



# Memorandum

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Sharon W. Erickson,  
City Auditor

**SUBJECT:** *Biennial Peer Review of the  
City Auditor's Office*

**DATE:** September 12, 2017

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## RECOMMENDATION

Approve the agreement with the Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) to perform an audit of the City Auditor's Office for Fiscal Year 2015-16 and FY 2016-17, pursuant to the peer review guidelines of ALGA, in exchange for reimbursement of expenses for the audit team and the provision of reciprocal audit services by the City Auditor's Office.

## BACKGROUND

City Charter Section 805.2 requires the City Council to contract with an independent audit firm, which has no other contracts with the City, to conduct a performance audit of the City Auditor's Office at least every two years. An audit team associated with ALGA performed the last audit in San José two years ago.

The ALGA peer review provides a mechanism for skilled and qualified audit personnel to perform audits of other local government audit organizations. ALGA is prepared to send a team of two government auditors to conduct an audit of the San Jose City Auditor's Office beginning October 30, 2017.

The objectives of the review will be to determine whether, during the period (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017), the San José City Auditor's internal quality control system was suitably designed and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance of complying with applicable *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

The peer review team will select and review several audits the City Auditor issued in Fiscal Years 2015-16 and 2016-17, and submit a written report of the results to the City Council.

The agreement with ALGA will be posted to the agenda webpage for the September 26, 2017 City Council meeting.

## COST IMPLICATIONS

As a recipient of an ALGA peer review, the City of San José incurs two obligations. First, the City must pay for the travel, lodging, meals, and other expenses of the audit team. The City Auditor's Office estimates that these expenses will be approximately \$5,000. The City will not be charged for the audit team's time. Second, the San José City Auditor's Office will be committed to providing up to two auditors to participate in similar peer reviews at another jurisdiction within the next two years.

CEQA: Not a Project, File No. PPI7-003, Agreements/Contracts (New or Amended) resulting in no physical changes to the environment.

*Sharon W. Erickson*  
Sharon W. Erickson  
City Auditor

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