

**SILICON VALLEY
ANIMAL CONTROL AUTHORITY**

AGENDA ITEM

Maze and Associates

RECOMMENDED MOTION

That the service contract with Maze and Associates for audit of the basic financial statements and the Special District State Controller's Report for FY 2017-18 be received and filed.

DISCUSSION

Maze and Associates has conducted all of SVACA's past audits of the basic financial statements. The attached service contract allows Maze and Associates to conduct the audit of basic financial statements and the Special District State Controller's Report for fiscal year 2017-18.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

Copy of service contract

FISCAL IMPACT

\$12,160 from 2018-19 Operating Budget

January 11, 2018



Dan Soszynski
Executive Director
Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority
3370 Thomas Road
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Dear Dan:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority for the year ended June 30, 2018. The services we have been engaged to provide are outlined below, but we are also available to provide additional services at your request:

- 1) Audit of the basic financial statements.
- 2) Special District State Controller's Report.

Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis, to supplement the Authority's 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 basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the Authority's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding 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 will 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.

If the Authority's financial statements are accompanied by supplementary information other than RSI, we will subject the supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that information.

Audit Objective

The objective of our audit is to express opinions as to whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the accompanying supplementary information when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Other accompanying information will not be audited by us and we will express no opinion on it. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and will include tests of the accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or to issue a report as a result of this engagement.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. You are also responsible for making all management decisions and performing all management functions; for designating an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee our assistance with the preparation of your financial statements and related notes and any other nonaudit services we provide; and for evaluating the adequacy and results of those services and accepting responsibility for them.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the fair presentation in the financial statements of financial position of the Authority's various activities, major funds, and the aggregate remaining fund information and changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Management is responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. We understand that the Authority will provide us with the Closing Checklist information required for our audit and that the Authority is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with access to all information of which you are aware is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Management is responsible for adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the written representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud or illegal acts affecting the government involving (a) management, (b) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (c) others where the fraud or illegal acts could have a material effect on the financial statements. The Authority is also responsible for informing us of its knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting it received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. In addition, the Authority is responsible for identifying and ensuring that it complies with applicable laws and regulations.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the representation letter that: you are responsible for presentation of supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; that you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; that the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Audit Procedures - General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. 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 will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from errors, fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, or violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the Authority or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Authority.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements, or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors or any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of cash, investments and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected customers, creditors and financial institutions. We may request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill the Authority for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit we will also require certain written representations from management about the financial statements and related matters.

Audit Procedures - Internal Controls

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the Authority and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards.

Audit Procedures - Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the Authority's compliance with certain provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion.

Agreed-Upon Procedures

Our services to apply agreed-upon procedures will be conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described in the report either for the purpose for which the report had been requested or for any other purpose. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the procedures, we will describe any restrictions on the performance of the procedures in our report, or will not issue a report as a result of this engagement. Because agreed-upon procedures do not constitute an examination, we will not express an opinion. In addition, we have no obligation to perform any procedures beyond those agreed to.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

The audit documentation for this engagement is our property and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to a federal agency providing oversight of direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Maze & Associates personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies. We will retain audit documentation for seven years pursuant to state regulations.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

We expect to begin our audit in November 2018 and to issue our reports no later than March 2019. The name of the engagement partner is Vikki Rodriguez who is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report.

Our fees for these services are billed based on our contract with the Authority. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if the Authority's account becomes thirty days or more overdue and may not be resumed until the Authority's account is paid in full.

These fees are based on anticipated cooperation from Authority personnel, the completion of schedules and data requested on our Checklists, and the assumption that there will be no unexpected increases in work scope, such as new debt issues, etc., or delays which are beyond our control, as discussed on the Fees Attachment to this letter. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with Authority management and arrive at a new fee before we incur any additional costs.

We understand you will provide us with basic workspace sufficient to accommodate the audit team assigned to your audit. We understand the basic workspace will be equipped with a telephone and direct Internet access, preferably a temporary network outside of your network, a public IP address and a wired connection. We understand you will also provide us with access to a fax machine and read only access to your general ledger system.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide the Authority with a copy of our most recent external peer review report, and any subsequent peer review reports received during the period of the contract. Our most recent peer review report accompanies this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Authority and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return the entire copy to us.

Maze & Associates

Maze & Associates

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the Authority.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

**Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority Engagement Letter
Fees Attachment**

Our fees for the work described in the attached engagement letter will be as follows, unless they are adjusted for one or more of the items below.

Service	Fees
Basic Financial Statements	\$11,640
State Controller's Report	520
	<hr/>
	\$12,160
	<hr/>

2018 Fees – Our recurring fees have been adjusted only for the change in the services component of the Bay Area Cost of Living Index for the San Francisco Bay Area of 5.1%.

Additional Services - The above fees are for audit and assurance services described in the accompanying engagement letter. They do not include fees for assisting with closing the books nor providing other accounting services. Should the Authority require assistance beyond audit services we will provide an estimate before proceeding.

Report Finalization - Our fee is based on our understanding that all information and materials necessary to finalize all our reports will be provided to us before we complete our year-end fieldwork in your offices. In the case of financial statements, this includes all the materials and information required to print the financial statements. As in the past, we will provide final drafts of all our reports before we leave your offices. We will schedule a Final Changes Meeting with you for a date no more than two weeks after we complete our fieldwork. At that meeting, we will finalize all reports for printing. After that date, report changes you make and changes required because information was not received timely will be billed at our normal hourly rates.

Post-Closing Client Adjusting Entries - The first step in our year-end audit is the preparation of financial statement drafts from your final closing trial balance. That means any entries you make after handing us your closing trial balance must be handled as audit adjustments, or in extreme cases, by re-inputting the entire trial balance, even if the amounts are immaterial. If you make such entries and the amounts are in fact immaterial, we will bill you for the costs of the adjustments or re-input at our normal hourly rates.

Recurring Audit Adjustments - Each year we include the prior year's adjusting entries as new steps in our Closing Checklist, so that you can incorporate these entries in your closing. If we are required to continue to make these same adjustments as part of this year's audit, we will bill for this service at our normal hourly rates.

Grant Programs Requiring Separate Audit - Grant programs requiring separate audits represent a significant increase in work scope, and fees for these audits vary based on the grant requirements. If you wish us to determine and identify which programs are subject to audit, we will bill you for that time at our normal hourly rates.

Changes in Authority Personnel - Our experience is that changes and /or reductions in Finance Department staff can have a pronounced impact on costs of performing the audit. If such changes occur, we will meet with you to assess their impact and arrive at a new fee before we begin the next phase of our work. However, we reserve the right to revisit this subject at the conclusion of the audit, based on your actual performance and our actual costs.

Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority Engagement Letter
Compilation Attachment
June 30, 2018

The services we have been engaged to provide are outlined below.

- Prepare and Electronically File the following report for the Authority:
 - Annual Report of Financial Transactions for the Authority

We will prepare and electronically file the Annual Financial Transactions Report(s) for the year ended June 30, 2018 in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 53891 and the California State Controller's Office's Financial Transactions Report Instructions dated 8/14 and perform a compilation engagement with respect to the Financial Transactions Report. Authority staff will provide us with a detailed trial balance and any supporting general ledger reports or schedules required to prepare the Report(s).

The supplementary information accompanying the Report(s), including the U.S. Bureau of the Census Survey and any others required by the California State Controller's Office, will be presented for purposes of additional analysis. We will not compile the supplementary information. We will not express an opinion, a conclusion, or provide any assurance on such supplementary information.

Our Responsibilities

The objective of our engagement is to-

1. prepare the Report(s) in accordance with the format prescribed by the California State Controller's Office based on information provided by you and is not intended to be a presentation in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and
2. apply accounting and financial reporting expertise to assist you in the presentation of the Report(s) without undertaking to obtain or provide any assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the Report(s) in order for them to be in accordance with the format prescribed by the California State Controller's Office.

We will conduct our compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services (SSARS) promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA and comply with applicable professional standards, including the AICPA's *Code of Professional Conduct* and its ethical principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence, and due care, when performing the preparation and electronic filing of the Report(s), and performing the compilation engagement.

We are not required to, and will not, verify the accuracy or completeness of the information you will provide to us for the engagement or otherwise gather evidence for the purpose of expressing an opinion or a conclusion. Accordingly, we will not express an opinion or a conclusion nor provide any assurance on the Report(s).

Our engagement cannot be relied upon to identify or disclose any Report misstatements, including those caused by fraud or error, or to identify or disclose any wrongdoing within the entity or noncompliance with laws and regulations.

We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

Your Responsibilities

The engagement to be performed is conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand that our role is to prepare the Report(s) in accordance with the format prescribed by the California State Controller's Office and assist you in the presentation of the Report(s) in accordance with the format prescribed by the California State Controller's Office. You have the following overall responsibilities that are fundamental to our undertaking the engagement in accordance with SSARS:

1. The selection of the format prescribed by the California State Controller's Office as the financial reporting framework to be applied in the preparation of the Report(s).
2. The preparation and fair presentation of the Report(s) in accordance with the format prescribed by the California State Controller's Office.
3. The design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the Report(s).
4. The prevention and detection of fraud.
5. To ensure that the Authority complies with the laws and regulations applicable to its activities.
6. The accuracy and completeness of the records, documents, explanations, and other information, including significant judgments, you provide to us for the engagement.
7. To provide us with-
 - a. access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the fair presentation of the Report(s), such as records, documentation, and other matters.
 - b. additional information that we may request from you for the purpose of the compilation engagement.
 - c. unrestricted access to persons within the entity of whom we determine it necessary to make inquiries.

You are also responsible for all management decisions and responsibilities and for designating an individual with suitable skills, knowledge, and experience to oversee our preparation and electronic filing of your Report(s). You are responsible for evaluating the adequacy and results of the services performed and accepting responsibility for such services.

Our Report

As part of our engagement, we will issue a report that will state that we did not audit or review the Report(s) and that, accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, or provide any assurance on it(them). If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the compilation of your Report(s), we will not issue a report on such Report(s) as a result of this engagement.

Our report will disclose that the Report(s) are presented in a prescribed form in accordance with the requirements of the California State Controller's Office and are not intended to be a presentation in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

You agree to include our accountant's compilation report in any document containing the Report(s) that indicates we have performed a compilation engagement on such Report(s) and, prior to inclusion of the report, to ask our permission to do so.

Timothy J. Krisch is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the compilation portion of the engagement and signing the report or authorizing another individual to sign it.



POWELL & SPAFFORD, INC.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Jessie C. Powell, CPA (Ret.)
Patrick D. Spafford, CPA

Licensed by the California Board of Accountancy
Member: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

SYSTEM REVIEW REPORT

To the Shareholders of
Maze & Associates Accountancy Corporation
and the Peer Review Committee of the CalCPA Peer Review Program

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Maze & Associates Accountancy Corporation (the firm) in effect for the year ended May 31, 2014. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at www.aicpa.org/prsummary.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Maze & Associates Accountancy Corporation in effect for the year ended May 31, 2014, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Maze & Associates Accountancy Corporation has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Powell & Spafford

August 27, 2014