

Lead Agency: Auditor
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Program Contact: Steve March

Executive Summary

The Auditor's Office promotes efficient, effective, equitable, and accountable government. Authorized by the County Charter, the elected Auditor conducts independent, objective performance audits and special studies of the county. Our audits examine program performance, service outcomes, management processes, and general operations. Our work provides the public and county officials with a means of assessing the quality, effectiveness, and value of county services and identifies opportunities for improvement.

Program Description

Audit reports and special studies are the primary product of the Office and provide internal and external accountability. Audits supply analyses and recommendations for improvement to county managers and leaders, inform the public about how tax dollars are spent, and ensures that county operations are independently reviewed and held accountable.

Audits released in 2011 and 2012 include the Financial Condition Report which prompted a change in the County's Financial Policies; a Spending Analysis to enhance the County's evolution to sustainable purchasing; a Purchase Card audit testing the County's management controls around such card use; the Redistricting Plan for Commission Districts for the decade; Pre-trial Release Supervision; and an audit of Managing Inmate Welfare Funds. Additional reports to be released this year include Procurement of Consulting Services, Business Income Tax filing by County Vendors, Cellular Device Use & Management, Sun Service System, and others.

By County Charter, the Auditor convened a Salary Review Commission in FY12 to set salaries for Board members and salaries for the District Attorney and Sheriff. In addition, the Auditor manages the contract with the external audit firm that audits county financial statements and is a non-voting member of the Audit Committee.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY10-11)	Current Year Purchased (FY11-12)	Current Year Estimate (FY11-12)	Next Year Offer (FY12-13)
Output	Number of reports issued	5	8	9	8
Outcome	Recommendation implementation rate - within 5 years	89.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Quality	Auditees reporting that the audit will improve organization	0.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%

Performance Measure - Description

- (1) "Number of reports issued" -- Staff vacancies and work on peer review reduced reports for FY10-11.
- (2) "Recommendation implementation rate..." is a gauge of the quality of audit recommendations and responsiveness to those recommendations. Implementation is measured by tracking recommendations for 5 years after an audit.
- (3) "Percent of auditees reporting..." is a quality measure showing post audit survey results; this was a new and measure and there was insufficient data in FY10-11 for meaningful results

Legal/Contractual Obligation

County Charter 8.10 states "The auditor shall conduct performance audits of all county operations and financial affairs and make reports thereof to the board of county commissioners according to generally accepted government auditing standards. The auditor may also conduct studies intended to improve the performance of county efforts."

Government auditing standards outline requirements for planning, conducting, and reporting of audit work. Auditors are required to complete at least 80 hours of relevant training every 2 years. In addition the Office is required to have a peer review every 3 years to ensure compliance with standards; the Multnomah County Auditors Office passed that review in 2011.

By Charter, the Auditor also appoints a Salary Review Commission every two years and performs redistricting every ten years after the Census.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2012	2012	2013	2013
Personnel	\$977,837	\$0	\$1,001,387	\$0
Contracts	\$150,000	\$0	\$151,500	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$26,570	\$0	\$25,870	\$0
Internal Services	\$128,546	\$0	\$154,993	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$1,282,953	\$0	\$1,333,750	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,282,953		\$1,333,750	
Program FTE	8.70	0.00	8.65	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This is a General Fund program.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #10005, Auditor's Office

Through the Good Government Hotline, the Auditor has offered a confidential, anonymous system for employees and the public to report fraud, misuse of county resources, and other abuses since October 2007. Due to budget constraints, the Hotline operated internally for a year and a-half but in January 2012 we returned to an outside vendor for 24-hour services and a central data base function that will be operated in cooperation with the Office of Diversity and Equity and Human Resources.