

CITY AUDITOR'S OFFICE 2015 ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the City Auditor's Office 2015 Annual Audit Plan for Audit Committee approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Audit Committee approve the City Auditor's Office 2015 Annual Audit Plan and forward to Council for information; and
2. That Audit Committee recommend to Council that the City Auditor present the City Office Auditor's 2015 Annual Audit Plan to Council.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

City Auditor's Office Charter, requires the City Auditor to prepare an Annual Audit Plan for approval by Audit Committee.

BACKGROUND

The City Auditor's Office provides independent and objective internal audit services for the City of Calgary. The City Auditor's Office Charter states that the City Auditor is responsible for assisting Council in its oversight of the City Manager's administration and accountability for stewardship over public funds and achievement of value for money in City operations.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The annual audit planning process involves:

1. Identifying the audit universe;
2. Risk assessing the audit universe by applying a pre-defined risk methodology;
3. Prioritization based on risk and a four year assurance roadmap;
4. Calculating available resources; and
5. Preparing an annual audit plan for approval.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

Possible audit projects originate from a number of sources, including:

- The City's organizational structure;
- The City's financial reporting structure;
- The City's Integrated Risk Management process;
- Suggestions from members of City Council, and members of Audit Committee;
- Suggestions from members of The City's Administrative Leadership Team;
- Suggestions from City employees, including City Auditor's Office staff;
- Direction by City Council;
- Queries from the public; and
- Other sources (e.g. external audit, whistleblower hotline tips, etc.).

The identification of potential audit projects is a continuous process. As part of the preparation for the 2015 Annual Audit Plan, the City Auditor conducted forums with members of Council, Audit Committee, and the Senior Administration (Directors, Administrative Leadership Team) from September 2014 to October 2014 and held individual meetings with members of Administration.

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Strategic Alignment

The City Auditor's Office annual audit planning process is designed to ensure that the City Auditor's Office resources are focused on areas of high risk to The City. The Annual Audit Plan is developed by matching available resources to priorities established using a risk based approach that assesses all identified areas and activities against a common set of risk criteria.

Effective utilization of the City Auditor's Office resources assists Council to fulfill its governance role.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

This report has been reviewed for alignment with The City of Calgary's Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Policy Framework. No implications are identified.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

The City Auditor's 2015 Annual Audit Plan has been developed in accordance with The City's 2015-2018 budget requirements. The 2015 Annual Audit Plan is based on the assumption that the existing staff complement will remain unchanged in 2015.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

N/A

Risk Assessment

To be most effective, the Annual Audit Plan must be developed through a systematic and disciplined process that is independent of the areas being considered for review.

City Council has established the independence of the City Auditor's Office through Bylaw 30M2004. The City Auditor has established an annual planning process that systematically captures and assesses areas of risk facing The City to prioritize areas of focus for the City Auditor's Office. The City Auditor then calculates an estimate of available resources and prepares an Annual Audit Plan for Audit Committee approval.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Auditor's Office Charter requires the City Auditor to prepare an annual audit plan for approval by Audit Committee. Bylaw 48M2012 states that Audit Committee reviews and approves the City Auditor's Office annual work plan and forwards to Council for information; the Audit Committee, or Council, may not remove items from the City Auditor's work plan but may direct items to be added to the plan.
2. Bylaw 48M2012 states that the City Auditor shall present the annual audit work plan to Council for information.

ATTACHMENT

City Auditor's Office 2015 Annual Audit Plan