

For Immediate Release

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RAD HIRES SPECIAL AUDITOR FOR CLP REVIEW

Pittsburgh—At its meeting last night, the Allegheny Regional Asset District Board voted unanimously to accept the proposal of Parente Beard, LLC of Pittsburgh to conduct a special audit of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP).

After considering several submissions, “We believe that this firm has the appropriate balance of experienced accounting and consulting talent as well as the depth to carry out the project in the time frame requested,” according to a report of the RAD Audit Committee which recommended the proposal. The firm has no prior affiliation with the District or the Carnegie Library.

The District Board recently sought proposals for a special audit of the Carnegie Library in accordance with its oversight responsibilities. In October, the Carnegie Library announced a cost reduction program involving branch closings and consolidations and other measures designed to narrow a projected structural deficit. According to its grant agreement with CLP, the District is permitted to engage the services of a special auditor to “evaluate the status of the regional asset and recommend remedial actions to address any managerial, financial or other problems of the regional asset.”

The purpose of this special audit will be to assist the public as well as the District and the Library Trustees in understanding the options available to CLP as it manages the system. The special audit will address a number of concerns including testing the assumptions made in CLP’s financial projections to determine their reasonableness, and evaluating whether realistic alternatives were considered by library management/Trustees leading up to the cost reduction plan.

The audit is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2010 at a cost of no more than \$70,000.

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