

City of Oakland
Agenda Report

01/11/07 11:38

To: Council President Ignacio De La Fuente and Members of the Rules Committee
From: Lupe Schoenberger, City Council Legislative Analyst
Date: December 14, 2006

Re: A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON THE CITY AUDITOR'S
SALARY

SUMMARY

The Oakland City Charter, Article IV, Section 403, authorizes the City Council to conduct a review of the City Auditor's salary at the start of a new term of office or as part of a citywide reduction of salaries for all City officers and employees. In January, 2007, a newly elected City Auditor will begin a new term in office and is subject to the salary setting review

In accordance with the procedure established in the City Charter, staff has conducted a salary survey of City Auditors for the California cities with the three immediate lower populations and the three immediate higher populations in comparison to Oakland.

This report recommends an adjustment to the City Auditor's salary from the current level of \$170,591.89 to a salary within the range of \$118,137.92 and \$151,891.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The reduction in salary represents a savings to the General Fund of between \$18,700.89 to \$52,453.97 per year, depending on the salary adopted by the Council.

BACKGROUND

In November 2004, voters approved Measure P, a Charter amendment that requires the City Auditor salary to be set at the beginning of a newly elected term of office utilizing *the same formula established for determining the Mayor's salary*. A newly elected City Auditor will begin a new term of office in January, 2007 and is subject to the salary setting review.

Article IV, Section 403 of the City Charter states, "The salary of the office shall be set by the Council, which shall be not less than 70% nor more than 90% of the average salaries of City Auditors of California cities within the three immediate higher and the three immediate lower cities in population to Oakland, and may not be reduced during the City Auditor's term of office, except as a part of a general reduction of salaries for all officers and employees in the same amount or proportion"

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

The salary formula established for the City Auditor calls for a salary survey of City Auditors in California cities with the three immediate lower populations and the three immediate higher populations in comparison to Oakland

According to the Charter, the salaries may be set at not less than 70% but no more than 90% of the average of those salaries for City Auditors in the survey.

The following table shows the salaries for the City Auditors for the California cities within the three immediate higher and the three immediate lower population sizes in comparison to Oakland. Long Beach is the only city in this grouping with a City Auditor. The table shows the range of 70% to 90% of this salary level.

City Auditor

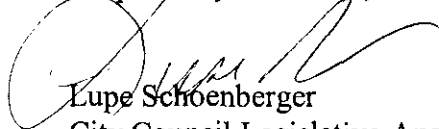
City	Population	Current City Manager/Chief Executive Officer Actual Salary
Long Beach	490,166	\$168,768.46
Fresno	471,479	No City Auditor
Sacramento	457,514	No City Auditor
<i>Oakland</i>	<i>411,755</i>	<i>\$170,591.89</i>
Santa Ana	351,322	No City Auditor
Anaheim	342,410	No City Auditor
Bakersfield	311,824	No City Auditor
AVERAGE SALARY		\$168,768.46
70% of average salary		\$118,137.92
90% of average salary		\$151,891.61
City Auditor's Current Salary		\$170,591.89

The City Auditor's current salary is \$170,591.89. The salary survey indicates a new salary within the range of \$118,137.92 and \$151,891.61. According to the Oakland City Charter, City Council must set the salary of the Auditor within this range.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff is requesting that the City Council adopt a new salary for the City Auditor between the range of \$118,137.92 and \$151,891.61 to be effective January 1, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



Lupe Schoenberger
City Council Legislative Analyst