

**SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL
TRANSIT AUTHORITY**
(A Component Unit of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation)

UNIFORM GUIDANCE REPORT

Year Ended June 30, 2024

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

June 30, 2024

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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and
on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements
Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

To the Advisory Board of the
Southeastern Regional Transit Authority

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the business-type activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority ("the Authority"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 24, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Continued

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* (Continued)

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Hague, Sahady & Co., CPAs, P.C.

Hague, Sahady & Co., CPAs, P.C.

Fall River, Massachusetts

October 24, 2024

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**Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance for Each Major Program
and On Internal Control Over Compliance Required by *Uniform
Guidance***

To the Advisory Board of the
Southeastern Regional Transit Authority

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority ("the Authority") compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have direct and material effect on each of the Authority's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. The Authority's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the Authority complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Authority's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Authority's federal programs.

Continued

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance for
Each Major Program and Internal Control Over Compliance
Required by *Uniform Guidance* (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion the Authority's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Authority's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 Authority's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the Authority's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance for
Each Major Program and Internal Control Over Compliance
Required by *Uniform Guidance* (Continued)

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (“the Authority”), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority’s basic financial statements for the year then ended, and have issued our report thereon dated October 24, 2024, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditure of Federal Awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Hague, Sahady & Co., CPAs, P.C.

Hague, Sahady & Co., CPAs, P.C.

Fall River, Massachusetts

October 24, 2024

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

<u>Federal Grantor/Pass Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title</u>	<u>Federal ALN Number</u>	<u>Pass-through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Program or Award Amount</u>	<u>Federal Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount Passed to Subrecipients</u>	
<u>U.S. Department of Transportation (Direct):</u>						
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant COVID-19 - Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant - CARES Act Funding	20.507	2019-018	\$ 11,132,267	\$ 34,225	\$ -	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant	20.507	2020-014	21,043,483	1,997,016	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant	20.507	2022-008	1,539,994	67,522	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Capital Grant - Bus	20.526	2021-004	639,566	25,249	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant	20.507	2022-028	11,000,000	2,174,932	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant	20.507	2022-035	147,109	45,520	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Capital Grant - Paratransit	20.507	2023-028	492,064	380,188	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Capital Grant - Bus	20.526	2023-029	12,240,000	1,859,675	-	Major
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant	20.507	2023-034	11,773,382	4,053,728	-	Major
Total - Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grant:				<u>\$ 10,638,055</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
Total - Federal Transit Cluster:				<u>\$ 10,638,055</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
Total Amount Passed to Subrecipients					<u>\$ -</u>	
Total Federal Expenditures				<u>\$ 10,638,055</u>		

See the accompanying notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

NOTE 1: DEFINITION OF REPORTING ENTITY

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents activity of all Federal Financial Assistance Programs of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority. Federal Financial Assistance received includes funds received directly from Federal agencies as well as Federal Financial Assistance passed through other governmental agencies and received directly by the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority.

NOTE 2: BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of Federal awards includes the Federal grant activity of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), Subpart F, Section 510(b).

NOTE 3: MAJOR PROGRAMS

The Authority’s independent auditors have used a risk-based approach to determine which federal programs are “major programs” in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), Subpart F, Section 518. This risk-based approach includes consideration of current and prior audit experience, oversight by Federal Agencies and pass-through entities, the inherent risk of the Federal program, as well as other considerations. The process in paragraphs (b) through (i) of Section 518 govern auditor major program determination. Section 518(h) states “when the major program determination was performed and documented in accordance with this Subpart, the auditor’s judgment in applying the risk-based approach to determine major programs must be presumed correct.”

The Authority has no responsibility to determine major programs. Our responsibilities are summarized within 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), Subpart F, Sections 508 to 512.

NOTE 4: PROGRAM INCOME

Of the federal expenditures and award amounts presented in the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority included program income as follows:

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>Federal ALN Number</u>	<u>Amount Recorded as Program Income</u>
Federal Transit Cluster	20.507	\$ 1,032,937

NOTE 5: PROGRAM CLUSTER

In accordance with Subpart A, Section 200 of *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), certain programs have been clustered in determining major programs. The following represents the clustered programs:

<u>Federal Transit Program Cluster</u>	
Federal Transit Assistance Formula Grants	20.507
Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program	20.526

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Continued)

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

NOTE 6: 10% DE-MINIMIS INDIRECT COST RATE

The Authority did *not* elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate as covered in 2 CFR Part 200 Section 414 "Indirect (F&A) Costs".

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Summary of Audit Results

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Summary of our Audit Results

Financial Statements (Government Auditing Standards):

We have audited the financial statements of the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024 and have issued our reports thereon dated October 24, 2024. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The results of our audit are as follows:

Type of Report issued on the Financial Statements	Unmodified
Internal Control Over Financial Reporting:	
Material Weaknesses Identified?	No
Significant Deficiencies Identified?	None Reported
Noncompliance Material to the Financial Statements Noted?	No

Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance):

We have audited the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority’s compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Authority’s major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024 and have issued our reports thereon dated October 24, 2024. We performed this audit under the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). The results of our audit are as follows:

Internal Control Over Major Programs:

Material Weaknesses Identified?	No
Significant Deficiencies Identified?	None Reported

Type of Report on Compliance for Major Programs:

Federal Transit Cluster (ALN 20.507) - Type A	Unmodified
Disclosure of Audit Findings required to be reported under 2 CFR Part 200 Section 200.516(a):	No

Identification of Major Program:

<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>	<u>ALN Number</u>
Federal Transit Cluster	20.507

Threshold for distinguishing Type A and Type B Programs was \$750,000 (2 CFR 200 Section 518(b)(1)).

The Authority does qualify as a low risk auditee (2 CFR 200 Section 520).

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Findings Based on Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*:

No *current year* findings to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Findings and Questioned Costs for Financial Statements Which are Required to be Reported Over Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by *Uniform Guidance*:

No *current year* findings to be reported over each major federal program and on internal control over compliance required by *Uniform Guidance*.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Summary of Prior Year Audit Findings

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Prior Year Findings - Financial Statement Audit (Government Auditing Standards):

There were no *prior year* audit findings in the financial statement audit (*Government Auditing Standards*).

Prior Year Findings - Required to be Reported Over Major Programs and Over Compliance Required by Uniform Guidance:

There were no *prior year* audit findings which were to be reported over major programs and on Internal Control over Compliance required by *Uniform Guidance*.