

A PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATIONS

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council City of Santa Clarita Santa Clarita, California

We have audited the accompany financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activity, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Santa Clarita, California, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the City of Santa Clarita'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 <u>Government Auditing</u> <u>Standards</u> 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 provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activity, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Santa Clarita, California, as of June 30, 2003, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed in Note 1 to the basic financial statements, the accompanying financial statements reflect certain changes in the presentation of financial data required as a result of the Implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 for the year ended June 30, 2003.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated August 29, 2003 on our consideration of the City of Santa Clarita's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing</u> <u>Standards</u> and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

The management's discussion and analysis and the budgetary comparison information as listed in the table of contents are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. 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 City of Santa Clarita's basic financial statements. The introductory section, supplementary information section and statistical section as listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The supplementary information section 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. The introductory section and statistical section have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Diehl, Evans and Company, LZP

August 29, 2003 (except for information in Note 4C, as to which the date is October 3, 2003).