

# CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC.

## ANNUAL REPORT

April 30, 2018

CUSIP Prefix 20786L

### INTRODUCTION

This report of annual financial information is delivered pursuant to that certain Continuing Disclosure Agreement dated February 11, 1998 (the “*Disclosure Agreement*”) between Connector 2000 Association, Inc., a South Carolina non-profit public benefit corporation (the “*Association*”) and U. S. Bank, National Association, as successor to First Union National Bank (the “*Trustee*”), in its capacity as dissemination agent relating to the Connector 2000 Association, Inc. Toll Road Revenue Bonds (Southern Connector Project, Greenville, South Carolina), Series 2011A, Series 2011B and Series 2011C (the “*Amended and Restated Bonds*”). The Association has been advised that the Disclosure Agreement was terminated. The Association is electing to continue to make secondary market disclosure as an accommodation to the holders of its Amended and Restated Bonds. The Association reserves the right to discontinue such disclosure at any time without notice. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meaning set forth in the Disclosure Agreement, if defined therein.

For a narrative description of the Association, the Projects and the Construction of the Projects, see the annual reports previously filed by the Association pursuant to the Disclosure Agreement.

### OPERATION OF THE SOUTHERN CONNECTOR PROJECT

The Association was incorporated for the design, financing, acquisition, construction and operation of the Southern Connector. The Southern Connector is an approximately 16-mile four-lane tollway facility constructed to interstate standards on new location. The Southern Connector extends from existing I-85 at its interchange with I-185, in Greenville County, South Carolina, proceeds southeast and interchanges with the S.C. 153 Extension, continues east and interchanges with S.C. 20, with U.S. 25 south of the South Carolina Technology and Aviation Center (formerly Donaldson Center Industrial Park) and with Fork Shoals Road before turning northeast and interchanging with I-385 at its intersection with U.S. 276 and Standing Springs Road east of the City of Greenville, South Carolina, between the cities of Mauldin, South Carolina and Simpsonville, South Carolina.

As required by Section 4 of the Disclosure Agreement, the Annual Report of the Association must present selected data relating to the operation of the Southern Connector Project and penetration of electronic toll collections (“*ETC*”) for the preceding five years which is set forth in the following table:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>ETC Trans.</b>	1,611,206	1,768,932	1,972,947	2,170,618	2,318,478
<b>% of Total Trans.</b>	35%	34%	34%	36%	37%
<b>ETC Revenue</b>	\$2,223,419	\$2,341,850	\$2,554,985	\$3,185,996	\$3,512,400
<b>% of Total Rev.</b>	32%	31%	30%	31%	31%
<b>Total Trans.</b>	4,688,005	5,162,469	5,821,891	5,939,748	6,191,484
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$6,963,035	\$7,570,047	\$8,581,236	\$10,139,945	\$11,234,207

The toll rates for the Southern Connector Project are set pursuant to Section 6.4 of the License Agreement dated February 11, 1998 between the Association and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (“*SCDOT*”) as amended by Section VIII of the First Amendment to License Agreement dated April 1, 2011 between the Association and SCDOT (the “*Revised License Agreement*”). From time to time, the Association will offer discounts or incentives for the use of ETC transponders (“*Pal Pass*”) on the Southern Connector Project. Such toll rates were most recently adjusted January 2, 2016.

The toll rates and discounts charged by the Association for the use of the Southern Connector are as follows:

LOCATION	East Plaza	West Plaza	SC 20 (on/off ramps)	Fork Shoals Rd. (on/off ramps)
2 axles	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$1.00	\$1.00
2 axle discount rate	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$1.00
3 axles	\$3.60	\$3.60	\$1.00	\$1.00
3 axle discount rate	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
4 axles	\$4.80	\$4.80	\$1.00	\$1.00
4 axle discount rate	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
5 axles	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
5 axle discount rate	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
6 + axles	\$7.20	\$7.20	\$1.00	\$1.00
6 + axle discount rate	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$1.00

One mainline toll plaza is located at the east end and one at the west end of the Southern Connector. The toll for all 2-axle vehicles at the mainline plazas is \$1.75. At both mainline plazas a higher toll is required for vehicles having more than 2 axles. Unattended ramps are located at Fork Shoals Road and SC Route 20. A flat rate of \$1.00 per vehicle, regardless of the number of axles, is charged at these ramps.

Motorists have the option of establishing an ETC prepaid toll account (Pal Pass), which allows them to travel through dedicated lanes without stopping and have their tolls automatically deducted from their prepaid toll account. Motorists with a Pal Pass account receive a discount on all mainline toll plaza transactions. This discount applies to all vehicles, regardless of the number of axles. No discount is applied to transactions at the unattended ramps.

#### **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements of the Association for the period ended December 31, 2017 have been audited by Green Finney & Horton, LLP, Certified Public Accountants. Their examination report and the audited financial statements of the Association for its fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, are attached hereto as **Exhibit “A”**.

#### **OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The Association did not receive any federal or State highway expansion money during its fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. The Association did not issue or remarket any other bonded indebtedness during its fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

The Association has established a web site with the address: “[www.southernconnector.com](http://www.southernconnector.com)”. Additional information is posted from time to time on the Association’s web site. The Association regularly prepares and updates daily toll transactions and revenues on the web page. Copies of official filings, bankruptcy documents and press releases of the Association are also available on the web page.

## CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This Annual Report has been filed on behalf of the Association with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board under its EMMA system. To the knowledge of the Association, the State of South Carolina has not created a State Information Depository. The Association has received no notice under the Disclosure Agreement and is not aware that any event of default has occurred thereunder.

**EXHIBIT "A"**

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017.

[Attached]

**CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the**  
**South Carolina Department of Transportation)**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**



**CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC., GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation)**

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# Greene Finney, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Directors  
Connector 2000 Association, Inc.  
Piedmont, South Carolina

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Connector 2000 Association, Inc. (the "Association"), a component unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation ("SCDOT"), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Association's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

***Other Matters***

*Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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.

*Greene Finney, LLP*

Greene Finney, LLP  
Mauldin, South Carolina  
April 25, 2018

## ***MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS***

This section of the Connector 2000 Association, Inc. (the "Association") annual financial report presents a discussion and analysis of the Association's financial performance for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. Our analysis includes comparisons of 2017, 2016 and 2015 information. We ask that you read this section of our annual report in conjunction with the financial statements that follow this section.

Our sole business is the operation of the Greenville Southern Connector Toll Road (the "Southern Connector"). The Southern Connector is an approximately 16-mile four-lane tollway facility constructed to interstate standards in Greenville County, South Carolina. We operate the Southern Connector under a License Agreement dated as of February 11, 1998 between the South Carolina Department of Transportation ("SCDOT") and the Association as amended by a First Amendment to License Agreement dated as of April 1, 2011 between the same parties (together, the "License Agreement"). Our operations are governed by the terms of our First Amended and Restated Master Indenture of Trust dated April 11, 2011 between the Association and U.S. Bank, National Association, as trustee, as supplemented by our First Supplemental Indenture of Trust between the same parties effective as of April 11, 2011 (together, the "Trust Indenture").

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- During 2017, the development of our new toll system was completed. In 2015, we negotiated a contract with Brisa Innovation Technologies ("Brisa") to develop and implement a new toll system to include customized computer software and upgraded computer hardware purchased from other vendors. The costs of the new toll system were paid from the Association's operating revenue. The total cost of the software component of the new toll system was \$1,107,678 and included \$1,040,887 of contractual development costs paid to Brisa as various milestones were met, \$65,280 of add-on website development costs paid to Brisa and \$1,511 paid to other vendors for additional software development costs. The cost of new toll system equipment totaled \$211,812. At December 31, 2016 and 2015, we had paid totals of \$650,000 and \$150,000, respectively, to Brisa for development costs to date of the new toll system. The Brisa contract also calls for a one-month training period and a 60-month support period to overlap the training period. The contractual cost of training and support is \$937,409 to be paid over 60 months. The monthly support payments began in July 2017; accordingly, \$93,741 of toll system support payments to Brisa were included in 2017 professional fees.
- Annual utilization of the Southern Connector increased 4.2% during 2017 to 6,191,484 toll transactions, while 2016 toll transactions increased to 5,939,748 from the 2015 total of 5,821,891. The 2016 increase in toll transactions was 2.0%. Average daily toll transactions were 16,963 in 2017, 16,229 in 2016 and 15,950 in 2015.
- Operating revenues increased to \$11,234,207 in 2017. In 2016, revenues from operations rose to \$10,139,945. Operating revenues in 2015 totaled \$8,581,236. Operating revenues in 2017, 2016 and 2015 consisted of toll and violation revenues. Increases in operating revenues were 10.8% and 18.2% in 2017 and 2016, respectively.
- In 2017, total operating expenses increased by 12.8%, or \$383,152, to \$3,370,890. The increases occurred primarily in repairs and maintenance, professional fees, depreciation and amortization, salaries and miscellaneous expense, which rose 192.1%, 67.2%, 124.9%, 5.7% and 69.7%, respectively. Our 2016 total operating expenses of \$2,987,738 represented a 7.6%, or \$244,088, decrease from 2015 amounts. The 2016 decreases were attributable primarily to elimination of costs related to a Toll Rate Study, professional fees and miscellaneous expenses, which decreased 100.0%, 34.3% and 32.3%, respectively.

- During 2017, the Association’s net nonoperating expenses increased by 2.8% to \$17,453,024 from \$16,980,845 in 2016. The 2016 increase was 5.9% over the 2015 net nonoperating expenses of \$16,028,420. The 2017 change was attributable primarily to a 4.4%, or \$573,323, increase in interest expense to \$13,533,635, offset by a 14.0%, or \$65,068, decrease in SCDOT maintenance expense to \$398,431. Our 2016 increase in net nonoperating expenses was due to increases in both interest expense and SCDOT maintenance expense. Interest expense increased 5.0%, or \$621,807, to \$12,960,312 in 2016, while our SCDOT maintenance expense increased 298.5%, or \$347,180, to \$463,499. The balances of our 2011 Bonds Payable were \$205,469,897 and \$198,124,488 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Those balances represented net increases of 3.7% and 4.4% in 2017 and 2016, respectively, over prior year balances. The SCDOT maintenance payments are made from our 2011 Renewal and Replacement Fund (“2011 R&R Fund”), which is funded by deposits prescribed in the Trust Indenture. Deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund during 2017 and 2016, totaled \$760,774 and \$678,720, respectively, and represented increases of 12.1% and 33.6% over prior year deposits.
- In 2017 and 2016, we received \$20,000 and \$60,000, respectively, in settlement of the Association’s claim against Lehman Brothers, Inc. in Lehman’s bankruptcy case. In accordance with governmental accounting standards, because these settlement monies were deemed to be unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence, we recorded these gains as extraordinary items in our 2017 and 2016 financial statements.

## **ECONOMIC FACTORS AND CURRENT CONDITIONS**

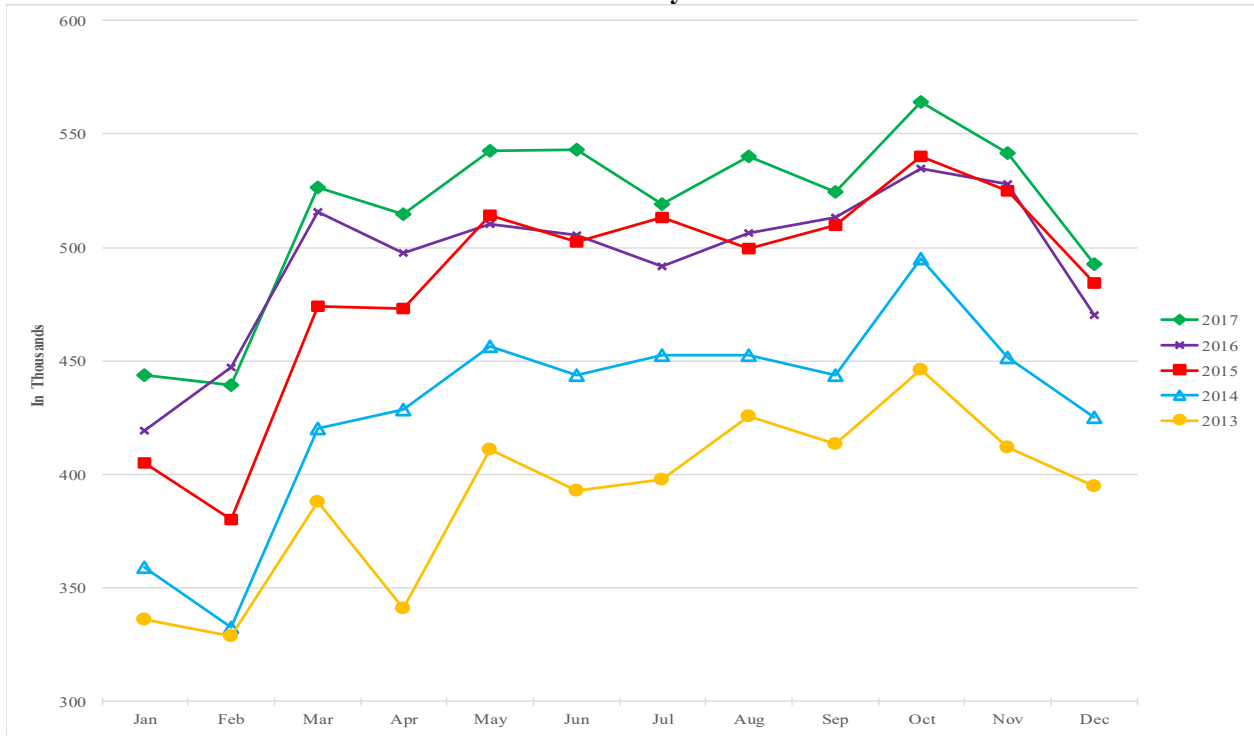
### **Traffic and Revenue Summary**

The Southern Connector’s annual trend of setting new records for toll road utilization and toll revenue collection continued during 2017, even though no significant industrial or commercial development occurred along the Southern Connector corridor. During 2017, toll transactions increased over 2016 levels by 4.2% to 6,191,484. In 2016, toll transactions totaled 5,939,748, an increase of 2.0% over 2015 levels. In 2015, realized increases in traffic on the Southern Connector significantly exceeded forecast levels, and the Association determined that it was unlikely that such aggressive growth trends would be sustained in 2016. The 2.0% growth in 2016 was slightly above Association predictions, and was partially affected by the January 2016 increase in toll rates discussed below.

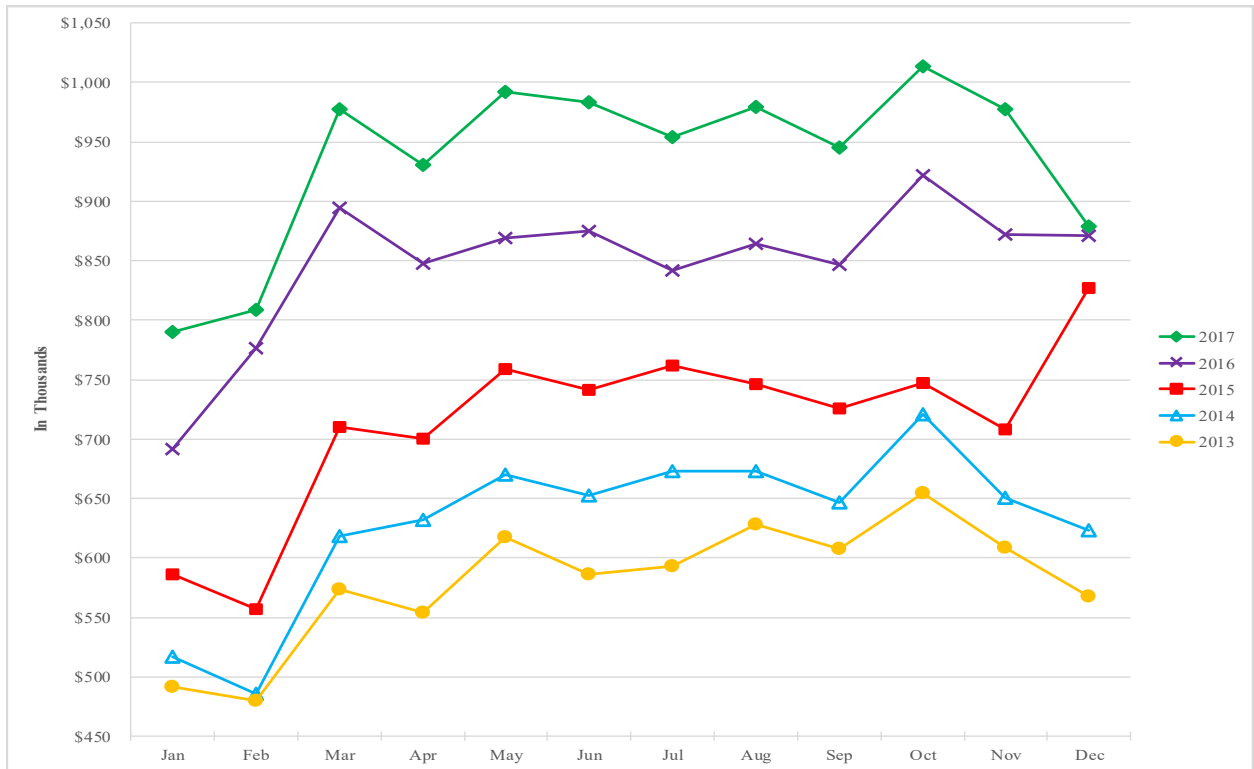
Toll revenues in 2017 totaled \$11,234,207, an increase of 10.8% over 2016 amounts. Toll revenues in 2016, boosted by the toll rate increase, rose 18.2% to \$10,139,945.

In January 2016, we implemented a toll rate increase prescribed by the Association’s Trust Indenture and determined by a required Toll Rate Study performed during 2015. Accordingly, cash toll rates for two-axle vehicles rose by \$.25, or 16.7%, from \$1.50 to \$1.75. PalPass toll rates for two-axle vehicles rose by \$.15, or 11.1%, from \$1.35 to \$1.50.

### Transactions by Month



### Revenues by Month



## **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Association's 2017 and 2016 financial statements consist of two parts – management's discussion and analysis (this section) and the financial statements, including the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements provide short-term and long-term information about the Association's overall financial status. The financial statements also include disclosures that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data.

The Association follows governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We present our financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting, similar to the accounting basis used by most private-sector companies. Under the accrual basis of accounting, all of the Association's assets and liabilities are included in our Statements of Net Position, and our revenues earned and expenses incurred are accounted for in our Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position regardless of when cash is received or paid.

*Net position* is one measure of the Association's financial health or financial position. It represents the difference between the Association's assets and liabilities. Because our liabilities exceeded our assets, the Association's net position at December 31, 2017 and 2016 was a deficit, or negative, balance. (See the *Net Position (Deficit)* subsection of the *Financial Analysis* section of this management's discussion and analysis below for more information.) Over time, decreases or increases in the Association's net position deficit provide an indicator that our financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, other factors such as transactions (including vehicle class and toll rates) and development along the Southern Connector corridor should also be considered in order to assess the Association's overall financial condition.

## **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

This section of our management's discussion and analysis presents our analysis of the Association's overall financial position and results of operations for 2017 and 2016. In this section, we discuss significant transactions that occurred during the years, and compare each year's activities with those of the immediately preceding year.

### **Net Position (Deficit)**

As stated above, the Association's net position was negative in 2017 and 2016. Although our total revenues covered our operating expenses for each year, such revenues were not sufficient to cover our nonoperating expenses, which included interest expense accretions on our 2011 Capital Appreciation Bonds and amortization of our interest in our License Agreement with SCDOT. Neither the interest expense accretions nor the amortization of our interest in our License Agreement represented cash outlays by the Association.

In 2017, total assets decreased by \$2,026,241, or 1.5%, to \$134,357,995, while total liabilities increased by \$7,543,466, or 3.8%, to \$206,455,463. During the year ended December 31, 2016, the Association's total assets decreased by \$1,004,784, or 0.7%, to \$136,384,236, and total liabilities increased by \$8,763,854, or 4.6%, to \$198,911,997. The majority of the asset decreases represent amortization of the Association's Interest in the License Agreement, while the bulk of liability increases represent accretions on the 2011 Capital Appreciation Bonds.

The Association's most significant asset is our Interest in our License Agreement with SCDOT. In order to account for the Association's Interest in the License Agreement, the Association capitalized all costs of acquisition and construction of the Southern Connector, including interest expense incurred during the construction period. Upon commencement of toll road operations, the Association began amortizing its interest in the License Agreement. The net book value of that asset was \$120,041,507 and \$123,615,947

at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The Association's Interest in our License Agreement with SCDOT is included in current and other assets in Table 1, and represented 89.3% of our total assets at December 31, 2017, and 90.6% of our total assets at December 31, 2016. The net book value of that asset decreased by 2.9% in 2017 and by 2.8% in 2016 from the previous year's net book value. The decrease of \$3,574,440 in each year 2017 and 2016 represented amortization for each year. The Association is amortizing the Interest in our License Agreement with SCDOT over the remaining term of the License Agreement, or a period of approximately 33.5 years as of December 31, 2017.

The Association's Capital Appreciation Bonds Payable totaled \$205,469,897 and \$198,124,488 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, and comprised our most significant liabilities, representing 99.5% and 99.6% respectively, of total liabilities in 2017 and 2016. The balance of our Capital Appreciation Bonds Payable increased by 3.7% in 2017 and by 4.4% in 2016, due to the accretions that occurred during each year.

**Table 1**  
**Net Position (Deficit)**  
**December 31**

	2017	2016	2015
Current and Other Assets	\$ 132,995,142	\$ 135,407,257	\$ 136,926,667
Capital Assets	1,362,853	976,979	462,353
Total Assets	<u>134,357,995</u>	<u>136,384,236</u>	<u>137,389,020</u>
Long-Term Liabilities (Bonds Payable):			
2011A Senior Capital Appreciation Bonds	(165,428,426)	(160,194,402)	(154,821,834)
2011B Senior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Bonds	(29,929,516)	(28,686,834)	(27,434,263)
2011C Junior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Bonds	<u>(3,209,990)</u>	<u>(3,058,367)</u>	<u>(2,908,079)</u>
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u>(198,567,932)</u>	<u>(191,939,603)</u>	<u>(185,164,176)</u>
Other Liabilities:			
Current Portion of:			
2011A Senior Capital Appreciation Bonds	(5,493,522)	(4,910,451)	(3,629,576)
2011B Senior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Bonds	(1,253,494)	(1,134,256)	(838,398)
2011C Junior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Bonds	(154,949)	(140,178)	(103,625)
Accounts and Retainage Payable, Unearned Revenue and Deposits	(658,566)	(529,716)	(385,529)
Amounts Payable to SCDOT	<u>(327,000)</u>	<u>(257,793)</u>	<u>(26,839)</u>
Total Other Liabilities	<u>(7,887,531)</u>	<u>(6,972,394)</u>	<u>(4,983,967)</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>(206,455,463)</u>	<u>(198,911,997)</u>	<u>(190,148,143)</u>
Net Position (Deficit):			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,362,853	976,979	462,353
Restricted for:			
SCDOT Maintenance	1,461,358	1,094,594	879,150
Unrestricted	<u>(74,921,679)</u>	<u>(64,599,334)</u>	<u>(54,100,626)</u>
Total Net Position (Deficit)	<u>\$ (72,097,468)</u>	<u>\$ (62,527,761)</u>	<u>\$ (52,759,123)</u>

In 2017, the deficit increased by \$9,569,707, or 15.3%, to \$72,097,468, while the 2016 deficit increased by \$9,768,638, or 18.5%, to \$62,527,761. The Association's net position was classified in three categories as follows:

- The “net investment in capital assets” category of net position represents amounts invested in capital assets, less accumulated depreciation on those assets, less any liabilities attributable to those assets. At December 31, 2017, the balance of this category of net position was \$1,362,853, an increase of \$385,874, or 39.5%, over the 2016 balance. The December 31, 2016 balance of this category of net position totaled \$976,979. That balance represented an increase of \$514,626, or 111.3%, from the 2015 balance. The increases in both 2017 and 2016 were attributable primarily to the Association’s new toll system, which is discussed further in the *Capital Assets* subsection of the *Capital Assets and Debt Administration* section of this management’s discussion and analysis.
- The “restricted” category represents the portion of net position with attached constraints on the use of the assets. The constraints are externally imposed by such means or parties as debt covenants, laws, enabling legislation or creditors. The restricted assets in this category are offset by any related liabilities. Governmental generally accepted accounting principles do not allow this category of net position to be negative. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, amounts in this category of net position were restricted for reimbursement of SCDOT maintenance costs and totaled \$1,461,358 and \$1,094,594, respectively. The 2017 balance represented an increase of \$366,764, or 33.5%, over the 2016 balance, while the 2016 balance increased by \$215,444, or 24.5%, over the 2015 balance. Such 2017 and 2016 balances represented amounts transferred to the Association’s Renewal & Replacement Fund offset by amounts accrued for any SCDOT maintenance expense reimbursement requisitions.
- The “unrestricted” category represents the residual net position that is not included in the net investment in capital assets or restricted net position categories as defined above. This category includes assets offset by liabilities, and may be used to finance daily operations. No constraints have been imposed upon this category of net position. At December 31, 2017, unrestricted net position was a deficit balance of \$74,921,679, while the balance at December 31, 2016 was a deficit of \$64,599,334. The 2017 change in unrestricted net position deficit totaled \$10,322,345, which represented a 16.0% increase over the 2016 balance. The 2016 change in unrestricted net position deficit was \$10,498,708, an increase of 19.4% over the 2015 balance.

### **Changes in Net Position (Deficit)**

As presented in Table 2 below, the Association’s total revenues were not sufficient to cover its total expenses.

### ***Operating Revenues and Expenses***

The Association’s operating revenues far exceeded its operating expenses in both years 2017 and 2016, and operating income of \$7,863,317 and \$7,152,207, respectively, was realized. The 2017 operating income represented an increase of \$711,110, or 9.9%, over 2016 operating income. The 2016 operating income increased 33.7%, or \$1,802,797, over 2015 operating income.

The year 2017 marked the seventh consecutive year that the Association’s total operating revenues increased to record levels since operation of the Southern Connector toll road commenced. The Association’s 2017 total operating revenues increased by \$1,094,262, or 10.8%, over 2016 amounts to \$11,234,207. In 2016, total operating revenues increased over 2015 amounts by \$1,558,709, or 18.2%, to \$10,139,945. In 2017, 2016 and 2015, total operating revenues consisted of toll revenues.

In 2017, our operating expenses totaled \$3,370,890 and represented net increases over 2016 operating expenses of \$383,152, or 12.8%. The increases occurred primarily in repairs and maintenance, professional fees, depreciation and amortization, salaries and miscellaneous expense. In 2017, repairs and maintenance totaled \$183,411, an increase of \$120,610, or 192.1%. That increase was attributable to the replacement of rubberized roofs on six of our buildings. In accordance with the capitalization policies recommended by



the State of South Carolina's Office of Comptroller General, we expensed rather than capitalized such roof replacements. Our 2017 professional fees totaled \$286,528 and represented a \$115,108, or 67.1%, increase over 2016 amounts. The increase in professional fees was primarily due to the commencement in July of contractual monthly payments to Brisa for toll system support. Depreciation and amortization expense increased in 2017 by \$91,314, or 124.9%, to \$164,426. That increase was attributable to the commencement in July of depreciation and amortization on our toll system equipment and software upgrade. Salaries increased by \$81,092, or 5.7% to \$1,492,825 as we added three toll collector positions and paid raises in 2017. Miscellaneous expenses in 2017 increased \$71,318, or 69.7%, to \$173,571. Those expenses increased as more sticker tag transponders were issued in 2017, and as our violation fee and DMV lookup costs increased in response to intensified efforts to collect monies due from toll violators.

The largest decreases in operating expenses in 2017 were realized in contract labor, employee benefits and card processing fees. Contract labor decreased by \$37,729, or 65.8%, to \$19,634, as several personnel in various positions moved to full-time employment following successful completion of the probationary period during which potential employees are paid through a staffing agency. Employee benefits in 2017 decreased 14.0%, or \$36,408, to \$224,500. That decrease occurred when certain employees, newly hired to fill existing positions vacated during the year, declined health insurance coverage. In 2017, credit card processing fees decreased by \$25,748, or 9.6%, to \$243,467, due to a fourth quarter 2017 computer glitch which failed to print certain violation payment due notices. Such notices were not sent, and respective payments were not collected, until the computer problem was resolved in late January 2018.

**Table 2**  
**Changes in Net Position**  
**Years Ended December 31**

	2017	2016	2015
Revenues:			
Operating revenues:			
Charges for Services (Toll Revenues)	\$ 11,234,207	\$ 10,139,945	\$ 8,581,236
Nonoperating Revenues:			
Interest and Investment Earnings	46,982	11,453	844
Gain on Disposal of Capital Assets	6,500	5,953	-
Total Revenues	<u>11,287,689</u>	<u>10,157,351</u>	<u>8,582,080</u>
Expenses:			
Operating Expenses	3,370,890	2,987,738	3,231,826
Nonoperating Expenses:			
Interest Expense on Bonds	13,533,635	12,960,312	12,338,505
Amortization	3,574,440	3,574,440	3,574,440
SCDOT Highway Maintenance Costs	398,431	463,499	116,319
Total Expenses	<u>20,877,396</u>	<u>19,985,989</u>	<u>19,261,090</u>
Income (Loss) before Extraordinary Item	(9,589,707)	(9,828,638)	(10,679,010)
Extraordinary Item:			
Extraordinary Gain on Claim Against Lehman Brothers	20,000	60,000	360,000
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position (Deficit)	(9,569,707)	(9,768,638)	(10,319,010)
Beginning Net Position (Deficit)	<u>(62,527,761)</u>	<u>(52,759,123)</u>	<u>(42,440,113)</u>
Ending Net Position (Deficit)	<u>\$ (72,097,468)</u>	<u>\$ (62,527,761)</u>	<u>\$ (52,759,123)</u>

Overall in 2016, our operating expenses decreased, contributing to the improvement recognized in operating income. Such operating expenses totaled \$2,987,738 in 2016 and represented net decreases from 2015 operating expenses of \$244,088, or 7.6%. The single largest decrease in 2016 operating expenses was attributable to the elimination of the \$150,000 cost of the Toll Rate Study that was performed in 2015. The Study was prescribed by our Trust Indenture and License Agreement with SCDOT, and is required to be performed periodically to determine the optimum toll rates to be charged for the Southern Connector, projected for the following five years. The 2015 Study was the first such study performed under the terms of the Trust Indenture and License Agreement, and the increased toll rates recommended in the Study were implemented by the Association in January 2016.

Other decreases in 2016 operating expenses included net reductions in professional fees and miscellaneous expenses from 2015 amounts. Professional fees for 2016 totaled \$171,420, a reduction of 34.3%, or \$89,589. The composition of the Association's professional fees in 2016 differed from the 2015 composition because, in 2016, the Association did not incur development expenses related to the preliminary project stage of its new toll system project. (The new toll system is discussed further in the *Capital Assets* subsection of the *Capital Assets and Debt Administration* section of this management's discussion and analysis.) Miscellaneous expenses in 2016 decreased \$48,803, or 32.3%, to \$102,253. Those expenses fell as fewer sticker tag transponders were issued in 2016, as the Association's costs of renting message boards to announce the increase in toll rates were eliminated, and as more equipment purchases related to the new toll system were capitalized rather than expensed.

Certain operating expenses increased during 2016. Of those, the most significant increases occurred in credit and debit card processing fees, advertising and contract labor. Card processing fees totaled \$269,215 in 2016, an increase of 22.1%, or \$48,767. That increase correlated with the continuing increase in patrons' use of credit and debit cards to pay toll revenues or to increase PalPass account balances. Advertising increased by \$34,793, or 293.9%, to \$46,630, as we promoted our 15th anniversary of toll road operations and as we ramped up our use of television and radio spots to attract more patrons to the Southern Connector. Contract labor for 2016 totaled \$57,363, an increase of \$29,573, or 106.4%, as we hired new toll collectors and a customer service representative, and paid them through our staffing agency during the probationary period prior to their full-time employment.

### ***Nonoperating Revenues and Expenses***

During both 2017 and 2016, the Association realized increases in nonoperating expenses resulting from increased interest expense accretions on our 2011 Bonds offset by nonoperating income. Overall, 2017 net nonoperating expenses increased by \$472,179, or 2.8%, to \$17,453,024. Our 2016 net nonoperating expenses increased by 5.9%, or \$952,425, to \$16,980,845. Nonoperating income in 2017 was \$53,482, an increase of \$36,076, or 207.3%, over 2016 amounts. In 2016, nonoperating income increased by \$16,562, or 1,962.3%, to \$17,406. Both years' increases in nonoperating income were attributable primarily to interest income recognized on U.S. Treasury Notes held in the Association's 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund. In 2017 and 2016, our most significant nonoperating expense was interest expense, which increased by 4.4% in 2017 and by 5.0% in 2016, or \$573,323 and \$621,807, to \$13,533,635 and \$12,960,312, respectively. Our interest expense was attributable to accretions on our 2011 Capital Appreciation Bonds in both years. Cash outlays for debt service on our 2011 Bonds totaled \$6,184,885 and \$4,571,599 in 2017 and 2016, respectively. Debt service paid in January 2018 totaled \$6,835,149, while debt service paid in February 2018 as extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions totaled \$70,157, including \$3,341 of premiums.

In 2017 and 2016, other nonoperating expenses consisted of SCDOT maintenance expense and amortization of our License Agreement with SCDOT. SCDOT maintenance expense in 2017 totaled \$398,431, and represented a decrease of \$65,068, or 14.0%, from 2016 amounts. Our 2016 SCDOT maintenance expense increased by 298.5%, or \$347,180, to \$463,499. Reimbursements of Southern Connector maintenance

costs incurred by SCDOT are paid solely from and to the extent of monies accumulated in the Association's 2011 R&R Fund as prescribed by the terms of the Trust Indenture and License Agreement. Monies transferred into the 2011 R&R Fund in 2017 in accordance with the New Waterfall provisions of the Trust Indenture totaled \$760,774, an increase of \$82,054, or 12.1%, over the 2016 additions of \$678,720. The 2016 transfers increased 33.6%, or \$170,602 over 2015 additions. (See Note 1, item J and Notes 5, 8 and 10 to the financial statements for more information about deposits into and payments from our 2011 R&R Fund.) The amortization of our License Agreement with SCDOT totaled \$3,574,440 in both 2017 and 2016.

### ***Extraordinary Items***

In 2017 and 2016, the Association received \$20,000 and \$60,000, respectively, in settlement of its claim filed several years ago against Lehman Brothers, Inc. in Lehman's bankruptcy case. That claim was filed for losses incurred by the Association in 2008 when Lehman Brothers defaulted under a collateralized repurchase agreement held in connection with investments of monies in our 1998 Bonds Debt Service Reserve Accounts. Governmental accounting standards require that a gain or loss be reported as an extraordinary item if it is both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. The monies that we received in this settlement are clearly unrelated to our ordinary and typical activity of operating of the Southern Connector, so they meet the "unusual" criteria specified by accounting literature. They also meet the "infrequent" criteria since (a) at the time that we filed our claim against Lehman Brothers, we had no reasonable expectation of recovery, and (b) upon each receipt of monies, the Association had no further expectation of receiving additional sums from our claim. Accordingly, we reported these gains as extraordinary items in our 2017 and 2016 financial statements. At the time this management's discussion and analysis was written, the Association did not expect to receive any additional monies under this claim.

## **CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

### **Capital Assets**

As shown in Table 3 below, the Association has refined its financial statement presentation of capital assets. We have added categories for software and vehicles, and have segregated the 2016 and 2015 amounts to conform to the 2017 presentation.

**Table 3**  
**Changes in Capital Assets at Year-End**  
**(Net of Depreciation)**

	2017	2016	2015
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	\$ -	\$ 866,816	\$ 306,944
Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation:			
Equipment	276,521	76,953	114,470
Software	996,910	-	-
Vehicles	89,422	33,210	40,939
Total Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation	<u>\$ 1,362,853</u>	<u>\$ 976,979</u>	<u>\$ 462,353</u>

At December 31, 2017, capital assets, net of depreciation, totaled \$1,362,853, a net increase of 39.5%, or \$385,874, over 2016 amounts. In 2016, the change in total capital assets, net of depreciation, was a net increase of \$514,626, or 111.3%, to \$976,979. In both 2016 and 2015, the Association's capital assets included a nondepreciable capital asset category, comprised of costs accumulated as the new toll system

was developed and, in 2016, a deposit on cubicles not yet installed. Both the toll system and the cubicle installation were completed in 2017 and such nondepreciable amounts were transferred to the appropriate depreciable categories.

The Association negotiated a contract with Brisa to develop a new toll system to include customized computer software and upgraded computer hardware. During 2015 and 2016 during the toll system development period, we recorded accumulated costs related to the new toll system as nondepreciable capital assets. The new toll system was determined to be provisionally complete in July 2017; accordingly, we reclassified the accumulated costs of the toll system – \$211,812 of equipment and \$1,107,678 of software – from nondepreciable to depreciable capital assets. In 2017, we also replaced three older vehicles (one via trade-in) at a cost of \$85,682, purchased a new phone system for \$8,531 and added cubicles at a cost of \$15,634, including a deposit of \$3,493 paid in 2016 and reclassified from nondepreciable capital assets. Depreciation and amortization in 2017 totaled \$164,426. Two of the replaced vehicles were sold at a gain of \$6,500 in 2017.

During 2016, additions to nondepreciable capital assets related to the toll system included \$500,000 paid or accrued to Brisa as milestones for development of the toll system were met, \$1,511 paid to other vendors for other software development costs and \$54,868 for new toll system equipment. A deposit of \$3,493 towards the installation of new cubicles was also recorded as nondepreciable capital assets. Our depreciable capital asset purchases in 2016 totaled \$34,343, and included purchases of an \$18,331 used truck to replace one that was totaled in a collision with a deer, a new copier/printer/scanner for \$8,612 and a new HVAC rooftop unit for \$7,400. During 2016, depreciation on our capital assets totaled \$73,112. In 2016, we also received insurance proceeds towards the wrecked truck, giving rise to a gain of \$6,814 on the incident, and we recognized a loss of \$861 on hard-case transponders that had exceeded their useful battery lives and that were scrapped during the year.

Our toll system development contract with Brisa includes provisions covering a minimum one-month training period and a minimum 60-month support period, which will overlap the training period, during which we will pay Brisa monthly payments totaling \$937,409. Such monthly support payments began in July 2017; accordingly, \$93,741 of toll system support is included in 2017 professional fees as discussed above in the *Operating Revenues and Expenses* subsection of the *Financial Analysis, Changes in Net Position (Deficit)* section of this management's discussion and analysis. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, our outstanding commitments related to the toll system development contract totaled \$843,668 and \$1,328,296, respectively.

### **Debt Administration**

The balance of the Association's 2011 Bonds totaled \$205,469,897 and \$198,124,488 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Of those amounts, \$6,901,965 and \$6,184,885 were due and paid in early 2018 and 2017, respectively. The Bonds payable balance increased by net amounts totaling \$7,345,409 and \$8,388,713, or 3.7% and 4.4%, during 2017 and 2016, respectively. In both years, the net increases resulted from interest expense accretions offset by debt service paid early in the year. Interest expense for 2017 totaled \$13,533,635 and included regularly scheduled accretions of \$13,530,294 plus \$3,341 of premiums paid in February 2018 as part of the extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions discussed below. Interest expense for 2016 consisted solely of regularly scheduled accretions of \$12,960,312. Interest expense increased by 4.4% and 5.0% during 2017 and 2016, respectively, and translated to changes of \$573,323 and \$621,807, respectively. The payments made on our 2011 Bonds in January 2017 and 2016 represented regularly scheduled debt service totaling \$6,184,885 and \$4,571,599, respectively.

Our 2011 Bonds are not rated by a national rating agency.

### **SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

At December 31, 2017, the balance of our extraordinary prepayment fund exceeded \$50,000. Accordingly, the Association became subject to the Extraordinary Mandatory Prepayment and Redemption provisions of our Trust Indenture. Those provisions require the Association to apply monies in its Extraordinary Prepayment Fund toward the mandatory prepayment or redemption of our 2011 Bonds whenever more than \$50,000 has accumulated in that Fund at January 1 of any year. Those provisions also prescribe the date, amounts, order and manner of such prepayments/redemptions of our 2011 Bonds. In accordance with those provisions of our Trust Indenture, on February 15, 2018, we paid mandatory prepayments totaling \$282 towards our 2011A Retained Term Bonds and mandatory redemptions totaling \$69,875 towards our 2011A1 New Term Bonds. The mandatory prepayments and redemptions included premiums of \$14 and \$3,327, respectively. (See Note 1, item J, and Notes 8 and 13 to the financial statements for more information about the Association's Trust Fund accounts and the mandatory prepayment/redemption provisions of the Trust Indenture.)

### **CONTACTING THE CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC.**

This financial report is designed to provide our Bondholders, patrons and interested parties with a general overall view of the Association's finances and to demonstrate the Association's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, please visit the *Official Filings* link under the *Postings* arrow of our website at [www.SouthernConnector.com](http://www.SouthernConnector.com) or contact Connector 2000 Association, Inc. at Post Office Box 408, Piedmont, South Carolina 29673 or by telephone at (864) 527-2150.



# Basic Financial Statements

CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC., GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA  
(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation)

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUND

DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016

ASSETS	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Fund	
	2017	2016
Current Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,870,400	\$ 1,847,306
Prepaid Expenses	61,525	59,131
Miscellaneous Receivables	4,416	-
Inventory	282,630	272,057
Total Current Assets	2,218,971	2,178,494
Noncurrent Assets:		
Restricted Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10,734,664	7,577,808
Investments	-	2,035,008
Total Noncurrent Restricted Assets	10,734,664	9,612,816
Capital Assets:		
Nondepreciable	-	866,816
Equipment	695,062	459,085
Software	1,129,948	22,270
Vehicles	193,848	183,451
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(656,005)	(554,643)
Total Capital Assets	1,362,853	976,979
Other Assets:		
Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT (Net of Accumulated Amortization of \$72,581,985 and \$69,007,545, respectively)	120,041,507	123,615,947
Total Noncurrent Assets	132,139,024	134,205,742
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 134,357,995</b>	<b>\$ 136,384,236</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 95,892	\$ 81,817
Retainage Payable	-	50,000
Unearned Toll Revenue	562,674	397,899
Revenue Bonds Payable, Current Portion	6,901,965	6,184,885
SCDOT Maintenance Payable	327,000	257,793
Total Current Liabilities	7,887,531	6,972,394
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Revenue Bonds Payable, Less Current Portion	198,567,932	191,939,603
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>206,455,463</b>	<b>198,911,997</b>
<b>NET POSITION (DEFICIT)</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,362,853	976,979
Restricted for:		
SCDOT Maintenance	1,461,358	1,094,594
Unrestricted	(74,921,679)	(64,599,334)
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$ (72,097,468)</b>	<b>\$ (62,527,761)</b>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.  
See accompanying independent auditor's report.



CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC., GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA  
(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation)

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUND

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016

OPERATING REVENUES	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Fund	
	2017	2016
Toll Revenues	\$ 11,234,207	\$ 10,139,945
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>11,234,207</b>	<b>10,139,945</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Automobile	19,565	19,979
Bank Fees and Charges	16,559	17,258
Contract Labor	19,634	57,363
Contract Services	14,387	21,842
Card Processing Fees	243,467	269,215
Employee Benefits	224,500	260,908
Miscellaneous	173,571	102,253
Office Supplies	72,099	58,466
Payroll Taxes	118,532	110,267
Repairs and Maintenance	183,411	62,801
Salaries	1,492,825	1,411,733
Telephone	32,474	27,417
Utilities	54,023	64,779
Advertising	39,353	46,630
Depreciation	164,426	73,112
Insurance	149,583	146,576
Marketing	30,395	30,161
Professional Fees	286,528	171,420
Trustee Fees and Costs	35,558	35,558
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,370,890</b>	<b>2,987,738</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>7,863,317</b>	<b>7,152,207</b>
<b>NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>		
Interest Earned on Cash Equivalents and Investments	47,395	11,329
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	(413)	124
Interest Expense	(13,533,635)	(12,960,312)
SCDOT Maintenance Expense	(398,431)	(463,499)
Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Capital Assets	6,500	5,953
Amortization of Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT	(3,574,440)	(3,574,440)
<b>TOTAL NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>(17,453,024)</b>	<b>(16,980,845)</b>
<b>LOSS BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEM</b>	<b>(9,589,707)</b>	<b>(9,828,638)</b>
<b>EXTRAORDINARY ITEM</b>		
Extraordinary Gain on Claim against Lehman Brothers	20,000	60,000
<b>CHANGE IN NET POSITION</b>	<b>(9,569,707)</b>	<b>(9,768,638)</b>
<b>NET POSITION (DEFICIT), Beginning of Year</b>	<b>(62,527,761)</b>	<b>(52,759,123)</b>
<b>NET POSITION (DEFICIT), End of Year</b>	<b>\$ (72,097,468)</b>	<b>\$ (62,527,761)</b>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.  
See accompanying independent auditor's report.

CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC., GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA  
(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation)

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUND

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Fund	
	2017	2016
Receipts from:		
Toll Collections	\$ 11,398,982	\$ 10,350,392
Payments for:		
Toll Road Employees and Contract Labor	(1,841,525)	(1,839,593)
Vendors and Service Providers	(1,750,812)	(1,272,619)
<b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>7,806,645</b>	<b>7,238,180</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchases of Capital Assets	(550,300)	(594,215)
Principal Paid on Bonds Payable	(6,184,885)	(4,571,599)
Proceeds Received from Sale of Vehicle	6,500	-
Insurance Proceeds Received from Totaled Vehicle	-	12,430
Proceeds from Lehman Brothers Settlement	20,000	60,000
<b>NET CASH USED IN CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>(6,708,685)</b>	<b>(5,093,384)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchases of Investments	-	(4,074,008)
Proceeds from Maturities and Sales of Investments	2,035,008	2,039,000
Change in Investments	(413)	124
Interest Received	47,395	11,329
<b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>2,081,990</b>	<b>(2,023,555)</b>
<b>INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>3,179,950</b>	<b>121,241</b>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning of Year	9,425,114	9,303,873
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 12,605,064</b>	<b>\$ 9,425,114</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents - Statements of Cash Flows to Statements of Net Position</b>		
Unrestricted Cash and Cash Equivalents - Current Assets	\$ 1,870,400	\$ 1,847,306
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents - Noncurrent Assets	10,734,664	7,577,808
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents Shown on Statements of Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 12,605,064</b>	<b>\$ 9,425,114</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Operating Income	\$ 7,863,317	\$ 7,152,207
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation Expense	164,426	73,112
SCDOT Maintenance Expense	(398,431)	(463,499)
Change In:		
Prepaid Expenses	(2,394)	2,499
Miscellaneous Receivables	(4,416)	94,728
Inventory	(10,573)	3,992
Accounts Payable	10,734	(21,532)
Retainage Payable	(50,000)	50,000
Unearned Toll Revenue	164,775	132,264
Transponder Deposits	-	(16,545)
SCDOT Maintenance Payable	69,207	230,954
<b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$ 7,806,645</b>	<b>\$ 7,238,180</b>
<b>NONCASH INVESTING AND CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ITEMS</b>		
Amortization of Interest in Revised License Agreement with SCDOT	\$ 3,574,440	\$ 3,574,440
Interest Accreted on Series 2011 Revenue Bonds	13,530,294	12,960,312
Gain on Disposal of Capital Assets	6,500	5,953
Accrued Premiums on Extraordinary Mandatory Bond Prepayments/Redemptions	\$ 3,341	\$ -

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.  
See accompanying independent auditor's report.

**CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC., GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA  
(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Reporting Entity**

Connector 2000 Association, Inc. (the “Association”) is a South Carolina nonprofit corporation organized as a “public benefit corporation” under the South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act of 1994. The Articles of Incorporation of the Association were originally filed with the South Carolina Secretary of State on January 12, 1996, and were amended by a filing on March 5, 1997. The Internal Revenue Service has issued a letter dated October 20, 1997, determining that the Association is an exempt organization that is not a private foundation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Association was formed to assist the South Carolina Department of Transportation (the “SCDOT”) in the financing, acquisition, construction, and operation of turnpikes, highway projects, and other transportation facilities.

The Association’s operations are governed by a license agreement (the original License Agreement as amended, the “License Agreement”) with the SCDOT that grants the Association rights and obligations to finance, acquire, construct, and operate an approximately 16 mile fully controlled access toll highway (the “Southern Connector”).

The Association originally financed construction of the Southern Connector by issuing toll road revenue bonds in 1998. In 2011, in connection with implementation of its Debt Adjustment Plan pursuant to its Chapter 9 Bankruptcy case, the Association exchanged its 1998 Bonds for new toll road revenue bonds (the “2011 Bonds”). The Association’s Debt Adjustment Plan encompasses a First Amended and Restated Master Indenture of Trust and a First Supplemental Indenture of Trust (collectively, the “Trust Indenture”) and the License Agreement, all of which became effective April 21, 2011. Following a 2012 mandatory exchange (subject to Bondholder opt out of the exchange) of certain of its 2011 Pro-Rata Term bonds for 2011 By-Lot Term Bonds and payment of outstanding issuance costs of the 2011 Bonds, the Association’s bankruptcy proceedings were finalized on August 27, 2012, when the United States Bankruptcy Court issued the Final Decree closing the Association’s Bankruptcy case. See Notes 5 and 8 for additional information pertaining to the Association’s License Agreement and its 2011 Bonds. See the *Bankruptcy Filings* link under the Association’s *Postings* arrow on our website, [www.SouthernConnector.com](http://www.SouthernConnector.com), for detailed information regarding the Association’s Bankruptcy case and complete copies of the Association’s Debt Adjustment Plan, including the Trust Indenture and the License Agreement.

The State of South Carolina Office of Comptroller General has determined that the Association is a component unit of the State of South Carolina and of the SCDOT because of its fiscal dependence upon the SCDOT. The Association is governed by a Board of Directors, the members of which are subject to approval of the SCDOT.

The financial statements of the Association have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). For the purpose of applying GAAP, the Association’s management has determined that the Association should be treated as a governmental entity. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”), which has jurisdiction over accounting and financial reporting standards applicable to governmental entities, and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”), which has jurisdiction over such standards applicable to nongovernmental entities, have agreed on a definition of a governmental entity that is to be used when determining whether governmental GAAP is applicable. Since (a) the Association is a public benefit corporation, (b) the members of the Association’s Board of Directors are subject to the approval of the SCDOT, and (c) upon dissolution of the Association, all of the Association’s net position will revert to the SCDOT, the Association meets the criteria set forth in the definition of a governmental entity. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements of the Association have been prepared in accordance with GAAP applicable to governmental unit proprietary funds.

The Association has no component units.

**CONNECTOR 2000 ASSOCIATION, INC., GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA  
(A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina and of the South Carolina Department of Transportation)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Presentation, and Accounting**

Government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the activities of an entity (the “Primary Government”).

*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 Association has no governmental activities since its sole activity is of a business type.

**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. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

**Fund financial statements** – Since the Association is a special purpose entity engaged in only business-type activities, it is required to only present financial statement information as required for enterprise funds (not allowed to present government-wide financial statements). See following sections for more details on enterprise funds.

The accounts of the Association are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. There are a minimum number of funds maintained to keep the accounts consistent with legal and managerial requirements. The Association uses only the proprietary fund type.

**Proprietary fund types** are accounted for using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred. Proprietary funds are made up of two classes: enterprise funds and internal service funds. The Association does not have any internal service funds and has one enterprise fund.

**Enterprise Funds** are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises — where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis are to be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes. For purposes of GAAP reporting, the Association has one major Enterprise Fund:

The **Enterprise Fund** is used to account for all of the operations of the Association. All activities of the Association in financing, acquiring, constructing and operating the toll road are accounted for in this fund.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the proprietary fund’s principal ongoing operations. Operating expenses for proprietary funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Presentation, and Accounting (Continued)**

The Association distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. The principal operating revenues of the Association are toll revenues received from patrons. Operating expenses of the Association primarily consist of the costs of operating the Southern Connector, including administrative expenses, depreciation and amortization of capital assets, professional fees, and trustee fees and costs. Nonoperating revenues primarily include interest earned on cash equivalents and investments. Nonoperating expenses primarily include (a) interest expense on the Association's debt (b) amortization of the Association's intangible interest in its License Agreement with SCDOT, and (c) reimbursements of SCDOT highway maintenance expense from the 2011 Renewal and Replacement Fund as discussed in Note 1, item J below.

During 2017, the Association implemented GASB Statement No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68* ("GASBS No. 73"), and GASB Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues – an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73* ("GASBS No. 82"). The provisions of these statements that are applicable to the Association establish requirements for defined contribution pension plans that are not within the scope of GASBS No. 68 (which pertains to defined benefit pension plans administered through trusts or equivalent arrangements). The application of the provisions of GASBS Nos. 73 and 82 affected only the disclosures made in Note 11 below.

During 2016, the Association implemented GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application* ("GASBS No. 72"). That statement generally requires governmental entities to measure investments at fair value, prescribes permissible valuation techniques available to measure fair value and requires expanded disclosures of the fair value of investments. Donated capital assets, donated works of art and historical treasures are required to be measured at acquisition value prospectively from the date of adoption of GASBS No. 72. The application of the provisions of GASBS No. 72 had no effect on the Association's financial statements but did result in expanded disclosures in Note 1, item F and Note 2 below.

**C. Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with governmental GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and 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. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**D. Budget**

The Association's Board of Directors adopts an annual non-appropriated operating budget. The Board of Directors also approves any amendments to the budget during the year. The budget is prepared using a modified accrual (non-GAAP) basis for Revenue Fund expenses (as defined in the Trust Indenture). Expenses are recognized in the period in which they are paid rather than the period in which they are incurred for budgetary control purposes. Depreciation and amortization are not recognized as expenses, but capital outlays are recognized as expenses for budgetary control purposes. The expenses are reclassified for the purpose of preparing financial statements in accordance with governmental GAAP. Since the Association's activities are accounted for in a proprietary fund, a budget-to-actual comparison is not presented in the accompanying financial statements.

**E. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Association considers all investments with maturities of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. The amounts shown in the financial statements as "cash and cash equivalents" of the Association comprise cash on hand, deposits in banks, and funds invested in money market mutual funds.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**F. Investments**

The Association's Trust Indenture contains provisions requiring all bond proceeds and toll revenues received by the Association to be held in trust. Such monies held in the 2011 Trust Fund Accounts are expended in accordance with Trust Indenture guidelines. All monies held in the 2011 Trust Fund Accounts that are not insured by the FDIC must be secured by and/or invested in investment securities as defined in the Trust Indenture. Investment securities include, but are not limited to, direct obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by, the United States of America or an agency thereof.

The Association's investments are stated at fair value and categorized within the fair value hierarchy established under GASBS No. 72. For short-term, highly liquid instruments that have a remaining maturity of one year or less at the time of purchase, such as the Association's 2016 United States Treasury Note, the investments' fair value is generally equivalent to amortized cost. The fair value hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. Gains or losses that result from changes in fair value are included in nonoperating revenues or expenses.

See Note 1, item B above and Note 2 below for additional information pertaining to the Association's investments.

**G. Receivables**

All of the Association's receivables are reported net of any allowances for uncollectible amounts and any discounts.

See Note 3 below for additional information.

**H. Prepaid Expenses and Inventories**

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid expenses in the accompanying financial statements. All inventories are valued at cost using the first-in/first-out ("FIFO") method.

**I. Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT**

The Association's License Agreement encompasses its original License Agreement with SCDOT, which governed the Association's operations prior to the April 21, 2011 effective date of the Association's Debt Adjustment Plan, and its revised License Agreement with SCDOT, which modifies or amends certain provisions of the original License Agreement. The revised License Agreement became effective April 21, 2011. Any terms of the original License Agreement that were not amended or modified by the revised License Agreement remain in effect. See Note 5 for a detailed discussion of the terms of the Association's License Agreement.

The Association's interest in its License Agreement with SCDOT constitutes a service concession arrangement (an "SCA") that is accounted for as an intangible asset relating to the Southern Connector that began generating revenues upon commencement of toll road operations. An SCA is an arrangement between a transferor government and an operator (governmental or nongovernmental entity) in which the transferor conveys to an operator the right and related obligation to provide services through the use of infrastructure or another public asset in exchange for significant consideration, and the operator collects and is compensated by fees from third parties. In order to account for its interest in the License Agreement, the Association capitalized all costs of acquisition and construction of the Southern Connector, including interest expense incurred during the construction period. Upon commencement of toll road operations, the Association began amortizing its interest in the License Agreement. See Note 5 for additional information.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**J. Restricted Assets**

The Trust Indenture contains provisions to establish certain Funds and Accounts (the “2011 Funds and Accounts”) to be held by the Trustee. The Trust Indenture’s terms define the amounts that may be deposited into the Funds and Accounts, and restrict payments from such Funds and Accounts. The various Funds and Accounts established and the related restrictions imposed by the Trust Indenture are described below.

The Trust Indenture established new 2011 Funds and Accounts and required the transfer of amounts remaining in the 1998 Funds and Accounts to certain of the 2011 Funds and Accounts. The Trust Indenture directs the deposit of all revenues and other deposits in the 2011 Funds and Accounts, and restricts the payments from the 2011 Funds and Accounts. The funds and accounts established are as follows:

The 2011 *Cost of Issuance Fund* was established to pay or reimburse the Association for costs of implementing its Debt Adjustment Plan. Upon issuance of the 2011 Bonds, monies remaining in the 1998 Funds and Accounts were transferred into this fund. Costs of implementing the Debt Adjustment Plan and issuing the 2011 Bonds were paid from this fund in accordance with the Trust Indenture. In 2012, following the Association’s payment of the costs of issuing the 2011 By-Lot Term Bonds discussed below in Note 8, the 2011 Cost of Issuance Fund was closed.

The 2011 *Revenue Fund* was established to hold all revenues from toll road operations. The Trust Indenture provides that all revenues received from the operation of the Southern Connector after March 31, 2011, shall be delivered to the Trustee immediately upon receipt by, or on behalf of, the Association and shall be deposited into the 2011 Revenue Fund.

The order and priority of permissible payments from the 2011 Revenue Fund (the “New Waterfall”) is as follows:

Whether or not an event of default has occurred under the Trust Indenture, the Trustee may withdraw its fees and expenses from the 2011 Revenue Fund from time to time, and is obligated to notify the Association of such fees and expenses withdrawn. Thereafter, the Trustee is obligated to transfer monies from the 2011 Revenue Fund for the following purposes in the priority listed below:

1. Operating costs budgeted for the next succeeding month shall be distributed to the Association.

All amounts remaining in the 2011 Revenue Fund (other than proceeds from liability or casualty insurance, condemnation awards and loans) after distribution of Trustee fees and costs and Association operating costs are deemed to be Distributable Cash. On the business day prior to each 2011 Bond payment date, the Trustee shall transfer Distributable Cash as follows:

2. The Trustee will deposit into the 2011 Renewal and Replacement Fund (the “2011 R&R Fund”):
  - (i) for 2011 Bond payment dates on or before January 1, 2016, an amount equal to 5.0% of the amount of Distributable Cash, and
  - (ii) for 2011 Bond payment dates after January 1, 2016, an amount equal to 2.5% of the amount of Distributable Cash.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**J. Restricted Assets (Continued)**

3. The Trustee shall transfer to the 2011 Senior Bonds Debt Service Account amounts which, when added to other amounts then in the 2011 Senior Bonds Debt Service Account, and available for such purposes, shall equal the debt service on the 2011 Senior Bonds required to be paid on such 2011 Bond payment date, including any amounts representing Arrearages as defined in the Trust Indenture (see Note 8) on the 2011 Senior Bonds from earlier 2011 Bond payment dates.
4. The Trustee shall deposit into the 2011 R&R Fund:
  - (i) for 2011 Bond payment dates on or before January 1, 2016, an amount equal to 0.0% of the amount of Distributable Cash, and
  - (ii) for 2011 Bond payment dates after January 1, 2016, an amount not to exceed 2.5% of the amount of Distributable Cash.
5. If any Account in the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund contains less than the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund Requirement for such Account, the Trustee shall transfer into such Account an amount equal to the amount needed to restore the balance in such Account to the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund Requirement for such Account.
6. The Trustee shall transfer to the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account amounts which, when added to other amounts then in the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account, and available for such purposes, shall equal the debt service on the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds required to be paid on such 2011 Bond payment date, including any amounts representing Arrearages as defined in the Trust Indenture (see Note 8) on the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds from earlier 2011 Bond payment dates.
7. The Trustee shall deposit into the 2011 R&R Fund an amount not to exceed 2.5% of the amount of Distributable Cash.
8. The Trustee shall transfer to the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account amounts which, when added to other amounts then in the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account, and available for such purposes, shall equal the debt service on the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds required to be paid on such 2011 Bond payment date, including any amounts representing Arrearages as defined in the Trust Indenture (see Note 8) on the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds from earlier 2011 Bond payment dates.
9. The Trustee will deposit into the 2011 R&R Fund an amount not to exceed 2.5% of the amount of Distributable Cash.

Any Distributable Cash remaining after making the distributions listed above (“Excess Net Revenues”) will be deposited into the 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund to be used (if the amount on deposit in the 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund exceeds \$50,000) towards the prepayment of 2011 Senior Bonds in accordance with provisions of the Trust Indenture.

See Notes 5, 8 and 10, respectively, for additional information regarding deposits of Distributable Cash into the 2011 R&R Fund and payments of Distributable Cash for debt service on the 2011 Bonds.



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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**J. Restricted Assets (Continued)**

The Trust Indenture specifies that nonpayment of amounts to the 2011 R&R Fund due to the insufficiency of Distributable Cash will not result in a default under the License Agreement or the Trust Indenture, and shall not be added to the 2011 R&R Fund deposits for future 2011 Bond payment dates.

The 2011 *Debt Service Fund*, which consists of the 2011 Senior Bonds Debt Service Account, the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account and the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account, was established for the payment of debt service on the 2011 Bonds. Amounts in the 2011 Senior Bonds Debt Service Account, the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account and the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account may only be applied to pay debt service on 2011 Bonds of the same tier.

The 2011 *Debt Service Reserve Fund*, which consists of the 2011 Senior Bonds Debt Service Reserve Account, the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Reserve Account and the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Reserve Account, was established to pay shortfalls in debt service on the 2011 Senior Bonds initially; and once all 2011 Senior Bonds have been redeemed, on the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds; and once all 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds have been redeemed, on the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds. The Trust Indenture contains provisions allowing transfers from Accounts of the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund to the corresponding Accounts of the 2011 Debt Service Fund of amounts needed to pay debt service on the respective tier of 2011 Bonds or to fully pay such tier of 2011 Bonds when prescribed conditions have been met. Minimum balances for each of the Accounts of the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund are determined in accordance with terms prescribed in the Trust Indenture. If any debt service payments are made from any 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund Account, the Trust Indenture requires that the minimum balance of such Account be restored before any debt service payments be made in respect of the 2011 Senior Subordinate or 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds. Amounts in excess of the minimum balance requirement for any 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund Account are transferred to the 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund. The Trust Indenture describes circumstances in which amounts in a 2011 Debt Service Reserve Account will be transferred to the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Account of a subordinate tier of 2011 Bonds. If such transfers are made, the minimum balance requirement for the recipient 2011 Debt Service Reserve Account will be reset.

The 2011 *R&R Fund* was established to reimburse SCDOT, to the extent of available funds, for Highway Maintenance Costs of the Southern Connector, as provided in the License Agreement. The Trustee shall transfer amounts from the 2011 Revenue Fund to the 2011 R&R Fund on or before each 2011 Bond payment date as described above in the New Waterfall. Although the 2011 R&R Fund is maintained by the Trustee, it is not a part of the 2011 Trust Estate.

The 2011 *Extraordinary Prepayment Fund* was established to make mandatory prepayments of the 2011 Bonds in accordance with the Trust Indenture. The 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund will receive transfers from the 2011 Revenue Fund and/or the 2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund, and shall apply amounts to the Extraordinary Mandatory Prepayment of the Series 2011 Bonds in accordance with the terms of the Trust Indenture.

The 2011 *Rebate Fund* was established for the purpose of holding and paying arbitrage investment earnings to the U.S. Treasury. Because tax-exempt bond proceeds are invested at rates of return not exceeding the maximum amount that is permitted under the applicable tax code, at December 31, 2017 and 2016, there were no monies on deposit in this Fund. Although the 2011 Rebate Fund is maintained by the Trustee, it is not a part of the 2011 Trust Estate.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**K. Compensated Absences**

The Association grants its regular full-time employees paid vacation days based on years of service and 10 paid holidays per year. Employees receive no sick days but are allowed to use vacation or holiday time when sick. All vacation and holiday time must be taken in the year earned. Therefore, at December 31, 2017 and 2016, there are no accumulating vacation or holiday benefits, thus no liability for such items was recognized.

**L. Capital Assets and Intangible Assets**

In 2017, the Association refined its financial statement presentation of capital assets by segregating such capital assets into additional classifications. Accordingly, the Association's 2016 presentation of capital assets was revised to conform to the 2017 presentation by reclassifying certain assets into different classifications. Such 2016 reclassifications had no effect on the Association's 2016 operating income or change in net position.

All capital and intangible assets, including the Association's intangible interest in its License Agreement with SCDOT, are stated at cost or at acquisition value at the time of donation. The Association generally follows capitalization policies recommended by the State of South Carolina's Office of Comptroller General.

Pursuant to this policy, equipment and vehicles with individual or group costs greater than \$5,000 and intangible assets (including software) with costs generally in excess of \$100,000 are capitalized. Equipment and vehicle depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the equipment's estimated useful life between four and ten years, or the vehicle's estimated useful life of five years. The Association's intangible software is amortized over three to five years. The Association's intangible interest in its License Agreement with SCDOT is amortized as described in Note 5. When capital assets are disposed of, the cost and accumulated depreciation/amortization are removed from the books. The resulting gain or loss is included in nonoperating revenues or expenses.

**M. Bonds Payable and Related Bond Issuance Costs**

The current and noncurrent portions of bonds payable are recorded as liabilities in the accompanying Statement of Net Position. Bond issuance costs, excluding those related to prepaid insurance costs, are expensed as incurred.

**N. Rebtable Arbitrage**

Arbitrage involves the investment of proceeds resulting from the sale of tax-exempt securities in a taxable investment that yields a higher rate, which produces income in excess of interest costs. With certain exceptions, federal law requires entities to rebate to the government such income on tax-exempt debt if the yield from those earnings exceeds the effective yield on the related tax-exempt debt issued. The Federal Government only requires arbitrage rebates to be calculated, reported and paid every five years or at maturity of the debt, whichever is earlier. However, the potential liability is calculated annually for financial reporting purposes, and any arbitrage rebate liability incurred is recognized at that time. The liability is recorded using the revenue reduction method, whereby the rebate is recorded as a reduction of interest revenue. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Association had no arbitrage liability.

**O. Net Position (Deficit)**

Proprietary Fund equity is classified as net position (deficit) and is displayed as the following three components:

*Net investment in capital assets* — Consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization, 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.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**O. Net Position (Deficit) (Continued)**

*Restricted net position* — Consists of certain assets, reduced by liabilities related to those assets. Assets included in this category of net position include those with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. In all cases, if individual restricted net position categories are negative, the negative balance is eliminated and reclassified against unrestricted net position.

*Unrestricted net position* — All other net position that does not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

Unless otherwise dictated in the Trust Indenture, the Association’s policy is to apply restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

The Association’s net deficit at December 31, 2017 and 2016 represents accumulated shortfalls since commencement of operations because toll revenues have been insufficient to cover interest accretions on the Association’s Bonds. Such accretions are not payable from current toll revenues, but from those to be received in future years.

**P. Reclassifications**

As discussed in item L above and Notes 2 and 4 below, certain amounts pertaining to 2016 capital assets were reclassified to conform to the 2017 financial statement presentation. Such reclassifications had no effect on the Association’s 2016 operating income or change in net position.

**NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

The Association’s Trust Indenture requires that all trust fund bank deposits that are not insured by the FDIC be collateralized by investment securities. The types of investment securities that may be used as collateral are: direct obligations of, or obligations the principal and interest of which are unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States of America or certain of its agencies; repurchase agreements with underlying securities that are obligations of, or guaranteed by, the United States of America or certain of its agencies; certain obligations of, or guaranteed by, any state within the territorial United States of America; agreements that provide for the forward delivery of any securities previously described; investments in money market mutual funds rated “AAAm”, “AAm”, “AAAmG”, or better; unsecured investment agreements with any bank or financial institution, the unsecured debt or counterparty rating of which is “investment grade” rated as of the date of acquisition; and any other obligation which, at the date of acquisition, is rated by a rating agency in one of the two highest rating categories for long-term obligations or in the highest rating category for short-term obligations.

***Deposits***

**Custodial Credit Risk for Deposits:** Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Association’s deposits might not be recovered. The Association does not have a formal deposit policy for custodial credit risk, but follows the guidelines outlined in the Association’s Trust Indenture (as noted earlier) which are consistent with federal and South Carolina law. At December 31, 2017, approximately \$1,654,300 of the Association’s bank balances of approximately \$1,908,600 (with a carrying value of \$1,870,400) were uninsured and uncollateralized. At December 31, 2016, approximately \$1,517,200 of the Association’s bank balances of approximately \$1,769,000 (with a carrying value of \$1,847,306) were uninsured and uncollateralized. The South Carolina State Treasurer held none of the deposits noted above.

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**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

**NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

***Investments***

The South Carolina State Treasurer held none of the investments noted below. As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Association had the following investments as defined by GASB:

Investment Type	Credit Rating <sup>(1)</sup>	Fair Value Level <sup>(2)</sup>	Fair Value	Percentage of Total Investments	Weighted Average Maturity (in Years)
<b><i>December 31, 2017:</i></b>					
Money Market Mutual Funds	AAAm, Aaa-mf, AAAmmf	1	\$ 10,734,664	100.00%	0.082
<b><i>December 31, 2016:</i></b>					
Money Market Mutual Funds	AAAm, Aaa-mf, AAAmmf	1	\$ 7,577,808	79.12%	0.137
United States Treasury Note	N/A	1	2,035,008	21.25%	0.956
Total Fair Value/Weighted Average Maturity			\$ 9,612,816		0.310

<sup>(1)</sup> If available, credit ratings are from Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings.

<sup>(2)</sup> See Note 1, items B and F for information about the Association's fair value hierarchy.

**Interest Rate Risk:** The Association does not have a formal policy limiting investment maturities that would help manage its exposure to fair value losses from increasing interest rates, but follows the investment requirements outlined in the Association's Trust Indenture (as noted earlier) which are consistent with federal and South Carolina law.

**Custodial Credit Risk for Investments:** Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Association will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Association does not have a formal investment policy for custodial credit risk, but follows the guidelines outlined in the Association's Trust Indenture (as noted earlier). As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, none of the Association's investments were exposed to custodial credit risk.

**Credit Risk for Investments:** Credit risk for investments is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Association does not have a formal investment policy for credit risk but follows the guidelines outlined in the Association's Trust Indenture (as noted earlier) which are consistent with federal and South Carolina law.

**Concentration of Credit Risk for Investments:** The Association places no limit on the amount the Association may invest in any one issuer. Investments issued by or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government and investments in mutual funds, external investment pools and other pooled investments are exempt from concentration of credit risk disclosures.

The following schedule reconciles deposits and investments within the notes to the amounts in the Statements of Net Position:

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

**NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

*Investments (Continued)*

**Concentration of Credit Risk for Investments (Continued):**

Statements of Net Position			Notes		
	2017	2016		2017	2016
Unrestricted Current Assets:					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,870,400	\$ 1,847,306	Deposits	\$ 1,870,400	\$ 1,847,306
Investments	-	-	Investments	10,734,664	9,612,816
Restricted Noncurrent Assets:					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10,734,664	7,577,808			
Investments	-	2,035,008			
	<u>\$ 12,605,064</u>	<u>\$ 11,460,122</u>		<u>\$ 12,605,064</u>	<u>\$ 11,460,122</u>

See Note 1, item J, Note 8 and Note 10 for additional information about restrictions on deposits and balances of the various Trust Funds at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

**NOTE 3 – RECEIVABLES**

At December 31, 2017, the Association's balance of miscellaneous receivables totaled \$4,416. All of the receivables were deemed collectible; hence, no allowance for doubtful accounts was required. The Association had no receivable balances at December 31, 2016.

**NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

In 2017, the Association has refined its capital asset disclosures by presenting more detailed asset category information. The following tables summarize the changes in capital assets of the Association during the past two years and their balances at December 31, 2017 and 2016. Certain amounts in the 2015-2016 table below have been revised to conform with the 2016-2017 presentation, including 2016 asset additions and disposals, and reclassifications of December 31, 2015 balances among the asset categories.

Description	Balance			Transfers	Balance	
	December 31, 2016	Additions	Disposals		December 31, 2016	December 31, 2017
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:						
Toll System Development In Progress	\$ 863,323	\$ 456,167	\$ -	\$ (1,319,490)	\$ -	\$ -
Deposit on Equipment	3,493	12,141	-	(15,634)	-	-
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	<u>866,816</u>	<u>468,308</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,335,124)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:						
Equipment	459,085	8,531	-	227,446		695,062
Software	22,270	-	-	1,107,678		1,129,948
Vehicles	183,451	85,682	(75,285)	-		193,848
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(554,643)</u>	<u>(164,426)</u>	<u>63,064</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>(656,005)</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	<u>110,163</u>	<u>(66,919)</u>	<u>(12,221)</u>	<u>1,335,124</u>		<u>1,362,853</u>
Total Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 976,979</u>	<u>\$ 398,095</u>	<u>\$ (12,221)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>		<u>\$ 1,362,853</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

**NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS (CONTINUED)**

Description	Balance				Balance
	December 31, 2015	Additions	Disposals	Reclassifications	December 31, 2016
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated/Amortized:					
Toll System Development In Progress	\$ 306,944	\$ 556,379	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 863,323
Deposit on Equipment	-	3,493	-	-	3,493
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated/Amortized	<u>306,944</u>	<u>559,872</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>866,816</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated/Amortized:					
Equipment	956,376	16,012	(304,852)	(208,451)	459,085
Software	-	-	-	22,270	22,270
Vehicles	-	18,331	(21,061)	186,181	183,451
Less: Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	<u>(800,967)</u>	<u>(73,112)</u>	<u>319,436</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(554,643)</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated/Amortized, Net	<u>155,409</u>	<u>(38,769)</u>	<u>(6,477)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>110,163</u>
Total Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 462,353</u>	<u>\$ 521,103</u>	<u>\$ (6,477)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 976,979</u>

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Association completed its project to develop and implement a new toll system. The Association paid a total of \$1,107,678 for the new toll system software, which comprised \$1,106,167 paid to Brisa Innovation Technologies (“Brisa”) for milestone payments under its toll system development contract and a website add-on, and \$1,511 paid to another vendor for other software development costs. In addition, the Association purchased equipment and computer hardware necessary to effect the toll system upgrade from various vendors at a total cost of \$211,812. As of December 31, 2016, the Association’s nondepreciable toll system development in progress related to its toll system upgrade included \$650,000 paid to Brisa for milestone achievements to date, \$1,511 for other software development costs and \$211,812 of equipment purchases.

For the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, depreciation/amortization expense related to capital assets was \$164,426 and \$73,112, respectively. See Note 1, item L for additional information about the Association’s capitalization policy, and its methods of calculating depreciation/amortization.

The Association’s toll system development contract with Brisa includes a minimum one-month training period and a minimum 60-month support period (to overlap the training period) during which the Association will pay Brisa \$937,409 in 60 monthly installments. The monthly toll system support payments began in July 2017, when provisional acceptance of the toll system was granted; accordingly, the Association’s professional fees expense for 2017 included \$93,741 paid to Brisa for such toll system support. At December 31, 2017, the Association had \$843,668 of outstanding toll system support commitments related to the toll system upgrade contract. At December 31, 2016, outstanding commitments related to the toll system development contract totaled \$1,328,296.

**NOTE 5 – INTEREST IN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SCDOT**

Upon confirmation by the Bankruptcy Court of and as a means of implementing the Association’s Debt Adjustment Plan, the Association entered into a revised License Agreement with SCDOT, which became effective April 21, 2011. The revised License Agreement specifies that any terms of the original License Agreement that are not amended or modified by the revised License Agreement remain in effect.

The revisions to the original License Agreement include (1) requiring the Association to make periodic deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund, (2) modification of the Association’s responsibility for performance and payment of highway maintenance, repair and renewal, (3) elimination of License Fees payable to SCDOT, (4) modification of the manner in which toll rates are set, and (5) prohibiting SCDOT from terminating the License Agreement for any insolvency of or failure by the Association to pay or perform its obligations due to insufficient toll revenues.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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**NOTE 5 – INTEREST IN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SCDOT (CONTINUED)**

Under the License Agreement, SCDOT is responsible for performance and payment of all highway maintenance of the Southern Connector. As defined in the License Agreement, highway maintenance includes all maintenance, repair, renewal, replacement, enhancement, resurfacing and restoration of the Southern Connector. The Association is not required to perform or pay for any highway maintenance of the Southern Connector.

The Association's sole obligation related to highway maintenance is to make the periodic deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund described above in items 2, 4, 7 and 9 of the New Waterfall discussed in Note 1, item J. The Association's inability to make deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund due to insufficiency of toll revenues will not result in a default under the License Agreement, nor will any resulting nonpayments constitute arrearages requiring deposits to the 2011 R&R Fund from future Distributable Cash.

Once SCDOT has incurred highway maintenance costs relating to the Southern Connector, SCDOT may, on a quarterly basis, submit to the Association a requisition for reimbursement and supporting documentation of such highway maintenance costs to be paid from monies deposited in the 2011 R&R Fund. The Association shall in turn request the 2011 Trustee to pay to SCDOT such amounts requested for reimbursement from the 2011 R&R Fund.

The Association has or will appoint at its expense an Association Engineer to perform an inspection of the Southern Connector to identify, review, monitor and report highway maintenance issues and needs, and the Association Engineer may estimate the costs of addressing those issues and needs, and assess the appropriate timing of performing related maintenance activities. The parties will collaborate with SCDOT to schedule necessary highway maintenance activities.

The Association is responsible for maintenance and related costs of the Southern Connector toll facilities under the License Agreement.

Under the Association's Debt Adjustment Plan, toll rates were initially set at amounts set forth in the Stantec Traffic Study as defined in the License Agreement. Subsequent revisions of the Southern Connector toll rates are permitted or required in certain circumstances as prescribed by the terms of the Association's Trust Indenture and the License Agreement.

Any revisions to the toll rates shall require a toll rate study to be performed by a qualified independent traffic and revenue consultant selected by the Association. The consultant will study the toll rates charged for use of the Southern Connector, the past and future projected traffic and other relevant factors in order to determine the toll rates which, in the opinion of the consultant, will maximize Southern Connector toll revenues over a projected period of at least five years.

Prior to commencement of the toll rate study, the Association must submit the name and a summary of qualifications of the selected independent traffic and revenue consultant to SCDOT for approval.

As prescribed in the License Agreement, SCDOT may object to the Association's selection of a consultant on the basis of lack of expertise or qualifications and propose at least one alternate consultant considered acceptable by SCDOT for the performance of the toll rate study.

Once the toll rate study has been completed by the independent traffic and revenue consultant, the Association will deliver a copy of such toll rate study to SCDOT and the 2011 Bonds Trustee, and, at the Association's request, SCDOT will confirm the effectiveness of and take other steps as necessary to implement the recommended revisions to the Southern Connector toll rates.

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**NOTE 5 – INTEREST IN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SCDOT (CONTINUED)**

The License Agreement specifies that neither SCDOT nor the State of South Carolina is responsible for determining whether the toll rates charged by the Association are adequate to satisfy the Association’s obligations to third parties.

The License Agreement allows the Association to grant toll rate discounts to encourage the use of the electronic toll collection system or to provide an incentive to fleet purchasers. Any such discounts will not be deemed a revision of toll rates.

The first toll rate study required since the effective date of the Association’s Debt Adjustment Plan was performed during 2015. Accordingly, in January 2016, the Association implemented the new toll rates recommended in the toll rate study.

The License Agreement shall expire on July 22, 2051, or upon repayment, redemption or defeasance of the 2011 Bonds and all other project debt. The License Agreement also includes other termination provisions, but specifically states that the failure of the Association to pay any amounts owing or to perform any obligations under the License Agreement due to insufficient toll revenues shall not be an event of default under the License Agreement.

Provisions are included to extend the License Agreement’s term by any period equal to any length of time during which toll revenues are impaired due to events of force majeure, or upon written agreement by the Association and SCDOT.

Under the License Agreement, SCDOT at all times retains fee simple title to the Southern Connector, all tolling facilities and all real property and improvements thereon. All machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures and other personal property are the sole property of the Association. Neither the State of South Carolina nor any political subdivision or agency thereof (including, without limitation, SCDOT, the County of Greenville, South Carolina, and the City of Greenville, South Carolina) have any liability whatsoever for payment of any Bonds or any other obligations secured by the License Agreement.

The Association is amortizing the License Agreement through its contractual termination date, or July 2051.

The Association’s rights under its License Agreement with SCDOT constitute a service concession arrangement that is accounted for as an intangible asset valued and recorded at an amount equal to the cost of construction of the Southern Connector, including related capitalized interest, less cumulative amortization. (See Note 1, items I and L for additional information.) The following tables summarize the activity related to the Association’s Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT (intangible asset) during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016:

Description	Balance			Balance	
	December 31, 2016	Additions	Disposals	December 31, 2017	
Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT	\$ 192,623,492	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 192,623,492	
Less: Accumulated Amortization	(69,007,545)	(3,574,440)	-	(72,581,985)	
Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT, Net	<u>\$ 123,615,947</u>	<u>\$ (3,574,440)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 120,041,507</u>	

Description	Balance			Balance	
	December 31, 2015	Additions	Disposals	December 31, 2016	
Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT	\$ 192,623,492	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 192,623,492	
Less: Accumulated Amortization	(65,433,105)	(3,574,440)	-	(69,007,545)	
Interest in License Agreement with SCDOT, Net	<u>\$ 127,190,387</u>	<u>\$ (3,574,440)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 123,615,947</u>	



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**NOTE 6 – PAYABLES**

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Association's accounts payable comprised the following:

Description	Balance	Balance
	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Accounts Payable - Trade	\$ 11,911	\$ 15,244
Accrued Payroll	61,539	48,783
Accrued Payroll Taxes	5,192	3,982
Accrued Professional Fees	13,909	13,808
Premiums Payable on Extraordinary Mandatory Bond Prepayments/Redemptions	3,341	-
Total Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 95,892</u>	<u>\$ 81,817</u>

At December 31, 2016, the Association had accrued \$50,000 of retainage payable related to its toll system upgrade discussed in Note 4. The Association had no retainage payable at December 31, 2017.

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Association had accrued \$327,000 and \$257,793, respectively, of maintenance payable to SCDOT solely from the 2011 R&R Fund. These amounts were billed by SCDOT for maintenance performed during the respective year's fourth quarter in accordance with the maintenance provisions of the License Agreement. See Note 1, items B and J, and Notes 5 and 10 for additional information.

**NOTE 7 – INTEREST COSTS INCURRED**

Interest costs expensed during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 totaled \$13,533,635 and \$12,960,312, respectively. Interest expense in 2017 included interest accreted on the Association's 2011 Bonds and the accrued premiums paid as part of the extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions discussed in Notes 6 and 8, while 2016 interest expense included only interest accreted on the Association's 2011 Bonds.

**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE**

Upon confirmation by the Bankruptcy Court of and as a means of implementing the Association's Debt Adjustment Plan, on April 21, 2011, the Association issued its 2011 Bonds, consisting of both Serial and Term capital appreciation bonds, in exchange for the Association's 1998 Bonds. At that time, the Association's obligations under the 2011 Bonds were substituted for its obligations under the 1998 Bonds, and the Association was relieved of any further obligations under the 1998 Bonds. The 2011 Bonds were issued to the existing holders of the 1998 Bonds on a pro rata basis, based on unpaid principal and accrued/accreted interest as of the Bankruptcy Petition date of June 24, 2010. The Series 2011A and 2011B Bonds were exchanged for the 1998 Senior Bonds, and the Series 2011C Bonds were exchanged for the 1998 Subordinate Bonds.

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

The Series 2011A, 2011B and 2011C Term Bonds as originally issued in April 2011 are registered with the Depository Trust Corporation (the “DTC”) and are Pro-Rata Term Bonds for which each holder of such Bonds will receive a pro-rata share of any debt service payment made by the Association on such Bonds. In 2012, the Association effected a mandatory Bond Exchange (with option to retain) of 2011 Pro-Rata Term Bonds for 2011 By-Lot Term Bonds. The 2011 By-Lot Term Bonds are registered with the DTC in a form that allows such Bonds to be traded on the secondary market; however, in accordance with DTC policies and procedures, the distribution of debt service redemption payments made on such Bonds prior to maturity occurs “by-lot” under a lottery system, rather than on a pro-rata basis. Accordingly, holders of the 2011 By-Lot Term Bonds are not assured of the timing of any particular bond payment prior to maturity. The option to retain provision of the Bond Exchange allowed holders of the Association’s 2011 Term Bonds to decide whether they would retain their 2011 Pro-Rata Term Bonds as originally issued (the “2011 Retained Term Bonds”) and suffer the illiquidity of those obligations, or exchange those Bonds for 2011 By-Lot Term Bonds (the “2011 New Term Bonds”) and accept the uncertainty of timing of debt service payments.

The Bond Exchange did not alter the Association’s financial obligations under its 2011 Term Bonds.

All of the Association’s 2011 Bonds are dated April 1, 2011, and accrete interest from that date. Interest on the Association’s 2011 bonds is tax-exempt.

The Association’s 2011 Bonds consist of the following. (Descriptions of the Association’s Term Bonds have been updated for the Bond Exchange as noted.)

The 2011 Senior Bonds as follows:

- *Series 2011A Senior Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011A Serial Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and originally included eleven serial bonds. The original principal amount at issuance of these serial bonds totaled \$36,625,650. Seven serial bonds remained outstanding following the Association’s January 1, 2015 payment of debt service and before 2016 activity. Such remaining outstanding serial bonds mature January 1 of the years 2016 through 2022 inclusive, and accrete interest at rates ranging from 4.75% to 6.00%.
- *Series 2011A Senior Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011A Retained Term Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and include three term bonds.
  - The Series 2011A term bonds maturing on January 1, 2032, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$163,949 are subject to annual pro rata paydown payments on January 1 of the years 2023 through 2031 in varying amounts from \$34,395 to \$54,516, with a payment of \$55,448 at final maturity on January 1, 2032. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 6.50%.
  - The Series 2011A term bonds maturing on January 1, 2042, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$126,990 are subject to annual pro rata paydown payments on January 1 of the years 2033 through 2041 in varying amounts from \$63,621 to \$89,912, with a payment of \$90,392 at final maturity on January 1, 2042. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 7.00%.
  - The Series 2011A term bonds maturing on July 22, 2051, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$73,418 are subject to annual pro rata paydown payments on January 1 of the years 2043 through 2051 in varying amounts from \$90,876 to \$113,077, with a payment of \$57,143 (as revised following the extraordinary mandatory prepayments paid on February 15, 2014 and 2018) at final maturity on July 22, 2051. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 7.50%.

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

- *Series 2011A1 Senior Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011A1 New Term Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and include three term bonds.
  - The Series 2011A1 term bonds maturing on January 1, 2032, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$40,455,704 and a maturity value of \$149,446,102 are subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to payments of sinking fund installments on January 1 of the years 2023 through 2031 in varying amounts from \$8,487,008 to \$13,452,215, with a payment of \$13,683,044 at final maturity on January 1, 2032. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 6.50%.
  - The Series 2011A1 term bonds maturing on January 1, 2042, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$31,336,681 and a maturity value of \$250,959,619 are subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to payments of sinking fund installments on January 1 of the years 2033 through 2041 in varying amounts from \$15,698,783 to \$22,186,026, with a payment of \$22,305,954 at final maturity on January 1, 2042. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 7.00%.
  - The Series 2011A1 term bonds maturing on July 22, 2051, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$18,117,434 and a maturity value of \$334,287,216 are subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to payments of sinking fund installments on January 1 of the years 2043 through 2051 in varying amounts from \$22,424,076 to \$27,900,334, with a payment of \$14,096,699 (as revised following the extraordinary mandatory redemptions paid on February 15, 2014 and 2018) at final maturity on July 22, 2051. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 7.5%.

The *2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds* as follows:

- *Series 2011B Senior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011B Retained Term Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and include two term bonds.
  - The Series 2011B term bonds maturing on January 1, 2032, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$56,612 are subject to annual pro rata paydown payments on January 1 of the years 2013 through 2031 in varying amounts from \$2,754 to \$12,923, with a payment of \$13,152 at final maturity on January 1, 2032. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 8.50%.
  - The Series 2011B term bonds maturing on July 22, 2051, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$28,491 are subject to annual pro rata paydown payments on January 1 of the years 2033 through 2051 in varying amounts from \$14,702 to \$26,129, with a payment of \$14,676 at final maturity on July 22, 2051. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 9.00%.
- *Series 2011B1 Senior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011B1 New Term Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and include two term bonds.
  - The Series 2011B1 term bonds maturing on January 1, 2032, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$13,606,458 and a maturity value of \$73,945,516 are subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to payments of sinking fund installments on January 1 of the years 2013 through 2031 in varying amounts from \$662,275 to \$3,106,955, with a payment of \$3,160,274 at final maturity on January 1, 2032. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 8.50%.

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

- The Series 2011B1 term bonds maturing on July 22, 2051, with an aggregate original principal amount of \$7,029,534 and a maturity value of \$226,739,016 are subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to payments of sinking fund installments on January 1 of the years 2033 through 2051 in varying amounts from \$3,626,162 to \$6,444,579, with a payment of \$3,616,453 at final maturity on July 22, 2051. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 9.00%.

The 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds as follows:

- *Series 2011C Junior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011C Retained Term Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and include term bonds with an aggregate original principal amount of \$17,943. These term bonds are subject to annual pro rata paydown payments on January 1 of the years 2013 through 2051 in varying amounts from \$697 to \$6,762, with a payment of \$3,775 at final maturity on July 22, 2051. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 10.00%.
- *Series 2011C1 Junior Subordinate Capital Appreciation Toll Road Revenue Bonds* (the “Series 2011C1 New Term Bonds”) are dated April 1, 2011, and include term bonds with an aggregate original principal amount of \$2,142,491 and a maturity value of \$97,782,636. These term bonds are subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to payments of sinking fund installments on January 1 of the years 2013 through 2051 in varying amounts from \$81,503 to \$792,986, with a payment of \$445,033 at final maturity on July 22, 2051. Interest accretes on these term bonds at 10.00%.

In addition to the regularly scheduled debt service payments described above, the Trust Indenture requires or allows the Association to make additional payments of debt service in certain situations.

The Association is required to make extraordinary mandatory prepayments of its 2011 Retained Term Bonds and redemptions of its 2011 New Term Bonds if on any January 1, the 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund described in Note 1, item J contains in excess of \$50,000. In such case, the monies in the 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund shall be applied toward extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions of the 2011 Bonds on the following February 15, at 105% of the accreted value of the respective 2011 Bonds being paid. Extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions shall pay the 2011 Senior Bonds first. If there are no 2011 Senior Bonds outstanding, then the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds shall be prepaid/redeemed. If there are no outstanding 2011 Senior or Senior Subordinate Bonds, then the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds shall be prepaid/redeemed. The Association made such extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions in 2014 and 2018. See Note 13 for information regarding the extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions made by the Association on February 15, 2018.

At any time on or after April 1, 2026, the Association may make optional prepayments of its 2011 Retained Term Bonds or redemptions of its 2011 New Term Bonds at prescribed percentages of such 2011 Bonds’ respective accreted values. If the Association makes optional partial prepayments/redemptions of its 2011 Retained/New Term Bonds, the amount of such 2011 Retained/New Term Bonds to be prepaid/redeemed will be selected ratably based upon the accreted values of the outstanding 2011 Retained/New Term Bonds as of the prepayment/redemption date.

Any extraordinary mandatory or optional prepayments of the Association’s 2011 Retained Term Bonds will be distributed to Bondholders on a pro-rata basis. Any extraordinary mandatory or optional redemptions of less than all of the Association’s 2011 New Term Bonds of a single maturity will be distributed to Bondholders by lot.

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

The Association's bonds payable activity for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 was as follows:

	Balance December 31, 2016	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31, 2017	Amount Due in One Year
<u>Senior Bonds:</u>					
Series 2011A Serial Bonds	\$ 32,830,975	\$ 1,622,715	\$ 4,910,451	\$ 29,543,239	\$ 5,426,706
Series 2011A Retained Term Bonds	533,876	36,748	-	570,624	268 #
Series 2011A1 New Term Bonds	131,740,002	9,068,083	-	140,808,085	66,548 #
Total Senior Bonds	<u>165,104,853</u>	<u>10,727,546</u>	<u>4,910,451</u>	<u>170,921,948</u>	<u>5,493,522</u>
<u>Senior Subordinate Bonds:</u>					
Series 2011B Retained Term Bonds	122,321	10,233	4,700	127,854	5,195
Series 2011B1 New Term Bonds	29,698,769	2,485,943	1,129,556	31,055,156	1,248,299
Total Senior Subordinate Bonds	<u>29,821,090</u>	<u>2,496,176</u>	<u>1,134,256</u>	<u>31,183,010</u>	<u>1,253,494</u>
<u>Junior Subordinate Bonds:</u>					
Series 2011C Retained Term Bonds	27,126	2,593	1,190	28,529	1,315
Series 2011C1 New Term Bonds	3,171,419	303,979	138,988	3,336,410	153,634
Total Junior Subordinate Bonds	<u>3,198,545</u>	<u>306,572</u>	<u>140,178</u>	<u>3,364,939</u>	<u>154,949</u>
Total Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>\$ 198,124,488</u>	<u>\$ 13,530,294</u>	<u>\$ 6,184,885</u>	<u>\$ 205,469,897</u>	<u>\$ 6,901,965</u>

	Balance December 31, 2015	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31, 2016	Amount Due in One Year
<u>Senior Bonds:</u>					
Series 2011A Serial Bonds	\$ 34,693,133	\$ 1,767,418	\$ 3,629,576	\$ 32,830,975	\$ 4,910,451
Series 2011A Retained Term Bonds	499,501	34,375	-	533,876	-
Series 2011A1 New Term Bonds	123,258,776	8,481,226	-	131,740,002	-
Total Senior Bonds	<u>158,451,410</u>	<u>10,283,019</u>	<u>3,629,576</u>	<u>165,104,853</u>	<u>4,910,451</u>
<u>Senior Subordinate Bonds:</u>					
Series 2011B Retained Term Bonds	116,015	9,780	3,474	122,321	4,700
Series 2011B1 New Term Bonds	28,156,646	2,377,047	834,924	29,698,769	1,129,556
Total Senior Subordinate Bonds	<u>28,272,661</u>	<u>2,386,827</u>	<u>838,398</u>	<u>29,821,090</u>	<u>1,134,256</u>
<u>Junior Subordinate Bonds:</u>					
Series 2011C Retained Term Bonds	25,539	2,466	879	27,126	1,190
Series 2011C1 New Term Bonds	2,986,165	288,000	102,746	3,171,419	138,988
Total Junior Subordinate Bonds	<u>3,011,704</u>	<u>290,466</u>	<u>103,625</u>	<u>3,198,545</u>	<u>140,178</u>
Total Revenue Bonds Payable	<u>\$ 189,735,775</u>	<u>\$ 12,960,312</u>	<u>\$ 4,571,599</u>	<u>\$ 198,124,488</u>	<u>\$ 6,184,885</u>

# Amounts due in one year at December 31, 2017, on the Series 2011A Retained Term Bonds and the 2011A1 New Term Bonds represent the extraordinary mandatory prepayments and redemptions (discussed below and in Note 13) that were paid in February 2018. Such amounts due in one year exclude the premiums paid with the February 2018 extraordinary mandatory prepayments and redemptions.

During 2017, increases in bonds payable totaled \$13,530,294 and represented accretions on the Association's bonds. Those accretions plus \$3,341 of accrued premiums (paid as part of the February 2018 extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions of 2011 bonds) were recorded as interest expense; accordingly, total interest expense for 2017 was \$13,533,635. The 2017 decreases in bonds payable of \$6,184,885 represented debt service payments that were made in January 2017. In 2016, accretions on the Association's bonds of \$12,960,312 increased bonds payable and were recorded as interest expense for the year. The debt service payments made in January of 2016 decreased bonds payable by \$4,571,599.

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

The following schedule summarizes the Association’s debt service requirements to maturity as of December 31, 2017. Since all of the 2011 Bonds are capital appreciation bonds, accretions are accounted for as interest expense and additions to principal. For purposes of the following debt service schedule, all accretions are included as principal, and no interest is shown. The amount shown as debt service for 2018 includes the Association’s extraordinary mandatory prepayment/redemption paid in February 2018. (See Note 13 for more information.)

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest	Totals
2018	\$ 6,901,965	\$ -	\$ 6,901,965
2019	7,441,151	-	7,441,151
2020	8,093,693	-	8,093,693
2021	9,600,057	-	9,600,057
2022	10,151,975	-	10,151,975
2023 - 2027	62,656,240	-	62,656,240
2028 - 2032	81,314,258	-	81,314,258
2033 - 2037	105,224,737	-	105,224,737
2038 - 2042	129,924,455	-	129,924,455
2043 - 2047	151,559,041	-	151,559,041
2048 - 2051	155,428,382	-	155,428,382
	<u>\$ 728,295,954</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 728,295,954</u>

As discussed in Note 1, item J, the terms of the Trust Indenture require the establishment of various 2011 Trust Fund Accounts. The monies deposited into the 2011 Trust Fund Accounts are invested as provided in the Trust Indenture. The types of payments that may be made from the various 2011 Trust Fund Accounts are specified in the Trust Indenture. All of the 2011 Trust Fund Accounts established under the Trust Indenture except for the 2011 R&R Fund and the 2011 Rebate Fund are included in the 2011 Trust Estate, which the Association has pledged as security for payment of the 2011 Bonds. The 2011 Trust Estate also includes the Association’s interest in Revenues as defined in the Trust Indenture, the Association’s interest in its License Agreement with the SCDOT, and any other property pledged as security for the 2011 Bonds.

At December 31, 2017 and 2016, the following accounts established by the Trust Indenture were included in the Trust Estate and provided security for the 2011 Bonds. The balances shown below include accruals of year-end interest and any year-end transfers prescribed by the New Waterfall as discussed in Note 1, item J above.

Trust Account	Amount	
	2017	2016
2011 Revenue Fund	\$ 4,672	\$ 480
2011 Debt Service Fund	6,835,648	6,184,885
2011 Debt Service Reserve Fund	2,035,054	2,035,415
2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund	70,187	39,649
Total	<u>\$ 8,945,561</u>	<u>\$ 8,260,429</u>

During the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, payments from the various accounts were made in accordance with the terms of the Trust Indenture. (See Note 1, item J for more details).

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

The 2011 Bonds are expressly nonrecourse to the Association, the State of South Carolina, SCDOT or any agency, department or political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, and are payable solely from the 2011 Trust Estate. The 2011 Bonds are not rated by a national rating agency.

The 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds are subordinated to the 2011 Senior Bonds in all respects, including in right of payment and priority of liens. The 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds are subordinated to the 2011 Senior and Senior Subordinate Bonds in all respects, including in right of payment and priority of liens.

If any debt service payment pertaining to any tier of 2011 Bonds is not paid when due, the Trust Indenture prescribes the manner in which subsequent payments of debt service in respect of such tier of 2011 Bonds shall be applied, first, to any Arrearages, and, second, to the current debt service owing on such tier of 2011 Bonds. The Trust Indenture specifies that any amounts owing on the 2011 Bonds that are unpaid due to insufficient Distributable Cash (defined in Note 1, item J) shall be deferred and bear interest from the date of non-payment at a rate equal to the interest rate or yield on the 2011 Bond to which such unpaid amount relates, compounded annually. The term *Arrearages* in the Trust Indenture refers to such unpaid amounts plus interest.

If on any 2011 Bond payment date, no 2011 Bonds remain outstanding in any tier, the remaining 2011 Bonds of subordinate tiers will ascend to the next higher tier in the hierarchy described in the New Waterfall in Note 1, item J above. For example, if no 2011 Senior Bonds are outstanding on any 2011 Bond payment date, then any 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds outstanding will be treated as 2011 Senior Bonds payable from the 2011 Senior Bonds Debt Service Account, and any 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds outstanding will be treated as 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds payable from the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds Debt Service Account.

The 2011 Bonds are subject to certain bond covenants other than payment covenants. The bond covenants include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Association is prohibited from taking any action, or omitting to take any action, that would cause the 2011 Bonds to lose their tax-exempt status.
- By June 30 of each year, an Association Engineer (as defined) is required to inspect the toll road and submit a report documenting the Association Engineer's findings as to whether the Southern Connector has been maintained by SCDOT in good repair and any deficiencies in the physical condition of the toll road. The report shall identify any highway maintenance needs of the Southern Connector, an assessment of the materiality of such needs, and may estimate the cost and appropriate timing of such needs. The Association received the latest report from its Engineer in June 2017 and in turn submitted that report to the Association's Trustee and SCDOT. At the time these financial statements were issued, the 2018 Engineer's inspection was underway.
- On or before April 30, 2016, and once every five years thereafter as prescribed in the Trust Indenture, the Association shall retain an independent traffic and revenue consultant to perform a toll rate study to determine the optimum toll rates to be charged for the Southern Connector. In addition, a toll rate study will be required if (a) the Association fails to make any debt service payment on its 2011 Senior and/or Senior Subordinate Bonds, or (b) the debt service coverage ratio (as defined in the Trust Indenture) for the 2011 Senior Bonds is less than (i) 1.20 for periods ending on or before January 1, 2016 and (ii) 1.25 for periods ending after January 1, 2016, or (c) the debt service coverage ratio (as defined in the Trust Indenture) for the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds is less than 1.00 for any period. Despite the above provisions, the Association will not be required to have a toll rate study performed more frequently than once every two years.

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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

Copies of any toll rate study will be presented to SCDOT, the Trustee and the 2011 Bondholders. Unless the 2011 Bondholders submit an objection in accordance with the terms of the Trust Indenture, the toll rates on the Southern Connector will be set at the optimum toll rates as determined by the traffic and revenue consultant and reported in the toll rate study.

- The Association shall certify to the 2011 Trustee the actual debt service coverage ratios compared to the threshold ratios set forth above. Calculations of the actual debt service coverage ratios shall accompany such certification.
- Prior to the end of each fiscal year, the Association is required to file an annual budget for the next fiscal year with the 2011 Trustee.

The terms of the Trust Indenture provide that any of the following events will be considered an event of default under such Trust Indenture:

- The Association's failure to make any scheduled debt service payment or any mandatory prepayment/redemption of the 2011 Senior Bonds will constitute an event of default. Once all of the 2011 Senior Bonds have been paid, failure to make any scheduled debt service payment or any mandatory prepayment/redemption of the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds will constitute an event of default under the Trust Indenture. Once all of the 2011 Senior Bonds and all of the 2011 Senior Subordinate Bonds have been paid, failure to make any scheduled debt service payment or any mandatory prepayment/redemption of the 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds will constitute an event of default under the Trust Indenture. The Trust Indenture clarifies that the occurrence of an event of default pertaining to any tier of 2011 Bonds as described in this bullet will not automatically cause an event of default with respect to any other tier of 2011 Bonds.
- The Association's failure to perform any covenant other than those relating to payment of the 2011 Bonds will constitute an event of default, if such failure continues 30 days after written notice of the failure has been provided to the Association by the Trustee or to the Association and the Trustee by not less than 25% of the 2011 Senior and/or 2011 Senior Subordinate Bondholders. However, if the Association has taken action to cure such failure within 30 days of receipt of the written notice, the duration of the cure period will be extended to 180 days following the date of the written notice, and no event of default will be deemed to occur, so long as the Association continues to diligently attempt to cure the failure within the 180-day cure period.
- An event of default shall be deemed to occur if the Association (i) voluntarily files a bankruptcy petition or any petition seeking reorganization, readjustment or relief of its debts under federal or State bankruptcy or insolvency act or law; (ii) takes any action consenting to, approving, or acquiescing in any such petition or proceeding; (iii) applies for, or consents to or acquiesces in the appointment of, a receiver or trustee of the Association or for all or a substantial part of its property; (iv) makes an assignment for the benefit of its creditors; or (v) is unable to, or admits in writing its inability to, pay its debts as they come due (except for any inability to make payments due on its 2011 Senior Subordinate or 2011 Junior Subordinate Bonds that would not constitute an event of default under the first bullet above of this paragraph).
- Involuntary bankruptcy proceedings; involuntary petitions seeking reorganization, readjustment or relief of the Association's debts under federal or State bankruptcy or insolvency act or law; or petitions seeking the involuntary appointment of a receiver or trustee of the Association or for all or a substantial part of the Association's property will constitute an event of default if such proceedings or petitions continue undismissed or undischarged for 90 days, or if such proceedings or petitions result in a ruling of bankruptcy or insolvency.



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**NOTE 8 – BONDS PAYABLE (CONTINUED)**

The Trust Indenture does not provide any right to accelerate the maturity of the 2011 Bonds. If an event of default occurs, the 2011 Trustee shall have the right to retain, or cause the Association to retain, (i) an independent consultant to recommend the optimum toll rates for the Southern Connector, and (ii) a management consultant or other third party to examine and make recommendations regarding the Association's operations and operating costs. Unless certain 2011 Bondholders object to the recommendations made by such consultant or other third party, the Association will be required to implement those recommendations to the extent it is able to do so.

The Association monitors the above covenants for compliance throughout the year. The Association believes it was in compliance with and has met its 2011 Bond covenants as of and during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

More detailed information pertaining to the Association's 2011 Bonds, including complete copies of the First Amended and Restated Master Indenture of Trust; the First Supplemental Indenture of Trust; and related filings, notices and Court Orders pertaining to the Bond Exchange, may be found on the Association's website, [www.SouthernConnector.com](http://www.SouthernConnector.com) under the *Bankruptcy Filings* link under the *Postings* arrow.

**NOTE 9 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Association is exposed to various types of risk including loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; injuries to construction workers and others; professional design; and damage to property of others. The Association obtained commercial insurance covering known risks of loss as follows:

Automobile Liability	Professional Design	Worker's Compensation
Crime	Directors and Officers	Force Majeure
Builder's Risk	General Liability	

No claim settlements have exceeded insurance coverage during the past three years. There were no materially significant reductions in insurance coverage during the years ended December 31, 2017 or 2016.

**NOTE 10 – 2011 R&R FUND ACTIVITY**

The Association's sole obligation related to maintenance of the Southern Connector under its License Agreement with SCDOT is to make periodic deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund as prescribed by the New Waterfall provisions of the Trust Indenture. As SCDOT incurs highway maintenance costs relating to the Southern Connector, the License Agreement permits SCDOT to submit quarterly to the Association, requisitions for reimbursement of such highway maintenance costs. Any SCDOT highway maintenance cost requisitions received by the Association will be paid from, and to the extent of, monies accumulated in the 2011 R&R Fund. (See Note 1, item J and Note 5 for additional information.)

At December 31, 2016, the balance of the Association's 2011 R&R Fund account was \$1,352,387. During 2017, deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund consisted of \$760,774 deposited in accordance with the New Waterfall provisions of the Trust Indenture and \$4,422 of interest income. The Association paid \$329,224 of highway maintenance expense incurred by SCDOT, of which \$257,793 was accrued and expensed in 2016. At December 31, 2017, the Association accrued \$327,000 of highway maintenance expense to be reimbursed from the 2011 R&R Fund in 2018. Total highway maintenance expense recognized by the Association for the year ended December 31, 2017 was \$398,431. At December 31, 2017, the balance of the 2011 R&R Fund was \$1,788,359 and the Fund's net position was \$1,461,358.

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**NOTE 10 – 2011 R&R FUND ACTIVITY (CONTINUED)**

At December 31, 2015, the balance of the Association's 2011 R&R Fund account was \$905,989. During 2016, deposits into the 2011 R&R Fund consisted of \$678,720 deposited in accordance with the New Waterfall provisions of the Trust Indenture and \$223 of interest income. In 2016, the Association paid \$232,545 of highway maintenance expense incurred by SCDOT, of which \$26,839 was accrued and expensed in 2015. At December 31, 2016, the Association accrued \$257,793 of highway maintenance expense to be reimbursed from the 2011 R&R Fund in 2017. Total highway maintenance expense recognized by the Association for the year ended December 31, 2016 was \$463,499. At December 31, 2016, the balance of the 2011 R&R Fund was \$1,352,387 and the Fund's net position was \$1,094,594.

**NOTE 11 – DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN**

The Association has established and administers a defined contribution pension plan, the Connector 2000 Association, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan and Trust (the "Plan"). The Association's Board of Directors holds the authority for establishing and amending the Plan, its benefit terms and contribution rates.

Under the terms of the Plan, employees who are 21 years of age or older and who have completed 1,000 hours of service are eligible to participate in the Plan. Subject to applicable federal limitations, Plan participants may elect to contribute a percentage (up to 92%) of their compensation to the Plan under a salary reduction agreement. The Association matches 100% of employee deferrals less than or equal to three percent, and 50% of employee deferrals greater than three percent but less than or equal to five percent. The Association may also make additional discretionary profit sharing contributions to the Plan. Forfeitures may be used to pay Plan administrative expenses, restore the Plan account balances of certain re-employed Plan participants, reduce the Association's matching or discretionary profit sharing contributions, or may be allocated to Plan participants

Plan participants are at all times 100% vested in their employee deferral contributions and in the Association's matching contributions to the Plan. Association profit sharing contributions are vested at a rate of 20% per year such that, with six years of service, Plan participants are 100% vested in any profit sharing contributions.

No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets criteria defined in paragraph 4 of GASBS No. 73.

During the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Association contributed \$25,818 and \$28,042, respectively, to the Plan. These amounts are included in employee benefits in the accompanying statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position – proprietary fund. Forfeitures were immaterial in both 2017 and 2016.

**NOTE 12 – EXTRAORDINARY GAINS ON CLAIM AGAINST LEHMAN BROTHERS, INC.**

During the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Association received \$20,000 and \$60,000, respectively, as partial settlement of a \$2,000,000 claim filed against Lehman Brothers, Inc. ("Lehman Brothers") for losses incurred by the Association in 2008 upon Lehman Brothers' default under a collateralized repurchase agreement held in connection with investments of monies in the Association's 1998 Bonds Debt Service Reserve Accounts. The Association does not expect to receive any additional distributions under this claim.

**NOTE 13 – SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

At December 31, 2017, the balance of the Association's 2011 Extraordinary Prepayment Fund exceeded \$50,000. Accordingly, on February 15, 2018, as discussed in Note 8, the Association made extraordinary mandatory prepayments/redemptions as follows.

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**NOTE 13 – SUBSEQUENT EVENT (CONTINUED)**

<u>Bonds Prepaid/Redeemed</u>	At February 15, 2018		
	<u>Accreted Value Paid</u>	<u>Premium Paid</u>	<u>Total Payments</u>
Series 2011A Retained Term Bonds	\$ 268	\$ 14	\$ 282
Series 2011A1 New Term Bonds	<u>66,548</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>69,875</u>
Total Senior Bonds Prepaid/Redeemed	<u>\$ 66,816</u>	<u>\$ 3,341</u>	<u>\$ 70,157</u>

Had the above 2011A Retained Term Bonds and 2011A1 New Term Bonds remained outstanding until their scheduled maturity on July 22, 2051, their accreted value at such maturity date would have been \$3,008 and \$746,802, respectively.