
OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST REPORT

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Item Number: 203

Defining “In Consultation With” for City Auditor Appointment

OVERVIEW

Under consideration for the ballot language pertaining to appointment of the City Auditor are the following options:

1. The City Auditor shall be appointed by the City Manager, in consultation with the Audit Committee, and confirmed by the City Council.
2. The City Auditor shall be appointed by the Audit Committee, in consultation with the City Manager, and confirmed by the City Council.
3. The City Auditor shall be appointed by the Audit Committee and confirmed by the City Council.

We recommend consideration be given to putting definition to the clause “in consultation with.” This could be accomplished by amending the proposed Charter language or alternatively, including such language in the Municipal Code.

Any or all of the following steps, which were implemented for the very recent City Auditor recruitment and selection, should be considered:

“In consultation with” is to be defined as follows:

-Review of job description for City Auditor, RFQ for recruiting firm and recruitment materials.

(Note: This was done by the Audit Committee for the recent process.)

-Ongoing communication with the recruiter and COO throughout the process.

(Note: Councilwoman Toni Atkins was designated this responsibility by the Audit Committee for the recent process.)

-Representation on the screening and interview panels and/or independent interview process.

(Note: For the recent process, the IBA served on the initial interview/screening panel and Audit Committee members interviewed the final candidates.)

-Opportunity for timely input to appointing party on final selection.

((Note: For the recent process, Jay Goldstone, COO, solicited input from Audit Committee members following the interviews.)

These steps were effectively utilized in the recent recruitment and selection of the new City Auditor, whereby the Mayor appointed the City Auditor with participation by the Audit Committee as was designated in the attached “Mayor’s Statement of Operating Principles - Item 5.” These Principles were put into place by the Mayor in early 2007 in recognition of the importance of involving the Audit Committee in such activities for the interim period prior to ballot changes and can serve as a model for the future. Such steps should be considered for inclusion in option 1 and may want to be considered in the reverse for option 2.

[SIGNED]

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Attachment