



Washington State Auditor
Brian Sonntag

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 6, 2007

The Honorable County Executive and Members of the Pierce County Council
Pierce County
Tacoma, Washington

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Pierce County, Washington, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Sewer Utility Fund, which is presented as a major proprietary fund and represents 83.5 percent, 89.7 percent, and 78.3 percent, respectively, of the assets, net assets and revenues of the business-type activities. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Sewer Utility Fund, is based on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the report of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Pierce County, Washington, as of December 31, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof, and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund, Human Services Special Revenue Fund, and Roads Special Revenue Fund funds for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



As described in Note 16, during the year ended December 31, 2006, the County has implemented the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 46, Net Assets Restricted by Enabling Legislation, and Statement No. 47, Accounting for Termination Benefits.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 22 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We and the other auditors have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The accompanying information listed as combining financial statements and supplemental information on pages 65 through 166 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. This information has been subjected to auditing procedures applied by us and the other auditors in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The information identified in the table of contents as the Introductory and Statistical Sections is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the County. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Sonntag". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Sonntag" clearly distinguishable.

BRIAN SONNTAG, CGFM
STATE AUDITOR