

City of Albuquerque

Office of Internal Audit P.O. BOX 1293, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

April 27, 2016

Councilor Dan Lewis, President City Council P.O. Box 1293 Albuquerque, NM 87103

Dear Councilor Lewis:

We have completed our review of the Audit Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 submitted by the Office of Internal Audit. The Accountability in Government Oversight Committee has approved the Audit Plan and we are pleased to transmit it to the City Council for immediate action and final approval as a resolution.

The Audit Plan is based on a risk analysis of City departments and programs. There are approximately 6,120 audit hours available during FY2017.

Sincerely,

Gerald T. Kardas, Chairperson

Accountability in Government Oversight Committee

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE TWENTY-SECOND COUNCIL

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City of Albuquerque

Office of Internal Audit

Fiscal Year 2017 Audit Plan



Increasing the City's efficiency, effectiveness and accountability for the Citizens of Albuquerque



Introduction

In accordance with Section 2-10-11 of the Accountability in Government Ordinance, the Office of Internal Audit (OIA) is pleased to submit the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Audit Plan. OIA uses a dynamic risk-based approach for selecting and prioritizing audits. The Audit Plan facilitates the efficient allocation of OIA's limited resources.

The FY2017 Audit Plan dedicates resources to audits, special audits/projects, audit follow-ups, cash handling reviews, and the completion of work in process at July 1, 2016. The majority of the Audit Plan is comprised of 15 audits with a resource demand of 4,025 hours. OIA will also dedicate 2,095 hours to other value added services and completing audits in process at July 1, 2016.

In an effort to increase the response time of OIA's audits and maximize the value of our services, we have targeted high-risk areas that allow for narrow scopes. This effort will allow quicker turnaround times and enable the City to address identified issues in a timely manner. However, some audits are inherently complex and demand additional time for OIA to provide quality results. OIA will not sacrifice quality for timeliness and will adhere to the internal quality standards that have consistently enabled us to comply with GAGAS.

Other value added services, which increase accountability, include special audits/projects, audit follow-ups, and cash handling reviews. Below are brief explanations for each service.

- Special Audit/Projects Defined and targeted services that provide rapid responses to ad hoc issues. These are frequently performed at the request of the City Council or City Administration.
- Audit Follow-Ups Our objective is to report on the status of corrective action in regard to our findings and recommendations. We limit our scope to action taken to address the audit findings and recommendations.
- Cash Handling Reviews Surprise cash counts are randomly conducted to ensure the accuracy and accountability of City funds. Any City department or function may be selected for a cash handling review.

High Risk Areas Not Addressed

OIA's available resources limit the number of audits that can be completed each year. As a result, there are a number of high-risk areas that are not addressed by the annual Audit Plan.



OFFICE OF INTERNAL AUDIT Annual Audit Plan For the Year Ending June 30, 2017

DESCRIPTION	Estimated Audit Hours
Aviation Department Management of Off-Site Parking Revenue Contracts Goal Area: Public Infrastructure	300
Citywide CIP Coming-On-Line Goal Area: Public Infrastructure	250
Citywide Separation of the Albuquerque Housing Authority Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	275
Citywide KRONOS Payroll - Selected Department(s) Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	200
Citywide Two City Vendors - Compliance with Contract Terms Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	500
Citywide Personal Identifiable Information Security on City Systems Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	400
Citywide Use and Allocation of 1/4-Cent Public Safety Tax Goal Area: Public Safety	300
Cultural Services Department Fund 225 Use and Tracking Goal Area: Community and Cultural Engagement	150
Department of Family and Community Services Youth Development Inc Gang Prevention Grant(s) Goal Area: Human and Family Development	300
Department of Finance and Administrative Services Point of Sale System(s) Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	400





<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	Estimated Audit Hours
Environmental Health Department Air Quality Permit Process Goal Area: Environmental Protection	250
Legal Department Outside Legal Counsel Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	300
Planning Department Inspection Tag - Inventory Controls Goal Area: Public Safety	150
Transit Department Fleet Maintenance Shop Management Goal Area: Government Excellence and Effectiveness	250
Unplanned Special Audits / Projects	950
Cash Handling Reviews	80
Follow-up Status Reports	300
Complete Work in Process at July 1, 2016	765
TOTAL HOURS INCLUDED IN FY2017 AUDIT PLAN	6,120



Mission Statement

To provide independent, objective and value added audits to promote transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness of City government for the citizens of Albuquerque.

Staff

Debra Yoshimura Director

Lawrence Davis Internal Audit Manager

Vacant Senior Information Systems Auditor

Christina Owens Contract Auditor

Kate Bach Principal Auditor

Vacant Principal Auditor

Consuelo Baca Executive Assistant

Compliance

OIA performs audits in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS) issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. OIA is committed to improving the audit process, and undergoes an independent external quality control review triennially. In October 2013, OIA passed its third GAGAS compliance quality control review for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013. The next GAGAS compliance quality control review will be conducted in FY2017 and will review the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016.

Principles for Audit Plan Development

In order to provide practical guidance and a framework for the development of the annual Audit Plan, the following principles are recognized and observed:

Audit resources are limited, resulting in significantly less than one hundred percent audit
coverage each year. This inherent limitation is mitigated by using a dynamic risk
assessment to select and prioritize audits.



- The risk assessment criteria used in the ranking of the audit suggestions places an emphasis on perceived and actual knowledge of systems of internal control.
- The Audit Plan is viewed as a flexible and active tool that can be amended throughout the year to reflect changing City risks and priorities.
- The Audit Plan gives consideration to those audits that may be mandated by ordinance.

The Audit Plan is developed with the understanding that there are risks and limitations associated with any method or system of prioritizing audits. As a result, the risk factors and scoring process are periodically evaluated and modified in an effort to continuously refine the Audit Plan.

Audit Selection and Prioritization

The development of an annual risk-based audit plan is a dynamic process. Throughout the year, audit staff members obtain information from a variety of sources for inclusion in the risk assessment process. Audits considered for the Audit Plan are compiled from suggestions by OIA staff, City management surveys, complaints, known areas of risk, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and other sources of information.

To develop the FY2017 Audit Plan, OIA surveyed the Accountability in Oversight Committee, City Council, Department Directors, and created a general survey on the City's intranet to allow all City employees to provide audit suggestions. Survey participants were asked to identify City departments, divisions, and processes that would benefit from independent audit or review. Respondents also identified areas they believed could be subject to fraud, waste, or abuse.

Survey suggestions were then compiled, evaluated and rated using a risk assessment matrix.

OIA then used a weighted average to prioritize audits. The following risk factors were used:

- Impact factors such as financial impact, volume of transactions, number of personnel, revenue generated, alignment of responsibility with authority, and trends;
- Risk perception from the Administration, Council, department personnel, and potential culture issues within departments;
- Changes in the organization's management, key personnel and information systems;
- Time since the last internal/external audit; and
- Control factors such as regulatory environment, fraud potential, and public perception.

The number of audits selected for the Audit Plan is based on the impact the audit may have (the problem or risks it addresses and the likely types of opportunities for improvement that may result); the sensitivity, complexity, and difficulty of the project compared to its likely impact; the breadth and depth of audit coverage across City government; staff qualifications; and available resources.



Preparing the Annual Audit Plan

The objective of the annual planning process is to establish and schedule audit activities for the next fiscal year. The principles and procedures discussed in this document have been developed to provide a process for fulfilling this objective. A critical component of the annual audit planning process is to ensure qualified audit personnel are assigned to the highest priority assignments.

Staff assignments are based on experience, qualifications, interests, and availability. During the Audit Plan development process, we may identify projects that may also require additional expertise from consultants.

The final step in completing the annual Audit Plan is to estimate the number of available staff hours in the year and apply these to the estimated hours needed to complete selected audits and projects. The FY2017 Audit Plan, on pages 2 and 3, is presented along with the estimated time allocations for individual audits and projects.

Estimated Audit Hours

We estimate the total number of direct audit hours available for FY2017 to be approximately 6,120. We reduce the 2,080 annual full-time hours per auditor in FY2017 by holidays, vacation leave, sick leave, administrative time, staff meetings, and the annual required training to maintain certifications and comply with Government Auditing Standards. The available-hours calculation also anticipates the vacancy of the OIA Director position. The OIA Director will retire on June 30, 2016, and the office anticipates the position will be filled by January 1, 2017.

In addition to the 6,120 direct audit hours, OIA's management will dedicate an additional 1,000 hours to reviewing audit work papers and reports to ensure compliance with OIA's system of quality control, professional standards, and regulatory requirements. OIA management accepts responsibility for the system of quality control and continually strives to improve OIA's operations.