

## **Accountability Audit Report**

# Clallam County Public Transportation Benefit Area (Clallam Transit System)

For the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016

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## Office of the Washington State Auditor Pat McCarthy

September 18, 2017

Board of Directors Clallam Transit System Port Angeles, 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 Transit Authority 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 Transit Authority'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,

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Pat McCarthy State Auditor Olympia, WA

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#### AUDIT SUMMARY

#### **Results in brief**

In the areas we audited, Transit Authority operations complied with applicable requirements and provided adequate safeguarding of public resources. The Transit Authority 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 Clallam Transit System from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

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 Transit Authority'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:

- Financial condition
- Cash receipting vanpools

• Open purchase accounts/fuel cards

• General disbursements

- Payroll disbursements
- Overtime
- Fuel

Washington State Auditor's Office

#### **RELATED REPORTS**

#### Financial

Our opinion on the Transit Authority's financial statements and compliance with federal grant program requirements is provided in a separate report, which includes the Transit Authority's financial statements. That report is available on our website, <u>http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch</u>.

#### Federal grant programs

We evaluated internal controls and tested compliance with the federal program requirements, as applicable, for the Transit Authority's major federal program, which is listed in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs section of the separate financial statement and single audit report. That report is available on our website <u>http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch</u>.

#### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

The Clallam Transit System (Transit Authority) provides public transportation services for approximately 71,400 citizens in Clallam County. The Transit Authority is a public transportation benefit area (PTBA), a municipal corporation of the State of Washington. The Transit Authority is governed by an eight-member voting Board, composed of two County commissioners and two elected officials from each of the three incorporated cities located within the county: Port Angeles, Sequim, and Forks, plus one nonvoting appointed union member from Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), Local 587.

The Board appoints a General Manager to oversee the Transit Authority's daily operations as well as its 82 full-time equivalent employees. For 2016, the Transit Authority had an operating budget of \$8.4 million and a capital project budget of \$1.5 million. The Transit Authority provides fixed-route, complementary Americans with Disabilities Act, paratransit, vanpool, and dial-a-ride services.

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Information current as of report publish date.

#### **Audit history**

You can find current and past audit reports for the Clallam Transit System at <u>http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch</u>.

#### **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.

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