



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Department of Finance & Administration
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Tracey Dunlap, Director of Finance and Administration

Date: October 4, 2012

Subject: Audit Debrief and Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Financial Reporting

RECOMMENDATION

Finance Committee Chair Councilmember Amy Walen will recap the audit exit conference held on September 25, 2012 with the State Auditor's Office and present the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Financial Reporting for the City's 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

The recently completed annual audit for 2011 consisted of three audits: Accountability Audit (includes legal compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and safeguarding public resources with proper internal controls), Financial Statement Audit and Federal Grant Compliance Audit. The Council's Finance Committee of Mayor McBride, Deputy Mayor Marchione, and Councilmember Walen attended the audit exit conference on September 25 along with the City Manager, Finance Director and Accounting Manager. The State Auditor noted that each audit was "clean" meaning that for each audit there were no audit recommendations or findings. The Audit Manager stated that this is noteworthy as there were very few entities in the state with clean audits for 2011 and that the State Auditor's Office has been issuing many more findings this year. For Kirkland in particular, this was accomplished in a year of significant financial changes with the Annexation and switching to self-insurance for health benefits.

This result is due to the diligence and knowledge of our finance and accounting staff, especially our Accounting Manager Teresa Levine, whose consistent application of federal state and local standards has helped produce these results and instills confidence that City resources are being safeguarded and reported accurately. It is also a testament to the care with which all City staff manages the public's resources and the steadfast support of the City Council and the City Manager.

The City has also received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents significant accomplishment by City finance staff. The City of Kirkland has received this award annually since 2004.