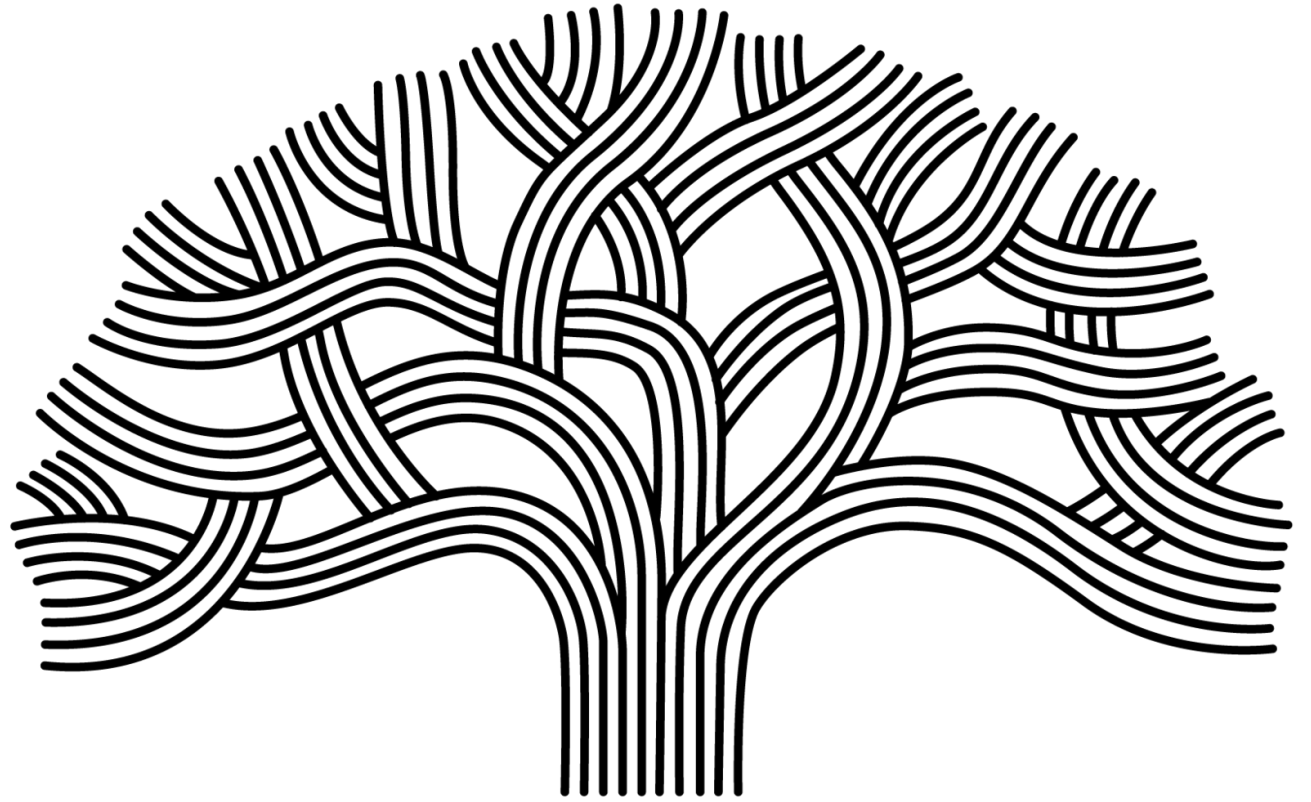


Audit of the Limited Public Financing Act

November 2018 Election

Courtney Ruby, CPA, CFE
Oakland City Auditor

June 3, 2019



CITY OF OAKLAND

Background

- The Limited Public Financing Act requires the City Auditor to conduct mandatory post-election audits of all Program participants.
- 15 candidates appeared on ballot, but only 10 were eligible and accepted public financing.
- \$183,459 was available, of which \$176,489 was claimed.

Audit Objectives and Scope

Objective

- To determine whether candidates who received public financing complied with the objectives established in Municipal Code Section 3.13.

Scope

- All candidates who accepted public financing for the November 2018 City Council elections.

Audit Results

The PEC's overall systems and internal controls are adequate to ensure proper administration of the Program.

- Finding 1: Minor changes can improve controls for calculating campaign's surplus funds.
 - Recommendation 1: Highlight the importance of and provide instructions on reconciling campaign financial statements
 - Recommendation 2: Work with the City's e-filing vendor to create a system control that automatically adds up each numerical field.
 - Recommendation 3: Verify and document the surplus fund calculation in the participant's file when candidates do not submit the form.

Audit Results

- Finding 2: Three participants did not deposit reimbursement checks within the three-day timeframe required by the Act.
 - Recommendation: Recommend that City Council amend the LPFA to provide candidates more time to deposit reimbursement checks.



Comments/Questions

Photo: Greg Linhares, City of Oakland

05/23/2019

Office of the City Auditor

Independent City Auditor. Serving Oakland With Integrity.