

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

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February 19, 2021

The Honorable Donna L. Stashyn  
Hall of Justice  
Department 306  
600 Union Avenue  
Fairfield, CA 94533

RE: 2020-21 Grand Jury Report Entitled: COUNTY ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION SYSTEM (CATS)

Dear Honorable Donna L. Stashyn:

Pursuant to Penal Code §933(c) and 933.05, I am responding to the finding and recommendations in the FY2020-21 Grand Jury Report received on February 17, 2021 on the County Assessment and Taxation System (CATS) which pertains to the County Auditor-Controller.

**FINDING 1** – Aumentum Technologies delivered a project plan and schedule in November 2020 assuming responsibility for completion of data conversion and implementation activities. The project plan and schedule are subject to changes over time and require diligent monitoring by key stakeholders.

**RECOMMENDATION 1A** – County project team leadership and end users continue to actively monitor critical deliverables, target due dates, and utilize communication protocols.

**RECOMMENDATION 1B** -Particular attention should be focused on data mapping and conversion and user acceptance testing.

**RECOMMENDATION 1C** - The county devote sufficient resources and time to ensure affected personnel are trained to uniformly use and understand the new system.

**I agree with your recommendations. Recommendations 1A & 1B:** The County's Executive Steering Committee for the CATS Project (comprised of the County Assessor/Recorder, County Treasurer/Tax Collector/County Clerk, County Auditor-Controller, County Administrator, Chief Information Officer, and Project Manager) continues to meet on a monthly basis and monitors the progress of this project.

**Recommendation 1C:** The Board of Supervisors has authorized limited term positions to assist the departments in ensuring we provide sufficient resources to the project. My office is currently in the recruitment process to hire this additional position.

I thank the Grand Jury for their report on the County Assessment and Taxation System.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phyllis S. Taynton".

Phyllis S. Taynton, CPA  
Auditor-Controller