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Subject:	An update on unauditable local governments - King County Fire Protection District No. 24 & King County Fire Protection District No. 31
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Attachments:	image003.png

Greetings,

I am pleased to let you know that most of the local governments the State Auditor's Office deemed unauditable last year have taken steps to comply with state accountability laws.

We've focused on ensuring every government in Washington receives an independent audit, and it's made a difference. The public expects every government to be transparent, and I want to acknowledge local government leaders and the Legislature for supporting this effort to increase transparency.

In May 2019, 40 local governments were determined to be unauditable, but that number has fallen to 15 by this month. Full details, including the list of governments, are available in this interactive infographic.

Today, our office released the first audit of Pierce County Drainage District No. 23 in 15 years. Also published was the first audit of King County Drainage District No. 5 since it was the subject of a $400,000 misappropriation and declared unauditable last year.

We will continue to shine a light on the need for independent audits of all governments. Those governments still categorized as unauditable may be the subject of a "Report on Unauditable Government," a type of report that is referred to the state Attorney General's Office for possible legal action.

Under the legislative reforms passed this year, the report may also trigger intervention by the county in which an unauditable government operates. If one of the remaining unauditable governments resides in your county, I hope you will join us in encouraging them to be accountable for their public resources.

Working at all levels and across the state, together we have increased the transparency of government. I hope we can keep up the momentum and ensure every single Washington government that receives public tax dollars is accountable to the public.

Thank you,

Pat McCarthy
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