

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: August 14, 2025

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Jack Eckblad, Chair, Committee on Audit

From: Jennifer Folliard, Director of Audits, Audit Services Division, Office of the
Comptroller

Subject: From the Director of Audits, Audit Services Division, Office of the
Comptroller, providing an informational packet of reports from the 2024
countywide audit services performed by the County's External Auditors

File Type: Informational Report

REQUEST

This report is for informational purposes. There is no request at this time.

POLICY

The Audit Service Division (ASD) conducts performance audits which provide elected officials and County management with an objective, third-party analysis of their operations to help them improve performance, reduce costs, and make informed data-driven decisions. ASD also manages the contract with an external CPA firm for the annual audit of Milwaukee County's financial statements and other audit services. ASD's audit duties are defined in s. 59.255(2)(i), Wis. Stats. and Section 34.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, which describes the responsibility to supervise the annual audit of the County's financial statements.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	59.255(2)(i)
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	34.09

BACKGROUND

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution on December 21, 2001 approving a policy of seeking new proposals every five years from auditing firms for the annual audit of Milwaukee County. Following the 2020 issuance of a request for proposals for countywide audit services, the CPA firm of Baker Tilly US, LLP (Baker Tilly) was the successful proposer and awarded a five-year contract plus a one-year renewal option at Milwaukee County's discretion. The contract requires the provision of annual countywide audit services covering the years 2020 - 2024, with 2025 being the period covered by the optional one-year renewal. Baker Tilly has subcontracted with the CPA firm of Coleman & Williams, Ltd with a commitment to attain a TBE goal of 34% of the contract amount.

As specified by the contract, a series of reports and documents are generated following the completion of each annual countywide services period. Below is a table of the most current year's items that provides the name of each report/document along with a brief description.

Report/Document	Description
Audit Summary Observations	Outline of key aspects of reports
2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report	Compilation of annual financial statements, schedules, and supplementary information.
2024 Single Audit Report *	Schedules of expenditures of Federal and State awards and compliance reports.
2024 Report on Passenger Facilities Charges of the Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport	Schedules of PFC funds and compliance reports prepared in accordance with regulatory requirements.
2024 Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures of the Milwaukee County Transit System Specified by the FTA	Compliance reports and information prepared in accordance with FTA requirements.
2024 Communications to Those Charged with Governance and Management **	Opportunities for strengthening internal controls and improving operating efficiency. Includes recommendations and management responses.
Reporting and insights from 2024 audit: County of Milwaukee	Matters required by professional standards to be reported to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.
<p>* Additional work is required to complete the 2024 Single Audit Report. Therefore, it will be submitted for the December 2025 committee meeting cycle.</p> <p>**To avoid disclosing potential County information systems vulnerabilities or system architecture publicly, we requested that Baker Tilly reference but not describe in its report, Communications to Those Charged with Governance and Management, an existing matter where a recommendation to improve system internal controls was made to the Information Management Services Division.</p>	

Related File No's:	01-686, 21-771, 22-945, 23-800, 24-729, 24-732, 24-901
Associated File No's (Including Transfer Packets):	None
Previous Action Date(s):	File No. 20-883 was adopted on December 17, 2020 and signed by the County Executive on January 6, 2021. File No. 22-774 was adopted on July 28, 2022 and signed by the County Executive on August 31, 2022. Related items included as budget requests were approved with 2023 2024, and 2025 budget adoptions.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the [strategic plan](#):

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

While the County's Audit Services Division performs work related to many of the County's Strategic Plan objectives, the Division's work in managing the contract with the County's external auditors to provide countywide audit services enhances the County's fiscal health and sustainability.

FISCAL EFFECT

None

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Jennifer Folliard, Director of Audits
Molly Pahl, Deputy Director of Audits
Paul Grant, Audit Compliance Manager
Paul Frantz, Principal, Baker Tilly US, LLP
Michelle Walter, Senior Manager, Baker Tilly US, LLP
William Coleman, President, Coleman & Williams, Ltd

PREPARED BY:

Paul Grant, Audit Compliance Manager

APPROVED BY:

Jennifer Folliard, Director of Audits

ATTACHMENTS:

Audit Summary Observations
Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
Report on Passenger Facility Charges
Report on Agreed Upon Procedures - MCTS
Communications to Governance and Management
Reporting Insights From 2024 Audit

cc: Liz Sumner, Milwaukee County Comptroller
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
David Crowley, Milwaukee County Executive
Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director, Office of the Comptroller
Jane Geyer, Research Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
Janelle Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the Milwaukee County Clerk
Ethan Masarik, Committee Coordinator, Office of the Milwaukee County Clerk