

Accountability Audit Report

eCityGov Alliance

King County

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

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Office of the Washington State Auditor Pat McCarthy

February 21, 2017

Executive Board eCityGov Alliance Bellevue, 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 Alliance 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 Alliance'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,

Pat McCarthy

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State Auditor

Olympia, WA

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AUDIT SUMMARY

Results in brief

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

About the audit

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the eCityGov Alliance from January 1, 2015 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 Alliance'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:

- Credit card purchases
- Termination of shared procurement portal program
- Contracts and agreements
- Membership dues
- General disbursements

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

The eCityGov Alliance was formed in 2001 by nine cities located in the Puget Sound region of Washington State. The cities partnered to form an inter-local agency with a mission of providing convenient and consistent online services to the public.

The Alliance is governed by an Executive Board, made of seven members, one from each partner city. The Board has final decision making authority on all issues, and exercises all powers of the Alliance. The Executive Board may delegate day-to-day responsibilities to the Alliance Executive Director, and can assign specific tasks to the Operations Board and other committees within defined parameters.

The Executive Board, operating under the Inter Local Agreement (ILA) includes Bellevue, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Sammamish, and Snoqualmie. In addition to the partner cities, there are over 20 public agencies that subscribe to one or more of the services offered by the Alliance. Subscribers include cities, counties, special purpose districts, libraries, housing authorities, and more. The Alliance serves a population base of over 1,650,000 in Washington State. For fiscal year 2015, the Alliance had operating revenue of \$1.6 million.

Contact information related to this report			
Address:	eCityGov Alliance		
	450 110th Avenue N.E.		
	Bellevue, WA 98004		
Contact:	Tarik Rahmani, Finance Manager		
Telephone:	(425) 452-2831		
Website:	www.ecitygov.net		

Information current as of report publish date.

Audit history

You can find current and past audit reports for the eCityGov Alliance at http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch.

Washington State Auditor's Office

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 <u>fraud</u>, state <u>whistleblower</u> and <u>citizen hotline</u> investigations.

The results of our work are widely distributed through a variety of reports, which are available on our <u>website</u> and through our free, electronic <u>subscription</u> 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.

Contact information for the State Auditor's Office			
Public Records requests	PublicRecords@sao.wa.gov		
Main telephone	(360) 902-0370		
Toll-free Citizen Hotline	(866) 902-3900		
Website	www.sao.wa.gov		