



CITY OF OAKLAND  
Office of the City Auditor



**INDEPENDENT CITY AUDITOR. REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE RESIDENTS.**

## Office of the City Auditor Update

October 28, 2021

### Limited Public Financing Act Audit Released



Today, my office released the **Limited Public Financing Act (LPFA) Audit** for the November 2020 Election Cycle.

The [Oakland Public Ethics Commission](#) (PEC) – an independent City board made up of Oakland residents charged with ensuring fairness, openness, honesty and integrity in Oakland City government – oversees the LPFA.

The objective of the audit was to determine whether candidates who received public financing during the November 2020 election cycle complied with the objectives established in [Municipal Code Section 3.13 \(LPFA\)](#).

The audit found no instances of candidate non-compliance with the LPFA and found the PEC has implemented an effective process for administering and ensuring compliance with LPFA requirements.

In 2010, the LPFA program began reimbursing candidates for valid expenditures instead of advancing funds. Since then, the biennial audits of the LPFA program have not found any major deficiencies or misuse of funds. Given the low level of risk involved in these post-election audits, they are not an effective use of my Office's limited resources. Therefore, we are recommending the PEC consider drafting an amendment for the City Council's consideration, to amend the Oakland Municipal Code to eliminate the City Auditor requirement of biennial post-election LPFA audits. However, as part of my overall Charter responsibilities, my Office would retain the authority to audit the LPFA if necessary.

To read the full *Limited Public Financing Act Audit for the November 2020 Election Cycle*, click the link below.

[Read the LPFA Audit](#)

# Exciting Announcement New Whistleblower Program Manager, Orsolya Kovesdi



I'm happy to announce former Senior Performance Auditor, Orsolya (aka, Orshi) Kovesdi, has accepted the key role of Whistleblower Program Manager in our Office.

Orshi was hired as a Senior Performance Auditor in April 2016. She has proven to be an outstanding auditor, and a data whiz with a keen eye for detail. Recently, Orshi led the [City of Oakland Financial Condition](#) and [OPD Overtime](#) audits and was part of the [Homeless Encampment Management & Activities report](#) audit team.

She is a consummate financial professional with fifteen years of experience in auditing, specializing in compliance, collateral, operational, and financial audits in both private and governmental sectors. She also has extensive experience in administrative operations and data analytics. She holds an MBA in Finance from the University of Hartford and BA in Business Studies from Oxford Brookes University, in association with the International Business School in Budapest, Hungary, and minor in Marketing.

Undoubtedly, Orshi's experience will infuse and enhance our investigation work. I look forward to working with Orshi in this new capacity.

[Find out more about the Whistleblower Program](#)

## Updates Audits in Progress



The following audits are in progress:

1) **OPD Overtime Follow-Up Audit:** The objective of the follow-up audit of OPD Overtime is to determine the status of the 21 recommendations outlined in our June 2019 [Performance Audit of Oakland Police Department Overtime \(FY 2014-15 through FY 2017-18\)](#).

2) **The City of Oakland's Building Permitting Process:** The objectives of this audit are to 1) evaluate the internal controls over building permit fee processes; 2) evaluate building fees' alignment with the City's Municipal Code, State Law, and leading practices; and 3) identify the drivers of the surplus in the City's Development Services Fund. The Office is considering following this audit with an additional audit given the breadth of concerns raised in our initial planning process.

3) **Homeless Services:** The Office is currently working on the second of a series of audits focused on homelessness in Oakland. The audit will seek to quantify the number of people placed in different shelter and housing types; evaluate the performance of select contracted shelter providers and service providers; identify disparities in how City-provided shelters and related services are provided to various subpopulations of people experiencing homelessness; and review the coordination and partnerships of agencies engaged in addressing homelessness in Oakland.

[Find out more about our audit process](#)

## Watch The Live Discussion On Domestic Violence & Homelessness



In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the [Family Violence Law Center](#) (FVLC) and my Office collaborated to expand the public discourse on homelessness, gender, and domestic violence. To learn more about this collaboration please read our joint press release [here](#).

As we approach the end of Domestic Violence Awareness month, I want to encourage all of you to watch this engaging and important live/virtual discussion about gender, domestic violence and homelessness. On October 15th, I joined **Dr. Sarai Crain-Pope** (Deputy Chief of Violence Prevention, City of Oakland), **Kerry Abbott** (Director, Office of Homeless Care and Coordination, Alameda County), and **Tunisia Owens** (Policy & Advocacy Manager, Family

Violence Law Center) to discuss what we as leaders can do to help solve these pressing issues. Click the link below to watch this discussion.

[Watch the Live/Virtual Conversation on Domestic Violence and Homelessness](#)

Committed to serving you with the utmost integrity,



**COURTNEY RUBY, CPA, CFE**  
CITY AUDITOR



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This confidential hotline is for employees or residents to report **fraud**, **waste**, and **abuse** in the City of Oakland.  
Available 24/7.

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