



# Association of Local Government Auditors

March 28, 2018

David G. Jones  
City Auditor  
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Dear David G. Jones:

The Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) Awards Program Committee is pleased to announce that the City of Seattle, Office of City Auditor's report, *Audit of Seattle's Incentive Zoning for Affordable Housing*, won the 2017 Distinguished Knighton Award in the Medium Shop Category.

ALGA was founded in 1985 to serve auditors who specialize in working with local governments. ALGA members represent approximately 300 local government audit organizations. Unlike the majority of auditors who work within a single industry, local government auditors must work in an environment that encompasses a wide variety of industries. Local government auditors are committed to helping their governments improve service delivery to citizens while doing so more efficiently and effectively with the limited resources available. In making the award, the judges commented:

This report presented a thorough body of work to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the City of Seattle's Incentive Zoning Program for Affordable Housing. The financial impact of the work performed was substantial and the wide range of recommendations, both high-level and detailed, were well supported with substantial evidence. Process improvements recommended by the audit team related to ensuring timely payments are received and the collection of application fees will make the financial impact even greater over time. This audit also focused on an important social issue given Seattle's current housing crisis. The report was well organized, which was helpful in understanding the complex topic.

To encourage increasing levels of excellence among local government auditors, ALGA created the Knighton Award in 1995 to recognize the best performance audit reports produced by local government audit shops in the previous year. Each year, local government audit organizations submit their best performance audit report to be evaluated against five criteria: (1) an audit scope that has the potential for significant impact, and is responsive to the needs and concerns of decision-makers and/or the public; (2) audit conclusions that are persuasive, logical, and firmly supported by the evidence, which was gathered using appropriate research methods and tools; (3) audit recommendations that are feasible, and will make government programs more effective and efficient; (4) audit results that are communicated in a clear, concise way; and (5) an audit scope, methodology, recommendations, or report format that is innovative. Judges from peer organizations determined that the City of Seattle, Office of City Auditor's report was among the best of 2017.

Congratulations for receiving this award!

Sincerely,

Tina Adams, President  
ALGA

Lisa Monteiro, Chair  
ALGA Awards Program Committee