

**Westchester Tobacco Asset  
Securitization Corporation**

(A Blended Component Unit of the  
County of Westchester, New York)

Financial Statements

Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021



**Westchester County Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

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## **Independent Auditors' Report**

### **The Board of Directors of the Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the Westchester County Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation ("WTASC"), a blended component unit of the County of Westchester, New York, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, respective the financial position of the WTASC, as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the years 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 ("GAAS") 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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the WTASC, 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 WTASC'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.

## ***Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 GAAS 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 GAAS 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 WTASC'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 WTASC'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.

## ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the 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 financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the 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 Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2023 on our consideration of the WTASC'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 WTASC'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 WTASC's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP*

**PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP**

Harrison, New York

June 30, 2023

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**Westchester Tobacco  
Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)  
December 31, 2022

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### Introduction

As management of the Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation ("WTASC"), we offer readers of the WTASC's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the WTASC for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022. It should be read in conjunction with the financial statements, which immediately follow this section, to enhance understanding of the WTASC's financial performance.

### Financial Highlights

- ❖ On the statement of net position, the liabilities of the WTASC exceeded its assets and deferred outflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year, resulting in a deficit of \$133,447,977. The deficit was decreased by \$4,790,717 due to \$14,268,786 recognized for Tobacco Settlement Revenues ("TSR's") less operating expenses of \$171,988, non-operating net interest expense of \$7,329,854 and TSR's residual payment to Westchester County of \$1,976,227.

Net Deficit 12-31-21	\$ 138,238,694
Net Deficit 12-31-22	<u>133,447,977</u>
Decrease in Net Deficit 2022	<u><u>\$ 4,790,717</u></u>
Tobacco Settlement Revenue 2022	\$ 14,268,786
Operating Expenses 2022	(171,988)
Non Operating Interest Expense 2022	(7,329,854)
Residual Payment to Westchester County 2022	<u>(1,976,227)</u>
Decrease in Net Deficit 2022	<u><u>\$ 4,790,717</u></u>

- ❖ The Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") issued Technical Bulletin 2004-1, *"Tobacco Settlement Recognition and Financial Reporting Entity Issues"*, as amended and/or superseded by GASB Statement No. 48 *"Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues"*, which clarified certain asset and revenue recognition criteria. Prior to the issuance of this guidance, the WTASC had recognized as a receivable/revenue the present value of the future tobacco revenue stream. The new guidance required a reversal of this position, in that it promulgated that TSR's and the related asset only be recognized when the event giving rise to recognition (i.e. the shipment of cigarettes) occurs. Because annual TSR payments are based on cigarette sales from the preceding calendar year, the WTASC was prohibited from recognizing this future revenue stream as a receivable. Accordingly, the only revenue recognition allowed was for TSR payments to be received in the immediately succeeding fiscal year, as these payments were based on cigarette shipments in the year under audit. This had the effect of deferring revenue recognition, which results in the deficit position reflected on the statement of net position. Over time, as TSR payments are received and the bonded indebtedness is retired, the deficit will be reduced.

## Financial Statements

The *statement of net position* presents information on the WTASC's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources with the difference reported as *net position*. The *statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position* presents information showing how the WTASC's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (for example, accounts receivable, amounts due to County of Westchester and accrued interest payable).

The notes to financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the statement of net position and the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position. The notes to financial statements are located beginning on page 10 of this report.

## Financial Analysis

Net position increased by \$4,790,717 in 2022, compared with an increase of \$5,271,361 in 2021, a decrease of \$480,644. This decrease from the prior year is due to a decrease in TSR's of \$831,246 and an increase in operating expenses of \$3,192, partially offset by a decrease in net interest expense of \$238,667 and a decreased residual payment to Westchester County of \$115,127.

	2022	2021	Change
Tobacco Settlement Revenue	\$ 14,268,786	\$ 15,100,032	\$ (831,246)
Net Interest Expense	(7,329,854)	(7,568,521)	238,667
Operating Expenses	(171,988)	(168,796)	(3,192)
Residual Payment to Westchester County	(1,976,227)	(2,091,354)	115,127
Net Position Increase	<u>\$ 4,790,717</u>	<u>\$ 5,271,361</u>	<u>\$ (480,644)</u>

## Debt Administration

At the end of the 2022 fiscal year, the WTASC had total net bonded debt outstanding of \$163,250,172 for the 2016 series bonds composed of \$160,135,000 bonded debt and original issue net premium of \$3,115,172. A structured 2016 Series bond payment of \$3,435,000 was made in 2022 as well as a Turbo payment of \$1,975,000. At the end of the 2021 fiscal year, the WTASC had total net bonded debt outstanding of \$168,870,650 for the 2016 series bonds composed of \$165,545,000 bonded debt and original issue net premium of \$3,325,650. A structured 2016 Series bond payment of \$3,295,000 was made in 2021 as well as a Turbo payment of \$1,555,000.

	December 31, 2021	2022 Structured Payment	2022 Turbo Payment	2022 Amortization	December 31, 2022
Bonded Debt	\$ 165,545,000	\$ (3,435,000)	\$ (1,975,000)	\$ -	\$ 160,135,000
Original Issue Net Premium	3,325,650	-	-	(210,478)	3,115,172
Net Bonded Debt	<u>\$ 168,870,650</u>	<u>\$ (3,435,000)</u>	<u>\$ (1,975,000)</u>	<u>\$ (210,478)</u>	<u>\$ 163,250,172</u>

Additional information on the WTASC's long-term debt can be found in Note 3 in the notes to financial statements and also the Official Statement of the 2016 Series Bond offering which can be found on EMMA's (Electronic Municipal Market Access) website at <http://emma.msrb.org/ER1002584-ER784532-ER1185718.pdf>.

### **Economic Factors**

The bonds are payable only from the assets of the WTASC. WTASC's only source of funds for payments on the bonds is the collections of TSR's and amounts on deposit in pledged accounts (i.e. liquidity and debt service reserves and Turbo Redemption accounts) pursuant to the indenture. If a participating manufacturer becomes a debtor in a bankruptcy case and defaults in making payments or cigarette consumption declines, funds available to WTASC to pay bondholders may be reduced or eliminated. For further detailed description of economic factors, also see the Official Statement of the 2016 Series Bonds Bond offering which can be found on EMMA's website at <http://emma.msrb.org/ER1002584-ER784532-ER1185718.pdf>.

### **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the WTASC's finances for all those with an interest in those finances. Questions and comments concerning any of the information provided in this report should be addressed to Commissioner of Finance, County of Westchester, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York 10601.

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**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**

(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Comparative Statement of Net Position  
December 31,

	2022	2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 139,684	\$ 122,651
Investments	119,116	121,399
Tobacco settlement receivable	14,268,786	15,100,032
Total Current Assets	14,527,586	15,344,082
Noncurrent assets		
Restricted cash and equivalents	3,595	3,924
Restricted investments	14,133,625	14,133,625
Prepaid expenses	20,000	-
Total Noncurrent Assets	14,157,220	14,137,549
Total Assets	28,684,806	29,481,631
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Deferred loss on refunding bonds	3,806,717	3,940,676
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	56,501	21,500
Due to County of Westchester	1,976,227	2,091,354
Accrued interest payable	656,600	677,497
Current maturities of bonds payable	3,610,000	3,435,000
Total Current Liabilities	6,299,328	6,225,351
Noncurrent liabilities		
Bonds payable, net of current maturities	159,640,172	165,435,650
Total Liabilities	165,939,500	171,661,001
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Unrestricted	\$ (133,447,977)	\$ (138,238,694)

See notes to financial statements.

**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**

(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position  
Years Ended December 31,

	2022	2021
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>		
Tobacco settlement revenues	\$ 14,268,786	\$ 15,100,032
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Professional fees	88,033	87,901
Insurance expense	83,955	80,895
Total Operating Expenses	171,988	168,796
Income from Operations	14,096,798	14,931,236
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>		
Interest income	577,325	579,491
Interest expense	(7,907,179)	(8,148,012)
Residual payments to County of Westchester	(1,976,227)	(2,091,354)
Total Non-Operating Expenses	(9,306,081)	(9,659,875)
Change in Net Position	4,790,717	5,271,361
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Beginning of Year	(138,238,694)	(143,510,055)
End of Year	\$ (133,447,977)	\$ (138,238,694)

See notes to financial statements.

**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**

(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

## Comparative Statement of Cash Flows

Years Ended December 31,

	2022	2021
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash received from tobacco settlement revenues	\$ 15,100,032	\$ 14,722,609
Cash paid to vendors	<u>(156,987)</u>	<u>(168,796)</u>
Net Cash from Operating Activities	<u>14,943,045</u>	<u>14,553,813</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Interest income	<u>579,608</u>	<u>579,491</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Repayment of bonds payable	(5,410,000)	(4,850,000)
Interest paid	(8,004,595)	(8,243,443)
Residual payments to County of Westchester	<u>(2,091,354)</u>	<u>(2,039,081)</u>
Net Cash from Non-Capital Financing Activities	<u>(15,505,949)</u>	<u>(15,132,524)</u>
Net Change in Cash and Equivalents	16,704	780
<b>CASH AND EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Beginning of Year	<u>126,575</u>	<u>125,795</u>
End of Year	<u><u>\$ 143,279</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 126,575</u></u>
Cash and equivalents	\$ 139,684	\$ 122,651
Restricted cash and equivalents	<u>3,595</u>	<u>3,924</u>
Total Cash and Equivalents	<u><u>\$ 143,279</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 126,575</u></u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF INCOME FROM OPERATIONS TO NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Income from operations	\$ 14,096,798	\$ 14,931,236
Adjustments to reconcile income from operations to net cash from operating activities		
Changes in assets and liabilities		
Tobacco settlement receivable	831,246	(377,423)
Prepaid expenses	(20,000)	-
Accounts payable	<u>35,001</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Cash from Operating Activities	<u><u>\$ 14,943,045</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 14,553,813</u></u>
<b>NONCASH INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Decrease in bonds payable from amortization of net original issue premium/ discount	\$ (210,478)	\$ (210,479)
Decrease in deferred outflows of resources from amortization of loss on refunding bonds	\$ 133,959	\$ 133,960

See notes to financial statements.

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**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2022 and 2021

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**Note 1 - Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Nature of Business**

The Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation ("WTASC") is a special purpose corporation and a subsidiary corporation of the Westchester County Health Care Corporation ("WCHCC"). WTASC was organized under the provisions of Section 1411 of the New York State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law and pursuant to the Public Authorities Law of the State of New York. The Board of Directors of WTASC consists of three members; one director designated by WCHCC to be the Commissioner of Finance of the County of Westchester, New York ("County"), one director designated by WCHCC to be the WCHCC board representative, selected by the Majority Leader of the County Board of Legislators and a third director who meets certain requirements of independence and shall be designated by the other two members.

An agreement among the attorneys general of 46 states and various territories ("Settling States") and the four largest United States tobacco manufacturers was entered into on November 23, 1998. The agreement, known as the Master Settlement Agreement ("MSA"), resolved cigarette smoking-related litigation between the Settling States and U.S. Tobacco manufacturers. Pursuant to the MSA, the Settling States and the participating manufacturers agreed to settle all past, present and future smoking related claims in exchange for an agreement by the participating manufacturers to make certain payments. Under the MSA, the State of New York is entitled to receive approximately 12.76% of the initial and annual payments. The New York Consent Decree, which was entered into in the Supreme Court of the State of New York for the County of New York in December 1998, allocated 1.926% of this State-wide share of the initial and annual payments to the County and the remainder among the State, the City of New York and all other counties within the State.

During 1999, the County sold all of its future rights, title and interest to receive payments under the MSA and the Consent Decree to WTASC, which issued \$103,504,558 in Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 1999 ("Series 1999").

During 2005, WTASC issued \$216,600,000 of Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds Series 2005 ("Series 2005"), the proceeds of which were used to 1) refund the outstanding Series 1999 bonds, 2) fund the Liquidity Reserve Account at its required level, 3) pay certain costs of issuance related to the Series 2005 bonds and 4) provide the County with funds for working capital purposes.

During 2016, WTASC issued \$180,990,000 of Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds Series 2016 ("Series 2016") composed of Senior Bonds (federally taxable) of \$7,165,000, Senior Bonds of \$91,300,000 and Subordinate Bonds of \$82,525,000, the proceeds of which were used to 1) refund the outstanding Series 2005 bonds, 2) pay certain costs of issuance related to the Series 2016 bonds and 3) distribute to the Residual Certificate Holder the remaining proceeds. The Series 2016 bonds are payable from and secured solely from the pledged Tobacco Settlement Revenues ("TSR's"), which consists of the annual total TSR payments, less the portion thereof that constitutes unencumbered revenues and operating cash requirements, plus investment earnings. Unencumbered revenues consist of 13.85% of each payment of TSR's. The County, as owner of the beneficial interest in the Residual Trust which holds the Residual Certificate, will be entitled to receive these unencumbered revenues free and clear of the lien of the indenture. Bondholders will have no claim on the unencumbered revenues if pledged revenues are insufficient to pay principal and/or interest on the Series 2016 bonds. The debt issued by WTASC to securitize these revenues is not considered debt of the County or the WCHCC.

**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
December 31, 2022 and 2021

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**Note 1 - Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**Entity Definition**

Based on the guidance provided by Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Technical Bulletin No. 2004-1, "*Tobacco Settlement Recognition and Financial Reporting Entity Issues*", as amended and/or superseded by GASB Statement No. 48, "*Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues*", the WTASC is reported as a blended component unit of the County in its financial statements.

**Basis of Presentation**

A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts which comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position, revenues and expenses. The accounts of the WTASC are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

The accompanying financial statements present only the activities of the WTASC and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the County or the WCHCC as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and the changes in its financial position and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Cash and Equivalents and Risk Disclosure**

**Cash and Equivalents** - Cash and equivalents consist of funds deposited in demand deposit accounts, time deposit accounts, money market accounts, certificates of deposit and short-term investments with original maturities of less than three months from the date of acquisition.

**Risk Disclosure**

**Interest Rate Risk** - Interest rate risk is the risk that the government will incur losses in fair value caused by changing interest rates. The WTASC does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from changing interest rates. Other than as described below, the WTASC does not invest in any long-term investment obligations.

**Custodial Credit Risk** - Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the WTASC's deposits may not be returned to it. GASB Statement No. 40, "*Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 3*", directs that deposits be disclosed as exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are either uncollateralized, collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institution or collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department but not in the WTASC's name. The WTASC's aggregate bank balances that were not covered by depository insurance were not exposed to custodial credit risk at December 31, 2022 and 2021.

**Credit Risk** - Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty will not fulfill its specific obligation even without the entity's complete failure. The WTASC does not have a formal credit

**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
December 31, 2022 and 2021

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**Note 1 - Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

risk policy other than restrictions to obligations allowable under General Municipal Law of the State of New York.

**Concentration of Credit Risk** - Concentration of credit risk is the risk attributed to the magnitude of a government's investments in a single issuer. The WTASC's investment policy limits the amount on deposit at each of its banking institutions.

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the WTASC did not have any investments subject to credit risk, interest-rate risk or concentration of credit risk.

**Investments**

Investments consists of interest held in the Debt Service Liquidity Reserve and Bond Proceeds accounts whose use is restricted to the payment of debt obligations on the WTASC bonds.

**Restricted Cash and Equivalents and Investments**

The terms of the bond indenture provide for the establishment of a liquidity reserve. The reserve was initially funded from the proceeds of the issuance of the Series 2005 bonds in an amount equal to \$14,133,625, the maximum annual debt service requirement based on planned structured principal payments. As part of the 2016 bond indenture, this same liquidity reserve was utilized and separated into two parts; \$7,645,487 for the "Senior Liquidity Reserve Account" and \$6,488,138 for the "Subordinate Liquidity Reserve Account".

Restricted cash and equivalents consists of funds held in the Debt Service Liquidity Reserve and Bond Proceeds accounts whose use is restricted to the payment of debt obligations on the WTASC bonds.

**Deferred Outflows/ Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, the WTASC reported deferred outflows of resources of \$3,806,717 and \$3,940,676, respectively. These amounts result from the difference in the carrying value of the refunded debt and its reacquisition price. The 2016 bonds' loss on refunding the 2005 bonds was deferred and is being amortized over the life of the refunded debt. (See Note 3).

**Tax Status**

The WTASC is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a 501(c) (3) organization.

**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)  
December 31, 2022 and 2021

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**Note 1 - Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Subsequent Events Evaluation by Management**

Management has evaluated subsequent events for disclosure and/or recognition in the financial statements through the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, which date is June 30, 2023.

**Note 2 - Restricted Investments**

Restricted investments at December 31, 2022 and 2021 consisted of the following -

Security Benefit Life Insurance Company fixed annuity due April 2045, interest at 4.1%	<u>\$ 14,133,625</u>
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**Note 3 - Bonds Payable**

During 2016, the WTASC issued \$180,990,000 of Series 2016 bonds with interest rates ranging from 2.125% to 5.125%, depending on maturity. The proceeds were partially used to advance refund \$175,750,000 of outstanding Series 2005 bonds which bore interest at rates ranging from 5.00% to 5.125%, depending on maturity. The net proceeds of \$176,977,345 (inclusive of a \$4,378,041 issuance premium and the receipt of \$315,679 of remaining available funds from the 2005 issue and after payment of \$907,220 in underwriting fees, \$693,160 in other issuance costs, and \$7,105,995 transferred to County as the holder of the residual certificate), were used to purchase securities that were deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to redeem the Series 2005 bonds on January 23, 2017 inclusive of accrued interest. As a result, the Series 2005 bonds are defeased and the liability for those bonds had been removed from the Statement of Net Position.

The reacquisition price exceeded the net carrying amount of the 2005 series bonds by \$4,610,472 which is being accounted for as a deferred outflow of resources. The original issue premium was \$4,378,041 and the unamortized amount is being added to the bonds payable. These amounts are being amortized over the remaining life of the refunded debt.

WTASC issued bonds on December 22, 2016 as follows:

\$91,300,000 of Senior Bonds due June 1, 2041 with interest primarily at 5.0% and a projected final redemption date of June 1, 2041.\* Balance due at December 31, 2022 is \$82,415,000.

**Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**  
(A Blended Component Unit of the County of Westchester, New York)

Notes to Financial Statements (Concluded)  
December 31, 2022 and 2021

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**Note 3 - Bonds Payable (Continued)**

\$82,525,000 of Subordinate Bonds due June 1, 2051 with interest ranging from 4.00% to 5.125% and a projected final Turbo Redemption date of June 1, 2034.\* Balance due at December 31, 2022 is \$77,720,000.

\*Assumes redemption payments are made based on the receipt of surplus pledged TSR's in accordance with the 2016 Indenture IHS Global Base Case Forecast of future tobacco consumption.

A schedule of planned structured principal maturities as of December 31, 2022 is as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$ 3,610,000	\$ 7,788,969	\$ 11,398,969
2024	3,800,000	7,603,719	11,403,719
2025	4,005,000	7,408,594	11,413,594
2026	4,235,000	7,202,594	11,437,594
2027	4,405,000	6,986,594	11,391,594
2028-2051	<u>140,080,000</u>	<u>97,396,309</u>	<u>237,476,309</u>
	160,135,000	<u>\$ 134,386,779</u>	<u>\$ 294,521,779</u>
Unamortized Original Issue Net Premium	<u>3,115,172</u>		
	<u>\$ 163,250,172</u>		

**Note 4 - Significant Contingencies**

*Repayment of Outstanding Debt*

The enforceability of the rights and remedies of the State (and thus the bondholders) and of the obligations of a participating manufacturer under the MSA are subject to the Bankruptcy Code and the other applicable insolvency, moratorium or similar laws relating to or affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights. Some of the risks include risks of delay in or reduction of amounts of payment or of non-payment under the MSA and the risk that the State (and thus the County and/or WTASC) may be stayed for an extended time from enforcing any rights under the MSA and the Consent Decree or with respect to the payments owed by the bankrupt participating manufacturer or from commencing legal proceedings against the bankrupt participating manufacturer. As a result, if a participating manufacturer becomes a debtor in a bankruptcy case and defaults in making payment, funds available to WTASC to pay bondholders may be reduced or eliminated.

The bonds are payable only from the assets of WTASC. The bonds are neither legal nor moral obligations of WCHCC, the County or the State of New York, and no recourse may be had thereto for payment of amounts owing on the bonds. WTASC's only source of funds for payments on the bonds is the collections and amounts on deposit in pledged accounts pursuant to the indenture. WTASC has no taxing power and no significant assets other than the rights to receive tobacco settlement revenues and amounts on deposit in pledged accounts amounting to \$14,133,625.

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**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**

**Independent Auditors' Report**

**The Board of Directors of the  
Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation**

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 Westchester Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, New York ("WTASC") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2023.

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the WTASC's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") as a basis for designing the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the WTASC's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the WTASC'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 WTASC'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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

## **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the WTASC'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 financial statements. 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*.

### **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 WTASC'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 WTASC's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP*

**PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP**

Harrison, New York

June 30, 2023