



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL                      DATE: MARCH 16, 2021**

**FROM: FINANCE DEPARTMENT    WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL AUDIT REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL INDEPENDENT AUDITOR,  
LANCE, SOLL & LUNGHARD, LLP ON CITY OF RIVERSIDE FINANCIAL  
RESULTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

## **ISSUES:**

Receive the annual audit reports from external independent auditor, Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP on the City of Riverside Financial Results for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and reappoint Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP, to serve as the City's independent auditor to conduct the annual audit of Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Receive the annual audit reports from external independent auditor, Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP on the City of Riverside Financial Results for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 as required by the Riverside City Charter; and
2. Reappoint Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP, to serve as the City's independent auditor to conduct the audit of Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

## **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

This report is published on March 4, 2021, for the March 16, 2021, City Council meeting.

On March 12, 2021, the Financial Performance and Budget Committee will hear this item for consideration to recommend to City Council to receive the reports outlined below and reappoint Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP for year three of the five year contract to serve as the City's independent auditor to conduct the annual audit of Fiscal Year 2020-2021. City staff will provide a verbal report on the action of the Financial Performance and Budget Committee.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On April 10, 2019, the Finance Committee conducted interviews for the appointment of a new independent external auditor. The Committee interviewed the top two (2) accounting firms,

Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP (VTD) and Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP, identified through a formal Request for Proposal process. Following interviews and discussion, the Committee recommended that the City Council appoint Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP to serve as the City's Independent Auditors in accordance with its annual audit requirements for a five-year period, subject to annual reappointments, beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

On June 4, 2019, City Council awarded a Professional Consultant Services Agreement for Certified Public Accountant Services to Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP to serve as the City's independent auditor for a five-year term, subject to annual renewals, appointed Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP as the City's independent external auditor for a five-year term, subject to annual renewals.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The City's external independent auditor Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP has completed the annual audit of the City's financial statements and other financial reports subject to audit, as follows:

1. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
2. Electric and Water Financial Reports
3. Successor Agency Financial Report
4. Riverside Public Financing Authority Financial Report
5. Single Audit Report on Federal Awards
6. Air Quality Management District Report
7. Appropriations Limit (Gann) Calculation Agreed-Upon Procedures.

The auditors provided an unmodified, or clean, opinion that the City's financial statements are presented fairly and in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. This clean audit opinion supports the fact that the City observed compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and statutory requirements. As part of the financial audit, the auditors provided a management letter and there were no misstatements detected as a result of the audit procedures and corrected by management which were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. This is a remarkable achievement given the size and complexity of the City.

The City's financial statements are distributed to the City Council, federal and state government agencies per contract requirements, bond holders, rating and financial institutions and are made available in libraries for interested citizens.

For the fourth time, the City has produced a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the PAFR in 1991 to encourage and assist state and local governments to extract information from their CAFR to produce high quality popular annual financial reports specifically designed to be readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public and other interested parties without a background in public finance and who may be overwhelmed by the volume of information in the traditional CAFR.

For the third time, the City received an award from GFOA for the 2019 submission of the PAFR. The current report continues to meet the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting program requirements and is being submitted to GFOA to determine its eligibility for

another certificate.

Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP has completed its second year of a five-year contract, awarded consistent with the City's charter which allows the City's independent auditor to serve for no more than five years before mandatory rotation is required. This practice is consistent with industry best practices as promulgated by the national organization of municipal financial professionals, the Government Finance Officers Association. The Finance department is satisfied with the current year's audit and recommends Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP be reappointed for the third year of their contract.

Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP will provide the attached presentation of required communication with the Financial Performance and Budget Committee and answer any questions.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report. Funding for the annual audit of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 will be included in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget.

Prepared by: Nancy Garcia, Controller  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer  
Approved by: Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager  
Approved as to form: Kristi Smith, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Required Auditor Communication Letter
2. Air Quality Management District Report
3. Appropriations Limit (Gann) Calculation Agreed-Upon Procedures Report
4. Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting
5. Presentation – Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP
6. Presentation – Finance Department
7. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
8. Electric and Water Financial Reports
9. Successor Agency Financial Report
10. Riverside Public Financing Authority Financial Report
11. Single Audit Report on Federal Awards
12. Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)