

Office of City Auditor

Susan Cohen, City Auditor

Contact Information

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Department Description

The City Auditor is Seattle's independent internal auditor established by the City Charter. The City Auditor is appointed by the chair of the City Council's Finance Committee and confirmed by the full Council to a six-year term of office.

The Office of City Auditor assists the City in achieving honest, efficient management and full accountability throughout City government. It serves the public interest by providing the Mayor, City Council, and City managers with accurate information, unbiased analysis, and objective recommendations on how best to use public resources in support of Seattle's citizens.

The Office of City Auditor conducts financial audits, performance audits, management audits, and compliance audits of City programs, agencies, grantees, and contracts. Many of the office's audits are performed in response to specific concerns or requests from the Mayor or City Councilmembers. If resources are available, the City Auditor responds to specific requests from City department heads. The City Auditor also independently initiates reviews to fulfill the office's mission.

Through its work, the Office of City Auditor answers the following types of questions:

- Are City programs being carried out in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and is accurate data furnished to the Mayor and City Council on these programs?
- Do opportunities exist to eliminate inefficient use of public funds and potential waste?
- Are funds being spent legally and is accounting for them accurate?
- Are programs achieving desired results?
- Are there better ways of achieving program objectives at lower costs?
- Are there ways to improve the quality of service without increasing costs?
- What emerging or key issues should the Mayor and City Council consider?

Policy and Program Changes

There are no substantive changes from the 2004 Endorsed Budget.

City Council Budget Changes and Provisos

There are no Council changes or provisos.

City Auditor

Appropriations	Summit Code	2002 Actual	2003 Adopted	2004 Endorsed	2004 Adopted
Office of City Auditor Budget Control Level	VG000	1,182,063	1,062,000	1,088,000	1,084,500
Department Total		1,182,063	1,062,000	1,088,000	1,084,500
Department Full-time Equivalents Total*		11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00

**FTE totals provided for information only (2002 FTE reflect adopted numbers). Authorized positions are listed in Appendix A.*

Resources

General Subfund		1,182,063	1,062,000	1,088,000	1,084,500
Total		1,182,063	1,062,000	1,088,000	1,084,500

Office of City Auditor Budget Control Level

Purpose Statement

The mission and purpose of the Office of City Auditor are to provide unbiased analyses, accurate information, and objective recommendations to assist the City in using public resources equitably, efficiently, and effectively in the delivery of services to the citizens of Seattle.

Program Summary

Abrogate a 1.0 FTE Research and Evaluation Assistant and add a 1.0 FTE Strategic Advisor, Audit position to allow the office to better manage workload.

Expenditures/FTE	2002 Actual	2003 Adopted	2004 Endorsed	2004 Adopted
Office of City Auditor	1,182,063	1,062,000	1,088,000	1,084,500
Full-time Equivalents Total*	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00

**FTE totals provided for information only (2002 FTE reflect adopted numbers). Authorized positions are listed in Appendix A.*

