

REFERENCE TITLE: performance audits; light rail

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2007

# SB 1591

Introduced by  
Senators Gould: Harper

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 28-6313, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO  
TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 28-6313, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 28-6313. Performance audits of proposed transportation projects  
5 and systems

6 A. Beginning in 2010 and every fifth year thereafter, the auditor  
7 general shall contract with a nationally recognized independent auditor with  
8 expertise in evaluating multimodal transportation systems and in regional  
9 transportation planning to conduct a performance audit, as defined in section  
10 41-1278, of the regional transportation plan and projects scheduled for  
11 funding during the next five years.

12 B. IF THE LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM IS NOT COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1,  
13 2009, A SEPARATE PERFORMANCE AUDIT SHALL BE CONDUCTED TWELVE MONTHS AFTER THE  
14 MINIMUM OPERATING SYSTEM IS OPEN. THE AUDITOR GENERAL SHALL CONTRACT WITH A  
15 NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED INDEPENDENT AUDITOR WITH EXPERTISE IN EVALUATING  
16 MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND IN REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING TO  
17 CONDUCT THE PERFORMANCE AUDIT, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 41-1278.

18 ~~B.~~ C. With respect to light rail systems, the ~~audit~~ AUDITS UNDER  
19 SUBSECTIONS A AND B OF THIS SECTION shall consider the criteria used by the  
20 federal transit administration pursuant to 49 United States Code section  
21 5309(e)(1)(B) and the interrelationship among the criteria to provide federal  
22 funding for light rail systems. For light rail systems, the audit shall also  
23 consider:

- 24 1. Service levels.
- 25 2. Capital costs.
- 26 3. Operation and maintenance costs.
- 27 4. Transit ridership.
- 28 5. Farebox revenues.

29 ~~C.~~ D. The audit UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION shall:

30 1. Examine the regional transportation plan and projects scheduled for  
31 funding within each transportation mode based on the performance factors  
32 established in section 28-505, subsection A, in the context of the  
33 transportation system.

34 2. Review past expenditures of the regional transportation plan and  
35 examine the performance of the system in relieving congestion and improving  
36 mobility.

37 3. Make recommendations regarding whether further implementation of a  
38 project or transportation system is warranted, warranted with modifications  
39 or not warranted.

40 ~~D.~~ E. The auditor general or the auditors contracted to conduct the  
41 audit UNDER SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION shall periodically update the  
42 transportation policy committee regarding the progress of the audit.

43 ~~E.~~ F. Within forty-five days after the release of the ~~audit~~ AUDITS,  
44 the regional public transportation authority, the citizens transportation  
45 oversight committee, the state transportation board and the county board of

1 supervisors, by a majority vote of each entity, shall submit written  
2 recommendations to the transportation policy committee that the findings are  
3 agreed to or disagreed with and the recommendations should be implemented, **BE**  
4 implemented with modification or not be implemented.

5 ~~F.~~ **G.** Within forty-five days after ~~the~~ **AN** audit's release, the  
6 regional planning agency shall hold a public hearing on the audit findings  
7 and recommendations.

8 ~~G.~~ **H.** The auditor general shall distribute copies of ~~the~~ **EACH** audit  
9 to:

- 10 1. The regional planning agency.
- 11 2. The transportation policy committee.
- 12 3. The citizens transportation oversight committee.
- 13 4. The regional public transportation authority in the county.
- 14 5. The county board of supervisors.
- 15 6. The state transportation board.
- 16 7. The governor, secretary of state, president of the senate and  
17 speaker of the house of representatives.
- 18 8. The Arizona state library, archives and public records.
- 19 9. Any other person who requests a copy pursuant to title 39, **CHAPTER**  
20 **1**, article 2.

21 ~~H.~~ **I.** The state transportation board, regional planning agency,  
22 regional public transportation authority and county board of supervisors  
23 shall cooperate with and submit to the auditor general and the auditors  
24 contracted to conduct ~~the~~ **EACH** audit information necessary to conduct the  
25 audits under this section.

26 ~~I.~~ **J.** The cost incurred by the auditor general in contracting with  
27 independent auditors for conducting performance audits under ~~subsection~~  
28 **SUBSECTIONS A AND B** of this section shall be paid from revenues of the county  
29 transportation excise tax under section 42-6105. When due, the payments have  
30 priority over any other distribution authorized by section 42-6105. The  
31 auditor general shall deposit the payments in the audit services revolving  
32 fund established by section 41-1279.06.