

# Washington State Auditor's Office

## Troy Kelley

Integrity • Respect • Independence

### **Accountability Audit Report**

# Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council

**Chelan County** 

For the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014

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## Washington State Auditor Troy Kelley

November 17, 2014

Council Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council Wenatchee, 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 Council 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 Council'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,

Twy X Kelley

TROY KELLEY STATE AUDITOR

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#### AUDIT SUMMARY

#### **Results in brief**

In the areas we audited, Council operations complied with applicable requirements and provided adequate safeguarding of public resources. The Council 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 Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.

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 Council'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:

• Personal services contract

• General disbursements

#### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE COUNCIL**

The Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council was created in 2002 through an interlocal agreement among Chelan County, Douglas County, the city of Wenatchee, the city of East Wenatchee, the city of Rock Island, the Port of Chelan County, the Port of Douglas County, Link Transit and the Washington State Department of Transportation. The agreement created a metropolitan planning organization for the greater Wenatchee urbanized area and to ensure the metropolitan area has continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning processes. The Council's primary goals are to develop long-range plans for the next 20 years and a six-year transportation improvement program, which is consistent with the long-range plan.

The Council is made up of nine appointed Members. Each Member is appointed by their respective agency to serve on the Council. In the three-year audit period, the Council operated on annual budgets of approximately \$350,000 to \$450,000. The majority of expenditures fund the salaries of the Council's four employees.

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Information current as of report publish date.

#### **Audit history**

You can find current and past audit reports for the Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council 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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