



To: St Louis County Council Members

Honorable Council Chair Dr. Sam Page
Honorable Council Vice Chair Hazel Erby
Honorable Council Member Ernie Trakas
Honorable Council Member Colleen Wasinger
Honorable Council Member Mark Harder
Honorable Council Member Patrick Dolan
Honorable Council Member Rochelle Walton-Gray

CC: Genevieve Frank, Administrative Director

Re: Investigative Assessment

Introduction:

The Auditor's Office is encouraged by accounting standards and professional standards to provide mechanisms for county government staff or members of the public to advise them of control weaknesses, suspected fraud or other unusual events. These communications are reported on the St. Louis County Fraud Hotline (314)-615-7000, in a separate email box set up in the name "Access Auditor" and or reported via public testimony during official county council meetings.

Description:

Recent inquiries specific to the presence of the St. Louis County Police Department Personnel obtained via the confidential St. Louis County Fraud Hotline, confidential email, and or public comments made during official county council meetings were all taken into consideration for an assessment of this issue. As a result of the consideration of these inquiries, the St. Louis County Auditor's Office undertook an effort to independently make an assessment specifically relative to the consensus of the inquiries received.

Assessment:

The St Louis County Auditor's Office makes assessments according to the St. Louis County Auditing Confidential Hotline Procedures. The Office gathers feedback and considers Confidential Hotline Procedures and process improvements from various accounting and auditing professional organizations continuously.

Assessment Objective:

The objective was to observe the presence of the St. Louis County Police Department Personnel on the St. Louis Metro Link in St. Louis County only. The observations were focused exclusively on the red and blue line Metro System Map only in Missouri. These locations can be found on the following link

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_MetroLink_\(St._Louis\)_stations#/media/File:MetroLink_map_Oct2008.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_MetroLink_(St._Louis)_stations#/media/File:MetroLink_map_Oct2008.svg)

Policy:

According to the published data the St. Louis County Police Department has the largest contingent of officers along the St. Louis Metro Link line, with one County Police Captain acting as commander, two sergeants and nineteen officers. To date 47 officers are assigned to Metro Link, which extends from Lambert International Airport in Missouri to Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Audit Assessment Considerations:

The St. Louis County's Auditor's Office has not fully completed its research of additional state and local policies relating to contractual personnel deployment for managing the safety of Metro Link.

Observations:

The St. Louis County Auditor's Office traveled the Metro Link as described above for several hours during traditional business hours (9am-5pm) and non-traditional business hours (5pm-11pm) on both lines during various time of days of the traditional work week and traditional weekend. The assessment period while limited is reasonable according to the documented ridership patterns as described and reported by national and local public transportation trends.

The following facts were recorded during the assessment:

- i. The St. Louis County Police Personnel were observed riding the Red Line of the Metro Link Train during the St. Louis County Auditor's assessment period.
- ii. The St. Louis County Police Personnel requested ticket validation once during the St. Louis County Auditor's assessment period.
- iii. The St. Louis County Police Personnel were observed making one arrest during the St. Louis County Auditor's assessment period.
- iv. St. Louis County Police Vehicles were observed during the assessment period on the parking lot platforms at various locations on both the Red and Blue Metro Link lines /facilities in Missouri.
- v. St. Louis County Police were helpful and assisted the St Louis County Auditor Assessment team, allowing access to an office and restrooms on the platform at the Hanley Station during the assessment period.
- vi. The St. Louis County Auditor engaged in discussion with members of the St. Louis County Police Personnel and received one phone call from St. Louis Police management to assist with the gathering of information for this assessment.

Exercise and Timeline:

1. The test period for the St. Louis County Auditor was initiated on 7/28/2017 and was completed on 8/21/2017
2. Approximately 45% of the travel time was spent traveling before 5pm and 55% after 5pm equally distributed on both lines, however, only in Missouri.
3. Weather and other uncontrollable factors were not considered in the assessment.

Disposition:

Based on the observations during the audit assessment period the St. Louis County Auditor recommends Level 2 Action. A level 2 Action according to the County Auditor's Reference Manual Policy Number 2.5 means a preliminary investigation of the reported matter and further review / and or investigations is warranted. Additionally these actions are consistent the Control Narrative Number 050-200. The county auditor has conducted a preliminary investigation of the reported matter and further review / and or investigations is warranted.

Resources and Reference:

<http://www.stlouisco.com/LawandPublicSafety/PoliceDepartment/Services/SpecializedServices>

<http://www.stlouisco.com/LawandPublicSafety/PoliceDepartment/Services/SpecializedServices>

<http://ww5.stlouisco.com/police/station.html#mlink> (broken Link)

<http://fox2now.com/2017/07/24/police-chief-fires-back-after-video-shows-metro-cops-covering-camera/>

<http://fox2now.com/2017/07/25/st-louis-county-council-calls-for-independent-investigation-of-county-police-officers-assigned-to-metrolink/>

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/st-louis-county-council-calls-investigation-metrolink-policing>