

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Board Action/Information Summary

☒ Action ☐ Information

MEAD Number:
202297

Resolution:
☐ Yes ☒ No

TITLE:

Acceptance of OIG's Reports

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

The Inspector General's Semiannual Report to the Board of Directors, No. 28 summarizes the activities and accomplishments of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) during the six-month period ending June 30, 2021.

The Audit of WMATA's Mission Critical Legacy Systems concluded that WMATA did not have a comprehensive system modernization program.

At the request of the WMATA Board of Directors, OIG reviewed WMATA's Coronavirus (COVID-19) response related to its social distancing efforts.

PURPOSE:

The Executive Committee's acceptance of OIG's reports entitled: Semiannual Report to the Board of Directors, No. 28; Audit of WMATA's Mission Critical Legacy Systems; Special Project Report - Review of WMATA's COVID-19 Response Related to Social Distancing

DESCRIPTION:

N/A

Key Highlights:

Semiannual Report to the Board of Directors, No. 28.

During this reporting period, OIG work resulted in three Reports of Investigation, one Management Alert, one Management Assistance Report, three Special Project Reports, a Performance Audit that identified weaknesses in WMATA's improper payment program, and an Audit of WMATA's SmarTrip Regional Partner Comparative Billing Statements for FYs 2019 and 2020 and WMATA's Single Audit for FY2020. We continue to focus our efforts on procurement fraud by conducting Contract Audits and during this period we also issued 24 Contract Audit Reports and two Buy America Act Audit Reports, identifying \$800,000 in possible savings which WMATA desperately needs

during this time of financial uncertainty.

Audit of WMATA's Mission Critical Legacy Systems

Situation: WMATA had not developed or has incomplete modernization plans for six mission critical legacy systems OIG sampled. These systems include train controls, rail yard, inventory, payroll as well as train and bus fare functions. This condition occurred because:

- IT was inhibited by unexpected events (e.g., COVID-19 and the Jackson Graham Building fire),
- WMATA had a reactive versus proactive system modernization/replacement process, and
- IT had resource challenges.

Impact: The absence of modernization plans could impact WMATA's ability to operate and meet system and mission requirements effectively and efficiently. The absence of plans:

- makes system integration and scalability more difficult,
- contributes to the potential for system crashes,
- increases the possibility for data breaches or loss,
- may adversely impact system performance, and
- increases WMATA's exposure to loss of IT product technical support.

Management Solution: Management fully concurred with the findings and recommendations to be completed by December 31, 2023.

Special Project Report - Review of WMATA's COVID-19 Response Related to Social Distancing

OIG reviewed WMATA's response to COVID-19 as it relates to social distancing and found that WMATA has been responsive in mitigating social distancing risk. Throughout the pandemic, WMATA's COVID-19 response has been with the health and safety of its customers, employees, and contractors at the forefront. Further, WMATA encouraged social distancing for its customers, employees, and contractors and has provided guidance and tools so that they may be able to make informed decisions.

Background and History:

Acceptance of these reports constitutes the Board's authorization to post the reports on the WMATA OIG website, provided the Inspector General has conferred with the General Counsel and confirmed that any private or confidential information has been redacted in accordance with applicable law and WMATA policy.

Discussion:

The work highlighted in these reports demonstrates OIG's commitment to promoting accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness in WMATA's programs and operations and keeping the Board of Directors fully and currently informed about deficiencies in WMATA's activities, as well as the necessity for and progress of corrective actions.

There were no conflicts between the IG's findings and recommendations listed in WMATA's Mission Critical Legacy Systems report and management's response. The Inspector General has conferred with the General Counsel and confirmed that any private or confidential information has been removed/redacted in accordance with applicable law and WMATA policy.

FUNDING IMPACT:

There is no impact on funding.

TIMELINE:

Anticipated actions after presentation: Executive Committee's acceptance of these reports.

RECOMMENDATION:

Executive Committee accepts OIG's reports.

Acceptance of the final reports constitutes the Board's authorization to post the reports on the WMATA OIG website provided the Inspector General has conferred with the General Counsel and confirmed that any private or confidential information has been redacted in accordance with applicable law and WMATA policy.