

NIAGARA FRONTIER TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

(A Component Unit of the State of New York)

Financial Reporting Entity

The Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (the Authority) was created by an Act of the New York State Legislature in 1967 to promote the development and improvement of transportation and related services within the Niagara Frontier transportation district. The Niagara Frontier Transit Metro System, Inc. (Metro) was created as part of the Authority in 1974 to provide mass transportation services to the Niagara Frontier. Although Metro is a separate legal entity, the Authority maintains financial and governance responsibility over its operations.

The Authority, including Metro, is governed by a 13 member Board of Commissioners (the Board) appointed by the Governor of New York State (the State), with the consent of the New York State Senate. The Board governs and sets policy for the Authority. The Executive Director, subject to policy direction and delegation from the Board, is responsible for all activities of the Authority.

As a multi-modal transportation authority, the Authority operates a number of transportation related business centers including aviation, surface transportation and property management. The Authority's charter requires that it operate under an approved annual balanced consolidated budget. Therefore, its basic mode of operations calls for transfers, if necessary, within business centers that produce a surplus to those that incur a deficit.

The Authority follows the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus – an Amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34*, as well as GASB Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units – An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*, and GASB Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, which provide guidance to determine whether an affiliated organization is considered a component unit of a financial reporting entity. Based on its financial and governance responsibility for Metro, the Authority reports Metro as a blended component unit. The Authority is included in the financial statements of the State as an enterprise fund.