



Office of the Washington State Auditor  
Pat McCarthy

# Accountability Audit Report

## Port of Silverdale

For the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022

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**Office of the Washington State Auditor  
Pat McCarthy**

December 14, 2023

Board of Commissioners  
Port of Silverdale  
Silverdale, Washington

**Report on Accountability**

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The Office of the Washington State Auditor 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.

Attached is our independent audit report on the Port's compliance with applicable requirements and safeguarding of public resources for the areas we examined. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff and value your cooperation during the audit.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy, State Auditor  
Olympia, WA

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## AUDIT RESULTS

### Results in brief

This report describes the overall results and conclusions for the areas we examined. In those selected areas, Port operations complied, in all material respects, with applicable state laws, regulations, and its own policies, and provided adequate controls over the safeguarding of public resources.

In keeping with general auditing practices, we do not examine every transaction, activity, policy, internal control, or area. As a result, no information is provided on the areas that were not examined.

### About the audit

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the Port of Silverdale from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

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.

This audit was conducted under the authority of RCW 43.09.260, which requires the Office of the Washington State Auditor to examine the financial affairs of all local governments. Our audit involved obtaining evidence about the Port's use of public resources, compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures, and internal controls over such matters. The procedures performed were based on our assessment of risks in the areas we examined.

Based on our risk assessment for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the areas examined were those representing the highest risk of fraud, loss, abuse, or noncompliance. We examined the following areas during this audit period:

- Accounts receivable – billing
- Cash-receipting – timeliness and completeness of deposits
- Procurement – professional services
- Open public meetings – compliance with minutes, meetings and executive session requirements
- Financial condition – reviewing for indications of financial distress

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE PORT

The Port of Silverdale, located in Kitsap County, was formed in 1920 to provide transient moorage and related services. The Port include approximately 16 square miles with over 21,500 residents and is home to a regional shopping center - the Kitsap Mall, a newer shopping center - The Trails and the newly constructed St. Michaels Medical Center. The Port is governed by a three-member elected Board of Commissioners.

The Port and Kitsap County created an inter-local agreement in 1976 to develop, construct and maintain a public park and recreation moorage facility. A 1984 land swap with the County enabled development of the County's well-attended Waterfront Park and construction of the Port's transient moorage facilities. During 1993, the Port developed a boat ramp and parking area. In addition, the Port has purchased rental properties for future development and currently has thirteen tenants within Port-owned buildings. Leasehold Excise Tax (12.84 percent) is collected within the rent and is sent quarterly to the Department of Revenue (DOR). Two additional tenants sublease the upstairs portion of the Port office, 3550 N.W. Byron Street, which the Port rents.

The Port receives most of its funding through property taxes. The income for 2021 totaled \$845,162 of which \$696,936 was taxes and income for 2022 totaled \$983,878 of which \$717,305 was taxes. The Port is currently working with Kitsap County to move the County's pumpstation off of prime waterfront property onto Port property. The Port contracts for most services, including legal services, security and facility maintenance/repair.

### Contact information related to this report

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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 Silverdale at <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

## ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

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

We work with state agencies, local governments and the public to achieve our vision of increasing trust in government by helping governments work better and deliver higher value.

In fulfilling our mission to provide citizens with independent and transparent examinations of how state and local governments use public funds, we hold ourselves to those same standards by continually improving our audit quality and operational efficiency, and by developing highly engaged and committed employees.

As an agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits, attestation engagements and investigations. Our work is designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state and local laws. The Office also has an extensive quality control program and undergoes regular external peer review to ensure our work meets the highest possible standards of accuracy, objectivity and clarity.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with federal, state and local laws for all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits and cybersecurity audits of state agencies and local governments, as well as state whistleblower, fraud and citizen hotline investigations.

The results of our work are available to everyone through the more than 2,000 reports we publish each year on our website, [www.sao.wa.gov](http://www.sao.wa.gov). Additionally, we share regular news and other information via an email subscription service and social media channels.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously. The Office provides training and technical assistance to governments both directly and through partnerships with other governmental support organizations.

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