

COUNTY OF TIOGA

Owego, New York

FINANCIAL REPORT

December 31, 2008

COUNTY OF TIOGA
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Chairman and Members
of the County Legislature
County of Tioga
Owego, New York

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Tioga, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District or the Tioga County Industrial Development Agency. The Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation represents 2.0% and 1.1% respectively, of the assets and revenues of the Governmental Activities. The Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District and the County of Tioga Industrial Development Agency represent 11.1% and 88.9%, and 63.0% and 37.0%, respectively, of the assets and revenues of the component units. The financial statements of the Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Tioga County Industrial Development Agency were audited by other auditors whose reports, issued in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, have been furnished to us. Our opinions, insofar as they relate to the amounts included in the Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Tioga County Industrial Development Agency, are based on the reports of the other auditors. The financial statements are the responsibility of the County of Tioga's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the report of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Tioga as of December 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and the cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

During the year ended December 31, 2008, the County implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 45, "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions."

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In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 8, 2009 on our consideration of the County of Tioga's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis, Budgetary Comparison Schedule and Schedule of Funding Progress on pages 2-2i, 37 and 38, respectively, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County of Tioga's basic financial statements. The supplementary information on pages 40 through 41a is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the County of Tioga. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the County of Tioga. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Cinchi, Dittulyn, Little, Mickelson & Co., LLP

September 8, 2009
Ithaca, New York

COUNTY OF TIOGA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Our discussion and analysis of the County of Tioga's financial performance provides an overview of the County's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. Please read this information in conjunction with the County's financial statements, which begin on page 3.

- The assets of the County exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$48,196,944 (net assets) compared to \$53,056,998 in 2007. Reasons for this were the implementation of GASB Statement Number 45 which required the recognition of other postemployment benefits and an increase in the health insurance and workers compensation costs.
- Of total net assets, \$8,553,416 (unrestricted net assets) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- As of December 31, 2008, the County's Governmental Funds reported combined fund balances of \$17,200,535. Approximately 77.1% of the combined fund balances, or \$13,253,803, is available to meet the County's current and future needs (unreserved fund balance).
- The General Fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$11,296,585. Of this, \$992,817 is in reserved fund balance, and \$4,600,000 is designated for the subsequent year's expenditures.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of a series of basic financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities (on pages 3 through 4a) provide information about the County as a whole and present a longer-term view of the County's finances. Governmental Fund financial statements start on page 5. For Governmental Activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term, as well as what remains for future spending. Governmental Fund financial statements also report the County's operations in more detail than the Government-wide financial statements by providing information about the County's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the County acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside the government. Following these statements are notes that provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

In addition to the basic financial statements, the annual report contains other information in the form of: (1) combining schedules for those funds that are not considered Major Funds and, therefore, are not presented individually in the basic financial statements, and (2) a budgetary comparison schedule for the General Fund.

Reporting the County as a Whole

Analysis of the County as a whole begins on page 3, with the Government-wide financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information about the County as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer the question of whether the County, as a whole, is better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities. These statements include *all* assets and liabilities using the *accrual basis of accounting*, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

These two statements report the County's net assets and changes in them. The County's net assets, the difference between assets and liabilities, are one way to measure the County's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the County's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. One needs to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the County's property tax base and the condition of the County's roads, to assess the overall health of the County.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the County is separated into two kinds of activities:

Governmental Activities: Most of the County's services are reported in this category, including public safety, public health, economic assistance, transportation, and general administration. Property and sales taxes, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Component Units: The County includes three separate legal entities in its report - the Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, the Tioga Soil and Water Conservation District and Tioga County Industrial Development Agency. Although legally separate, these component units are important because the County is financially accountable for them. The Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation is reported as a blended component unit. The Soil and Water Conservation District and the Industrial Development Agency are reported as discrete component units. Complete financial statements for the Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation and the Tioga County Industrial Development Agency can be obtained from their administrative offices at 56 Main Street, Owego, New York 13827. Financial statements for the Tioga Soil and Water Conservation District can be obtained from their administrative office at 183 Corporate Drive, Owego, New York 13827.

Reporting the County's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Analysis of the County's Major Funds begins on page 5. The Governmental Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds - not the County as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law. However, management establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes and grants. The County's three kinds of funds - Governmental, Proprietary and Fiduciary - use different accounting approaches.

Governmental Funds: All of the County's services are reported in the Governmental Funds which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual accounting* which measures cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The Governmental Fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the County's general governmental operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental Fund information helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the County's programs. The relationship (or differences) between Governmental *Activities* (reported in the Government-wide financial statements) and Governmental *Funds* is explained in a reconciliation following the fund financial statements.

Proprietary Funds: When the County charges customers for the services it provides - whether to outside customers or to other units of the County - these services are generally reported in Proprietary Funds. Proprietary Funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities. Internal Service Funds (a component of Proprietary Funds) are used to report activities that provide supplies and services for the County's other programs and activities such as the administration of workers' compensation obligations.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

The County as Trustee: The County is the trustee, or fiduciary, for other assets that, because of a trust arrangement, can be used only for the trust beneficiaries. All of the County's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets on page 12. We exclude these activities from the County's other financial statements because the County cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The County is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

THE COUNTY AS A WHOLE

The County's net assets for fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 decreased \$(4,860,054), from \$53,056,998 to \$48,196,944. In contrast, last year net assets increased by \$4,368,207.

The largest portion of the County's net assets of \$38,143,461 (79.1%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery & equipment and infrastructure) less any related debt used to acquire those assets still outstanding. The County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the County's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided by other sources, as the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the County's net assets of \$1,500,067 (3.1%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used and are reported as restricted net assets. These net assets consist of \$775,969 for debt service payments, \$606,496 for community development, and \$117,602 for grants from State and Federal agencies.

The remaining category of total net assets, unrestricted net assets of \$8,553,416 (17.7%) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations and services to creditors and citizens.

Our analysis below focuses on the net assets (Figure 1), and changes in net assets (Figure 2), of the County's Governmental Activities. See Note 5 to the financial statements for details of the restatement of 2007 net assets.

Figure 1 - Net Assets

	Governmental Activities		Percent Change
	2007 Restated	2008	2007 - 2008
<i>Current assets</i>	\$ 32,791,758	\$ 32,182,561	-1.9%
<i>Capital assets, net</i>	53,985,407	56,748,306	5.1%
<i>Other noncurrent assets</i>	1,409,281	1,375,439	-2.4%
Total Assets	88,186,446	90,306,306	2.4%
<i>Current liabilities</i>	11,279,129	13,639,766	20.9%
<i>Noncurrent liabilities</i>	23,850,319	28,469,596	19.4%
Total Liabilities	35,129,448	42,109,362	19.9%
<i>Invested in capital assets, net of debt</i>	36,648,115	38,143,461	4.1%
<i>Restricted net assets</i>	1,625,813	1,500,067	-7.7%
<i>Unrestricted net assets</i>	14,783,070	8,553,416	-42.1%
Total Net Assets	\$ 53,056,998	\$ 48,196,944	-9.2%

Current assets showed a decrease of \$(609,197), primarily due to the timing of payments and receipts. Additionally, a one time Social Services receivables for claims for maintenance in lieu of rent related to the department's new facilities was collected in 2007. Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, of \$56,748,306 at December 31, 2008 increased by \$2,762,899, primarily a result of transportation projects. The detail of capital assets, including the current year activity, is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

The increase in current liabilities is primarily due to the change in recording certain liabilities, which had been netted against receivables in prior years, and an increase in the liability for insured but not reported health insurance liabilities. The change in noncurrent liabilities reflects the addition of the other postemployment liability of \$5,375,677 as a result of implementing GASB Statement Number 45.

The change in the amount invested in capital assets, net of related debt, is due to the change in capital assets, and debt associated therewith, offset by the change in unspent bond proceeds.

The County's total revenues decreased by 1.0%, while the total cost of all programs and services increased 12.4%, due to the addition of the other postemployment benefits liability noted above and an increase in health insurance and workers' compensation costs. Our analysis in Figure 2 considers the operations of Governmental Activities.

Figure 2 - Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities		Percent Change
	2007	2008	2007 - 2008
REVENUES			
<i>Program Revenues:</i>			
Charges for services	\$ 10,791,562	\$ 12,232,287	13.4%
Operating grants and contributions	18,560,993	15,698,286	-15.4%
Capital grants and contributions	2,183,567	2,543,634	16.5%
<i>General Revenues:</i>			
Property taxes and tax items	20,151,565	20,703,987	2.7%
Sales and other taxes	18,035,271	19,030,794	5.5%
Tobacco settlement	796,652	872,187	9.5%
Use of money and property	1,301,899	587,769	-54.9%
Other	1,150,232	583,972	-49.2%
Total Revenues	\$ 72,971,741	\$ 72,252,916	-1.0%
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
General government	15,682,639	18,391,428	17.3%
Education	4,223,240	4,542,975	7.6%
Public safety	8,821,114	11,097,935	25.8%
Public health	8,830,867	10,374,741	17.5%
Transportation	5,401,028	6,197,565	14.7%
Economic assistance and opportunity	22,174,490	23,301,286	5.1%
Culture and recreation	216,440	234,024	8.1%
Home and community	1,998,469	1,935,836	-3.1%
Interest on debt	1,255,247	1,037,180	-17.4%
Total Expenses	\$ 68,603,534	\$ 77,112,970	12.4%
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 4,368,207	\$ (4,860,054)	-211.3%

COUNTY OF TIOGA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Governmental Activities

Revenues

- Charges for services increased in almost all areas. Home nursing fees represented an increase in Public Health of \$1 million. Social Services repayments were up over \$.4 million. In general government, self-insurance fees were up over \$.3 million.
- Operating grants declined over \$2.86 million in 2008 from the prior year. A large portion due to the change in reimbursement for heating assistance. There was a \$.2 million increase in Transportation for the Mass Transit program.
- Capital grants were higher due to an increase in the CHIPS funding, Marchiselli bridge projects and a one-time award of \$225,000 from the NYS Senate for the purchase of equipment.
- Property tax and tax items increased approximately 2.7%; \$742,000 was the gain on the sale of tax acquired property. There was high bidding interest due to the potential gas lease signing.
- The majority of non-property tax items are sales and use taxes; showing a \$1 million increase in 2008.
- The decrease in use of money and property revenue, most of which is interest earnings, reflects the lower interest rates which occurred in the last half of 2008.
- Miscellaneous revenue decreased due to lower OTB revenue and the fact that 2007 included a large amount of insurance recoveries from the flood of 2006.

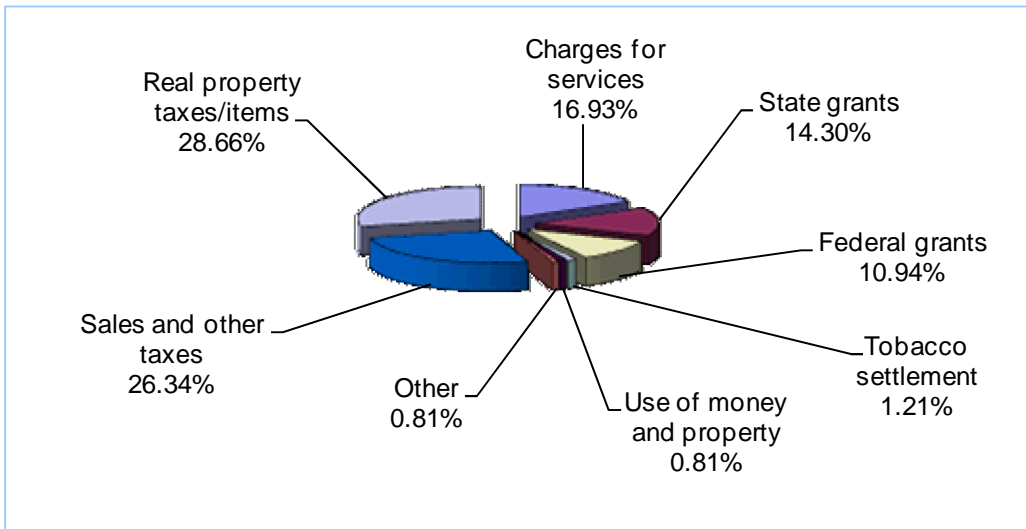
Expenses

- All functions except two had an increase in 2008 due to the implementation of GASB 45 with the other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability.
- General government expenses increased by approximately \$2.7 million. Included in general government expenses are payment to other municipalities of \$4,814,801 in 2008 and \$4,552,558 in 2007 for sales tax revenue shared by the County. It should be noted that revenue associated with these payments is recorded in the general revenues which does not offset the cost of general government expenses.
- Increase in Education of Handicapped Children of over \$.3 million due to an increase in demand for these services.
- Home and community service was lower in 2008 due to a one-time community development grant program in 2006/2007.
- Interest on debt decreased by \$.2 million due to less interest on the Public Safety Bonds and the interest on the TTASC's capital appreciation bonds.

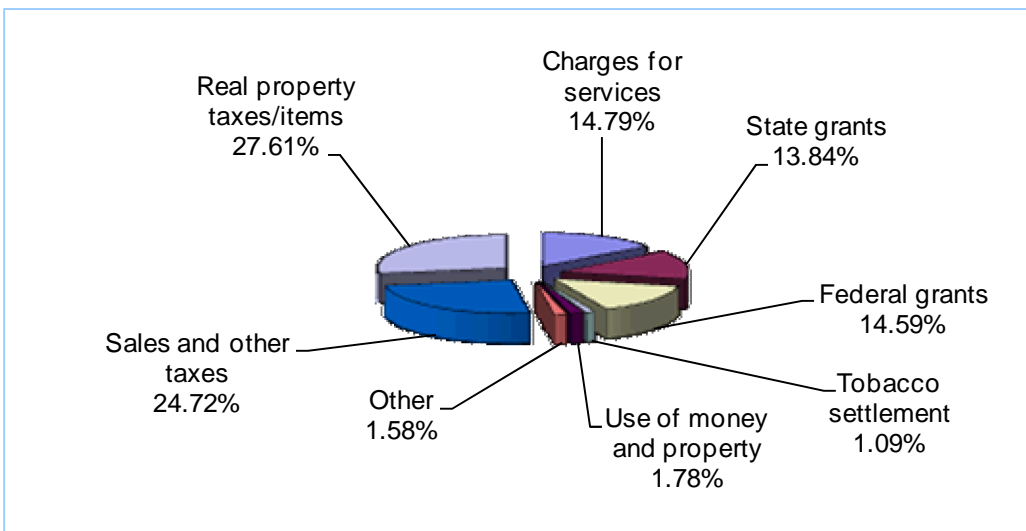
COUNTY OF TIOGA
 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
 (CONTINUED)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Figures 3 and 4 show the percent of the sources of revenues for 2008 and 2007.

**Figure 3 - Revenue by Source
Governmental Activities
2008**



**Figure 4 - Revenue by Source
Governmental Activities
2007**



COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the County of Tioga have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The County has the option to apply FASB pronouncements issued after that date to its Governmental Activities and Proprietary Funds and has elected to do so. The more significant of the County's accounting policies are described below.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The County of Tioga, which was established in 1791, is governed by County Law, and other general laws of the State of New York. The County Legislature, which is the Legislative body responsible for the overall operation of the County, consists of nine members representing seven legislative districts within the County. The Chairman of the County Legislature, elected by the Legislature each year, serves as Chief Executive Officer. The County Treasurer, elected for a four year term, serves as Chief Fiscal Officer.

The County provides the following basic services: police and law enforcement, educational assistance for County residents attending community colleges, economic assistance, health and nursing services, maintenance of County roads, culture and recreational services, home and community services, and mental health services.

All Governmental Activities and functions performed for the County of Tioga are its direct responsibility. No other governmental organizations have been included or excluded from the reporting entity.

The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government which is the County of Tioga, (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete as set forth in GASB Statement Number 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity," as amended by GASB Statement Number 39, "Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units."

The decision to include a potential component unit in the County's reporting entity is based on several criteria set forth in GASB Statement Number 14, as amended by GASB Statement Number 39, including legal standing, fiscal dependency, and financial accountability. Based on the application of these criteria, the following are included as component units:

1. Blended Component Units

Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation - Tioga Tobacco Securitization Corporation (TTASC), established on October 11, 2000, is a special purpose, local development corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York. TTASC is an instrumentality of the County, but is a separate legal entity from the County. TTASC will have not less than three or more than five directors, consisting of one ex-officio position being the chairperson of the County Legislature, up to four additional directors and one independent director appointed by the member of TTASC. Although legally separate from the County, TTASC is a component unit of the County and accordingly, is included in the County's basic financial statements as a blended component unit due to the fact that its purpose is to exclusively serve the County.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

TTASC is blended as part of the County's Governmental Activities and Non-Major Governmental Funds (Debt Service Fund). Separate financial statements may be obtained from the County Treasurer's Office.

2. Discretely Presented Component Units

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District - The Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District was created by the State legislature to provide for the conservation of soil and water resources and prevention of soil erosion. The District provides technical assistance relative to natural resources conservation and water quality to the residents of the County. The five members of the District Board have complete responsibility for management and fiscal matters of the District. Separate financial statements may be obtained from the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District, 183 Corporate Drive, Owego, New York 13827.

Tioga Industrial Development Agency - A public benefit corporation created by State legislature and established to promote the economic welfare, recreation opportunities, and prosperity of the County's inhabitants and to develop economically sound commerce and industry. Members of the Agency have complete responsibility for management of the Agency and accountability for fiscal matters. The County is not liable for Agency bonds and exercises no oversight responsibility. Separate financial statements may be obtained from the Tioga County IDA, 56 Main Street, Owego, New York 13827.

B. Accounting and Reporting Change

In June 2004, the GASB issued Statement Number 45, "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions." This Statement establishes standards for reporting on nonpension postemployment benefits, such as health care premiums for retirees. As required, the County adopted this Statement for the year ending December 31, 2008.

C. Basic Financial Statements

The County's basic financial statements include both Government-wide (reporting the County as a whole) and Governmental Fund financial statements (reporting the County's Major Funds). Both the Government-wide and Governmental Fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either Governmental or Business- type. The County's general governmental support, education, public safety, health, transportation, economic assistance and opportunity, culture and recreation, and home and community services are classified as Governmental Activities. Services relating to self insurance and workers' compensation administration are classified as Internal Service Funds, and are also included in Governmental Activities.

1. Government-wide Financial Statements

The Government-wide financial statements include a Statement of Net Assets and a Statement of Activities. These statements present summaries of activities for the primary government and for the County's discretely presented component units.

Government-wide financial statements do not include the activities reported in the Fiduciary Funds or fiduciary component units. This Government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the County as an entity and the change in the County's net assets resulting from the current year's activities.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

In the Government-wide Statement of Net Assets, the Governmental Activities are presented on a consolidated basis in one column, and are reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The County's net assets are reported in three parts - invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted net assets; and unrestricted net assets. The County first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost for each of the County's functions or programs. Gross expenses are direct expenses, including depreciation, that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and, therefore, clearly identifiable to a particular function. These expenses are offset by program revenues - charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants, and contributions that are restricted to meeting the prepared or capital requirements of a particular program. Depreciation on assets that are shared by essentially all of the County's programs has been reported in general governmental support. Revenues, which are not classified as program revenues, are presented as general revenues of the County, with certain limited exceptions. The net cost represents the extent to which each function or program is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the County.

The County does not allocate indirect costs. Indirect costs are reported in the function entitled "general governmental support."

2. Fund Statements

The financial transactions of the County are reported in individual funds in the Government Fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, reserves, fund equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities. The County records its transactions in the fund types described below:

Governmental Funds

Governmental Funds are those through which most governmental functions are financed. The acquisition, use and balances of expendable financial resources, and the related liabilities are accounted for through Governmental Funds. The measurement focus of the Governmental Funds is based upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position. The following are the County's Governmental Funds:

Major Fund:

General Fund - Principal operating fund which includes all operations not required to be recorded in other funds.

Non-Major Funds:

Special Revenue Funds - Accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. The following Special Revenue Funds are utilized:

Road Machinery Fund - Accounts for the purchase, repair, maintenance, and storage of highway machinery, tools, and equipment pursuant to Section 133 of Highway Law.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Refuse and Garbage Fund - Accounts for the expense of operation and program income of the energy recovery facility.

Special Grant Fund - Accounts for funds received under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

County Road Fund - Accounts for expenditures for highway purposes authorized by Section 114 of the Highway Law.

Capital Projects Funds - Accounts for and reports financial resources to be used for the acquisition, construction, or renovation of major capital facilities or equipment.

Debt Service Fund (TTASC) - Accounts for the accumulation of resources from tobacco settlement payments and for the payment of principal and interest on the Tobacco Settlement Pass through Bonds.

Proprietary Funds

Accounts for ongoing organizations or activities, which are similar to those often found in the private sector. The measurement focus is upon determination of net income, financial position, and changes in financial position. The following Proprietary Fund is utilized:

Internal Service Fund - Accounts for the accumulation of resources for payment of unemployment insurance as authorized by Section 6M of the General Municipal Law and to account for the accumulation of resources for payment of compensation, assessments, and other obligations under Workers' Compensation Law, Article 5, and for the accumulation of resources for payment of self-insured risks as authorized by Section 6N of the General Municipal Law.

Fiduciary Funds

Accounts for assets held by the local government in a trustee or custodial capacity and therefore are not available to support the County's programs. The following are the County's Fiduciary Funds:

Private Purpose Trust Funds - Reports trust arrangements under which principal and income benefit individuals, private organizations or other governments.

Agency Funds - Accounts for money and/or property received and held in the capacity of trustee, custodian or agent. Agency Funds are custodial in nature and do not involve measurement of results for operations. The most significant of the County's Agency Funds are mortgage tax and social service trust funds.

D. Basis of Accounting/Measurement Focus

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures/expenses and the related assets and liabilities are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus. Measurement focus is the determination of what is measured, i.e. expenditures or expenses.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

1. Accrual Basis

The Government-wide financial statements and the Proprietary and Fiduciary Fund financial statements are presented on an “economic resources” measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly all of the County's assets and liabilities, including capital assets, as well as infrastructure assets and long-term liabilities, are included in the accompanying Statement of Net Assets. The Statement of Activities presents changes in net assets. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

2. Modified Accrual Basis

Under this basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Material revenues that are accrued include real property taxes, State and Federal aid, sales tax, and certain user charges.

The County considers property tax receivables collected within 60 days after year-end to be available and recognizes them as revenues of the current year. All other revenues that are deemed collectible within 60 days after year end are recognized as revenues in the current year. If expenditures are the prime factor for determining eligibility, revenues from Federal and State grants are accrued when the expenditure is made. Expenditures are recorded when incurred. The cost of capital assets is recognized as an expenditure when received. Exceptions to this general rule are that 1) principal and interest on indebtedness are not recognized as an expenditure until due, and 2) compensated absences, such as vacation and sick leave, which vests or accumulates, are charged as an expenditure when paid.

E. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles 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. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant estimates made by the County in the determination of recorded assets and liabilities include, but are not limited to, allowances for uncollectible property taxes and reserves for self-insurance claim liabilities.

F. Equity Classifications

1. Government-wide Financial Statements

Equity is classified as net assets and displayed in three components:

Invested in capital assets, net of related debt - Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and 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.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Restricted net assets - Consists of net assets 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.

Unrestricted net assets - Consists of all other net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

2. Governmental Fund Financial Statements

Governmental Fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as reserved and unreserved, with unreserved further split between designated and undesignated. Proprietary Fund equity is classified the same as in the Government-wide financial statements. The following reserve funds are used by the County. Any capital gains or interest earned on reserve fund resources becomes part of the respective reserve fund. While a separate bank account is not necessary for each reserve fund, a separate identity for each reserve fund must be maintained.

Reserve for Encumbrances - Represents the amount of outstanding encumbrances at the end of the fiscal year and is utilized by any of the Governmental Funds, as needed.

Miscellaneous Reserve - Used for various purposes aggregated and reported in the General Fund. See Note 2. A. 6.

Reserve for Debt - Used for the payment of the County's bonded indebtedness and reported in the Debt Service Funds.

G. Property Taxes

County real property taxes are levied annually no later than December 31 and become a tax lien on January 1. Taxes are collected in towns from January 1 to a date not later than June 1 when settlement is made with the County Treasurer, who makes collections thereafter. The towns' share of tax levies, which is guaranteed by the County, is paid to town supervisors out of the first monies received.

The County guarantees the real property tax levies of the villages and school districts located within the County. At December 31, 2008, the County reflected liabilities to the school districts of \$2,587,009 and the villages of \$598,112 for amounts of real property taxes the County had assumed responsibility for collecting, respectively. Such amounts were paid to the villages and school districts in 2009 and are included in due to other governments in the General Fund as of December 31, 2008.

All unpaid taxes of the current year are advertised and collected under the provisions of Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law. Properties to which title is taken under this section of the Real Property Tax Law are sold through advertising for bids at public auction.

At December 31, 2008, total real property tax receivable was \$5,786,309 (before deduction of an allowance for uncollectible taxes of \$691,566). The portion of the receivable representing current year returned village and school taxes was \$3,216,690. The remaining portion of the tax receivable is offset by deferred tax revenues of \$1,394,504, which represents an estimate of the tax liens, and not be collected within the first sixty (60) days of the subsequent year.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

H. Sales Tax

The County imposes a 3% sales tax in the County and in accordance with Section 14 of the tax law, the County shares one-third of the 3% sales tax collections with the towns and villages.

Effective March 1, 1994 the County increased its sales tax by 1/2% to 3-1/2%. The 1/2% increase in sales tax rate is not shared with the towns and villages and proceeds from the sales tax increase are restricted to a capital reserve fund to be used only to finance capital improvement projects. The Non-Major Governmental Funds' non-property tax item amounting to \$2,135,314 is sales tax designated for capital projects. At December 31, 2008 this amount included an accrual of \$164,983, which is included in State and Federal receivables in the General Fund, for sales that occurred in the State of New York in 2008 and had not been received by the County at December 31, 2008.

Effective December 1, 2003 the County increased its sales tax by 1/2% to 4%. The 1/2% increase in sales tax rate is not shared with the towns and villages and the proceeds are considered as discretionary to offset rising any State mandates to counties.

The General Fund's primary non-property tax item is sales tax, which amounted to \$16,582,379. At December 31, 2008 this amount included an accrual of \$1,324,339, which is included in State and Federal receivables, for sales that occurred in the State of New York in 2008 and had not been received by the County at December 31, 2008. Of the \$16,582,379 recognized as revenue, \$4,906,306 was distributed to local municipalities within the County.

I. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For financial statement purposes, the County considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less as cash equivalents.

J. Receivables

Receivables are stated net of estimated allowances for uncollectible amounts. Amounts due from State and Federal governments represent amounts owed to the County to reimburse it for expenditures incurred pursuant to State and Federally funded programs.

K. Revenues

Substantially all Governmental Fund revenues are accrued. Property tax receivables expected to be received later than 60 days after year end are deferred. In applying GASB Statement Number 33 to grant revenues, the provider recognizes liabilities and expenses and the recipient recognizes receivables and revenue when the applicable eligibility requirements, including time requirements, are met. Resources transmitted before the eligibility requirements are met are reported as advances by the provider and deferred revenue by the recipient. Subsidies and grants to Proprietary Funds that finance either capital or current operations are reported as nonoperating revenue, based on GASB 33.

Operating revenues of Internal Service Funds consist of user fees. Operating expenses of Internal Service funds consist of salaries, wages and benefits and contractual services. Transactions related to capital and financing activities, non-capital financing activities, investing activities and Interfund transfers from other funds are components of non-operating income. Subsidies and grants to Proprietary Funds which finance either capital or current operations are reported as nonoperating revenue based on GASB Statement Number 33.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

L. Property, Plant, and Equipment

All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements, and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Governmental capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of over \$3,000 and having a useful life of greater than two years are capitalized at cost in the Statement of Net Assets. Contributed fixed assets are recorded at fair market value at the date received. The estimated useful lives for governmental capital assets are as follows:

Buildings and improvements	50 years
Machinery and equipment	2 - 25 years
Infrastructure	12 - 40 years

M. Vacation and Sick Leave and Compensatory Absences

Under terms of personnel policies and union contracts, County employees, other than elected officials, are granted personal, vacation, and sick leave credits and may accumulate these credits as follows:

Employees are granted between three and four days personal leave each year depending on contracts, coverage and hiring date. At December 31 of each year, all unused personal leave is forfeited. Employees are not reimbursed for unused personal leave credits upon termination.

Employees are granted sick leave credits of one day per month, and may accumulate up to 216 days of sick leaves credits, depending on contract coverage. Sick leave must be used prior to leaving County employment or for postretirement benefit premiums as described in Note 2.B.1.

Employees are granted vacation leave credits of ten to twenty days per year depending on their contract and years of service. Up to two weeks of such leave can be carried over to the following year unless unusual circumstances exist and more time is requested and approved. Upon resignation or retirement, employees are paid for all unused vacation leave. The liability for vacation leave totaling \$771,968 is reported as an accrued liability in the Governmental Activities, as such amounts were not due and payable at December 31, 2008.

N. Interfund Activity

Interfund activity is reported as either loans, services provided, reimbursements or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate, and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Services provided, deemed to be at market or near market rates, are treated as revenues and expenditures/expenses. Reimbursements take place when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers between Governmental Funds are netted as part of the reconciliation to the Government-wide financial statements.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Note 2 - Detail Notes

A. Assets

1. Cash and Investments

The County of Tioga's investment policies are governed by State statutes. In addition, the County of Tioga has its own written investment policy, the overall objective of which is to adequately safeguard the principal amount of funds invested or deposited; conform with Federal, State, and other legal requirements; provide sufficient liquidity of invested funds in order to meet obligations as they become due; and attain a market rate of return. Oversight of investment activity is the responsibility of the County Treasurer.

Total financial institution (bank) balances at December 31, 2008, per the bank, were \$20,558,125, with a carrying value of \$19,437,375 for the primary government, and \$158,164 for the TTASC, and were either insured or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution in the County's name. Included in cash and cash equivalents are deposits in municipal money market savings accounts in the amount of \$5,563,568. The TTASC also had liquidity reserves; recorded as restricted cash, in the amount \$800,828 held by the TASC trustee.

a. Interest Rate Risk

The County does not have a formal investment policy limiting investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

b. Credit Risk

New York State General Municipal Law and the County's Investment and Deposit Policy authorize the County to purchase the following types of investments:

- Obligations of the United States of America
- Obligations guaranteed by the United States of America where payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America
- Obligations of the State of New York
- Special time deposits accounts
- Certificates of Deposit
- Obligations of public authorities, public housing authorities, urban renewal agencies, and industrial development agencies where the general State statutes governing such entities or whose specific enabling legislation authorizes such investments
- Obligations issued pursuant to New York State Local Finance Law Section 4.00 and 25.00 (with approval of the New York State Comptroller) by any municipality, school district, or district corporation other than the County
- Repurchase agreements authorized subject to the following restrictions: All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a master repurchase agreement. Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers. Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States of America and obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America. No substitutions will be allowed and the custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

c. Custodial Credit Risk

For deposits, custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a failure of a depository financial institution, the County may not recover its deposits. In accordance with New York State General Municipal Law and the County's Investment and Deposit Policy, all deposits of the County, including certificates of deposits and special time deposits in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured by a pledge of securities with an aggregate value equal the aggregate amount of deposits. The County restricts the securities to the following eligible items:

- Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States of America, an agency thereof or a United States government sponsored corporation;
- Obligations partially insured or guaranteed by any agency of the United States of America;
- Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed by the State of New York;
- Obligations issued by municipal corporations, school districts, or district corporations of New York State or obligations of any public benefit corporation which under specific State statute may be accepted as security for deposit of public monies;
- Obligations issued by states (other than the State of New York) of the United States rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization; obligations of counties, cities, and other governmental entities of a state other than the State of New York having the power to levy taxes that are backed by the full faith and credit of such governmental entity and rated in one of the two highest categories by at least one Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization;
- Obligations of domestic corporations rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one Recognized Statistical Rating Organization; and
- Zero coupon obligations of the United States of America marketed as treasury strips.

d. Investments

For investments, custodial risk is the risk that a government will not be able to recover the value of an investment or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party if the counter-party to the transaction fails. The County's investment policy requires all County investments be registered or insured in the County's name and held in the custody of the bank or the bank's trust department. Pledged securities are not required to be registered or inscribed in the name of the County. In the event that the pledged securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the County, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the County or its custodial bank.

e. Discretely Presented Component Unit - Industrial Development Agency

The Industrial Development Agency had cash with a carrying value of \$3,877,893, which was either insured or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution in the Agency's name. Cash, in the amount of \$3,285,502 was restricted for use of the Agency's Board designated and outside contractual restrictions. The Agency also had certificates of deposit of \$1,174,948, with interest rates ranging from 2.35% to 3.94% of which \$712,961 matures in 2009 and \$461,987 matures in 2010.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

f. Discretely Presented Component Units - Soil and Water Conservation District

The Soil and Water Conservation District had cash deposits with a carrying value of \$695,524, which were either insured or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution in the Agency's name.

2. Medicaid Claims

During 2005, the New York Legislature enacted major changes to the funding of the County's share of Medicaid cost. Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2005 capped Medicaid cost at 2005 levels and limited the growth rates to 3.5% in 2006, 3.25% in 2007, and permanently capped growth at 3% beginning in 2008. The cap was established based on the County's local share expenditure made during the 2005 calendar base year.

This legislation fundamentally altered the Medicaid financing methodology, the accounting and recording of revenue and expense and the method of budgeting for Medicaid. As a result of this legislation, the County will receive long-term benefits due to the limitation of future costs to the County, as described above.

3. Special and Restricted Fund Balances

a. Miscellaneous Reserve:

- i. State statutes require the County to reserve excess revenues over expenditures under the STOP DWI Program for use in the program in the following fiscal year. The amount of excess STOP DWI funds reserved in the General Fund at December 31, 2008 was \$117,602.
- ii. The County Legislature permits the collection of fees from telephone companies for the installation and operation of an Emergency 911 telephone system. A designation is therefore established in order for excess revenues may be used for this specific purpose in subsequent years. The amount designated in the General Fund at December 31, 2008 was \$362,453.
- iii. The County Legislature required the County to designate revenues from the forfeiture of criminal proceeds for the purpose of crime prevention. The amount of unexpended criminal prevention revenue designated in the General Fund at December 31, 2008 was \$20,071.
- iv. The County Legislature permits the collection of fees for hotel/motel usage. The amount of unexpended hotel/motel usage revenue designated in the General Fund at December 31, 2008 was \$98,820.
- v. The County Legislature permits the collection of fees from illegal handicapped parking. The amount of unexpended handicapped parking revenue designated in the General Fund at December 31, 2008 was \$468.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

- b. The County Legislature adopted a resolution to increase its sales tax by one-half of one percent for the purpose of financing capital projects. The amount of unexpended sales tax revenue designated and/or appropriated for 2008 in the Capital Projects Fund at December 31, 2008 was \$1,173,958.
- c. The County Legislature adopted a local law to sell future rights, title, and interest in the Tobacco Settlement Revenue's (TSR) under the Master Settlement Agreement and the Consent Decree and Final Judgment of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated December 23, 1998, to the TTASC as Described in Note 1.A.1. The County by law is required to use the net proceeds of the sale to finance capital projects. As of December 31, 2008 there is \$1,029,074 designated and/or appropriated for 2009 within the Capital Projects Fund for the reconstruction and replacement of bridges in Tioga County.

4. State and Federal Receivables

State and Federal receivables in the General Fund are comprised primarily of claims and reimbursement of expenditures in administering various health and social service programs in accordance with New York State and Federal laws and regulations. These receivables are reported net of related advances received from the State. Cash advances received by the County under other programs are reported as other liabilities.

The County participates in a number of grant and assistance programs. These programs are subject to financial and compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The County believes, based upon its review of current activity and prior experience, the amount of disallowances resulting from these audits, if any, will not be significant to the County's financial position or results of operations. Expenditures disallowed by completed audits relating to operating programs have been reflected as adjustments to revenues in the year the expenditure was determined to be unallowable, as such amounts have been immaterial in nature.

5. Tobacco Settlement and Other

In October 2000, the County sold to TTASC all of its future rights, title and interest, in the tobacco settlement revenues. As part of this sale, the County became the beneficial owner of a Residual Certificate, which represents the entitlement to receive all amounts required to be distributed after payment of debt service, operating expenses and certain other costs. The Non-Major Governmental Funds reflect \$790,914 of tobacco settlement revenues for the year ended December 31, 2008. The amount recognized in the Statement of Activities, on the accrual basis is \$872,187.

6. Other Accounts Receivable

Other accounts receivable as of December 31, 2008, are as follows:

Governmental Activities:

Various fees and charges	
Recorded in the General Fund	\$ 388,736
Recorded in the Special Grant Fund	93
Recorded in the Capital Fund	46,228
Recorded in the Internal Service Fund	23,011
Tobacco settlement revenues recorded in the TTASC Fund	<u>872,187</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>\$ 1,330,255</u>

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

7. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2008, was as follows:

	Balance at 12/31/07	Additions	Deletions	Balance at 12/31/08
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>				
Non-depreciable Capital Assets:				
Land and land improvements	\$ 1,355,100		\$	\$ 1,355,100
Construction in progress	<u>437,012</u>	<u>2,302,508</u>	<u>(186,683)</u>	<u>2,552,837</u>
Total Non Depreciable Capital Assets	<u>1,792,112</u>	<u>2,302,508</u>	<u>(186,683)</u>	<u>3,907,937</u>
Depreciable Capital Assets:				
Buildings	29,828,178	180,290		30,008,468
Machinery and equipment	9,959,340	1,481,040	(840,407)	10,599,973
Infrastructure	<u>41,479,084</u>	<u>2,403,395</u>	<u>(680,267)</u>	<u>43,202,212</u>
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	<u>81,266,602</u>	<u>4,064,725</u>	<u>(1,520,674)</u>	<u>83,810,653</u>
Total Historical Cost	<u>83,058,714</u>	<u>6,367,233</u>	<u>(1,707,357)</u>	<u>87,718,590</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Buildings	(3,218,805)	(603,498)		(3,822,303)
Machinery and equipment	(6,247,628)	(1,787,333)	680,267	(6,434,041)
Infrastructure	<u>(19,606,874)</u>	<u>(834,196)</u>	<u>647,783</u>	<u>(20,713,940)</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(29,073,307)</u>	<u>(3,225,027)</u>	<u>1,328,050</u>	<u>(30,970,284)</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 53,985,407</u>	<u>\$ 3,142,206</u>	<u>\$ (379,307)</u>	<u>\$ 56,748,306</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

<u>Governmental Activities:</u>	
General government support	\$ 441,589
Public safety	419,461
Public health	58,116
Transportation	2,196,517
Economic assistance and opportunity	93,917
Home and community services	<u>15,427</u>
Total Governmental Activities Depreciation Expense	<u>\$ 3,225,027</u>

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
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Capital asset activity for the Industrial Development Agency for the year ended December 31, 2008, was as follows:

	Balance at 12/31/07	Additions	Deletions	Balance at 12/31/08
Land and land improvements	\$ 5,473,371	\$ 103,509	\$	\$ 5,576,880
Construction in progress		423,083		423,083
Railroad tracking and facilities	977,529			977,529
Sewer line	81,655			81,655
Machinery and equipment	2,283			2,283
Total Historical Cost	6,534,838	526,592	-0-	7,061,430
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(836,654)	(37,075)	-0-	(873,729)
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 5,698,184	\$ 489,517	\$ -0-	\$ 6,187,701

B. Liabilities

1. Pension Plans

General Information

The County of Tioga participates in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS). This is a cost sharing multiple-employer defined benefit retirement system, which provides retirement benefits. Obligations of employers and employees to contribute, and benefits to employees are governed by the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law (NYSRSSL). As set forth in the NYSRSSL, the Comptroller of the State of New York (Comptroller) serves as sole trustee and administrative head of the System. The Comptroller shall adopt and may amend rules and regulations for the administration and transaction of the business of the System and for the custody and control of funds.

The System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the New York State and Local Retirement Systems, 110 State Street, Albany, New York 12244.

Funding Policy

The System is noncontributory except for employees who joined the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System after July 27, 1976 and have less than ten years of credited service. These members contribute 3% of their salary. Prior to October 2000, all County employees who joined after July 27, 1976 were required to contribute 3%, but the laws were modified to forgive the 3% contribution for those with ten or more years of service time. Under the authority of the NYSRSSL, the Comptroller shall certify annually the rates expressed as proportions of payroll of members which shall be used in computing the contributions required to be made by the employer to the Pension Accumulation Fund.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

The County of Tioga is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The required contribution for the current year and two preceding years were:

<u>Year</u>	<u>ERS</u>
2008	\$ 1,346,956
2007	1,607,653
2006	1,719,593

The County's contributions made to the System were equal to 100% of the contributions required for each of the years. The System's pension relief legislation (New York State Chapter 620, Laws of 2004) was enacted to provide employers with relief in payment of their annual ERS cost. This legislation provides several options to employers, including delaying their payments from December 15 to February 6 of the ensuing year, payment of a portion of their cost over an amortized period, and the means to issue serial bonds to provide funding for the employer's liability. In addition, the employer was given the option of making full payment on December 15 at a discounted amount. The County of Tioga exercised its option of making payment on December 15, 2008, equal to 100% of the contributions required for the year.

The New York State Legislature has authorized local governments to make available retirement incentive programs. The County participates in early retirement programs when they are offered and has elected to pay the related cost over a five year amortization period, which includes interest at rates ranging from 8% to 8.5%. There is no remaining liability for these incentive programs at December 31, 2008.

2. Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions

In addition to the pension benefits described above, the County provides postretirement health care benefits to all employees who retire from the County in accordance with Article 2, Section 75-g, Article 14, and Article 15 of the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law. During 2008, 174 retirees participated in this program. When a retiree who was hired on or before 1991, elects such coverage, the individual payment is \$5.00 per month and the family payment is \$7.50 per month. For retirees who were hired after 1991, the cost is 50% of the monthly premium. Additionally, when an employee retires with accumulated sick leave, the dollar equivalent of the retiree's accumulated sick leave is credited to the retiree and is used to fund their share of the premium cost of the health insurance program that is available to the retiree group. Certain premium savings are realized for employees who are eligible for Medicare coverage (i.e., over age 65). The entire amount of any savings realized is deducted from the employees' contribution. During 2008, the expected cost of this program was \$1,986,506.

In 2008, the County adopted Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 45 "Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions." In the past, the County reported the cost of its retiree health care postretirement benefits on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. An actuarial valuation of the County of Tioga Postretirement Health Care Plans (The Plan) was performed as of January 1, 2007 for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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The Plan is a single-employer, defined benefit healthcare plan administered by the County of Tioga. The Plan provides two self-insured options to eligible retirees and dependents. The County also offers an optional Medicare PPO plan to Medicare eligible retirees. Benefit provisions are established through negotiations between the County and bargaining units and are renegotiated each three-year period. The County of Tioga assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the County Legislature for non-bargaining unit employees. The Plan does not issue a stand-alone financial report.

The contribution requirements of Plan members and the County are established and may be amended by the County Legislature. The County Legislature has negotiated several collective bargaining agreements, which include obligations of Plan members and the County. The required contribution is based on projected pay-as-you-go financing requirements. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the actuarial valuation used an expected County contribution to the Plan of \$1,986,506. Plan members receiving benefits may be required to contribute to the Plan depending on their hire date and collective bargaining unit.

The County's annual other postemployment benefit (OPEB) cost (expense) is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer (ARC), an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement 45. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and accumulate sufficient total accruals for all postretirement benefits when due.

The following table shows the components of the County's annual OPEB cost for the year, the amount actually contributed to the Plan, and changes in the County's net OPEB obligation to the County of Tioga's Plan:

Normal cost	\$	7,362,183
Interest on net OPEB obligation		-0-
Total Annual Required Contribution		7,362,183
Adjustment to annual required contribution		-0-
Annual OPEB Cost (Expense)		7,362,183
Contributions made (expected)		(1,986,506)
Increase in Net OPEB Obligation		5,375,677
 Net OPEB Obligation - January 1, 2008		 -0-
 Net OPEB Obligation - December 31, 2008	 \$	 5,375,677

The County's annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the Plan, and the net OPEB obligation for 2008 is as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended	Annual OPEB Cost	Percentage of Annual OPEB Cost Contributed	Net OPEB Obligation
12/31/08	\$ <u>7,362,183</u>	27.0%	\$ <u>5,375,677</u>

The year ended December 31, 2008 is the first year that the OPEB obligation is required to be presented.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

As of December 31, 2008, the Plan was not funded. The actuarial accrued liability for benefits was \$76,792,324; there are no assets legally segregated for the Plan. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the Plan) was \$16,949,966 and the ratio of the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) to the covered payroll was 453 percent.

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing Plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and healthcare cost trends. Amounts determined regarding funded status of the Plan and annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive Plan (the Plan as understood by the employer and the Plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and Plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

In the January 1, 2007, Actuarial Valuation Report, the projected unit credit actuarial cost method was used. The actuarial assumptions included an annual healthcare cost trend rate of 10 percent initially reduced by decrements to an ultimate rate of 5 percent after ten years. The rate included a 4 percent inflation assumption.

3. Long-term Debt

At December 31, 2008, the total outstanding indebtedness of the County of Tioga aggregated to \$19,633,919. None of this amount was subject to the statutory debt limit debt limit of \$138,871,319.

a. Serial Bonds

Public improvement serial bonds, refunded in 2001, were utilized to finance the construction of a new public safety facility. The Tobacco Settlement Pass-Through bonds were utilized, as discussed in Note 2. A. 1, to finance the purchase of the County's future right, title, and interest in the Tobacco Settlement Revenues.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

In 2005, TTASC advanced refunded its 2000 series debt and secured additional Tobacco Settlement Revenues by issuing \$15 million in bonds. The proceeds are expected to finance the construction of bridge repairs within the County over the next few years.

The following is a summary of serial bond indebtedness as of December 31, 2008:

Serial Bonds:	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Issued by TTASC:			
Series 2005	4.25-5.00%	12/31/2042	\$ 14,712,915
Add accreted interest on capital appreciation bonds			<u>571,004</u>
Carrying value of TTASC bonds			15,283,919
Issued by the County:			
Refunding issues - 2001	3.00-5.00%	03/15/2014	<u>4,350,000</u>
Total Serial Bonds			<u>\$ 19,633,919</u>

The TTASC Series 2005 bonds are comprised of tax exempt turbo bonds in the amount of \$12,585,000 and \$2,332,915 of tax exempt turbo capital appreciation bonds. Accreted interest in the amount of \$571,004 has been accrued on the capital appreciation bonds, for a total carrying value of \$2,903,919 as of December 31, 2008.

Other Long-term Debt

In addition to the above long-term debt, the County had the following non-current liabilities:

- 1) Compensated Absences: Represents the value of earned and unused portion of the liability for compensated absences and is liquidated in various funds.
- 2) Self Insurance Liabilities: As further explained in Note 3, the County is self-insured. Liabilities are established for workers' compensation and general claims in accordance with GASB Statement Number 10, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues." This liability is liquidated in the Internal Service Funds.
- 3) Other Postemployment Benefits: Represents the County's liability for retiree health insurance.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Indebtedness and Certain Long-term Obligations

The following is a summary of changes in long-term obligations for the period ended December 31, 2008:

	<u>Balance at</u> <u>12/31/07</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance at</u> <u>12/31/08</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Due within</u> <u>One Year</u>
Long-term Liabilities:					
Governmental Activities:					
Bonds Payable	\$ 19,917,915	\$	\$ (855,000)	\$ 19,062,915	\$ 990,000
Accreted Interest	<u>372,404</u>	<u>198,600</u>		<u>571,004</u>	
Carrying value of bonds	20,290,319	198,600	(855,000)	19,633,919	990,000
Other Long-term Liabilities:					
Compensated absences	764,536	7,432		771,968	771,968
Other postemployment benefits	-0-	5,375,677		5,375,677	
Self insurance liabilities	<u>4,450,000</u>			<u>4,450,000</u>	
Total Long-term Liabilities	<u>\$ 25,504,855</u>	<u>\$ 5,581,709</u>	<u>\$ (855,000)</u>	<u>\$ 30,231,564</u>	<u>\$ 1,761,968</u>

Additions and deletions to compensated absences and claims and judgments are shown net, as it is impractical to determine these amounts separately.

The annual requirements to amortize the debt on outstanding bonds as of December 31, 2008 are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>County</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2009	\$ 690,000	\$ 172,138	\$ 862,138
2010	730,000	144,600	874,600
2011	745,000	115,100	860,100
2012	735,000	81,825	816,825
2013	730,000	47,025	777,025
2014-2018	<u>720,000</u>	<u>15,300</u>	<u>735,300</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 4,350,000</u>	<u>\$ 575,988</u>	<u>\$ 4,925,988</u>

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Year	TTASC		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2009	\$ 300,000	\$ 587,837	\$ 887,837
2010	330,000	574,722	904,722
2011	355,000	560,378	915,378
2012	375,000	544,806	919,806
2013	400,000	527,363	927,363
2014-2018	2,600,000	2,302,643	4,902,643
2019-2023	4,170,000	1,456,250	5,626,250
2024-2028	4,362,613	2,301,145	6,663,758
2029-2033	897,853	5,132,069	6,029,922
2034-2038	613,632	5,785,791	6,399,423
2039-2040	308,817	1,468,323	1,777,140
Totals	<u>\$ 14,712,915</u>	<u>\$ 21,241,327</u>	<u>\$ 35,954,242</u>

Letter of Credit

The County has an irrevocable standby Letter of Credit with Tioga State Bank for \$714,400. The County uses the letter of credit as part of its guarantee to Blue Cross-Blue Shield under the Tioga County Consolidated Municipal Health Insurance Program. Interest on advances is at the lender's base rate less 2.5% per annum with a minimum rate of 3.5% per annum. There have been no advances under the letter of credit as of December 31, 2008.

Discretely Presented Component Unit - The Industrial Development Agency

The Industrial Development Agency has bonds outstanding, which were issued on September 12, 2002, as taxable variable rate demand industrial development bonds. Face value of the bonds was \$7,005,000. The bonds were sold at a discount of \$101,573. The average life of the bonds is 5.85 years, with a maturity date of September 2012. The interest rate on the bonds is blended, and calculated daily. As of December 31, 2008, the rate was 1.01%. At December 31, 2008, the face value of the bonds was \$3,215,000, with a remaining discount of \$37,243. The discount is shown together with the bond issue cost of \$252,732 in the Statement of Net Assets. The principal of the bonds is scheduled to be repaid as follows:

Year	Amount
2009	\$ 740,000
2010	780,000
2011	825,000
2012	870,000
Total	<u>\$ 3,215,000</u>

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

The cost of issuing the bonds had been capitalized and is included on the balance sheet as bond issuance costs. The amortization of the costs, using straight-line method is:

	Amount
Bond issuance costs	\$ 541,586
Less amortization	(342,996)
Total	\$ 198,570

In addition to the bonds noted above, the Agency has loans payable to the U.D.C. One loan, in the amount of \$13,333, at 0.00% interest, matures in 2009. The other loan, in the amount of \$18,409, at 1.0% interest, matures 2011. The repayment of these loans is estimated as follows:

Year	Amount
2009	\$ 21,464
2010	8,212
2011	2,066
Total	\$ 31,742

C. Interfund Receivables/Payables and Transfers

During the course of normal operations, the County has numerous transactions between funds including expenditures and transfers of resources primarily to provide services.

The Governmental Funds financial statements generally reflect such transactions as transfers whereas the Proprietary Funds record such transactions as non-operating revenues or expenses. Interfund receivables/payables and transfers at December 31, 2008 were as follows:

	Interfund Receivables	Interfund Payables	Interfund Revenue	Interfund Expense
General Fund	\$ 3,070,939	\$ 2,215,791	\$ 3,115,766	\$ 3,115,766
Non-Major Funds	2,161,311	1,993,031	3,115,766	
Total Governmental Funds	5,232,250	4,208,822	3,115,766	3,115,766
Internal Service Funds	56,610	1,080,038		
Total	\$ 5,288,860	\$ 5,288,860	\$ 3,115,766	\$ 3,115,766

All transfers were planned and budgeted as part of normal activities. The General Fund transfers out were to provide property tax revenues collected by the General Fund.

Note 3 - Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and third parties; and natural disasters. The County utilizes three risk management funds (internal service funds) to account for and finance the County's insured and uninsured risks of loss.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

The liability insurance fund provides self insurance coverage up to \$25,000 for property-related claims and up to \$50,000 for third-party liabilities. All County departments participate in the program with payments from participants based upon the participant's relative budget. The County purchases commercial insurance for claims in excess of the self insurance coverage. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. The County utilizes a third party administrator who is responsible for processing claims and estimating liabilities under this coverage.

The self insurance fund provides self insurance coverage for all workers' compensation claims for employees of each participating municipality. The County and certain municipalities within the County participate in the program and make payments to the self insurance fund based upon three factors: the total property tax assessed value, the total payroll, and the prior years' claims for each participant. The County is completely self insured with regard to workers' compensation claims and is the administrator for this fund. The net deficit of this fund was \$2,919,273 at December 31, 2008 as the County has not fully funded incurred but not reported claims.

The consolidated health insurance fund provides self insurance coverage up to an annual ceiling (\$7.9 million in 2008) for health and dental claims for employees of each participating municipality. The County and certain municipalities within the County participate in the program and make payments to the consolidated health insurance fund. Payments from participants are determined based upon the number of contracts each participating municipality utilized in the preceding year. The County purchases commercial insurance for claims in excess of self insurance coverage provided by the fund. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. The County utilizes a third party administrator who is responsible for processing claims and estimating liabilities under this coverage.

The estimated accrued claims of \$8,404,080 reported in the Internal Service Funds at December 31, 2008 are based upon the requirements of GASB Statement Number 10, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Issues," which requires that a liability for claims be reported if information prior to the issuance of the financial statements indicates it is probable that a liability has been incurred at the date of the basic financial statements and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. All liabilities are recorded at their estimated fair values as of December 31, 2008 including discounted long-life workers' compensation awards within the Workers' Compensation Fund. Changes in the funds' liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2008 were:

	Liability Beginning of Year	Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claim Payments	Liability End of Year
Workers' compensation	\$ 5,100,000	\$ 831,467	\$ 831,467	\$ 5,100,000
Property and health claims	<u>2,548,880</u>	<u>9,485,266</u>	<u>8,730,066</u>	<u>3,304,080</u>
Total All Funds	<u>\$ 7,648,880</u>	<u>\$ 10,316,733</u>	<u>\$ 9,561,533</u>	<u>\$ 8,404,080</u>

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Note 4 - Transactions with Discretely Presented Component Units

Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District

The County provides support to the District through annual appropriations. In 2008, the County provided \$182,836 to the District. In addition, the District office is on land owned by Tioga County. A lease agreement has been put into place outlining the term and how the land may be used. The District is obligated to pay any and all expenses relative to the property as rent. Tioga County has the right to request a security deposit, but has not made that request. The time period is ten years with the option to renew the lease for four additional ten year periods.

Note 5 - Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability - Deficit Fund Balance

General Fund Overexpenditures

Expenditures for education overexpended the modified budget of \$4,395,063 by \$170,946 due to audit adjustments. The County is working to strengthen controls over the year end accrual process to alleviate audit adjustments in the future.

Note 6 - Restatement of Special Grant Fund Balance and Governmental Net Assets as of December 31, 2007

During the year, the County changed its methodology for recording certain revenue in the Special Grant Fund. As a result, fund balance in the Special Grant Fund and net assets in the Statement of Net Assets as of December 31, 2007, had to be restated by \$359,987.

	Special Grant Fund	Governmental Activities
Fund Balance/Net Assets as of December 31, 2007 per Report Dated November 18, 2008	\$ 756,443	\$ 53,416,985
Restatement	(359,987)	(359,987)
Fund Balance/Net Assets as of December 31, 2007 as Restated	\$ 396,456	\$ 53,056,998

The County has established procedures to ensure receivable balances are properly reported in the future.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Note 1 - Budget Policies

No later than November 15, the budget officer submits a tentative for the fiscal year commencing the following January 1 to the County Legislature. The tentative budget includes proposed expenditures and the proposed means of financing for the General and Special Revenue Funds.

After public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments, no later than December 20, the County Legislature adopts the budget.

Budget modifications are authorized by resolution of the County Legislature. Unencumbered budgetary appropriations lapse at the close of each year.

Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General and Special Revenue Funds. Budgets for these funds are adopted on a basis consistent with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), except as explained in Note 2.

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve under that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed in the Governmental Funds. Open encumbrances at year end are reported as reservations of fund balances, as the commitments do not constitute expenditures or liabilities.

Note 2 - Reconciliation of the Budget Basis to GAAP

The "actual" column on the Budgetary Comparison Schedule (Non-GAAP) differs from the amounts reported on the GAAP reporting model because certain items in the General Fund are reported differently for GAAP than they were treated in the budget. The payment of retirement incentives, in the amount of \$139,948, is recorded as employee benefits on the budgetary basis, but is reported as debt service expenditures in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances.

Note 3 - Schedule of Funding Progress

The Schedule of Funding Progress, presented as required supplementary information following the notes to the financial statements, presents multi-year trend information about whether the actuarial value of the Plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits. Because this is the first year of implementation, only one year of information is presented for the year ending December 31, 2008.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of all Federal awards programs administered by the County of Tioga, except for such programs, if any, administered by the Tioga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, Tioga Industrial Development Agency, and the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District. The schedule is presented on the basis of accounting for Federal programs consistent with the underlying regulations pertaining to each program. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the basic financial statements.

Note 2 - Basis of Accounting

The amounts reported as Federal expenditures generally were obtained from the appropriate Federal financial reports for the applicable program and periods, with the exception of the Social Services Block Grant which was based on the District Reimbursement Ceiling as determined by the New York State Department of Social Services. The amounts reported in the Federal financial reports are prepared from records maintained for each program. These records are periodically reconciled to the general ledger which is the source of the basic financial statements.

Note 3 - Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are included in the reported expenditures to the extent they are included in the Federal financial reports used as the source for the data presented.

Note 4 - Matching Costs

Matching costs, i.e., the County's share of certain program costs, are not included in the reported expenditures.

Note 5 - Department of Social Services - Administrative Costs

Differences between the amounts reflected in the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and the Department of Social Services' Federal Financial Reports (RF-2 claims) are due to the allocation of administrative costs to the individual programs.

Note 6 - Non-Monetary Federal Program

The County is the recipient of Federal financial assistance programs that do not result in cash receipts or disbursements, termed "non-monetary programs." During the year ended December 31, 2008, the County distributed \$5,181,518 worth of food stamps to eligible persons participating in the Food Stamps Program (CFDA Number 10.551). These programs are considered a major Federal award in the County's single audit.

Note 7 - Pass-Through Programs

When the County receives funds from a government entity other than the Federal government (pass-through), the funds are accumulated based upon the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number advised by the pass-through grantor.

Identifying numbers, other than CFDA numbers, which may be assigned by pass-through grantors are not maintained in the County's financial management system, and accordingly, are not available for presentation in the Schedule of Expenditures and Federal Awards.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Reference No. 06-01

Corrective Action Plan:

Management will continue to strengthen controls over the year end closing process to ensure accounting estimates are subjected to detailed analysis which supports management's judgment in establishing all accruals. Management will verify the completeness and accuracy of the data supporting the analysis and document reviews completed to ensure compliance of financial statements with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Reference No. 06-02

Corrective Action Plan:

Management has established controls to verify all bank accounts are reconciled as soon as the system allows. The County Legislature is aware the financial software is outdated. However, the funds to replace the software are not currently available and the Legislature believes the cost of purchasing new software at this time outweighs the risk associated with delaying the year-end bank reconciliations until the year-end closing.

Contact: James McFadden
County Treasurer
County of Tioga
56 Main Street
Owego, New York 13827

COUNTY OF TIOGA
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Reference No. 06-01

Condition:

Current accruals are not appropriately monitored by the County. Primarily, the County's self-insurance accruals are not analyzed on a periodic basis to ensure underlying accounting estimates support the required accruals.

Criteria:

Under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, accruals based on estimates should reflect management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events and the assumptions underlying estimates should be reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Cause/Effect:

The County's procedures did not effectively ensure transactions were recorded in the proper period.

Recommendation:

It was recommended the County establish internal controls to ensure all accruals and underlying accounting estimates are subjected to detailed analysis supporting management judgments and appropriate independent review to ensure compliance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Current Status:

During 2007, the County implemented procedures to analyze its self-insurance accruals and adjusted the accruals as necessary. During our current year audit, we noted great improvement over the prior year. However, audit adjustments to accrue additional payables and receivables were proposed and accepted by management.

Reference No. 06-02

Condition:

The reconciliations of the County's bank accounts at December 31, 2006 were not performed in a timely manner which resulted in a material misstatement in the basic financial statements not being detected.

Criteria:

Reconciling bank accounts on a timely basis permits errors or other problems to be recognized and resolved on a timely basis. Also, it is generally simpler and less time-consuming to reconcile accounts while transactions are fresh in mind.

Cause/Effect:

Through inquiry with County personnel, it was revealed that the computer system could not provide the information needed to complete the reconciliations until year end closing, which occurs in April.

Recommendation:

It was recommended the County establish internal controls to ensure that bank reconciliations are performed in a timely manner.

Current Status:

During the current year audit, with the exception of year-end bank reconciliations, the reconciliations appear to have been made in a timely manner. However, the year-end bank reconciliations could not be performed until April 2009 because the computer system could not provide information necessary to perform the reconciliations until the year-end closings could be performed in the system. No misstatement to the financial statements was noted as a result of this deficiency in the current year.

Reference No. 07-01 - Resolved

COUNTY OF TIOGA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

Reference No. 06-01

Condition:

Current accruals are not appropriately monitored by the County. Primarily, the County's self-insurance accruals are not analyzed on a periodic basis to ensure underlying accounting estimates support the required accruals.

Criteria:

Under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, accruals based on estimates should reflect management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events and the assumptions underlying estimates should be reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Cause/Effect:

The County's procedures did not effectively ensure transactions were recorded in the proper period.

Recommendation:

It was recommended that the County establish internal controls to ensure all accruals and underlying accounting estimates are subjected to detailed analysis supporting management judgments and appropriate independent review to ensure compliance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Current Status:

During 2007, the County implemented procedures to analyze its self-insurance accruals and adjusted the accruals as necessary. During our current year audit, we noted great improvement over the prior year. However, audit adjustments to accrue additional payables and receivables were proposed and accepted by management.

Corrective Action Plan:

Management will continue to strengthen controls over the year end closing process to ensure accounting estimates are subjected to detailed analysis to support management's judgments in establishing all accruals. Management will verify the completeness and accuracy of the data supporting the analysis and document reviews completed to ensure compliance of the financial statements with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Reference No. 06-02

Condition:

The reconciliations of the County's bank accounts at December 31, 2006 were not performed in a timely manner which resulted in a material misstatement in the basic financial statements not being detected.

Criteria:

Reconciling bank accounts on a timely basis permits errors or other problems to be recognized and resolved on a timely basis. Also, it is generally simpler and less time-consuming to reconcile accounts while transactions are fresh in mind.

Cause/Effect:

Through inquiry with County personnel, it was revealed that the computer system could not provide the information needed to complete the reconciliations until year end closing, which occurs in April.

Recommendation:

It was recommended the County establish internal controls to ensure that bank reconciliations are performed in a timely manner.

COUNTY OF TIOGA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
(CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2008

Current Status:

During the current year audit, with the exception of year end bank reconciliations, the reconciliations appear to have been made in a timely manner. However, the year end bank reconciliations could not be performed until April 2009 because the computer system could not provide information necessary to perform the reconciliations until the year end closings could be performed in the system. No misstatement to the financial statements was noted as a result of this deficiency in the current year.

Corrective Action Plan:

Management has established controls to verify all bank accounts are reconciled as soon as the system allows. The County Legislature is aware the financial software is outdated. However, the funds to replace the software are not currently available and the Legislature believes the cost of purchasing new software at this time outweighs the risk associated with delaying the year end bank reconciliations until the year-end closing.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs: None