



# Washington State Auditor's Office

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## Accountability Audit Report

# Port of Edmonds

Snohomish County

For the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015

Published September 26, 2016

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## Washington State Auditor's Office

September 26, 2016

Board of Commissioners  
Port of Edmonds  
Edmonds, Washington

### **Report on Accountability**

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The State Auditor's Office takes seriously our role of providing state and local governments with assurance and accountability as the independent auditor of public accounts. In this way, we strive to help government work better, cost less, deliver higher value and earn greater public trust.

Independent audits provide essential accountability and transparency for Port operations. This information is valuable to management, the governing body and public stakeholders when assessing the government's stewardship of public resources.

The attached comprises our report on the Port's compliance and safeguarding of public resources. Our independent audit report describes the overall results and conclusions for areas we examined. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff and we value your cooperation during the audit.

Sincerely,

TROY KELLEY  
STATE AUDITOR  
OLYMPIA, WA

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## AUDIT SUMMARY

### Results in brief

In most areas we audited, Port operations complied with applicable requirements and provided adequate safeguarding of public resources. The Port also complied with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures in the areas we examined.

However, we noted certain matters that we communicated to Port management in a letter dated September 14, 2016, related to procurement. We appreciate the Port's commitment to resolving those matters.

### About the audit

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the Port of Edmonds from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015.

Management is responsible for ensuring compliance and adequate safeguarding of public resources from fraud, loss or abuse. This includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to these objectives.

Our audit involved performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Port's uses of public resources, compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures, and internal controls over such matters.

In keeping with general auditing practices, we do not examine every transaction, activity or area. Instead, the areas examined were those representing the highest risk of fraud, loss, abuse, or noncompliance. The following areas were examined during this audit period:

- Procurement
- Cash receipting
- Disbursement systems
- Financial condition
- Educational program agreements
- Open Public Meetings Act compliance

## RELATED REPORTS

### **Financial**

Our opinion on the Port's financial statements is provided in a separate report, which includes the Port's financial statements. That report is available on our website, <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

### **Other reports**

During the current audit period, the State Auditor's Office issued an examination report on the Port's management's assertion regarding pensionable wages and contributions reported to the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems. That report is available on our website, <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE PORT

The Port of Edmonds, located in Snohomish County, operates a marina for recreational boating on Puget Sound and rents its land and buildings to commercial users. The facility consists of the marina with approximately 660 slips, a dry stack storage facility with approximately 230 spaces, a public boat launch, a Travelift, a boatyard, a fuel dock, guest moorage, restaurants, offices, and parking facilities. In addition to the Port's marina operations, the Port owns and manages eight buildings, and rents portions of those buildings to approximately 60 tenants. The Port also leases land to a retail and office building, a restaurant, a yacht club, an athletic club, a hotel, and a boat sales and service company. The port district serves over 18,000 citizens.

An elected, five-member Board of Commissioners governs the Port. Board Members serve staggered, four-year terms. The Board appoints management to oversee the Port's daily operations as well as its approximately 30 employees. The Port is supported primarily through user fees. For 2014 and 2015, the Port operated on an annual expense budget of \$6,725,000 and \$6,951,300, respectively.

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*Information current as of report publish date.*

### **Audit history**

You can find current and past audit reports for the Port of Edmonds at <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

## ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The State Auditor's Office is established in the state's Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the citizens of Washington and serves four-year terms.

We work with our audit clients and citizens to achieve our vision of government that works for citizens, by helping governments work better, cost less, deliver higher value, and earn greater public trust.

In fulfilling our mission to hold state and local governments accountable for the use of public resources, we also hold ourselves accountable by continually improving our audit quality and operational efficiency and developing highly engaged and committed employees.

As an elected agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits and investigations. Our audits are designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state, and local laws.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with state, federal and local laws on the part of all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits of state agencies and local governments as well as [fraud](#), state [whistleblower](#) and [citizen hotline](#) investigations.

The results of our work are widely distributed through a variety of reports, which are available on our [website](#) and through our free, electronic [subscription](#) service.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously, and provide training and technical assistance to governments, and have an extensive quality assurance program.

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