



Date: May 21, 2015
To: Mayor Robert Garcia
From: Laura L. Doud, City Auditor *ld*
Subject: Civic Center Project

When the staff recommendation to negotiate a contract with Plenary-Edgemoor Civic Partners (PECP) was before the Council for approval, I believe you said that the Auditor would "serve as an extra set of eyes and ears" on the Civic Center project.

Fundamentally, the City Auditor's responsibility is to ensure that City moneys are spent appropriately once there is a project and that the annual disbursement of City funds corresponds to the terms of the eventual contract between the City and PECP.

My audit oversight starts when there is a project. That is to say that there is nothing to audit until there is a disbursement of public funds.

I note the Council has authorized more than \$6 million for financial and legal assistance to prepare the final PECP project operating agreement. Additionally, City staff has conducted public meetings in all Council districts to assure that the public is informed about the project and has the opportunity to comment on it before final Council action.

I will, of course, "serve as an extra set of eyes and ears" on the Civic Center project when there is, in fact, a project and after there is a disbursement of public funds to implement it.

cc: City Councilmembers