

For Immediate Release  
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## City of Carlsbad Receives “Unmodified Opinion” in Audit

The City of Carlsbad has received an “Unmodified Opinion” report on its annual audit from the Albuquerque accounting firm of Hinkle and Landers, and the audit has now been released to the public by State Auditor Tim Keller.

That means the firm has reviewed the City's books for the previous fiscal year and found that they fairly represent the financial position of the City, Carlsbad City Treasurer/Finance Director Wendy Hammett stated. The City's fiscal year ends June 30.

“State auditors have reviewed the firm's audit of the City's books for FY 2015-16 and accepted the report,” Hammett explained. “There were no findings in the review.”

State policy requires an audit every year. This is the City's first year to contract with Hinkle and Landers. The audit was submitted to the state by December 2016, meaning the City submitted the audit prior to the December 15 deadline.

“Fiscal responsibility is our number one duty to the taxpayer,” said Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway. “We appreciate everyone's hard work on making sure this was done right.”

Additionally, the City is eligible this year to submit applications for a Community Development Block Grant, a federal program operated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as capital outlay grants.

“A clean audit that is submitted timely is the key to obtaining the limited grant monies that remain available,” stated City Administrator Steve McCutcheon. “I sincerely appreciate Ed Fierro, of Fierro & Fierro, who served in a consulting capacity, as well as Wendy Hammett, the city's finance director, and the entire finance department staff for a job well done.”

A representative of the accounting firm will present a summary of the audit to Carlsbad City Council during the Feb. 28 meeting.