>Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported as assets in governmental funds</p>		
Capital assets	\$ 139,380,399	
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(49,001,178)</u>	90,379,221
<p>The net pension liability and related deferred inflows and outflows of resources are not due and payable in the current fiscal year and are not included in the fund financial statements, but are included in the governmental activities of the Statement of Net Position</p>		
Net pension liability	(14,471,419)	
Deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability	3,381,155	
Deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability	<u>(690,367)</u>	(11,780,631)
<p>The net other post employment benefits liability and related deferred inflows and outflows of resources are not due and payable in the current fiscal year and are not included in the fund financial statements, but are included in the governmental activities of the Statement of Net Position</p>		
Net other post employment benefits liability	(5,750,483)	
Deferred outflows of resources related to other postemployment benefits	1,982,483	
Deferred inflows of resources related to other postemployment benefits	<u>(5,064,544)</u>	(8,832,544)
<p>Long-term liabilities, including bonds and notes payable/compensated absences, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of</p>		
Bonds payable, including unamortized premium	(60,762,958)	
Accrued interest payable	(688,262)	
Arbitrage rebate liability	(500,525)	
Compensated absences	(753,081)	
Finance leases payable	<u>(247,139)</u>	(62,951,965)
Total net position - governmental activities	\$	<u>59,161,450</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Major Funds				Total Governmental Funds
	General Fund	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Bond	
REVENUES					
Property taxes	\$ 2,517,888	\$ 4,655,761	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,173,649
Accommodations and hospitality taxes	1,601,178	-	-	-	1,601,178
General admission fees	8,021,270	-	-	-	8,021,270
Concession and retail commissions	2,544,120	-	-	-	2,544,120
Riverbanks Society support	3,188,415	-	1,000,000	-	4,188,415
Rides and attractions	1,905,601	-	-	-	1,905,601
Classes and program fees	764,575	-	-	-	764,575
Events	1,236,504	-	-	-	1,236,504
Facility rental and group admission fees	417,764	-	-	-	417,764
Sponsorships	128,458	-	-	-	128,458
Non-federal grants and contributions	2,512,489	-	332,720	-	2,845,209
Interest revenue	966,499	165,504	-	-	1,132,003
Expired gift cards	477,272	-	-	-	477,272
Miscellaneous revenues	148,989	-	-	-	148,989
Total revenues	26,431,022	4,821,265	1,332,720	-	32,585,007
EXPENDITURES					
Administrative	3,599,649	-	-	8,398	3,608,047
Animal care	5,956,868	-	-	-	5,956,868
Botanical, zoo and garden	1,345,525	-	-	-	1,345,525
Education	615,841	-	-	-	615,841
Facility management	3,318,271	-	-	-	3,318,271
Guest services	3,436,305	-	-	-	3,436,305
Marketing and public relations	901,604	-	-	-	901,604
Utilities	1,774,986	-	-	-	1,774,986
Rides and attractions	459,295	-	-	-	459,295
Classes and programs	596,963	-	-	-	596,963
Events	518,873	-	-	-	518,873
Facility rental and group admissions	195,000	-	-	-	195,000
Debt service					
Principal	180,406	6,112,000	-	-	6,292,406
Interest	8,009	1,381,606	-	-	1,389,615
Capital outlay					
Land, building, equipment, & improvements	476,115	-	7,185,365	14,320,045	21,981,525
Total expenditures	23,383,710	7,493,606	7,185,365	14,328,443	52,391,124
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	3,047,312	(2,672,341)	(5,852,645)	(14,328,443)	(19,806,117)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Bond proceeds	-	-	-	40,000,000	40,000,000
Bond premium	-	3,995,746	-	-	3,995,746
Transfers in	8,387,554	-	5,852,645	-	14,240,199
Transfers out	(5,852,645)	-	-	-	(5,852,645)
Total other financing sources (uses)	2,534,909	3,995,746	5,852,645	40,000,000	52,383,300
Net change in fund balance	5,582,221	1,323,405	-	25,671,557	32,577,183
Fund balance, beginning of year	21,652,252	4,103,087	(1,448,583)	(4,536,570)	19,770,186
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 27,234,473	\$ 5,426,492	\$ (1,448,583)	\$ 21,134,987	\$ 52,347,369

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARK DISTRICT
RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES WITH THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Total net change in fund balances - governmental funds	\$	32,577,183
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because of the following:</p>		
<p>Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; however, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets are allocated over their estimated lives and reported as depreciation expense</p>		
Capital outlay	\$ 21,981,525	
Depreciation expense	<u>(3,835,335)</u>	18,146,190
<p>In the statement of activities, the gain or loss on disposal of capital assets is reported. Conversely, governmental funds do not report gain or loss on the disposal of capital assets.</p>		
		(946,118)
<p>Proceeds from premiums on bond issuance are reported as other financing sources in the governmental fund and are reported as an increase in liabilities in the statement of net position</p>		
		(3,995,746)
<p>Amortization of premium on bonds is reported as a reduction of expenses in the statement of activities</p>		
		199,788
<p>Pension change in the statement of activities</p>		
Prior year retirement plan contributions are considered a current year expense	(1,577,098)	
Current year expense considered a deferred outflow of resources	1,745,127	
Increase in pension expense for change in deferred inflows and outflows of resources	593,243	
Amortization of deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability	(466,574)	
Amortization of deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability	<u>(219,074)</u>	75,624
<p>OPEB change in the statement of activities</p>		
Current year OPEB expense	(236,257)	
Current year benefit payments and implicit subsidy credit	<u>127,975</u>	(108,282)
<p>The repayment of the principal of finance leases payable and long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. However, this has no effect on net position.</p>		
Payment of long-term debt and finance leases	6,292,406	
Proceeds from long-term debt	<u>(40,000,000)</u>	(33,707,594)
<p>Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds</p>		
Increase in accrual of interest payable	(552,038)	
Increase in arbitrage rebate liability	(500,525)	
Increase in compensated absence accrual	<u>(232,832)</u>	(1,285,395)
Total change in net position - governmental activities	\$	<u><u>10,955,650</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Park District (the District) was created under the provisions of Act No. 323 of the 1969 Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina (sections 51-61 to 51-64), as amended by Act No. 365 of 1969. The District was created to provide recreational facilities, specifically a zoological park, for the citizens of South Carolina. One-fifth of total revenue for the District is received from Richland and Lexington Counties. The District is governed by the Riverbanks Park Commission (the Commission). The Commission is comprised of seven members. Two members are appointed by Richland County Council, two by Lexington County Council, two by the Mayor and Council of the City of Columbia, and one by all three groups on a rotating basis. The Commissioners may serve for six years. All but the seventh position can serve a second term if reappointed. All Commissioners serve until their successors are appointed. The Commission hires a President/CEO. The President/CEO administers the daily operations of the District through appointed Chief Officers, Vice Presidents and department heads.

The basic financial statements of the District were prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental entities. The District's reporting entity applies all relevant GASB pronouncements. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting principles and practices are discussed in subsequent sections of this note. The remainder of the notes is organized to provide explanations, including required disclosures, of the District's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Financial Reporting Entity

The District's financial reporting entity is comprised of the following:

Primary government:	Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Park District
Discretely presented component unit:	Riverbanks Society

In determining the financial reporting entity, the District implemented GASB Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34*. The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting for a governmental financial reporting entity. Additional guidance to determine whether certain organizations are component units, based on the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government, is found in GASB Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units*.

The Riverbanks Society (the Society) is a legally separate, tax exempt component unit set up to provide financial support primarily through donor contributions for the District and its activities. The Society is a nonprofit organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The fifteen to twenty-one-member board of the Society is self-perpetuating. Most resources and income thereon that the Society holds and invests are restricted to the activities of the District. Because these restricted resources held by the Society can only be used by, or for the benefit of, the District, the Society is considered a component unit of the District and is discretely presented in the District's financial statements. Separately issued audited financial statements, which are based on Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) standards, for the Society may be obtained from the VP of Finance, Riverbanks Zoo and Garden at 400 Rivermont Drive, Columbia, SC 29210.

Basis of Presentation

Government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all the non-fiduciary activities of the District. Generally, the effect of inter-fund activity has been eliminated from these statements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities which rely, to a significant extent, on fees and charges for support.

The District reports under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*, as amended by GASB Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*. Therefore, government-wide statements now reflect net assets as net position. GASB Statement No. 34, as amended by GASB Statement No. 63 established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local governmental entities, which includes a statement of net position, with a classification of net position broken down into three components – net investment in capital assets; restricted net position; and unrestricted net position. These classifications are defined as follows:

Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted net position consists of constraints placed on net position used through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position consists of net position that does not meet the definition of restricted or net investment in capital assets.

Based on the District’s policies regarding net position classifications as noted above, the District considers amounts that are restricted to be spent when the corresponding expenditure that has been designated by the Commission or donors has been made. After these fund balances have been depleted, unrestricted fund position will be considered to have been spent.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable within a specific function. Program revenues include charges to customers who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function. In addition, program revenues include grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Fund financial statements are also provided in the report for all the governmental funds of the District. The District reports the following as major governmental funds:

General Fund is the main operating fund of the District and is used to account for all financial resources except for those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Debt Service Fund accounts for the accumulation of financial resources for the payment of interest and principal on long-term debt of the District.

Capital Projects Fund accounts for financial resources used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities and equipment.

Bond Fund accounts for bond costs and related bond proceeds. The District issued General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024 in the amount of \$40,000,000 on August 28, 2024.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

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. Investment earnings and intergovernmental revenues received from Richland and Lexington Counties are accrued if they are measurable at fiscal year-end. Most other intergovernmental revenues are not susceptible to accrual because they generally are not measurable until received in cash. Expenditure-driven grants and contributions are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other requirements have been satisfied. Net position is used as a practical measure of economic resources and the operating statement includes all transactions and events that increased or decreased net position. Depreciation is charged as expense against current operations and accumulated depreciation is reported on the statement of net position. When the District incurs an expense that may be paid from unrestricted or restricted funds, the District first uses restricted funds as allowed by legal or contractual requirements.

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. Revenues are available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the fiscal year-end. Property taxes are considered measurable and recognized when transferred to the District's account by the County Treasurers. Revenue from federal, state, and other grants designated for payment of specific District expenditures is recognized when the related expenditures are incurred; accordingly, when such funds are received, they are recorded as deferred revenues until earned. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgements, are recorded only when payment is due.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that effect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, 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. The most significant estimates affecting these financial statements are the useful lives of capital assets, estimates for net pension liability and the net other postemployment benefit liability. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Budgetary Control

The Commission adopts a balanced annual budget for the general fund prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The President/CEO is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments. Any significant change in the overall budget must be approved by the Commission and noted in the board minutes.

The Budgetary Comparison Schedule for general fund presents a comparison of budgetary data to actual results of operations for which annual operating budgets are legally adopted. This fund utilizes the same basis of accounting for both budgetary purposes and actual results.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include all short-term investments having an initial maturity of three months or less.

Cash Held by Fiscal Agent

The District reports funds collected for the District by Richland and Lexington Counties for both operating and debt service purposes. The operating support received from both Counties is an annual fixed-dollar appropriation. Richland County funds the support by levying a millage that is expected to produce the required amount of funding. If the millage produces more than is appropriated, the excess funds are escrowed.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

It has been Richland County's practice to pay out any additional funds collected shortly after the close of the fiscal year. For the budget year ending June 30, 2025, Lexington County does not classify the District as a millage agency for operating funds and will fund the District from their general fund. Richland County will continue to classify the District as a millage agency. Both Richland and Lexington Counties levy a millage to produce funds to pay the general obligation debt of the District. The Richland County Treasurer is the fiscal agent for the District's bonds and is responsible for the management of funds from both Counties collections and the payment of the bonds. Lexington County remits monthly their collections of debt service millage to Richland County. The amount held by the fiscal agent for debt service varies with the bond amortization amounts, timing of payments and the amounts collected by each County. The total amount on hand at June 30, 2025 was \$5,426,492.

Inventories

Inventories consist of animal feed and general supplies used in the day-to-day operation of the zoo and garden. The quantity used is expensed and the remaining unused at the fiscal year-end are recorded as assets at the lower of cost or market.

Prepaid items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods. These payments are shown as prepaid items to reflect consumption in the future reporting period.

Receivables

The District records receivables when earned and due. No allowance for bad debt is required, as amounts are written-off when deemed uncollectible and is not a material difference from GAAP.

Due To/From Other Funds

Amounts owed between funds are classified as short-term.

Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue consists of escrowed funds held by fiscal agent collected from the operating millage not yet paid to the District and deposits held for future visits to the zoo and garden.

Compensated Absences

The District adopted GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, during the year ended June 30, 2025. This statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. Leave is attributable to services already rendered when an employee has performed the services required to earn the leave. Leave that accumulates is carried forward from the reporting period in which it is earned to a future reporting period during which it may be used for time off or otherwise paid or settled.

Regular full-time employees earn annual and sick leave based on their years of service and is accrued each pay cycle. Any earned and unused time at the end of the calendar year can be carried forward not to exceed 45 days (360 hours) for annual leave and 90 days (720 hours) for sick leave. Upon an employee's termination, retirement or death all earned and unused annual leave is paid; however, sick leave is not. The District also grants its regular full-time employees 11 paid holidays each year. All annual, sick or holiday leave is funded by the general fund.

The compensated absences liability includes accrued vacation for which the employees are entitled to paid time off or payment at termination and accrued sick leave which is more likely than not to be used by the employee prior to termination.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District calculates the compensated absences liability based on recorded balances of unused leave for which the employer expects to compensate employees through paid time off or cash payments at termination. That liability is determined by using year-end current salary costs and the cost of the salary-related benefit payments. The net change in the liability is recorded as an expense in the current year.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are valued at original acquisition cost less accumulated depreciation from the purchase or in-service date. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial individual cost equal to or more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life of three or more years. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not significantly add to the value of an asset or materially extend an asset’s useful life are not capitalized. All reported capital assets, except for land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings, exhibits and improvements	10-30
Furniture and fixtures, equipment and vehicles	5-10
Technology equipment and capitalized software	3-5

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s). Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s). The District’s statement of net position includes a deferred outflow and inflow of resources related to the net pension liability and to the net other postemployment benefits as detailed in Notes 7 and 8.

Fund Balance

The District follows the provisions of GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*. The following categories of fund balance are being used in the fund level financial statement of the governmental fund:

Non-spendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The not in spendable form criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash, for example, inventories and prepaid items. The balance as of June 30, 2025 was \$499,987.

Restricted fund balance classification includes amounts that are restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either by the Commission or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. As of June 30, 2025, the District had \$22,505 restricted by a donor, \$5,426,492 restricted for payment of long-term debt, and \$21,134,987 restricted for bond funded projects.

Committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes for constraints imposed by formal action of the Commission. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type action it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balances also incorporate contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements. The District recognizes committed fund balances that have been approved for specific purposes by the Commission. As of June 30, 2025, the District had \$18,529,251 in committed fund balance for completion of capital projects.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Assigned fund balance classification includes amounts that are constrained by the District's intent to be used for specific purposes but are not restricted or committed. They are not required to be set by or removed by the Commission. As of June 30, 2025, the District reported no assigned fund balance.

Unassigned fund balance classification includes amounts that have not been assigned to other funds and has not been restricted, committed or assigned for specific purposes within the general fund. The first \$4,000,000 of fund balance is approved by the Commission as a stabilization amount to cover shortfalls in revenue due to reduction in attendance and other factors impacting the District's ability to generate revenue and is available for use in operations. As of June 30, 2025, the general fund reported an unassigned fund balance of \$4,182,730.

Based on the District's policies regarding fund balance classifications as noted above, the District considers amounts that are restricted, committed, or assigned to be spent when the corresponding expenditure that has been designated by the Commission or donors has been made. After these fund balances have been depleted, unassigned fund balance will be considered to have been spent.

The Capital Projects Fund had a deficit fund balance of \$1,448,583 at June 30, 2025, as capital outlay expenditures exceeded grants and contributions revenues in 2025. The District will cover this deficit with available unassigned reserve in the general fund.

The Bond Fund had a balance of \$21,134,987 at June 30, 2025. The District sold General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Bonds") in the amount of \$40,000,000 on August 28, 2024. This balance represents the bond funds available to reimburse the District for future bond expenditures.

Component Unit Basis of Presentation

The Society financial statement presentation follows the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2016-14, *Not-For-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-For-Profit Entities*. The Society is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets; net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions and are as follows:

Net assets without donor restrictions consist of contributions that are available for use in carrying out the purpose of the Society. The Society uses these net assets to support the District and its activities as requested by the District and approved by the Society.

Net assets with donor restrictions represent those amounts that are donor restricted with respect to purpose or time. When a donor restriction expires or is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets as net assets released from restrictions.

Recently Implemented GASB Standard

The District implemented GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences* for the year ended June 30, 2025. This statement provides guidance for recognizing and measuring liabilities for compensated absences. The requirements of GASB Statement No. 101 were effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2023. The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on the financial statements as of June 30, 2024, and therefore no restatement of prior period balances was necessary.

NOTE 2 – PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes used to finance the District's operations and debt service are levied and collected by Richland and Lexington Counties under the direction of their respective Councils.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Property taxes for operations are recognized when considered measurable. They are measurable when transferred to the District’s account by the County Treasurers. Property taxes for debt service are reconciled and reported annually in the District’s audited financial statements.

NOTE 3 – RECEIVABLES

Receivables are stated at fair value with no allowance for doubtful accounts. All the receivables are considered by management to be collectible. Receivables consisted of the following at June 30, 2025:

Intergovernmental	\$	755,762
Commissions and sponsorships		371,351
Other		6,238
Total	\$	1,133,351

NOTE 4 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The District’s cash and cash equivalents consist of demand deposits with banks, investments with the South Carolina State Treasurer’s Office through the South Carolina Local Government Investment Pool (the LGIP) and cash on hand. The LGIP is an investment mechanism established by Article III, Section 7 of the Constitution of South Carolina. Pursuant to Section 6-6-10 of the State of South Carolina Code of Laws. The South Carolina State Treasurer’s Office established the LGIP to allow local governments to pool resources to maximize returns on investments, which shall be legal investments for the subdivisions. The LGIP balance is stated at fair market value.

The District is authorized by South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 6-5-10, to invest in the following types of investments:

1. Obligations of the United States and agencies thereof, the principal and interest of which is fully guaranteed by the United States;
2. General obligations of the State of South Carolina or any of its political units; revenue obligations of the State of South Carolina or any of its political units, if at time of investment, the obligor has a long-term, unenhanced, unsecured debt rating in one of the top two rating categories, without regard to a refinement or gradation or rating category by numerical modifier or otherwise, issued by at least two nationally recognized credit rating organizations;
3. Savings and Loan Associations to the extent that the same are insured by an agency of the federal government;
4. Certificates of deposit where the certificates are collaterally secured by securities of the type described in (1) and (2) above held by a third party as escrow or custodian of a market value not less than the amount of the certificates of deposit so secured in the name of the District, including interest; provided, however, such collateral shall not be required to the extent the same are insured by an agency of the federal government;
5. Repurchase agreements when collateralized by required securities.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of failure of a financial institution, the District will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. As of June 30, 2025, none of the District’s deposits were exposed to custodial credit risk.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of June 30, 2025, the carrying amount of the District’s cash and cash equivalents were the following:

Cash on hand	\$	30,026
On deposit with financial institutions		485,755
LGIP		22,920,862
Total		\$ 23,436,643

The District places no limit on the amount the District may invest in any one issuer. More than 97.7 percent of the District’s cash and cash equivalents are with the LGIP and are reported in the District’s general fund. More information pertaining to carrying amounts, fair value, credit and other risks as required by GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposits and Investments – Risk Disclosures*, of the State Treasurer’s investments are disclosed in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) of the State of South Carolina and can be found on the South Carolina Comptroller General’s website at www.cg.sc.gov.

NOTE 5 – CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2025 was as follows:

Governmental Activities	Beginning Balance	Additions	Disposals & Transfers	Ending Balance
Capital assets - not depreciated				
Land	\$ 2,936,949	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,936,949
Zoological collection	1	-	-	1
Construction in progress	6,884,675	17,119,667	(1,163,454)	22,840,888
Total capital assets - not depreciated	9,821,625	17,119,667	(1,163,454)	25,777,838
Capital assets - depreciated				
Buildings and structures	73,392,736	1,274,354	1,163,454	75,830,544
Improvements	26,607,462	1,995,622	(371,488)	28,231,596
Equipment	8,523,169	1,591,882	(574,630)	9,540,421
Total capital assets - depreciated	108,523,367	4,861,858	217,336	113,602,561
Less accumulated depreciation	45,165,843	3,835,335	-	49,001,178
Total capital assets - depreciated, net	63,357,524	1,026,523	217,336	64,601,383
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 73,179,149	\$ 18,146,190	\$ (946,118)	\$ 90,379,221

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Unallocated	\$	3,835,335
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NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

General Obligation Bonds

The District issues general obligation bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the District. The sale of bonds, investment of bonds proceeds, investment of the debt service fund, and the repayment of the bonds are handled by the Richland County Treasurer as required by the bond ordinances.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

General obligation bonds payable at June 30, 2025 were as follows:

\$31,285,000 General Obligation Bonds issued in 2020 due with a first payment in 2021, then with annual series installments through 2033, with an interest rate of 1.76%	\$ 20,817,000
\$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds issued in 2024 due with a first payment in 2025, then with annual series installments through 2044, with an average coupon interest rate of 4.65%	<u>36,150,000</u>
	56,967,000
Add, unamortized premium	<u>3,795,958</u>
	<u>\$ 60,762,958</u>

The annual aggregate maturities for the general obligation bonds for the subsequent years are as follows:

Year ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 3,504,000	\$ 2,063,354	\$ 5,567,354
2027	3,634,000	1,962,114	5,596,114
2028	3,757,000	1,856,641	5,613,641
2029	3,893,000	1,746,935	5,639,935
2030	4,092,000	1,632,604	5,724,604
2031-2044	38,087,000	10,824,550	48,911,550
Total	\$ 56,967,000	\$ 20,086,198	\$ 77,053,198

Finance Leases Payable

From time to time, the District enters into leasing arrangements to finance improvements to its facilities. The leased assets for the existing leases serve as collateral for the borrowed funds. At June 30, 2025 the District was obligated under the following finance leases:

Lease payable to a financial institution in monthly installments of \$15,701 including interest at a fixed rate equal to 2.32% for the term of the lease through 2026 with a buy-out provision at maturity of \$1 for 400 Rivermont administration building and parking lot.	<u>\$ 247,139</u>
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Subsequent years minimum future lease payments for finance leases are as follows:

Year ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 184,636	\$ 3,779	\$ 188,415
2027	62,503	302	62,805
Total	\$ 247,139	\$ 4,081	\$ 251,220

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following is a schedule of the leased property under finance leases as of June 30, 2025:

	Acquisition	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value
Land	\$ 1,190,957	\$ -	\$ 1,190,957
Buildings and structures	1,031,752	622,922	408,830
Total	<u>\$ 2,222,709</u>	<u>\$ 622,922</u>	<u>\$ 1,599,787</u>

Long-Term Liabilities

The following changes occurred in the District's long-term liabilities during the fiscal year:

	June 30, 2024	Additions	Payments/ Transfers	June 30, 2025	Amount Due 2026
General Obligation Bond of 2020	\$ 23,079,000	\$ -	\$ 2,262,000	\$ 20,817,000	\$ 2,329,000
General Obligation Bond of 2024	-	40,000,000	3,850,000	36,150,000	1,175,000
Unamortized Bond premium	-	3,995,746	199,788	3,795,958	199,787
Finance Lease Payable- Rivermont	427,545	-	180,406	247,139	184,636
Compensated Absences	520,249	232,832	-	753,081	321,203
	<u>\$ 24,026,794</u>	<u>\$ 44,228,578</u>	<u>\$ 6,492,194</u>	<u>\$ 61,763,178</u>	<u>\$ 4,209,626</u>

NOTE 7 – PENSION PLAN

Description of the Entity

The South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA), created July 1, 2012, is the state agency responsible for the administration and management of the various Retirement Systems and retirement programs of the state of South Carolina, including the State Optional Retirement Program and the S.C. Deferred Compensation Program, as well as the state's employee insurance programs. As such, PEBA is responsible for administering the South Carolina Retirement Systems' five defined benefit pension plans. PEBA has an 11-member Board of Directors, appointed by the Governor and General Assembly leadership, which serves as custodian, co-trustee and co-fiduciary of the Systems and the assets of the retirement trust funds. The Retirement System Investment Commission (Commission as the governing body, RSIC as the agency), created by the General Assembly in 2005, has exclusive authority to invest and manage the retirement trust funds' assets. The Commission, an eight-member board, serves as co-trustee and co-fiduciary for the assets of the retirement trust funds. By law, the State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA), which consists of five elected officials, also reviews certain PEBA Board decisions regarding the actuary of the Systems.

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Systems and additions to/deductions from the Systems fiduciary net position have been determined on the accrual basis of accounting as they are reported by the Systems in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). For this purpose, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. Benefit and refund expenses are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. Investments are reported at fair value.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PEBA issues an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report containing financial statements and required supplementary information for the Systems' Pension Trust Funds. The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is publicly available through PEBA's website at www.peba.sc.gov, or a copy may be obtained by submitting a request to PEBA, 202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29223. PEBA is considered a division of the primary government of the state of South Carolina and therefore, retirement trust fund financial information is also included in the annual comprehensive financial report of the state.

Plan Description

- The South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, was established July 1, 1945, pursuant to the provisions of Section 9-1-20 of the South Carolina Code of Laws for the purpose of providing retirement and other benefits for teachers and employees of the state and its political subdivisions. SCRS covers employees of state agencies, public school districts, higher education institutions, other participating local subdivisions of government and individuals newly elected to the South Carolina General Assembly at or after the 2012 general election.
- The South Carolina Police Officers Retirement System (PORS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, was established July 1, 1962, pursuant to the provisions of Section 9-11-20 of the South Carolina Code of Laws for the purpose of providing retirement and other benefits to police officers and firefighters. PORS also covers peace officers, coroners, probate judges and magistrates.

Membership

Membership requirements are prescribed in Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A brief summary of the requirements under each system is presented below.

- SCRS - Generally, all employees of covered employers are required to participate in and contribute to the system as a condition of employment. This plan covers general employees and teachers and individuals newly elected to the South Carolina General Assembly beginning with the November 2012 general election. An employee member of the system with an effective date of membership prior to July 1, 2012, is a Class Two member. An employee member of the system with an effective date of membership on or after July 1, 2012, is a Class Three member.
- PORS - To be eligible for PORS membership, an employee must be required by the terms of his employment, by election or appointment, to preserve public order, protect life and property, and detect crimes in the state; to prevent and control property destruction by fire; be a coroner in a full-time permanent position; or be a peace officer employed by the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice or the Department of Mental Health. Probate judges and coroners may elect membership in PORS. Magistrates are required to participate in PORS for service as a magistrate. PORS members, other than magistrates and probate judges, must also earn at least \$2,000 per year and devote at least 1,600 hours per year to this work, unless exempted by statute.

An employee member of the system with an effective date of membership prior to July 1, 2012, is a Class Two member. An employee member of the system with an effective date of membership on or after July 1, 2012, is a Class Three member.

Benefits

Benefit terms are prescribed in Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. PEBA does not have the authority to establish or amend benefit terms without a legislative change in the code of laws. Key elements of the benefit calculation include the benefit multiplier, years of service, and average final compensation/current annual salary. A brief summary of the benefit terms for each system is presented below.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- SCRS - A Class Two member who has separated from service with at least five or more years of earned service is eligible for a monthly pension at age 65 or with 28 years credited service regardless of age. A member may elect early retirement with reduced pension benefits payable at age 55 with 25 years of service credit. A Class Three member who has separated from service with at least eight or more years of earned service is eligible for a monthly pension upon satisfying the Rule of 90 requirement that the total of the member's age and the member's creditable service equals at least 90 years. Both Class Two and Class Three members are eligible to receive a reduced deferred annuity at age 60 if they satisfy the five- or eight-year earned service requirement, respectively. An incidental death benefit is also available to beneficiaries of active and retired members of employers who participate in the death benefit program. The annual retirement allowance of eligible retirees or their surviving annuitants is increased by the lesser of one percent or five hundred dollars every July 1. Only those annuitants in receipt of a benefit on July 1 of the preceding year are eligible to receive the increase. Members who retire under the early retirement provisions at age 55 with 25 years of service are not eligible for the benefit adjustment until the second July 1 after reaching age 60 or the second July 1 after the date they would have had 28 years of service credit had they not retired.
- PORS - A Class Two member who has separated from service with at least five or more years of earned service is eligible for a monthly pension at age 55 or with 25 years of service regardless of age. A Class Three member who has separated from service with at least eight or more years of earned service is eligible for a monthly pension at age 55 or with 27 years of service regardless of age. Both Class Two and Class Three members are eligible to receive a deferred annuity at age 55 with five or eight years of earned service, respectively. An incidental death benefit is also available to beneficiaries of active and retired members of employers who participate in the death benefit program. Accidental death benefits are also provided upon the death of an active member working for a covered employer whose death was a natural and proximate result of an injury incurred while in the performance of duty. The retirement allowance of eligible retirees or their surviving annuitants is increased by the lesser of one percent or five hundred dollars every July 1. Only those annuitants in receipt of a benefit on July 1 of the preceding year are eligible to receive the increase.

Contributions

Actuarial valuations are performed annually by an external consulting actuary to ensure applicable contribution rates satisfy the funding parameters specified in Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. Under these provisions, SCRS and PORS contribution requirements must be sufficient to maintain an amortization period for the financing of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) over a period that does not exceed the number of years scheduled in state statute. Effective July 1, 2017, employee rates were increased and capped at 9 percent for SCRS and 9.75 percent for PORS. The legislation also increased employer contribution rates beginning July 1, 2017, for both SCRS and PORS until reaching 18.56 percent for SCRS and 21.24 percent for PORS.

The legislation included a further provision that if the scheduled contributions are not sufficient to meet the funding periods set in state statute, the PEBA board would increase the employer contribution rates as necessary to meet the funding periods set for the applicable year.

Pension reform legislation modified statute such that the employer contribution rates for SCRS and PORS to be further increased, not to exceed one-half of one percent in any one year if necessary, in order to improve the funding of the plans. The statute set rates intended to reduce the unfunded liability of SCRS and PORS to the maximum amortization period of 20 years from 30 years over a ten-year schedule, as determined by the annual actuarial valuations of the plan. Finally, under the revised statute, the contribution rates for SCRS and PORS may not be decreased until the plans are at least 85 percent funded.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Required employee contribution rates* for fiscal year 2025 are as follows:

SCRS	
Employee Class Two	9.00%
Employee Class Three	9.00%
PORS	
Employee Class Two	9.75%
Employee Class Three	9.75%

* *Calculated on earnable compensation as defined in Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.*

Required employer contribution rates* for fiscal year 2025 are as follows:

SCRS	
Employer Class Two	18.41%
Employer Class Three	18.41%
Employer Incidental Death Benefit	0.15%
PORS	
Employer Class Two	20.84%
Employer Class Three	20.84%
Employer Incidental Death Benefit	0.20%
Employer Accidental Death Benefit	0.20%

* *Calculated on earnable compensation as defined in Title 9 of the South Carolina Code of laws.*

Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

Actuarial valuations of the ongoing plan involve estimates of the reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality and future salary increases. Amounts determined regarding the net pension liability are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. South Carolina state statute requires that an actuarial experience study be completed at least once in each five-year period. The GASB Statement No. 67 valuation report prepared as of June 30, 2024 is based on the experience study report for the period ending June 30, 2019. A more recent experience report on the Systems was issued for the period ending June 30, 2023 and will be used for future valuations.

The June 30, 2024, total pension liability (TPL), net pension liability (NPL), and sensitivity information shown in this report were determined by our consulting actuary, Gabriel Roeder Smith & Company (GRS), and are based on an actuarial valuation performed as of July 1, 2023. The total pension liability was rolled-forward from the valuation date to the plans' fiscal year end, June 30, 2024, using generally accepted actuarial principles. There was no legislation enacted during the 2024 legislative session that had a material change in the benefit provisions for any of the systems.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following provides a summary of the actuarial assumptions and methods used to calculate the TPL as of June 30, 2024.

Actuarial cost method	SCRS	PORS
	Entry Age Normal	Entry Age Normal
Actuarial assumptions:		
Investment rate of return ¹	7%	7%
Projected salary increases	3.0% to 11% (varies by service) ¹	3.5% to 10.5% (varies by service) ¹
Benefit adjustments	Lesser of 1% or \$500 annually	Lesser of 1% or \$500 annually

¹Includes inflation at 2.25%

The post-retiree mortality assumption is dependent upon the member's job category and gender. The base mortality assumptions, the 2020 Public Retirees of South Carolina Mortality table (2020 PRSC), was developed using the Systems' mortality experience. These base rates are adjusted for future improvement in mortality using 80% of published Scale UMP projected from the year 2020.

Assumptions used in the determination of the June 30, 2024, TPL are as follows.

Former Job Class	Males	Females
Educators	2020 PRSC Males multiplied by 95%	2020 PRSC Females multiplied by 94%
General Employees and Members of the General Assembly	2020 PRSC Males multiplied by 97%	2020 PRSC Females multiplied by 107%
Public Safety and Firefighters	2020 PRSC Males multiplied by 127%	2020 PRSC Females multiplied by 107%

Net Pension Liability

The NPL is calculated separately for each System and represents that particular System's TPL determined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67 less that System's fiduciary net position. The District's proportional shares of the NPL amounts as of June 30, 2024 for SCRS and PORS are presented below:

System	Total Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Employer's Net Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
SCRS	\$ 61,369,806,968	\$ 37,919,492,371	\$ 23,450,314,597	61.8%
PORS	\$ 10,177,904,231	\$ 7,178,118,865	\$ 2,999,785,366	70.5%
Total	\$ 71,547,711,199	\$ 45,097,611,236	\$ 26,450,099,963	62.8%

The TPL is calculated by the Systems' actuary, and each plan's fiduciary net position is reported in the Systems' financial statements. The NPL is disclosed in accordance with the requirements of GASB 67 in the Systems' notes to the financial statements and required supplementary information. Liability calculations performed by the Systems' actuary for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of GASB 67 and 68 are not applicable for other purposes, such as determining the plans' funding requirements.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District's proportionate share of the NPL for SCRS and PORS is as follows:

System	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024	Change
SCRS	0.061252%	0.061910%	-0.000658%
PORS	0.003585%	0.003164%	0.000421%

The District's change in proportionate share of the NPL and related deferred inflows and outflows of the resources will be amortized into pension expense over the respective average remaining service lives of the system.

Long-term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is based upon 20-year capital market assumptions. The long-term expected rates of return represent assumptions developed using an arithmetic building block approach primarily based on consensus expectations and market-based inputs. Expected returns are net of investment fees.

The expected returns, along with the expected inflation rate, form the basis for the target asset allocation adopted at the beginning of the 2023 fiscal year. The long-term expected rate of return is produced by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target allocation percentage and adding expected inflation and is summarized in the table below. For actuarial purposes, the 7 percent assumed annual investment rate of return used in the calculation of the TPL includes a 4.75 percent real rate of return and a 2.25 percent inflation component.

Asset Class	Asset Allocation Target	Expected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return	Long Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return
Public Equity	46.0%	6.23%	2.86%
Bonds	26.0%	2.60%	0.68%
Private Equity	9.0%	9.60%	0.86%
Private Debt	7.0%	6.90%	0.48%
Real Assets	12.0%		
Real Estate	9.0%	4.30%	0.39%
Infrastructure	3.0%	7.30%	0.22%
Total Expected Return	100%		5.49%
Inflation for Actuarial Purposes			2.25%
			<u>7.74%</u>

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the TPL was 7 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from participating employers in SCRS and PORS will be made based on the actuarially determined rates based on provisions in the South Carolina Code of Laws. Based on those assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all the projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the TPL.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Sensitivity Analysis

The following table presents the District's NPL calculated using the discount rate of 7 percent, as well as what the District's NPL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1.00 percent lower (6 percent) or 1.00 percent higher (8 percent) than the current rate.

System	1.00% Decrease (6%)	Current Discount Rate (7%)	1.00% Increase (8%)
SCRS	\$ 18,613,845	\$ 14,363,891	\$ 10,449,820
PORS	\$ 155,808	\$ 107,528	\$ 68,010
Total	\$ 18,769,653	\$ 14,471,419	\$ 10,517,830

Deferred Outflows (Inflows) of Resources

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized a pension gain of \$75,624 which offsets general fund expenses by department in the accompanying financial statements.

At June 30, 2025, the District reported deferred outflows (inflows) of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
SCRS		
Differences in actual and expected retirement plan experience	\$ 472,048	\$ 17,826
Changes in proportionate share and differences between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	873,252	112,452
Change in assumptions	253,233	-
Differences between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	-	553,445
District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date	1,729,144	-
Total SCRS	3,327,677	683,723
PORS		
Differences in actual and expected retirement plan experience	10,098	616
Changes in proportionate share and differences between District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	25,056	-
Change in assumptions	2,341	-
Differences between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	-	6,028
District's contributions subsequent to the measurement date	15,983	-
Total PORS	53,478	6,644
TOTAL SCRS AND PORS	\$ 3,381,155	\$ 690,367

The District reported \$1,745,127 as deferred outflows of resources related to contributions subsequent to the measurement date which will be recognized as a reduction of the NPL in the year ended June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows (Inflows) of resources will be recognized in pension expense in future years. The following schedule reflects the amortization of the District's proportional share of the net balance of remaining deferred outflows (inflows) of resources at June 30, 2025.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Average remaining services lives of all employees provided with pensions through the pension plans at June 30, 2024 was 3.616 years for SCRS and 3.755 years for PORS. Other amounts reported as net outflows (inflows) of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Measurement Period Ending June 30,	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	SCRS	PORS
2025	2026	\$ 380,415	\$ 17,830
2026	2027	722,495	11,530
2027	2028	(42,761)	3,265
2028	2029	(145,339)	(1,594)
		\$ 914,810	\$ 30,851

Deferred Compensation Plans

Several optional deferred compensation plans are available to State employees and employers of its political subdivisions through PEBA. Some employees of the District have elected to participate. The multiple-employer plans created under Internal Revenue Code Sections 457, 405(k) and 403(b), are administered by third parties and are not included in the State’s ACFR. Compensation deferred under the plans is placed in trust for the contributing employee. The State has no liability for losses under the plans. Employees may withdraw the current value of their contributions when they terminate employment or prior to termination if they meet requirements specified by the applicable plan. The District did not contribute to any of these plans for the year ended June 30, 2024.

NOTE 8 – OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Benefit Plan Description

Upon meeting certain service requirements, the District offers healthcare benefits to its full-time employees upon retirement. The Plan is a single employer defined benefit OPEB plan without a special funding situation where no assets are accumulated in a trust. The District participates in the State of South Carolina State Health Plan, managed by PEBA and offers these benefits through participation in the PEBA State Health Plan. To qualify for the State Health Plan, the employee must be considered full-time. Any employee retiring under the provisions of SCRS may elect to continue the health insurance coverage after retirement. Survivors of deceased employees (spouses and dependents) may also continue their coverage. Although service with other governmental entities is acceptable for retirement under SCRS, that service does not count in determining if the District funds any of the retiree’s health cost. All service used to determine eligibility must have been performed for the District.

Membership

The following table summarizes the membership of the plan as of June 30, 2023, the valuation date.

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	26
Inactive members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	0
Active employees	174
Total membership	200

Benefits

The healthcare coverage available to an eligible retiree is health, basic dental and vision as provided by PEBA.

Funding provided by the District is the employer portion of the health and basic dental premium for the retired employee coverage only. Any dependent coverage is paid 100 percent by the retiree.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The retiree may continue in the program after becoming Medicare eligible. Upon retirement the employee pays 100 percent of the healthcare premium unless the employee retires with at least twenty years of service to the District.

The District funding of healthcare premiums for eligible retirees is noted below.

Years of Service to the District	Percentage Funded	Premium Funded by District
20 and less than 24	50%	Employer premium for the subscriber only
24 and less than 28	75%	Employer premium for the subscriber only
28 and more	100%	Employer premium for the subscriber only

Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs

The District used Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC to perform an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023. The table on the following page represents the actuarial assumptions and other inputs used by the actuary in determining the total OPEB liability (TOL) as of June 30, 2023, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified.

Inflation	2.25%
Real wage growth - SCRS	0.75%
Real wage growth – PORS	1.25%
Wage inflation - SCRS	3.00%
Wage inflation – PORS	3.50%
Salary increases, including wage inflation - SCRS	3.00% -9.65%
Salary increases, including wage inflation – PORS	3.50% - 11.00%
Municipal bond index rate:	
Prior measurement date	3.65%
Measurement date	3.93%
Healthcare cost trends	
Pre-Medicare	7.00% for 2023 decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.50% by 2033
Medicare	5.25% for 2023 decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.50% by 2029

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 Mortality Tables for Employees with a 135% multiplier to better reflect the anticipated experience and provide margin for future improvements. The demographic actuarial assumptions for retirement, disability incidence, withdrawal, and salary increases used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of the 2020 actuarial experience study adopted by SCRS. The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience done concurrently with the June 30, 2023 valuation.

Total OPEB Liability

The District’s TOL is based upon an actuarial valuation performed as of the valuation date, June 30, 2023. An expected TOL is determined as of June 30, 2024, the measurement date, using standard roll forward techniques. The roll forward calculation begins with the TOL, as of the Prior Measurement Date, June 30, 2023, subtracts the expected benefit payments for the year, applies interest at the Discount Rate for the year, and then adds the annual Normal Cost (also called the service cost).

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District does not have a special funding situation. The District's TOL is disclosed in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 75 and was calculated by the District's actuary. The District's changes in the TOL are shown on the following page.

Total OPEB Liability as of June 30, 2023		\$	5,695,359
Changes for the year:			
Service Cost at the end of the year*			481,099
Interest on TOL and Cash Flows			205,566
Difference between expected and actual experience			26,038
Changes of assumptions or other inputs			(529,604)
Benefit payments and implicit subsidy credit**			(127,975)
Net changes			55,124
Total OPEB Liability as of June 30, 2024		\$	5,750,483

*The service cost includes interest for the year.

**Benefit payments are net of participant contributions and include a payment of \$37,500 for the implicit subsidy.

Sensitivity Analysis

The following table presents the TOL of the District, as well as what the District's TOL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1.00 percent lower (2.65 percent) or 1.00 percent higher (4.65 percent) than the current discount rate of 3.65 percent.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

	1.00% Decrease (2.93%)	Current Discount Rate (3.93%)	1.00% Increase (4.93%)
TOL	\$ 7,234,302	\$ 5,750,483	\$ 4,642,417

The following table presents the TOL of the District, as well as what the District's TOL would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1.00 percent lower (6.00 percent decreasing to 3.00 percent) or 1.00 percent higher (8.00 percent decreasing to 5.00 percent) than the current health care cost trend rates of 7.00 percent decreasing to 4.00 percent.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate

	1.00% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1.00% Increase
TOL	\$ 4,457,599	\$ 5,750,483	\$ 7,588,424

Deferred Outflows (Inflows) of Resources

For the year ended June 30, 2025, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$236,257, which is included in general fund expenses by department in the accompanying financial statements. At June 30, 2025 the District reported deferred outflows (inflows) of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 206,999	\$ 2,197,193
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	1,775,484	2,867,351
Total	\$ 1,982,483	\$ 5,064,544

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Measurement Period Ending June 30,	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,		
2025	2026	\$	(450,408)
2026	2027		(450,408)
2027	2028		(428,042)
2028	2029		(372,423)
2029	2030		(348,739)
	Thereafter		(1,032,041)
		<u>\$</u>	<u>(3,082,061)</u>

NOTE 9 – LEASES

The District leases the majority of its land from Dominion Energy SC at \$1 per year under a 99-year lease which expires in March 2068. Thereafter, the lease will be year-to-year until terminated by either party upon six months written notice. The District also leases a postal machine, multi-function copiers, and a forklift. The total reported in expenditures of the financial statements for these leases is \$18,795. Future minimum lease rental payments under non-cancelable operating leases having an initial term in excess of one year are:

Year ending June 30,			
2026	\$	5,315	
2027		1	
2028		1	
2029		1	
2030		1	
2031 and thereafter		<u>40</u>	
	<u>\$</u>	<u>5,359</u>	

NOTE 10 – RIVERBANKS SOCIETY

The Society is a South Carolina corporation organized to provide additional financial support for the District. The Society is reported as a discretely presented component unit and is supported primarily through donor contributions received from a broad base of citizens of Richland and Lexington Counties. The Society is a private nonprofit organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is exempt from federal and state income taxes. Although the District does not control the timing or amount of receipts from the Society, the majority is undesignated and can only be used by or for the benefit of the District.

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

During the year ended June 30, 2025, the Society contributed the following:

General Fund	
Operating support	\$ 3,000,000
Capital support	9,387,554
Loan payments	188,415
Subtotal	12,575,969
Explorer pass differential*	1,007,740
Total District Support	\$ 13,583,709

*This amount is included in charges for services in the Statement of Activities and rides, attractions and events in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances-Governmental Funds.

The following represents the availability and liquidity of the Society's financial assets at June 30, 2025:

Financial assets available within one year	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,507,197
Total financial assets available within one year	\$ 7,507,197

The Society's financial assets available within one year of the statements of financial position date are available to cover general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations as they become due. All remaining assets are available for use by the District as requested by the District and approved by the Society.

NOTE 11 – TAX ABATEMENT DISCLOSURES

The District's property tax revenues from Richland and Lexington Counties were impacted by various tax abatement programs. Due to the District's implementation of GASB Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, the District is required to disclose the effect of the Counties tax abatement programs on the Districts tax revenues received from the Counties. The information below is provided by Lexington County reflecting the tax abatement impact only of the District for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Tax Abatement Programs	Amount of Taxes Abated During Year	State of South Carolina Reimbursement
Fee-in-Lieu of Taxes Program (FILOT)	\$ 12,309	\$ 392
FILOT + SSCR	51,999	729
FILOT + IP	1,149	426
FILOT + SSRC + IP	92,713	7,766
Total	\$ 158,170	\$ 9,313

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The information below is provided by Richland County reflecting the tax abatement impact of the District for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Tax Abatement Programs	Amount of Taxes Abated During Year
Fee-in-Lieu of Taxes Program (FILOT) and SSRC	\$ 66,826
Special Source Revenue Credit Program (SSRC)	20,568
Multi-County Industrial Park	9,409
Total	\$ 96,803

The programs and combinations of programs offered by both counties are as follows:

Fee in lieu of taxes was established by the SC Code Title 12, Chapter 44 and Title 4, Chapter 12 to offer individual incentive packages by abating property taxes to attract new business to the Counties.

Special source revenue credit was established by the SC Code Sections 4-29-68, 4-1-170 and 12-44-70 to offer individual incentive packages by abating property taxes to attract new business to the Counties and to retain current businesses.

The additional programs offered by Richland County are as follows:

Multi-County industrial park was established by the SC Code Section 4-1-170 to allow sharing of expenses and revenues from the park with the County.

NOTE 12 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The District experienced a property loss related to a fire during the year ended June 30, 2025. Management expects that a significant portion of the loss will be recovered through insurance, however, the amount of recovery could not be reasonably estimated at year end.

The District has evaluated events and transactions occurring subsequent to June 30, 2025, for items that should potentially be recognized or disclosed in these financial statements. The evaluation was conducted through February 27, 2026, the date these financial statements were available to be issued, and other than the event mentioned above, there were no subsequent events that required disclosure in these financial statements.

[FORM OF OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL, HAYNSWORTH SINKLER BOYD, P.A.]

[Purchaser]
[City/State]

Re: \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026,
of Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina

Sirs:

We have examined a certified copy of the Transcript of Proceedings and other proofs submitted to us, including the Constitution and Statutes of the State of South Carolina, in relation to the issuance of the \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026, of Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the "Bonds").

The Bonds are issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 6-11-810 to 6-11-1040, inclusive, and Section 11-27-40, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (the "Enabling Act"), and a resolution (the "Resolution") duly adopted by the Riverbanks Parks Commission, the governing body of Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the "District").

In our opinion, the said proceedings are regular and in due form of law, and the Bonds constitute valid and binding obligations of the District, and are payable, both principal and interest, from a direct ad valorem tax upon all taxable property in the District, without limit as to rate or amount. Provision has been made for the levy and collection of the tax to meet the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, as the same respectively mature, except to the extent that the enforceability of the Bonds may be limited as described below.

Pursuant to Section 12-2-50 and Section 6-11-1000 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, the Bonds and the interest thereon are exempt from all state, county, school district, municipal and all other taxes or assessments of the State of South Carolina, except inheritance, estate, transfer or certain franchise taxes. It should be noted, however, that §12-11-20 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, imposes upon every bank engaged in business in the State a fee or franchise tax computed on the entire net income of such bank, which includes interest paid on the Bonds. We express no opinion regarding other state tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds.

Interest on the Bonds (including any original issue discount properly allocable to an owner thereof) is excludable from gross income of the registered owners thereof for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code) for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations. The opinion set forth in the preceding sentence is subject to the condition that the District comply with all requirements of the Code that must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds in order that interest thereon be (or continue to be) excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Failure to comply with certain of such requirements may cause interest on the Bonds to be included in gross income

for federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The Commission has covenanted to comply with all such requirements. We express no opinion regarding other federal tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds.

It is to be understood that the obligations of the District under the Bonds and the Resolution, and the enforceability thereof, may be subject to judicial discretion, the valid exercise of the sovereign police powers of the State of South Carolina and of the constitutional powers of the United States of America, and applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other laws affecting creditors rights.

We express no opinion herein regarding the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of the Official Statement dated _____, 2026 relating to the Bonds. This opinion is given as of the date hereof and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention, or any changes in law that may hereafter occur.

We have been advised on this date that there is no litigation threatened or pending, which, in any manner affects the validity of the Bonds.

We have examined an executed Bond of said issue, and in our opinion, its form and execution are in due form of law.

Very truly yours,

DISCLOSURE DISSEMINATION AGENT AGREEMENT

This Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement (the “Disclosure Agreement”), dated as of _____, 2026, is executed and delivered by Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina (the “Issuer”) and Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C., as exclusive Disclosure Dissemination Agent (the “Disclosure Dissemination Agent” or “DAC”) for the benefit of the Holders (hereinafter defined) of the Bonds (hereinafter defined) and in order to assist the Issuer in processing certain continuing disclosure with respect to the Bonds in accordance with Rule 15c2-12 of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time (the “Rule”).

The services provided under this Disclosure Agreement solely relate to the execution of instructions received from the Issuer through use of the DAC system and do not constitute “advice” within the meaning of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Act”). DAC will not provide any advice or recommendation to the Issuer or anyone on the Issuer’s behalf regarding the “issuance of municipal securities” or any “municipal financial product” as defined in the Act and nothing in this Disclosure Agreement shall be interpreted to the contrary. DAC is not a “Municipal Advisor” as such term is defined in Section 15B of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and related rules.

SECTION 1. Definitions. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Disclosure Agreement shall have the meaning assigned in the Rule or, to the extent not in conflict with the Rule, in the Official Statement (hereinafter defined). The capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

“Annual Filing Date” means the date, set in Sections 2(a) and 2(f) hereof, by which the Annual Report is to be filed with the MSRB.

“Annual Financial Information” means annual financial information as such term is used in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of the Rule and specified in Section 3(a) of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Annual Report” means an Annual Report containing Annual Financial Information described in and consistent with Section 3 of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Audited Financial Statements” means the annual financial statements of the Issuer for the prior fiscal year, certified by an independent auditor as prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles or otherwise, as such term is used in paragraph (b)(5)(i)(B) of the Rule and specified in Section 3(b) of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Bonds” means the bonds as listed on the attached Exhibit A, with the 9-digit CUSIP numbers relating thereto.

“Certification” means a written certification of compliance signed by the Disclosure Representative stating that the Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, Notice Event notice, Failure to File Event notice, Voluntary Event Disclosure or Voluntary Financial Disclosure delivered to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent is the Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, Notice Event notice, Failure to File Event notice, Voluntary Event Disclosure or Voluntary Financial Disclosure required to be submitted to the MSRB under this Disclosure Agreement. A Certification shall accompany each such document submitted to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent by the Issuer and include the full name of the Bonds and the 9-digit CUSIP numbers for all Bonds to which the document applies.

“Disclosure Dissemination Agent” means Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C, acting in its capacity as Disclosure Dissemination Agent hereunder, or any successor Disclosure Dissemination Agent designated in writing by the Issuer pursuant to Section 9 hereof.

“Disclosure Representative” means the President and CEO or his or her designee, or such other person as the Issuer shall designate in writing to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent from time to time as the person responsible for providing Information to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent.

“Failure to File Event” means the Issuer’s failure to file an Annual Report on or before the Annual Filing Date.

“Financial Obligation” as used in this Disclosure Agreement is defined in the Rule, as may be amended, as (i) a debt obligation; (ii) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as a security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (iii) guarantee of (i) or (ii). The term “Financial Obligation” shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.

“Force Majeure Event” means: (i) acts of God, war, or terrorist action; (ii) failure or shut-down of the Electronic Municipal Market Access system maintained by the MSRB; or (iii) to the extent beyond the Disclosure Dissemination Agent’s reasonable control, interruptions in telecommunications or utilities services, failure, malfunction or error of any telecommunications, computer or other electrical, mechanical or technological application, service or system, computer virus, interruptions in Internet service or telephone service (including due to a virus, electrical delivery problem or similar occurrence) that affect Internet users generally, or in the local area in which the Disclosure Dissemination Agent or the MSRB is located, or acts of any government, regulatory or any other competent authority the effect of which is to prohibit the Disclosure Dissemination Agent from performance of its obligations under this Disclosure Agreement.

“Holder” means any person (a) having the power, directly or indirectly, to vote or consent with respect to, or to dispose of ownership of, any Bonds (including persons holding Bonds through nominees, depositories or other intermediaries) or (b) treated as the owner of any Bonds for federal income tax purposes.

“Information” means, collectively, the Annual Reports, the Audited Financial Statements, the Notice Event notices, the Failure to File Event notices, the Voluntary Event Disclosures and the Voluntary Financial Disclosures.

“MSRB” means the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, or any successor thereto, established pursuant to Section 15B(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

“Notice Event” means any of the events enumerated in paragraph (b)(5)(i)(C) of the Rule and listed in Section 4(a) of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Obligated Person” means any person, including the Issuer, who is either generally or through an enterprise, fund, or account of such person committed by contract or other arrangement to support payment of all, or part of the obligations on the Bonds (other than providers of municipal bond insurance, letters of credit, or other liquidity facilities), as shown on Exhibit A.

“Official Statement” means that Official Statement prepared by the Issuer in connection with the Bonds, as listed in Exhibit A.

“Trustee” means the institution, if any, identified as such in the document under which the Bonds were issued.

“Voluntary Event Disclosure” means information of the category specified in any of subsections (e)(vi)(1) through (e)(vi)(10) of Section 2 of this Disclosure Agreement that is accompanied by a Certification of the Disclosure Representative containing the information prescribed by Section 7(a) of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Voluntary Financial Disclosure” means information of the category specified in any of subsections (e)(vii)(1) through (e)(vii)(9) of Section 2 of this Disclosure Agreement that is accompanied by a Certification of the Disclosure Representative containing the information prescribed by Section 7(b) of this Disclosure Agreement.

SECTION 2. Provision of Annual Reports.

(a) The Issuer shall provide, annually, an electronic copy of the Annual Report and Certification to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent, together with a copy for the Trustee, not later than the Annual Filing Date. Promptly upon receipt of an electronic copy of the Annual Report and the Certification, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall provide an Annual Report to the MSRB not later than the 1st day of February following the end of each fiscal year of the Issuer, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Such date and each anniversary thereof is the Annual Filing Date. The Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 3 of this Disclosure Agreement.

(b) If on the fifteenth (15th) day prior to the Annual Filing Date, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent has not received a copy of the Annual Report and Certification, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall contact the Disclosure Representative by telephone and in writing (which may be by e-mail) to remind the Issuer of its undertaking to provide the Annual Report pursuant to Section 2(a). Upon such reminder, the Disclosure Representative shall either (i) provide the Disclosure Dissemination Agent with an electronic copy of the Annual Report and the Certification no later than two (2) business days prior to the Annual Filing Date, or (ii) instruct the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in writing that the Issuer will not be able to file the Annual Report within the time required under this Disclosure Agreement, state the date by which the Annual Report for such year will be provided and instruct the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to immediately send a Failure to File Event notice to the MSRB in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B, which may be accompanied by a cover sheet completed by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in the form set forth in Exhibit C-1.

(c) If the Disclosure Dissemination Agent has not received an Annual Report and Certification by 6:00 p.m. Eastern time on Annual Filing Date (or, if such Annual Filing Date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, then the first business day thereafter) for the Annual Report, a Failure to File Event shall have occurred and the Issuer irrevocably directs the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to immediately send a Failure to File Event notice to the MSRB in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B without reference to the anticipated filing date for the Annual Report, which may be accompanied by a cover sheet completed by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in the form set forth in Exhibit C-1.

(d) If Audited Financial Statements of the Issuer are prepared but not available prior to the Annual Filing Date, the Issuer shall, when the Audited Financial Statements are available, provide at such time an electronic copy to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent, accompanied by a Certification, together with a copy for the Trustee, if any, for filing with the MSRB.

- (e) The Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall:
- (i) verify the filing specifications of the MSRB each year prior to the Annual Filing Date;
 - (ii) upon receipt, promptly file each Annual Report received under Sections 2(a) and 2(b) hereof with the MSRB;
 - (iii) upon receipt, promptly file each Audited Financial Statement received under Section 2(d) hereof with the MSRB;
 - (iv) upon receipt, promptly file the text of each Notice Event received under Sections 4(a) and 4(b)(ii) hereof with the MSRB, identifying the Notice Event as instructed by the Issuer pursuant to Section 4(a) or 4(b)(ii) hereof (being any of the categories set forth below) when filing pursuant to Section 4(c) of this Disclosure Agreement:
 1. “Principal and interest payment delinquencies;”
 2. “Non-Payment related defaults, if material;”
 3. “Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;”
 4. “Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;”
 5. “Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;”
 6. “Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds;”
 7. “Modifications to rights of securities holders, if material;”
 8. “Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
 9. “Defeasances;”
 10. “Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities, if material;”
 11. “Rating changes;”
 12. “Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person;”
 13. “The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an Obligated Person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Obligated Person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;”

14. “Appointment of a successor or additional trustee, or the change of name of a trustee, if material;”
 15. “Incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which affect security holders, if material;” and
 16. “Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.”
- (v) upon receipt (or irrevocable direction pursuant to Section 2(c) of this Disclosure Agreement, as applicable), promptly file a completed copy of Exhibit B to this Disclosure Agreement with the MSRB, identifying the filing as “Failure to provide annual financial information as required” when filing pursuant to Section 2(b)(ii) or Section 2(c) of this Disclosure Agreement;
- (vi) upon receipt, promptly file the text of each Voluntary Event Disclosure received under Section 7(a) hereof with the MSRB, identifying the Voluntary Event Disclosure as instructed by the Issuer pursuant to Section 7(a) (being any of the categories set forth below) when filing pursuant to Section 7(a) of this Disclosure Agreement:
1. “amendment to continuing disclosure undertaking;”
 2. “change in obligated person;”
 3. “notice to investors pursuant to bond documents;”
 4. “certain communications from the Internal Revenue Service; “other than those communications included in the Rule;
 5. “secondary market purchases;”
 6. “bid for auction rate or other securities;”
 7. “capital or other financing plan;”
 8. “litigation/enforcement action;”
 9. “change of tender agent, remarketing agent, or other on-going party;” and
 10. “other event-based disclosures.”
- (vii) upon receipt, promptly file the text of each Voluntary Financial Disclosure received under Section 7(b) hereof with the MSRB, identifying the Voluntary Financial Disclosure as instructed by the Issuer pursuant to Section 7(b) (being any of the categories set forth below) when filing pursuant to Section 7(b) of this Disclosure Agreement:

1. “quarterly/monthly financial information;”
2. “change in fiscal year/timing of annual disclosure;”
3. “change in accounting standard;”
4. “interim/additional financial information/operating data;”
5. “budget;”
6. “investment/debt/financial policy;”
7. “information provided to rating agency, credit/liquidity provider or other third party;”
8. “consultant reports;” and
9. “other financial/operating data.”

(viii) provide the Issuer evidence of the filings of each of the above when made, which shall be by means of the DAC system, for so long as DAC is the Disclosure Dissemination Agent under this Disclosure Agreement.

(f) The Issuer may adjust the Annual Filing Date upon change of its fiscal year by providing written notice of such change and the new Annual Filing Date to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent, Trustee (if any) and the MSRB, provided that the period between the existing Annual Filing Date and new Annual Filing Date shall not exceed one year.

(g) Anything in this Disclosure Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, any Information received by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent before 6:00 p.m. Eastern time on any business day that it is required to file with the MSRB pursuant to the terms of this Disclosure Agreement and that is accompanied by a Certification and all other information required by the terms of this Disclosure Agreement will be filed by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent with the MSRB no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on the same business day; provided, however, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have no liability for any delay in filing with the MSRB if such delay is caused by a Force Majeure Event provided that the Disclosure Dissemination Agent uses reasonable efforts to make any such filing as soon as possible.

SECTION 3. Content of Annual Reports.

(a) Each Annual Report shall contain Annual Financial Information with respect to the Issuer in the form provided in the tables in the Official Statement as follows: (i) under the heading “RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT - Description of Revenues - Attendance History” District attendance for the prior fiscal year; (ii) under the heading “RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS DISTRICT – Revenue from Governmental Sources - *Appropriations from County Councils*” contributions for operations and maintenance from Lexington and Richland Counties for the prior fiscal year; (iii) under the heading “CERTAIN FISCAL MATTERS - Assessed Values of Richland County and Assessed Values of Lexington County”, the assessed values of the District at the end of the prior fiscal year; and (iv) “CERTAIN FISCAL MATTERS - Tax Collection Record of Lexington County and Tax Collection Record of Richland County” total ad valorem tax collections for Lexington and Richland Counties for the prior fiscal year.

(b) Audited Financial Statements as described in the Official Statement will be included in the Annual Report. If audited financial statements are not available, then unaudited financial statements, prepared in accordance with **Generally Accepted Accounting Principles** as described in the Official Statement will be included in the Annual Report. In such event, Audited Financial Statements (if any) will be provided pursuant to Section 2(d).

Any or all of the items listed above may be included by specific reference from other documents, including official statements of debt issues with respect to which the Issuer is an “obligated person” (as defined by the Rule), which have been previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission or available on the MSRB Internet Website. If the document incorporated by reference is a final official statement, it must be available from the MSRB. The Issuer will clearly identify each such document so incorporated by reference.

The Issuer will reserve the right to modify from time to time the specific type of information provided or the format of the presentation of such information, to the extent necessary or appropriate in the judgment of the Issuer; provided that the Issuer will agree that any such modification will be done in a manner consistent with the Rule.

SECTION 4. Reporting of Notice Events.

(a) The occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds constitutes a Notice Event:

1. Principal and interest payment delinquencies;
2. Non-payment related defaults, if material;
3. Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
4. Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
5. Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
6. Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds;
7. Modifications to rights of Bond holders, if material;
8. Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
9. Defeasances;
10. Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material;
11. Rating changes;
12. Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Obligated Person;

Note to subsection (a)(12) of this Section 4: For the purposes of the event described in subsection (a)(12) of this Section 4, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for an Obligated Person in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or governmental authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Obligated Person, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Obligated Person.

13. The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an Obligated Person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Obligated Person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;
14. Appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material;
15. Incurrence of a Financial Obligation of an Obligated Person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of an Obligated Person, any of which affect security holders, if material; and
16. Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of an Obligated Person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

The Issuer shall, in a timely manner not later than nine (9) business days after its occurrence, notify the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in writing of the occurrence of a Notice Event. Such notice shall instruct the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to report the occurrence pursuant to subsection (c) and shall be accompanied by a Certification. Such notice or Certification shall identify the Notice Event that has occurred (which shall be any of the categories set forth in Section 2(e)(iv) of this Disclosure Agreement), include the text of the disclosure that the Issuer desires to make, contain the written authorization of the Issuer for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate such information, and identify the date the Issuer desires for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate the information (provided that such date is not later than the tenth business day after the occurrence of the Notice Event).

(b) The Disclosure Dissemination Agent is under no obligation to notify the Issuer or the Disclosure Representative of an event that may constitute a Notice Event. In the event the Disclosure Dissemination Agent so notifies the Disclosure Representative, the Disclosure Representative will within two business days of receipt of such notice (but in any event not later than the tenth business day after the occurrence of the Notice Event, if the Issuer determines that a Notice Event has occurred), instruct the Disclosure Dissemination Agent that either (i) a Notice Event has not occurred and no filing is to be made or (ii) a Notice Event has occurred and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent is to report the occurrence pursuant to subsection (c) of this Section 4, together with a Certification. Such Certification shall identify the Notice Event that has occurred (which shall be any of the categories set forth in Section 2(e)(iv) of this Disclosure Agreement), include the text of the disclosure that the Issuer desires to make, contain the written authorization of the Issuer for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate such information, and

identify the date the Issuer desires for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate the information (provided that such date is not later than the tenth business day after the occurrence of the Notice Event).

(c) If the Disclosure Dissemination Agent has been instructed by the Issuer as prescribed in subsection (a) or (b)(ii) of this Section 4 to report the occurrence of a Notice Event, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall promptly file a notice of such occurrence with MSRB in accordance with Section 2 (e)(iv) hereof. This notice may be filed with a cover sheet completed by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in the form set forth in Exhibit C-1.

SECTION 5. CUSIP Numbers. The Issuer will provide the Dissemination Agent with the CUSIP numbers for (i) new bonds at such time as they are issued or become subject to the Rule and (ii) any Bonds to which new CUSIP numbers are assigned in substitution for the CUSIP numbers previously assigned to such Bonds.

SECTION 6. Additional Disclosure Obligations. The Issuer acknowledges and understands that other state and federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Securities Act of 1933 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, may apply to the Issuer, and that the duties and responsibilities of the Disclosure Dissemination Agent under this Disclosure Agreement do not extend to providing legal advice regarding such laws. The Issuer acknowledges and understands that the duties of the Disclosure Dissemination Agent relate exclusively to execution of the mechanical tasks of disseminating information as described in this Disclosure Agreement.

SECTION 7. Voluntary Filing.

(a) The Issuer may instruct the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to file a Voluntary Event Disclosure with the MSRB from time to time pursuant to a Certification of the Disclosure Representative. Such Certification shall identify the Voluntary Event Disclosure (which shall be any of the categories set forth in Section 2(e)(vi) of this Disclosure Agreement), include the text of the disclosure that the Issuer desires to make, contain the written authorization of the Issuer for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate such information, and identify the date the Issuer desires for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate the information. If the Disclosure Dissemination Agent has been instructed by the Issuer as prescribed in this Section 7(a) to file a Voluntary Event Disclosure, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall promptly file such Voluntary Event Disclosure with the MSRB in accordance with Section 2(e)(vi) hereof. This notice may be filed with a cover sheet completed by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in the form set forth in Exhibit C-2.

(b) The Issuer may instruct the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to file a Voluntary Financial Disclosure with the MSRB from time to time pursuant to a Certification of the Disclosure Representative. Such Certification shall identify the Voluntary Financial Disclosure (which shall be any of the categories set forth in Section 2(e)(vii) of this Disclosure Agreement), include the text of the disclosure that the Issuer desires to make, contain the written authorization of the Issuer for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate such information, and identify the date the Issuer desires for the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to disseminate the information. If the Disclosure Dissemination Agent has been instructed by the Issuer as prescribed in this Section 7(b) hereof to file a Voluntary Financial Disclosure, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall promptly file such Voluntary Financial Disclosure with the MSRB in accordance with Section 2(e)(vii) hereof. This notice may be filed with a cover sheet completed by the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in the form set forth in Exhibit C-3.

(c) The parties hereto acknowledge that the Issuer is not obligated pursuant to the terms of this Disclosure Agreement to file any Voluntary Event Disclosure pursuant to Section 7(a) hereof or any Voluntary Financial Disclosure pursuant to Section 7(b) hereof.

Nothing in this Disclosure Agreement shall be deemed to prevent the Issuer from disseminating any other information through the Disclosure Dissemination Agent using the means of dissemination set forth in this Disclosure Agreement or including any other information in any Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, Notice Event notice, Failure to File Event notice, Voluntary Event Disclosure or Voluntary Financial Disclosure, in addition to that required by this Disclosure Agreement. If the Issuer chooses to include any information in any Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, Notice Event notice, Failure to File Event notice, Voluntary Event Disclosure or Voluntary Financial Disclosure in addition to that which is specifically required by this Disclosure Agreement, the Issuer shall have no obligation under this Disclosure Agreement to update such information or include it in any future Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, Notice Event notice, Failure to File Event notice, Voluntary Event Disclosure or Voluntary Financial Disclosure.

SECTION 8. Termination of Reporting Obligation. The obligations of the Issuer and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent under this Disclosure Agreement shall terminate with respect to the Bonds upon the legal defeasance, prior redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds, when the Issuer is no longer an obligated person with respect to the Bonds, or upon delivery by the Disclosure Representative to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent of an opinion of counsel expert in federal securities laws to the effect that continuing disclosure is no longer required.

SECTION 9. Disclosure Dissemination Agent. The Issuer has appointed Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C. as exclusive Disclosure Dissemination Agent under this Disclosure Agreement. The Issuer may, upon thirty days written notice to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent and the Trustee, replace or appoint a successor Disclosure Dissemination Agent. Upon termination of DAC's services as Disclosure Dissemination Agent, whether by notice of the Issuer or DAC, the Issuer agrees to appoint a successor Disclosure Dissemination Agent or, alternately, agrees to assume all responsibilities of Disclosure Dissemination Agent under this Disclosure Agreement for the benefit of the Holders of the Bonds. Notwithstanding any replacement or appointment of a successor, the Issuer shall remain liable to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent until payment in full for any and all sums owed and payable to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent may resign at any time by providing thirty days' prior written notice to the Issuer.

SECTION 10. Remedies in Event of Default. In the event of a failure of the Issuer or the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to comply with any provision of this Disclosure Agreement, the Holders' rights to enforce the provisions of this Agreement shall be limited solely to a right, by action in mandamus or for specific performance, to compel performance of the parties' obligation under this Disclosure Agreement. Any failure by a party to perform in accordance with this Disclosure Agreement shall not constitute a default on the Bonds or under any other document relating to the Bonds, and all rights and remedies shall be limited to those expressly stated herein.

SECTION 11. Duties, Immunities and Liabilities of Disclosure Dissemination Agent.

(a) The Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have only such duties as are specifically set forth in this Disclosure Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent's obligation to deliver the information at the times and with the contents described herein shall be limited to the extent the Issuer has provided such information to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent as required by this Disclosure Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have no duty with respect to the content of any disclosures or notice made pursuant to the terms hereof. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have no duty or obligation to review or verify any Information or any other information, disclosures or notices provided to it by the Issuer and shall not be deemed to be acting in any fiduciary capacity for the Issuer, the Holders of the Bonds or any other party. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have no responsibility for the Issuer's failure to report to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent a Notice Event or a duty to determine the materiality thereof. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have no duty to determine, or liability

for failing to determine, whether the Issuer has complied with this Disclosure Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent may conclusively rely upon Certifications of the Issuer at all times.

The obligations of the Issuer under this Section shall survive resignation or removal of the Disclosure Dissemination Agent and defeasance, redemption or payment of the Bonds.

(b) The Disclosure Dissemination Agent may, from time to time, consult with legal counsel (either in-house or external) of its own choosing in the event of any disagreement or controversy, or question or doubt as to the construction of any of the provisions hereof or its respective duties hereunder, and shall not incur any liability and shall be fully protected in acting in good faith upon the advice of such legal counsel. The reasonable fees and expenses of such counsel shall be payable by the Issuer.

(c) All documents, reports, notices, statements, information and other materials provided to the MSRB under this Agreement shall be provided in an electronic format and accompanied by identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB.

SECTION 12. Amendment; Waiver. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Disclosure Agreement, the Issuer and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent may amend this Disclosure Agreement and any provision of this Disclosure Agreement may be waived, if such amendment or waiver is supported by an opinion of counsel expert in federal securities laws acceptable to both the Issuer and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent to the effect that such amendment or waiver does not materially impair the interests of Holders of the Bonds and would not, in and of itself, cause the undertakings herein to violate the Rule if such amendment or waiver had been effective on the date hereof but taking into account any subsequent change in or official interpretation of the Rule; provided neither the Issuer or the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall be obligated to agree to any amendment modifying their respective duties or obligations without their consent thereto.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall have the right to adopt amendments to this Disclosure Agreement necessary to comply with modifications to and interpretations of the provisions of the Rule as announced by the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time by giving not less than 20 days written notice of the intent to do so together with a copy of the proposed amendment to the Issuer. No such amendment shall become effective if the Issuer shall, within 10 days following the giving of such notice, send a notice to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent in writing that it objects to such amendment.

SECTION 13. Beneficiaries. This Disclosure Agreement shall inure solely to the benefit of the Issuer, the Trustee, if any, for the Bonds, the Disclosure Dissemination Agent, the underwriter, and the Holders from time to time of the Bonds, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

SECTION 14. Governing Law. This Disclosure Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Florida (other than with respect to conflicts of laws).

SECTION 15. Counterparts. This Disclosure Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

The Disclosure Dissemination Agent and the Issuer have caused this Continuing Disclosure Agreement to be executed, on the date first written above, by their respective officers duly authorized.

DIGITAL ASSURANCE CERTIFICATION, L.L.C., as
Disclosure Dissemination Agent

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

RICHLAND-LEXINGTON RIVERBANKS PARKS
DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA
as Issuer

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

EXHIBIT A

NAME AND CUSIP NUMBERS OF BONDS

Name of Issuer Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina
Obligated Person(s) Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina
Name of Bond Issue: \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026
Date of Issuance: July _____, 2026
Date of Official Statement July _____, 2026

CUSIP Numbers:

<u>March 1</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>	<u>March 1</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>
2027	763773G	2037	763773G
2028	763773G	2038	763773G
2029	763773G	2039	763773G
2030	763773G	2040	763773G
2031	763773G	2041	763773G
2032	763773G	2042	763773G
2033	763773G	2043	763773G
2034	763773G	2044	763773H
2035	763773G	2045	763773H
2036	763773G	2046	763773H

EXHIBIT B

NOTICE TO MSRB OF FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT

Issuer: Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina
Obligated Person: Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, South Carolina
Name of Bond Issue: \$40,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026
Date of Issuance: July _____, 2026
Date of Disclosure Agreement: July _____, 2026

CUSIP Numbers:

<u>March 1</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>	<u>March 1</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>
2027	763773G	2037	763773G
2028	763773G	2038	763773G
2029	763773G	2039	763773G
2030	763773G	2040	763773G
2031	763773G	2041	763773G
2032	763773G	2042	763773G
2033	763773G	2043	763773G
2034	763773G	2044	763773H
2035	763773G	2045	763773H
2036	763773G	2046	763773H

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Issuer has not provided an Annual Report with respect to the above-named Bonds as required by the Disclosure Agreement between the Issuer and Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C., as Disclosure Dissemination Agent. [The Issuer has notified the Disclosure Dissemination Agent that it anticipates that the Annual Report will be filed by _____].

Dated: _____

Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C., as Disclosure
Dissemination Agent, on behalf of the Issuer

cc: District

**EXHIBIT C-1
EVENT NOTICE COVER SHEET**

This cover sheet and accompanying "event notice" may be sent to the MSRB, pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5)(i)(C) and (D).

Issuer's and/or Other Obligated Person's Name: Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, SC

Issuer's Six-Digit CUSIP Number:

or Nine-Digit CUSIP Number(s) of the bonds to which this event notice relates:

Number of pages attached: _____

_____ Description of Notice Events (Check One):

1. _____ "Principal and interest payment delinquencies;"
2. _____ "Non-Payment related defaults, if material;"
3. _____ "Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;"
4. _____ "Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;"
5. _____ "Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;"
6. _____ "Adverse tax opinions, IRS notices or events affecting the tax status of the security;"
7. _____ "Modifications to rights of securities holders, if material;"
8. _____ "Bond calls, if material;" Tender offers;
9. _____ "Defeasances;"
10. _____ "Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities, if material;"
11. _____ "Rating changes;"
12. _____ "Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person;"
13. _____ "Merger, consolidation, or acquisition of the obligated person, if material;"
14. _____ "Appointment of a successor or additional trustee, or the change of name of a trustee, if material;"
15. _____ "Incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which affect security holders, if material;" and
16. _____ "Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties."

_____ Failure to provide annual financial information as required.

I hereby represent that I am authorized by the Issuer or its agent to distribute this information publicly:

Signature: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C.
315 E. Robinson Street, Suite 300
Orlando, FL 32801
407-515-1100

Date: _____

EXHIBIT C-2
VOLUNTARY EVENT DISCLOSURE COVER SHEET

This cover sheet and accompanying “voluntary event disclosure” may be sent to the MSRB, pursuant to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement dated as of _____ between the Issuer and DAC.

Issuer’s and/or Other Obligated Person’s Name: Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, SC

Issuer’s Six-Digit CUSIP Number:

or Nine-Digit CUSIP Number(s) of the bonds to which this event notice relates:

Number of pages attached: _____

____ Description of Voluntary Event Disclosure (Check One):

1. _____ “amendment to continuing disclosure undertaking;”
2. _____ “change in obligated person;”
3. _____ “notice to investors pursuant to bond documents;”
4. _____ “certain communications from the Internal Revenue Service;”
5. _____ “secondary market purchases;”
6. _____ “bid for auction rate or other securities;”
7. _____ “capital or other financing plan;”
8. _____ “litigation/enforcement action;”
9. _____ “change of tender agent, remarketing agent, or other on-going party; and”
10. _____ “other event-based disclosures.”

I hereby represent that I am authorized by the issuer or its agent to distribute this information publicly:

Signature:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C.
315 E. Robinson Street
Suite 300
Orlando, FL 32801
407-515-1100

Date: _____

EXHIBIT C-3
VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE COVER SHEET

This cover sheet and accompanying "voluntary financial disclosure" may be sent to the MSRB, pursuant to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement dated as of _____ between the Issuer and DAC.

Issuer's and/or Other Obligated Person's Name: Richland-Lexington Riverbanks Parks District, SC

Issuer's Six-Digit CUSIP Number:

or Nine-Digit CUSIP Number(s) of the bonds to which this event notice relates:

Number of pages attached: _____

____ Description of Voluntary Financial Disclosure (Check One):

1. _____ "quarterly/monthly financial information;"
2. _____ "change in fiscal year/timing of annual disclosure;"
3. _____ "change in accounting standard;"
4. _____ "interim/additional financial information/operating data;"
5. _____ "budget;"
6. _____ "investment/debt/financial policy;"
7. _____ "information provided to rating agency, credit/liquidity provider or other third party;"
8. _____ "consultant reports;" and
9. _____ "other financial/operating data."

I hereby represent that I am authorized by the issuer or its agent to distribute this information publicly:

Signature:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C.
315 E. Robinson Street
Suite 300
Orlando, FL 32801
407-515-1100

Date: _____