



Office of the Washington State Auditor

Pat McCarthy

Exit Conference: Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council

The Office of the Washington State Auditor's vision is increased trust in government. Our mission is to provide citizens with independent and transparent examinations of how state and local governments use public funds, and develop strategies that make government more efficient and effective.

The purpose of this meeting is to share the results of your audit and our draft reporting. We value and appreciate your participation.

Audit Reports

We will publish the following reports:

- Accountability audit for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023 – see report.

Audit Highlights

Chad Daggett has been wonderful to work with and professional throughout the audit. The supporting documents are clear and easy to understand.

Recommendations not included in the Audit Reports

Exit Items

We have provided exit recommendations for management's consideration. Exit items address control deficiencies or noncompliance with laws or regulation that have an insignificant or immaterial effect on the entity, or errors with an immaterial effect on the financial statements. Exit items are not referenced in the audit report.

Finalizing Your Audit

Report Publication

Audit reports are published on our website and distributed via email in a .pdf file. We also offer a subscription service that notifies you by email when audit reports are released or posted to our website. You can sign up for this convenient service at <https://portal.sao.wa.gov/SAOPortal>.

Management Representation Letter

We have included a copy of representations requested of management.

Audit Cost

At the entrance conference, we estimated the cost of the audit to be \$9,000 plus travel of \$500 and actual audit costs will approximate that amount.

Your Next Scheduled Audit

Your next audit is scheduled to be conducted in 2027 and will cover the following general areas:

- Accountability for public resources for fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026

The estimated cost for the next audit based on current rates is \$9,000 plus travel expenses. This preliminary estimate is provided as a budgeting tool and not a guarantee of final cost.

If expenditures of federal awards are \$750,000 or more in any fiscal year, notify our Office so we can schedule your audit to meet federal Single Audit requirements. Federal awards can include grants, loans, and non-cash assistance like equipment and supplies.

Working Together to Improve Government

Audit Survey

When your report is released, you will receive an audit survey from us. We value your opinions on our audit services and hope you provide feedback.

Local Government Support Team

This team provides support services to local governments through technical assistance, comparative statistics, training, and tools to help prevent and detect a loss of public funds. Our website and client portal offers many resources, including a client Help Desk that answers auditing and accounting questions. Additionally, this team assists with the online filing of your financial statements.

The Center for Government Innovation

The Center for Government Innovation at the Office of the Washington State Auditor offers services specifically to help you help the residents you serve at no additional cost to your government. What does this mean? We provide expert advice in areas like Lean process improvement, peer-to-peer networking, and culture-building to help local governments find ways to be more efficient, effective and transparent. The Center can help you by providing assistance in financial management, cybersecurity and more. Check out our best practices and other resources that help local governments act on accounting standard changes, comply with regulations, and respond to recommendations in your audit. The Center understands that time is your most precious commodity as a public servant, and we are here to help you do more with the limited hours you have. If you are interested in learning how we can help you maximize your effect in government, call us at (564) 999-0818 or email us at Center@sao.wa.gov.

Questions?

Please contact us with any questions about information in this document or related audit reports.

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Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy

Accountability Audit Report

Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council

For the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023

Published February 5, 2024

Report No. 1034151



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

February 5, 2024

Council
Chelan-Douglas 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 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 Council 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 Council'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

Americans with Disabilities

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will make this document available in alternative formats. For more information, please contact our Office at (564) 999-0950, TDD Relay at (800) 833-6388, or email our webmaster at webmaster@sao.wa.gov.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Audit Results.....	
Information about the Council.....	
About the State Auditor's Office.....	

AUDIT RESULTS

Results in brief

This report describes the overall results and conclusions for the areas we examined. In those selected areas, Council 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 Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

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 Council'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 June 30, 2023, 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 payable – general disbursements
- Payroll – gross wages and overtime
- Open public meetings – compliance with minutes, meetings and executive session requirements
- Financial condition – reviewing for indications of financial distress

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council (formerly known as Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council) was created in 2003 through a Governance Agreement (Agreement) among Chelan County, Douglas County, City of Wenatchee, City of East Wenatchee, City of Rock Island, Port of Chelan County and Port of Douglas County (now known as Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority), 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 a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. Pursuant to RCW 47.80.050, the Council adopted an amendment to the Agreement to include the Colville Confederated Tribes as a voting member of the Council.

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 10 elected or appointed council members. Each member is appointed by their respective agency to serve on the Council. The Council currently has four full-time employees, and had revenues of \$567,000, \$782,000 and \$692,000 in 2021, 2022 and 2023, respectively.

Contact information related to this report

Address:	Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council 37 S. Wenatchee Avenue Suite C Wenatchee, WA 98801
Contact:	Chad Daggett, Clerk of the Board
Telephone:	(509) 663-9059
Website:	http://www.chelan-douglas.org

Information current as of report publish date.

Audit history

You can find current and past audit reports for the Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council 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. 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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- Main telephone:
(564) 999-0950
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(866) 902-3900
- Email:
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