

A REPORT  
TO THE CITIZENS OF SALT LAKE COUNTY  
BEN McADAMS, MAYOR



An Audit of the Key Controls of  
Flood Control-Projects

March 15, 2013

**GREGORY P. HAWKINS**

SALT LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR

Audit reports are available at  
<http://auditor.slco.org/cfml/IntAudit/IntAuditPubs.cfm>





GREGORY P. HAWKINS  
Salt Lake County Auditor

LONN LITCHFIELD, JD, LLM  
Chief Deputy Auditor

2001 South State Street, N3300  
PO Box 144575  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4575

(385) 468-7200  
(385) 468-7201 / fax  
GHawkins@slco.org

March 15, 2013

Ben McAdams, Mayor  
Salt Lake County  
2001 S State St #N2100  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4575

Re: An Audit of the Key Controls of Flood Control-Projects

Dear Mayor McAdams:

We recently completed an analysis of the financial records of Flood Control-Projects in compliance with Utah Code Ann. § 17-19a-204. Our purpose was to verify the accuracy and completeness of selected financial records and to assess compliance with certain internal controls that we have identified as key to good financial management. We also sought to identify areas of material risk to determine whether we should commit more of our limited resources in further auditing or investigation.

Our work was designed to provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that records were accurate and complete and that the system of internal controls was adequate. There may be inaccurate or incomplete financial records that were not selected for review. Further, there may also be instances of noncompliance in areas not examined.

We appreciate the time spent by the staff at Flood Control-Projects and the cooperation from Amy McCormick and other assigned staff members for answering our questions, gathering the necessary documents and records, and allowing us access to Flood Control-Projects during our audit. The staff was friendly, courteous, and very helpful. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Gregory P. Hawkins  
Salt Lake County Auditor

By James Fire MBA/Acc  
Deputy Auditor

cc: Scott Baird Division Director  
Amy McCormick, Fiscal Manager





## **Objectives**

Pursuant to § 17-19a-204, we analyzed the financial records and internal controls of Flood Control-Projects. Our purpose was to verify the accuracy and completeness of selected financial records and to assess compliance with certain internal controls that are key to good financial management. We also sought to identify areas of material risk.

## **Conclusion**

Flood Control - Projects' primary purpose is to monitor and report on construction budgets for building and repair of storm drains. No expenses were incurred, nor assets, such as imprest accounts, were assigned to this organization. As a result, no findings were reported in this key control audit (KCA).

## **Background**

Between 1975 and 1978, the Salt Lake County Planning Commission acted as the Area-Wide Water Quality managing entity.

On February 6, 1978, with the completion of the Area-wide Water Quality Management Plan, Salt Lake County Government was designated the regional water quality planning authority by then Governor Scott M. Matheson. The primary goals outlined in the 1978 Plan were to provide a "continuous planning process directed toward achieving the policy of restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the waters of Salt Lake County."

At this time, the Council of Governments (COG), in conjunction with the Salt Lake County Planning Commission, hired staff to conduct water quality planning and subsequently created the Water Quality and Water Pollution Department. The Water Quality and Water Pollution Department functioned as the primary water quality planning authority until 1985.

In 1985, the Salt Lake County Health Department took over this responsibility. Liability was again shifted in 1992 when quality planning was placed directly under the Salt Lake County Commission. This situation continued until 1997 when the Public Works Department of Salt Lake County again took on the charge of area-wide water quality planning.

The primary goals of the program include assessment and restoration of streams and other water resources in the Jordan River sub-basin, stewardship planning, and environmental education outreach.

## **Scope**

Our work included a formal examination of financial records related to the following key internal controls, to the degree applicable:

- Change fund
- Petty Cash and Imprest Accounts
- Cash Receipting
- Cash Depositing
- Credit / Debit Card
- Capital and Controlled Assets and Software Inventory
- Financial Computer Controls
- Purchasing Card Use
- Payroll Practices

Our examination period covered up to twelve months ending January 31, 2013. In addition to reviewing financial records, we reviewed and examined current practices through observation. Sampling of daily cash deposits, where applicable, was performed to assess compliance with Countywide policy and standard business and internal control practices.