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# **City of Lincoln, Nebraska Solid Waste Management Fund**

## **Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements**

August 31, 2023 and 2022



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**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

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## Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council  
Solid Waste Management Fund  
City of Lincoln, Nebraska

### ***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of the Solid Waste Management Fund of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska (the Fund), as of and for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Fund, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### ***Emphasis of Matter***

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only the Solid Waste Management Fund and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska, as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, the changes in its financial position, or, where applicable, its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## ***Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

## ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and other postemployment benefit information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

**FORVIS, LLP**

Lincoln, Nebraska  
February 28, 2024

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

This discussion and analysis of the Solid Waste Management Fund of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska's (the Fund) financial statements provides the reader an overview of the Fund's financial activities for 2023, 2022 and 2021. The Solid Waste Management Fund's financial statements are comprised of three components: (1) Management's Discussion and Analysis, (2) financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. Please read this in conjunction with the audited financial statements and footnotes contained herein.

***Summary of the Financial Statements***

The financial statements, related notes to the financial statements and management's discussion and analysis provide information about the Solid Waste Management Fund's financial position and activities.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis** – provides an objective and easily readable analysis of the financial activities of the Solid Waste Management Fund based on currently known facts, decisions or conditions.

**Statements of Net Position** – provide a summary of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position of the Solid Waste Management Fund, as of the Fund's fiscal year end. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Fund is improving or deteriorating.

**Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position** – present the operating results of the Solid Waste Management Fund into various categories of operating revenues and expenses, and non-operating revenues and expenses.

**Statements of Cash Flows** – report the cash provided by and used for operating activities, as well as other cash sources such as interest income.

The financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Solid Waste Management Fund's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

***Notes to Financial Statements***

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

***Financial Analysis***

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Fund's financial position. In the case of the Solid Waste Management Fund, as of August 31, 2023, net position was \$1,017,077. The Fund's condensed financial information as of and for the years ended August 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 is found below.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Condensed Statements of Net Position**  
**As of August 31,**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Current assets	\$ 11,465,328	\$ 9,071,076	\$ 9,228,150
Capital assets, net	31,892,550	32,138,625	32,349,175
Other noncurrent assets	2,469,187	2,285,851	2,288,134
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>45,827,065</b>	<b>43,495,552</b>	<b>43,865,459</b>
Deferred outflows of resources	49,288	55,482	67,476
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows of resources</b>	<b>\$ 45,876,353</b>	<b>\$ 43,551,034</b>	<b>\$ 43,932,935</b>
Current liabilities	\$ 1,396,999	\$ 1,772,733	\$ 2,893,024
Noncurrent liabilities	43,341,490	40,775,607	33,672,332
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>44,738,489</b>	<b>42,548,340</b>	<b>36,565,356</b>
Deferred inflows of resources	120,787	11,112	14,632
Net investment in capital assets	26,378,176	25,946,464	24,274,647
Restricted for capital projects	112,037	61,372	64,742
Unrestricted	(25,473,136)	(25,016,254)	(16,986,442)
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>1,017,077</b>	<b>991,582</b>	<b>7,352,947</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position</b>	<b>\$ 45,876,353</b>	<b>\$ 43,551,034</b>	<b>\$ 43,932,935</b>

Total assets increased from 2022 to 2023 due to an increase in the Fund's share of pooled cash and investments offset by a decrease in capital assets due to annual depreciation. Noncurrent liabilities increased from 2022 to 2023 due to an increase in accrued estimated closure/post-closure costs.

Noncurrent liabilities increased from 2021 to 2022 due to an increase in accrued estimated closure/post-closure costs offset by a decrease in actual closure costs of closed landfill.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Condensed Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position**  
**For the Years Ended August 31,**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Operating revenues	\$ 11,802,648	\$ 10,102,116	\$ 10,422,696
Operating expenses	<u>16,040,223</u>	<u>19,852,191</u>	<u>13,010,655</u>
Operating loss	(4,237,575)	(9,750,075)	(2,587,959)
Net nonoperating revenues	<u>6,211,588</u>	<u>5,341,624</u>	<u>5,244,916</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenses before contributions and transfers	1,974,013	(4,408,451)	2,656,957
Capital contributions	6,000	-	20,000
Transfers, net	<u>(1,954,518)</u>	<u>(1,952,914)</u>	<u>(1,879,700)</u>
Change in net position	25,495	(6,361,365)	797,257
Net position, beginning of year	<u>991,582</u>	<u>7,352,947</u>	<u>6,555,690</u>
Net position, end of year	<u><u>\$ 1,017,077</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 991,582</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,352,947</u></u>

Operating expenses decreased from 2022 to 2023, primarily as a result of a decrease in estimated closure/post-closure costs of \$4,293,000. Effective January 1, 2023, the landfill occupation tax fee, per ton, was increased from \$18.00 to \$18.90. Net non-operating revenues increased from 2022 to 2023, primarily as a result of an increase in occupation tax and certain grant revenues.

Operating expenses increased \$6,841,536 from 2021 to 2022, primarily as a result of an increase in estimated closure/post-closure costs of \$7,616,000. A required third party estimate showed an increase in environmental compliance costs and increases to reflect inflation from the prior estimate. Effective January 1, 2022, the landfill occupation tax fee, per ton, was increased from \$17.15 to \$18.00.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Condensed Statements of Cash Flows**  
**For the Years Ended August 31,**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ 1,236,456	\$ 865,053	\$ 681,558
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities	4,551,461	3,224,874	3,482,870
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities	(3,405,049)	(4,345,693)	(6,355,898)
Cash flows from investing activities	<u>(1,091,660)</u>	<u>(1,975,253)</u>	<u>1,957,733</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 1,291,208</u>	<u>\$ (2,231,019)</u>	<u>\$ (233,737)</u>



**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Management’s Discussion and Analysis**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Capital Assets**

The Solid Waste Management Fund’s investment in capital assets as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, amounted to \$31,892,550 and \$32,138,625, respectively. Capital asset balances as of August 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021 is summarized as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Capital assets not being depreciated	\$ 2,126,872	\$ 1,613,830	\$ 6,309,040
Capital assets being depreciated	72,172,240	70,550,172	63,821,121
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(42,406,562)</u>	<u>(40,025,377)</u>	<u>(37,780,986)</u>
Net capital assets	<u>\$ 31,892,550</u>	<u>\$ 32,138,625</u>	<u>\$ 32,349,175</u>

Additional information on the Solid Waste Management Fund’s capital assets can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

**Debt Administration**

At August 31, 2023 and 2022, the Solid Waste Management Fund had total bonded debt outstanding of \$6,240,000 and \$6,840,000, respectively. Decreases in the balance of debt outstanding is a result of scheduled debt service payments of \$600,000 and \$575,000 during 2023 and 2022, respectively. Additional information on the Solid Waste Management Fund’s debt can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

**Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Fund’s finances for all those with an interest in the Solid Waste Management Fund. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the City of Lincoln Finance Department, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Statements of Net Position**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 947,274	\$ -
Equity in pooled cash and investments, including cash and cash equivalents of \$411,623 for 2023 and \$112,406 for 2022	7,935,737	6,544,161
Accounts receivable	2,130,734	1,822,333
Due from other City funds	433,900	472,672
Due from other governments	17,683	231,910
Total current assets	<u>11,465,328</u>	<u>9,071,076</u>
<b>Noncurrent Assets</b>		
Equity in pooled cash and investments	1,240,066	1,107,395
Restricted assets		
Equity in pooled cash and investments, including cash and cash equivalents of \$58,224 for 2023 and \$13,507 for 2022	1,215,521	1,175,111
Accrued interest receivable	13,600	3,345
Total restricted assets	<u>1,229,121</u>	<u>1,178,456</u>
<b>Capital Assets, Net</b>	<u>31,892,550</u>	<u>32,138,625</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>34,361,737</u>	<u>34,424,476</u>
Total assets	<u>45,827,065</u>	<u>43,495,552</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>		
Deferred outflows for OPEB	<u>49,288</u>	<u>55,482</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	466,907	868,466
Accrued liabilities	112,509	91,880
Accrued compensated absences	161,470	154,917
Due to other City funds	2,048	22,784
Due to other governments	8,252	8,442
Accrued interest payable	18,111	20,324
Current portion of total OPEB liability	7,702	5,920
Current portion of long-term debt	620,000	600,000
Total current liabilities	<u>1,396,999</u>	<u>1,772,733</u>
<b>Noncurrent Liabilities</b>		
Accrued closure/post-closure care costs	36,955,000	33,632,000
Long-term debt, net	5,980,298	6,635,783
Total OPEB liability, net	156,004	265,390
Accrued compensated absences, net	250,188	242,434
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>43,341,490</u>	<u>40,775,607</u>
Total liabilities	<u>44,738,489</u>	<u>42,548,340</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>		
Deferred inflows for OPEB	<u>120,787</u>	<u>11,112</u>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	26,378,176	25,946,464
Restricted for capital projects	112,037	61,372
Unrestricted	<u>(25,473,136)</u>	<u>(25,016,254)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 1,017,077</u>	<u>\$ 991,582</u>

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position**  
**Years Ended August 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>		
Fees	\$ 10,880,470	\$ 9,599,528
Other	922,178	502,588
Total operating revenues	11,802,648	10,102,116
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Personal services	3,308,537	3,277,075
Operation and maintenance	6,664,753	6,477,118
Depreciation	2,743,933	2,481,998
Estimated closure and post-closure care costs	3,323,000	7,616,000
Total operating expenses	16,040,223	19,852,191
Operating loss	(4,237,575)	(9,750,075)
<b>Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)</b>		
Occupation tax	5,675,780	5,296,074
Investment income	58,814	2,230
Gain (loss) on disposal of capital assets	(13,905)	44,725
Interest expense	(207,334)	(234,484)
Grant revenue	696,203	233,079
Insurance recoveries	2,030	-
Net nonoperating revenues	6,211,588	5,341,624
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenses Before Contributions and Transfers</b>	1,974,013	(4,408,451)
<b>Capital Contributions</b>	6,000	-
<b>Transfers Out to Other City Funds, Net</b>	(1,954,518)	(1,952,914)
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Position</b>	25,495	(6,361,365)
<b>Net Position, Beginning of Year</b>	991,582	7,352,947
<b>Net Position, End of Year</b>	\$ 1,017,077	\$ 991,582

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Statements of Cash Flows**  
**Years Ended August 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts from customers and users	\$ 10,624,549	\$ 9,473,413
Payments to suppliers for goods and services	(7,078,754)	(6,393,469)
Payments to employees	(3,231,517)	(3,027,317)
Other receipts	922,178	812,426
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>1,236,456</u>	<u>865,053</u>
<b>Noncapital Financing Activities</b>		
Occupation tax receipts	5,538,034	5,175,810
Transfers to other funds, net	(1,954,518)	(1,952,914)
Advances to other funds	40,641	-
Grant proceeds	927,304	1,978
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	<u>4,551,461</u>	<u>3,224,874</u>
<b>Capital and Related Financing Activities</b>		
Purchases of capital assets	(2,568,066)	(3,608,561)
Proceeds from sales of capital assets	-	108,475
Capital contributions	6,000	-
Principal payments of long-term debt	(600,000)	(575,000)
Insurance proceeds	2,030	-
Interest and fiscal charges paid on long-term debt	(245,013)	(270,607)
Net cash used in capital and related financing activities	<u>(3,405,049)</u>	<u>(4,345,693)</u>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Purchases of investments	(10,596,565)	(7,761,871)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments	9,478,959	5,775,712
Interest and other receipts	25,946	10,906
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(1,091,660)</u>	<u>(1,975,253)</u>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	1,291,208	(2,231,019)
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>125,913</u>	<u>2,356,932</u>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 1,417,121</u>	<u>\$ 125,913</u>

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Statements of Cash Flows - Continued**  
**Years Ended August 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents to the Statements of Net Position</b>		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 947,274	\$ -
Equity in pooled cash and investments	411,623	112,406
Noncurrent assets		
Equity in pooled cash and investments - restricted	58,224	13,507
	\$ 1,417,121	\$ 125,913
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>		
Operating loss	\$ (4,237,575)	\$ (9,750,075)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	2,743,933	2,481,998
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
Accounts receivable	(147,870)	154,539
Due from other City funds	(91,177)	(40,661)
Due from other governments	(16,874)	69,845
Deferred outflows for OPEB	6,194	11,994
Accounts payable	(359,256)	162,800
Accrued liabilities	20,629	16,742
Accrued compensated absences	14,307	177,741
Due to other City funds	(20,736)	22,455
Due to other governments	(190)	(69,055)
Total OPEB liability	(107,604)	14,250
Deferred inflows for OPEB	109,675	(3,520)
Closure/post-closure care costs	3,323,000	7,616,000
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>\$ 1,236,456</b>	<b>\$ 865,053</b>
<b>Supplemental Cash Flows Information</b>		
Payables incurred for acquisition of capital assets	\$ 31,160	\$ 73,462
Change in fair value of investments	\$ 13,891	\$ 13,546
Amortization of bond premium	\$ 35,485	\$ 34,002
Capital asset trade-ins	\$ 61,000	\$ -

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Organization and Nature of Operations***

The Solid Waste Management Fund (the “Fund”) is an enterprise fund of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska (the “City”) that is used to account for operations related to the management of solid wastes generated within the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County.

The solid waste operation facilities are owned by the City and operated under the direction of the Mayor and the City Council. The authority to adopt the annual budget, to incur debt and to establish fees, rates and charges are vested in the City Council by the City charter.

The financial statements present only the Fund and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its financial position, or, where applicable, its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting***

The financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

The Fund first applies restricted net position when an expense or outlay is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

***Use of Estimates***

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

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

***Deposits and Investments***

The City Treasurer is responsible for the safekeeping of cash and investments of the Fund. The City is authorized to invest in certificates of deposit, time deposits, and any securities in which the State investment officer is authorized to invest pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act and as provided in the authorized investment guidelines of the Nebraska Investment Council and the City Investment Policy in effect on the date the investment is made. Cash balances in excess of current requirements are invested along with cash from other City funds and the interest earned on these investments is allocated monthly to the various funds by the City Treasurer on a pro rata basis of using the average of the prior three months balances.

For purposes of the Statements of Cash Flows, the Fund considers cash on hand and in the bank, as well as cash and equity in pooled cash and investments held by the City Treasurer, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and have original maturities of three months or less, to be cash and cash equivalents.

The Fund participates in a cash management pool managed by the City. The pool consists of bank deposits and investments. The Fund's interest in this pool is shown as equity in pooled cash and investments in the statements of net position. Fair value of the equity in the pool is the same as the value of the pool shares determined using the fair value of the pool's underlying investment portfolio.

Investments are carried at fair value. Investment income includes interest income and the net change for the year in the fair value of investments.

***Accounts Receivable***

Accounts receivable are stated at amounts billed to customers and include both fees and occupation taxes. Monthly statements are issued for accounts receivable, which are due on the last day of the month. Accounts unpaid by the due date are assessed a late fee of 2% monthly. Management does not believe an allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary at August 31, 2023 and 2022. At August 31, 2023, approximately 42% of accounts receivable were owed from three customers. At August 31, 2022, approximately 47% of accounts receivable were owed from two customers.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

***Capital Assets***

The cost of additions and replacements to land, buildings, improvements other than buildings and equipment in service is capitalized. Cost includes acquisition price, negotiation and appraisal services and payments to contractors. The cost of land, buildings, improvements and equipment along with the related accumulated depreciation is removed from the books at time of disposal and a gain or loss is recognized. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to current expenses. Depreciation expense is calculated on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Depreciation expense recognized on contributed assets is charged to operations in accordance with similar capital assets.

**Estimated Useful Lives**

Buildings	10 - 25 years
Improvements other than buildings	10 - 25 years
Machinery and equipment	5 - 10 years

***Compensated Absences***

Employees earn vacation days at a variable rate based on years of service. In the event of termination, an employee is reimbursed for accumulated vacation time up to a maximum allowed accumulation. Employees earn sick leave at the rate of approximately one day per month. Upon retirement, an employee is reimbursed for a percentage of accumulated sick leave depending on the employees' bargaining unit contract. In some cases, payment may be placed in a medical spending account rather than reimbursing the employee directly.

Vacation leave and other compensated absences with similar characteristics are accrued as the benefits are earned if the leave is attributable to past service and it is probable that the Fund will compensate the employees for such benefits. Sick leave and other compensated absences with similar characteristics are accrued as the benefits are earned only to the extent it is probable that the Fund will compensate the employees for such benefits through cash payments conditioned on the employee's termination or retirement. Such accruals are based on current salary rates and include salary-related payments directly and incrementally associated with payments made for compensated absences on termination.



**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

***Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources***

A deferred outflow of resources is a consumption of net assets that is applicable to a future reporting period and a deferred inflow of resources is an acquisition of net assets that is applicable to a future reporting period. Both deferred inflows and outflows are reported in the statements of net position but are not recognized in the financial statements as revenues and expenses until the period(s) to which they relate. The Fund has one item that qualifies for reporting as a deferred outflow of resources. Deferred outflows for OPEB include OPEB related amounts not yet recognized within OPEB expense. The Fund has one item that qualifies for reporting as a deferred inflow of resources. Deferred inflows for OPEB include OPEB related amounts not yet recognized against OPEB expense.

***Net Position***

Net position is required to be classified into three components – net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

***Net investment in capital assets*** – This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, 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. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets or related debt also should be included in this component of net position. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds is not included in the calculation of net investment in capital assets.

***Restricted*** - This component of net position consists of restrictions placed on net position use through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), contributors or law or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

***Unrestricted*** - This component consists of net position that does not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

***Operating and Nonoperating Revenues and Expenses***

As an enterprise fund, the Fund distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with the Fund’s principal ongoing operations. Operating revenues include all fees charged for the disposal of solid waste less occupation tax, and other revenues including those from the sale of recyclable materials and rental of property. Operating expenses include personnel costs, the cost of materials and services for operation and maintenance, depreciation on capital assets and closure and post-closure care costs.

All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses. Occupation tax, investment income, interest expense and gain/loss on disposal of assets are classified as nonoperating revenues or expenses.

As detailed in the table below, fund revenue is generated by a fee for refuse disposed of in the City’s municipal solid waste landfill; an occupation tax for refuse collected within the corporate limits of the City of Lincoln by a refuse hauler, and on refuse collected outside the corporate limits of the City of Lincoln by a refuse hauler and disposed of in the City’s municipal solid waste landfill; other fees authorized by the City Council; and nonoperating revenues.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Landfill refuse fee (including special wastes), per ton	\$ 28.90	\$ 27.50
Occupation tax, per ton	18.90	18.00

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 2: Deposits, Investments and Investment Return**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, a government's deposits may not be returned to it. The Fund has been allocated a portion of the City's pooled cash and investments. The City's deposit policy for custodial credit risk requires compliance with the provisions of state law.

State Statutes 15-846 and 15-847 R.R.S. 1943, require banks either to provide a bond or may give security as provided in the Public Funds Deposit Security Act to the City Treasurer in the amount of the City's deposits. The Statutes allow pledged securities to be reduced by the amount of the deposit insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

The City's cash deposits, including certificates of deposit, are insured up to \$250,000 by the FDIC. Any cash deposits or certificates of deposit in excess of the \$250,000 FDIC limits are covered by collateral held in a Federal Reserve pledge account or by an agent for the City, or a letter of credit issued by the Federal Reserve Bank, and thus no custodial credit risk exists. No legal opinion has been obtained regarding the enforceability of any of the collateral arrangements.

The Fund held no outside investments as of August 31, 2023 and 2022. See City of Lincoln's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for additional disclosures related to the pooled cash and investments.

The carrying values of deposits and investments are included in the statements of net position as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Carrying value		
Deposits	\$ 947,274	\$ -
Equity in pooled cash and investments	<u>10,391,324</u>	<u>8,826,667</u>
	<u>\$ 11,338,598</u>	<u>\$ 8,826,667</u>
Included in the following statements of net position captions		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 947,274	\$ -
Equity in pooled cash and investments	7,935,737	6,544,161
Noncurrent Assets		
Equity in pooled cash and investments	1,240,066	1,107,395
Equity in pooled cash and investments - restricted	<u>1,215,521</u>	<u>1,175,111</u>
	<u>\$ 11,338,598</u>	<u>\$ 8,826,667</u>

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 3: Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

<b>2023</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Increases</b>	<b>Decreases</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
Capital assets, not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 1,540,452	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,540,452
Construction in progress	73,378	513,042	-	-	586,420
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>1,613,830</u>	<u>513,042</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,126,872</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated:					
Buildings	3,643,440	-	-	-	3,643,440
Improvements other than buildings	54,534,578	335,152	-	-	54,869,730
Machinery and equipment	12,372,154	1,724,664	(437,748)	-	13,659,070
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>70,550,172</u>	<u>2,059,816</u>	<u>(437,748)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,172,240</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings	2,083,489	90,319	-	-	2,173,808
Improvements other than buildings	31,470,848	1,792,919	-	-	33,263,767
Machinery and equipment	6,471,040	860,695	(362,748)	-	6,968,987
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>40,025,377</u>	<u>2,743,933</u>	<u>(362,748)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,406,562</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>30,524,795</u>	<u>(684,117)</u>	<u>(75,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,765,678</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 32,138,625</u>	<u>\$ (171,075)</u>	<u>\$ (75,000)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 31,892,550</u>
<b>2022</b>					
Capital assets, not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 1,540,452	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,540,452
Construction in progress	4,768,588	1,161,735	-	(5,856,945)	73,378
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>6,309,040</u>	<u>1,161,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,856,945)</u>	<u>1,613,830</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated:					
Buildings	3,551,225	92,215	-	-	3,643,440
Improvements other than buildings	48,893,553	-	-	5,641,025	54,534,578
Machinery and equipment	11,376,343	1,081,247	(301,356)	215,920	12,372,154
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>63,821,121</u>	<u>1,173,462</u>	<u>(301,356)</u>	<u>5,856,945</u>	<u>70,550,172</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings	1,995,936	87,553	-	-	2,083,489
Improvements other than buildings	29,869,028	1,601,820	-	-	31,470,848
Machinery and equipment	5,916,022	792,625	(237,607)	-	6,471,040
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>37,780,986</u>	<u>2,481,998</u>	<u>(237,607)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,025,377</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>26,040,135</u>	<u>(1,308,536)</u>	<u>(63,749)</u>	<u>5,856,945</u>	<u>30,524,795</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 32,349,175</u>	<u>\$ (146,801)</u>	<u>\$ (63,749)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 32,138,625</u>

The Fund has commitments under major construction contracts in progress of approximately \$1,492,000 at August 31, 2023.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 4: Long-term Obligations**

Long-term liability activity for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

<b>2023</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Reductions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>Due Within One Year</b>
Bonds payable					
Revenue bonds, Series 2013	\$ 2,715,000	\$ -	\$ 345,000	\$ 2,370,000	\$ 360,000
Revenue bonds, Series 2015	4,125,000	-	255,000	3,870,000	260,000
Issuance premium	395,783	-	35,485	360,298	-
Net bonds payable	7,235,783	-	635,485	6,600,298	620,000
Other liabilities					
Accrued compensated absences	397,351	169,224	154,917	411,658	161,470
Total OPEB liability	271,310	-	107,604	163,706	7,702
Closure/post-closure care costs	33,632,000	3,323,000	-	36,955,000	-
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 41,536,444</u>	<u>\$ 3,492,224</u>	<u>\$ 898,006</u>	<u>\$ 44,130,662</u>	<u>\$ 789,172</u>
<b>2022</b>					
Bonds payable					
Revenue bonds, Series 2013	\$ 3,045,000	\$ -	\$ 330,000	\$ 2,715,000	\$ 345,000
Revenue bonds, Series 2015	4,370,000	-	245,000	4,125,000	255,000
Issuance premium	429,785	-	34,002	395,783	-
Net bonds payable	7,844,785	-	609,002	7,235,783	600,000
Other liabilities					
Accrued compensated absences	219,610	259,476	81,735	397,351	154,917
Total OPEB liability	257,060	14,250	-	271,310	5,920
Closure/post-closure care costs	26,016,000	7,616,000	-	33,632,000	-
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 34,337,455</u>	<u>\$ 7,889,726</u>	<u>\$ 690,737</u>	<u>\$ 41,536,444</u>	<u>\$ 760,837</u>

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 4: Long-term Obligations - Continued**

During fiscal year 2013, \$8,340,000 of revenue and refunding bonds were issued to refund \$2,800,000 of Series 2006 bonds and finance improvements to the City’s solid waste management facilities. Interest rates on the bonds range from .25% to 4.00% and interest is payable semi-annually. Annual principal installments are due August 1, ranging from \$330,000 to \$850,000 through 2029. Series 2013 bonds maturing on or after August 1, 2024 are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the City at any time on or after August 1, 2023.

During fiscal year 2015, \$5,520,000 of revenue bonds were issued to finance improvements to the City’s solid waste management facilities. Interest rates on the bonds range from 2.00% to 5.00% and interest is payable semi-annually. Annual principal installments are due August 1, ranging from \$220,000 to \$400,000 through 2035. Series 2015 bonds maturing on or after August 1, 2026 are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the City at any time on or after August 1, 2025.

The Fund has pledged future revenues derived from the operation of the municipally owned solid waste management facilities, net of operating and maintenance expenses, to repay the outstanding revenue bonds discussed above. The total principal and interest remaining to be paid on the bonds is \$7,420,192, with annual payments expected to require 23% of net revenues. Principal and interest paid for the current year and net system revenues were \$843,834 and \$5,609,434, respectively.

The debt service requirements as of August 31, 2023 are as follows:

<b>Year Ending August 31</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2024	620,000	217,284	837,284
2025	645,000	189,884	834,884
2026	670,000	161,384	831,384
2027	690,000	142,844	832,844
2028	715,000	118,144	833,144
2029-2033	2,120,000	310,827	2,430,827
2034-2036	780,000	39,825	819,825
	<u>\$ 6,240,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,180,192</u>	<u>\$ 7,420,192</u>

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 5: Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)**

***Plan Description***

The City offers employees and their families the opportunity to continue their health care coverage when there is a qualifying event, such as retirement, that would result in a loss of coverage under the City's plan. Each qualified beneficiary pays the entire cost of premiums for the continuous coverage. The City recognizes as OPEB the implicit rate subsidy provided to retirees when their premium is the "full cost" of the insurer's charge for the active population. Since the retirees have higher costs, the premium they pay is not expected to cover their costs, and the difference is essentially covered by the City's payment for active employees. The City plan is a single-employer defined benefit plan. The City does not issue a separate report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for OPEB. The City's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) may be obtained by writing to the City of Lincoln, Finance Department, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

The Fund accounts for and reports its participation in the City's single-employer plan as if it was a cost-sharing plan. The Fund's proportionate share of the total OPEB liability was based on the Fund's share of active employees relative to all active City employees. At August 31, 2023 and 2022, the Fund's proportion was 0.97% and 0.94%, respectively.

***Funding Policy***

The plan is a pay-as-you-go and therefore, is not funded. There are no assets accumulated in a trust that meet the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB 75 in connection with the plan.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 5: Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - Continued**

***Actuarial Methods and Assumptions***

The total OPEB liability at August 31, 2023 was measured as of August 31, 2022. The actuarial valuation was prepared as of August 31, 2022. The total OPEB liability as of August 31, 2023 is based on the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

**Actuarial Assumptions - FY 2023**

Price Inflation	2.25%
Municipal Bond Index Rate	3.38%, monthly average of the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	7.00%, decreasing by 0.25% per year until an ultimate rate of 4.50% is reached in 2032
Cost-Sharing Premiums	<p>Premiums, effective as of November 1, 2022, were trended backward to August 31, 2022. Civilian premium rates were based on the base plan and the combined rate for Police and Fire was based on an average for the Police group and Fire group.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Premiums trended to August 31, 2022</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Police / Fire Retiree - \$10,687</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Police / Fire Spouse - \$13,039</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Civilians Retiree - \$9,542</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Civilians Spouse - \$11,640</p>
Mortality	<p>General Pub-2010 Tables used for Civilians and Safety</p> <p>Pub-2010 Tables used for Police and Fire with generational mortality improvement using the Nebraska Public Retirement System Mortality Improvement Scale.</p>

The Police and Fire demographic actuarial assumptions used in the August 31, 2022 valuation are consistent with those used in the valuation of the Lincoln Police and Fire Pension Plan at that time, which were based on the actuarial experience study covering the four-year period ending August 31, 2018.

The Civilian mortality rate assumption aligns with the Pub-2010 Mortality Tables used for Police and Fire, except they are based on the General population tables to better align with the respective employment groups. Due to the size of the plan and lack of available data to analyze, the withdrawal rates are based on The Basic Service Table from the 2003 SOA Pension Plan Turnover Study and the disability rates are based on rates observed in similar types of plans. The retirement rates were unchanged from the prior valuation as we believe they are reasonable estimates of future experience.



**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 5: Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - Continued**

***Actuarial Methods and Assumptions - Continued***

The remaining actuarial assumptions (initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of DROP participation, etc.) used in the valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience.

The total OPEB liability at August 31, 2022 was measured as of August 31, 2021. The actuarial valuation was prepared as of August 31, 2020 for members in payment under the plan, and for active members an actuarial valuation was prepared as of September 5, 2020. Active data is not available retroactively, but was provided close to the valuation date. The total OPEB liability as of August 31, 2022 is based on the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

**Actuarial Assumptions - FY 2022**

Price Inflation	2.25%
Municipal Bond Index Rate	2.12%, monthly average of the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	7.00%, decreasing by 0.25% per year until an ultimate rate of 4.50% is reached in 2030
Cost-Sharing Premiums	Premiums, effective as of November 1, 2020, were trended backward to August 31, 2020. Civilian premium rates were based on the base plan and the combined rate for Police and Fire was based on an average for the Police group and Fire group. Premiums trended to August 31, 2020 Police / Fire Retiree - \$10,687 Police / Fire Spouse - \$13,039 Civilians Retiree - \$9,542 Civilians Spouse - \$11,640
Mortality	General Pub-2010 Tables used for Civilians and Safety Pub-2010 Tables used for Police and Fire with generational mortality improvement using the Nebraska Public Retirement System Mortality Improvement Scale.

The Police and Fire demographic actuarial assumptions used in the August 31, 2020 valuation are consistent with those used in the valuation of the Lincoln Police and Fire Pension Plan at that time, which were based on the actuarial experience study covering the four-year period ending August 31, 2018.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 5: Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - Continued**

***Actuarial Methods and Assumptions - Continued***

The Civilian mortality rate assumption aligns with the Pub-2010 Mortality Tables used for Police and Fire, except they are based on the General population tables to better align with the respective employment groups. Due to the size of the plan and lack of available data to analyze, the withdrawal rates are based on The Basic Service Table from the 2003 SOA Pension Plan Turnover Study and the disability rates are based on rates observed in similar types of plans. The retirement rates were unchanged from the prior valuation as we believe they are reasonable estimates of future experience.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of DROP participation, etc.) used in the valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience.

***Deferred Outflows (Inflows) of Resources Related to OPEB, Total OPEB Liability, and OPEB Expense***

At August 31, 2023 and 2022, the Fund reported a total OPEB liability of \$163,706 and \$271,310, respectively, for its proportionate share of the collective total OPEB liability for the City. For the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022, the Fund recognized OPEB expense of \$12,679 and \$28,125, respectively, and reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<b>2023</b>	
	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Benefit payments subsequent to the measurement date	\$ 7,702	\$ -
Differences between expected and actual experience	1,567	100,553
Changes in assumptions	40,019	20,234
Total	<u>\$ 49,288</u>	<u>\$ 120,787</u>
	<b>2022</b>	
	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Benefit payments subsequent to the measurement date	\$ 5,920	\$ -
Differences between expected and actual experience	1,854	1,005
Changes in assumptions	47,708	10,107
Total	<u>\$ 55,482</u>	<u>\$ 11,112</u>

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 5: Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - Continued**

***Deferred Outflows (Inflows) of Resources Related to OPEB, Total OPEB Liability, and OPEB Expense - Continued***

The deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from the Fund’s benefit payments subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the total OPEB liability in the fiscal year ending August 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<b>Year Ending August 31,</b>	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
2024	9,209	(20,714)
2025	9,209	(19,825)
2026	9,209	(17,893)
2027	8,691	(17,000)
2028	5,268	(17,000)
Thereafter	-	(28,355)
	<b>\$ 41,586</b>	<b>\$ (120,787)</b>

***Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Rates***

The following presents the Fund’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability calculated using health care cost trend rates ranging from 7.00% in 2022 and trending downward to 4.50% in 2032, as well as the Fund’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability calculated using trend rates that are 1% lower and 1% higher than the current rates:

	<b>1% Decrease</b>	<b>Current Trend</b>	<b>1% Increase</b>
Total OPEB Liability August 31, 2023	\$ 144,313	\$ 163,706	\$ 186,829

The following presents the Fund’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability calculated using health care cost trend rates ranging from 7.00% in 2020 and trending downward to 4.50% in 2030, as well as the Fund’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability calculated using trend rates that are 1% lower and 1% higher than the current rates:

	<b>1% Decrease</b>	<b>Current Trend</b>	<b>1% Increase</b>
Total OPEB Liability August 31, 2022	\$ 235,550	\$ 271,310	\$ 314,408

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 5: Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) - Continued**

***Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Rates - Continued***

The following presents the Fund’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability, calculated using the discount rate of 3.38% and 2.12% as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, as well as the Fund’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower or 1% higher than the current rate:

	<b>1% Decrease 2.38%</b>	<b>Current Discount Rate 3.38%</b>	<b>1% Increase 4.38%</b>
Total OPEB Liability August 31, 2023	\$ 180,967	\$ 163,706	\$ 148,246
	<b>1% Decrease 1.12%</b>	<b>Current Discount Rate 2.12%</b>	<b>1% Increase 3.12%</b>
Total OPEB Liability August 31, 2022	\$ 300,131	\$ 271,310	\$ 245,402

**Note 6: Risk Management**

The Fund participates in the City’s self-insurance program administered by the City’s Risk Management Division. The City is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees and the public; or acts of God. The City has a self-insured retention for workers’ compensation exposures up to \$800,000 per individual; building and contents exposures up to \$100,000 per occurrence; general liability exposures up to \$400,000 per occurrence; public official’s exposures up to \$400,000 per occurrence; auto liability exposures up to \$400,000, and employee long-term disability.

Workers’ compensation, general liability, and public official’s liability are covered by excess insurance which provides statutory limits above the City’s retention. Auto liability is covered by a policy which provides a limit of \$6 million. The Nebraska Political Tort Claims Act limits the City’s liability for tort claims to \$1 million per individual and \$5 million per occurrence. Settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Premium amounts are paid to the Insurance Revolving Fund, including an estimate of the liability for claims incurred but not yet reported as of August 31, 2023 and 2022. The Fund incurred insurance expense of approximately \$98,000 and \$70,000 in 2023 and 2022, respectively.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 7: Closure and Post-closure Care Costs**

The City of Lincoln currently owns and operates both a municipal solid waste landfill and a construction and demolition debris landfill. State and federal laws require the City to close the landfills once capacity is reached and to monitor and maintain the site for thirty subsequent years on the municipal solid waste landfill and five subsequent years on the construction and demolition debris landfill. Although certain closure and post-closure care costs will be paid only near or after the date that the landfills stop accepting waste, the City reports a portion of these closure and post-closure care costs as an operating expense in each period based on landfill capacity used as of each statement of net position date.

At August 31, 2023 and 2022, the City had established a closure/post-closure cost liability of \$29,729,000 and \$26,971,000, respectively, for the municipal solid waste landfill which represents the amount of estimated costs reported to date based on the approximately 72% and 69% of landfill capacity used to date, respectively. The remaining estimated liability for these costs is approximately \$11.8 million, which will be recognized as the remaining capacity is used (estimated to be approximately 12 years).

At August 31, 2023 and 2022, the City had established a closure/post-closure cost liability of \$1,926,000 and \$1,707,000, respectively, for the construction and demolition debris landfill which represents the amount of estimated costs reported to date based on the approximately 45% and 43% of landfill capacity used to date, respectively. The remaining estimated liability for these costs is approximately \$2.3 million, which will be recognized as the remaining capacity is used (estimated to be approximately 27 years).

The estimated costs of closure and post-closure care, as determined by an independent engineering consultant, are subject to changes such as updated cost estimates, the effects of inflation, revision of laws, changes in technology, actual sequence of landfill development and closure and other variables.

The City of Lincoln also owns a solid waste disposal area which discontinued operations in 1990. Although exempt from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Solid Waste Disposal Criteria issued October 9, 1991, the City still adheres to certain closure and post-closure care requirements under prior legislation, including the construction of final cover, monitoring of groundwater conditions and landfill gas migration and general site maintenance. At August 31, 2023 and 2022, a liability for post-closure care costs is recorded in the amount of \$5,300,000 and \$4,954,000, respectively. If any unanticipated corrective action costs related to landfill gas migration or groundwater contamination are identified through current monitoring procedures, an additional accrued liability will be recorded once these costs can be reasonably estimated.

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**August 31, 2023 and 2022**

**Note 8: Pension Plan**

Employees are eligible after six months of service and age 19 to be covered under the City's Money Purchase Pension Plan, established by City Ordinance, and administered by an insurance company. Enrollment in the program is mandatory at age 40 with five years of service. Vesting occurs in increments between three and seven years of enrollment in the Plan. The Plan is a defined contribution plan requiring employees to contribute at a rate determined by the employees' bargaining unit and date of hire. The City contributes between \$1.29 and \$2.00 for every \$1.00 contributed by employees. Employees covered by the Plan may also make voluntary contributions. For the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022, the City made employer contributions of approximately \$235,000 and \$199,000, respectively, to the Money Purchase Pension Plan.

**Note 9: Related Party Transactions**

The City provides certain administrative services to the Fund for which the Fund pays fees to the City. These fees amounted to approximately \$452,000 and \$442,000 for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Amounts due from other City funds for solid waste fees are \$145,334 and \$139,790 as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Additionally, amounts due from other City funds as of August 31, 2023 included \$288,566 and \$332,882, respectively, of advances to other funds from the Fund. Amounts due to other City funds for administrative and other services are \$2,048 and \$22,784 as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

In 2023 and 2022, the Fund transferred \$1,950,879 and \$1,949,226, respectively, to the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Fund of the City for occupation taxes collected by the Fund. In 2023 and 2022, the Fund transferred \$3,639 and \$3,688, respectively, to the General Fund of the City for the Lincoln Employee Assistance Program.

## **Required Supplementary Information**

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska  
Solid Waste Management Fund**

**Schedule of the Solid Waste Management Fund's Proportionate Share of the  
Total Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) Liability  
Measurement Period Ending August 31,**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
The Fund's proportion of the total OPEB liability	0.97%	0.94%	0.95%	1.03%	1.05%	1.16%
The Fund's proportionate share of the total OPEB liability	\$ 163,706	\$ 271,310	\$ 257,060	\$ 207,247	\$ 188,610	\$ 217,414
The Fund's covered payroll	\$ 1,547,624	\$ 1,440,948	\$ 1,434,161	\$ 1,501,600	\$ 1,480,180	\$ 1,604,865
The Fund's proportionate share of the total OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	10.58%	18.83%	17.92%	13.80%	12.74%	13.55%

Note: This schedule represents information as of the measurement date of the total OPEB liability. This schedule is required to present 10 years of information. However, information is not available and will be added as it becomes available.

Notes to Schedule:

The City of Lincoln has no accumulated assets held in trust to pay related benefits.

Changes in actuarial assumptions:

August 31, 2022 valuation – The discount rate has changed from 2.12% to 3.38% due to a change in the municipal bond rate. The trend rate assumption was adjusted to 7.00% in the first year, decreasing by 0.25% per year until an ultimate rate of 4.50% is reached in 2032.

August 31, 2021 valuation – The discount rate has changed from 2.11% to 2.12% due to a change in the municipal bond rate.

August 31, 2020 valuation – The discount rate has changed from 3.16% to 2.11% due to a change in the municipal bond rate. The inflation rate has changed from 2.50% to 2.25% based on the most recent Lincoln Police and Fire Pension Plan experience study. The mortality assumption was updated to the Pub-2010 family of mortality tables. The Safety tables are used for the Police and Fire members and the General tables are used for the Civilian members. Retirement rates for the Police and Fire members were adjusted to service-based rates. Termination rates were adjusted to service-based rates. Disability rates for Civilians were reduced at most ages and combined for males and females. The percentage of members assumed to be married was updated from 100% to 90%. The trend rate assumption was adjusted to 7.00% in the first year, decreasing by 0.25% per year until an ultimate rate of 4.50% is reached in 2030.



**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**Solid Waste Management Fund**

**Schedule of the Solid Waste Management Fund's Proportionate Share of the  
Total Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) Liability  
Measurement Period Ending August 31,**

- August 31, 2019 valuation – The discount rate has changed from 3.96% to 3.16% due to a change in the municipal bond rate.
- August 31, 2018 valuation – The discount rate has changed from 3.53% to 3.96% due to a change in the municipal bond rate. The trend rate assumption is now 7.25% decreasing by 0.25% per year until an ultimate rate of 4.75% is reached in 2028, which changed from 7.50% for 2016 and 2017, decreasing by 0.50% per year for four years, then decreasing by 0.25% per year until an ultimate rate of 5.00% is reached in 2023.
- August 31, 2017 valuation – The discount rate has changed from 2.85% to 3.53% due to a change in the municipal bond rate.