

AUDIT SCOPE STATEMENT – January 25, 2024

Boards Compliance With Legislative Requirements

Why audit boards and commissions governance practices?

Boards, commissions, and similar groups such as task forces (“boards”) have many responsibilities in Kansas City government. These range from providing policy and funding recommendations to overseeing important public functions and activities. Boards influence the city’s decisions and actions across a variety of topics such as public safety, climate protection, ethics, public improvements, and economic development.

Following the release of our reports [2023 Governance Assessment: Component Unit Boards and Commissions](#) and [2023 Governance Assessment: Other Governing and Policy Boards](#), City Council committees discussed the city’s management and oversight of boards. Although these boards operate mostly independently, there are rules and procedures they must follow as a governmental body. The mayor and some council members wanted to know boards’ awareness and compliance with these requirements.

City and state legislation establish rules related to transparency and accountability for city boards and commissions. These requirements include Missouri’s Sunshine Law¹ and the city’s standing rules for boards, commissions, and task forces.²

A checklist survey and report are tools the mayor and city council can use to assess Kansas City boards and commissions’ adherence to legislative requirements.

Audit objective

Our objective is to answer the following question:

- Do boards and commissions follow requirements established in city and state legislation?

Audit methods

We will interview city staff to identify areas of concern, select and distribute a checklist based on city and state legislation to a select group of boards. We will compile and report the responses of the surveyed boards to city council.

Anticipated release date

We plan to issue the audit report in July 2024.

¹ Revised Statutes of Missouri, [Chapter 610](#).

² Code of Ordinances, Kansas City, Missouri, [Sec. 2-723](#).

