

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of the State Auditor



**Rebecca Otto**  
**State Auditor**

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**MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE REPORT  
PREPARED AS A RESULT OF THE AUDIT  
OF THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE  
  
RAMSEY COUNTY  
REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RAMSEY COUNTY)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**

## **Description of the Office of the State Auditor**

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 160 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

**Audit Practice** - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

**Government Information** - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

**Legal/Special Investigations** - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

**Pension** - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 730 public pension funds; and

**Tax Increment Financing** - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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**RAMSEY COUNTY  
REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY  
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RAMSEY COUNTY)**

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2010**



**Management and Compliance Report**

**Audit Practice Division  
Office of the State Auditor  
State of Minnesota**

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**RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY  
RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

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**RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY  
RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**

**I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

- A. Our report expresses unqualified opinions on the basic financial statements of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority.
- B. No matters involving internal control over financial reporting were reported in the "Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*."
- C. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority were disclosed during the audit.
- D. No matters involving internal control over compliance relating to the audit of the major federal award programs were reported in the "Report on Compliance with Requirements that Could Have a Direct and Material Effect on Each Major Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133."
- E. The Auditor's Report on Compliance for the major federal award programs for the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority expresses an unqualified opinion.
- F. No findings were disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133.
- G. The major programs are:

Highway Planning and Construction	CFDA #20.205
Alternatives Analysis	CFDA #20.522
- H. The threshold for distinguishing between Types A and B programs was \$300,000.
- I. The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority was determined to be a low-risk auditee.

**II. FINDINGS RELATED TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

None.

**III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS**

None.



REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

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## **REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Ramsey County Board of Commissioners  
Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority

We have audited the financial statements of governmental activities, each major fund, and the remaining fund information of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 25, 2011. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Authority's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

### Compliance and Other Matters

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

### Minnesota Legal Compliance

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65. Accordingly, the audit included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. Our study included all of the listed categories.

The results of our tests indicate that for the items tested the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, management, others within the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

May 25, 2011



REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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### **REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD HAVE A DIRECT AND MATERIAL EFFECT ON EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133**

Ramsey County Board of Commissioners  
Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority

#### Compliance

We have audited the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2010. The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the Authority's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Authority's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Authority's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2010.

#### Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

#### Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the remaining fund information of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated May 25, 2011. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming opinions on the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's financial statements that collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by OMB Circular A-133 and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The SEFA is the responsibility of management

and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The SEFA has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the SEFA is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as whole.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, management and others within the Authority, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

*/s/Rebecca Otto*

REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

*/s/Greg Hierlinger*

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

May 25, 2011

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**RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY  
RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**

<b>Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title</b>	<b>Federal CFDA Number</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. Department of Transportation</b>		
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Transportation		
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	\$ 13,300,000
Alternative Analysis	20.522	69,858
Passed Through Metropolitan Council		
Highway Planning and Construction	20.500	77,245
Alternative Analysis	20.522	405,386
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>		<b>\$ 13,852,489</b>

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**RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY  
RAMSEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010**

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1. Reporting Entity

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activities of federal award programs expended by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority. The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2010. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net assets of the Authority.

3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Pass-through grant numbers were not assigned by the pass-through agencies.

4. Subrecipients

No federal awards were passed through to subrecipients.