

COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
November 30, 2018

The municipal policy provides coverage not only for bodily injury and property damage losses but extends coverage to include employment practices liability, law enforcement liability, public official's liability and employee benefits liability. Beginning in 2011, the County purchased property insurance which provides replacement cost coverage for physical damage to the County's buildings, contents and inventory from covered causes of loss. It also provides coverage for extra expenses incurred to continue operations after a loss. The County's deductible is \$250,000. There is no excess coverage for workers' compensation claims. The County annually evaluates risk transfer options within the insurance marketplace and adjusts limits and retentions accordingly. Settled claims have not exceeded the County's insurance coverage in any of the past three years for all the policies noted above.

The claims liabilities reported on the government-wide statement of net position and within the CCHHS enterprise fund have been determined by management with the assistance of an external actuary and include an estimate of incurred but not yet reported losses ("IBNR"). Estimated losses for workers' compensation include allocated loss adjustment expenses ("ALAE"). ALAE are the direct expenses for settling specific claims such as legal defense fees, expert witness fees and court reporting fees. They do not include internal defense costs. Unallocated loss adjustment expenses are the indirect expenses to settle claims, primarily administration and claims handling expenses. The litigation expense reserve (present value) is \$51.2 million.

The County is also self-insured for health coverage plans that are made available to County employees and their dependents. A private insurer administers claims for a monthly fee per member. Expenditures are recorded as incurred in the form of direct contributions to the insurer for payment of employee health claims and administration fees. The County's liability will not exceed \$500,000 per member, as provided by stop-loss provisions incorporated in the plan.

As of November 30, 2018, the County has recorded a government-wide total liability (present value) of \$489.4 million for self-insurance claims. The County has estimated \$127.5 million of the total liability as a long-term liability that is due within one year. Of the total liability for self-insurance claims, \$309.6 million is reported in governmental activities of the County and \$179.8 million is reported in business-type activities (and the CCHHS Fund).

The County funds its self-insurance claims, including those of the CCHHS, on a current basis and has the authority to finance such liabilities through the issuance of bonds, the levy of property taxes or other means. While it is difficult to estimate the timing or amount of expenditures, management of the County believes that the self-insurance liabilities recorded in the statement of net position at November 30, 2018, represent probable losses resulting from medical malpractice, workers' compensation, general liability, automobile, civil rights and other liability claims including incurred but not reported claims. The self-insurance liabilities recorded are based on facts known at the current time (and IBNR as discussed above). However, the discovery of additional information concerning specific cases could affect estimated losses in the future.