

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET
SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the
County of Columbia, New York)
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(and Reports of Independent Auditors)

December 31, 2017

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation (a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York) (the "Corporation"), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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

Our responsibility is to express an opinion 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and major fund of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, as of December 31, 2017, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing 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.

Management has omitted budgetary comparison schedules that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 27, 2018, on our consideration of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci, CPAs, P.C.

Valatie, New York
March 27, 2018

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
DECEMBER 31, 2017

1. Introduction:

Within this section of the Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's (the "Corporation") financial statements, the Corporation's management provides narrative discussion and analysis of the financial activities of the Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2017. This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Corporation's basic financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017.

2. Overview of the Financial Statements:

The Corporation's basic financial statements include: (1) financial statements, and (2) notes to the financial statements.

A. Financial Statements

The Corporation's financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The Corporation is structured as a single debt service fund. See notes to the financial statements for a summary of the Corporation's significant accounting policies.

The *Statements of Net Position and Governmental Fund Balance Sheet* present information on the Corporation's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of the Corporation's financial position.

The *Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position and Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Change in Fund Balance* present information showing how the Corporation's net position changed during the most recent year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in these statements for some items that will result in cash flows in future periods.

B. Notes to Financial Statements

The accompanying notes to the financial statements provide information essential to a full understanding of the basic financial statements.

3. Financial Highlights:

The Corporation's net position decreased by \$573,245 primarily due to interest costs incurred on bond series exceeding the current year tobacco settlement revenue by \$556,372. No new bonds were issued during 2017.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

4. Financial Statement Analysis:

Below is a comparative summary of the Corporation's Statement of Net Position as of December 31:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Assets	<u>\$ 1,858,156</u>	<u>\$ 1,912,277</u>
Liabilities	\$ 19,059,044	\$ 18,539,920
Net Position	<u>(17,200,888)</u>	<u>(16,627,643)</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Position	<u>\$ 1,858,156</u>	<u>\$ 1,912,277</u>

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016, tobacco settlement receivables made up 44% and 45% of total assets, respectively, and restricted investments held by fiscal agents made up 54% and 53% of total assets, respectively. Current liabilities are comprised of the current portion of bonds payable, accrued interest on the 2000 variable rate bonds and accounts payable for administrative fees. Long-term liabilities comprised 98% and 99% of total liabilities as of December 31, 2017 and 2016. Net position decreased by \$573,245 and \$249,875 in 2017 and 2016.

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
General revenues		
Other financing sources		
Administrative fee income	\$ 14,672	\$ 13,506
Interest and dividend income	9,667	2,687
Tobacco settlement revenue	<u>700,069</u>	<u>1,026,914</u>
Total general revenues	724,408	1,043,107
General expenditures	<u>1,297,653</u>	<u>1,292,982</u>
Total general expenditures in excess of revenues	(573,245)	(249,875)
Net position at the beginning of the year	<u>(16,627,643)</u>	<u>(16,377,768)</u>
Net position at the end of the year	<u>\$ (17,200,888)</u>	<u>\$ (16,627,643)</u>

Tobacco settlement revenue comprised 97% and 98% of total general revenues for the year ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Tobacco settlement revenue decreased by \$326,845 or 32% in 2017 compared to 2016. General expenditures increased by \$4,671 or less than 1% in 2017 compared to 2016. Interest expenses comprised 97% and 96% of total general expenditures during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Interest expense increased \$9,171 or less than 1% in 2017 compared to 2016.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

5. Additional Information:

This report is prepared for the use of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's board of directors, management, federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and members of the public interest in the affairs of the Corporation. Questions with regards to this financial report or requests for additional information may be addressed to the Controller, Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation, 401 State Street – 3rd Floor, Hudson, New York 12534.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND
GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
December 31, 2017

	Debt Service Fund and Total Governmental Funds	Full Accrual Adjustments	Statement of Net Position
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 25,076	\$ -	\$ 25,076
Prepaid insurance	-	5,112	5,112
Tobacco settlement receivables	823,326	-	823,326
Total current assets	<u>848,402</u>	<u>5,112</u>	<u>853,514</u>
Noncurrent assets:			
Restricted investments held by fiscal agent	1,004,642	-	1,004,642
Total noncurrent assets	<u>1,004,642</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,004,642</u>
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 1,853,044</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,112</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,858,156</u></u>
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 15,964	\$ -	\$ 15,964
Interest payable	-	39,485	39,485
Bonds payable, current portion	-	265,000	265,000
Total current liabilities	<u>15,964</u>	<u>304,485</u>	<u>320,449</u>
Long-term liabilities:			
Bonds payable, net of current portion	-	18,817,642	18,817,642
Unamortized discount	-	(79,047)	(79,047)
Total long-term liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>18,738,595</u>	<u>18,738,595</u>
Total liabilities	<u>15,964</u>	<u>19,043,080</u>	<u>19,059,044</u>
FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION			
Fund Balance:			
Assigned	25,076	(25,076)	-
Restricted for debt service	1,812,004	(1,812,004)	-
Total fund balance	<u>1,837,080</u>	<u>(1,837,080)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u><u>\$ 1,853,044</u></u>		
Net Position:			
Unrestricted			25,076
Restricted for debt service		(19,037,968)	(17,225,964)
Total net position		<u>(19,037,968)</u>	<u>(17,200,888)</u>
Total liabilities and net position		<u><u>\$ 5,112</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,858,156</u></u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGE IN NET POSITION
AND GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE
For the year ended December 31, 2017

	Debt Service Fund and Total Governmental Funds	Full Accrual Adjustments	Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position
General revenues:			
Other financing sources			
Administrative fee income	\$ 14,672	\$ -	\$ 14,672
Interest and dividend income	9,667	-	9,667
Tobacco settlement revenue	700,069	-	700,069
Total general revenues	<u>724,408</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>724,408</u>
General expenditures/expenses:			
Other financing uses			
Interest	482,451	773,990	1,256,441
Debt service principal payments	270,000	(270,000)	-
Professional fees	5,246	-	5,246
Administrative agent fees	14,672	-	14,672
Insurance	15,334	-	15,334
Bank fees	101	-	101
Amortization	-	5,859	5,859
Total expenditures/expenses	<u>787,804</u>	<u>509,849</u>	<u>1,297,653</u>
Change in fund balance/net position	(63,396)	(509,849)	(573,245)
Fund balance/net position, beginning of year	<u>1,900,476</u>	<u>(18,528,119)</u>	<u>(16,627,643)</u>
Fund balance/net position, end of year	<u>\$ 1,837,080</u>	<u>\$ (19,037,968)</u>	<u>\$ (17,200,888)</u>

See independent auditors' report and notes to financial statements.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

Organization:

Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation (CTASC) was incorporated October 28, 2000 as a local development corporation by the County of Columbia, New York (the County) under the provisions of Section 1411 of the New York State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law. Its purpose is to issue bonds securitized solely from County Tobacco Settlement Revenues under the Master Settlement Agreement dated November 23, 1998, purchased from the County under the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated October 15, 2000 and November 15, 2005, and to forward to the County the net proceeds from the bond issuance. In compliance with GASB Technical Bulletin No. 2004-1 the Corporation is treated as a blended component unit of the County.

General:

The accompanying general purpose financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for governments as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) which is the primary standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation:

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are considered measurable and available. Revenues are considered available when they are collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Corporation considers revenues to be available if they are collected within one year after the end of current fiscal period. The Corporation applies GASB Technical Bulletin No. 2004-1 "Tobacco Settlement Recognition and Financial Report Entity Issues" and recognizes tobacco settlement revenue when the event giving rise to recognition (i.e., the domestic shipment of cigarettes) occurs. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which direct expenses of a given function or segments are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers who purchase, use, or benefit from the services provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Unrestricted interest income and tobacco settlement rights not properly included among program revenues are reported as general revenues. The Corporation has no program revenues.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued):

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation (Continued):

In addition to the government-wide financial statements, the Corporation has prepared financial statements for the Corporation's only governmental fund. Governmental fund financial statements continue to use the modified accrual basis of accounting and the current financial resources measurement focus. Accordingly, the accounting and financial reporting of the fund financial statement is similar to what previously could have been presented in the Corporation's financial statements, although the format of the financial statements has been modified in accordance with requirements of GASB Statement No. 34. Due to the single purpose nature of the activities of the Corporation, the government-wide and fund financial statements have been presented together with an adjustments column reconciling the differences.

The Corporation reports one governmental fund - the Debt Service Fund. As a blended component unit of Columbia County, New York, the Debt Service Fund is combined into the Governmental funds of Columbia County, New York. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Corporation's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Under the full accrual basis, the Corporation is required to report the full amount of the bonds outstanding, however, cannot recognize the tobacco settlement revenue to be received in the future. The future collection of tobacco settlement revenue (TSR) is dependent on many factors, including future cigarette consumption. As such, the future collection is not reasonably estimable and is not recorded as an asset in either the government-wide financial statements or the governmental fund financial statements. This results in a significant deficit in net position on the government-wide financial statements.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources:

GASB Statement No. 63, "Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position," and GASB Statement No. 65, "Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities," defined and classified deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. A deferred outflow of resources is a consumption of net assets that applies to future period(s), and as such, will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. A deferred inflow of resources is an acquisition of net assets that applies to future period(s), and as such, will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

Fund Balances:

The Corporation applies Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" (GASB 54). GASB 54 focuses on the constraints imposed on resources in governmental funds.

Fund balance is now broken down into five different classifications: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued):

Fund Balances (Continued):

Nonspendable consists of assets that are inherently nonspendable in the current period either because of their form or because they must be maintained intact, including prepaid items, inventories, long-term portions of loans receivable, financial assets held for resale and principal of endowments.

Restricted consists of amounts that are subject to externally enforceable legal purpose restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed consists of amounts that are subject to a purpose constraint imposed by a formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority before the end of the fiscal year, and that require the same level of formal action to remove the constraint. The Corporation's Board is the decision-making authority that can, by passing a resolution prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance.

Assigned consists of amounts that are subject to a purpose constraint that represents an intended use established by the government's highest level of decision-making authority, or by their designated body or official. The purpose of the assignment must be narrower than the purpose of the general fund, and in funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the residual amount of fund balance.

Unassigned represents the residual classification for the government's general fund, and could report a surplus or deficit. In funds other than the general fund, the unassigned classification should be used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed or assigned.

When resources are available from multiple classifications, the Corporation spends funds in the following order: restricted, committed, assigned, unassigned.

The Corporation categorizes its only fund as a debt service fund because the only restriction that exists related to the tobacco revenue received is to service the outstanding debt. The majority of the Corporation's debt service fund equity is restricted for debt service. The amount of cash and cash equivalents and certificate of deposit are assigned to pay future operating expenditures.

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. This will affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued):

Income Tax Status:

The Corporation is exempt from federal income tax under Section 115 (1) of the Internal Revenue Code and from state income tax under Section 1411 of the State Not-For-Profit Corporation Code.

Investments:

Under the GASB's authoritative guidance on accounting and financial reporting for investments, the Corporation reports investments at amortized cost in the statement of net position and governmental fund balance sheet as all investments are in U.S. Treasury money market funds. All investment income is reported as revenue in the statement of activities and the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance.

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date acquired by the Corporation. The carrying value of cash at December 31, 2017 was \$25,076 and is covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

3. Restricted Investments Held By Fiscal Agent:

Investments held by fiscal agents consist of Liquidity Reserve, Trapping, Collection and Debt Service accounts.

The Liquidity Reserve Account, administered by a trustee, was established and initially funded from bond proceeds. This account serves as security for the Corporation's bonds and may be used to pay interest and required amortization payments.

The Trapping Account, administered by a trustee, was established and serves to receive proceeds when a Trapping Event occurs. A Downgrade Trapping Event as defined in the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) report is when as of any deposit date an Original Participating Manufacture (OPM) with a Market Share of 7% or more is rated below "Baa3" by Moody's or "BBB" by S&P.

The Collection Account, administered by a trustee, serves to receive proceeds from tobacco companies under the Master Settlement Agreement. Funds are transferred to the Debt Service account.

The Debt Service Account, administered by a trustee, serves to remit payments to bond holders.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

3. Restricted Investments Held By Fiscal Agent (Continued):

Investments held by fiscal agent at year-end consisted of money market funds as follows:

Liquidity Reserve	\$ 996,726
Trapping Account	1,095
Asset-backed Bonds	121
Debt Service	<u>6,700</u>
Total Restricted Investments held by Fiscal Agent	<u>\$ 1,004,642</u>

The Corporation's investment policy is to invest in high quality investments with a yield not to exceed the yield on the Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation (TASC) bonds. Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Corporation manages and attempts to minimize interest rate risk by investing in short-term investments that mature within one year, so that they can react to changing interest rates and invest in securities that provide the highest yield without exceeding interest rates on the TASC bonds.

4. Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Receivable:

As purchaser of the County's Tobacco Assets under the Master Settlement Agreement, per the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated October 15, 2000 between the Corporation and the County, the Corporation obtained all right, title and interest, exclusive of the 100% Beneficial Interest in the Residual Trust, of the Tobacco Assets. Total available funds over the life of the bonds including earnings on the Liquidity Reserve less annual operating expense allocations estimated at \$60.3 million at the bond issuance date are dependent upon numerous variables. These variables are identified in the Bond Offering Statement dated November 10, 2000.

As purchaser of the County's Tobacco Assets under the Master Settlement Agreement, per the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated November 15, 2005 between the Corporation and the County, the Corporation obtained all right, title and interest, exclusive of the 100% Beneficial Interest in the Residual Trust, of the Tobacco Assets. Total available funds over the life of the bonds including earnings on the Liquidity Reserve less annual operating expense allocations estimated at \$68.3 million at the bond issuance date of November 29, 2005, are dependent upon numerous variables. These variables are identified in the Bond Offering Statement dated November 15, 2005.

Collection of funds in excess of debt service requirements, should they occur, will be residual payments, the rights to which have been retained by the County.

The Tobacco Settlement receivable of \$823,326 as of December 31, 2017 consists of estimated revenue that will be received in 2018 for 2017 sales of tobacco.

5. Bonds Payable:

On December 7, 2000, the Corporation issued \$12,510,000 variable rate bonds. These bonds were part of the \$227,130,000 New York Counties Tobacco Trust I, Tobacco Settlement Pass-Through Bonds, Series 2000. The Corporation's bonds consist of serial bonds maturing in the years 2005 through and including 2015, fixed term bonds maturing in the years 2016 through and including 2019 and flexible term bonds maturing in the years 2020 through and including 2042.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

5. Bonds Payable (Continued):

The Corporation's bonds are secured by the Tobacco Settlement Revenues acquired from the County and by investment earnings on the Liquidity Reserve Account and on other accounts established under the bond agreement. The Original Issue Discount of \$180,390 is being amortized under the interest method over the life of the bonds. Amortization expense for the year ended December 31, 2017 was \$5,859.

On November 29, 2005 the Corporation issued a \$5,644,277 variable rate bonds. This bond issue was part of the \$199,375,348 New York Counties Tobacco Trust V, Tobacco Settlement Pass Through Bonds, Series 2005 N-184. The bonds and interest are not payable until the original TASC Senior Bonds - Series 2000 have been paid off, with maturity dates ranging from 2038 to 2060. As the result of a trapping event that occurred in 2005 and ended in 2009, a one-time payment of \$495,210 was made in 2009 and applied to the outstanding accumulated principal and interest. As of December 31, 2017, the original \$5,644,277 accreted accumulated interest of \$6,703,576 net of the \$495,210 payment made during 2009. The excess principal paid in 2017 above the required schedule amount was \$130,000. The required schedule shown below assumes that principal payments originally scheduled to be paid in years 2020 to 2028 will be reduced by the \$4,145,000 paid in excess of the required amount through December 31, 2017.

Required Schedule

<u>Year ending</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2018	\$ 265,000	\$ 465,469
2019	280,000	448,301
2020	-	439,481
2021	-	439,481
2022	-	439,481
2023-2027	-	2,197,406
2028-2032	1,295,000	2,075,369
2033-2037	2,450,000	1,385,578
2038-2042	2,940,000	506,814
	<u>7,230,000</u>	<u>8,397,380</u>
Series 2005	11,852,642	-
Payable at December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 19,082,642</u>	<u>\$ 8,397,380</u>

It is mandatory for the Corporation to make payments according to the required schedule to meet its obligations to the bond holders; however an optional flexible amortization payment schedule for the 2000 Series allows for the bonds to be paid off in the year 2025. This accelerated payment schedule would reduce total interest expense over the remaining life of the bonds and will be utilized by the Corporation as funding allows. A principal payment of \$270,000 and interest payment of \$482,451 based upon the accelerated schedule were made during the year ended December 31, 2017.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

5. Bonds Payable (Continued):

It appears that the Corporation will continue to follow the accelerated schedule as long as there are sufficient proceeds to cover the principal and interest; however there is no official commitment to do so at the present time.

Optional Schedule

<u>Year ending</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2018	\$ 1,330,000	\$ 430,856
2019	715,000	364,939
2020	770,000	316,956
2021	805,000	265,547
2022	860,000	210,675
2023-2025	<u>2,750,000</u>	<u>270,632</u>
	7,230,000	1,859,605
Series 2005 (see previous page)	11,852,642	-
Payable at December 31, 2017	<u>\$ 19,082,642</u>	<u>\$ 1,859,605</u>

6. Concentration of Credit Risk:

The ability of the Corporation to make debt service payments on the TASC Bonds is contingent upon the receipts of TSRs. The TSR payment may vary based on inflation adjustments, volume of cigarette sales adjustments, litigation adjustments from non-settling states, offsets for miscalculated or disputed payments, federal tobacco legislation offsets, litigation releasing party offsets, and offsets for claims over the amount of the award.

7. Annual Operating Expense Allocation:

A corporate annual operating expense has been established and will be funded by collections received under the Master Settlement Agreement. The first year allocation was \$39,000. Future allocations will be adjusted for inflation and capped at that adjusted amount.

8. Related Organizations:

County of Columbia, New York

The Corporation was formed by the County as an instrumentality of the County. The majority of the Corporation's Board of Directors consists of County officials. The Corporation's administrator also serves as the Treasurer of the County. The Corporation is a related organization of the County. It is a blended component unit of the County, as defined by Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Technical Bulletin No. 2004-1 because the County appoints the voting majority of the Tobacco Settlement Authority's (TSA's) governing board and the TSA could provide specific financial benefits to the County.

See independent auditors' report.

COLUMBIA TOBACCO ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION
(a blended component unit of the County of Columbia, New York)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2017

8. Related Organizations (Continued):

New York Counties Tobacco Trust I

The Corporation is one of seventeen New York counties forming the New York Counties Tobacco Trust I (The Trust). The Trust was established to provide for the consolidation and sale of the seventeen Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's (TASC) Bonds. No TASC assets or revenues are available as security or as payment for any other TASC of the Trust.

9. Contingencies:

The assets of the Corporation are not available to pay any creditor of Columbia County. The bonds issued by the Corporation do not constitute a claim against the full faith, credit and taxing power of the General Fund of Columbia County. The ability of the Corporation to meet debt service payments of the bonds is contingent upon the receipt of Tobacco Settlement awards.

Currently a number of groups and organizations have initiated lawsuits against the Tobacco Settlement that have passed the test of the lower courts and if these suits are successful they could have a detrimental effect on the current settlement arrangement that initiated the Corporation. These lawsuits, if successful, could have a major impact on the investors (bond holders) ability to continue to collect interest and principal payments. Due to the structure of the settlement and the bond sales, the Corporation has no liability if the settlement is rescinded in any way by the courts. A more detailed narrative can be found in the Administrative Agent Report issued by Bond Logistix, LLC (BLX) on November 30, 2011.

10. Subsequent Events:

Subsequent events have been evaluated through March 27, 2018, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no material subsequent events that required adjustment or disclosure.



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

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors of
Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 27, 2018.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Columbia Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci, CPAs, P.C.

Valatie, New York
March 27, 2018