

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers



Why was the City of Lincoln audited?

The California State Auditor conducted the audit as directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee to address concerns that were raised regarding how rates and fees were collected, if loans the City made to itself were in compliance with state law, and if policies were in place to ensure consistency and transparency of the City's accounting practices.



What are the outcomes of the audit?

Most of the audit findings related to insufficient financial processes, inconsistent collection of rates and fees, and inconsistent internal policies. Many of the recommendations in the audit have already been initiated and the remaining items will be addressed in the months to come. The City is required to report progress in the next 2, 6, and 12 months and then annually thereafter for a period of 5 years.



How does this impact me as a Lincoln resident or business owner?

Community members have a right to expect transparent, consistent, and proper practices from your city. Errors have been made and we are taking measures to ensure our procedures are in compliance to prevent similar issues in the future. The City will be required to study fees and rates, which could lead to increases or decreases in how you are billed.



What else should I know?

The City of Lincoln has decreased public safety levels due to low sales tax capture and poorly negotiated property tax sharing agreements. The implementation of some of the audit recommendations, such as repayment of interfund loans, could further impact the general fund. As we implement new practices, we invite you to stay involved. Progress updates will be available at lincolnca.gov. City staff and Council view the audit recommendations as an essential tool to improve and are committed to ensuring the City's financial viability.



Where can I find more information?

Attend one of our Audit Action Community Meetings to understand the audit process, the recommendations, and our plan to implement updated practices.

March 26, 2019 Council Briefing Update 6 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall, 600 6th Street

March 28, 2019 10 am at City Hall Community Meeting Room, 600 6th Street

March 28, 2019 6 pm at City of Lincoln Library, 485 Twelve Bridges Drive

Learn more online: lincolnca.gov

