

# Jennifer McGuirk, Multnomah County Auditor



**Multnomah County  
Auditor's Office**

Siniva Bennett  
Dani Bernstein  
Raymond De Silva  
Nicole Dewees  
Michelle Greene  
Mandi Hood  
Annamarie McNeil  
Rosalie Roberts  
Marc Rose  
Sura Sumareh  
Cheryl Taylor  
Mical Yohannes  
Caroline Zavitkovski

Date: September 17, 2024

To: Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County Chair  
Serena Cruz, Chief Operating Officer  
Margi Bradway, Director, Department of Community Services  
Tim Scott, Elections Director

From: Jennifer McGuirk, Multnomah County Auditor 

RE: Elections Division audit

Dear Chair Vega Pederson, COO Cruz, Director Bradway, and Director Scott,

I am writing to provide official notice that my office is starting an audit of the Elections Division, as included on my fiscal year 2025 audit schedule. I have assigned Senior Auditor Mandi Hood and Auditors Dani Bernstein and Siniva Bennett to the audit. They will work under my direction.

As described in the audit schedule, we have not conducted a performance audit of Multnomah County Elections in the last 15 years. There were ballot errors in at least two recent elections, which the county corrected. The Elections Division is implementing ranked choice voting for the City of Portland's November elections, and for county candidate races no later than 2026. This audit will assess the performance of Elections, specifically addressing the recent ballot errors and the implementation of ranked choice voting.

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We would like to hold a brief official audit entrance meeting soon, and my office will be in touch to schedule this. In October, the audit's staff will need to tour the Elections facility. They will also need to observe November elections processes, primarily the receiving and counting of votes, as part of the audit's planning phase. They will connect with Director Scott to arrange this.

We realize this is an exceptionally busy time for all in Elections, and will do our best to conduct our work while minimizing disruption to Elections' important operations.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

CC:

Sharon Meieran, Commissioner, District 1

Jesse Beason, Commissioner, District 2

Julia Brim-Edwards, Commissioner, District 3

Lori Stegmann, Commissioner, District 4

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