



CITY OF OAKLAND

PERFORMANCE AUDIT

Limited Public
Financing Act
(LPFA)

November 2016
Election

Brenda Roberts, City Auditor


January 8, 2018

LIMITED PUBLIC FINANACING ACT

- **Enacted in 1999 (amended in 2010)**
- **Provides District City Council Candidates with public funds for campaign expenses**
- **Goal is to ensure all individuals have a fair and equal opportunity to participate in the elective process**

NOVEMBER 2016 ELECTION

- **Council appropriated \$155,000 for the 2016 Election Campaign Fund**
- **\$11,625 spent on administering the Program**
- **\$143,375 available for candidate reimbursements**



\$113,140 was actually claimed for candidate reimbursements (\$30,000 unclaimed)

OBJECTIVE

To determine whether PEC has adequate internal controls to ensure their process for qualifying and awarding public funds complied with the intent and requirements of the Act.

Why This Audit Matters

- **Create a more equitable \$ distribution process**
- **Strengthen the overall control environment**
- **Increase public participation**
- **Meet requirements of LPFA**



Finding 1: No Collection/Analysis of Demographic Data to Promote an Equitable Program

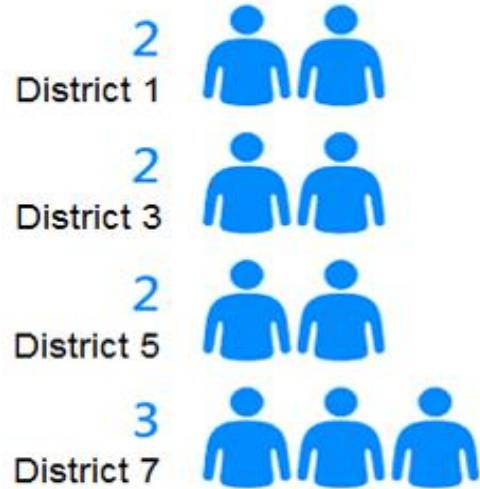
Recommendations: Collect candidate demographic data, partner with City's Department of Race and Equity



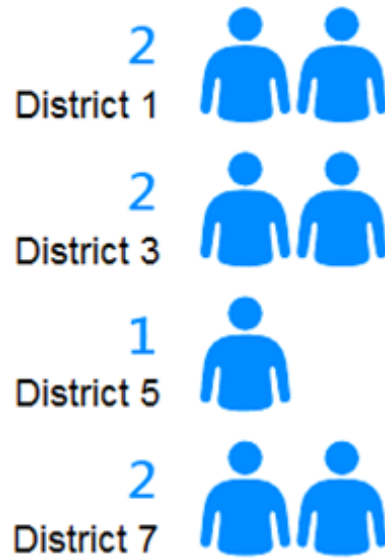
PEC Management agreed to implement

2016 Eligible Candidates, Applicants, & LPFA Participants by District

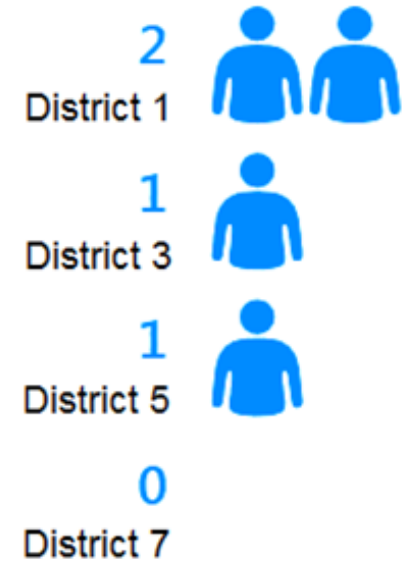
Eligible Candidates



Applicants



Participants



Finding 2: Increase Public Awareness to Promote Program Participation

Recommendation:

Conduct targeted promotion; promote using free or low-cost outlets and in advance of election season



PEC Management agreed to implement

Finding 3: Complex Requirements Are Obstacles to Program Participation

Recommendation:

Simplify and offer online training; provide PDF fillable forms for document submission



PEC Management agreed to implement

Finding 4: Policies and Procedures Are Not Up-to-Date

Recommendation:

Review and update internal procedures and training documents prior to each election



PEC Management agreed to implement

Finding 5: Insufficient Quality Assurance Review of Documents & Calculations

Recommendation:

Add a second PEC staff member to perform a quality review of contribution and expenditure calculations



PEC Management agreed to implement

Questions?



- Holy Names High School



WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAM
Of The Oakland City Auditor



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cityauditor@oaklandnet.com

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