



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

**CENTRAL STAFF**

## Seattle Committee on Performance Auditing

# Background Report Existing Auditing Practices

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## Seattle Committee on Performance Auditing

1. Seattle compared to King County
2. Illustrative range of audit practices in similarly sized U.S. Cities
3. Implementation considerations



## Seattle Committee on Performance Auditing

Topic	Seattle Office of City Auditor	King County Auditor
Appointing Authority	Appointed by City Council- 4 year term	Appointed by County Council – 4 year term
Independence	Final decision authority over work program	County Council approves work program
Work Program: 2016-2018	Performance Audits, Policy Compliance and Program Evaluations	Performance Audits and Capital Program Oversight
Reports (2016-2018)	15 Audits 18 Non-Audit Reports	27 Audits 12 Non-Audit Reports
Consultant Use	Contractors produce reports	Technical contributors to reports
Budget (2020)	\$2.5 million	\$2.6 million
FTEs (2020)	10	17



## Seattle Committee on Performance Auditing

Topic	Portland	Nashville (Joint City/County)	San Francisco (Joint City/County)
2018 Population (Seattle: 744,955)	648,740	660,062	870,044
Appointing Authority	Elected	City Council selects from 3 persons recommended by Audit Committee <sup>1</sup>	Mayor appoints Controller, who serves as the City Services Auditor
Independence	City Council sets auditor's annual budget; Auditor selects audits.	Audit Committee oversees audit plan, concurs with compensation and conducts annual performance reviews	Mandatory annual Clean Streets/Clean Parks audit; otherwise Controller selects depts, services and activities for audit.

<sup>1</sup> Audit Committee consists of Vice-Mayor, Dir. Of Finance, 2 Councilmembers, member of Chamber of Commerce and a member selected by Nashville Chapter of Tennessee Society of CPAs



## Seattle Committee on Performance Auditing

	Portland	Nashville (Joint City/County) (	San Francisco
Work Program	Auditor submits annual audit plan to Council for review and comment.	Performance, compliance, financial and information systems audits, advisory services, hot line and fraud investigations.	Financial and performance audits, annual review of management and employment practices, Whistleblower program
Consultant Use	Contracted CPAs conduct financial audits	Contract auditors identify emerging risks	TBD
Budget	\$1.27 million	\$787,450	\$9.8 million
FTEs	11	10	75



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# Implementation Considerations

1. Independence
  - a) Term of Office
  - b) Oversight
2. Work Program
  - a) Scope
  - b) Frequency
3. Resources
  - a) Budget
  - b) FTEs
  - c) Dedicated Revenue Source



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Questions?