

Timothy M. Keller
State Auditor



Sanjay Bhakta, CPA, CGFM, CFE, CGMA
Deputy State Auditor

State of New Mexico
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

May 27, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Justine Freeman
justine.freeman@osa.state.nm.us
505-476-3819

State Auditor Tim Keller to Designate City of Santa Fe for Special Audit

SANTA FE – State Auditor Tim Keller announced today that he will designate the City of Santa Fe for a special audit concerning the 2008 parks and trails bond projects and related internal control issues. The oversight of the State Auditor will ensure that the audit process is independent and that the audit receives a quality review by the Office of the State Auditor (OSA).

In a letter notifying the Mayor and City Councilors, Auditor Keller stated that the OSA will work to determine the scope of the audit and approve an Independent Public Accountant (IPA) to conduct the audit.

“Taxpayers deserve to have a full accounting of their tax dollars,” stated Auditor Keller. “We have evaluated the situation and determined the need for an audit process that is independent and receives a quality review by the Auditor’s office. We will oversee the process in accordance with accounting standards and state rules to ensure internal controls are in place moving forward.”

By law, the State Auditor may initiate a special audit of any agency or local public body. Auditor Keller determined a special audit to be the best course of action for the City of Santa Fe after meeting with city officials, fraud hotline calls, and reviewing city documents and the REDW report.

“I appreciate Mayor Gonzales and the City Council for shining a light on the lingering questions regarding the use of tax dollars, and specifically Councilors Maestas and Dominguez for their continued work pushing for transparency and accountability with their resolutions,” stated Auditor Keller.

OSA staff will be in attendance at tonight’s City Council meeting. The notification letter from Auditor Keller to Santa Fe’s Governing Body is available by contacting justine.freeman@osa.state.nm.us.

###