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Subject: Auditor Year in Review 2024

December 30th, 2024

Your Kittitas County Auditor's Office had another tremendous year delivering results to improve the function of government in Kittitas County. As we bring 2024 to a close, I would like to share a few of those accomplishments and give you a preview of what to look forward to in the New Year:

This year we:

- Successfully facilitated five secure, transparent and accessible elections including a unique March Presidential Primary, a statewide hand recount during the August Primary and a November General Election with over 84% voter turnout and record in-person services on Election Day.
- Continued to leverage external grant awards to invest in our election's infrastructure. Most significantly, we installed a live view, publicly accessible camera system in our elections center, upgraded several ballot drop boxes to increase capacity at our busiest locations, and purchased a backup election scanner/tabulation system to ensure continuity of operations.
- Submitted a complete and timely Annual Report to the State Auditor and received an unmodified opinion, with \$0 in questioned cost for the 2nd year in a row.
- Led efforts to complete 4 out of 7 phases of the countywide financial software overhaul which will be complete in early 2025. Full implementation is likely to result in efficiency savings of over \$100,000 per year.
- Collaborated with an external vendor to complete the digitization of all county recorded documents, which helps set conditions for enhanced online document accessibility in the future.

Next Steps: In 2025 we will complete our financial software overhaul and continue work on phase two of our recorded documents digitization and indexing project. We will also continue to work with county stakeholders to improve the county's financial position through a revamped budget process that orients leadership on the expense/revenue drivers with the highest impact. Most importantly we remain committed to our mission of providing the highest level of customer service across elections, licensing, recording, and financial services to all Kittitas County residents and employees.

If you have any questions or suggestions on how we can serve you better, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at (509) 899-3838 or bryan.elliott@co.kittitas.wa.us.

Sincerely,

Bryan Elliott
Kittitas County Auditor